

Name Surname: _____

School: _____ Class: _____

City: _____ Tel: _____

National English Competition 2017



DIRECTIONS FOR NATIONAL ENGLISH COMPETITION

- You have got 80 minutes to answer 80 questions.
- Each question has only one correct answer.
- For each right answer you will get one point.
- For each wrong answer 0.25 points will be cut from your total score.
- There is no punishment for unanswered questions.
- Once the test starts you are not allowed to leave the test in the first 30 minutes.
- Telephones are not allowed during the test.

1. We _____ dinner when our unexpected guests _____
A) ate / were arriving
B) were eating / arrived
C) had eaten / would have arrived
D) have eaten / arrive
2. Since they _____ us they were coming, we _____ any food for them.
A) aren't telling / don't have
B) hadn't told / didn't have
C) won't tell / haven't had
D) don't tell / won't have
3. By the time the plane finally _____ after a four-hour delay, everyone waiting to meet the passengers _____ fed up.
A) has landed / would be
B) is landing / is
C) landed / was
D) was landing / has been
4. From what he _____ in his letter, I thought that he _____ in Paris until next year.
A) had written / would be living
B) has written / lives
C) had been writing / will live
D) was writing / lived
5. Unless you _____ where you are going soon, you _____ to get a ticket.
A) decided / haven't been
B) will decide / aren't going to be
C) have decided / aren't
D) decide / won't be able
6. I don't know what happened to my bag, but I suppose it
A) must have stolen
B) has been stealing
C) could have been stolen
D) will have been stolen
7. If then I asked Sally how she liked her subjects at university, she answered sadly that _____ were too difficult for _____.
A) they / itself
B) they / her
C) their / she
D) they / hers
8. I'm not going to start looking for a job _____ I have finished my studies.
A) by the time
B) without
C) therefore
D) until
9. The man _____ by the police was famous for _____ several crimes.
A) to catch / commit
B) catching / being commit
C) being caught / to commit
D) caught / having committed
10. _____ today, in some societies the world is thought to be flat.
A) Since
B) Already
C) Even
D) Rather
11. I _____ to the party last night, but at the last minute I _____ that I had an exam this morning.
A) went / would have realized
B) had gone / have realized
C) was going to go / realized
D) had to go / must have realized
12. _____ how hard she tried, her boss always complained about her work.
A) No matter
B) As much as
C) Although
D) As though
13. He consistently refused to take his medicine and _____ his illness has gotten worse.
A) otherwise
B) on the other hand
C) unless
D) consequently
14. Jackie is _____ of our strikers, and so he is _____ likely to score a goal.
A) so good / too much
B) the best / the most
C) as good as / how much
D) the better / any more

15. _____ the rain stopped, it was too late to start the match.
- A) As long as
B) Due to
C) Owing to
D) By the time
16. We were surprised _____ James _____ so soon after his car accident.
- A) being seen / walked
B) to see / walking
C) to have seen / to walk
D) seeing / to have walked
17. On the other hand, I have never understood _____ people have to rely on the leisure industry, instead of using their imaginations.
- A) that
B) how
C) why
D) who
18. I don't mind _____ TV at home, but I'd much rather _____ a film in the cinema.
- A) to watch / to see
B) watch / seeing
C) having watched / seen
D) watching / see
19. If you can manage _____ here by nine, then we can finish _____ the meeting before lunchtime.
- A) to get / planning
B) getting / to plan
C) having got / having planned
D) to have got / to be planning
20. Though I asked around, no one was quite sure _____ it took to get to the next town.
- A) how far
B) how long
C) how much
D) how often
21. If people take an interest in the campaigns and donate _____, it will be of great help for tsunami victims.
- A) rarely
B) hardly
C) generously
D) nastily
22. In today's world, a lot of diseases _____ considered incurable in the past are treated successfully.
- A) formerly
B) skillfully
C) equally
D) readily
23. Some plant species _____ a warm and humid environment to grow well.
- A) require
B) represent
C) determine
D) stay
24. If a volcano is considered as active, it means that it may _____ at any time.
- A) erupt
B) reside
C) refer
D) acquire
25. About seventy per cent of Earth's surface is covered by water, which is _____ to life.
- A) accurate
B) essential
C) identical
D) reliable
26. I was nervous all day long, waiting _____ for the test results.
- A) anxiously
B) eagerly
C) truthfully
D) hurriedly
27. We have to do some research in order to _____ the possible factors that could affect the outcome of the project.
- A) determine
B) refuse
C) diminish
D) remain
28. I think my brother has _____ his friends badly and displayed selfishness for a long time.
- A) respected
B) treated
C) acted
D) protected

29. Color-blind people usually suffer from the inability to _____ between certain colors or shades of a color.
- A) deliver
 - B) differentiate
 - C) follow
 - D) pursue
30. Due to the continual noise from the street below, I couldn't _____ what I was reading.
- A) comprehend
 - B) bother
 - C) consider
 - D) calculate
31. I won't be able to buy a house as the prices have risen _____.
- A) classically
 - B) faintly
 - C) enormously
 - D) mainly
32. I want to _____ this heavy framed picture on the wall
- A) screw
 - B) tie
 - C) stick
 - D) hang
33. It's getting dark! _____ the light on, please
- A) Switch
 - B) Get
 - C) Nail
 - D) Fix
34. If you're going to carry that bottle of acid, make sure you _____ the lid on tightly.
- A) stick
 - B) screw
 - C) set
 - D) glue
35. Jenny is __, she can speak French and English fluently.
- A) linguist
 - B) bilingual
 - C) dialect
 - D) translator
36. The old _____ was built up on the hill which made it easier to defend if there was a war.
- A) chapel
 - B) church
 - C) castle
 - D) prison
37. I gave the shopkeeper five dollars for that pencil and she only gave me 20 cents _____.
- A) receipt
 - B) change
 - C) coins
 - D) rest
38. I am feeling really _____ today. The weather is terrible and I got some bad news this morning too!
- A) lazy
 - B) punctual
 - C) miserable
 - D) starving
39. I hope you have finished _____ your suitcases - the taxi has just arrived!
- A) making
 - B) having
 - C) packing
 - D) wrapping
40. If you were a more _____ person, you would not have left me waiting for you in the rain for an hour.
- A) polite
 - B) considerate
 - C) kind
 - D) humorous

No More Classes

The use of computers has meant students can study language programmes (41)..... their own speed when and for how long they want. What's more, in the virtual classrooms of the future the student will (42) on their headset, and be transported into an imaginary school, choose their class, take the books they need off the shelf and (43) conversations with other computerised students.

They might (44) choose to pay a visit to the supermarket or the train station, the bank or the restaurant. At the (45) of a button they would be transported to (46) realistic settings where they could practice their English, maybe getting a hand from a virtual English companion. All this perhaps, at the computer, from the comfort of their home: no (47) to catch the bus to college, or a plane to England.

Exciting? Certainly, and an interesting alternative to traditional classroom lessons. But would it ever (48) the classroom? Hopefully not. Surely the need to relate to real people talking about real issues and generally learning

a little more about others will always lead language learners to (49) at least a little of their time with real people.

41. A) with B) for C) at D) in
 42. A) place B) put C) set D) get
 43. A) take B) do C) catch D) hold
 44. A) although B) preferably C) instead D) contrary
 45. A) force B) hit C) depress D) push
 46. A) so B) such C) like D) alike
 47. A) role B) duty C) obligation D) need
 48. A) replace B) restore C) succeed D) recover
 49. A) spend B) make C) have D) do

The diseases connected to smoking are a big problem. Doctors think that the annual medical cost for lung cancer, heart disease, and other illnesses connected to smoking is between 12 and 35 million pounds.

And smoking costs society money in other ways. Between 27 and 61 billion pounds are spent each year on sick days when people don't go to work, on wages that you don't get when you don't go to work, and on work lost at the company when you are sick.

This money counts the wages from people who die of cancer at young age and stop paying taxes. This does not count fire started by cigarettes, which kill fifteen hundred people yearly and injure another four thousand. Smoking costs every man, woman and child in the UK from one hundred and ten to two hundred and fifty pounds each year in the lost work and wages. When you add another fifty to one hundred and fifty pounds yearly in insurance cost, that comes to one hundred and sixty to four hundred and ten pounds. If everyone stopped smoking, a family of four could have up to one thousand six hundred and forty pounds a year more.

Smoking will also cause other problems. People who don't smoke will live longer, and so they will take money from the government when they are old. But they will also work for more years and pay more taxes.

In the end, the value of a non-smoking nation is not in pounds. The good health of the people is the true value for us all.

50. If everyone stopped smoking, all the United Kingdom
 A) would have more money
 B) would live longer.
 C) would have less money.
 D) would have no more problems.

51. Every year companies lose _____ because of the disease.

- A) money
 B) work
 C) wages
 D) time

52. If everyone stopped smoking, a family of four could have _____ more each year.

- A) from 110 pounds to 260 pounds
 B) from 1,340 to 1,430 pounds
 C) from 160 pounds to 410 pounds
 D) 1,640 pounds

53. The true value for the UK of not smoking is _____.

- A) more working
 B) more taxes
 C) good health
 D) more money

54. This text is about _____.

- A) taxes which are not paid by smokers
 B) diseases that smokers get
 C) how much smoking costs the UK
 D) how much the UK get if everyone stopped smoking

The Nobel prizes, awarded annually for distinguished work in chemistry, physics, physiology or medicine, literature, and international peace, were made available by a fund bequeathed for that purpose by Swedish philanthropist, Alfred Bernhard Nobel.

The prizes, awarded since 1901, are administered by the Nobel Foundation in Stockholm. In 1969, a prize for economics endowed by the Central Bank of Sweden was added. Candidates for the prizes must be nominated in writing by a qualified authority in the field of competition. Candidates are judged by Swedish and Norwegian academies and institutes on the basis of their contribution to making. The awards are usually presented in Stockholm on December 10, with the king of Sweden officiating, an appropriate tribute to Alfred Nobel on the anniversary of his death. Each prize includes a gold medal, a diploma, and a cash award of about one million dollars.

55. A Nobel prize would not be given to

- A) an author who wrote a novel.
 B) a doctor who discovered a vaccine.
 C) a writer who plagiarized most of his works from the other writers.
 D) a diplomat who negotiated a piece settlement.

56. Why were the prizes named after Alfred Bernhard Nobel?
- He left money in his will to establish a fund for prizes.
 - He won the first Nobel prize for the prizes for his work in philanthropy.
 - He's now the first living in Sweden.
 - He serves as judge of the Nobel Foundation.
57. Why are the awards presented on December 10?
- Because it is a tribute to the king of Sweden.
 - Because Alfred Bernhard died on that day.
 - Because that day was suggested by Nobel's will.
 - Because the Central Bank of Sweden administers the trust.

Homeless People

The sad situation of the homeless remains a problem. It is difficult to estimate how many people are homeless because the number depends on how the homeless are defined. There are street people - those who sleep in bus stations, parks, and other areas. Many of these people are youthful runaways. There are the so-called sheltered homeless - those who sleep in government supported or privately funded shelters. Many of these individuals used to live with their families or friends. While street people are almost always single, the sheltered homeless include numerous families with children. Conservatives argue that many homeless are alcoholics, drug users, or mentally ill. In contrast, many liberals argue that homelessness is caused by a reduction in welfare benefits and by excessively priced housing. They want more shelters to be built for the homeless.

58. We can understand from the reading that the number of homeless people _____.
- is not so great as many people think
 - is on the increase in many countries
 - is counted annually
 - is difficult to know
59. According to the passage, liberals _____.
- think that the problem of homelessness cannot be solved
 - want more shelters for the homeless
 - are of the opinion that most homeless people are mentally ill
 - want the government to ban sleeping on park benches

60. It is clearly stated in the reading that the sheltered homeless _____.
- are mostly youthful runaways
 - sleep in parks or in bus stations
 - can have families with children
 - are generally drug users and alcoholics

Questions 61-65. Read the dialogues and choose the most appropriate options to complete the dialogues.

61.

Nina : _____

Mark : That's because they never stop criticizing me.

Nina : Why don't you try telling them how you feel about it?

Mark : Do you think I haven't? They just don't care about how I feel.

- Why are you always complaining about your parents?
- What's the reason for her aggressive behavior?
- What makes you think that the exam questions will be difficult?
- Are your parents aware of the problems you are going through?

62.

Peter : _____

Andrew : No, I'm okay. I can wait until the end of the meeting.

Peter : I don't think so. You can't keep your eyes open.

Andrew : I guess you're right. I'll see you tomorrow.

- Are you feeling better today than yesterday?
- Is it possible for you to wait for the end of the meeting?
- You had better go home and take a rest.
- Do you mind if I ask you a personal question?

63.

Penny : _____

Dana : But it's not enough if you want to lose weight.

Penny : I know, but it's only a beginning.

Dana : Sure, it's better than doing nothing.

- The dietician said I need to lose ten pounds.
- I've decided not to go to the gym anymore.
- I've stopped eating bread.
- The new chef is really good at making snacks.

64.

Sandra : _____George : Then you should start wearing glasses.Sandra : I already have contact lenses, but still I can't see clearly.George : It's time you changed them, then.

- A) When did you last go to an eye doctor?
- B) Should I tell my grandmother to see an optician?
- C) I can't see the sentences on the board.
- D) Are you able to see better now?

65.

Chris : Shall we leave the car here and walk?Nick : I don't think we should, because the bank is almost five hundred meters from here.Chris : _____Nick : I don't care. I can't walk up to the bank in this weather.

- A) It may take more than an hour to walk to the bank.
- B) They've decided to open a new branch near here?
- C) Normally, I walked to school from home.
- D) But it's very difficult to find a parking place near the bank

Questions 66-70. Find the sentence that is closest in meaning to the one given for each question.

66. She realized the danger she had been in only after she had read the newspaper the following morning.

- A) Although she was aware of the danger, she didn't get frightened.
- B) She realized what kind of dangers one might have had when he was reading a paper.
- C) When she read the newspaper, she found herself in a danger she had already realized.
- D) She was lucky that she had survived the danger as the papers expressed.

67. I have persuaded Tom to become the new secretary of the club.

- A) I am considering Tom for the job of secretary.
- B) I asked Tom to be the secretary of the club and Tom agreed.
- C) Tom is wondering whether to accept to be the secretary.
- D) I offered Tom to take the job but he didn't accept it.

68. We won't be getting married until we have had enough money.

- A) We will marry when we have had enough money.
- B) We won't be married although we have enough money.
- C) We won't marry even when we have had enough money.
- D) We will get married because we have enough money.

69. The twins resemble each other so much that I can never tell which is which.

- A) Although the twins do not look like each other I cannot name them easily.
- B) I cannot tell the twins apart because I don't know them well enough.
- C) It is impossible for me to identify the twins because they look very much like one another.
- D) The twins are similar to each other but I can easily name them.

70. I can't stand his talking foolishly when everybody talks about something in a serious way.

- A) I can't understand him when he talks foolishly.
- B) Everybody talks seriously when he talks foolishly.
- C) I hate him talking foolishly when people talk seriously.
- D) I don't mind his talking foolishly when everybody talks seriously.

Questions 71-75. Identify the irrelevant sentences in paragraphs.

71. Socializing Dogs

(I) The term socialization of dogs is used to describe how a dog learns to relate to people and other dogs. (II) This process begins even before the puppy's eyes are open. (III) Once the dog starts biting, it is very difficult to overcome. (IV) For most puppies, a mother who interacts well with humans is the best teacher.

- A) I
- B) II
- C) III
- D) IV

72. China Development

For centuries China stood as a leading civilization in the arts and sciences. (II) However, in the early 20th century, the country was beset by civil unrest, famines and military defeats. (III) As a result, an autocratic socialist system was established. (IV) It has the manpower to build and possess the largest economy in the world.

- A) I
- B) II
- C) III
- D) IV

73. Apples

(I) There is an old saying, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away and helps losing weight." (II) In fact, studies have shown that a number of components in apples help the body to fight many diseases. (III) Apples are also a source of dietary fiber which helps digestion and promotes weight loss. (IV) Blackberries and apples are a traditional duo for pies.

- A) I B) II C) III D) IV

74. Ants

(I) Like many insects, ants have six legs. (II) An ant colony consists of the queen ant, workers, soldiers and males. (III) They are very strong so they can run very quickly. (IV) If a man could run as fast for his size as an ant can, he could run as fast as a racehorse.

- A) I B) II C) III D) IV

75. Practice of Medicine

(I) Rainforests are extremely important in the ecology of the Earth. (II) They cover about 7% of the Earth's surface and are havens for millions of plants and animals. (III) The plants of the rainforests generate much of the Earth's oxygen and remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. (IV) There are many types of tropical rainforests in the world.

- A) I B) II C) III D) IV

Questions 76-80. Complete the sentences with the most appropriate options.

76. _____ that nobody wanted to purchase it.

- A) It was such a well-designed car
B) The necklace at the auction was so enchanting
C) The exam that I took yesterday was very difficult
D) The house was so deteriorated from lack of maintenance

77. _____ but it causes to premature aging as well.

- A) Wearing make up all the time can make you seem pleasant
B) Drinking large amounts of alcohol or taking excessive drugs may take you to death
C) High blood pressure may cause hair loss in some people
D) Overexposure to the sun while sunbathing not only results in sunburns

78. Students who have missed exams _____.

- A) although they had studied for them a lot
B) will have to take it again unfortunately
C) have to hand in a document confirming their excuses
D) were allowed to take a comprehensive makeup

79. You had better take your mobile phone with you _____.

- A) so that you can lose it
B) because I will not be at home during the whole day
C) If you had wanted to go abroad
D) in case you may not find one when you are in need of it

80. Despite the fact that the Constitution guarantees citizens the right to practice the religion of their choice, _____.

- A) police often are too slow to save members of religious minorities who are victims of crimes
B) that the government is not good at dealing with problems
C) in some countries, governments have laws or policies to discourage religious discrimination
D) most of the members of ethnic minorities are grateful for it