EXAMINATION
FOR
THE MICHIGAN CERTIFICATE
OF
PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH

ECPE

Practice Preliminary Tests
(with KEY)

Volume 7

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INSTRUCTIONS AND EXAMPLES

This set of five practice tests has been produced to help candidates familiarize themselves with the format of the preliminary test.

In the test there are 35 problems: 10 grammar problems, 10 multiple choice cloze 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 which best completes the conversation.

1. “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 (11) a. way c. travel
and animals to walk on, but today roads *b. road d. superhighway
must be made for cars, trucks, and buses.
The most modern _(11)_ is often called
a superhighway.

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

21. 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.

31. The person telling the story is….
   a. a married lady
   b. an unmarried lady
   * c. a married man
   d. an unmarried man
1. Greg asked me if I knew _____
   a. where was the bus station.
   b. where the bus station it was.
   c. where the bus station was.
   d. where it was the bus station.
2. _____, the customer wouldn’t have complained.
   a. If the waiter were to apologize
   b. Had the waiter apologized
   c. Were the waiter to apologize
   d. If the waiter apologizes
3. When he was in high school, Jeff _____ every morning.
   a. had swum 3 kilometers
   b. had been swimming
   c. swam 3 kilometers
   d. was swimming 3 kilometers
4. “Would you _____ a cup of coffee?”
   “I’d love one. Thank you.”
   a. care about
   b. care
   c. care to
   d. care for
5. “Susan _____ what you said!”
   “No. But she didn’t say a word!”
   a. can’t be liking
   b. can’t have liked
   c. can’t have been liking
   d. can’t like
6. “Barb’s left the oven on again!”
   “Isn’t that typical _____ her!”
   a. with
   b. for
   c. of
   d. to
7. _____ he earns a fortune, he is very thrifty.
   a. Although
   b. Despite
   c. Whereas
   d. However
8. Scientists are examining an enormous _____ that has appeared overnight in a cornfield.
   a. depressant
   b. depression
   c. depressing
   d. depressed
9. They replaced the cushions, _____ were tattered.
   a. most of which
   b. which most of them
   c. the most of which
   d. which the most
10. _____ into the shallows, the child found a beautiful seashell.
    a. Waded
    b. He had waded
    c. He was wading
    d. Wading
Humans have become so noisy that some animals are changing their behavior just to be heard above the din. British biologist Andrew Foote at the University of Durham recently _11_ that the calls of killer whales off the West Coast of the United States have _12_ in recent years, apparently to counter engine noise from the growing _13_ of whale-watching boats.

Meanwhile, behavior biologist Henrik Brumm of the University of St. Andrews found that male nightingales have cranked up their mating _14_ as much as 14 decibels to remain _15_ over urban sounds. “Researchers believed that territorial birds always sing _16_ the top of their lungs,” says Brumm, _17_ did his research in Germany. “So I was surprised _18_ that nightingales do adjust their song intensity.” The payoff for belting: “The most voluble nightingales probably have an _19_ time finding a mate and passing on _20_ genes,” he says.

From: Discover, Vol. 25, No 9
21. Supporters of euthanasia maintain that it is a(n) ____ act.
   a. tranquil
   b. memorable
   c. humane
   d. hostile

22. The younger generation tend to ____ liberal ideals.
   a. embrace
   b. avert
   c. gesture
   d. invade

23. The board members _____ for four hours before arriving at a decision.
   a. impacted
   b. deliberated
   c. conformed
   d. recoiled

24. You’ll probably find him in the Red Lion; it’s his favorite ____.
   a. ally
   b. haunt
   c. motive
   d. leash

25. Typewriters have become ____ since computers were introduced.
   a. controversial
   b. eventual
   c. absurd
   d. obsolete

26. The speaker’s ____ greatly impressed the audience.
   a. eloquence
   b. fulfillment
   c. notoriety
   d. obstinacy

27. The teenager’s parents were afraid that she was ____ something drastic.
   a. cherishing
   b. designating
   c. contemplating
   d. gratifying

28. Harry hasn’t done anything to ____ promotion within the department.
   a. moderate
   b. initial
   c. merit
   d. resolve

29. The teacher explained that there was a(n) ____ difference between the two words.
   a. idle
   b. subtle
   c. candid
   d. conspicuous

30. First-time juvenile offenders are often treated ____ by the court.
   a. modestly
   b. principally
   c. audibly
   d. leniently
Fighting leukemia may soon become as easy as getting a shot. Cancer researchers at the University of Texas are testing a vaccine that can put one form of the disease into remission. The vaccine fights myelogenous leukemia, which strikes 16,000 people a year, many of them senior citizens. So far tests have been promising. The vaccine slowed the cancer to a crawl in 20 of 33 cases - with few side effects. "We treated people who wouldn't be expected to live three months," says Jeffrey Molldrem, an immunologist with the university's M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. "So the fact that some lived four years is quite surprising. That some actually went into remission is equally astounding."

In both acute and chronic myelogenous leukemia, immature white blood cells in the bone marrow multiply out of control. They fail to fight off infections as they are meant to and collect dangerously in organs, blocking their functions. The vaccine sets off an immune response using a piece of a protein, called PR1 peptide, found on the surface of leukemia cells. The body recognizes the peptides as foreign invaders and, as a result, attacks the leukemia cells. Other cancer vaccines have been created, Molldrem says, but this is the first one for leukemia that seems to work.

The drug must now go through another round of clinical trials. If they are all successful, it would be three to four years before the vaccine is available.

From: Discover, Vol. 26, No. 3

31. We learn from the text that tests of the new vaccine have to date
   a. shown few positive results.
   b. resulted in a few side effects.
   c. disappointed researchers.
   d. kept researchers’ hopes alive.

32. According to the text, the incidence of myelogenous leukemia is high among
   a. people in senior positions at work.
   b. the elderly.
   c. people with a short life expectancy.
   d. patients who were treated at the Anderson Cancer Center.

33. Which of the following results from testing the vaccine have been most encouraging to researchers?
   a. Some patients’ conditions went into remission.
   b. Some cancers slowed to a crawl
   c. There were people who lived longer than expected.
   d. There were few side effects.

34. What are we told about the white blood cells of people suffering from acute and chronic myelogenous leukemia?
   a. Their numbers are slow to increase.
   b. They are not fully developed.
   c. They perform their usual function.
   d. They assist the other organs in their functions.

35. The text tells us that the vaccine
   a. makes use of a part of the leukemia cell so as to function.
   b. works entirely on its own.
   c. recognizes peptides as foreign invaders.
   d. attacks the leukemia cells
GRAMMAR

1. The exam supervisor will demand that each candidate _____ acceptable identification.
   a. shows
   b. showed
   c. showing
   d. show

2. Julie’s sister reminds me _____ my Chemistry teacher at high school.
   a. of
   b. for
   c. about
   d. from

3. When Carl’s microwave was giving trouble, he _____ at it.
   a. had an electrician to look
   b. had an electrician look
   c. got an electrician looking
   d. got an electrician look

4. An annex _____ to provide additional classrooms.
   a. is being building
   b. is being built
   c. has built
   d. is building

5. No sooner _____ than the telephone rang.
   a. had Jake entered his office
   b. Jake had entered his office
   c. Jake’s entering his office
   d. was Jake entering his office

6. Sheila finally decided to buy _____ evening dress.
   a. a silk green beautiful Thai
   b. a beautiful silk green Thai
   c. a beautiful green Thai silk
   d. a green beautiful Thai silk

7. Samantha is _____ of the twins, but Tania is more athletic.
   a. the cleverest
   b. more clever
   c. the cleverer
   d. cleverer

8. Dimitri hadn’t done any work; _____, he failed the exam.
   a. so
   b. consequently
   c. but
   d. however

9. “I’ve had a headache all morning.”
   “Try _____ a short nap.”
   a. taking
   b. to take
   c. if you can take
   d. the taking of

10. _____ her supervisor’s approval, she shouldn’t begin the project.
    a. Unless Susan doesn’t get
    b. If Susan will not get
    c. Were Susan to get
    d. Unless Susan gets
Currency, securities certificates, passports, checks, and other important documents may soon be broadcasting their authenticity, __(11)__ to smart paper, developed by Oji Paper of Japan in collaboration with two Japanese high-tech companies. Each sheet __(12)__ a flat, dust-speck-size radio frequency identification chip – a micro radio transmitter and receiver – imprinted with an unalterable serial number. The chip can also __(13)__ the name of a gift-certificate recipient or the payee of a check. When __(14)__ by a radio signal, the chip sends back data __(15)__ its identity.

__(16)__ other smart papers, which can be as thick and stiff __(17)__ a credit card, the Oji __(18)__ is just a bit stronger than ordinary paper. Chips are embedded within fibers rather than between plastic sheets. The special paper can be __(19)__ through regular copiers and fax machines and can withstand __(20)__ and other normal wear. It is initially being tested in Malaysia on its road-tax certificates, which are used for vehicle registration.

From: Discover, Vol. 26, No. 3
21. The governor’s decision to _____ the bill surprised everyone.
a. designate  
b. interpret  
c. distract  
d. veto

22. Through _____ investments, George soon amassed a small fortune.
a. prudent  
b. notable  
c. momentary  
d. elective

23. Unless lecture notes are written _____, they aren’t of much use.
a. grammatically  
b. masterly  
c. credibly  
d. legibly

24. The judge read several _____ on the recent spate of racist attacks.
a. dialogues  
b. journals  
c. forums  
d. editorials

25. Harry complained about the _____ noise his neighbors were making.
a. rival  
b. intolerable  
c. maternal  
d. hardy

26. The new strategy was adopted in the hope that it would _____ better results.
a. recommend  
b. penetrate  
c. yield  
d. adhere

27. The company is hoping to _____ its overseas market.
a. pursue  
b. expand  
c. maneuver  
d. gauge

28. A skin _____ can usually be covered up with makeup.
a. anguish  
b. crisis  
c. blemish  
d. obstacle

29. Her grandfather becomes _____ when he doesn’t get his way.
a. wretched  
b. irritable  
c. vague  
d. timid

30. Trying hard to impress everyone, Ben ended up becoming a figure of _____.
a. ridicule  
b. hysteria  
c. turmoil  
d. hesitation
The relatively small fossil site in Niger, no bigger than a football field, was in operation for only two months. But University of Chicago paleontologist Paul Sereno is ecstatic about what he is finding as he sifts through the 20 tons of fossils recovered there. "This was probably the most successful expedition I will ever lead," Sereno says, "and I've led a lot of expeditions."

Among the fossils excavated by Sereno and his team was the skull of an unknown 95-million-year-old carnivore from the abelisaurid ("wrinkle faced") family, which he named *Rugops primus*. This 30-foot animal may have scavenged carcasses; markings on the bone imply its head was covered with keratin, the material in our fingernails, which might have protected its face while it tore into its food. The most intriguing aspect of *Rugops primus*, however, is where it lived. Until now, the fossil record implied that abelisaurids lived only on what remained of Gondwanaland, the early landmass that included modern India and South America. Africa supposedly separated from this massive continent 120 million years ago, long before the rise of the wrinkle-faced dinos. Finding *Rugops primus* in Africa therefore came as a shock. Sereno regards the discovery as evidence that land bridges connected Africa to Gondwanaland much later than previously believed.

Further study of the Niger fossils may expose additional unexpected family connections. Sereno believes he has found the bones of a variety of other dinosaurs and other animals never before found in Africa. "There is a coming together of evidence that is hard to deny," he says. "We have unearthed a new chapter with lots of new players."

From: Discover, Vol. 25, No. 9

31. We learn in the first paragraph that Paul Sereno
   a. has never led many successful expeditions.
   b. is cautiously considering the value of the fossil site in Niger.
   c. is disappointed that the fossil site is no bigger than a football field.
   d. bases his judgement on the fossil site in Niger on his wide experience.

32. Which of the following statements does not appear to describe *Rugops primus*?
   a. It lived on a diet of plants and thorny vegetation.
   b. It had sharp teeth.
   c. The surface of its face was uneven.
   d. It was flesh-eating.

33. What is most remarkable about Sereno’s discovery of *Rugops primus* in Niger is that it may
   a. prove land bridges never connected Gondwanaland and Africa.
   b. prove that Gondwanaland extended as far as Africa.
   c. throw new light on what abelisaurids ate.
   d. throw new light on where abelisaurids ranged.

34. The “evidence” that Paul Sereno refers to will most certainly consist of
   a. fossils that paleontologists before him had kept hidden.
   b. a more complete fossil record.
   c. samples of earth and rocks from the former land bridges.
   d. eye-witness accounts of dinosaurs that lived.

35. The passage implies that Sereno’s findings in Niger may
   a. attract lots of new paleontologists to the area.
   b. prove that our knowledge of pre-historic land bridges is incomplete.
   c. indicate that many African dinosaurs migrated to Gondwanaland.
   d. prove that abelisaurids were originally to be found in Africa.
1. Does anyone know _____ with those old movie magazines I had?
   a. what has Mom done
   b. what did Mom do
   c. what Mom has done
   d. what did Mom

6. _____ his toy truck, the little boy walked into the garden.
   a. Picking up
   b. He picked up
   c. When picking up
   d. Picked up

2. Sue has become ____ with the idea that everyone envies her.
   a. obsessive
   b. obsessing
   c. obsessed
   d. obsession

7. The director’s recommendation was that the secretary _____ a crash course in accounting.
   a. begin
   b. has begun
   c. begins
   d. will begin

3. The children simply adore the new maid, _____ says a lot for her ability.
   a. who
   b. which
   c. that
   d. whose

8. ____ all of last year, he wouldn’t have the problems he has today.
   a. If John worked
   b. If John was working
   c. Were John working
   d. Had John been working

4. The minister’s limousine ____ by a brick thrown by a demonstrator.
   a. its windshield was shattered
   b. had its windshield shattered
   c. whose windshield was shattered
   d. had shattered its windshield

9. “Why isn’t Joe here yet?”
   “He _____ our appointment.”
   a. might forget
   b. might be forgetting
   c. might have forgotten
   d. might forgotten

5. “_____ I will let you know.”
   “I’d appreciate that.”
   a. When a decision will have reached
   b. As soon as a decision is going to reach
   c. Once a decision will be reached
   d. When a decision has been reached

10. Reports coming in confirm that thousands of homes _____ by the fire.
   a. to be threatened
   b. are being threatened
   c. have being threatened
   d. are threatening
Until recently, studying newborn galaxies meant __(11)__ far into the distance and deep into the past, to the __(12)__ of the known universe. But with the 2003 __(13)__ of NASA's orbiting ultraviolet telescope, Galaxy Evolution Explorer, or Galex, __(14)__ have changed. Now astronomers can see objects that were previously invisible, especially new galaxies that blaze in the ultraviolet part of the spectrum.

Galex has quickly proved its __(15)___. Astronomers recently found a __(16)__ full of infant galaxies, but more important, all 36 are nearby. "It gives astronomers the chance to study the process of galaxy birth up __(17)__," says Tim Heckman of Johns Hopkins University.

The Milky Way, __(18)__ most of the starry pinwheels in our neighborhood, is around 10 billion years old. But the new galaxies were all born only 100 million to a billion years ago. "These appear __(19)__ the newborn version of typical 'adult' galaxies like our Milky Way," Heckman says. "It's almost like looking out a window and seeing a dinosaur walking __(20)__."
### VOCABULARY

21. The lofty forest _____ is home to thousands of animals.
   a. fortress  
   b. bush  
   c. canopy  
   d. vegetation  

22. The farm workers _____ for hours in the hot sun.
   a. lured  
   b. banished  
   c. toiled  
   d. exceeded  

23. Owls and other _____ animals hunt under the cover of darkness.
   a. perilous  
   b. fugitive  
   c. nocturnal  
   d. elusive  

24. The troops fought _____ to defend their position.
   a. absolutely  
   b. valiantly  
   c. immaturely  
   d. literally  

25. Marathon runners have remarkable powers of _____.
   a. immunity  
   b. nutrition  
   c. organism  
   d. endurance  

26. The government will _____ farmers for the loss of their fields.
   a. compensate  
   b. recognize  
   c. finance  
   d. economize  

27. The tourists made a(n) _____ attempt to communicate with the villagers.
   a. diverse  
   b. edible  
   c. optical  
   d. futile  

28. The actress said she had signed a contract but refused to _____ further.
   a. approximate  
   b. coincide  
   c. elaborate  
   d. exceed  

29. Many creatures use _____ to avoid detection.
   a. undergrowth  
   b. camouflage  
   c. habitat  
   d. plumage  

30. She is one of the most _____ secretaries I have ever met.
   a. competent  
   b. substantial  
   c. manual  
   d. random
Medieval monks may have been more gluttonous than godly. Most of the paintings and literature of the time portray them as fat, almost obese. But was that really the case? University College London archaeologist Philippa Patrick decided to find out.

She examined 100 skeletons from the 11th to the 16th centuries from three abbeys in the vicinity of London. She then compared the monks' remains with those of 200 secular Londoners of similar ages. Not only did the monks have higher rates of thickened bones and certain patterns of ossification that are hallmarks of the severely obese, but they also showed higher rates of arthritis and other weight-related joint problems. All in all, Patrick estimates, the monks were more than five times as likely to be overweight as contemporary merchants and courtiers.

Patrick then enlisted the help of a historian, who used written records of menus and food shopping lists to calculate the average monk's diet - a staggering 6,000 calories a day. Even during fasting periods, a monk's daily intake topped 4,000 calories. The monks' abundant eating often outraged those on the outside, but inside the abbey it probably helped keep the peace, Patrick suggests. "Abbeys were highly political places; there are numerous records of head abbots being overthrown for all sorts of reasons," she says. "I suspect that food was one of the few pleasures allowed in the monasteries, so if it wasn't good and plentiful, there could be a lot of unrest in the ranks."

From: Discover, Vol. 25, No. 11

31. The opening paragraph asks the reader to consider whether medieval monks
   a. tended to eat more than was good for them.
   b. were favorably portrayed in the paintings and literature of the time.
   c. were less godly than monks of other centuries.
   d. did not take their religion seriously.

32. Patrick’s initial investigation involved a comparison between
   a. the remains of monks from three abbeys in the area around London.
   b. remains of monks from different centuries.
   c. remains of two different groups of people.
   d. the bodies of monks and secular Londoners.

33. Which of the following was not revealed by Patrick’s examination of the skeletons from the three abbeys?
   a. A high incidence of arthritis
   b. Problems that affected the knees, ankles and hips
   c. Absence of signs of obesity
   d. The frequent occurrence of bones of unusual thickness

34. It is implied that during fasting periods, medieval monks
   a. ate much less.
   b. finished their meals in less time.
   c. kept a written record of what they ate.
   d. did not significantly reduce their food intake.

35. The passage suggests that medieval monks were given good food in large quantities
   a. in order to prevent them from becoming rebellious.
   b. to show them how pleasurable it was to be in a monastery.
   c. to show them how benevolent the head abbot was.
   d. to outrage those living outside the monastery.
1. Everyone _____ present at the meeting voted against the proposal.
   a. which was  
   b. that were  
   c. who was  
   d. who they were

2. Not until we use up the current stock _____ a new order.
   a. will we place  
   b. we are going to place  
   c. will there place  
   d. we will place

3. The boss congratulated Dora _____ her excellent sales plan.
   a. for  
   b. about  
   c. with  
   d. on

4. John doesn’t remember _____ any calls yesterday morning.
   a. receiving  
   b. to receive  
   c. he received  
   d. of receiving

5. Fortunately, the _____ child was not awakened by the noise.
   a. asleep  
   b. slept  
   c. sleeping  
   d. being asleep

6. The old lady is on _____ for her heart condition.
   a. medicine  
   b. medical  
   c. medicinal  
   d. medication

7. Investigators asked the witness what time _____.
   a. had the explosion taken place.  
   b. the explosion had taken place.  
   c. did the explosion take place.  
   d. had taken place the explosion.

8. It is preferable that vegetables _____.
   a. to not be overcooked.  
   b. not be overcooked.  
   c. be not overcooked.  
   d. not to be overcooked.

9. _____ , he had to be replaced in the second half.
   a. Despite his injury  
   b. Because his injury  
   c. Although his injury  
   d. Because of his injury

10. Fortunately, the driver _____ escape from the burning car.
    a. was able to  
    b. could  
    c. had to  
    d. managing to
Leonardo da Vinci was many things: a painter, an engineer, a creative thinker. He was also the __(11)___ of the first man-made plastic, says Alessandro Vezzosi, director of Italy's Museo Ideale. Vezzosi was __(12)___ through some of the Renaissance man's notes when he came across recipes __(13)___ several mysterious mixtures. These mixtures would __(14)___ into a material that could be used to make nearly unbreakable __(15)___ handles, chessboards, jewelry, or cups and vases, Leonardo claimed.

Intrigued, Vezzozi tried __(16)___ the recipes and ended up with a compound resembling Bakelite, one of the first synthetic polymers, which was __(17)___ used in the early 1900s. But __(18)___ the production of Bakelite involves intricate molds and chemical processing, making Leonardo's natural plastic required nothing more __(19)___ painting layers of pigmented animal or vegetable glue onto various templates, __(20)___ cabbage leaves, lettuce, and ox tripe. "It is 'plastic material' in the classical meaning of the word," Vezzosi says. "It is extraordinary on an aesthetic, scientific, and technological level - and this was over 500 years ago."

From: Discover, Vol. 25, No. 5
21. Employment opportunities are _____ better for people with experience.
   a. abruptly
   b. infinitely
   c. frailly
   d. tranquilly

22. Our new neighbors can be a bit too _____ at times.
   a. incredible
   b. insufficient
   c. inquisitive
   d. indispensable

23. Reports are coming in of an earthquake of unprecedented _____.
   a. height
   b. volume
   c. magnitude
   d. scope

24. The expedition does not expect to _____ serious problems.
   a. encounter
   b. propel
   c. challenge
   d. commit

25. The employees were _____ for making false declarations.
   a. resigned
   b. retired
   c. evicted
   d. terminated

26. Homeowners took the necessary _____ after the storm warning was released.
   a. cares
   b. exigencies
   c. preliminaries
   d. precautions

27. Hand-made carpets with _____ designs were on sale at the bazaar.
   a. prompt
   b. stationary
   c. intricate
   d. perpetual

28. _____ from the devastating tsunami littered the coast.
   a. Damages
   b. Shrapnel
   c. Debris
   d. Rubble

29. The actor was quick to _____ when he forgot his lines.
   a. improvise
   b. annex
   c. shrink
   d. reconcile

30. My brother owns a(n) _____ bulldog called Churchill.
   a. thoroughbred
   b. pedigree
   c. vintage
   d. authentic
Birds are under siege. A recent World Conservation Union report says 12 percent of all birds on the planet are threatened with extinction, and a team of Stanford University ecologists believes up to 14 percent worldwide could be extinct within a century. By then a quarter of all birds may be as good as gone, says Stanford conservation ecologist Cagan Sekercioglu. Their population could become so small that their ecological contribution would be virtually nil.

The losses would be devastating. Many birds are important pollinators and seed dispersers; their absence would have wide ecological ramifications. Others eat insects or are important links in the food chain. Still others are scavengers that clear away carcasses or keep pests in check. In India, for example, a rapid decline of vultures in the 1990s led to a rise in feral dogs and, as a result, an increase in the number of rabies outbreaks. "There are consequences when birds are not doing their ecological jobs," says Sekercioglu.

Researchers blame humans. The World Conservation Union rank the loss of native habitat and the introduction of invasive species as the most crucial problems, but unchecked activities like fishing, hunting, and logging play a role - as does human-induced climate change. Worst off are specialists - birds that eat only one type of food and live in only one place. Because they are so intertwined with their environments, they can't adapt to changes. Marine birds are also particularly at risk because they live long, breed slowly, and are prone to accidental death by long-line fishing.

From: Discover, Vol. 26, No. 3

31. If Sekercioglou’s prediction were realized, the percentage of all birds which would become extinct or near to extinct would be in the region of
a. 12%
b. 14%
c. 25%
d. 39%

32. Which of the following is not given as an important function of birds?
a. They keep pests to feed their young.
b. Some eat the remains of dead animals.
c. Many help the reproduction and spread of plants and trees.
d. Some form an important part of the food chain.

33. What is given as a consequence of the rapid decline in vultures in India in the 1990s?
a. The increase in the number of feral dogs posed a threat to human health.
b. Fewer domestic dogs were attached and killed by them.
c. Fewer carcasses remained to be cleared.
d. Pests no longer needed to be kept in check.

34. The “unchecked activities” mentioned in line 29 are activities that
a. have never been investigated before.
b. are carried on by environmentally conscious parties.
c. have resulted in human-induced climatic change.
d. continue to be practiced by parties who are indifferent to ecological concerns.

35. The birds referred to as “specialists” are more threatened than other species because
a. they are marine species.
b. their environments change them.
c. they cannot adapt to their natural environments.
d. their natural diet and habitat are restricted.
1. The world was shocked _____ the news of the tsunami disaster.
   a. for
   b. with
   c. at
   d. from

2. Several offshore islands _____ to the mainland by a causeway.
   a. will soon have linking
   b. will soon have linked
   c. will soon be linked
   d. will soon be linking

3. “You _____ so many copies; two would’ve been sufficient.”
   a. shouldn’t make
   b. needn’t have made
   c. mustn’t make
   d. needn’t make

4. Tony has been riding _____ scooter for the last 15 years.
   a. an Italian old bright red
   b. an old bright red Italian
   c. an old red bright Italian
   d. a bright old red Italian

5. The instructions require that every candidate _____ an HB pencil.
   a. using
   b. to use
   c. uses
   d. use

6. Never in her life _____ a bad word about anybody.
   a. Pauline will say
   b. has Pauline said
   c. is Pauline saying
   d. Pauline has said

7. _____ and I’ll tell you everything you want to know.
   a. If you sit down
   b. As long as you sit down
   c. Sit down
   d. Provided you sit down

8. The old man stayed home that morning as he was afraid _____.
   a. of falling on the icy roads.
   b. his falling on the icy roads.
   c. would fall on the icy roads.
   d. to fall on the icy roads.

9. Susan soon found gainful _____ after leaving school.
   a. employment
   b. employer
   c. employee
   d. employing

10. Young children _____ work full-time are often neglected.
    a. those their parents
    b. that their parents
    c. whose parents
    d. which their parents
Every year the Lemelson-MIT Program, a research organization within MIT’s School of Engineering, (11) Americans on issues related to technology. This year the program (12) asked 1,023 adults across the country to identify the invention they consider “most hated, yet one we can’t live without.” The results show that the intrusive, unreliable cell phone has (13) out old annoyances like the buzzing alarm clock or the (14) razor. Merton Flemings, the survey’s director, believes that people resent technologies they must adapt (15) quickly. “If you look back at the automobile or the TV, it (16) decades before they reached 50 percent market saturation. You only (17) to walk down the street to see how fast the cell phone has taken over,” he says. Yet in a separate part of the survey, 95 percent of adults agreed that inventions in (18) have improved their (19) of life – regardless of the ringing that (20) disrupts the most dramatic moment at the movies.

From: Discover, Vol. 25, No. 5
21. Deborah showed her _____ by sending her boss an expensive bottle of wine.
   a. gratitude
   b. nuisance
   c. commotion
   d. dejection

22. Julie gave us a _____ description of her trip to the Amazon.
   a. viable
   b. vivid
   c. veritable
   d. lifelike

23. The child _____ having trampled the seedlings in the flower bed.
   a. refused
   b. rejected
   c. denied
   d. refuted

24. A cow from a neighboring farm _____ into our back garden.
   a. waded
   b. strode
   c. skipped
   d. strayed

25. The kidnappers demanded a(n) _____ of $1 million.
   a. ransom
   b. refund
   c. installment
   d. pension

26. The overdose which the addict took proved _____.
   a. mortal
   b. deadly
   c. lethal
   d. fatal

27. The passengers had a _____ escape when their plane crashed on take-off.
   a. safeguard
   b. generous
   c. miraculous
   d. bountiful

28. All animals arriving in the country are _____ for a period of four months.
   a. remanded
   b. quarantined
   c. interned
   d. suspended

29. The security guard eyed me _____ as I got out of my car.
   a. intentionally
   b. suspiciously
   c. callously
   d. inadvertently

30. The captain’s quick thinking averted the _____.
   a. foundation
   b. collapse
   c. collision
   d. incident
How did *Tyrannosaurus rex* get so big? After four years zigzagging around the world begging museums for samples of the relatively rare tyrannosaur bones, paleontologist Greg Erickson of Florida State University has found the answer.

Layers of bone can be read like tree rings, but until now, nobody had enough specimens to study how giant meat-eating dinosaurs matured. *T. rex*, Erickson now finds, lived fast and died young – "sort of the James Dean of dinosaurs." Unlike many modern reptiles, it didn't grow continuously throughout its life. Instead, the creature underwent an explosive teenage growth spurt, acquiring 70 percent of its adult body mass in five years. *T. rex's* accelerated adolescence may have been necessary, given the brutal competition for survival. "The oldest ones might have made it to 30, but even that would have been rare," Erickson says. "It was a tough life, and most of them would have been killed before they reached their largest size."

In order to fuel its rapid growth, *T. rex* must have been a ravenous eating machine. Building on work by Erickson, Emily Rayfield of Cambridge has figured out the mechanics of *T. rex's* feeding strategy. She modeled bone stress and found that elastic tissue between plates of bone in *T. rex's* four-and-a-half-foot-long skull acted as a shock absorber, allowing the creature to bite down on prey with an intensity that would crack the skull of most animals. "It ate using the puncture-pull method. It would have bitten down with enough force to crush through bone and then pulled back, tearing off the flesh," Rayfield says. It might not have been pretty, but it was clearly effective: At its peak, an adolescent *T. rex* probably packed on five pounds a day - and that was on the Cretaceous version of the Atkins diet.

From: *Discover, Vol. 25, No. 11*

31. Like tree rings, layers of bone provide information to paleontologists on
   a. how much meat the dinosaurs ate.
   b. how many specimens are needed for a meaningful study.
   c. the similarities between tree and dinosaur growth.
   d. the ageing process.

32. Five years is believed by Erickson to represent the time *T. rex* took
   a. to grow continuously.
   b. to begin to age.
   c. to gain almost three-quarters of its adult weight.
   d. to maintain a stable body weight.

33. The word "brutal" is used to describe the competition for survival because
   a. *T. rex* was threatened by every other brute in its environment.
   b. brute force helped many to live to the age of 30.
   c. many of *T. rex’s* rivals were just as savage or even more savage than it was.
   d. the extent of the brutality that dinosaurs suffered at man’s hands was enormous.

34. Emily Rayfield’s research indicates that the elastic tissue between plates of bone in
   *T. rex’s* skull
   a. allowed it to safely deliver a bite of enormous force.
   b. guaranteed it would crack the skull of most of its victims.
   c. made the puncture-pull method of eating unnecessary.
   d. absorbed the shock created by its heavy steps.

35. At the height of its growth, an adolescent *T. rex* is thought to have
   a. survived on five pounds of flesh each day.
   b. gained five pounds in weight every day.
   c. increased its food intake by five pounds a day.
   d. suffered weight loss amounting to five pounds a day.
### ANSWER KEY

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