TEST 182

Choose the most suitable answer and write its number in the blank provided.

1. bear with a sorehead
2. footing the bill
3. missed the boat
4. rice bowl
5. skating on thin ice
6. breath of fresh air
7. grunt work
8. no laughing matter
9. through thick and thin
10. painted the town red
11. turned over a new leaf
12. behind her back

1. I am surprised that a person as cautious as Theresa should be _____.
2. Mrs Lee was overjoyed when her son _____ and concentrated on his studies.
3. The employment market was so saturated that the graduate ended up doing _____.
4. It is a pity that I lost contact with my bosom friend when she went overseas because we have been _____ together.
5. Although we agreed to go Dutch for the dinner, he insists on _____ in the end.
6. Having found himself such a well-paying job at last, Seng Yip was cautious about breaking his _____.
7. Aunt Esme is like a _____, so we try to keep out of her way as much as possible.
8. The pretty girl is unaware that her jealous friends are speaking ill of her _____.
9. This is _____ -- we have really gotten ourselves into a fix this time.
10. The softball team _____ when they won the championship three years in a row.
11. He spent such a long time considering if he should sign up for the course that he _____ in the end.
12. The manager found Jane's sincerity and warmth a _____ after facing the coolness and deception of his colleagues.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 183

Choose the most suitable answer and write its number in the blank provided.

1. worked up
2. turned a deaf ear
3. day of reckoning
4. out of the question
5. walks of life
6. caught unawares
7. nipped in the bud
8. made his mark
9. took the law into their own hands
10. face them head on
11. burning the candle at both ends
12. too many cooks spoil the broth

1. The headstrong boy _____ to my advice and insisted on doing things his own tedious way.
2. Joie is _____ by taking on so many jobs at the same time.
3. Mr Teo is facing many problems setting up his own company now, but he is confident that the _____ will come when his efforts will pay off.
4. Dawen was _____ when his teacher stepped into the room in the middle of the break and found him vandalizing the table.
5. Tiong Lee _____ in the arts circle when his monumental painting came in first in the prestigious competition.
6. Instead of running away from your problems, you should not be afraid to _____.
7. Our plan to hold a jam and hop in school was _____ when Mr Quek, our disciplinary master, heard about it.
8. _____ and I would rather just the few of us work on this even though it means more work for each one of us.
9. Mrs Fong thinks it is _____ for her children to go to pubs and discos because she has the notion that these places are only for hooligans.
10. Kenneth was all _____ when he learnt that Grace had lost his valuable watch.
11. The neighbours _____ when they felt that the housebreaker was let off lightly by the police.
12. People from all _____ gather at this bistro every Friday night just to listen to that philosopher expound his ideas.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 184

Choose the most suitable answer and write its number in the blank provided.

1. toast of the town
2. get into his bad books
3. let the cat out of the bag
4. pulled to pieces
5. draw the line somewhere
6. child's play
7. pave the way
8. draw the long bow
9. in the arms of Morpheus
10. laughed up her sleeve
11. saw red
12. buckle under

1. I hope Father gives me his permission to attend the party at the end of the week, so I really do not want to _____ now.
2. The hotel chef finds it no more than _____ to create a bombe Alaska as delicious as this.
3. The soldier caught by the enemy refused to _____ despite the pressure put on him.
4. Mrs Hassan should _____ -- how can she let her children grow up so wild and bratty?
5. When the poet won the Nobel Prize for Literature, he became the _____.
6. Mother _____ when she discovered that Brother had been frequenting those night-spots of ill repute.
7. After a long and tiring walk, the little girl was _____.
8. The government tries to _____for businessmen wishing to invest overseas by maintaining good diplomatic relations with neighbouring countries.
9. Boon felt discouraged because his mentor _____. the research paper he had written.
10. The two of them are always trying to _____ so I do not believe in what they say even though I do derive a lot of pleasure from their stories.
11. His arch-rival _____ when she saw how he fumbled during the inter-school debate.
12. I am not going to tell Marie about this secret plan because she is sure to _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 185

Choose the most suitable answer and write its number in the blank provided.

1. on a shoestring
2. a wet blanket
3. a dog in the manger
4. an express train
5. a free hand
6. confirmed bachelor
7. bite the hand that feeds her
8. in a jiffy
9. odds and ends
10. red rag to a bull
11. bury the hatchet
12. up her doorstep

1. Our new lecturer talks like _____ and we have a hard time jotting notes of what he says.

2. I am looking forward to the day when the two of them will _____ and be friends again; after all, they are both my good pals.

3. Mrs Lee had to run the house _____ when her husband lost his job.

4. Everyone was surprised to learn that Roger, a self-declared _____, was getting married at the end of the month.

5. Just wait for me a little longer, I will be ready _____.

6. My brother is such _____ -- just because he cannot have the toy, he makes sure that I cannot have it either.

7. Mrs Miller gave the class _____ to produce our own skit for the school's National Day celebrations.

8. After sewing the costumes for our class play, we have so many _____ that we do not know what to do with them.

9. Teow Hui was such _____ that I could not enjoy myself at the disco.

10. How can Pei'er betray Dave after what he has done for her? She should not _____.

11. I am warning you not to mention this sensitive issue to her -- it is like a _____.

12. Ju rattled on when I asked her about the workings of a free market economy because she was studying Economics and this was _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS