Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

**Question 1:** Thang was asking Huong, his classmate, for her opinion about the novel he had lent her. Select the most suitable response to fill in the blank.

Thang: "What do you think about the novel?"

Huong: "______"

A. The best I've ever read!  
B. Yes, let's.  
C. I wish I could.  
D. I can't agree with you more.

**Question 2:** She made a list of what to do ______ forget anything.

A. so as not to  
B. not to  
C. so that  
D. in order to

**Question 3:** Penicillin, the first antibiotic that successfully killed bacteria and cured infections, was discovered ______.

A. by choice  
B. by comparison  
C. by accident  
D. by heart

**Question 4:** “If you are not satisfied ______ your purchase, we will give you a full refund.”

A. at  
B. for  
C. of  
D. with

**Question 5:** After his operation, Tom tried to lead ______ possible.

A. a very normal life as  
B. as normal a life as  
C. as normal life as  
D. normal life as

**Question 6:** If she let this chance slip, she ______ it for the rest of her life.

A. would regret  
B. regrets  
C. will regret  
D. would have regretted

**Question 7:** ______, she received a big applause.

A. Speaking has finished  
B. Finished her lecture  
C. When the speaker finished  
D. After she finishes speaking

**Question 8:** “______ seen a play with such a strong message.”

A. Rarely do I  
B. I have rarely  
C. Rarely did I  
D. I rarely

**Question 9:** An old gentleman, who is not sure where to go for the summer holiday, is asking a travel agent for advice. Select the most suitable response to fill in the blank.

Gentleman: "Can you recommend any places for this summer holiday?"

Agent: "______.”

A. Yes, please go to other agencies  
B. A package tour to the Spratly Islands would be perfect, sir  
C. I don't think you could afford a tour to Singapore, sir  
D. No, you cannot recommend any places

**Question 10:** “Don't eat so many sweets, ______ you'll have to visit the dentist often.”

A. while  
B. when  
C. whether  
D. otherwise

**Question 11:** The number of cars on the roads ______ increasing, so we need to build more roads.

A. was  
B. is  
C. are  
D. were

**Question 12:** Linh informs her aunt about her high school graduation exam results. Select the most suitable response to fill in the blank.

Linh: "Aunty, I've passed the exam with flying colours."

Aunt: "______.”

A. Sorry to hear that.  
B. That's right.  
C. Congratulations!  
D. How many colours?

**Question 13:** Some English words have the same pronunciation ______.

A. because of their difference in spelling  
B. or they spell differently  
C. unless spelled differently  
D. though they are spelled differently

**Question 14:** Mary is a friendly girl who ______ everyone she meets.
A. gets over  B. gets out of  C. gets up  D. gets on with

Question 15: It has long been recognized ______ a high-fat diet can cause heart problems.
A. which  B. where  C. what  D. that

Question 16: Our learning and teaching equipment needs ______ if further improvement is to be achieved.
A. modernized  B. modernizing  C. modernize  D. to modernize

Question 17: Our house isn’t ______ for the children each to have a room of their own, so they have to share.
A. big enough  B. too big  C. so small  D. very small

Question 18: ______ the class size is our school’s immediate aim.
A. Reduced  B. Reduce  C. Reduces  D. Reducing

Question 19: This moment will live in our memory for many years ______.
A. come  B. have come  C. to come  D. coming

Question 20: It’s been five months ______ I last went fishing.
A. that  B. since  C. while  D. which

Question 21: I’d rather not ______ about it in such an unfavorable circumstance.
A. talking  B. talked  C. to talk  D. talk

Question 22: My father is a big football fan, but my mother has no ______ in the sport at all.
A. interesting  B. interest  C. interestingly  D. interested

Question 23: Some animals have a remarkable ability to ______ themselves to changing environments.
A. fit  B. adapt  C. match  D. suit

Question 24: “______ anyone ring while I’m away, please take a message.”
A. Should  B. May  C. Will  D. Would

Question 25: Researchers are making enormous progress in understanding ______ and what causes it.
A. what is a tsunami  B. a tsunami is what  C. what a tsunami is  D. is what a tsunami

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions from 26 to 35.

Most of us know a little about how babies learn to talk. From the time infants are born, they hear language because their parents talk to them all the time. Between the ages of seven and ten months, most infants begin to make sounds. They repeat the same sounds over and over again. This is called babbling. When babies babble, they are practicing their language.

What happens, though, to children who cannot hear? How do deaf children learn to communicate? Recently, doctors have learned that deaf babies babble with their hands. Laura Ann Petitto, a psychologist, observed three hearing infants with English-speaking parents and two deaf infants with deaf parents using American Sign Language (ASL) to communicate. Dr. Petitto studied the babies three times: at 10, 12, and 14 months. During this time, children really begin to develop their language skills.

After watching and videotaping the children for several hundred hours, the psychologist and her assistants made many important observations. For example, they saw that the hearing children made varied motions with their hands. However, there appeared to be no pattern to these motions. The deaf babies also made different movements with their hands, but these movements were more consistent and deliberate. The deaf babies seemed to make the same hand movements over and over again. During the four-month period, the deaf babies' hand motions started to resemble some basic hand-shapes used in ASL. The children also seemed to prefer certain hand-shapes.

Hearing infants start first with simple syllable babbling, then put more syllables together to sound like real sentences and questions. Apparently, deaf babies follow this same pattern, too. First, they repeat simple hand-shapes. Next, they form some simple hand signs and use these movements together to resemble ASL sentences.

Linguists believe that our ability for language is innate. In other words, humans are born with the capacity for language: It does not matter if we are physically able to speak or not. Language can be expressed in different ways - for instance, by speech or by sign. Dr. Petitto believes this theory and wants to prove it. She plans to study hearing children who have one deaf parent and one hearing parent. She wants to see what happens when babies have the opportunity to learn both sign language and speech. Does the human brain prefer speech? Some of these studies of hearing babies who have one deaf parent and one hearing parent show that the babies babble equally with their hands and their voices. They also produce their first words, both spoken and signed, at about the same time. More studies in the future may prove that the sign system of the deaf is the physical equivalent of speech.

Adapted from “Issues for Today” by Lorraine C. Smith and Nancy Nici Mare

Question 26: According to paragraph 1, babies begin to babble ______.
A. at their first moment after birth  B. when they are more than 6 months old  C. at their first experience of language  D. when they first hear their parents talk to them
Question 27: The phrase “the babies” in paragraph 2 refers to ______ in the study.
A. the deaf infants
B. the hearing infants
C. the hearing and deaf infants
D. the disabled infants

Question 28: The writer mentions “American Sign Language (ASL)” in paragraph 2 as a language ______.
A. used by the deaf to communicate
B. used among psychologists
C. especially formed by infants
D. widely used by American children

Question 29: The word “resemble” in paragraph 3 refers to ______.
A. studying funny movements
B. producing similar movements
C. making initial movements
D. creating strange movements

Question 30: It is stated in paragraph 3 that both the deaf and the hearing children made movements with their hands, but ______.
A. only the hearing children made different movements
B. the hearing children only repeated the same hand motions
C. only the deaf children repeated the same hand motions
D. the deaf children made less consistent hand movements

Question 31: According to paragraph 4, hearing infants learn to talk first by ______.
A. eye movements
B. hand-shapes
C. hand motions
D. babbling

Question 32: The word “real” in paragraph 4 mostly means ______.
A. original
B. meaningful
C. formal
D. general

Question 33: It is mentioned in the last paragraph that Dr. Petitto plans to study ______.
A. whether the sign system of the deaf is the physical equivalent of speech
B. whether all children speak and make motions with their hands at the same time
C. the assumption that the human brain prefers sign language to speech
D. what happens when babies have the opportunity to learn both speech and sign language

Question 34: Which of the following statements is TRUE according to the last paragraph?
A. Language cannot be expressed in different ways.
B. The human brain prefers speech.
C. Babies produce spoken words before signed ones.
D. Humans are innately able for language.

Question 35: Which of the following could best serve as the title of the passage?
A. American Sign Language
B. Education for Deaf Children
C. How do Children Master Language?
D. Language: Is It Always Spoken?

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the sentence that is CLOSEST in meaning to the sentence given in each of the following questions.

Question 36: “I will certainly show you around when you visit my town, Megan,” said George.
A. George suggested Megan’s showing him around when she visited his town.
B. George refused to show Megan around when she visited his town.
C. George promised to show Megan around when she visited his town.
D. George requested that Megan show him around when she visited his town.

Question 37: The traditional phone is far from convenient compared to the smart one.
A. The traditional phone is as convenient as the smart one.
B. Smart phones are almost as convenient as traditional ones.
C. The traditional phone is far more convenient than the smart one.
D. Smart phones are much more convenient than traditional ones.

Question 38: People think the Samba is the most popular dance in Brazil.
A. The Samba is thought to be the most popular dance in Brazil.
B. In Brazil, the Samba is thought to be one of the most popular dances.
C. It is thought that the Samba is among the most popular dances in Brazil.
D. It is thought that the Samba was the most popular dance in Brazil.

Question 39: “I didn’t break my word,” Jim said.
A. Jim denied breaking his promise.
B. Jim didn’t break his word.
C. Jim admitted breaking his promise.
D. Jim refused to break his promise.

Question 40: When she received the exam results, she immediately phoned her mom.
A. No sooner had she received the exam results than she phoned her mom.
B. She immediately phoned her mom that she would receive the exam results.
C. No sooner had she phoned her mom than she received the exam results.
D. She received the exam results immediately after she phoned her mom.
In my experience, freshmen today are different from those I knew when I started as a counselor and professor 25 years ago. College has always been demanding both academically and socially. But students now are less mature and often not ready for the responsibility of being in college.

It is really too easy to point the finger at parents who protect their children from life’s obstacles. Parents, who handle every difficulty and every other responsibility for their children from writing admission essays to picking college courses, certainly may contribute to their children’s lack of coping strategies. But we can look even more broadly to the social trends of today.

How many people do you know who are on medication to prevent anxiety or depression? The number of students who arrive at college already medicated for unwanted emotions has increased dramatically in the past 10 years. We, as a society, don’t want to “feel” anything unpleasant and we certainly don’t want our children to “suffer”.

The resulting problem is that by not experiencing negative emotions, one does not learn the necessary skills to tolerate and negotiate adversity. As a psychologist, I am well aware of the fact that some individuals suffer from depression and anxiety and can benefit from treatment, but I question the growing number of medicated adolescents today.

Our world is more stressful in general because of the current economic and political realities, but I don’t believe that the college experience itself is more intense today than that of the past 10 years. What I do think is that many students are often not prepared to be young “adults” with all the responsibilities of life.

What does this mean for college faculty and staff? We are required to assist in the basic parenting of these students - the student who complains that her professor didn’t remind her of the due date for an assignment that was clearly listed on the syllabus and the student who cheats on an assignment in spite of careful instructions about plagiarism.

As college professors, we have to explain what it means to be an independent college student before we can even begin to teach. As parents and teachers we should expect young people to meet challenges. To encourage them in this direction, we have to step back and let them fail and pick themselves up and move forward. This approach needs to begin at an early age so that college can actually be a passage to independent adulthood.

Adapted from “Students are different now” by Linda Bips. New York Times, October 11, 2010

Question 41: According to the writer, students today are different from those she knew in that they are ______.
A. too ready for college
B. not as mature
C. not so academic
D. responsible for their work

Question 42: The word “handle” in paragraph 2 mostly means ______.
A. deal with
B. gain benefits from
C. lend a hand to
D. point at

Question 43: According to the writer, students’ difficulties to cope with college life are partly due to ______.
A. the absence of parents’ protection
B. the lack of parental support
C. the over-parenting from parents
D. the lack of financial support

Question 44: The phrase “on medication” in paragraph 3 is similar in meaning to ______.
A. studying medicine at college
B. doing medical research
C. receiving medical treatment
D. suffering anxiety or depression

Question 45: The word “intense” in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to ______.
A. needing much experience
B. not serious
C. not interesting
D. demanding big efforts

Question 46: Which of the following is NOT TRUE according to the passage?
A. College faculty and staff are required to help in the parenting of problematic students.
B. The college experience itself is more intense today than that of the past 10 years.
C. Our world is more stressful because of the current economic and political situation.
D. Our society certainly doesn’t want our children to experience unpleasant things.

Question 47: The word “them” in the last paragraph refers to ______.
A. young people
B. teachers
C. parents
D. college professors

Question 48: Students who are not well-prepared to be young “adults” with all the responsibilities of life will need ______.
A. to be assigned more housework from adults
B. to be given more social responsibilities
C. to be encouraged to meet challenges
D. daily coaching from their teachers

Question 49: According to the writer, failure in life and less support from parents will ______.
A. help students to learn to stand on their own feet
B. allow students to learn the first lesson in their lives
C. defeat students from the very beginning
D. discourage students and let them down forever
Question 50: What is probably the writer’s attitude in the passage?
A. Praising  B. Indifferent  C. Humorous  D. Critical

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the sentence that best combines the pair of sentences given in each of the following questions.

Question 51: I did not dare to turn on the television. I was afraid of waking the baby up.
A. Waking the baby up, I could not continue watching the television.
B. I decided to turn the television down to avoid waking the baby up.
C. I decided not to turn on the television in order to wake the baby up.
D. I did not dare to turn on the television for fear of waking up the baby.

Question 52: The man is very old. He can’t take such a long trip.
A. The man is too old to take such a long trip.
B. The trip is not too long for the man to take.
C. The man is young enough to take such a long trip.
D. The old man has refused to take such a long trip.

Question 53: Our foods contain thousands of different chemicals. However, only a few of them are absolutely essential to our health.
A. To stay healthy with only a few essential chemicals, we have to eat the foods that contain thousands of different chemicals.
B. Containing thousands of different chemicals, foods are absolutely essential to our health.
C. We stay healthy absolutely thanks to eating foods with thousands of different essential chemicals.
D. Our foods contain thousands of different chemicals, only a few of which are absolutely essential to our health.

Question 54: The local residents have protested against the plan to build a textile factory in their neighborhood. However, the building work will go ahead.
A. Protests from the local residents have prevented the construction of the textile factory.
B. Due to protests from the locals, the textile factory construction will not go ahead as planned.
C. The textile factory will be built as planned despite the local residents’ protests.
D. The construction of the textile factory has been stopped by the protests from the local residents.

Question 55: My uncle was elected as the mayor of the city in 2001. He remained in office until 2011.
A. Ten years after serving as the mayor of the city, my uncle resigned in 2001.
B. Elected as the mayor of the city in 2001, my uncle held the post for ten years.
C. Although elected as the mayor of the city, my uncle took office in 2011.
D. My uncle was elected as the mayor of the city twice: in 2001 and 2011.

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the underlined part that needs correction in each of the following questions.

Question 56: Children should not expect to rescue by their parents every time they get into financial difficulty.
A  B  C
D

Question 57: A new school with more than 50 classrooms have just been built in our local area.
A  B  C  D

Question 58: The doctor advised him to avoid eating fatty foods, having more fresh vegetables and drink much water.
A  B  C  D

Question 59: I always look back on the time where I spent with my family on a farm in California.
A  B  C  D

Question 60: Listening to the radio and you can stay informed about current affairs.
A  B  C  D

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word(s) CLOSEST in meaning to the underlined word(s) in each of the following questions.

Question 61: The board of directors rejected the proposed project, explaining that it was too expensive to be feasible at the present moment.
A. capable  B. troublesome  C. practicable  D. costly

Question 62: John wants to buy a new car, so he starts setting aside a small part of his monthly earnings.
A. putting out  B. saving up  C. spending on  D. using up

Question 63: The performance of the synchronized swimmers was so brilliant; the judges could find no flaws in it.
A. find nothing imperfect  B. award no bonus  C. suggest more improvements  D. find many mistakes
Question 64: When I visited the city, I was really impressed by the hospitality of the people there.
A. fairly concerned  B. deeply moved  C. deeply depressed  D. slightly frightened

Question 65: After all these years of good work, Arthur deserves a promotion.
A. should be given  B. ought to be denied  C. might be produced  D. could be rejected

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word that differs from the other three in the position of the primary stress in each of the following questions.

Question 66: A. wonderful  B. impressive  C. confident  D. regular

Question 67: A. victory  B. arrangement  C. envelope  D. temperature

Question 68: A. attract  B. connect  C. demand  D. marry

Question 69: A. observation  B. intelligence  C. development  D. activity

Question 70: A. bamboo  B. hotel  C. hello  D. beauty

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 71 to 80.

Rural America is diverse in many ways. (71)______ we have seen, no one industry dominates the rural economy, no single pattern of population decline or (72)______ exists for all rural areas, and no statement about improvements and gaps in well-being holds true for all rural people.

Many of these differences are regional in nature. That is, rural areas within a particular geographic region of the country often tend to be similar (73)______ each other and different from areas in (74)______ region. Some industries, for example, are (75)______ with different regions – logging and sawmills in the Pacific Northwest and New England, manufacturing in the Southeast and Midwest, and farming in the Great Plains. Persistent poverty also has a regional pattern, concentrated primarily in the Southeast. Other differences follow no regional pattern. Areas that rely heavily (76)______ the services industry are located throughout rural America, as are rural areas that have (77)______ access to advanced telecommunications services. Many of these differences, regional and non-regional, are the result of a (78)______ of factors including the availability of natural (79)______; distance from and access to major metropolitan areas and the information and services found there; transportation and shipping facilities; political history and structure; and the racial, ethnic, and (80)______ makeup of the population.

Adapted from “Understanding Rural America”, InfoUSA

Question 71: A. Since  B. Like  C. Because  D. As

Question 72: A. growth  B. grow  C. grown  D. growing

Question 73: A. from  B. with  C. to  D. of

Question 74: A. another  B. other  C. the other  D. others

Question 75: A. added  B. compared  C. associated  D. related

Question 76: A. for  B. in  C. on  D. at

Question 77: A. many  B. lots  C. little  D. small

Question 78: A. link  B. connection  C. cooperation  D. combination

Question 79: A. sources  B. resources  C. habitats  D. materials

Question 80: A. culturally  B. culture  C. cultural  D. cultured

--------- THE END ---------