

Choose the best answer. Blacken the appropriate space on your computer card with a 2B pencil for each question to indicate your choice.

I. Pronunciation, Vocabulary, and Grammar (60%)

1. "Closing time!" The underlined s is pronounced the same as that of (A) close to you (B) insurance (C) quite (D) lose
2. Which word stress does not fall on the same syllable as the other three? (Ex. relax and relieve both have stress on the second syllable) (A) industry (B) maintenance (C) diploma (D) diplomat
3. Which underlined part is *not* silent? (A) receipt (B) debris (C) draught (D) drought
4. Which underlined part is pronounced the same as that of doubt? (A) double (B) southern (C) bounce (D) thought
5. Which underlined t is pronounced differently from that of ritual? (A) rite (B) titular (C) habitual (D) literature
6. After succeeding ____ assassinating the reigning monarch, the general succeeded ____ the throne. (A) at/ in (B) in/for (C) on/at (D) in/to
7. Finding that the joke was told ____ his expense, the good-natured Joe sighed, "Guess the joke is ____ me again!" (A) at/on (B) for/ at (C) about/ for (D) in/ about
8. Pick the correct answer. The screening committee _____ five experts specializing in the field. (A) is consisted of (B) is composed of (C) is made up with (D) comprises with
9. Peter wants to train as an architect, and the last thing you'd recommend he study should be (A) design (B) civil engineering (C) genetics (D) aesthetics
10. Which is the least likely to be popular with most students? (A) fitness facilities (B) free library access (C) tuition waiver (D) raised required credits
11. The computer ____ as a result of an invading virus. (A) hanged (B) downed (C) crushed (D) crashed
12. An audiophile loves state-of-the-art stereo sounds while a bibliophile loves high-quality (A) records (B) books (C) libraries (D) restaurants
13. In _____, the teacher's admonitions did the students more good than harm. (A) retrospect (B) aspect (C) prospect (D) spectacle
14. Which phenomenon is not usually found to be on the rise in an industrially advanced country? (A) infant mortality rate (B) divorce rate (C) commodity consumption (D) urbanization
15. The stock market has been _____, showing signs of economic revival. (A) soaring (B) plunging (C) plummeting (D) diving
16. The new device is easy to handle as long as you follow the instructions _____. (A) to a fault (B) to the letter (C) into the bargain (D) beside the point
17. _____ by the honest appearance of the salesman, the old lady bought a counterfeit gold coin. (A) Perceived (B) Received (C) Conceived (D) Deceived
18. If history is any _____, every conquest of the tenacious city is bound to be temporary. (A) implication (B) complication (C) indication (D) identification
19. Pick the wrong answer. The plan of constructing a chemical plant has run aground because the local residents ____ the project. (A) are objected (B) are opposed to (C) oppose (D) disapprove of

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20. The assembly line has come to a standstill since the strike and production has been postponed (A) definitively (B) indefinitely (C) decisively (D) decidedly
21. Which is not considered a superior characteristic of good writing? (A) precision (B) concision (C) insight (D) redundancy
22. Despite the resounding triumph of the sports team, the quarterback was not happy because his crucial contributions _____. (A) went unacknowledged (B) were recognized in public (C) went unconfirmed (D) were given due credit
23. The jaw-dropping moves of the acrobat _____ are worth the admission fee of the circus ticket. (A) alone (B) only (C) merely (D) solely
24. The paper of the graduate student has been accepted by the journal and she is required by the executive editor to write a/an _____ summing up her work. (A) extract (B) excerpt (C) abstract (D) summary
25. The mourners paying respect to the dead in a funeral usually greet the family of the deceased by saying, "My _____." (A) apologies (B) comfort (C) consolation (D) condolences
26. Jenny is eager to go to the Pissarro _____ in order to learn more about Impressionist art. (A) fair (B) exhibition (C) exposition (D) display
27. The strategic position of the Pacific _____ assumes increasing importance as the economy in the region continues to boom. (A) Rim (B) Edge (C) Margin (D) Brim
28. The _____-view mirror has misted over as the heavy fog rose, greatly reducing visibility on the highway (A) behind (B) after (C) rear (D) back
29. The prodigy is generally acknowledged to be a _____ genius, being able to perform Paganini brilliantly at the tender age of five. (A) overripe (B) premature (C) precocious (D) overcooked
30. Select the least proper answer. Much to his _____, Henry overslept and missed the appointment of the job interview. (A) dismay (B) disappointment (C) disillusionment (D) chagrin

II. Fill in the Blanks and Answer the Question 22%: Read the following modified excerpts from an editorial entitled "Checkbook Diplomacy: Account Overdrawn," and choose the best answer to complete the blanks. (question 31-41)

President Chen Shui-bian's recent visit to Central America was trouble-ridden from beginning 'til end. His "____31____ diplomacy" was doomed from the start. It threw dollar bills at everyone but got nothing in return not even ____32____ gestures. Even upon ____33____, all Chen discussed with the media was ____34____ affairs. As usual, he came out guns blazing, firing in all directions. No surprises there.

Ever since ____35____ the office of president, Chen Shui-bian has wanted nothing more than to conduct ____36____ visits. Particularly to Central American allies whose geographical location provide him with an excuse to stop over in the US.

Chen Shui-bian has repeatedly abused Washington's goodwill, by using his stopovers through the US to consolidate popular support for his own presidency. Now an ____37____ Washington is using lowered levels of treatment to punish him. Many things in life have an odd ____38____ to them. If you exploit ____31____ (don't answer twice!)_ diplomacy to ____39____ your status, you provide others a means to ____40____ your status. They can pull the red carpet from under you and let you take a tumble.

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31. (A) transfer (B) transition (C) transit (D) stoppage
32. (A) signal (B) symbolic (C) signature (D) signing
33. (A) flight (B) arrival (C) departure (D) the ground
34. (A) domestic (B) overseas (C) foreign (D) interior
35. (A) becoming (B) entering (C) assuming (D) posting
36. (A) national (B) state (C) country (D) international
37. (A) anger (B) offensive (C) offended (D) affordable
38. (A) symmetry (B) geometry (C) geomancy (D) couple
39. (choose the wrong term) (A) raise (B) elevate (C) lift (D) expand
40. (choose the wrong term) (A) lower (B) diminish (C) maximize (D) minimize
41. What would happen to the cashed check if your bank account is overdrawn? It would (A) jump (B) leap (C) bounce (D) skip

III. Reading Comprehension 18%

(I)(question 42-46)

India, Pakistan, and China are not the only countries touchy about how their borders are shown in maps. Mighty United States, world's only superpower and all of 232 years old, is in lather over an ad showing several American states folded (back) into Mexico. The ad campaign in Mexico by Swedish vodka maker Absolut depicted large parts of the US South West, including California, Texas, Arizona, Nevada and New Mexico, in Mexican colours, reducing the US to a rump state almost half its current size. The redrawn map, which promoted "ideal scenarios" under the slogan "In an Absolut World," was seen as a throwback to the 1830s when the states did belong to Mexico. That was before they were conquered by the US in the 1848 Mexican-American war. Absolut's marketing campaigns play on their brand by equating it to perfect. In this case, the ad was evidently intended to __1__ a time when Mexicans controlled their original territory. But Americans less familiar with history or more tuned to modern borders raised absolute hell, with some of them threatening to boycott the Swedish vodka. More than 60 per cent of readers in one online poll said they would boycott the drink.

42. Choose the wrong usage.

China, India, and America grow touchy concerning border issues, which means they become easily ____ about it. (A) irritable (B) annoyed (C) oversensitive (D) amiable

43. Select the correct statement.

- (A) Absolut is owned by Switzerland.
- (B) Absolut is famous for their election campaign.
- (C) Boycotting Absolut means that some Americans would refuse to purchase their alcoholic drink.
- (D) According to the survey, most American cyber users endorse the Absolut brand regardless of the uproar.

44. Based on the passage above, pick the correct description

- (A) The U.S. was founded in the 17th century.
- (B) According to the ad map, the American territory was greatly aggrandized.
- (C) Mexico ceded an enormous portion of its territory in the mid-nineteenth century.
- (D) Some modern Americans absolutely grew up in hell.

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45. Pick the verb that best fits blank 1.

(A) evoke (B) invoke (C) provoke (D) revoke

46. Which state did not belong to Mexican sovereignty in the first two decades of the nineteenth century? (A)

California (B) Oregon (C) Arizona (D) Texas

(II)(47-50)

The largest generation of young people since the '60s is beginning to come of age. They're called "echo boomers" because they're the genetic offspring and demographic echo of their parents, the baby boomers. Born between 1982 and 1995, there are nearly 80 million of them, and they're already having a huge impact on entire segments of the economy. And as the population ages, they will become the next dominant generation of Americans. The oldest are barely out of college, and the youngest are still in grade school. And whether you call them "echo boomers," "Generation Y" or "millennials," they already make up nearly a third of the U.S. population, and already spend \$170 billion a year of their own and their parents' money. Almost none of it is spent on boring things like mortgages and medication, and the world is falling all over itself trying to sell them things. Echo boomers are a reflection of the sweeping changes in American life over the past 20 years. They are the first to grow up with computers at home, in a 500-channel TV universe. They are multi-taskers with cell phones, music downloads, and Instant Messaging on the Internet. They are totally plugged-in citizens of a worldwide community.

47. The largest young generation in the '60s in the US is generally known as (A) the baby boomers (B) the echo boomers (C) the hippies (D) the lost generation

48. Select the false description about the echo boomers.

(A) sons and daughters of the generation born after the Second World War

(B) use digital products frequently

(C) born when the millennium just passed

(D) never before was there a generation growing up learning computers

49. They are "barely out of college" means that they (A) don't go to college (B) have trouble graduating from college (C) become bare once out of college (D) currently study as undergraduates

50. What do the echo boomers spend most of their money on? (A) housing (B) consumer products (C) hospital bills (D) lawsuit

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