11TH CANTONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPETITION
Secondary Schools

Sarajevo, 16 May 2013

Code: ___________

INSTRUCTIONS

The test has three sections:
- Reading - 10 questions (10 points)
- Vocabulary - 30 questions (30 points)
- Grammar - 60 questions (60 points)

TOTAL: 100 questions (100 points)

♥ The time allowed: 100 minutes
♥ Read the questions carefully
♥ Answer the questions on the Answer Sheet
♥ Do not write anything on the Test set
♥ For each question choose only one answer (the best alternative)
♥ Do the Answer Sheet as in the example below:

Example: We __________ a test now.
A do  B have done  C are doing  D to do

1. @B C D
2. @B C D
3. @B C D
READING COMPREHENSION

In the following text you are going to read a story about how a man rediscovered books after ten years of ignoring them completely. Read the questions carefully and for each question choose the most suitable answer.

Ten years without books

As I write this, I have half an eye on an old James Bond film that is showing on my computer. But this is a story about how I stopped watching TV and began reading again for pleasure, after ten years in which I hardly turned a page.

I suppose I was an avid reader of "literature" between the ages of nine and fourteen. I had enough time to be White Fang, Robinson Crusoe, and Bilbo Baggins and Jeeves. Of course there was room in the schoolboy's imagination for some real historical figures: Scott of the Antarctic, all of the Vikings, and Benjamin Franklin were good friends of mine.

Then, in adolescence, I began a long search for strange and radical ideas. I wanted to challenge my elders and betters, and stir up my peers with amazing points of view. Of course, the only place to look was in books. I hunted out the longest titles and the authors with the funniest names, I scoured the library for completely unread books. Then I found one which became my bible for the whole of 1982, it had a title composed of eleven long words and an author whose name I didn't know how to pronounce. It was really thick and looked dead serious. Even better, it put forward a whole world-view that would take days to explain. Perfect. I took it out of the library three times, proud to see the date-stamps lined up on the empty library insert.

Later, I went to university. Expecting to spend long evenings in learned discussion with clever people, I started reading philosophy. For some reason I never found the deep-thinking intellectuals I hoped to meet. Anyway, I was ready to impress with my profound knowledge of post-structuralism, existentialism and situationism. These things are usually explained in rather short books, but they take a long time to get through. They were the end of my youthful reading.

Working life was hard to get used to after so much theory. It was the end of books for me. There didn't seem to be much in books that would actually get things done. To do things you had to answer the telephone and work a computer. You had to travel about and speak to people who weren't at all interested in philosophy. I didn't stop reading, you can't avoid that. I read all day. But no books came my way, only manuals and pamphlets and contracts and documents. Maybe most people satisfy their need for stories and ideas with TV and, to tell the truth, it was all I needed for ten years. In those days I only had a book "on the go" for the duration of aeroplane flights. At first I would come home and watch TV over dinner. Then, I moved the TV so I could watch it from bed. I even rigged up a switch so I could turn it off without getting out of bed. Then, one fateful day, my TV broke and my landlady took it away.

My new TV is an extra circuit board inside my computer. It's on a desk in front of a working chair and I can't see it from the bed. I still use it for the weather forecasts and it's nice to have it on while I'm typing this… but what to do last thing at night? Well, have another go with books.

Now, I just like books. I have a pile of nice ones by my bed and I'm reading about six simultaneously. I don't want to BE any of the characters. I don't care if a thousand people have already read them. I don't have to search through libraries. There are books everywhere and all of them have something to read in them. I have the strange feeling that they've been there all along, waiting for me to pick them up.
Questions 1-6: choose the answer which you think is the best (a, b, c or d).

1. The author probably read "Where the Wasteland Ends: Politics and Transcendence in Post-Industrial Society":

2. When he was a boy, the author:
   a) avoided books  c) preferred videos to books
   b) looked at books but didn’t read them  d) read enthusiastically

3. Students at university used to spend the evenings:
   a) discussing philosophy  c) thinking deeply
   b) reading short books  d) the author doesn’t say

4. At work, the author:
   a) didn't have to read  c) didn’t have to read manuals and pamphlets
   b) didn’t have to read books  d) didn’t have to read contracts and documents

5. The author:
   a) hardly read a book for ten years  c) hasn’t read a book for ten years
   b) doesn’t read books  d) didn’t read a book for ten years

6. Now the author:
   a) doesn't have a TV  c) has a computer with a TV inside it
   b) has a TV next to his bed  d) has a computer instead of a TV

Questions 7-10: choose the best alternative (a, b, c, or d) for words printed in bold.

7. I scoured the library for completely unread books.
   a) polished  b) searched  c) found  d) discovered

8. I suppose I was an avid reader of "literature" between the ages of nine and fourteen.
   a) lazy  b) average  c) eager  d) excellent

9. I even rigged up a switch so I could turn it off without getting out of bed.
   a) fixed in  b) cleaned up  c) turned on  d) put out

10. Of course there was room in the schoolboy's imagination for some real historical figures:
    a) famous statues in history  c) famous events in history
    b) famous characters in history novels  d) famous people in history

This is the end of Reading Section.

Now do the next section. ➤➤➤
VOCABULARY SECTION

Read the sentences and choose the word or phrase that completes each sentence the best.

1. I managed to catch a __________ of his wife as she got out of the car.
   a) glimpse  b) glance  c) peep  d) sight

2. It was very __________ of you to start your own business.
   a) enterprising  b) undertaking  c) initiative  d) common

3. Harry is completely unsuited for his job. He's what you might call _______ peg in a round hole.
   a) a triangular  b) an oval  c) a square  d) a badly shaped

4. This meat stinks. It is not _______ to eat.
   a) sound  b) well  c) fit  d) properly

5. He'll be back again ____________.
   a) before long  b) within soon  c) after now  d) in a near time

6. For a moment it was difficult to see through __________ of the headlights.
   a) shimmer  b) glare  c) glow  d) glaze

7. He's a __________ author. He writes three books every year.
   a) plentiful  b) prolific  c) abundant  d) generous

8. He's forever complaining about one thing or another. He's a real __________ in the neck.
   a) twist  b) ache  c) pain  d) itch

9. I know this part of Tuscany like the ____________.
   a) back of my hand  b) skin of my teeth  c) hair on my head  d) nose on your face

10. That was the boss's husband you just insulted. You've really __________ this time.
    a) kicked the bucket  b) put your foot in it  c) gone to the dogs  d) made a mountain out of a molehill

11. Don't trust him. He's __________ dishonest.
    a) perfect  b) utterly  c) purely  d) exactly

12. - At the start of a game, how do they decide who should go first?
    - They __________ a coin.
      a) pitch  b) cast  c) throw  d) toss

13. He didn't speak a word of French when he first moved to France. He had to pick up the language from __________.
    a) scratch  b) start  c) nought  d) nil

14. After travelling all day, he was completely _____________.
    a) done in  b) done up  c) broken up  d) used up

15. The strong smell of garlic seemed to _____________ the whole flat.
    a) pierce  b) penetrate  c) inhabit  d) pervade
16. I'm not quite sure I understand completely. Could you be a bit more ______?  
a) explicit   b) punctilious   c) distinct   d) explanatory

17. I can never look down from a high building; I suffer from _______.  
a) amnesia   b) hypertension   c) vertigo   d) egomania

18. The travel agency sent us a detailed ________ of our journey to India.  
a) docket   b) agenda   c) itinerary   d) documentation

19. Since our train leaves at 10.30, it is _______ that everyone is at the station no later than 10.15.  
a) imperative   b) urgent   c) desire   d) inescapable

20. Yes, the script was excellent, but the performances were _______ weak.  
a) completely   b) extremely   c) utterly   d) absolutely

21. To what do you ________ your long life, old man?  
a) prescribe   b) attribute   c) explain   d) account

22. Sometimes it's better not to be noticed, so my advice to you is not to stick your ________ out.  
a) neck   b) finger   c) nose   d) arm

23. You might miss your car if you sold it, but you'd be better off without it in the long ______.  
a) time   b) view   c) run   d) reach

24. This pass will ________ you to go anywhere.  
a) determine   b) enable   c) accept   d) approve

25. The robbery took place in a ________ daylight.  
a) bare   b) strong   c) open   d) broad

26. I strongly resent the implication that I am lying. Please ________ your last statement.  
a) recall   b) withdraw   c) remove   d) forswear

27. My mother ________ me not to speak to strange men.  
a) deterred   b) prevented   c) warned   d) foretold

28. I feel terrible. I didn't sleep ______ last night.  
a) an eye   b) a wink   c) a jot   d) an inch

29. You've had a ________ escape. I thought you'd never get away from him. 
   a) near   b) narrow   c) short   d) close

30. Father left us all a little bit of money in his will, but the ________ of his estate went to mother.  
a) vested interest   b) square deal   c) pride and joy   d) lion's share

This is the end of Vocabulary Section.

Now do the next section.  >>>>
GRAMMAR SECTION

Read the sentences carefully and choose the correct answer.

1. Ruthless poachers hunt _______________ elephant for the valuable ivory of its tusks.
   a) the  b) a  c) an  d) –

2. Next week I’ll be reviewing a stunning new film. __________ film stars Michael Douglas and is directed by Curtis Hanson.
   a) A  b) The  c) An  d) -

3. My parents grew up in the 1950s. In __________ days there was far less freedom than there is now.
   a) the  b) -  c) those  d) these

4. The Mayor of Paris __________ attend the service tomorrow before leaving the city.
   a) is about to  b) is to  c) is on the point of  d) can

5. These pills are __________ with any other medicine.
   a) not to be taken  b) taken  c) not take  d) due to be taken

6. The timetable __________ be published on 1st May.
   a) is due to  b) is about to  c) is on the point of  d) wants

7. The animal spun round suddenly and hissed violently __________ me.
   a) to  b) by  c) at  d) on

8. Is the rank of sergeant __________ the rank of corporal in the British army?
   a) underneath  b) behind  c) on  d) below

9. The walking tour will be leaving promptly __________ time in order to cover the itinerary.
   a) on  b) in  c) at  d) up

10. Despite __________ no rain for weeks, the garden appears to be flourishing.
    a) have  b) that we have had  c) having  d) to have

11. I will do my work as soon as I __________ my tea.
    a) will have finished  b) will finish  c) will be finishing  d) finish

12. Just think, this time tomorrow we __________ our English exam and will still have another hour to go.
    a) will have written  b) will be writing  c) will write  d) are writing

13. Could you tell me what __________?
    a) does it say  b) is saying  c) it says  d) is it saying

14. When I was young, we __________ often go to the mountains.
    a) would  b) did  c) use  d) use to

15. Don’t bother to call him. He __________.
    a) isn’t answering  b) won’t answer  c) wouldn’t answer  d) wasn’t answering

16. I’d prefer __________ go until I’ve eaten.
    a) don’t  b) not  c) didn’t  d) not to
17. I’d rather he __________ English.
   a) studied  b) study  c) studying  d) studies

18. __________ we are careful, we sometimes make mistakes.
   a) However   b) Although   c) In spite of   d) Nevertheless

19. The room was empty but I could smell cigarettes. Somebody __________ there.
   a) had smoked  b) was smoking  c) had been smoking  d) smoked

20. __________ to work, I saw an accident.
   a) Having walked  b) Walk  c) Walking  d) To walk

21. And now for this evening’s main headline: Britain __________ another Olympic gold medal!
   a) had won  b) wins  c) won  d) has won

22. He __________ the stolen cigarettes onto the back of the lorry when the police arrived.
   a) loaded  b) was loading  c) did load  d) loading

23. Anne had to pay for everything because, as usual, Peter __________ his wallet at home.
   a) had left  b) left  c) was leaving  d) leaves

24. Someone __________ my special sports drink that I bought this morning! The bottle’s half empty!
   a) has been drinking  b) drinks  c) is drinking  d) had drunk

25. ‘Mark and Penny broke up last month.’ ‘Oh no! They __________ out together for years.’
   a) have gone  b) had gone  c) had been going  d) are going

26. We’re late. By the time we get to the cinema, the film __________.
   a) will have started  b) has started  c) will start  d) will have been starting

27. If we __________ world poverty, the richer countries will need to make sacrifices.
   a) are end  b) will end  c) are ending  d) are to end

28. Frank __________ promoted soon. After all, his mother is chief executive.
   a) is bounding to get  b) is bound to get  c) is meaning to get  d) bounds

29. ‘Are you OK? You look really pale.’ ‘I need the bathroom. I think I __________ sick.’
   a) am to be  b) will be  c) shall be  d) am going to be

30. ‘When are you leaving for the airport?’ ‘Well, my flight __________ at six thirty.’
   a) is going to leave  b) leaves  c) is leaving  d) will leave

31. Fortunately, the fire fighters __________ put the fire out before it caused too much damage.
   a) were able to  b) can  c) are able to  d) could

32. Two men tried to sell a painting that __________.
   a) had been stolen  b) has stolen  c) was being stolen  d) had stolen
33. Mary isn’t home yet. She ______ late at the office again.
   a) must have had to work  
   b) must have got to work  
   c) must’ve to work  
   d) must have working

34. I remember __________ to the circus by my grandfather when I was a child.
   a) having taken  
   b) to be taken  
   c) being taken  
   d) was taken

35. The accident is thought ______ by leaves on the railway line.
   a) to have caused  
   b) to have been caused  
   c) to have been causing  
   d) to cause

36. ‘Have you heard? Sandra sold her flat and bought a houseboat.’
   a) She did what?  
   b) What she did?  
   c) Did she what?  
   d) She what did?

37. The detective in charge of the investigation asked __________.
   a) the two witnesses their names  
   b) their names the two witnesses  
   c) the two witnesses of their names  
   d) to the two witnesses their name

38. I really object __________ in rooms where other people have to eat.
   a) people smoking  
   b) to people smoke  
   c) people to smoke  
   d) to people smoking

39. Chris told Liz that he had a good job with a big salary, but he __________
   a) hadn’t  
   b) wasn’t  
   c) didn’t  
   d) hadn’t got

40. These clothes were expected __________ by people under twenty only.
   a) to wear  
   b) to be worn  
   c) to be wearing  
   d) to have worn

41. Nutrition experts advise __________ too many refined foods.
   a) us not to eat  
   b) us that we don’t eat  
   c) us not eating  
   d) not to eat

42. By the end of the conference, there was still no real agreement __________ the primary cause of the disaster was.
   a) what  
   b) what as  
   c) as  
   d) as to what

43. The personnel consultant recommended that managers __________ apart from other staff during lunch.
   a) not to sit  
   b) are not sitting  
   c) not sit  
   d) not sitting

44. The Prime Minister was asked what __________ to do about inner city crime.
   a) he intended  
   b) intended he  
   c) did he intend  
   d) he did intend

45. There __________ anyone here. No one knows about it.
   a) mustn’t be  
   b) can’t be  
   c) won’t have been  
   d) couldn’t have been

46. Every man, woman and child on the island ______ the effects of the fuel shortage.
   a) has suffered  
   b) have suffered  
   c) had been suffer  
   d) suffering

47. The only witnesses to the accident were two __________.
   a) passer-byes  
   b) passers-by  
   c) passers by  
   d) pass by

48. No Horizon __________ directed by __________ Steve Caplan, only two years before his death.
   a) late  
   b) a late  
   c) the late  
   d) of late
49. ‘Sorry, do you spell your surname with _______ ‘s’ or two?’ ‘Two.’
   a) single  b) a  c) an  d) one

50. Nowadays, ________ are much better behaved than their parents were at the same age, don’t you think?
   a) teenagers  b) the teenagers  c) a teenager  d) an teenager

51. I’m not fussy. I’ll eat ________ kind of fruit or vegetable.
   a) some  b) any  c) all  d) none

52. _______ twenty per cent of natural gas used to heat homes in the UK comes from the North Sea.
   a) Few of  b) Lesser than  c) Fewer than  d) Less than

53. See the woman over there by the window? Isn’t she the one ______ won the lottery last week?
   a) which  b) whom  c) that  d) what

54. The Transport Minister, ________ department the email was apparently sent, has denied all knowledge of a cover-up.
   a) from whose  b) whose  c) from his  d) which

55. Detective Chief Inspector Chambers, ________ the laptop was stolen, has posted a £10,000 reward.
   a) from which  b) from who  c) from whom  d) who

56. If I hadn’t become a journalist, I ________ here now.
   a) wasn’t  b) hadn’t been  c) wouldn’t be  d) wouldn’t have been

57. When the robber ordered the hostages to lie face down on the ground, they ________ without argument.
   a) did such  b) did so  c) so did  d) has done

58. If I didn’t like you, I ________ to your party last week.
   a) hadn’t gone  b) haven’t gone  c) wouldn’t go  d) wouldn’t have gone

59. It was ________ solution to the problem that the audience cheered loudly.
   a) a such a sensible  b) so a sensible  c) a so sensible  d) such a sensible

60. Is Ben OK? He was behaving ________.
   a) very strangely in the canteen this morning  c) in the canteen this morning very strangely
   b) this morning in the canteen very strangely  d) in the canteen very strangely this morning

This is the end of the test.

Good luck!

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