

1. Multiple Choice

1. The committee decided to _____ its support for the project despite growing public criticism.
A. retain B. withhold C. mount D. sustain
2. The new treatment could have serious long-term _____ that researchers have not yet fully considered.
A. atrocities B. variables C. repercussions D. outcomes
3. After hours of negotiations, the two sides finally agreed to _____ the meeting until further notice.
A. break in B. break off C. break out D. break up
4. The young climber managed to _____ the steep cliff without any specialized equipment.
A. trudge B. stride C. leap D. ascend
5. The journalist was _____ with angry messages after her controversial article was published.
A. immersed B. infested C. inundated D. smothered
6. Access to higher education remains _____ for many young people from extremely poor families.
A. off limits B. off the mark C. out of reach D. out of proportion
7. The witness reacted _____, stepping backwards before she even realized what was happening.
A. inherently B. instinctively C. assiduously D. reflectively
8. The organization cannot _____ such rapid growth without additional financial support.
A. retain B. mount C. withhold D. sustain
9. The detectives noticed a man _____ behind the building shortly before the robbery took place.
A. gripping B. grappling C. lurking D. lurching
10. The novel had such a _____ effect on him that he continued thinking about it for weeks.
A. trivial B. profound C. utter D. abject
11. The orchestra rose in _____ when the internationally renowned conductor entered the hall.
A. courtesy B. face C. reverence D. deference
12. The manager tried to _____ after receiving the unexpected news and continued with the presentation.
A. go the extra mile B. do the trick C. play it by ear D. pull herself together
13. Employees are expected to exercise considerable _____ when dealing with confidential information.
A. comfort B. provision C. discretion D. disposal
14. After several weeks of disagreement, the negotiators decided to _____ and see how the situation developed.
A. play it by ear B. work up C. go the extra mile D. pull themselves together
15. The athlete trains _____ every day in preparation for international competition.
A. infinitely B. elaborately C. warily D. rigorously
16. The sudden _____ of wind knocked over several chairs on the terrace.
A. current B. surge C. gust D. thrust
17. The company refused to _____ important information from investigators.
A. mount B. retain C. withhold D. sustain
18. The children spent the morning outdoors to _____ an appetite before lunch.
A. bring in B. set in C. run up D. work up

19. The damage to the ancient monument is unfortunately _____ and cannot be repaired.

- A. irreversible B. irretrievable C. indispensable
D. indecipherable

20. The politician's comments were completely _____ and had little connection with the actual issue being discussed.

- A. off limits B. out of reach C. off the mark D.
out of proportion