Study each of the passages and choose the best answers to the questions that follow

PASSAGE ONE (Questions 1–5)

Cardamom is not as widely used as a spice in the United States as it is in other parts of the world. This fruit of the ginger plant provides an oil that basically has been used solely as a stimulant in American and English medicines. Other cultures have recognized the multipurpose benefits of this aromatic fruit. In Asia it is used to season sauces such as curry; in Middle Eastern countries it is steeped to prepare a flavorful golden-colored tea; in parts of Northern Europe it is used as a spice in various types of pastry.

Line (5)

1. The word "solely" in line 2 could best be replaced by
   (A) Initially
   (B) Only
   (C) Reportedly
   (D) healthfully

2. The word "multipurpose" in line 3 is closest in meaning to
   (A) health
   (B) singular
   (C) recognized
   (D) varied

3. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word "season" in line 4?
   (A) Divide
   (B) Forecast
   (C) Spice
   (D) Put a time limit

4. "Curry" in line 4 is
   (A) the fruit of the ginger plant
   (B) a spicy type of sauce
   (C) a culture in the area of the Middle East
   (D) a type of golden-coloured tea

5. The word "steeped" in line 5 is closest in meaning to
   (A) soaked
   (B) dried
   (C) stored

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(D) grown

PASSAGE TWO (Questions 6–13)

The life span of an elephant that dies from natural causes is about sixty-five years. Of course, an elephant can perish from a number of "unnatural causes"; e.g., it can be killed by hunters, most probably for the valuable ivory in its tusks; it can die from diseases that spread throughout an elephant herd; or it can die from drought or from the lack of food that almost certainly accompanies the inadequate supply of water.

If, however, an elephant survives these disasters, it falls prey to old age in its mid-sixties. Around this age, the cause of death is attributed to the loss of the final set of molars. When this last set of teeth is gone, the elephant dies from malnutrition because it is unable to obtain adequate nourishment. In old age, elephants tend to search out a final home where there is shade for comfort from the sun and soft vegetation for cushioning; the bones of many old elephants have been found in such places.

6. The word "perish" in line 2 means
   (A) Fall ill
   (B) Shoot
   (C) Die
   (D) Get rich

7. The word "unnatural" in line 2 is closest meaning to
   (A) Wild
   (B) Violent
   (C) Domesticated
   (D) Abnormal

8. The word 'drought' in line 4 means
   (A) A drowning
   (B) A lack of food
   (C) An inadequate supply of water
   (D) An overabundance of animals

9. Which of the following could be used to replace the word "survives" in line 6?
   (A) Rises to
   (B) Succumb to
   (C) Denies
   (D) Lives through

10. "Molars" in line 7 are
   (A) Germs

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(B) Old-age characteristics
(C) Types of food
(D) Teeth

11. In line 8, "malnutrition" is used to describe someone who
(A) is in good health
(B) has an illness
(C) suffers from poor eating
(D) experiences dental problems

12. The expression "a final home" in line 9 is closest in the meaning to
(A) A place to die
(B) A comfortable house
(C) A place for sale
(D) The only remaining place to live

13. The word "shade" in line 9 is closest in the meaning to
(A) Color
(B) Heat
(C) Diminished light
(D) A front porch

PASSAGE THREE (Questions 14–21)

The American flag is the end product of a long evolution. Each of its component parts has its own history.

The very first American flag was hoisted in the skies over Boston on January 1, 1776, by the American forces there. This first flag consisted of thirteen red and white stripes representing the number of American colonies. It also included the British Cross of St. George and Cross of St. Andrew. It could be considered rather ironic that these symbols of British rule were included on the American flag in that the American colonists were fighting for independence from the British.

The origin of the stars on the current flag is obscure; that is, the stars could possibly have been taken from the flag of Rhode Island, or they could have been taken from the coat of arms of the Washington family. According to legend, this first flag with stars was sewn by Betsy Ross, a Philadelphia seamstress who was famous for her clever needlework. This version of the flag contained thirteen stars and thirteen stripes, one for each of the thirteen colonies battling for independence.

The original idea was to add one star and one stripe for each state that joined the new, young country. However, by 1818, the number of states had grown to twenty, and it did not work well to keep adding stripes to the flag. As a result, Congress made the decision to revert to the original thirteen stripes representing the thirteen original colonies and adding a star each time a new state was admitted. This has been the policy ever since.

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14. The word "product~ in line 1 is closest in meaning to
    (A) goods home
    (B) merchandise
    (C) banner
    (D) result

15. Something that is "hoisted" (line 3) is be replaced by
    (A) created
    (B) found
    (C) raised
    (D) made

16. The word "ironic" in line 6 could most easily be replaced by
    (A) steel-like
    (B) normal
    (C) unexpected
    (D) nationalistic

17. Which of the following is closest in meaning to "obscure " in line 8?
    (A) Unclear
    (B) Original
    (C) Modern
    (D) Known

18. In line 11, the word "seamstress " is used to describe someone who
    (A) works at
    (B) sews
    (C) is a part of high society
    (D) practices medicine

19. The word "work" in line 14 could best
    (A) get a job
    (B) function
    (C) accomplish
    (D) make an effort

20. The word "keep " in line 14 could best be replaced by
    (A) continue
    (B) maintain
    (C) hold
    (D) guard

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21. The expression "revert to" in line 15 means
    (A) return to
    (B) add to
    (C) rejoice over
    (D) forget about

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