SỞ GIÁO DỤC VÀ ĐÀO TẠO
TỈNH ĐIỆN BIÊN

ĐỀ THI CHÍNH THỨC

KỲ THI TUYỂN SINH LỚP 10
NĂM HỌC 2026 - 2027
Môn: Tiếng Anh (Chuyên)
Ngày thi: 26/5/2026
Thời gian làm bài: 120 phút, không kể thời gian phát đề

SECTION A: LISTENING (1.5 POINTS) (You will hear each part twice)

I. You will hear an interview with two young teenagers, Zack Walker and Tamsin Lee, who design and make their own clothes. For each question 1 - 6, choose the correct answer (A, B, or C). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. (0.6 point)

1. What made Zack decide to start designing his own T-shirts?
A. a present he received **B.** a TV program he saw
C. something he found on the internet

2. Zack managed to put his design onto his T-shirts by _____.
A. using transfer paper and an iron **B.** sewing them on
C. drawing then on

3. When Zack's friends saw his T-shirts, they _____.
A. asked him to design one for them **B.** put a photo of one in the school
C. wanted to make one of their own

4. Who helps out in Tamsin's after-school class?
A. Some senior students **B.** Parents of the people attending
C. Other teachers from the school

5. Tamsin thinks the class is popular with students mostly because _____.
A. They save money by making their own clothes **B.** Their clothes will be personally representative
C. They can show other students their accomplishments

6. What does Tamsin want to improve?
A. Her sewing skills for making her designs **B.** Her choices of colours and materials
C. Her drawings for her designs

II. You are going to listen to a lecture about a bird species called Starling. Complete the following notes USING NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS/OR A NUMBER according to what you hear. (0.9 point)

European Starling

- Thousands of **(7)**_____ species have been introduced into the British Isles.
- The invasive species compete with native ones for resources, causing major changes in the rural areas' **(8)**_____.
- The starling's appearance is associated with small **(9)**_____.
- Its food focuses on **(10)**_____.
- In the British Isles and Finland, the species has declined in population.
- The population in the USA is estimated at **(11)**_____ million birds.
- In some other countries, it is a **(12)**_____.
- Because of their aggressiveness, they compete with native species for **(13)**_____.
- They feed on commercial crops, resulting in **(14)**_____ to farmers.
- Starling may carry **(15)**_____ which can harm both humans and other animals.

SECTION B. PHONOLOGY (0.5 POINT)

I. Choose and circle the word whose underlined part is pronounced differently from that of the others. (0.3 point)

1.	**A.** h<u>ea</u>t	**B.** scr<u>ea</u>m	**C.** m<u>ea</u>t	**D.** d<u>ea</u>d
2.	**A.** pack<u>age</u>	**B.** eng<u>age</u>	**C.** teen<u>age</u>	**D.** <u>age</u>less
3.	**A.** <u>ch</u>ange	**B.** <u>ch</u>ildren	**C.** ma<u>ch</u>ine	**D.** <u>ch</u>urch

II. Choose the word that has different stress pattern in each line. (0.2 point)

4.	**A.** design	**B.** hopeful	**C.** podcast	**D.** volume
5.	**A.** indigenous	**B.** military	**C.** apologize	**D.** miraculous

SECTION C. VOCABULARY (2.0 POINTS)

I. Give the correct form of the given words to complete the following sentences. (1.0 point)

1. It is a product's _____ **(POPULAR)** that reflects its standing in the market.

2. Mike was badly injured after a _____ **(COLLIDE)** with an opponent defender.

3. Hải is such a _____ **(CHILD)** man that he can feel offended by small things.

4. Linda walked _____ **(BEAUTIFUL)** on the stage.

5. Henry is very _____ **(CONFIDENCE)**, so he isn't afraid of talking in the public.

6. I don't want to waste money on _____ **(PRICE)** cars.

7. Because their mother has spoiled them, they become _____ **(CORRECT)**.

8. Because Frank is _____ **(NUMBER)**, he can't do a simple calculation.

9. Though Marry was a talented singer, she was a(n) _____ **(FATE)** person, who died young.

10. No matter how many times you persuade him, his answer will be _____ **(VARY)**.

II. Choose the letter A, B, C, or D on to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions. (1.0 point)

11. The movie is very _____, so you may cry when watching it.

A. touching **B.** terrible **C.** funny **D.** hilarious

12. My parents handed _____ the house to me. We have kept this house for three generations.

A. in **B.** down **C.** up **D.** out

13. Sarah was chosen as the new interpreter as she was _____ in five languages.

A. fluent **B.** productive **C.** fruitful **D.** slow

14. Celebrities must have challenges in maintaining their _____ when they are always followed by paparazzies.

A. exclusion **B.** privacy **C.** privilege **D.** harmony

15. Many students learn by _____, which makes them fail to understand the nature of knowledge.

A. brain **B.** head **C.** memory **D.** rote

16. My time in New York is _____. I will never forget this meaningful time.

A. meaningless **B.** horrific **C.** forgetful **D.** memorable

17. They are trying to _____ funds from different organisations for their orphanage.

A. solicit **B.** congregate **C.** invoke **D.** summon

18. Many innocent victims were killed or injured when the bomb _____ on the square.

A. took off **B.** broke down **C.** went off **D.** blew out

19. Her explanation about the theory was so _____ that it confused us a lot.

A. ambiguous **B.** analogous **C.** pretentious **D.** vigorous

20. It _____ that the Prime Minister had remained an affair for a long time.

A. indicated **B.** validated **C.** transpired **D.** exaggerated

21. His new song is really off the beaten _____.

A. path **B.** way **C.** road **D.** track

22. Students need to prepare skills _____ demands in the future job market.

A. in line with **B.** regardless of **C.** irrespective of **D.** with a view to

23. What we are engrossed in city life is the _____ atmosphere.

A. hurried **B.** hectic **C.** isolated **D.** vibrant

24. Michael stayed at home with his mother the whole night, which was a _____ alibi.

A. steel **B.** gold **C.** cast-iron **D.** silver

25. Mike and Linh are discussing about gender equality. - Mike: "I strongly believe that women should be provided with more equal opportunities at workplace." - Linh: "_____. This can motivate employees from both genders to try their best."

A. I can't agree with you more **B.** I don't think so

C. I am not sure about that **D.** It's a pleasure to say this

26. Sharon and Mick are talking about football. - Mick: "I think Manchester can win a title this season." - Sharon: "_____. They have a terrible squad."

A. It's totally possible **B.** When pigs can fly

C. It's clear as your nose on your face **D.** When it comes, it comes

Choose and circle the letter (A, B, C or D) to indicate the word/ phrase that has the CLOSEST meaning to the underlined words/phrases.

27. We should ban gun ownership immediately because it is a lethal weapon.

A. tremendous **B.** deadly **C.** harmful **D.** doubtful

28. Cities are famous for their exorbitant living costs; therefore, we must be cautious about our spending.

A. affordable **B.** hysterical **C.** astronomical **D.** unimaginable

Choose and circle the letter (A, B, C or D) to indicate the word/ phrase that has the OPPOSITE meaning to the underlined words/ phrases. (0.1 point)

29. The institution has been famous for a wide range of the state-of-the art tools and gadgets.

A. advanced **B.** sophisticated **C.** obsolete **D.** flaky

30. My mother jumped down my throat after I messed up the kitchen.

A. gave me compliments **B.** scolded me **C.** talked to me angrily **D.** gave me advice

SECTION D. GRAMMAR: (1.5 POINTS)

I. Give the correct form of the verbs in brackets to complete each sentence. (0.5 point)

1. The girl _____ **(sit)** next to me is very clever and hard-working

2. Should it rain, we _____ **(not walk)** to the town.

3. Peter promises _____ **(visit)** me regularly.

4. I had the window _____ **(replace)** yesterday.

5. By the time we graduated, we _____ **(already / save)** five thousand dollars.

II. Choose the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions. (0.5 point)

6. Rick _____ in the local library, which explained his impressive academic performance.

A. was always studying **B.** used to study **C.** used to studying **D.** didn't use to study

7. Either Peter or his brothers _____ the keys to the car.

A. has been taken **B.** has taken **C.** have taken **D.** have been taken

8. If you had taken my advice, you _____ in trouble last week.

A. will be **B.** would be **C.** wouldn't be **D.** wouldn't have been

9. _____ was so important that I asked everyone to stop talking and listen.

A. What the woman was saying **B.** That the woman was saying

C. The woman was saying **D.** What was the woman saying

10. Viet Nam is _____ multicultural country with 54 ethnic groups.

A. a **B.** an **C.** the **D.** Ø

11. The village's festival, _____ is held every spring, attracts thousands of visitors.

A. that **B.** which **C.** where **D.** when

12. My mother reminds me not to forget _____ her flowers when she is away.

A. water **B.** watering **C.** to water **D.** to watering

13. _____ out of the window when I entered my car.

A. No sooner had the man jumped **B.** Scarcely had jumped the man

C. Barely had the man jumped **D.** Barely the man had jumped

14. Frank won the game easily. He _____ carefully in advance.

A. must prepare **B.** must have prepared **C.** should have prepared **D.** may have prepared

15. _____ with enough funding, our project failed completely.

A. Provided **B.** Not providing **C.** Wasn't provided **D.** Not provided

III. Find the mistake marked A, B, C or D in each of the following sentences. (0.5 point)

16. I suggest that he takes part in the examination as soon as possible.

A. that **B.** takes **C.** the **D.** as soon as

17. Some scientists believe that the earth has resources enough to support its population.

A. believe that **B.** resources enough **C.** some **D.** its

18. Careful plans help craft villages flourish and growing, which can attract more tourists to the province.

A. plans **B.** more **C.** growing **D.** province

19. Unless you helped me, I won't be able to complete the project on time.

A. on **B.** be **C.** to complete **D.** helped

20. The company is trying to keep the situation at a managerial level until they can find a better solution.

A. is trying **B.** until **C.** managerial **D.** better

SECTION E. READING COMPREHENSION (2.5 POINTS)

I. Read the following passage and choose the best answer from A, B, C or D to indicate the correct word for each of the blanks. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. (0.7 point)

Some years ago, there were **(1)**_____ that email would soon be replaced as the most common means of online communication by social networking sites. Since then, the number of emails sent has **(2)**_____ steadily, to the point that the volume received **(3)**_____ a daily basis has become stressful for people. For some users, the situation has become so **(4)**_____ that they regularly delete all the emails they receive without even bothering to read them, which is rather risky, to say the least. A less extreme measure is to **(5)**_____ software that sorts incoming mail into different categories. By doing this, promotions from commercial organizations, for instance, go into a separate folder from messages arriving from friends or employers, **(6)**_____ us to see which mails are more important than others. Not all of us, though, may be so keen to let software **(7)**_____ such decision for us.

1.	**A.** commitments	**B.** reflections	**C.** announcements	**D.** predictions
2.	**A.** increased	**B.** decreased	**C.** changed	**D.** remained
3.	**A.** with	**B.** at	**C.** in	**D.** on
4.	**A.** unrealistic	**B.** unbearable	**C.** unagreeable	**D.** unexplainable
5.	**A.** equip	**B.** upload	**C.** install	**D.** prepare
6.	**A.** that enables	**B.** enables	**C.** to enable	**D.** enabling
7.	**A.** do	**B.** make	**C.** get	**D.** give

II. Read the following text and do the tasks that follow. (0.8 point)

Is this the end of traditional British playground pastimes?

A. A survey has suggested that traditional pastimes are increasingly being banned at break times in primary school. Number one on the list is chasing game British Bulldog, followed by leapfrog and conkers.

B. Despite its name, British Bulldog is a game that does not involve animals and is played all over the world in a number of variations. In its basic form, it involves runners trying to get to the other side of the playground without being caught by the chaser, the 'bulldog'. If caught, they become a bulldog too, until there is only one person left: the winner of the game.

C. 'Conkers', on the other hand, is genuinely British as it is a game that was invented in England. The players bring their own 'conker': a horse chestnut attached to a thick piece of string that goes through the middle of the nut and is knotted underneath. Players pair up, wrap the string around one of their hands and try up to three times to hit the other person's conker by swinging their hand back and forth. They take this in turns until one of the conkers is destroyed. That could be the end of the game, or the winner could go onto 'flight' others. There are different types of scoring methods in place. The game is also played outside the school playground, with a world championship taking place in England every year.

D. It will come as no surprise that people have had accidents resulting in broken arm or leg while playing British Bulldog, or by simply walking across the playground when a game is taking place! It is also not difficult to imagine that many conkers players manage to hit their opponent's hand rather their conker. Horse chestnuts are very hard and being hit with one hurts, as many school children will – proudly – tell you.

E. Sporting activities are also becoming rarer on the playground, because there is a lack of staff available to supervise them. Besides banning these, there are more original solutions, such as allowing students to play touch rugby only – a form of rugby where tackles are not allowed and playing football with a soft ball rather than the traditional one. Having said that, these activities are often not popular with the kids, and this may discourage them from playing at all.

For questions 8 - 11. Match correct headings with paragraphs (B – E). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

List of headings

i. The demise of classic British playground games

ii. Run or get caught

iii. A closer look at some traditional games

iv. An England-originated game

v. The dangers of the playground

vi. The name may confuse you

vii. The bans and playground sports

viii. Possible explanations for the bans

Example: Paragraph A – **i**

8. Paragraph B: _____

9. Paragraph C: _____

10. Paragraph D: _____

11. Paragraph E: _____

For questions 12 - 15. Decide whether they are True (T), False (F), or Not Given (NG). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

12. The game British Bulldog is associated with a famous dog breed in the UK.

13. In England, Conkers is confined in the school playground.

14. Conkers players can deliberately harm their opponents.

15. Because there is not enough staff available, playground sports have been reduced.

III. Read the following text and choose correct answers. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. (1.0 point)

Leave only your footprints

Today's travellers have a range of responsible holiday choices. Aoife O'Riordain reports.

With the increasing awareness of global warming and the overuse of the Earth's natural resources, it would seem that the travelling public has never been so **conscious** of the effects and impact that their holidays have, not just on the environment but also on local communities the world over. That said, Justin Francis, the co-founder of the website Responsible Travel, still feels there is a long way to go so far as the public's awareness of green travel issues is concerned. Francis believes that although some consumers are now actively seeking out these types of holidays, the majority are still not aware of the growing number of choices. 'I wish that people were springing out of bed in the mornings thinking that they must select a holiday that does a better job of protecting environments and communities. Sadly it does not happen, and the main factors are still the right experience, the right price and convenient departure schedules,' says Francis.

Despite a major airline's recent announcement that it plans to fly jets on fuel made from rubbish to shrink their carbon footprint; most people are aware that air travel is a controversial issue in the environmentally friendly travel debate. While many emphasize that the only truly green option is not to fly or to stay at home, those who still want to get away have an increasing number of choices available to help them lessen the environmental impact and give more to their host community.

The Green Traveller website fosters holidays that can be reached by land, as well as offering plenty of tips about having a greener holiday wherever you decide to go. Its managing director, Richard Hammond, agrees that interest in this kind of travel has grown. 'Very few holidays are 100 per cent green, so it's really about having a greener holiday. The most basic choice is looking at low-pollution forms of transport, or, if you are going somewhere really distant, minimize your impact at the destination,' says Hammond. While many of the properties **it** features already have certification from a growing range of international and national schemes, Green Traveller's team of writers also personally assess each property and apply their own standards to the selection process, such as how waste is dealt with, to what extent local agricultural products are used, and whether visitors are encouraged to arrive by rail.

Older-established tour operators have also realised that a growing number of clients are beginning to include this new set of factors when making their decision on where to holiday. Last year, First Choice added a Greener Holidays brochure into its programme, and tour operators now often list accommodation-only or activity-only prices so people can choose their own means of transport, such as travelling by rail rather than by air.

Meanwhile, hotels are increasingly keen to talk up their ecological achievements. One of the biggest criticisms of international hotel chains is their overuse of the Earth's resources, and in response many have implemented measures they claim will reduce this. While these are no doubt based on good environmental principles, schemes like planting a tree for every five towels reused, for instance, are unlikely to make much difference overall.

Francis believes that consumers are becoming more aware of such **tokenism** from hotels and tour operators that may not have the best interests of the community or the planet, which are true to their hearts. 'My real hope is that we get much more curious and more questioning, and there are rebellious tourists who see through this and ask increasingly tough questions,' he says.

16. The word "**conscious**" in paragraph 1 is **OPPOSITE** in meaning to _____.

A. perceptible **B.** subtle **C.** negligent **D.** congenial

17. What does Justin Francis say about attitudes to holidays?

A. Everyone's top priority these days is to have greener holidays.

B. Most people's reasons for choosing holidays remain the same.

C. Tourists are only interested in finding the cheapest travel deals.

D. Nowadays, more people who travel know about global warming.

18. What does the writer say about going on holiday by plane?

A. A lot of people believe that it is harmful to the environment.

B. Few people realise there is discussion about the harm it may do.

C. There is no way of making it less harmful to the environment.

D. The public think that new technology is making it harmless.

19. What does Richard Hammond suggest to people going a long way for their holiday?

A. Take a train or a bus to get there instead of a plane.

B. Do as little environmental damage as you can there.

C. Make sure your holiday there is completely green.

D. Look elsewhere for advice on greener holidays.

20. What does '**it**' in paragraph 3 refer to?

A. the destination **B.** the team of writers **C.** the selection process **D.** the website

21. Some firms believe that people are now more likely to choose a holiday _____.

A. which includes the cost of travel in the price.

B. in a place that serves food from that area.

C. somewhere that produces no waste material.

D. that is organised by a traditional travel company.

22. Older-established tour operators have _____.

A. stimulated tourists' use of sustainable standards

B. acknowledged the rise of sustainable tourism standards

C. emphasized the popularity of the new tourism standard set

D. apparently applied the new sustainable tourism set into reality

23. Which of the following best summarises paragraph 5?

A. Hotels have been severely criticized for their ignorance of environmental treatment when they are supposed to act more actively.

B. Hotels have embroidered their measures which are taken to compensate for their environmental damage; however, the effectiveness seems insufficient.

C. Hotels' eco-friendly claims are regarded as redundant because the actual actions are both superficial and wasteful.

D. More hotels have implemented environmental measures so that they can disguise under the appearance of an eco-friendly organization.

24. What is meant by '**tokenism**' in paragraph 6?

A. appearing to show concern but in practice doing very little

B. taking steps with the result that the problem is solved

C. setting a good example which others are now following

D. doing as much as possible but without achieving success

25. When Francis says, "My real hope is that we get much more curious and more questioning, and there are rebellious tourists who see through this and ask increasingly tough questions,", he wants to _____.

A. encourage more people to boycott hotels and tour operators which are damaging the environment

B. warn people not to be fooled by hotels and tour operators and to be more critical with them

C. invoke the anger in the public so that they can transform the industries of hotel and tour operator

D. appeal for inclusive participation to reduce the environmental damage by hotels and tour operators

SECTION F. WRITING (2.0 POINTS)

I. Rewrite each sentence beginning with the words given so that it has a similar meaning to the original one. (0.5 point)

1. It is believed that his father died in a car accident.

→ His father _____.

2. Their dog was so fierce that nobody would visit them.

→ They had such _____.

3. Harry said, "Let's me help you with your project next month."

→ Harry insisted _____.

4. We are living in a very beautiful house.

→ The house _____.

5. It was not until Jane left Peter that he changed into a decent man.

→ Only when _____.

II. Write each of the following sentences in such a way that it has the same meaning as the original sentence. Use the word(s) given and other words as necessary. Do not change the given words. (0.5 point)

6. Helen was so beautiful that I couldn't turn her down. **BUT FOR**

→ _____.

7. Mike believed that his parents' support was the reason for his success. **ATTRIBUTED**

→ _____.

8. My uncle said to me, "You'd better not hang out with these wankers." **PREVENTED**

→ _____.

9. After I had finished my dinner, I took a stroll around the neighbourhood. **HAVING**

→ _____.

10. Because my father is stamp-mad, he spends a lot of money on them every month. **SPLASHES**

→ _____.

III. Write a paragraph between 120 and 150 words on the following topic. Use examples and/or explanations for your answer. (1.0 point)

Is it better to live in the city or in the countryside?