

# Test 2a

Choose the correct answer – *a*, *b*, *c* or *d* – to complete the following texts. Only one answer is correct.

1. Hurry up, James! Our train \_\_\_\_\_ if we don't get to the station soon.

- a) will have left
- b) will be leaving
- c) will leave
- d) has left

2. \_\_\_\_\_ put the phone down than it rang again.

- a) No sooner I had
- b) Just as I had
- c) I had just
- d) No sooner had I

3. I \_\_\_\_\_ out if Louis hadn't mentioned the subject in passing.

- a) would never have found
- b) never had found
- c) would have never found
- d) had never found

4. The film is \_\_\_\_\_ based on a true story, but most of it is fiction.

- a) loosely
- b) casually
- c) faintly
- d) lightly

5. I've had this car for 12 years, but now I'm having more and more problems with it.

Clearly it's \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) on its hind legs
- b) got its back up
- c) got its heart set
- d) on its last legs

6. We hadn't \_\_\_\_\_ there being so much traffic, and we missed the plane.

- a) bargained on
- b) factored on
- c) counted with
- d) accounted with

7. Calls from people trying to sell us things we don't want are a real \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) ache in the neck
- b) ache in the back
- c) pain in the neck
- d) pain in the back

8. There are two supermarkets in the town but \_\_\_\_\_ of them sells fresh fish.

- a) none
- b) neither
- c) no one
- d) either

9. —How long \_\_\_\_\_ in Greece?  
—Two years altogether, before moving to Italy.

- a) have you lived
- b) did you live
- c) had you lived
- d) did you used to live

10. The cast \_\_\_\_\_ several times before leaving the stage to wild applause.

- a) bowed
- b) inclined
- c) revered
- d) crouched

11. When her sister left home, Louise finally had a bedroom \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) all to her
- b) for her only
- c) for only herself
- d) all to herself

12. \_\_\_\_\_ James didn't have the right qualifications, he was offered the job.

- a) Although
- b) Even so
- c) Even that
- d) No matter

13. Most people who work in publishing start at the bottom. The important thing is to get your \_\_\_\_\_. Then you can work your way up.

- a) arm in the opening
- b) hand on the handle
- c) foot in the door
- d) nose to the grindstone

14. —What's wrong with Granddad?  
—He only has a mild cold, but to listen to him you'd think he was \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_

- a) at the doors of death
- b) at death's door
- c) in at the death
- d) a foot in death's door

15. They tried to stop \_\_\_\_\_ cricket in the park but it was the only place where we could play.

- a) us playing
- b) us to play
- c) that we play
- d) that we played

16. With her excellent qualifications it's not surprising that she \_\_\_\_\_ being treated as an inferior at work.

- a) molests
- b) exasperates
- c) resents
- d) embitters

17. We went to a number of \_\_\_\_\_ that few tourists ever visit.

- a) places out-of-the-way
- b) out-of-the-way places
- c) out of the way places
- d) places out of the way

18. The team had been trying to win the competition for years. Last year, they finally \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) brought it off
- b) brought it on
- c) carried it away
- d) carried it on

19. I don't know Harry all that well, but I do bump into him \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) every now and then
- b) every once and again
- c) each now and then
- d) each once and again

20. Although the play is set in Saudi Arabia, \_\_\_\_\_ of the characters are Saudis. It's mainly about expatriates living there.

- a) few
- b) a few
- c) fewer
- d) less

21. —Were they angry about the decision?

—It certainly seemed \_\_\_\_\_. When it was announced, they got up and stormed out of the room.

- a) so
- b) it was so
- c) so it was
- d) so they were

22. —I feel like a few days off, but I really need the overtime.

—The problem with you is that you always want to have \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) the butter and its price
- b) another bite of the cherry
- c) your cake and eat it
- d) more than you can chew

23. The government is making every effort to \_\_\_\_\_ a diplomatic crisis.

- a) avert
- b) hinder
- c) impede
- d) deviate

24. If I \_\_\_\_\_ it with my own eyes, I wouldn't have believed it. But I did see it, and it was real!

- a) wasn't seeing
- b) hadn't seen
- c) didn't see
- d) couldn't see

25. We've been struggling with the same problem for years, and we still haven't \_\_\_\_\_ a solution.

- a) come up with
- b) come in for
- c) come down on
- d) raised up

26. It's possible that I'll fail the economics exam in June, \_\_\_\_\_ I'll probably re-sit it in September.

- a) at which point
- b) in which case
- c) by which time
- d) at which time

27. —I didn't know that Robert knew Christine.

—Oh, yes. She's an old \_\_\_\_\_ of his from their time together at university.

- a) fire
- b) smoke
- c) blaze
- d) flame

28. \_\_\_\_\_ the expression on his face, I'd say he wasn't too pleased to see us. In fact, I'd say he was furious.

- a) Judging by
- b) As for
- c) Provided with
- d) Seeing as

29. \_\_\_\_\_ the wrong bus, Mark found himself in an unfamiliar part of the city.

- a) Because taking
- b) On taking
- c) To take
- d) Having taken

30. —Have you had a busy day? You look exhausted.

—Yes, it was the first day of the sale. We were rushed off our \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) legs
- b) toes
- c) feet
- d) tootsies

31. I haven't got any ideas at the moment, but when I \_\_\_\_\_, I'll let you know.

- a) will
- b) will do
- c) do
- d) will have

32. I'd rather you \_\_\_\_\_ me while I'm speaking. I'll answer your questions afterwards.

- a) didn't interrupt
- b) wouldn't interrupt
- c) won't interrupt
- d) don't interrupt

33. We asked two children for directions but \_\_\_\_\_ of them knew where the hotel

was.

- a) none
- b) both
- c) neither
- d) each

34. That's not my car. Mine's a \_\_\_\_\_ one.

- a) blue small Japanese
- b) Japanese small blue
- c) small blue Japanese
- d) Japanese blue small

35. Finally, we had to \_\_\_\_\_ to legal threats.

- a) apply
- b) resort
- c) intend
- d) recur

36. Can you give me a list of \_\_\_\_\_ been invited?

- a) whose
- b) the who's
- c) who's
- d) whoever that's

37. —Do you know Karen's phone number?

—No, not off the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) top of my head
- b) front of my brain
- c) side of my block
- d) edge of my crown

38. A white sports car \_\_\_\_\_ outside the bank.

- a) dropped off
- b) came off
- c) drew up
- d) pushed up

39. He kicked the \_\_\_\_\_ over the goal.

- a) ball high
- b) high ball
- c) ball highly
- d) ball will height

40. Sheila was unable to participate in the race \_\_\_\_\_ a leg injury.

- a) owed to
- b) owing to
- c) caused by
- d) because owing

41. He played \_\_\_\_\_ Wimbledon for the first time last year and reached the semi-finals.

- a) in
- b) on
- c) to
- d) at

42. She paints \_\_\_\_\_ for pleasure, not because she wants to make any money out of it.

- a) directly
- b) fully
- c) singly
- d) purely

43. If she wasn't so aggressive, we \_\_\_\_\_ get on a bit better.

- a) can maybe
- b) might
- c) may
- d) shall

44. —So, are you going to buy that flat or not?

—I'm not sure yet. I'm \_\_\_\_\_ about it.

- a) between two minds
- b) between two stools
- c) in two minds
- d) in two ideas

45. Despite his disability, he tried to lead \_\_\_\_\_ possible.

- a) as normal life as
- b) his life as normal as
- c) so normal life as
- d) as normal a life as

46. The contract hasn't actually been signed yet, but everything looks positive. I think we can safely say it's \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) on the bounce
- b) in the boot
- c) touch and go
- d) in the bag

47. I'm not \_\_\_\_\_ your version of events, but I think that you have interpreted them wrongly.

- a) discussing
- b) disapproving
- c) disputing
- d) differing

48. You're not a child any more. It's time you faced \_\_\_\_\_ your responsibilities.

- a) about at
- b) towards
- c) on to
- d) up to

49. We had intended to form a company to market the device. Unfortunately, our plans fell \_\_\_\_\_ at the last moment due to financial difficulties.

- a) down
- b) off
- c) through
- d) away

50. —Have you fixed that dripping tap I told you about?

—No, I've been busy with other things. I haven't got \_\_\_\_\_ it yet.

- a) away with
- b) up to
- c) round to
- d) over with