

I. Find the word which has a different sound in the part underlined.

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|----------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. A.columnist | B.frustrated | C.study | D.adulthood |
| 2. A.helpline | B.empathise | C.embarrassed | D.depressed |
| 3. A.tense | B.decision | C.skill | D.house-keeping |

II. Choose the word which has a different stress pattern from the others.

4. A.neighbourhood B.assignment C.emotion D.supportive
5. A.experience B.emotional C.emergency D.favourable

III.

Choose the best answer A, B, C or D to complete the sentences.

6. Pressure _____ children to get into top schools has reached a crisis point.
A.at B.under C.on D.with

7. Perhaps what you're reading or hearing is boring, which makes it hard to _____ on the book or the conversation.
A.concentrate B.rely C.depend D.notice

8. A great way to improve _____ skills is to keep trying new things.
A.reason B.reasoned C.reasoning D.reasons'

9. As children move toward _____, they are less likely to ask for advice.
A.dependent B.dependence C.independent D.independence

10. Taking good notes _____ students to evaluate, organize and summarize information.
A.requests B.requires C.allows D.offers

11. Susan needs someone to show her how to _____ her anxiety and depression.
A.empathise B.try C.succeed D.manage

12. Mi asked what information she _____ that assignment.
A.need to be done B.needed doing C.need to do D.needed to do

13. My teacher told me that _____ attend the math course for the higher level programme that I _____ for.
A.can't - apply B.couldn't - apply C.can't - applied D.couldn't – had applied

14. My parents asked me to find out _____ it gave you so much trouble.
A.what B.which C.why D.where

15. I am not sure _____ I can't solve this problem.
A.how B.what C.who D.by whom

IV. Fill in each blank in the passage with the correct word from the box. There are some extra words.

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|--------|---------|---------|-------|
| place | demands | compete | exams |
| scores | choices | gain | tutor |

Nowadays, parents are determined to get their children into the highest performing school in their area. Many of these schools are seeing (16) _____ of children competing for each place and are setting ever more rigorous tests and (17) _____ to select their preferred students. These students may be as young as 9 or 10 when they start this process. In London, the pressure on children to succeed and (18) _____ a place at the "right" school has almost become out of control with experts predicting that this situation will only continue to worsen as the (19) _____ for school places grow. Employing a(n) (20) _____ for your child, which only a few years ago would have been seen as an unusual step, is now common for many parents.

V. Rewrite the following in reported speech.

21. Mai said, "The stress of the entrance examinations made me physically ill."

22. "It breaks my heart to see her upset when she failed the exam," Nora's mother said.

23. "I feel stressed and tense to see that I can't get the perfect results, Phong," said Mi

24. Quan said, "Study stress has been a part of my life."

25. "I started experiencing symptoms of stress in grade 8," Phong said.
