Part 1: Vocabulary (10 Marks)

Choose the correct word to logically complete each sentence.

1. Modern architectural designs often incorporate materials that can _____ seismic shock, thereby mitigating structural damage during severe earthquakes.

A) solve
B) absorb
C) uncover
D) twist

2. The company's aggressive market expansion strategy was met with criticism, but it ultimately allowed them to dominate the sector in a remarkably short _____.

A) observation
B) theory
C) case
D) mystery

3. Detectives struggled to make progress in the investigation as the suspect had meticulously left behind virtually no physical _____.

A) clue
B) surroundings
C) observation
D) theory

4. The sudden, unexplained disappearance of the ancient civilization remains an enigmatic _____ that continues to baffle historians.

A) case
B) mystery
C) twist
D) clue

5. A keen sense of _____ is essential for qualitative researchers who need to capture subtle behavioral nuances in natural settings.

A) theory
B) observation
C) surroundings
D) clue

6. Despite years of rigorous testing, the physicists were unable to fully _____ the complex mathematical paradox.

A) absorb
B) uncover
C) solve
D) twist

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7. While the prevailing _____ suggests economic recovery is imminent, several prominent analysts remain skeptical of the underlying metrics.

A) theory
B) observation
C) mystery
D) clue

8. Investigative journalists worked tirelessly for months to _____ systemic corruption within the regulatory agency.

A) absorb
B) uncover
C) solve
D) twist

9. Despite the vehicle rolling over multiple times down the embankment, the driver emerged from the wreckage entirely _____.

A) aggressive
B) unharmed
C) observed
D) solved

10. Negotiators had to manage the party's _____ stance during the talks to avoid a complete breakdown in diplomacy.

A) unharmed
B) aggressive
C) mystery
D) theory

Part 2: Modals of Possibility (10 Marks)

Choose the correct modal structure to reflect degree of certainty and time frame.

11. Given that the vault door showed zero signs of forced entry, the burglar _____ access to the security codes beforehand; it is the only logical conclusion.

A) might have had
B) must have had
C) couldn't have had
D) may have had

12. Considering she was delivering a keynote address in Tokyo at noon yesterday, she _____ seen walking down Oxford Street in London at that exact moment.

A) must have been
B) could have been
C) couldn't have been
D) might be

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13. The archival records remain somewhat ambiguous, but historians suggest the lost manuscript _____ destroyed during the fire of 1812, though further research is required.

A) must have been
B) might have been
C) couldn't have been
D) can't be

14. Look at the immense volume of financial data they analyzed overnight! They _____ absolutely exhausted after working without a break.

A) must be
B) might have
C) couldn't have
D) may have been

15. "You mean to tell me the client proposal was sitting in my spam folder all week? I _____ more embarrassed!"

A) couldn't be
B) must have been
C) might not be
D) couldn't have

16. Dr. Vance hasn't responded to our urgent inquiry yet. He _____ in an executive board meeting right now, or he may simply be away from his desk.

A) must have been
B) may be
C) couldn't be
D) shouldn't have been

17. Given the flawless condition of the centuries-old tapestry, the curators concluded that the original owners _____ stored it in a damp environment, or it would have decayed completely.

A) must have
B) could have
C) couldn't have
D) might have

18. The archaeological team is still uncertain about the primary function of the relic, but they speculate that it _____ used as an astronomical measuring instrument.

A) must be
B) could have been
C) couldn't have been
D) can't be

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19. The lights in the laboratory are still burning bright at 3:00 a.m. The lead researcher _____ preparing the urgent sample for tomorrow's trial.

A) must be
B) couldn't have been
C) might have
D) couldn't be

20. "He asserts that he completed the entire complex software migration single-handedly in under twenty minutes, but he _____ serious—that is humanly impossible!"

A) must have been
B) can't be
C) could have been
D) might be

Part 3: Reading & Vocabulary Scanning (5 Marks)

Read the text below and answer the scanning exercise that follows.

The Girl with the Jade Pendant

2,300 years ago, the ancient city of Taxila was drawing travelers from all across Asia. Who were they?

[Paragraph 1] The ruined city of Taxila has long been a source of wonder and research. Who traded there? What drew people across vast mountain ranges? How did they cross such formidable terrain? Today, modern scientific techniques are shedding light on questions that redefine our understanding of ancient trade networks. For example, fresh archaeological evidence indicates that Iron Age traders traveled all the way from the remote valleys of Central Asia—more than 700 miles (1,125 kilometers) away—to exchange goods in this bustling hub.

[Paragraph 2] One remarkable example of these long-distance travelers is a 16- or 17-year-old girl buried near the ancient trade outpost, roughly 4 miles (6 kilometers) outside the main city center. Isotopic analysis of her tooth enamel revealed that she spent her early childhood in a cold, high-altitude mountain climate far to the north.

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[Paragraph 3] Uncovered in 2012, the young woman was interred around 300 BCE adorned with a delicate necklace featuring nearly 60 polished jade beads. "Such exotic items indicate that she belonged to an elite merchant family," explained lead researcher Dr. Imran Khan of the Heritage Institute, a historical research foundation based in Lahore.

[Paragraph 4] To confirm that she was not a native resident, geochemists measured strontium and oxygen isotopes preserved in her molars. Because elemental ratios vary depending on local water and soil composition, scientists can analyze these ratios to narrow down an individual's place of origin.

[Paragraph 5] In the case of the girl with the jade pendant, her unique chemical profile matched the environmental signature of the Pamir Mountain region. Researchers concluded that she had journeyed south across treacherous terrain to reach Taxila.

[Paragraph 6] Scholars believe high-status families frequently sent young representatives on these arduous expeditions. Crossing high mountain passes—most likely on foot alongside packed caravans—was undoubtedly one of the most perilous stages of the journey. Experts speculated that undertaking such dangerous trips earned these families immense prestige among rival trading houses.

[Paragraph 7] Her skeletal remains display no signs of traumatic physical violence, implying that she likely succumbed to an aggressive infection during her travels. Her burial near Taxila reflects the high regard in which international merchants were held at the time.

Scanning Task: Scan the reading passage to find the word that matches each definition.

21. _____ (paragraph 1) difficult to travel across or cross due to rough conditions

22. _____ (paragraph 3) placed in a grave or tomb; buried

23. _____ (paragraph 4) the constituent elements or parts that form something (e.g., soil/water makeup)

24. _____ (paragraph 6) involving a great deal of effort, energy, and strenuous work

25. _____ (paragraph 7) died or failed to survive as a result of illness or infection

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PART 4: LISTENING

Listen to the audio and choose the correct answer.

26. What does the man suggest the woman do?

A) Wait until next week

B) Submit the essay without help

C) Email the tutor

D) Reschedule the essay

27. What does the man suggest the woman do?

A) Skip the interview

B) Visit the career center

C) Change his major

D) Cancel the interview

28. What does the man suggest?

A) Buy the new book

B) Rent or find a used book

C) Drop the class

D) Borrow the professor's copy

29. What does the woman recommend?

A) Changing the cafeteria menu

B) Bringing food from home

C) Trying a nearby food truck

D) Complaining to the administration

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30. What does the woman advise?

A) Call the weather service

B) Skip class anyway

C) Prepare for the snowstorm

D) Check email for updates

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