

Unit 1. LIFE STORIES

TEST YOURSELF

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

1. A. candy B. sandy C. many D. handy
2. A. earning B. learning C. searching D. clearing
3. A. waited B. mended C. naked D. faced
4. A. given B. risen C. ridden D. whiten
5. A. cough B. tough C. rough D. enough

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

1. A. designer B. origin C. history D. quality
2. A. capital B. construction C. announcement D. eventful
3. A. apartment B. tradition C. different D. expensive
4. A. monitor B. organize C. following D. inviting
5. A. accurate B. discussion C. sentiment D. industry

III. Choose the correct words in the box to complete the sentences.

gained *patriotism* *favourable*
talented *celebrated* *leadership*

1. Her mother is always the first reader of her books, and she creates the most conditions for her daughter to work.
2. Nguyen Dinh Chieu was a Vietnamese poet who was known for hisand anti-colonial writings against the French
3. The work, Luc Van Tien, remains one of the mostworks in Vietnamese literature.
4. He was the mostfootball player that our school had produced in years. His talent for football was great.
5. Nguyen Hue, with his geniuscreated a people's army, no matter small or large.
6. Nguyen Binh Khiema reputation as someone who could foretell the future.

IV. Indicate the word(s) CLOSEST in meaning to the underlined word(s) in each of the following questions.

1. The impact of the assembly line helped Ford become the dominant firm in the motorcar industry.
A. most influential B. subservient C. best-selling D. depressive
2. They all encouraged my creativity and inspired me in many ways.
A. overlooked B. motivated C. rejected D. disappointed

3. She **idolizes** her artist mother, Ingrid, who is as strong and dangerous as she is beautiful.
 A. impresses B. detests C. worships D. hates
4. Clara did not care how low the Phineas fortune had fallen; no proper **respectable** girl would allow herself to be a maid.
 A. disreputable B. unworthy C. paltry D. reputable
5. He was by nature a **reserved** man but not a cold one.
 A. shy B. easygoing C. sociable D. lavish
6. She was brought up in a **well-off** family. She can't understand the problems we are facing.
 A. poor B. broke C. wealthy D. kind

V. Indicate the word(s) OPPOSITE in meaning to the underlined word(s) in each of the following questions.

1. P.G. Wodehouse's broadcasts attracted the strongest criticism from countrymen who felt it appeared he was **indifferent** to the war.
 A. attentive B. regardless C. unresponsive D. apathetic
2. Although many criticized his seemingly **over-generous** pay. Henry Ford also pointed out that the high wage helped the workers to be able to afford the cars.
 A. lavish B. open-handed C. big-hearted D. mean
3. Annie ran Tobin's Café on the Quay for some 30 years where she was known to be a very generous and **charitable** lady.
 A. free-handed B. generous C. non-profit-making D. penny-pinching
4. Rich, worldly and **sophisticated**, he could have been the ideal husband for Gwendolyn but feels compelled to crush her independent spirit and mold her into his perfect wife.
 A. elegant B. naive C. knowledgeable D. worldly-wise
5. There has been **insufficient** rainfall over the past two years, and farmers are having trouble.
 A. abundant B. adequate C. unsatisfactory D. dominant
6. We strongly believe that he's **innocent** of the crime. We do not think that he did it
 A. crimeless B. skillful C. clean D. guilty
7. The situation seems to be changing **minute by minute**.
 A. from time to time B. time after time C. again and again D. very slowly
8. Jose had a hard time comparing the iPhone to the Samsung phone because to him they were **apples and oranges**.
 A. containing too many technical details B. very similar
 C. completely different D. very complicated

VI. Indicate the correct answer to complete each of the following questions.

1. Hawking was honored with many ____ awards like the Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society.
A. exceptional B. imperative C. indispensable D. prestigious
2. Her range of media enterprises has made Oprah one of the richest ____ women.
A. ready-made B. self-made C. tailor-made D. independent-made
3. When I ____ home last night, I ____ that Jane ____ a beautiful candle light dinner.
A. had arrived/discovered/preparing B. was arriving/has discovered/was preparing
C. have arrived/was discovering/had prepared D. arrived/discovered/was preparing
4. Tran Hung Dao was a great ____ to lure the enemy to enter deeply into his land, then attacked to destroy them.
A. strategy B. strategist C. soldier D. king
5. ____ Emperor Quang Trung was ____ second emperor of ____ Tay Son Dynasty, reigning from 1788 to 1792.
A. The - a - the B. X - a - the C. X - the - the D. X - the - X
6. While I ____ TV last night, a mouse ran across the floor.
A. watch B. watched C. was watching D. am watching
7. When it began to rain, they ____ in the yard.
A. played B. had played C. were playing D. have played
8. Liz and Laura is going shopping together.
Liz: "Look! This sweater is beautiful." - Laura: "____?"
A. Why not trying it on B. Why not trying on it
C. Why not try it on D. Why not try on it
9. Anna is seeing Bill off at the airport.
Anna: "____" - Bill: "I will."
A. I'll miss you much. B. Give my best wishes to your parents.
C. Have a nice trip! D. Wish you a happy journey.
10. When I woke up this morning, it ____.
A. rained B. was raining C. has rained D. is raining
11. Her ____ to medicine was so great that she had little time for anything else.
A. importance B. dedication C. emphasis D. reputation
12. Bill Gates was ____ middle child of William H. Gates II, ____ prominent Seattle Lawyer, and Mary Gates, who worked as teacher before she had children.

A. the / a / a B. a / a / a C. the / the / a D. the / the / the

13. While Tom ____ tennis, Ann ____ a shower.

A. played / took B. playing / taking C. was playing / was taking D. was play / was take

14. When they ____ in the garden, the phone ____.

A. worked / was ringing B. were working / rang C. worked / rang D. work / rings

15. Oprah Winfrey has been an important role model for black American women, breaking down many invisible ____.

A. trends B. gaps C. obstacles D. barriers

16. It was on Oprah that Armstrong finally made a dramatic ____ that he had used performance-enhancing drugs during his cycling career.

A. encouragement B. confession C. receipt D. acceptance

17. In 2004, Barack Obama was elected to the US Senate where he ____ a reputation as one of rising stars in the Democrat Party.

A. acquired B. refrained C. gained D. highlighted

18. Michael Porter has ____ as the strategic adviser to many successful U.S. companies and other international companies.

A. served B. employed C. described D. appointed

19. Gia Long had to ____ many difficulties in his early life, as he became the target of rival groups attempting to wipe out the Nguyen clan completely

A. deal B. cope C. encounter D. surpass

20. A year into his presidency, Barack Obama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (2009) ____ his promise to promote world peace.

A. about B. for C. with D. on

21. George VI ____ royal duties such as representing his father at coalmines, factories, and rail yards.

A. paid off B. got over C. gave in D. took up

22. Nelson Mandela is one of the most ____ political leaders of the Twentieth and Twenty-First Century.

A. admired B. perfect C. talent D. skilled

23. Emergency crews are ____ progress in fixing the broken levees, but they are in a desperate race to stop the flooding.

A. making B. doing C. getting D. becoming

24. The dream of a successful Scotland is capable of ____.

A. effort B. achievement C. performance D. realization

25. If necessary, part of the responsibility is ____ by the internal security troops.

- A. taken on B. taken over C. taken in D. taken up

26. She is a ____ example of what people with disabilities can achieve.

- A. shining B. brightening C. glamorous D. gloomy

27. He is a captain who leads ____.

- A. by instance B. by mirror C. by example D. by sample

28. Japan is often quoted as the prime ____ of a modern industrial nation.

- A. example B. performer C. instructor D. pioneer

29. Some argue that the intellectual life of Bulgarians in the nineteenth century was ____ influenced by Russian culture.

- A. superficially B. mightily C. terribly D. strongly

30. Peter is an artist himself and has some of his own very interesting ____ on sale in the shop.

- A. create B. creators C. creations D. creativity

31. We must continually evaluate the ____ of each change on the product as a whole.

- A. performing B. possibility C. impact D. affect

32. A couple who gave their 50th blood ____ were presented with awards to mark their achievement.

- A. deficiency B. adequacy C. plenty D. donation

VII. Choose the word or phrase among A, B, C or D that needs correction.

1. Only after Theodore Roosevelt became president did conservation developed into a major environmental issue in the United States

- A. Only after B. developed C. into D. environmental

2. Contemporary poet James Merrill writes autobiographical verse that building on remembrances of his childhood.

- A. Contemporary B. writes C. building on D. his

3. Together Rogers and Hammerstein wrote nine musicals, the first of whose was Oklahoma (1943).

- A. Together B. musicals C. first D. whose

4. Benjamin Franklin was the editor of the largest newspaper in the colonies, a diplomatic representative to France and later to England, and he invented many useful devices

- A. was B. the largest C. he invented D. many

5. Albert Einstein was such brilliant a scientist that many of his colleagues had to study for several years in order to form opinions about his theories.

- A. such brilliant a scientist B. many of his colleagues
C. study D. about

VIII. Choose the word or phrase from the box that best fits the blank space in the following passage.

earned took based regard examples saw rest by

Jack Ma is one of the world's greatest living (1)of entrepreneurship today. Once a poor lad who survived (2)guiding tourists, Ma left no stone unturned to rise above his humble condition and achieve success. One of the first steps he (3)in this (4)was to improve his communication skills by learning English. Jack was one of the first few individuals who (5)Internet as a business opportunity even at a time when the (6)of the world didn't believe in his thoughts. After starting his first venture using a mere \$20000, the entrepreneur (7)around \$800,000 in a matter of just three years. However, it is the e-commerce (8)venture, 'Alibaba', which he founded in the early 2000s that catapulted this entrepreneur to global fame.

IX. Choose the word or phrase among A, B, C or D that best fits the blank Spare the following passage.

Donald John Trump is the 45th President of the United States, in office since January 20, 2017. (1) _____ to being a politician, he is a successful business magnate and television personality as well. The son of a wealthy real estate developer, Trump attended the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania before taking (2) _____ of his family's business. He owned several beauty (3) _____ and ventured into (4) _____ television as well. Expanding the (5) _____ of his ambitions, he entered national politics in the early 2000s and (6) _____ his eyes on the presidential office. As a politician, his career was marred by allegations of sexual (7) _____ and he also earned much (8) _____ for his extravagant lifestyle and (9) _____ comments on immigrants from Islamic nations. (10) _____ the controversies surrounding him, Trump (11) _____ for the 2016 presidential election as a Republican and (12) _____ Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton in a surprise victory. Donald Trump is the first person to assume presidency without prior military or government service and at 70, he is also the oldest one to assume the office.

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|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1. A. In addition | B. In contrast | C. Apart | D. Other |
| 2. A. steps | B. charge | C. measures | D. advantages |
| 3. A. pageants | B. competitions | C. tests | D. examinations |
| 4. A. realistic | B. true | C. actual | D. reality |
| 5. A. scale | B. scope | C. horizons | D. amount |
| 6. A. put | B. set | C. lay | D. lain |
| 7. A. abuse | B. prejudices | C. misconduct | D. mistakes |
| 8. A. criticism | B. accusation | C. blame | D. conviction |
| 9. A. burning | B. confusing | C. respectful | D. controversial |
| 10. A. Thanks to | B. Other than | C. Despite | D. With |
| 11. A. went | B. applied | C. ran | D. struggled |
| 12. A. won | B. defeated | C. suggested | D. appointed |

X. Read the passage and choose the correct answer A, B, C or D for each question.

Joyce Carol Oates published her first collection of short stories, **By The North Gate**, in 1963, two years after she had received her master's degree from the University of Wisconsin and become an instructor of English at the University of Detroit. Her productivity since then has been prodigious, accumulating in less than two decades to nearly thirty titles, including novels, collections of short stories and verse, play and literary criticism. In the meantime, she has continued to teach, moving in 1967 from the University of Detroit to the University of Windsor, in Ontario, and, in 1978, to Princeton University. Reviewers have admired her enormous energy, but find a productivity of such magnitude difficult to assess.

In a period characterized by the abandonment of so much of the realistic tradition by authors such as John Barth, Donald Barthelme, and Thomas Pynchon, Joyce Carol Oates has seemed at times determinedly old-fashioned in her insistence on the essentially mimetic quality of her fiction. Hers is a world of violence, insanity, fractured love, and hopeless loneliness. Although some of it appears to come from her own direct observations, her dreams, and her fears, much more is clearly from the experiences of others. Her first novel **With Shuddering Fall** (1964), dealt with stock car racing, though she had never seen a race. In *Them* (1969) she focused on Detroit from the Depression through the riots of 1967, drawing much of her material from the deep impression made on her by the problems of one of her students. Whatever the source and however shocking the events or the motivations, however, her **fictive** world remains strikingly akin to that real one reflected in the daily newspapers, the television news and talk shows, and popular magazines of our day.

1. What is the main purpose of the passage?
 - A. To review Oates' *By the North Gate*
 - B. To compare some modern writers
 - C. To outline Oates' career
 - D. To describe Oates' childhood
2. Which of the following does the passage indicate about Joyce Carol Oates' first publication?
 - A. It was not successful
 - B. It was a volume of short fiction
 - C. It was part of her master's thesis.
 - D. It was about an English instructor in Detroit
3. Which of the following does the passage suggest about Joyce Carol Oates in terms of her writing career?
 - A. Most of her work is based on personal experience.
 - B. Her style is imitative of other contemporary authors.
 - C. She has produced a surprising amount of fictions in a relative short time.
 - D. She has experienced long nonproductive periods in her writing.
4. The word "**fictive**" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.
 - A. imaginary
 - B. attractive
 - C. helpful
 - D. impressive
5. What was the subject of Joyce Carol Oates' first novel?
 - A. Loneliness
 - B. Racing
 - C. Teaching
 - D. Insanity
6. Why does the author mention Oates' book *Them*?
 - A. It is her best piece of nonfiction
 - B. It is an autobiography

C. It is a typical novel of the 1960's.

D. It is a fictional work based on another person's experiences.

7. Which of the following would Joyce Carol Oates be most likely to write?

A. A romance novel set in the nineteenth century

B. A story with an unhappy ending

C. A dialogue for a talk show

D. A science fiction novel

XI. Read the passage, and choose the correct answer A, B, C or D for each question.

Any list of the greatest thinkers in history contains the name of the brilliant physicist Albert Einstein. His theories of relativity led to entirely new ways of thinking about time, space, matter, energy and gravity. Einstein's work led to such scientific advances as the control of atomic energy, even television as a practical application of Einstein's work.

In 1902 Einstein became an examiner in the Swiss patent office at Bern. In 1905, at age 26, he published the first of five major research papers. The first one provided a theory explaining Brownian movement, the zig-zag motion of microscopic particles in suspension. The second paper laid the foundation for the photon, or quantum, theory of light. In it he proposed that light is composed of separate packets of energy, called quanta or photons, that have some of the properties of particles and some of the properties of waves. A third paper contained the "special theory of relativity" which showed that time and motion are relative to the observer, if the speed of light is constant and the natural laws are the same everywhere in the universe. The fourth paper was a mathematical addition to the special theory of relativity. Here Einstein presented his famous formula, $E = mc^2$, known as the energy mass equivalence. In 1916, Einstein published his general theory of relativity. In it he proposed that gravity is not a force, but a curve in the space-time continuum, created by the presence of mass.

Einstein spoke out frequently against nationalism, the exalting of one nation above all others. He opposed war and violence and supported Zionism, the movement to establish a Jewish homeland in Palestine. When the Nazis came to power in 1933, they denounced his ideas. He then moved to the United States. In 1939 Einstein learned that two German chemists had split the uranium atom. Einstein wrote to President Franklin D. Roosevelt warning him that this scientific knowledge could lead to Germany developing an atomic bomb. He suggested the United States begin its own atomic bomb research.

1. According to the passage I, Einstein's primary work was in the area of ____.

A. chemistry

B. biology

C. physics

D. math

2. Which of the following inventions is mentioned in the passage as a practical application of Einstein's discoveries?

A. Radio

B. Television

C. Automobiles

D. Computer

3. According to the passage, Einstein supported all of the following except ____.

A. nationalism

B. the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine

C. atomic bomb research in the United States

D. the defeat of the Nazis

4. According to the passage in which country did Einstein live in 1930s?

A. Switzerland B. the United States C. Germany D. Israel

5. The word "**exalting**" in the passage is closest in meaning to ____.

A. criticism B. elimination C. support D. elevation

6. It is clear from the tone of the passage that the author feels ____.

A. Einstein's work in physics was somewhat tarnished by his conservative political views.
B. Einstein's work in physics, though theoretically impressive, led to few practical applications.
C. Albert Einstein was one of the most brilliant thinkers in history.
D. Einstein's theories have been consistently proven incorrect.

7. According to Einstein, light is composed of separate packets of energy called ____.

A. electrons B. photoelectrons C. gamma rays D. quanta

XII. Indicate the sentence that is closest in meaning to each of the following questions.

1. Even if the job market is not stable, those who persist will be able to land jobs eventually.

A. When it's hard to find a job, jobs on land are even harder.
B. Patient people will secure jobs even in an instable job market.
C. Only persistent job seekers can find jobs.
D. In land jobs are only available to persistent jobs applicants.

2. Only their own mother can tell Simon and Mike apart.

A. No one other than their own mother can separate Simon and Mike.
B. Simon and Mike bear some resemblance to each other.
C. It's very difficult to distinguish Simon and Mike.
D. Except for their own mother, no one can talk to Simon and Mike.

3. "How beautiful is the dress you have just bought!" Peter said to Mary.

A. Peter promised to buy Mary a beautiful dress.
B. Peter said thanks to Mary for her beautiful dress.
C. Peter asked Mary how she had just bought her beautiful dress.
D. Peter complimented Mary on her beautiful dress.

4. Those who are riding a motorbike are not allowed to take off their helmet.

A. People must never take their helmet off while they are riding a motorbike.
B. Those who are wearing a helmet are not allowed to ride a motorbike.
C. It is the helmet that one needn't wear when he is riding a motorbike.