

***Straightforward* Upper Intermediate and Advanced Placement test**

The *Straightforward* Upper Intermediate and Advanced Placement test has been designed to help you decide whether the *Straightforward* Upper Intermediate course would be suitable for your students or whether they would qualify for using the *Straightforward* Advanced Course.

The *Straightforward* test has 50 questions, each worth one point. The first 40 are grammar questions and the final 10 are vocabulary questions. The conversion chart below has been designed to assist you in making your decision but please note, however, that these bandings are a guide.

Total score	Level
0 – 35	Upper Intermediate
36 – 50	Advanced

This test can also be used to diagnose the grammar of the Upper Intermediate level that your students need clarification on.

Grammar

- 1 She ____ obsessed with rock climbing at a young age.
 - a becomes
 - b became
 - c has become
 - d would become
- 2 He's not a stamp collector, ____?
 - a was he
 - b wasn't he
 - c is he
 - d isn't he
- 3 How long ____ you had this car?
 - a did
 - b do
 - c have
 - d were
- 4 ____ anyone get hurt?
 - a did
 - b were
 - c have
 - d had
- 5 He ____ about birds. It drives me mad!
 - a forever talk
 - b is forever talking
 - c will forever be talking
 - d has forever been talking
- 6 She keeps ____ her things all around the place which is so annoying.
 - a to leave
 - b leaves

- c leave
- d leaving
- 7 He ____ me to the first game when I was only 6.
 - a used to take
 - b would take
 - c took
 - d has taken
- 8 At first I ____ starting work so early but this has changed.
 - a didn't use to
 - b wouldn't
 - c didn't have to
 - d wasn't used to
- 9 My new PC, ____ I bought last week, has already broken down.
 - a that
 - b which
 - c whose
 - d —
- 10 I'd like to see the photos ____ you took on holiday.
 - a who
 - b whose
 - c where
 - d —
- 11 People _____ from the illness find it difficult to relax.
 - a suffered
 - b suffering
 - c who suffering
 - d were suffering
- 12 You'd better take your coat ____ the weather gets worse.
 - a in case
 - b otherwise
 - c so that
 - d in order to
- 13 She did a course in confidence building ____ overcome her phobia
 - a so that
 - b in order to
 - c although
 - d in case
- 14 He ____ a therapist for several years after he left school.
 - a has seen
 - b has been seeing
 - c saw
 - d used to seeing
- 15 She ____ much better since she left the hospital last week.
 - a is feeling
 - b feels
 - c felt
 - d has been feeling
- 16 He realized that he ____ his car keys in the office.
 - a left
 - b has left
 - c had left
 - d was leaving
- 17 We couldn't fall asleep because our neighbours ____ a lot of noise.
 - a made
 - b had made

- c have made
- d were making
- 18 ____ plans you might have for the weekend, you'll have to change them.
 - a Wherever
 - b Whovever
 - c Whatever
 - d However
- 19 They ____ out for a few years before they decided to get married.
 - a had gone
 - b have been going
 - c were going
 - d had been going
- 20 You won't pass the exam ____ you start revising immediately.
 - a as long as
 - b provided
 - c unless
 - d if
- 21 We wouldn't have missed the bus if you ____ to chat with Mary!
 - a didn't stop
 - b hadn't stopped
 - c don't stop
 - d wouldn't have stopped
- 22 The party was so boring I wish I ____ there at all.
 - a hadn't gone
 - b wouldn't go
 - c haven't gone
 - d didn't go
- 23 If only you ____ more time to spend with the family.
 - a would have
 - b have had
 - c had
 - d have
- 24 Oh, you're busy? I ____ you later, OK?
 - a am calling
 - b call
 - c have called
 - d will call
- 25 By the time the guests arrive, we ____ everything for the party.
 - a will be preparing
 - b will have prepared
 - c prepare
 - d have prepared
- 26 During the next meeting we ____ about setting goals
 - a are talking
 - b will have talked
 - c will be talking
 - d talk
- 27 I can't find my keys. I ____ them.
 - a may lose
 - b must lost
 - c might have lost
 - d should have lost
- 28 The police stopped us and said we ____ to enter the building.
 - a can't
 - b couldn't

- c didn't allow
- d weren't allowed
- 29 Admission was free so we ____ any tickets.
 - a needn't buy
 - b mustn't buy
 - c didn't need to buy
 - d mustn't have bought
- 30 I'm not sure if you're aware ____ the risk.
 - a of
 - b to
 - c at
 - d in
- 31 The horror movie wasn't just frightening! It was ____ terrifying!
 - a extremely
 - b absolutely
 - c very
 - d fairly
- 32 ____ the weather was horrible, we decided to go out for a short walk.
 - a Even though
 - b However
 - c In spite of
 - d Despite
- 33 We should remind ____ to be thankful for all that we have.
 - a us
 - b —
 - c ourselves
 - d we
- 34 His father asked Dan where ____ all day.
 - a had he been
 - b was he
 - c he had been
 - d he has been
- 35 She advised him ____ sun cream.
 - a putting
 - b put on
 - c to putting on
 - d to put on
- 36 She was only 19 when she sailed across ____ Atlantic.
 - a a
 - b an
 - c the
 - d —
- 37 Your leg could be broken so you must have ____ X-ray.
 - a a
 - b an
 - c the
 - d —
- 38 The square was ____ crowded we couldn't pass.
 - a so
 - b such
 - c very
 - d as
- 39 Two climbers are reported to ____ during the storm last night.
 - a die
 - b have died

- c had died
- d died
- 40 I'll need to have the stairs ____.
- a renovate
- b renovating
- c to renovate
- d renovated

Vocabulary

- 41 I only paid £20 for this jacket! It was a real ____.
- a buy
- b price
- c bargain
- d sale
- 42 Jane is always poking her nose in other people's business. She's so ____!
- a inquisitive
- b obedient
- c playful
- d unreliable
- 43 As far as I'm ____, I do not support the new government.
- a matter
- b referred
- c according
- d concerned
- 44 The window ____ was really imaginative.
- a exhibition
- b display
- c collection
- d vision
- 45 She ____ the sack last week and is now looking for a new job.
- a did
- b made
- c took
- d got
- 46 She doesn't ____ of my decision.
- a agree
- b approve
- c accept
- d support
- 47 During his stay in Indonesia he went ____ with malaria.
- a up
- b off
- c down
- d over
- 48 When the customs officers found some illegal goods hidden in the car, he was arrested for ____.
- a assault
- b mugging
- c hijacking
- d smuggling
- 49 I can't move the sofa. Could you ____ me a hand with it, please?
- a give
- b get
- c take
- d borrow

50 I couldn't get in ____ with you all week! Where have you been?

- a contact
- b call
- c touch
- d talk

Reading

Read the following text about Parkour and freerunning, then answer the questions.

The World of Parkour

In 1902, a volcano in the Caribbean island of Martinique blew up. A French naval officer on the scene, Lt. George Hébert managed to coordinate the rescue of over 700 people, both indigenous and European. He noticed, as he did so, how people moved, some well, some badly, around the obstacles in their path, and how this affected their chances of survival. Hébert had travelled widely and was well aware of skills many indigenous people exhibited in being able to traverse the natural environment. From these experiences, Hébert developed a training discipline which he called 'the natural method' in which climbing, jumping and running techniques were used to negotiate obstacles. His method was adopted by the French military and became the basis for all their training. In time, it became known as *parcours du combattant* – the path of the warrior.

Raymond Belle was a practitioner of *parcour* in Vietnam in the 1950s. He had great athletic ability, and the skills and agility he had learnt through *parcour* earned him a reputation as an agile and elite soldier. In later life, he returned to France and passed on his skills to his son, David, who combined what he had learnt from his father with his own knowledge of martial arts and gymnastics, and in time, the sport of *parkour* was born.

Parkour involves a range of 'moves', although none are official. They involve vaulting, jumping and landing accurately on small and narrow features, catching ledges, traversing high wall and landing with a rolling impact to absorb impacts. Belle formed a group of *traceurs* called the Yamikasi, meaning 'strong man, strong spirit', that included his friend, Sebastian Foucan. In time, the two of them started to follow different paths. Belle concentrated on the art of getting from place to place in the most efficient way possible, while Foucan developed his own style which involved more self expression. This he termed *freerunning*. From the late 1990s, the art and sport of parkour spread worldwide. Both Belle and Foucan gave interviews and appeared on television. In 2003, filmmaker Mike Christie made the film *Jump London*, and urban freerunning, or freeflow, began to dominate the London scene. But it was the arrival of YouTube in 2005 that really brought freerunning to a global audience. People around the world began to post their videos online, making freerunning a mainstream sport, and in 2007, the first major freerunning and parkour competition was held in Vienna. Since parkour values freedom, there are few facilities dedicated to the practice. Traceurs use both rural and urban areas, typically parks, offices and abandoned buildings. Traceurs generally respect the environment they practice in, and since part of their philosophy is 'leave no trace', there have been few concerns over damage to property. However, law enforcement and fire and rescue teams argue that freerunners

are risking their lives needlessly., especially when they practice at height. However, practitioners argue that injuries are rare, because they rely on their own hands and feet rather than things out of their immediate control, such as ice and wheels, as is the case with skiing and race-driving.

1 George Hebert developed *parcour du combattant* because...

- ☐ he saw native people doing it in Martinique.
- ☐ he saw how it could save lives.
- ☐ he saw how the French were poor at negotiating obstacles.

2 The natural method...

- ☐ was replaced by Hebert's new discipline.
- ☐ was taught to Hebert by indigenous people.
- ☐ was widely practiced by the French military.

3 Raymond Belle...

- ☐ was trained by George Hebert.
- ☐ gave the discipline its new name.
- ☐ was a notable practitioner of the natural method.

4 David Belle...

- ☐ brought in moves from other disciplines.
- ☐ also learnt *parcour* while in the French military.
- ☐ learnt *parcour* from his father in Vietnam.

5 A *traceur* is...

- ☐ a parkour move.
- ☐ someone who practices parkour.
- ☐ an obstacle in a parkour course.

6 Freerunning differs from parkour in that...

- ☐ it is faster.
- ☐ it is more creative.

- ☐ it is more efficient.

7 What brought parkour and freerunning to an international audience?

- ☐ TV appearances and interviews
- ☐ a British documentary
- ☐ a video sharing website

8 According to practitioners, where is the best place to do parkour or free-running?

- ☐ in cities
- ☐ in safe facilities
- ☐ wherever you like

9 Which of the following is NOT true about freerunning?

- ☐ There are a large number of reported injuries.
- ☐ There are now international competitions.
- ☐ Practitioners often cause damage to public property.

10 Parkour and freerunning practitioners...

- ☐ require a lot of equipment.
- ☐ rely on their own bodies.
- ☐ avoid taking risks.