I. Multiple Choices (40%)

Choose one best answer for each question.

1. After a ____ workout at the gym, George got sore muscles because he neglected the cool-down part of the workout which enables the body to flush toxins such as lactic acid from the overstretched muscles.
   (A) cheerful   (B) remarkable   (C) strenuous   (D) annoying

2. Parts of Christchurch, New Zealand, were in ____ Tuesday after a powerful earthquake struck at midday, toppling tall buildings and historic churches and killing at least 65 people.
   (A) shambles   (B) scrambles   (C) stumbles   (D) scribbles

3. Former Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak’s ____ marks the beginning of an important stage in the country’s transition to a new political system.
   (A) inauguration   (B) resignation   (C) recognition   (D) inspiration

4. In the face of an “uneven” economic recovery, members of the G20 meeting in Paris agreed that the international monetary system has proven “resilient, but ____ remain.”
   (A) manifestation   (B) satisfaction   (C) devastation   (D) vulnerabilities

5. The recently released and well-reviewed film, The King’s Speech, tells the story of how King George VI overcame a crippling speech ____ with the help of an unorthodox and unqualified speech therapist by the name of Lionel Logue.
   (A) fluency   (B) provocation   (C) desperation   (D) defect

6. With Facebook playing a starring role in the ____ that tumbled governments in Tunisia and Egypt, you might think the company’s top executives would use this historic moment to highlight its role as the platform for democratic change.
   (A) revolts   (B) battles   (C) crimes   (D) expedition

7. Anyone who uses a ____ to create a profile may violate of Facebook’s term of service.
   (A) combination   (B) hypocorism   (C) code   (D) pseudonym

8. IP addresses are the unique sequence of numbers assigned to each Web site, computer, game console or smart phone connected to the Internet. They are ____ from domain names, which identify Web sites, like nytimes.com.
   (A) distinctive   (B) distinct   (C) extinguish   (D) distinguish

9. Professor McNulty said forgiveness may be bad for your marriage. There is one ____ explanation that forgiveness allows relatively negative partners to continue their negative behaviors, ultimately harming the relationship.
   (A) perpetual   (B) plausible   (C) apprehensive   (D) adaptable
10. In the film, *127 Hours*, over the days and nights of his ____ Aron Ralston relies on his camcorder and his watch as his only means of keeping in touch with reality.
   (A) attendance  (B) submission  (C) ordeal  (D) dedication

11. Scientists find that aerobic exercise may improve memory in seniors. The major chemical change in the hippocampus during aerobic exercise is an increase in a brain protein called BDNF, which acts like a fertilizer during the birth of new brain cells by ____ new connections between neurons.
   (A) nourishing  (B) furnishing  (C) decorating  (D) deliberating

12. Muscle strength and balance help prevent falls. Researcher claims that seniors have to do ____ exercise which could be stretchy bands and lifting weights. In this way, muscles build fiber.
   (A) contraction  (B) resistance  (C) persistence  (D) relaxation

13. Business models across the world also continue to change ____ with the advent of eCommerce and this change is not just restricted to USA. Other countries are also contributing to the growth of eCommerce.
   (A) assertively  (B) thriftily  (C) drastically  (D) retrogressively

14. At higher ____, Ozone may enter the cabin along with fresh air. Most modern aircrafts have catalytic converters that break it down to oxygen. But flying in an older airplane not fitted with one can cause the Ozone to irritate the lungs (cough), eyes (burning) and nose.
   (A) altitudes  (B) attitude  (C) longitude  (D) latitude

15. When it comes to the news of the day, newspapers, websites, bloggers, cable networks and aggregators all trip over themselves to be the fastest and the first. The competition has always existed, but technology has ramped up the ____.
   (A) eradication  (B) rivalries  (C) collaboration  (D) symmetry

16. Nowadays, we are facing “media black hole”, and so much news we’ll ____. Have you noticed?
   The news cycle is spinning faster. And faster. And faster and faster. As one person tweeted recently:
   “Tunisia's protest took four weeks. Egypt: 17 days. Who's next and how much time do they have?”
   (A) congregate  (B) deploy  (C) implode  (D) expel

17. Which of the following is CORRECT?
   (A) It was much very better than I expected.
   (B) The more I hurt, the worst I feel.
   (C) Mr. Blake has been to Italy as many times Peter has.
   (D) Between them, Peter has the greater understanding.

18. Which of the following is INCORRECT?
   (A) Bored by the lecture, many students fell asleep.
   (B) Having studied my lessons, I had nothing else to do.
   (C) Weather permitting, the picnic will be held as scheduled.
   (D) Being a clever girl, Mary’s father sent her to college.
19. Which of the following is **INCORRECT**?
   (A) All I want is for all my students to learn English happily.
   (B) My boss advised me to work harder.
   (C) Do you mind helping me translate this letter?
   (D) Cheryl decided seeing a movie after work.

20. Which of the following is **CORRECT**?
   (A) My grandfather moves slowly and speaks quietly.
   (B) We are requested to write the report either in Chinese or English.
   (C) He is handsome, honest, and has a lot of fortune.
   (D) Neither you nor your brother are wrong.

II. **True or False Questions (20%)**

**DIRECTIONS:** Read each question and select “A” if the statement is **true** and “B” if it is **false**.

**Dads get post-natal depression too**

A new study has found that 10 per cent of fathers suffer serious depression after the birth of their children. Lead researcher Dr James F. Paulson, assistant professor of paediatrics at America’s Eastern Virginia Medical School, said of post-natal depression: “It's viewed as a disorder of motherhood. It's not viewed by health professionals and the public as a problem in fathers.” His team analyzed the findings of 43 different studies into new dads becoming depressed. These involved data from over 28,000 fathers from Australia, China, Great Britain and the USA. Dr Paulson found that American men were the most likely to experience depression. Over 14 per cent of U.S. dads got the post-baby blues compared with an international average of 8.2 per cent.

Dr Paulson said the results were interesting and that his statistics represent “a significant public health concern and something we need to pay more attention to.” He points to a number of reasons for post-natal depression in men. A big factor is depression in the mother. Up to a quarter of mothers experience some form of depression following childbirth. Another big reason is the pressure brought to a marriage after starting a family and how the mother and father help each other. Other reasons include a lack of sleep, financial stress and having a sick baby. Dr Paulson’s advice for new parents is: “Depression affects both parents and both parents should be on the lookout for it… Depression in one partner has a cascading effect throughout the entire family unit.”

21. American fathers experienced less depression than the world average.   (A) True    (B)False
22. The lead researcher said his results show a major public health worry.   (A) True    (B)False
23. A depressed mother has minimal effect on the father’s state of mind.   (A) True    (B)False
24. Around a quarter of mothers get depressed after childbirth.   (A) True    (B)False
25. The researcher said a depressed father will make the baby depressed.   (A) True    (B)False
Environmentalists worry about synthetic life

A scientist who has created a synthetic life form has put the science world in a spin. Geneticist Craig Venter unveiled a major scientific breakthrough last week when he showed the world a new form of life he created in the laboratory. He made his artificial creation from a stem cell, biochemicals and yeast. Dr Venter claims his new organism has DNA that has never existed on Earth before. The cells he made will pave the way for more complex ones. Venter believes manmade life will be an important part of all science in the future. In 2007, he said: “Synthetic [life] is going to become the standard for making anything.” He believes it will provide amazing new cures for diseases and help in the fight against climate change.

Environmentalists are up in arms over Venter’s work. They believe it is a major threat to our existence. Campaigners are fighting to ban any form of synthetic life from getting into the wild. One campaigner, Jim Thomas, expressed his fears to Britain’s ‘Independent’ newspaper: “Synthetic biology is a high-risk, profit-driven field, building organisms out of parts that are still poorly understood. We know that lab-created life forms can escape and become biological weapons, and that their use threatens existing natural biodiversity,” he said. Mr Thomas is worried about what oil companies will do with Mr Venter’s work, saying: “Most worrying of all, Craig Venter is handing this powerful technology to the likes of BP and Exxon to hasten the commercialization of synthetic life-forms.”

26.Dr Venter believes synthetic life will help protect the environment. (A) True    (B)False
27.Environmentalists want to keep synthetic life away from nature. (A) True    (B)False
28.One campaigner said new biological weapons have been made. (A) True    (B)False
29.The campaigners want oil companies to use Dr Venter’s work. (A) True    (B)False
30.Oil companies will not profit from synthetic life. (A) True    (B)False

III. Reading Comprehension (40%)
DIRECTIONS: Read the article carefully and choose one best answer for each question.

Work Hurts!

Work can be a real pain--literally. There's long list of common aches and pains that are caused by things people do at work (and sometimes at play). It's a frequent topic of conversation among workers, and they've invented their own unusual and colorful names for some of these ailments.

Take, for example, “housemaid's knee,” a malady that involves pain and swelling at the front of the knee cap. The name comes from the old days when female servants had to get down on their hands and knees to wash the floors. This put stress on the knee and caused “housemaid's knee,” or as doctors would say “prepatellar bursitis.” Repeated lifting of heavy objects triggered a similar condition in construction workers' shoulders. This was called “bricklayer's shoulder” or “frozen shoulder.”

Someone who has a “charley horse” has a bad pain in the upper part of the leg. This can last for weeks or be just a momentary cramp, or sudden pain. No one knows for sure where the expression came from,
but it seems to be related to baseball. The first recorded use was in about 1880. One story says that there was an old retired horse named Charley that worked for the Chicago White Sox baseball team. Therefore any old horse that had problems walking was called a “charley.” There was also a White Sox player named Charley. His nickname was “old hoss” (old horse) and he suffered from leg cramps. [A]

Nowadays there are new complaints, also with “catchy” names. There's “tech neck,” a pain in the neck and shoulders that comes from sitting too long over a computer screen every day and then most recently “Blackberry thumb”! Nowadays many people use various kinds of minicomputing devices with tiny keyboards. One of the most popular goes by the name of Blackberry. To type on these, people use their thumbs. Overuse of the thumbs causes injuries and can even lead to more serious conditions like arthritis--thus the name “Blackberry thumb.”

[B] Conditions like these are officially called “Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders” or WMSDs. Business owners are concerned that WMSDs are the cause of many lost workdays. [C] To try to reduce the number of injuries, companies first study the conditions that cause injury and then try to make changes in the equipment and in the way the worker does the job. Injuries may be treated with physical therapy and painkillers to control the pain. If these remedies are ineffective, doctors may advise surgery (an operation). [D] Workplace conditions have definitely improved, but problems will never be completely eliminated. There will always be new ailments with colorful nicknames.

31. What is the main topic of the article?
   (A) The problem of lost workdays due to injury
   (B) Work-related injuries and their common names
   (C) How to avoid work-related injuries
   (D) The need to improve working conditions

32. A housemaid is a _____.
   (A) floor washer
   (B) construction worker
   (C) factory worker
   (D) female servant

33. A cramp is _____.
   (A) an injury to the leg
   (B) a pain that lasts for a few days or weeks
   (C) a pain that comes and goes quickly
   (D) a condition common in horses
34. A person with a “charley horse” has a pain _____.
   (A) in the leg
   (B) in the foot
   (C) in the shoulder
   (D) in the thumbs

35. What might be the origin of the term “charley horse”?
   (A) A record made in 1880
   (B) A baseball player named Charley
   (C) A horse that played for the Chicago White Sox
   (D) No one has any idea where it came from.

36. Which of these words does NOT refer to sickness or injury?
   (A) ailment
   (B) remedy
   (C) malady
   (D) complaint

37. What reason does the article give for business owner's concern about WMSDs?
   (A) They cause the workers pain and discomfort.
   (B) Companies have to change their equipment.
   (C) Workers lose time from work because of injuries.
   (D) Workers have to take painkillers.

38. Where would the following sentence best fit in the text? *In sports, professional athletes can lose a whole season if a condition is serious.*
   (A) In the placed marked [A]
   (B) In the placed marked [B]
   (C) In the placed marked [C]
   (D) In the placed marked [D]

39. What is one of the first things a company does about a WMSD?
   (A) Identify the causes of the injury
   (B) Recommend physical therapy
   (C) Send the worker for an operation
   (D) Change the equipment

40. What does the writer conclude about workplace aches and pains?
   (A) Conditions in the workplace will never get better.
   (B) Soon, there will be no problems of this kind in the workplace.
   (C) Businesspeople don't care about the workers.
   (D) There will always be some work-related problems like these.
Hungry Intelligence
Most teachers and parents have always assumed that hunger has a negative effect on learning. A study of elementary school children in Pittsburgh found that children who come to school without breakfast find it difficult to concentrate and have more behavior problems than children who do eat breakfast. A study in Minnesota schools showed that children who ate breakfast had higher test scores and fewer visits to the school nurse. It was not aptitude that they lacked, but food! However, a recent report from the Yale Medical School shows that some degree of hunger may actually improve brain function.

Scientists performed an experiment with two groups of mice. They made one group feel hungry by injecting the mice with a hormone (a chemical produced by the body) called ghrelin. Ghrelin is produced in the stomach when it is empty. It sends a chemical message to the brain that tells an animal that it is hungry. Both mice and humans produce ghrelin. The other group was the control group, and the mice in this group were not hungry. The scientists gave all of the mice a series of “mouse” intelligence tests. They found that the hungry mice performed better than the control group.

The reason for this may have something to do with the hormone ghrelin. Studies have shown that, in addition to telling us we're hungry, ghrelin also stimulates an area of the brain known as the hippocampus. This is the area associated with memory and learning. In other words, being a little hungry stimulates the brain and might help us remember more and learn things more easily. For animals, this might mean that hunger would give them the extra intelligence and concentration they need when hunting for food.

Of course, humans are not mice. The impact of these findings for humans cannot be determined without more research. For now scientists would certainly not advise students to skip breakfast completely on school days. However, a light breakfast before leaving for school might be better than a large meal. Before an exam, a big plate of spaghetti is probably not a good idea. It would be better to go into the exam a little hungry and bring a couple of small snacks.

41. What is the main topic of the article?
(A) The need for school breakfast programs
(B) The effect of hunger on the behavior of school children
(C) The link between a hunger hormone and intelligence
(D) Variations in the intelligence of mice

42. What have teachers always assumed about children?
(A) They learn better if they are a little hungry.
(B) They often have behavior problems.
(C) They can't learn if they are hungry.
(D) They don't need to eat a good breakfast.
43. Where were the studies on ghrelin done?
   (A) Pittsburgh elementary school
   (B) Yale Medical School
   (C) A school in Minnesota
   (D) The article doesn't say.

44. Which of these statements about ghrelin is true?
   (A) It is produced in an empty stomach.
   (B) It is produced in the brain.
   (C) It is produced in the stomach after a meal.
   (D) It is a kind of medicine.

45. What is the hippocampus?
   (A) part of the stomach
   (B) a kind of mouse
   (C) a hormone
   (D) part of the brain

46. In wild animals, ghrelin might help them _____.
   (A) gain weight
   (B) get better test scores in the lab
   (C) be better at finding food
   (D) become stronger

47. The word *skip* in paragraph 4 means _____.
   (A) hop on one foot
   (B) omit or not do something
   (C) remember to do something
   (D) forget to do something

48. What would scientists recommend based on the experiment?
   (A) Eating a small meal before an exam
   (B) Eating a big breakfast before going to school
   (C) Not eating any breakfast
   (D) Eating a big plate of spaghetti before an exam

49. What would researchers probably say about applying these results to humans?
   (A) People should change their eating habits immediately.
   (B) They are confident this information will solve many problems.
   (C) These results don't have any applications for humans.
   (D) They need to learn more about ghrelin in humans first.

50. How can you compare the study at Yale with the earlier studies?
   (A) The findings show differences with regard to hunger.
   (B) The findings are exactly the same in both studies.
   (C) The results of the earlier studies are clearly wrong.
   (D) The two studies have nothing in common.
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