EXAMINATION
FOR
THE MICHIGAN CERTIFICATE
OF
PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH

Practice Preliminary Tests
(with KEY)

Volume 1

Prepared by
Rodney A Coules
This set of 10 practice tests has been produced to help familiarize candidates with the format of the new 35-item preliminary test which will be administered for the first time on 30 November, 1996.

In the new test there will be 35 problems: 10 multiple choice cloze problems, 10 grammar problems, 10 vocabulary problems, and 5 questions about a reading passage. Candidates will have 30 minutes to answer all 35 problems.

Below are examples of each of the different types of problems with the correct answer indicated with an asterisk (*).

**GRAMMAR:** Choose the word or phrase that best completes the conversation.

"What is that thing?"
"That ____ a spider."

a. to call  
b. for calling  
c. be called  
*d. is called

**CLOZE:** Read the passage, then select the word that best fills the blank in both grammar and meaning.

Long ago roads were only trails for people  
and animals to walk on, but today roads must be made for cars, trucks, and buses.  
The most modern _____ is often called a superhighway.

a. way  
c. travel  
*b. road  
d. superhighway

**VOCABULARY:** Choose the word that most appropriately completes the sentence.

The first things we study in school are very ________.

a. sturdy  
b. shifty  
c. trusty  
*d. elementary

**READING:** Read the passage, then answer the questions following it according to the information given in the passage.

While I was getting ready to go to town one morning last week, my wife handed me a little piece of red cloth and asked me if I would have time during the day to buy her two yards of cloth like that.

The person telling the story is …

a. a married lady  
b. an unmarried lady  
c. a married man  
*d. an unmarried man.
1. "Have you been here long?"
   "I've been here since the box-office _______ ."
   a. has opened
   b. opened
   c. has been opened
   d. opens

2. "Why did you wave to that girl?"
   "I ____ her for a classmate of mine."
   a. mistaking
   b. mistake
   c. mistaken
   d. mistaken

3. "I expected him to do much better."
   "Well, _____ that hi didn't study enough."
   a. the truth is
   b. in truth
   c. the truth
   d. truth is

4. "I hope you've enjoyed yourself."
   "Yes. It's been nice ___ for a week."
   a. I have taken things easy
   b. taking things easy
   c. to taking things easy
   d. I take things easy

5. "Why are you looking so upset?"
   "I've lost all the reports ______ to the explosion."
   a. relation
   b. relate
   c. relations
   d. relating

6. "What should Tim do now?"
   "Well, I suggest ______ immediately."
   a. him to resign
   b. him resign
   c. he resign
   d. he resigns

7. "So you did invite Mary to the party."
   "Yes. I'm afraid I couldn't ______."
   a. avoid it
   b. avoid
   c. be avoided
   d. to avoid it

8. "Why are you so late?"
   "I ____ by heavy traffic."
   a. delayed
   b. have been delayed
   c. am delayed
   d. was delayed

9. "Is your steak alright?"
   "Yes, but the sweet corn ______ ."
   a. tasting terribly
   b. tastes terrible
   c. tastes terribly
   d. is tasting terribly

10. "Are your parents at home?"
    "My mother isn't, and ______ is my father."
    a. either
    b. also
    c. so
    d. neither
Archaeologists have been conducting excavations in a cave near the Amazon River. They ___(11)___ uncovered evidence that humans inhabited a tropical locale about 11,000 years ___(12)___ and that their lifestyle differed ___(13)___ that of their better-known prehistoric contemporaries in North America.

The new discovery, along with previous reports of other 11,000-year-old human sites in South America, ___(14)___ the theory that the first New World settlers immediately trekked inland ___(15)___ crossing the Bering Strait from Asia, mainly hunted big game, and moved into South America along the Andes Mountains.

___(16)___, the Brazilian work suggests that ancient travelers moved down the Canadian coast and entered North and South America ___(17)___ following the major rivers, such as the Amazon. It documents the ancient presence of folks ___(18)___ gathered fruit, caught fish, and ___(19)___ a variety of land animals in a humid, tropical forest far from the Andes, asserts Anna C. Roosevelt, an archaeologist at ___(20)___ Field Museum in Chicago and director of the international scientific project.

(11)   a. has       c. having
       b. have      d. had
(12)   a. ago       c. since
       b. before    d. after
(13)   a. from      c. to
       b. in        d. as
(14)   a. challenge  c. challenged
       b. challenges d. challenging
(15)   a. when      c. after
       b. while     d. to
(16)   a. Furthermore c. Contrary
       b. Instead   d. Similarly
(17)   a. by        c. through
       b. in        d. not
(18)   a. which     c. and
       b. whose     d. who
(19)   a. feared    c. hunted
       b. developed d. viewed
(20)   a. one       c. a
       b. that      d. the
21. We ______ our way across the dark room.
   a. hovered  
   b. decreed  
   c. stalked  
   d. groped

22. They decided to ________ on the project.
   a. collaborate  
   b. evolve  
   c. revert  
   d. deal

23. The rescue teams searched the ________ for remaining survivors.
   a. rubble  
   b. plaudits  
   c. damages  
   d. decrees

24. The brothers constant ________ upset their parents.
   a. jostling  
   b. wrangling  
   c. reverting  
   d. founding

25. You needn't worry; we have __________ supplies of food.
   a. myriad  
   b. devoid  
   c. ample  
   d. plausible

26. She _____ a fortune by the time she was twenty-five.
   a. annulled  
   b. allotted  
   c. bolstered  
   d. amassed

27. Learner drivers are usually rather _____.
   a. plain  
   b. willful  
   c. sober  
   d. skittish

28. She's ______ with the idea of leaving home.
   a. obsessed  
   b. fond  
   c. desirous  
   d. hopeful

29. Sixty contestants will ______ for the Miss Universe title.
   a. participate  
   b. vie  
   c. comply  
   d. enter

30. Many people are ______ to colds in winter.
   a. easy  
   b. sensitive  
   c. prone  
   d. affected
Reading

Lights on, lights off. Just the quick flick of a finger on a simple switch brightens or darkens the room.

That power is the envy of geneticists. They long for similar ease in activating and de-activating genes in cultured cells and transgenic animals. In recent years, these scientists have gained some measure of control by using chemical compounds, including the antibiotic tetracycline, to govern genes in cells and mice.

The insect hormone ecdysone may provide the most effective gene switch yet, suggest investigators from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla, Calif., and the University of California, San Diego. To support that contention, the group has made mammalian cells and strains of mice with genes that are activated when ecdysone reaches them.

With such a system, researchers should be able to examine the importance of the timing of gene activity, particularly during an organism’s development. Since the hormone has no adverse effect on mammalian cells, ecdysone-based switches may ultimately provide a non-toxic way to control the therapeutic genes inserted into humans.

"It looks pretty promising. It seems to work as well as, if not better than, the tetracycline system," says Janet Rossant, a developmental biologist at the Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto.

31. The opening paragraph provides an example of an application of
   a. Lights.
   b. Rooms.
   c. Electricity.
   d. Darkness.

32. In recent years chemical compounds have helped scientists
   a. to measure cultured cells.
   b. to control gene activity to a certain extent.
   c. to train mice.
   d. to switch from genes to mice.

33. What have investigators managed to do with ecdysone? They've managed to
   a. affect the metabolism of special mice.
   b. produce mammalian cells.
   c. change the strains of ordinary mice.
   d. activate ordinary mice.

34. What is an apparent advantage of ecdysone?
   a. It helps make mammalian cells.
   b. It does not harm mammalian cells.
   c. It is therapeutic.
   d. It will become non-toxic.

35. According to the last paragraph, scientists are
   a. promising miracles.
   b. clearly in favour of tetracycline instead.
   c. looking for more promising alternatives.
   d. optimistic about the potential of ecdysone.
Practice Test 2

GRAMMAR

1. "Why isn't Dave here tonight?"
   "Sue must _____ to invite him."
   a. forget
   b. be forgetting
   c. to forget
   d. have forgotten

2. "That's a lovely boat, isn't it?"
   "My brother has _____ one."
   a. the similar
   b. a similar
   c. similar
   d. one similar

3. "What are you doing this weekend?"
   "I hope _____ my research paper."
   a. to finish
   b. finishing
   c. will finish
   d. finish

4. "Paul does so well at school."
   "I know. And yet he _____ studies."
   a. ever hardly
   b. hardly ever
   c. hardly never
   d. never hardly

5. "Dora didn't remember a thing the teacher said."
   "She couldn't _____ very attentively."
   a. have been listening
   b. be listening
   c. having listened
   d. listen

6. "Can you carry that table by yourself?"
   "Yes, since it's ____, any adult can do it."
   a. so light that
   b. so light
   c. as light as
   d. as light

7. "Isn't Diana here yet?"
   "No. She ____ to meet me here an hour ago."
   a. supposed
   b. had been supposed
   c. had supposed
   d. was supposed

8. "I'm going out with Tim tonight."
   "Yes, but I wish you ______."
   a. wasn't
   b. weren't
   c. didn't
   d. hadn't

9. "Don't you like the food?"
   "It's very _____ what I'm used to."
   a. different from
   b. different of
   c. more different than
   d. differently to

10. "What did Joe's father say?"
    "He said that it was necessary ______ immediately."
    a. Joe to return home
    b. that Joe return home
    c. Joe's return home
    d. Joe returns home
The plastic oxygen tent that serves as a womb for premature babies has been the subject of recent investigations. Since its beginnings early in the baby’s early life, the tent has saved many lives - but often the cost of the infants eyesight.

Now, doctors who can save a preemie weighing just 1 pound can sometimes save the infant’s vision, it may never be 20/20, says Earl A. Palmer of the Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland.

The key is cryotherapy - pinpoint applications of extreme cold - to the retina.

The link of oxygen and blindness was recognized in the 1940s. That time, doctors thought that excess oxygen was the only culprit. They now know better. Excess oxygen halts the growth of blood vessels in the eye. As preemies are weaned from the oxygen, cells in the retina react issuing a chemical that triggers a rapid blood vessel growth. The new, weak-walled vessels leak blood, prying the retina from bed. This causes severe loss of vision in 60% of the smallest preemies.
21. I found his excuse quite _______.
   a. tangible
   b. legible
   c. edible
   d. plausible

22. His lawyer advised him to _______ the contract carefully.
   a. vow
   b. peruse
   c. determine
   d. insist

23. There has been little _______ improvement in his condition.
   a. great
   b. vast
   c. perceptible
   d. known

24. She's a really _______ speaker; it's a pleasure listening to her.
   a. long
   b. articulate
   c. divergent
   d. cryptic

25. The _______ between the two families led to great bloodshed.
   a. enmity
   b. amity
   c. annuity
   d. friendship

26. We spent a lovely evening in very _______ company.
   a. genial
   b. stoical
   c. cynical
   d. prodigal

27. He had a _______ of disaster, so he decided to stay home that evening.
   a. statement
   b. premonition
   c. pseudonym
   d. repercussion

28. The new party leader has many outstanding _______.
   a. supporters
   b. truths
   c. attributes
   d. stances

29. She's _______ reader of pulp fiction.
   a. an avid
   b. a greedy
   c. an exotic
   d. a predatory

30. All my efforts to get his support were to no _______.
   a. success
   b. achievement
   c. avail
   d. return
According to the Big Bang theory, the universe began in a giant explosion. Ever since, the cosmos has ballooned in size, carrying galaxies further apart.

But gravity slows that expansion and determines the fate of the universe. If gravity is weak, the universe will remain open, expanding forever. However, if the universe contains sufficient mass, it will eventually close in on itself: Gravity will halt cosmic expansion, crashing galaxies together in a Big Crunch. In a third scenario, the universe is delicately balanced between expansion and collapse, possessing just enough gravity to halt inflation without contracting.

Although cosmologists have by no means reached a consensus, recent evidence suggests that the cosmos will grow indefinitely. An analysis of some of the deepest cosmic images ever taken supports this idea.

In the new findings, presented last week in Liverpool, England, at the Royal Astronomical Society's National Astronomy Meeting, Thomas Shanks, Nigel Metcalfe, Ana Campos, and their colleagues at the University of Durham in England observe that gravity curves space in such a way that the volume of universe within a given radius from Earth is greater for an open universe than a closed one. The number of galaxies in that volume will therefore also be greater, so counting them could indicate the nature of the universe.

So far so good. But the difference in volume between an open and a closed universe becomes significant only when astronomers consider a chunk of universe containing distant objects. Unfortunately, galaxies located far from Earth are often too dim to detect visually.

31. The Big Bang theory maintains that since the universe began
   a. the cosmos has remained the same size.
   b. there have been giant explosions in the cosmos.
   c. the cosmos has increased in size.
   d. a part of the cosmos carries galaxies.

32. The third scenario sees the universe
   a. as being too delicate to balance.
   b. as having enough of a gravitational pull to prevent it shrinking.
   c. as having sufficient gravity to allow it to expand further.
   d. as being ready to collapse.

33. Analysis of some of the deepest cosmic images ever taken suggests
   a. that scientists will reach a consensus.
   b. an ever expanding cosmos.
   c. indefinite results.
   d. that scientists will by no means agree.

34. The new findings referred to maintain that
   a. gravity increases volume of space.
   b. the radius from Earth is opening up.
   c. gravity closes the universe.
   d. space is curved by gravity.

35. What problem faces astronomers who are studying the cosmos?
   a. Distant galaxies are often not bright enough to locate.
   b. Comparing open and closed galaxies is impossible.
   c. Astronomers have not been able to observe distant objects.
   d. Chunks of the universe do not contain distant objects.
1. "I'm sorry I lost my temper like that.
   "Don't worry. I'm sure I _____ the same thing."
   a. had done  
   b. did  
   c. would be doing  
   d. would have done
2. "Jan has got a car just like yours."
   "They're similar, but hers is _____ color."
   a. slightly a different  
   b. a slight different  
   c. a slightly different  
   d. slightly different
3. "Didn't you say your passport had expired?"
   "Yes, but I _____ yesterday."
   a. renewed it  
   b. had renewed it  
   c. had it renewed  
   d. have renewed it
4. "Did you attend the concert last night?"
   "No, we didn't, _____ we couldn't find a baby-sitter."
   a. whereas  
   b. yet  
   c. consequently  
   d. since
5. "How did they discover the problem?"
   "The smell _____ the gas-pipe alarmed passers-by."
   a. coming from  
   b. which coming from  
   c. came from  
   d. that it was coming from
6. "No. I've never been to a more boring talk _____ that."
   a. from  
   b. as  
   c. than  
   d. like
7. "It's a shame Warren didn't get the job."
   "Yes. _____ my advice, he would have got it easily."
   a. If he takes  
   b. Were he to take  
   c. If he took  
   d. Had he taken
8. "Why has Dave resigned his job?"
   "It was my suggestion _____ his education."
   a. why didn't he continue  
   b. him to continue  
   c. that he continue  
   d. he continues
9. "How would you like me to organize the party?"
   "Why don't you proceed _____ we discussed a month ago?"
   a. along the lines  
   b. with the lines  
   c. among the lines  
   d. through the lines
10. "Are your neighbors still keeping you awake at night?"
    "No. I _____ the noise they make."
    a. had used to  
    b. used to  
    c. was used to  
    d. have gotten used to
Clinical trials are used to test all manner of new medical treatments.

To find out whether a __(11)__ dose of aspirin prevents heart attacks, you take 10,000 people from the general population, select half of them __(12)__ random to take aspirin every day, and follow all 10,000 for five or ten years to see __(13)__ their cardiovascular systems hold up. This kind of randomized selection is at the center of such trials. In practice, however, it __(14)__ be significantly flawed.

Kenneth P. Schultz of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and his colleagues have been __(15)__ questions about the quality of allocation concealment - the process of hiding information about which patients will be assigned new treatment versus __(16)__ will get conventional care. For instance, __(17)__ doctors know that all new patients registered on odd-numbered days get a new drug that is __(18)__ investigation, whereas those registered on even-numbered days get a placebo, they could easily arrange __(19)__ appointment books - with only the best interests of their patients at heart to undermine the intent of a randomized trial. __(20)__ when there is negligible evidence, doctors tend to believe they know what treatment is most effective, Schultz contends.
21. In the fight that _____, fifty fans were injured.
   a. ensued  
   b. entailed  
   c. endowed  
   d. expelled

22. Receptionists should always be _____.
   a. cynical  
   b. feasible  
   c. eligible  
   d. personable

23. Michael Jackson is famous for his _____ costumes.
   a. outlandish  
   b. cheap  
   c. overbearing  
   d. judicious

24. Unfortunately, his efforts to expand the company proved to be _____.
   a. conventional  
   b. calamitous  
   c. predominant  
   d. systematic

25. A policeman in disguise was used as a _____ to trap the mugger.
   a. barter  
   b. obstacle  
   c. decoy  
   d. farce

26. Coming from a hot country, you'll need time to _____ yourself to our winters.
   a. inhabit  
   b. habituate  
   c. accumulate  
   d. use

27. The children were too _____ in watching TV to hear the doorbell ringing.
   a. concentrated  
   b. interesting  
   c. employing  
   d. engrossed

28. It was a shame to see all his plans go _____.
   a. awry  
   b. well  
   c. alright  
   d. downwards

29. A teacher's job is to _____ knowledge to her students.
   a. cater  
   b. develop  
   c. impart  
   d. record

30. The three firemen were awarded medals for their _____.
   a. cowardice  
   b. involvement  
   c. gallantry  
   d. superstition
Finding the right male to mate with is not a simple matter - not even for a female guppy. Oh sure, she could go just for good looks: a guy's size, tail length, and color, for example. Some of these physical preferences are so important to reproduction that they appear to be hard-coded into a guppy's genetic heritage.

Yet female guppies do not depend solely on those factors for choosing a mate, notes Lee Alan Dugatkin of the University of Louisville in Kentucky. A few years ago, he found that a female guppy often imitates the mating choices of other females.

In the April 2 PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, he reports on the first systematic look at whether appearance or cultural cues dominate this fishy issue. He finds that female guppies, which normally prefer a mate with lots of orange, are easily persuaded to pick a male with less orange coloration if they observe another female mating with him.

In special cases, looks can override those cultural cues. "When the males are dramatically different (in amount of color), females don't copy," says Dugatkin. If one of two available males has at least 40 percent more orange color than the other, a female will mate with him regardless of the other females' actions. Dugatkin suggests that examining the behavior of guppies may provide insight into how to study inherited and cultural factors than govern mating choices of women.

31. Which of the following is not characteristic that may determine a female guppy's choice of a prospective mate?
   a. Its coloration
   b. How fast it swims
   c. Its length
   d. How big it is

32. Studies conducted a few years ago indicate that a female guppy's choice of a prospective mate will often be affected by . . .
   a. how soon it sees the male mating.
   b. which females the male attracts.
   c. what other females do when choosing a mate.
   d. where other females choose to mate.

33. Which of the following do more recent studies of the mating behavior of female guppies reveal?
   a. They do not rely entirely on a male's appearance.
   b. They always reject males with less orange coloration.
   c. They remain faithful to a single male.
   d. They are not attracted by the amount of orange in males.

34. The most recent findings indicate that . . .
   a. the desire of a female guppy to imitate the behavior of other females overrides all other considerations.
   b. cultural cues always determine a female's choice of a mate.
   c. appearance may be a decisive factor in a guppy's choice of a mate.
   d. dramatically different behavior by males may affect a female's choice.

35. Dugatkin believes that his studies may answer questions concerning . . .
   a. why women choose a particular mate.
   b. how women inherit cultural factors.
   c. the insights we already have into the mating choices of women.
   d. only the inherited behavior of women.
1. "Has Sue told you the good news?"
   "Yes. I was just leaving _____ work when she called."
   a. at
   b. to
   c. for
   d. towards

2. "Did you visit Disneyland when you were on holiday?"
   "No, but I wish I _____.
   a. would
   b. had
   c. could
   d. did have

3. "What do you keep in that room?"
   "_____ an old bed and several chairs."
   a. There's
   b. It's
   c. Is
   d. They are

4. "What's the new secretary like?"
   "She's _____ hard worker."
   a. a so
   b. very
   c. such a
   d. too

5. "How did the witness react in court?"
   "He seemed quite _____ when he was being questioned."
   a. calmed
   b. calmly
   c. calming
   d. calm

6. "How bad is the drought in the region?"
   "They've had _____ rain for over four months."
   a. scarcely no
   b. hardly none
   c. almost any
   d. scarcely any

7. "I see your lawn-mower's working again."
   "Yes. I got a mechanic _____.
   a. look at it
   b. looking at it
   c. to have looked at it
   d. to look at it

8. "Has the Swiss delegation arrived?"
   "Yes. They've just checked _____.
   a. out
   b. in
   c. through
   d. by

9. "Are you satisfied with the course?"
   "It seems interesting, _____ I think it's going to be difficult."
   a. since
   b. in spite
   c. but
   d. despite

10. "I'll be away this weekend."
    "Don't leave without _____ where they can contact you."
    a. to inform your parents
    b. you inform your parents
    c. informing your parents
    d. to informing your parents
Gene splicing may be the answer to the world's food problems. During the past two years, a dozen varieties of cotton, squash, soya beans, potatoes and tomatoes created (11) gene splicing have been approved (12) sale in the U.S. The added genes confer traits (13) from longer shelf (14) to pest resistance. The plants seem safe, (15) environmental watchdog groups (16) that the spliced genes might spread into the crops' wild relatives. In such hosts, the genes might be less benign - and harder to control.

Researchers have long known that transgenic plants can form sterile hybrids with wild relatives. Now researchers in Denmark (17) shown that these hybrids can be fertile and can transmit a genetically engineered trait to subsequent generations in field (18). Health concerns have also emerged: a report in (19) New England Journal of Medicine indicates (20) a gene taken from Brazil nuts and engineered into soya beans made the beans allergenic.

(11) a. by  c. while
    b. of  d. the
(12) a. for  c. to
    b. on  d. during
(13) a. ranged  c. ranging
    b. range  d. ranges
(14) a. length  c. duration
    b. life  d. stay
(15) a. but  c. and
    b. so  d. for
(16) a. afraid  c. fear
    b. wonder  d. aware
(17) a. has  c. having
    b. have  d. had
(18) a. situations  c. areas
    b. conditions  d. zones
(19) a. a  c. one
    b. an  d. the
(20) a. when  c. then
    b. where  d. that
## VOCABULARY

21. She's so ______ that she refuses to talk to the servants.
   a. humble  
   b. caustic  
   c. pivotal  
   d. arrogant  

22. Their new house is really _____; it has six large bedrooms.
   a. luxuriant  
   b. infinite  
   c. identical  
   d. spacious  

23. There's ______ on the sale of arms to that country.
   a. an armistice  
   b. a truce  
   c. an embargo  
   d. a boycott  

24. Bears and other large animals move in ______ way.
   a. a graceful  
   b. an ungainly  
   c. a rapid  
   d. a swift  

25. To get the best effect, the sound has to be ______.
   a. amplified  
   b. adopted  
   c. plundered  
   d. estranged  

26. The ______ look on the child's face aroused sympathy in every passer-by.
   a. pitiful  
   b. cheerful  
   c. bright  
   d. smart  

27. The police have promised to _____ the matter.
   a. investigate  
   b. search  
   c. prove  
   d. detect  

28. The ______ to the play was written by the playwright's sister.
   a. pedigree  
   b. cast  
   c. prelude  
   d. stage  

29. Interest in the new fashion began to ______, and it was soon forgotten.
   a. increase  
   b. fade  
   c. resist  
   d. grow  

30. Many ______ volcanoes dot the surface of our planet.
   a. energetic  
   b. dormant  
   c. precious  
   d. subterranean
READING

One hundred and fifteen thousand years ago, the Earth began a descent from the warmth of the last interglacial to the frigid climate of the last ice age. What began as a period with air temperatures similar to the present or perhaps slightly warmer, had declined by 21,000 years ago to a state 7 - 10 degrees Centigrade colder than today. High-latitude temperatures were at least 15 degrees Centigrade colder, and ice sheets more than 1 km thick covered most of North America and large portions of Eurasia above 55 degrees North. The mechanism commonly accepted as initiating the growth of these massive continental ice sheets is the reduction of summertime solar radiation at high latitudes, resulting from cyclical variations in the orbit of the Earth. But many global climate modelling studies have found that the reduction that occurred 115 kyr ago does not, by itself, yield however, climate model experiments reported by Gallimore and Kutzbach show that changing vegetation patterns, specifically the spread of tundra, may have played a prominent role in this reversal of fortunes for the global climate.

31. One hundred and fifteen thousand years ago
   a. the last interglacial age began.
   b. a steady increase in global temperatures was observed.
   c. temperatures around the world began to drop steadily.
   d. the last ice age ended.

32. Which of the following climatic conditions did not apply to the Earth 21,000 years ago?
   a. Temperatures were up to 10 degrees colder than today.
   b. Large areas of land masses in the Northern Hemisphere were covered by thick ice sheets.
   c. In areas closer to the North Pole, temperatures were up to 15 degrees Centigrade colder than current temperatures.
   d. Ice sheets around the tropics were more than 1 km thick.

33. . . . is commonly believed to have been solely responsible for triggering off the last ice age.
   a. Global warming
   b. The growth of massive ice sheets
   c. The effects of cyclical variations in the Earth’s orbit
   d. Solar radiation at high latitudes

34. More recent studies of global climatic changes suggest . . .
   a. that other factors may have helped produce the last ice age.
   b. that there was no reduction in solar radiation 115 kyr ago.
   c. that there was no maintenance of year-round snow cover.
   d. that there is a need for climatic modelling.

35. The findings of Gallimore and Kutzbach indicate that the global cooling that took place 115 kyr ago may have been the result of . . . in high latitude zones.
   a. a reduction in the area covered by tundra
   b. an increase in the area covered by tundra
   c. experiments with trees.
   d. a reversal of roles.
1. "I couldn't sleep at all last night."
   "You really shouldn't ______ so much coffee!"
   a. drinking  
   b. to drink  
   c. drink  
   d. to drinking

2. "I need to contact Tom immediately."
   "Do you know ______?"
   a. what his number is  
   b. what is his number  
   c. what number has he  
   d. what number is he

3. "Jerry can't do all that work alone!"
   "Yes, but he won't let anyone ______."  
   a. to help him  
   b. help him  
   c. can help him  
   d. helps him

4. "What time shall I ask Sue to phone you?"
   "Ask her to phone whenever she can, ______ it's late."
   a. even if  
   b. despite  
   c. however  
   d. whereas

5. "Why do you need to see Joan."
   "It's necessary ______ before she applies for that job."
   a. that she sees me  
   b. she saw me  
   c. her to see me  
   d. that she see me

6. "Aren't there any children for your son to play with?"
   "Yes, but they're ______ girls."
   a. some  
   b. mostly  
   c. a few  
   d. few

7. "Do you think George can pass the exam?"
   "______ harder, he could do quite well."
   a. If he had worked  
   b. Were he to work  
   c. Had he worked  
   d. Did he work

8. "Your hair is looking really nice."
   "Thanks. I've just ______."
   a. had it cut  
   b. had cut it  
   c. had them cut  
   d. have had it cut

9. "Hasn't Dawn got a lovely voice!"
   "Yes, ______ beautifully she sings."
   a. what  
   b. however  
   c. so  
   d. how

10. "I hear a car plunged into the river last night."
    "Yes. Fortunately, the driver ______ safely."
    a. could get out  
    b. could have got out  
    c. was able to get out  
    d. was getting out
The Patient Self-Determination Act was passed by the US Congress in 1990. Many ethicists hailed it as an important step in the right of patients to choose how they are treated - and how they die. The possibility that the act might reduce health care costs by cutting down on futile and unwanted treatments was seen as an added bonus. It has been estimated that almost about 40% of deaths in the US take place following the withdrawal of life-sustaining treatments - often from a sedated or comatose indecision on the part of family members and physicians.

The Patient Self-Determination Act was designed to reduce this indecision by giving patients more control over their destiny. It requires hospitals to inform patients and their families - upon a person's admission to the hospital - of their legal right to refuse various life-sustaining technologies and procedures through what are called advanced directives. The two most common advanced directives are living wills, in which individuals specify their choices concerning life-sustaining treatment, and documents authorizing such decisions, in the event that an individual becomes mentally handicapped.

(11) a. like b. such c. being d. as
(12) a. why b. how c. where d. if
(13) a. was b. being c. be d. were
(14) a. many b. these c. all d. final
(15) a. whole b. part c. right d. side
(16) a. needs b. requires c. determines d. involves
(17) a. obligation b. duty c. right d. position
(18) a. what b. them c. whom d. those
(19) a. that b. some c. time d. which
(20) a. dealing b. having c. receiving d. concerning
VOCABULARY

21. The Amazon is an area of ______ vegetation.
   a. hazardous    b. desolate    c. miniature    d. profuse

22. He did what he could to _____ the situation.
   a. rectify    b. reason    c. erase    d. reprimand

23. The bully's behavior was really ______.
   a. acceptable    b. perilous    c. cheerful    d. despicable

24. He was charged with ______ his children.
   a. spoiling    b. pampering    c. maltreating    d. punishing

25. The cinema was closed down attendances began to ______.
   a. erupt    b. increase    c. dwindle    d. rise

26. The policeman _____ the suspect to remain away from the car.
   a. discouraged    b. compelled    c. questioned    d. sentenced

27. The flaw in the diamond was _____ to a non-expert.
   a. transparent    b. invisible    c. opaque    d. irrelevant

28. The price of gold has been _____ of late.
   a. fluctuating    b. meandering    c. basing    d. topping

29. The driver did whatever he could to _____ an accident.
   a. overturn    b. avert    c. exempt    d. negate

30. Don't argue over such _____ things!
   a. important    b. lucrative    c. costly    d. trivial
The Hutterites call themselves the human version of a bee colony. Members of this Christian sect, who first settled in the United States in the 19th century, shun personal gain and pour their efforts into a well-oiled collective enterprise.

Hutterite ideology stresses the shared fate of the group and warns against the sin of selfishness. Anyone who withholds help from others in need, turns lazy, or otherwise undermines community health draws stern reprimands from church elders. Failure to heed these warnings results in forced exile.

Hutterite leaders are elected democratically and undergo a long probationary period before acquiring full power. When a colony grows too large—which is not uncommon, as the Hutterites have long experienced high birth rates—it sorts into two groups of equal size, skill, and compatibility. A lottery determines which group stays and which moves to a new location.

Such practices sound downright strange to the average suburbanite or city dweller. Indeed, end-of-the-millennium Western societies seem to spawn far more self-absorption than sacrifice for any “greater good.”

But the bee-like tactics of Hutterite colonies highlight an evolved human capacity for thinking in groups and advancing group interests, even at the expense of personal strivings, asserts David Sloan Wilson, an evolutionary biologist at the State University of New York at Binghamton.

“Groups can be functional units in their own right, and individuals sometimes behave more like organs than like organism,” Wilson contends. “As a result, altruism is a common feature of both human and biological nature.”

31. Hutterites are characterized by their . . .
   a. pride.
   b. greed.
   c. selflessness
   d. individualism

32. A Hutterite who displays laziness and ignores warnings to reform . . .
   a. is made to leave the group.
   b. turns selfish.
   c. reprimands church elders.
   d. shares the fate of the group.

33. Which of the following does not apply to Hutterite leaders?
   a. They have to elect deputies.
   b. They have to prove themselves worthy.
   c. They are chosen by the group.
   d. They do not automatically assume full power.

34. What accounts for the division of many Hutterite colonies?
   a. The skills of their members become unequal.
   b. The members are unable to live together peacefully.
   c. Too many immigrants join the colony.
   d. New births within the colonies swell their population.

35. Wilson maintains that Hutterite practices . . .
   a. mirror the average contemporary Western society.
   b. reflect how strong an effect altruism can have on our actions.
   c. prove that personal striving is an overwhelming force.
   d. have a high capacity for self-absorption.
Practice Test 6

GRAMMAR

1. "What time does the concert begin?"
   "It will be ______ at 9 o'clock."
   a. being started
   b. starts
   c. starting
   d. start

2. "The Hawaiian Islands are really beautiful."
   "Yes. And they have some of the ______."
   a. finest beaches in the world
   b. finest in the world beaches
   c. finest world beaches
   d. fine world's beaches

3. "What happened to your son?"
   "He disobeyed me and ______."
   a. had to punish
   b. must be punished
   c. had to be punished
   d. must punish

4. "Do you need any help?"
   "Yes. I'm afraid this table is ______."
   a. so heavy for me to lift
   b. too heavy for me to lift
   c. so heavy for me to lift it
   d. much too heavy to lift it

5. "What are the brothers like?"
   "Well, Tom is hard-working ______ Pete is downright lazy!"
   a. despite
   b. however
   c. contrary
   d. whereas

6. "Yes, she was. I have no idea why ______."
   a. she didn't turn up
   b. didn't she turn up
   c. wasn't she turned up
   d. wouldn't she turn up

7. "It's strange Bob isn't here today."
   "I know. He wouldn't miss a lesson unless ______ a good reason."
   a. there will be
   b. there were
   c. there has to be
   d. there has been

8. "Sheila is really proud, isn't she!"
   "Yes. She looks ______ her nose at most people."
   a. down
   b. up
   c. over
   d. by

9. "Where did Jan get all that money?"
   "Her ______ uncle left it to her in his will."
   a. lately
   b. later
   c. late
   d. belated

10. "What did the teacher do when Paul took out the frog?"
    "She insisted ______ from the room immediately."
    a. he removes it
    b. him to remove it
    c. that he remove it
    d. him removing it
As ecological crises go, the damage done by acid rain had seemed pretty easy to fix. Just \textit{(11)} emissions of sulfur from power plants, and trees would again flourish and acidic waters return \textit{(12)} their natural pH. But even though the United States, Canada, and European countries have cut sulfur pollution, forests, lakes, and streams have not bounced back as \textit{(13)} as expected. The reason, scientists have suspected, is that acid rain has wrought profound changes in the soil, to \textit{(14)} all these ecosystems are linked. Now, \textit{(15)} looking over 30 years of data from a New Hampshire forest, researchers may have confirmed this hunch.

Ecologists report \textit{(16)} over the \textit{(17)} 30 years, acid rain has been leaching the soil in their study area of vast quantities of the base mineral ions that buffer, or neutralize, acids and are \textit{(18)} to plant growth. \textit{(19)} the rate at which these ions are still being depleted, they find it could \textit{(20)} decades before the acid-ravaged ecosystems before healthy again.
VOCABULARY

21. His plan was ______, so it received everyone's approval.
   a. long  
   b. unacceptable  
   c. ordinary  
   d. ingenious

22. Your father fears are ______. There's nothing to be afraid of!
   a. real  
   b. supposed  
   c. superficial  
   d. groundless

23. We had to _____ for tickets for over an hour.
   a. vacate  
   b. queue  
   c. retain  
   d. limber

24. The ______ look on her face had such a calming effect on us.
   a. serene  
   b. angry  
   c. worried  
   d. curious

25. The ______ weather conditions made it impossible for the plane to take off.
   a. benign  
   b. tranquil  
   c. adverse  
   d. strong

26. There should be more laws to _____ the sale of firearms.
   a. restrict  
   b. fault  
   c. persevere  
   d. ruffle

27. They had been without food for days, so they were ______.
   a. thirsty  
   b. tired  
   c. famished  
   d. retarded

28. The accused was _____ of all charges.
   a. condemned  
   b. acquitted  
   c. sentenced  
   d. suspected

29. When do _____ for the new play begin?
   a. fittings  
   b. props  
   c. rehearsals  
   d. reviews

30. She can be rather _____ at times, so don't upset her.
   a. plump  
   b. petty  
   c. pure  
   d. plush
The closest relatives of the hoatzin, a blue-faced South American bird, are neither turkeys nor chickens, as many bird experts had assumed; they are cuckoos, a new study concludes. The finding shows that 220 years of research on the hoatzin was no wild-goose chase.

Since describing the bird, *Opisthocomos hoazin*, in 1776, ornithologists have had problems pinpointing its closest kin, as the hoatzin looks and acts son unlike other birds. It digests its food, for example, the way a cow does, in a chamber above its stomach.

Scientists have disagreed most recently over whether hoatzins are closer to cuckoos or to galliforms such as pheasants, chickens, and turkeys. Galliforms are among the most ancient birds, while cuckoos appeared more recently.

The scientists conclude, however, that the hoatzin belongs next to the cuckoo's nest, not in it, because of the species' DNA and structural differences. For example, the cuckoo has two forward and two backward toes, while the hoatzin has three forward and one backward.

Indeed, the team recommends placing hoatzins in their own suborder, Opisthocomi, in the Cuculiformes order. All other members of the order, such as cuckoos, should then come under the suborder Cuculi.

The findings serves as an "eye-opening example of how molecular data can resolve phylogenetic relationship," says S. Blair Hedges of Pennsylvania State University in University Park. Morphology "has tricked people for a long time."

31. A recent study on the hoatzin . . .
   a. has confirmed previous assumptions.
   b. has taken 220 years of research.
   c. has linked it to the cuckoo family.
   d. has concluded that it is a relative of the wild goose.

32. A hoatzin resembles a cow in . . .
   a. the way it looks and acts.
   b. the food it consumes.
   c. the way it eats.
   d. its closest kin.

33. The arrival of Galliforms on our planet . . .
   a. preceded the appearance of Cuculiformes.
   b. succeeded the appearance of Cuculiformes.
   c. occurred simultaneously with that of the Cuculiformes.
   d. introduced species such as the cuckoo.

34. The example showing one difference between hoatzins and cuckoos . . .
   a. quotes a dissimilarity in the DNA of the two birds.
   b. is based on their foot structure.
   c. presents the differences in the structure of their nests.
   d. notes the differences in the number of toes each bird has.

35. If adopted, the recommendations of the research team would . . .
   a. remove the order of Cuculiformes.
   b. create two suborders of Cuculiformes.
   c. place all Cuculiformes under the suborder Cuculi.
   d. place more species under the suborder Opisthocomi.
Practice Test 7

GRAMMAR

1. "Why hasn't the suspect been charged?"
   "We can't _____ that he stole the goods."
   a. proving
   b. prove
   c. to prove
   d. have proved

2. "Isn't fall a beautiful season?"
   "Yes. I love to see the ground covered _____ leaves."
   a. by
   b. with
   c. of
   d. from

3. "Why did you send those children away?"
   "I won't have them _____ football near my rose beds!"
   a. to play
   b. play
   c. playing
   d. have played

4. "My car broke down again this morning."
   "Isn't it time you _____ rid of it?"
   a. getting
   b. get
   c. to get
   d. got

5. "I'm going to Jan's party this evening."
   "I wish I _____ with you!"
   a. had gone
   b. went
   c. having gone
   d. were going

6. "What's your new apartment like?"
   "Well, it's a bit small, but _____ it's quite satisfactory."
   a. apart from that
   b. in spite of
   c. other than
   d. however

7. "Are you satisfied with your new secretary?"
   "_____ I like her, she's not the best person for the job."
   a. So much
   b. How much
   c. As much as
   d. Whereas

8. "Was Dan badly injured in the crash?"
   "No, but if he hadn't been wearing his seat belt, he _____.
   a. would have been killed
   b. would have killed
   c. would be killed
   d. would kill

9. "Aren't you afraid she'll make a mistake?"
   "No. She's someone I can really rely _____.
   a. to
   b. on
   c. at
   d. from

10. "Why did Jake turn down that job offer?"
    "It would have meant _____ to New York."
    a. his moving
    b. him to move
    c. that his moving
    d. having moved.
Scientists have been studying evidence of long-term environmental pollution.

Records of atmospheric pollution (11) back to ancient times have been preserved in various parts of natural deposits, especially polar ice (12), ombrogenic (nutrients derived exclusively (13) the atmosphere) bogs, and aquatic sediments. Because of the rapid (14) of accumulation, ice deposits often provide the most detailed paleopollution records including short-term fluctuations. Their use in retrospective geochemical monitoring tends to be tempered (15) the thick pile of firn that must be drilled or excavated to reach preindustrial layers and by the very low concentrations of trace metals, (16) necessitate meticulous procedures in the collection and analysis of samples. Peat bogs and aquatic sediments are deposited at (17) slower rates and hence provide compact records that can further be distorted by basin characteristics and postdepositional behaviour of metals. In spite (18) differences in the accumulation efficiency (19) nature of the archives, the various deposits have (20) a coherent picture of long-term contamination of the atmosphere with heavy metals.
21. The doctor gave her some tablets which help to _____ sleep.
   a. vacate  
   b. display  
   c. retard  
   d. induce

22. The students were asked to write a ______ of the play.
   a. ledger  
   b. synopsis  
   c. log  
   d. complaint

23. The accused ______ all the charges that were made against him.
   a. refuted  
   b. refused  
   c. yielded  
   d. declined

24. She's just too ______ to listen to anyone's advice.
   a. headstrong  
   b. amiable  
   c. limber  
   d. ravenous

25. I simply ______ people who want everything to themselves.
   a. detest  
   b. notice  
   c. recommend  
   d. demand

26. With so many goods to choose from, shoppers must be _____ when deciding what to buy.
   a. mean  
   b. extravagant  
   c. prudent  
   d. rash

27. Professor Dobbs is considered to be the ______ expert in the field of robotics.
   a. faint  
   b. foremost  
   c. brazen  
   d. bold

28. A number of ______ issues will have to be settled at the peace conference.
   a. vivacious  
   b. vital  
   c. living  
   d. live

29. I have never seen her in such a ______ mood.
   a. melancholy  
   b. judicious  
   c. tardy  
   d. skittish

30. They do not seem to understand the ______ of the problem.
   a. knot  
   b. dot  
   c. nub  
   d. blob
Certain gases in the atmosphere allow visible light to pass through, but they block much of the heat reflected from the Earth’s surface - in the same fashion as the glass windows in a greenhouse. Without this greenhouse effect, worldwide temperatures would be lower by 35 degrees Celsius, most of the oceans would freeze, and life would cease or be totally altered. According to the theory of global warming, an increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere will produce unacceptable temperature increases. A doubling of the volume of gases, for example, would cause temperatures to go up by 1.5 degrees C or more, a phenomenal change by historical standards.

The most dramatic consequence of the warming would be a rise in sea level from the melting of the polar ice caps, a rise that the Environmental Protection Agency projects to be 20 feet as early as the year 2000 - sufficient to submerge large parts of coastal cities. Global warming would result in profound shifts in agriculture and may, as some have suggested, hasten the spread of infection diseases.

Aside from water vapor, the principal greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide, resulting from the burning of fossil fuels; methane, produced by the breakdown of plant materials by bacteria; nitrous oxide, produced during the burning of fossil fuels and by the decomposition of chemical fertilizers and by bacterial action; and chlorofluorocarbons, used for industrial and commercial purposes, such as air conditioning. Of these, carbon dioxide is the most important. The atmospheric concentration of this gas was 280 parts per million before the Industrial Revolution; with the increasing use of fossil fuels, the figure is currently 350 parts.

The idea of global warming gained support as temperatures soared to record levels in the 1980s' but there are several problems with the theory, including doubts about the reliability of the temperature record. Despite this, a majority of climatologists feel that a risk of global warming exists, although there is much disagreement concerning the extent and the timing. At the 1992 U.N. Conference on Environment and Development, over 150 nations signed the U.N. Convention on Climate Change, which pledges signatories to control emissions of greenhouse gases.

31. The greenhouse effect described in the opening paragraph . . .
   a. enables heat to be reflected more easily from the Earth's surface.
   b. would cause the oceans to freeze.
   c. helps sustain life on Earth.
   d. allows visible light to pass through the atmosphere.

32. Which of the following is not an anticipated result of global warming?
   a. A increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.
   b. Flooding of many coastal areas.
   c. Higher worldwide temperatures.
   d. A change in agricultural patterns.

33. . . . is contributing most to global warming.
   a. The growing use of air-conditioning.
   b. The burning of fossil fuels.
   c. The decomposition of chemical fertilizers.
   d. The production of methane.

34. Most climatologists disagree about . . .
   a. which gases will be responsible for global warming.
   b. whether or not global warming will occur.
   c. how global warming can be prevented.
   d. when global warming will occur and how extensive it will be.

35. The 150 signatories of the Convention on Climate Change . . .
   a. undertook to limit the levels of greenhouse gases they produce.
   b. promised to stop using fossil fuels in future.
   c. are obliged to report increase in levels of greenhouse gases.
   d. undertook to limit their use of greenhouse gases.
1. "What was all that noise last night?"
   "They _____ a party in the apartment above me."
   a. had had  
   b. have had  
   c. have been having  
   d. were having

2. "Was Bill of any help to you?"
   "Yes. He's _____ hard-working!"
   a. so  
   b. such  
   c. such a  
   d. a very

3. "The mayor was here yesterday."
   "Yes. I was unfortunate _____ him."
   a. to not have met  
   b. to not meet  
   c. not to have met  
   d. to have not met

4. "Why isn't Jane swimming?"
   "_____ by a jellyfish, she's reluctant to go into the water."
   a. Had been stung  
   b. Having been stung  
   c. Having stung  
   d. To have been stung

5. "Have you ever returned to your old neighborhood?"
   "_____ I drive through it on my way home from work."
   a. Once in a while  
   b. Once the while  
   c. In a while  
   d. Meanwhile

6. "Will John get the job?"
   "Unless he _____ the interview board, he doesn't stand a chance."
   a. will impress  
   b. impresses  
   c. he doesn't impress  
   d. he had impressed

7. "Why did you get so upset?"
   "Never in my life _____ so badly!"
   a. had I been treated  
   b. will I be treated  
   c. I had been treated  
   d. I had treated

8. "When are you getting married?"
   "As soon as we _____ somewhere to live."
   a. found  
   b. will find  
   c. are finding  
   d. find

9. "Have you heard about Bob's promotion?"
   "Yes. It was my recommendation that he _____ Sales Manager."
   a. has been made  
   b. was made  
   c. be made  
   d. will be made

10. "She's a great skater, isn't she?"
    "Yes. The grace _____ she moves is really remarkable."
    a. about whom  
    b. with which  
    c. with that  
    d. from whose
Several hundred tons of plutonium, enriched uranium and other highly radioactive materials have been produced within the U.S. over the past two decades. For __(11)__ ounce created, transported or sold, Department of Energy officials entered a __(12)__ into a database. The tracking system ensures that __(13)__ weapons-grade nuclear materials are stolen or misplaced and provides evidence that the US is complying __(14)__ international treaties. But in 1993 the software, written 20 years ago for an obsolete mainframe, had become impractical to maintain, __(15)__ the DOE ordered a replacement.

Because of the importance of the system, Congress asked the General Accounting Office (GAO) to __(16)__ up on the project a year later. The GAO's report was disturbing. It warned __(17)__ the DOE's contractor had started programming without analyzing whether the new design would work as __(18)__ as alternatives, meet users' needs or even __(19)__ money. __(20)__ the GAO's admonition, construction continued.
VOCABULARY

21. I'm afraid the problem _____ from his inability to work with others.
   a. roots  
   b. curbs  
   c. stems  
   d. sparks

22. The best thing to _____ your thirst is a glass of cool water.
   a. quench  
   b. extinguish  
   c. erase  
   d. eradicate

23. The country's industrial growth has _____ that of the other nations in the area.
   a. outlasted  
   b. outdone  
   c. outstripped  
   d. outclassed

24. After their release, the hostages described the _____ they had been through.
   a. epic  
   b. ordeal  
   c. burden  
   d. quest

25. The moment he walked into the house, he realized that something was _____.
   a. distraught  
   b. amiss  
   c. impending  
   d. extrovert

26. Workers often need to be provided with _____ to do better.
   a. an incentive  
   b. a clue  
   c. a nudge  
   d. a spur

27. The manager has always _____ to please his staff.
   a. wrought  
   b. stifled  
   c. sought  
   d. accustomed

28. We should do everything possible to protect all endangered species from _____.
   a. expulsion  
   b. extinction  
   c. probation  
   d. demolition

29. Bats, owls and other _____ creatures are active only at night.
   a. voracious  
   b. quaint  
   c. piquant  
   d. nocturnal

30. The little child was perched _____ at the top of a high stone wall.
   a. humbly  
   b. vaguely  
   c. highly  
   d. precariously
Analysts expect personal computers to reign once again over the big-ticket gift market this holiday season. Sales may get an additional boost as people with home offices rush to buy PCs by the end of the tax year. Forty percent of these new acquisitions in the United States at least, will replace existing slow or obsolete systems, according to Nikki and David Goldberg, authors of Choose to Reuse.

While some of the castoffs will be passed on to other family members or used for game and educational software, most are expected to be mothballed - relegated to closets, the basement, or a corner of the guest room. Indeed, millions of PCs worldwide will have been retired from service already.

Although these units are too slow or limited to handle the computer enthusiast's burgeoning demands, most still have a lot of data-processing power left. It's because consumers recognize this latent value that they've been squirreling their discards away instead of putting them out with the trash.

When commercial users upgrade their PCs, even the trash isn't an option for the old ones. Because of the high content of heavy metals in computers, they qualify as hazardous waste, requiring costly, regulated disposal.

Increasingly, therefore, both individual and corporate computer users have begun looking for new homes for this hardware. Though not widely visible, many firms have sprung up to accept these orphans. Propelled by options for recycling cyberjunk.

31. As the holiday season approaches, personal computers are expected . . .
   a. to become a popular gift item.
   b. to replace other gift items which have been popular until now.
   c. to fall in popularity.
   d. to retain their popularity as high-priced gift items.

32. What will be the fate of most of the systems which will be replaced?
   a. Other family members will be allowed to use them.
   b. They will be used to decorate various rooms.
   c. They will be placed in mothballs.
   d. They will be stored away.

33. Why haven't these units been thrown away?
   a. They still be of use.
   b. They are too slow to handle the demands of computer enthusiasts.
   c. Their applications are limited.
   d. They place burgeoning demands on computer enthusiasts.

34. The disposal of PCs creates problems because . . .
   a. they're difficult to upgrade.
   b. they contain dangerous materials.
   c. they are costly.
   d. they need to be regulated.

35. Which of the following is not a consideration of the firms that offer to recycle cyberjunk?
   a. Public safety.
   b. Concern for other people.
   c. Housing.
   d. Profit.
Practice Test 9

GRAMMAR

1. "How extensive was the damage?"
"Over three-fifths of the cargo ______ destroyed."
   a. were
   b. have been
   c. was
   d. had

2. "Why are you taking a photo of that house?"
"That's the house ______ my father was born."
   a. where
   b. which
   c. that
   d. in where

3. "Why are you looking so worried?"
"I'm concerned about what ______ to Jerry."
   a. could be happened
   b. might be happened
   c. might have happening
   d. might have happened

4. "Why isn't anything happening?"
"The police ______ for the robbers to make the first move."
   a. has waited
   b. is waiting
   c. have waited
   d. are waiting

5. "You were the one who gave me the news!"
"Really? I don't remember ______ anything to you."
   a. was said
   b. to have said
   c. to say
   d. having said

6. "I'll be staying at Tina's tonight."
"You'd better ______ your mother know what your plans are."
   a. having let
   b. let
   c. to let
   d. had let

7. "What was Val's party like?"
"It was a complete flop. ______ turned up."
   a. Almost anyone
   b. Hardly anyone
   c. No-one hardly
   d. Hardly on-one

8. "Is your sister's condition any better?"
"She appears to have got ______ the worst of it."
   a. over
   b. up
   c. above
   d. across

9. "Harry hasn't got the experience for the job."
"That's why the firm is putting him on a ______."
   a. program training fast-paced
   b. training fast-paced program
   c. fast-paced training program
   d. program fast-paced training

10. "What did Sharon do?"
"______ by her son's behavior, she got up and left the room."
   a. Having embarrassed
   b. She was embarrassed
   c. Embarrassing
   d. Embarrassed
In 1535, on his first voyage to America, the French explorer Jacques Cartier sailed up the St. Lawrence River, guided by two Amerindians. Beyond the __(11)__ of the Saguenay River, adverse winds and tidal currents __(12)__ his progress for a full day. Cartier was forced to moor __(13)__ the night near a low-lying island in the middle of the river. In the morning, he was startled to see large white porpoises __(14)__ the ship. The native pilots said they were __(15)__ to eat and called them *Adothuys*. The animals were beluga whales, an *Arctis* species that had lived in the St. Lawrence for millennia.

These small, __(16)__ whales first came to the river from the Atlantic Ocean, shortly after the Ice __(17)__ ended. When the climate warmed, the Atlantic rose, flooding much of North America’s __(18)__ seaboard. The water washed over a huge area of land __(19)__ the Gulf of St. Lawrence, almost as far as the Great Lakes and into New York and Vermont. Many species of seals and whales ventured into this inland sea, called the Champlain. In __(20)__ the land reemerged, the basin dried and the St. Lawrence took form.

(11) a. jaws b. mouth c. tide d. lap

(12) a. stemmed b. calmed c. started d. stalled

(13) a. on b. over c. for d. after

(14) a. enclosed b. siding c. surrounding d. backing

(15) a. first b. good c. ready d. not

(16) a. teething b. toothed c. teeth d. tooth

(17) a. Epoch b. Age c. Era d. Season

(18) a. easterly b. eastwards c. east d. eastern

(19) a. beyond b. further c. over d. upwards

(20) a. end b. duration c. history d. time
21. We managed to find somewhere to shelter during ______ in the storm.
   a. a chasm
   b. a rift
   c. a blank
   d. a lull

22. The inhabitants of the village were ______ after the earthquake destroyed most of their homes.
   a. evacuated
   b. banished
   c. exiled
   d. expelled

23. A flashlight is ______ when you are on a camping trip.
   a. indiscreet
   b. outspoken
   c. indispensable
   d. overdue

24. The ______ of the suspect failed to reveal anything.
   a. inquisition
   b. interrogation
   c. admonition
   d. requisition

25. Her poems began to reveal her growing dissatisfaction with her ______ existence.
   a. charitable
   b. magnanimous
   c. wholesome
   d. humdrum

26. Security guards have to be ______ at all times.
   a. vigilant
   b. diligent
   c. incompetent
   d. verbal

27. Someone has been ______ with the lock on my briefcase.
   a. touching
   b. loosening
   c. tampering
   d. fingering

28. Our efforts to find the missing dog proved to be ______.
   a. fruitless
   b. misplaced
   c. endowed
   d. pliant

29. The witness was found guilty of ______.
   a. perjury
   b. incompetence
   c. liability
   d. frailty

30. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have agreed to ______ one of the war orphans.
   a. caress
   b. adapt
   c. foster
   d. install
Using explosive blasts and large vibrating trucks, an international team of seismologists has peered far below Russia's Ural Mountains to find out why they resemble no other mountain chain. Reaching unprecedented depths of 150 to 200 kilometers, the seismic imaging equipment illuminated structures all the way down to the base of the lithosphere - Earth's outer shell.

"This is certainly the most ambitious effort ever undertaken in terms of imaging the lithosphere," says James H. Knapp of Cornell University. The project teamed U.S. researchers with scientists from Germany, Russia, and Spain.

To peek under Earth's skin, Knapp and his colleagues created small artificial earthquakes. The seismic waves raced down into the lithosphere and bounced off hidden structures, such as faults or folds.

The seismologists focused their study on the Urals because the 3,000-kilometer-long chain is frozen in mid-evolution. The range formed when Asia smashed into Europe between 600 million and 300 million years ago, at about the same time that North America collided with Africa, building the Appalachian Mountains.

The Appalachians entered old age when North America separated from Africa, tearing apart the lithosphere and causing the once-towering mountain range to collapse. The Urals have remained intact because Asia never separated from Europe. "This is an important time to reexamine how mountain belts evolve, because we see in the Urals an example of one that didn't," says Knapp.

31. The international team of seismologists conducted their experiments . . .
   a. to explain the unprecedented depth of the Urals.
   b. to discover more about the uniqueness of the Urals.
   c. to learn more about the world's mountain chains.
   d. to search for hidden structures.

32. Previous attempts at imaging the lithosphere . . .
   a. have been more successful.
   b. have not attempted so much.
   c. have gone to much greater depths.
   d. have triggered off small earthquakes.

33. The formation of the Urals occurred at about the same time as . . .
   a. the creation of Asia.
   b. the separation of Asia from Europe.
   c. the collision between North America and Africa.
   d. the collapse of the Appalachians.

34. We can assume that the Appalachians Mountains . . .
   a. were much higher in the past.
   b. were once a part of Africa.
   c. were formed when North America and Africa separated.
   d. have remained intact since they were formed.

35. The Urals . . .
   a. have not followed the usual evolutionary pattern of most mountain chains.
   b. Have suffered the same fate as the Appalachians.
   c. Have undergone several phases of growth and collapse.
   d. Have now entered their old age.
1. "I thought Jeff didn't have a surfboard."  "I allowed him ______ mine."
   a. use  
b. using  
c. to use  
d. used

2. "How long will the expedition take?"
   "It ______ on what the weather conditions will be like."
   a. depended  
b. is depending  
c. depends  
d. had depended

3. "What are my chances of passing?"
   "If you ______, you should have no problem."
   a. have been studying  
b. had studied  
c. had been studying  
d. having studied

4. "What did Martin want to know?"
   "He asked me where ______."
   a. did John live  
b. had John lived  
c. John lived  
d. was John living

5. "What was Paula's advice?"
   "She suggested ______ another week before deciding what to do."
   a. me to wait  
b. my waiting  
c. that I waited  
d. me waiting

6. "We've invited over thirty people to our party!"
   "Never mind. Remember what they say, ______!"
   a. much more the merrier  
b. the more the merrier  
c. the most the merrier  
d. much more merrier

7. "How did Dave react to the news?"
   "No sooner ______ than he burst into tears."
   a. I informed him  
b. was I informed him  
c. did I inform him  
d. he was informed

8. "He paid $100 for that tie."
   "A hundred dollars ______ too much to spend on a tie."
   a. has been  
b. are  
c. is  
d. were

9. "How did Brian perform?"
   "______ his injury, he played better than anyone else!"
   a. Despite  
b. Although  
c. However  
d. But for

10. "Can I borrow the car tonight, Dad?"
    "I'd rather you ______ in this weather."
    a. didn't drive  
b. hadn't driven  
c. wouldn't drive  
d. haven't driven
Grooming serves vital purposes beyond cleanliness. The man __(11)__ pulls out his comb and slicks back his hair when a good-looking woman __(12)__ by and the woman who files her perfect nails __(13)__ pretending to ignore a hunk are sending a clear message.

Meadow voles, small polygamous rodents, may play the __(14)__ game, a series of new experiments suggests. They groom to maintain their coats, of course, __(15)__ the behavior also appears to help males and females __(16)__ with each other, assert Michael H. Ferkin of the University of Memphis and his colleagues.

A meadow vole produces different odors from various parts of its body. In the dim, winding tunnels __(17)__ call home, the animals rely on these smells for numerous tasks, such as discerning family members __(18)__ newcomers or identifying mates. Earlier studies hinted that self-grooming may play a __(19)__ in this silent communication system. The monogamous prairie vole, for example, grooms more around his __(20)__ than around other females.

(11) a. whom  c. which
     b. he  d. who

(12) a. stroll  c. plod
     b. whistle  d. stagger

(13) a. and  c. while
     b. as  d. so

(14) a. other  c. same
     b. similar  d. like

(15) a. but  c. and
     b. so  d. since

(16) a. communion  c. communicating
     b. communicate  d. communication

(17) a. which  c. they
     b. we  d. that

(18) a. from  c. to
     b. about  d. which

(19) a. game  c. part
     b. risk  d. significance

(20) a. male  c. ears
     b. bride  d. mate
21. I was puzzled by his ______ reply to my innocent question.
   a. clement  
   b. wayward  
   c. indolent  
   d. indignant

22. Rheumatism is a common _____ among the elderly.
   a. affection  
   b. debility  
   c. adversity  
   d. complaint

23. I'm ______ to all kinds of soft cheese.
   a. fond  
   b. partial  
   c. eager  
   d. keen

24. The business went _____ as soon as he took charge of it.
   a. decay  
   b. bankrupt  
   c. boom  
   d. invalid

25. H refused to _____ the many warnings I had given him.
   a. perceive  
   b. budge  
   c. hollow  
   d. heed

26. When rumors of war began, people started to _____ supplies of food.
   a. goad  
   b. coax  
   c. hoard  
   d. undermine

27. You need to _____ the door hinges if you don't want them to squeak.
   a. lubricate  
   b. sever  
   c. lance  
   d. bludgeon

28. The child _____ in pain as the nurse administered the injection.
   a. winced  
   b. shuffled  
   c. beamed  
   d. launched

29. It took the soldiers a few minutes to _____ the large gun.
   a. dislocate  
   b. dismantle  
   c. dispute  
   d. dismay

30. She has been made the sole _____ in the old man's will.
   a. creditor  
   b. debtor  
   c. beneficiary  
   d. person
Nearsightedness, or myopia, results when the eye becomes too long from front to back. Ordinarily, light passes through the corneal lens and focuses images on the rear portion of the eye, known as the retina. The myopic eye is so long that the images focus in front of the retina, making objects at a distance blurry. In the farsighted, or hyperopic, eye, the eye is short; images focus behind the retina, causing nearby objects to blur.

Animal and human babies usually begin life slightly hyperopic. As they grow, their eyes lengthen until all images fall perfectly on the retina, a process called emmetropization. By the first grade, nearly all children have perfect vision. Researchers do not know what mechanisms spur the eye to grow to a length that matches flawlessly the eye's optics.

It takes work to see at varying distances, even when vision is "perfect." Reading, for instance, requires tiny muscles in the eye to accommodate for the short focus by making the lens rounder. When this retina, whether as the result of myopia or hyperopia, corrective lenses can be recruited to do the work.

Increasingly, people in developed countries have come to rely on corrective lenses. Sometime between starting school with perfect vision and beginning high school, up to 50 percent of kids in the United States become myopic. In places like Taiwan and Hong Kong, where kids typically study 10 to 12 hours per day. 70 percent of older students need to squint to see the blackboard.

31. The condition called myopia develops when . . .
   a. the distance between the lens and the retina is increased.
   b. the lens of the eye can no longer focus.
   c. light is unable to pass through the corneal lens.
   d. light focuses on the retina.

32. The process called emmetropization . . .
   a. eventually produces myopia in first graders.
   b. produces blurry images on the retina.
   c. slowly corrects the initial condition of hyperopia which most newborn babies have.
   d. corrects the myopia that most newborn babies have.

33. The mechanisms behind the process of emmetropization . . .
   a. are perfectly understood.
   b. remain a mystery.
   c. have been fully explained.
   d. have never concerned researchers.

34. A corrective lens is used to ensure that . . .
   a. images fall in focus on the retina.
   b. the corneal lens becomes rounder.
   c. distances do not vary.
   d. tiny muscles in the eye work.

35. Indications are that myopia among high school students . . .
   a. depends on climatic and geographical differences.
   b. is on the decline in developed countries.
   c. results from squinting in the classroom.
   d. results from an increased reading load.
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