

ENGLISH TEST 91

Read the following passage and indicate the correct word for each of the blanks.

Getting to the root of Bonsai crime

Bonsai trees have always been a source of great fascination to people. They are perfect miniatures, grown in pots small enough to sit on a windowsill. You have to keep reminding yourself that these trees are (1) _____ real and identical to their larger cousins in all respects except their size. Rather like other small and perfectly-formed artifacts, bonsai trees (2) _____ quite a high price in the marketplace and so it doesn't come as a great surprise to find that they also attract the attention of thieves. It seems that quite a flourishing business has (3) _____, in which they are stolen from the homes of growers and collectors, then repotted and trimmed by unscrupulous dealers, to be sold on, at good prices, to unsuspecting buyers. One of Britain's top collectors of bonsai trees, Paul Widdington, believes that he has found a solution, however. After losing his life's work, (4) _____ at £250,000, when burglars broke into his home one night, Paul decided to (5) _____ the possibilities of electronically tagging the trees he bought as a replacement. This (6) _____ injecting a microchip the size of a (7) _____ of rice into the trunk of each tree. Each chip is a laser-etched with information which is (8) _____ in a central register held by the police. Paul is quite aware that this kind of data-tagging doesn't prevent thieves from stealing the trees in the first (9) _____, although it may increase the (10) _____ of getting them back. So he's also installing a security alarm system, complete with infra-red detectors, in his home.

- | | | | | |
|----|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | A. deeply | B. eventually | C. actually | D. greatly |
| 2 | A. obtain | B. expect | C. command | D. charge |
| 3 | A. erupted | B. evolved | C. adapted | D. arrived |
| 4 | A. prized | B. treasured | C. valued | D. costed |
| 5 | A. look into | B. set about | C. try out | D. go after |
| 6 | A. requires | B. includes | C. involves | D. reflects |
| 7 | A. crumb | B. speck | C. bean | D. grain |
| 8 | A. stored | B. detained | C. locked | D. piled |
| 9 | A. turn | B. time | C. point | D. place |
| 10 | A. counts | B. chances | C. choices | D. claims |

Read the following passage and indicate the answer to each of the questions.

TELEVISION

An American TV network has had an international hit with the drama "24", a thriller known for its suspense and often graphic violence. Over the past year, controversy has surrounded the series because of its portrayal of Muslim terrorists and its frequent scenes of torture. But the content of "24" is not the only thing that would have been unthinkable of prime-time television 20 years ago. Its form also represents a major change in modern TV: during each episode's 44 minutes – a real-time hour, minus 16 minutes for commercials – the show connects the lives of 21 different characters, each with their own personalities and specific relationships with other characters. Nine different story lines (or "threads") are depicted, each involving events and information revealed in previous episodes. [1]

[2] For years many people have assumed that popular culture is in a state of decline, rapidly degenerating into "junk culture" with no worthwhile purpose. But an interesting new book challenges that assumption. "Everything Bad is Good for You: How Today's Popular Culture Is Actually Making Us Smarter," by Steven Johnson, makes a persuasive argument that today's complex TV dramas and other pop culture products give us healthy mental exercise. He calls the use of complex, interwoven plot lines involving multiple characters "multi-threading", and it is a new and growing phenomenon in TV. To keep up with shows like "24", he points out, you must "pay attention, make inferences, track shifting social relationships", and these cognitive challenges are changing our mental development for the better. [3]

[4] The most obvious change in the last five years of narrative entertainment is the rise of TV. Surely, you might be thinking, watching "Survivor" or "The Bachelor" cannot possibly raise anyone's IQ. "Survivor" is now in its tenth season, and "The Bachelor" is in its seventh. But as Johnson tells us, lately "even the junk has improved." The new reality shows are like games: they are series of competitive tests, each more challenging than the last, and with rules that be learned as you play. On "Survivor", for instance, the participants and the audience know the general objective of the game, but each episode brings new challenges that require quick thinking. Success in these games calls for the intellectual labor of finding the weak spots in the rules and in your opponents. This labor is done not just by the stars of the shows, but the viewers at home as well. This is what makes these shows such fun to watch – the human mind enjoys being challenged. As Johnson writes, "There's real pleasure in solving puzzles, detecting patterns or understanding a complex drama system."

- 11 What is the main topic of the passage?
A. The decline of TV today B. Benefits of TV today C. TV and culture D. Why "24" became a hit
- 12 Which is the best place for the following sentence?
A. [1] B. [2] C. [3] D. [4]
- 13 The author begins the passage by discussing "24" in order to
A. prove that TV has become more violent C. explain why many TV shows nowadays are controversial
B. show how TV has become more complex D. argue against its graphic violence and portrayal of terrorist
- 14 It can be inferred that the author of the passage
A. agrees with Steven Johnson's views C. has no opinion about Steven Johnson's views

- B. strongly disagrees Steven Johnson's views D. agrees with some of Johnson's view but disagrees with others
- 15 According to the passage, Johnson's book argues all following except that
 A. popular culture is not in decline C. people enjoy the effort of understanding complex shows
 B. many TV shows involve cognitive challenges D. hour-long drama bring the greatest benefits
- 16 "Multi-threading" in TV is a new type of
 A. form B. content C. series D. character
- 17 The author mentions "junk culture" in paragraph 2 in order to
 A. emphasize how worthless most TV shows are B. contrasts a common view of TV with the one he presents in the passage
 C. explain why TV viewing is in decline in the United States
 D. argue against the view that popular culture can be worthwhile
- 18 The word "detecting" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to
 A. making B. admiring C. remembering D. finding
- 19 The word "objective" in paragraph 3 could best be replaced by
 A. prize B. rule C. goal D. origin
- 20 Which ones of the following would be the best summary of the passage?
 1. Even reality shows provide good examples of how watching TV can be both intellectually challenging and enjoyable.
 2. The drama "24" demonstrates new trends in television in its content and, more importantly, in its complicated form.
 3. Steven Johnson's new book addresses the popular view that TV and other pop culture products have little intellectual value.
 4. Shows such as "Survivor" have become popular mainly because people enjoy looking for patterns and solving puzzles.
 5. Steven Johnson's new book argues that despite most people's low opinion of TV, the complexity of its characters and plots actually presents beneficial mental challenges.
 A. 1, 3, 4 B. 1, 3, 5 C. 1, 2, 5 D. 2, 4, 5

Read the following passage and indicate the answer to each of the questions.

The first two decades of this century were dominated by the microbe hunters. These hunters had tracked down one after another of the microbes responsible for the most dreaded scourges of many centuries: tuberculosis, cholera, diphtheria. But there remained some terrible diseases for which no microbe could be **incriminated**: scurvy, pellagra, rickets, beriberi. Then it was discovered that these diseases were caused by the lack of vitamins, a trace substance in the diet. The diseases could be prevented or cured by consuming foods that contained the vitamins. And so in the decades of the 1920's and 1930's, nutrition became a science and the vitamin hunters replaced the microbe hunters.

In the 1940's and 1950's, biochemists **strived** to learn why each of the vitamins was essential for health. They discovered that key enzymes in metabolism depend on one or another of the vitamins as coenzymes to perform the chemistry that provides cells with energy for growth and function. Now, these enzyme hunters occupied center stage.

You are aware that the enzyme hunters have been replaced by a new breed of hunters who are tracking genes – the blueprints for each of the enzymes – and are discovering the defective genes that cause inherited diseases – diabetes, cystic fibrosis. These gene hunters, or genetic engineers, use recombinant DNA technology to identify and clone genes and introduce them into bacterial cells and plants to create factories for the massive production of hormones and vaccines for medicine and for better crops for agriculture. Biotechnology has become a multibillion-dollar industry.

In view of the inexorable progress in science, we can expect that the gene hunters will be replaced in the spotlight. When and by whom? Which kind of hunter will dominate the scene in the last decade of our waning century and in the early decades of the next? I wonder whether the hunters who will **occupy the spotlight** will be neurobiologists who apply the techniques of the enzyme and gene hunters to the functions of the brain. What to call them? The head hunters. I will return to them later.

- **microbe**: an extremely small living thing which you can only see if you use a microscope

- 21 What is the main topic of the passage?
 A. The microbe hunters C. The progress of modern medical research
 B. The potential of genetic engineering D. The discovery of enzymes
- 22 The word "incriminated" in the passage is closest in meaning to
 A. investigated B. blamed C. eliminated D. produced
- 23 Which of the following can be cured by a change in diet?
 A. Tuberculosis B. Cholera C. Cystic fibrosis D. Pellagra
- 24 The word "strived" in the passage is closest in meaning to
 A. failed B. tried C. experimented D. studied
- 25 How do vitamins influence health?
 A. They are necessary for some enzymes to function C. They keep food from spoiling
 B. They protect the body from microbes D. They are broken down by cells to produce energy
- 26 In the third paragraph, the author compares cells that have been genetically altered by bio-technicians to
 A. gardens B. factories C. hunters D. spotlights
- 27 The phrase "occupy the spotlight" in the passage is closest in meaning to
 A. receive the most attention B. go the furthest C. conquer territory D. lighten the load
- 28 The author implies that the most important medical research topic of the future will be

- A. the functions of the brain B. inherited diseases C. the operation of vitamins D. the structure of genes
- 29 Which of the following best describes the author's tone in the last paragraph of the passage?
A. Critical B. Speculative C. Appreciative D. Emotional
- 30 With which of the following statements would the author be most likely to agree?
A. The focus of medical research will change in the next two decades
B. Medical breakthroughs often depend on luck
C. Medical research throughout the twentieth century has been dominated by microbe hunters
D. Most diseases are caused by defective genes

Indicate the word whose underlined part is pronounced differently from the rest in the same line.

- 31 A. architechture B. chortle C. choreography D. cholera
32 A. drought B. daughter C. laughter D. caught
33 A. crabbed B. crooked C. naked D. veiled
34 A. book B. foot C. brook D. booth
35 A. applicant B. abbey C. abandon D. happy

Show the underlined part that needs correction.

- 36 The Canadian province of British Columbia is rich (A) of minerals and, because over 50 percent of (B) the land is (C) covered with forests, lumbering is its major industry.
37 (A) The astronomy is the oldest (B) science, but it continues (C) to beat the forefront of scientific thought.
38 Henry David Thoreau was (A) an American writer who (B) is remembered (C) for his faith in the religious (D) significance of the nature.
39 (A) As many as 50 percent of the income from motion pictures (B) produced in the USA (C) comes from marketing films (D) abroad.
40 The walls (A) around the city of Quebec, which was originally a (B) fort military, still (C) stand, making Quebec (D) the only walled city in North America.

Choose the best sentence built from the given words or phrases.

- 41 No point/ join/ club/ full/ eccentrics.//
A. There is no point in joining that club because it seems to be full with eccentrics.
B. There is no point of joining that club because it seems to be full of eccentrics.
C. There is no point in joining that club because it seems to be full of eccentrics.
D. It is no point in joining that club because it seems to be full of eccentrics.
- 42 He/ catch/ red-handed/ he/ have/ no choice/ confess.//
A. He caught red-handed so he had no choice but to confess. B. He was caught red-handed so that he had no choice but to confess.
C. He was caught red-handed so he had no choice of confessing.
D. He was caught red-handed so he had no choice but to confess.
- 43 New machinery/ put in/ this year/ with a view/ increase input.//
A. New machinery has been put in this year with a view of increase input.
B. New machinery has been put in this year with a view to increasing input.
C. New machinery has been put in this year with a view to increase input.
D. New machinery has been put in this year with a view of increasing input.
- 44 Secretary/ be/ responsible/ manager/ serious mistakes.//
A. The new secretary is responsible for the manager to the serious mistakes.
B. The new secretary is responsible for the manager for the serious mistakes.
C. The new secretary is responsible to the manager for the serious mistakes.
D. The new secretary is responsible to the manager to the serious mistakes.
- 45 It/ be/ cold/ this summer/ surprise/ everyone.
A. That it is so cold this summer surprise everyone. B. That it is such cold this summer surprise everyone.
C. That it is such cold this summer surprises everyone. D. That it is so cold this summer surprises everyone.

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet that best completes each sentence.

- 46 In its pure state antimony has no important uses, but _____ with other substances, it is extremely useful metal.
A. when combined physically or chemically C. the physical and chemical combination
B. combined when physically or chemically D. it is combined physically and chemically
- 47 Civil Rights are the freedoms and rights _____ as a member of a community, state, or nation.
A. may have a person B. may have a person who C. a person may have D. and a person may have
- 48 Franklin D. Roosevelt was _____ the great force of radio and the opportunity it provided for taking government policies directly to the people.
A. as the first President he understood fully C. the first President fully understood
B. the first President that, to fully understand D. the first President to fully understand
- 49 Would you mind _____?
A. if I borrowed your surfboard C. lending to me your surfboard
B. to lend me your surfboard D. that I borrow your surfboard

- 50 Good pencils erasers are soft enough not to damage paper _____ they crumble gradually when used.
A. but hard enough so that B. and enough hard that C. and they are so hard that D. so hard are they

Indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

- 51 It's _____ that blows nobody any good.
A. a bad breeze B. bad breath C. an unhappy instrument D. an ill wind
- 52 At last, I _____ on him to help us out of our dilemma.
A. persuaded B. prevailed C. labored D. convinced
- 53 She came back with an answer as quick as a(n) _____.
A. twinkling B. lighting C. flash D. express
- 54 He was prepared to announce the news to all and _____.
A. remainders B. odds C. sundry D. select
- 55 The Governor has been _____ for gross misconduct.
A. impressed B. impounded C. impeached D. impelled
- 56 I can't go with you today; I have _____ things to do.
A. a great deal B. many a great C. a great many D. great many
- 57 Contributions to the charity are beginning to _____ up.
A. end B. finish C. peter D. dry
- 58 It was her _____ powers at the keyboard rather than her age which eventually forced her retirement.
A. meteoric B. waning C. slippery D. negative
- 59 _____ the decision would have a major impact on his political career.
A. Did he realize little B. A little he realized C. Little did he realize D. Realizing little
- 60 They shouted loudly _____ I could hear the instructions clearly.
A. for fear that B. in order that C. unless D. in case
- 61 He found that the test was child's _____.
A. play B. games C. matches D. delight
- 62 Your son has the _____ of a fine musician.
A. beginnings B. makings C. looks D. talents
- 63 You really can't trust George. One day he's your best friend, and the next day he can _____ you in the back.
A. hit B. stab C. cut D. punch
- 64 He never stops criticizing me. He's a real _____ in the neck.
A. ache B. pain C. hurt D. itch
- 65 William is an authority _____ medieval tapestries.
A. on B. with C. about D. in
- 66 - "Why don't we go out for a walk?" - "_____."
A. Why not B. Yes, please C. OK, let's D. Never mind
- 67 If a diamond is heated without oxygen, it will turn to graphite, a form of _____ that it is used as a lubricant.
A. carbon is so soft B. is carbon so soft C. carbon so soft D. so soft the carbon
- 68 The first people to live in _____ Hawaii were the Polynesians, who sailed there in large canoes from other Pacific Islands about 2,000 years ago.
A. now where is B. what is now C. it is now D. now this is
- 69 If I were you, I'd _____ everything he says with a pinch of salt.
A. make B. admit C. take D. accept
- 70 - "Would you like to join our volunteer group this summer?" - "_____."
A. Do you think I would? B. I wouldn't. Thank you. C. Yes, you're a good friend. D. Yes, I'd love to. Thanks.
- 71 - "When are you planning to resign?" - "By Christmas _____."
A. no later B. until lately C. at the latest D. if not later
- 72 - "The landlord is raising my rent again." - "_____ reason for you to find a new apartment."
A. Much more B. So much more C. All the more D. More than such a
- 73 Please _____ your luggage and leave now. I can't stand your presence any more.
A. throw off B. pack up C. fit in D. pile up
- 74 I couldn't speak Italian, so I couldn't _____ my ideas across to the passer-by.
A. turn B. bring C. get D. look
- 75 William was 19 years old when he was _____ for war.
A. brought up B. called up C. made up D. put up

Indicate the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined part in each of the following questions.

- 76 The politician's conviction for tax fraud jeopardized his future in public life.
A. jettisoned B. penalized C. rejuvenated D. endangered
- 77 Savage hordes swept across Europe and ruthlessly killed all in their path.
A. without stopping B. without weapons C. without warning D. without pity
- 78 His physical condition was no impediment to his career as a violinist.
-

A. help

B. impatience

C. hindrance

D. impossibility

Indicate the word or phrase that is opposite in meaning to the underlined part in each of the following questions.

79 His career in the illicit drug trade ended with the police raid this morning.

A. irregular

B. legal

C. elicited

Secret

80 The soldiers were told to commence firing in the mock battle.

A. stop

B. begin

C. evoke

D. continue
