GENERAL DIRECTIONS

Please read the following instructions carefully. This is a timed test; any instructions from the test supervisor should be followed promptly.

The test supervisor will give instructions for filling in any necessary information on the answer sheet. Most Academic Challenge sites will ask you to indicate your answer to each question by marking an oval that corresponds to the correct answer for that question. Only one oval should be marked to answer each question. Multiple ovals will automatically be graded as incorrect answers.

Be sure ovals are marked as ●, not ○, □, △, etc.

If you wish to change an answer, erase your first mark completely before marking your new choice.

You are advised to use your time effectively and to work as rapidly as you can without losing accuracy. Do not waste your time on questions that seem too difficult for you. Go on to the other questions, and then come back to the difficult ones later if time remains.

*** TIME: 40 MINUTES ***

DO NOT OPEN TEST BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO!
Choose the standard spelling for each word in items 1 – 10.

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Select the answer that best fits the meaning of the word in boldface type.

11. We enjoyed the display of **pyrotechnics**.
   a. The fireworks were terrific.
   b. The acrobats were amazing.
   c. The light show was spectacular.
   d. The magician’s sleight of hand kept us fooled.

12. The witness should have **recused** himself.
   a. He should have excused himself from the room.
   b. He should have disqualified himself from serving.
   c. He should have offered his credentials to the judge.
   d. He should have explained his connection to the defendant.

13. Gossip says she is **enceinte**.
   a. They say she’s engaged.
   b. They say she is already married.
   c. They say she is pregnant.
   d. They say she’s been using drugs.

14. We were not taken in by his **cant**.
   a. He seemed too insincere and hypocritical for us to accept what he said.
   b. He seemed too boastful for us to accept what he said.
   c. He seemed too lacking in knowledge for us to accept what he said.
   d. He seemed too preachy for us to accept what he said.

15. He kept the **billet-doux** in a special box.
   a. He wanted to be sure the ammunition was in a safe place.
   b. He treasured these small objects.
   c. He would need these receipts when he paid his taxes.
   d. He thought these love letters were very special.

16. We did not want to hear his **spiel**.
   a. We knew that he was insufferably boring.
   b. We knew he wouldn’t stop trying to convince us to buy the gadget.
   c. We did not want to listen to a message that had so much hatred.
   d. We could not bear any more of his egotism.

17. Dr. Phillips suggested that we read the **abstruse** essay very carefully.
   a. It contained a lot of symbolism.
   b. Its vocabulary was inflated.
   c. It dealt with scientific theories that we might not be familiar with.
   d. It would not be easy to understand.

18. Lyle is simply a **nebbish**.
   a. His wealth of knowledge is impressive.
   b. He is just a pushover.
   c. He loves to snack.
   d. He enjoys watching the girls as they walk by.

19. Aaron is a **tin god**.
   a. All the girls think he is terribly handsome.
   b. His worshippers think he can do no wrong.
   c. The boss has given him too much authority.
   d. He has no power, but he certainly acts as though he does.

20. The two characters hurled **maledictions** at each other.
   a. They made insult after insult.
   b. Each offered the other insincere praise.
   c. They threw spitballs at each other.
   d. They glared at each other.
21. I enjoy reading *picaresque* novels.
   a. I think an interesting setting makes the novel a better read.
   b. I like a heroic character who faces difficulty with strength of mind.
   c. I like it when the main character is just a bit of a rascal who faces difficulty with strength of mind.
   d. I like plots that have many twists and turns.

22. Mary’s reasons for supporting the candidate seemed *tenable*.
   a. They were based on her long acquaintance with him.
   b. She should be able to defend her position quite well.
   c. Her reasoning was a bit shaky.
   d. She was being guided by her emotions.

23. Did the uniform include *epaulets*?
   a. Did it have brass buttons?
   b. Did it have a cap?
   c. Did it have pieces to be placed on the shoulders?
   d. Did it have medals that indicated rank and various awards?

24. We almost succumbed to the *casuistry* of Daniel’s argument.
   a. His points were very subtle, but they were in the end misleading.
   b. His voice was so forceful, we thought he might actually know what he was talking about.
   c. He presented only one side of the story.
   d. What he said had strong emotional impact.

25. That pundit always makes *piquant* commentary.
   a. He has a unique way of phrasing his thoughts.
   b. He is an emotionally charged writer and speaker.
   c. He is always on the attack.
   d. He makes stinging but interesting remarks.

26. Ideally, I would like to work as a *curator*.
   a. I want to be able to help people who are sick.
   b. I want to be in charge of an art collection in a museum.
   c. I want to write about medical issues.
   d. I want to supervise maintenance of a botanical garden.

27. Our class visited an *arboretum*.
   a. We went to a garden with many types of botanical specimens.
   b. We went to a museum that specialized in landscape painting.
   c. We went to an area where many different kinds of trees grew.
   d. We went to a nursery that grew plants from seed.

28. Mark Twain’s house in Hartford, Connecticut, has a *conservatory*.
   a. It has a large pantry for storing food in jars and cans.
   b. It has a music room with several different instruments.
   c. It has a glassed in room where plants are grown.
   d. It has a room where goods to be recycled are kept.

29. Where are the *patagia* located?
   a. They are on seeds, enabling them to travel with the wind.
   b. They are the webbed parts that go from the bat’s wing to its body.
   c. They are located within the ventricles of the heart.
   d. They are at the back of a book, offering you information about the author and the font used in the book.

30. Such *cachinnation* I have never heard!
   a. The class was laughing uncontrollably.
   b. The birds were chirping shrilly.
   c. The crowd was cheering with all its might.
   d. The restaurant was so noisy we could not understand each other.

English – 3
Choose the answer that best fits the statement.

31. Have you read the preantipenultimate paragraph?
   a. Do you mean the first one?
   b. Do you mean the last one?
   c. Do you mean the next to last one?
   d. Do you mean the one that’s third from last?

32. Spring flowers are fugacious.
   a. They are here so briefly.
   b. They are intensely fragrant.
   c. They grow bountifully.
   d. They add beauty to the landscape.

33. Marvin is no cunctator.
   a. He is never sloppy in his work.
   b. He always has lovely manners.
   c. He never complains about the work to be done.
   d. He never waits till the last minute to get something done.

34. Donnie was a very obstreperous child.
   a. He was unbelievably noisy and boisterous.
   b. Developmentally, he was much slower than his brothers and sisters.
   c. He was built like a sumo wrestler.
   d. He would throw temper tantrums when he could not get his way.

35. Cell phones are ubiquitous these days.
   a. They are relatively cheap and easy to acquire.
   b. You see them everywhere.
   c. They are among the most desired electronics.
   d. They are sturdy and not likely to break.

36. Writing in the vernacular was at one time an innovative practice.
   a. Publishing books with a translation on the page across from the main text was a new idea.
   b. Notebooks such as the ones we use in school were a new creation.
   c. Writing in the ordinary language of the people who would read the book had heretofore been unheard of.
   d. Using cursive writing was a rare occurrence.

37. Which sentence offers an example of irony?
   a. South Carolina governor Nikki Haley vetoed the budget item that supports the state Arts Commission, but the state legislature overrode her veto.
   b. The USA has no laws requiring that genetically modified foods be labeled as such, but if you check the grocery shelves, you will see that there is much other labeling that is by law required.
   c. Abraham Lincoln was born in a log cabin in Kentucky, but later built a very nice house in Springfield, Illinois, when he practiced law there.
   d. I dread taking tests like this, but once I’ve gotten started, I think they are kind of fun.

38. If you substitute the term “euthanasia” for “mercy killing,” you are using a(n)
   a. hyperbolic expression.
   b. figure of speech.
   c. convoluted expression.
   d. euphemism.
39. Genesis, the first book of the Bible, says that humans will earn their bread by the sweat of their brow. The phrase, “sweat of their brow,” reflects the use of
   a. hyperbole.
   b. anaphora.
   c. chiasmus.
   d. synecdoche.

40. The writer E.B. White once said, “A good farmer is nothing more nor less than a handyman with a sense of humus.” In saying this, he used a(n)
   a. pun.
   b. paradox.
   c. litotes.
   d. apostrophe.

Each group in items 41-45 contains four different sentences. Select the sentence that has no grammar or punctuation errors.

41. a. Nocturnal animals which are most active after the sun goes down are harder to observe by naturalists.
   b. The habit of chewing gum in public places, that many people consider an inappropriate or at least annoying behavior, can create a bad impression among potential employers.
   c. Companies that fail to comply with environmental regulations may find themselves the targets of investigation by the EPA.
   d. Growing up in the shadow of my brilliant brother, which might have been discouraging for many people encouraged me to be even more successful in my studies.

42. a. While her young children were playing in the surf, the young woman was busy flirting with the young men on the beach and paying no attention to their safety.
   b. In the aftermath of the most damaging storm in the city’s history volunteers from across the region flocked to the stricken areas in an attempt to help restore order and to relieve the suffering of the people.
   c. Cable and satellite companies offer tempting discounts and packages to new customers, because the competition has become so fierce that they want to retain every customer that they possibly can.
   d. Stunned and confused, because she had been fired abruptly from her new job, Amanda sought advice from her best friend Frieda, who had recently had a similar experience.

43. a. I would have been able to pay the higher tuition required to attend the college that I most admired if I would only have managed to save more money during my high school years.
   b. If the fighter were only a little taller and heavier he would have a much better chance of winning against the current heavyweight champion.
   c. Virginia might have a chance to be selected in the auditions for the new musical comedy but only if she was willing.
   d. If the employees of the nursing home could have resisted the temptation to sleep while they were supposed to be watching their patients, they might have avoided the disgrace of being shown on television by the crew that conducted the undercover investigation.
44. a. Many citizens of our country believe that the government should be using its resources to strengthen our military, however, I doubt that a majority of these same people would be willing to support the reinstatement of an involuntary draft.
   b. Americans are fabulously wealthy when compared to the populations of most third world countries; therefore, we should appreciate our good fortune.
   c. Standing in the shadow of the Vietnam memorial, I am reminded that many young people postponed their life plans to answer the call to serve; but, while the war was in progress, relatively few people appreciated the sacrifice these young soldiers were making.
   d. The highway system is in terrible shape with decaying roadways and bridges all over the country; so, to avoid an impending disaster, we need to make repairs a national priority.

45. a. The prize, which is a full scholarship to any of the public universities in the state, will be awarded to whomever the judges choose as the most talented and personally attractive of the contestants.
   b. The employee who the customers reported to be rude and uncaring will receive a reprimand and will not be considered for promotion in the coming year.
   c. The important question now is not whom we believe is the person responsible for the industrial accident; we should be more concerned with the measures that we can take to repair the damage.
   d. Who can we trust to deliver this important message to our families whom we are certain are waiting anxiously for word of our progress in our journey through the wilderness?

In items 46-65, you are given a sentence that may or may not contain an error or errors. Select the sentence group that best revises any grammatical or punctuation errors or improves the style.

46. Despite all of the evidence to the contrary, there are still some people who believe that the earth is hollow, and that it is possible to travel from the inside to the outside through a hole in the North Pole.
   a. Despite all of the scientific evidence to the contrary there are still some people who believe that the earth is hollow, and that it is possible to travel from the outside to the inside through a hole in the North Pole.
   b. In spite of all of the scientific evidence to the contrary there are still some people who believe that the earth is hollow and that it is possible to travel from the outside to the inside through a hole in the North Pole.
   c. Despite all of the scientific evidence to the contrary, there are still some people who believe that the earth is hollow and that it is possible to travel from the outside to the inside through a hole in the North Pole.
   d. No change necessary.
47. We have known for a long time that people who drink a large amount of cups of coffee during the day may experience feelings of nervousness and difficulty sleeping, but now we are learning that coffee may also be a healthy food that helps people avoid heart problems.

a. We have known for a long time that people who drink a large number of cups of coffee during the day may experience feelings of nervousness and have difficulty sleeping, but now we are learning that coffee may also be a healthful food that helps people avoid heart problems.

b. We have known for a long time that people who drink a large amount of cups of coffee during the day may experience feelings of nervousness and difficulty sleeping, but now we are learning that coffee may also be a healthful food which helps people avoid heart problems.

c. We have known for a long time that people who drink a large number of cups of coffee during the day may experience feelings of nervousness, and difficulty sleeping, but now we are learning that coffee may also be a healthy food that helps people avoid heart problems.

d. No change necessary.

48. Everyone has experienced a little confusion when they first wake up in the morning, however some people suffer from a kind of sleep drunkenness that can keep them disoriented for up to an hour, when they awaken.

a. Everyone has experienced a little confusion, when they first wake up in the morning; however some people suffer from a kind of sleep drunkenness that can keep them disoriented for up to an hour, when they awaken.

b. Everyone has experienced a little confusion when first waking up in the morning; however, some people suffer from a kind of sleep drunkenness that can keep them disoriented for up to an hour when they awaken.

c. Everyone has experienced a little confusion when they first wake up in the morning, however, some people suffer from a kind of sleep drunkenness that can keep them disoriented when they awaken for up to an hour.

d. No change necessary.

49. Our society places far too much emphasis on the accumulation of wealth as a measure of success; there are many people making significant contributions to public welfare (teachers, police officers, clergy, to name only a few) who earn very little compared to others with far less interest in selfless service.

a. Our society places far too much emphasis on the accumulation of wealth as a measure of success; there are many people making significant contributions to public welfare, teachers, police officers, clergy, to name only a few, who earn very little compared to others with far less interest in selfless service.

b. Our society places far too much emphasis on the accumulation of wealth as a measure of success; there are many people making significant contributions to public welfare: teachers, police officers, clergy, to name only a few, who earn very little compared to others with far less interest in selfless service.

c. Our society places far too much emphasis on the accumulation of wealth as a measure of success; there are many people making significant contributions to public welfare---teachers, police officers, clergy, to name only a few, who earn very little compared to others with far less interest in public service.

d. No change necessary.
50. When I think back about all of the television sets I have owned through my life, it is amazing to me that the technology has advanced from a ten inch black and white set that received three local broadcast channels to a 40 inch set that shows pictures in 2D or 3D on more than a thousand different cable channels.

a. When I think back about all of the television sets I have owned through my life it is amazing to me that the technology has advanced so much from a ten-inch black and white set that received three local broadcast channels to a 40-inch set that shows full-color pictures in 2D or 3D on more than a thousand different cable channels.

b. When I think back about all of the television sets that I have owned through my life, it is amazing to me that the technology has advanced so much from a ten-inch black and white set that received three local broadcast channels, to a 40-inch set that shows pictures in 2D or 3D on more than a thousand, different, cable channels.

c. When I think back about all of the television sets I have owned through my life it is amazing, to me, that the technology has advanced so much from a ten inch black and white set that received three local broadcast channels to a 40 inch set that shows pictures in 2D or 3D on more than a thousand different cable channels.

d. No change necessary.

51. Writers of popularized science texts must attempt to make very difficult concepts accessible to an audience that includes readers with only a very superficial idea of physics and advanced mathematics; therefore their explanations often emphasize those aspects that are sensational and minimize attempts to explain the more complex and less exciting details.

a. Writers of popularized science texts must attempt to make very difficult concepts accessible to an audience that includes readers with only a very superficial idea of physics and advanced mathematics; therefore, their explanations often emphasize those aspects that are sensational and minimize attempts to explain the more complex and less exciting details.

b. Writers of popularized science texts must attempt to make very difficult concepts accessible to an audience that includes readers with only a very superficial idea of physics and advanced mathematics: therefore his or her explanations often emphasize those aspects that are sensational and minimize attempts to explain the more complex and less exciting details.

c. Writers of popularized science texts must attempt to make very difficult concepts accessible to an audience that includes readers with only a very superficial idea of physics and advanced mathematics; therefore, their explanations often emphasize those aspects that are sensational and minimize attempts to explain the more complex and less exciting details.

d. No change necessary.
52. My cat tries very hard to behave in a civilized manner, sleeping through most of the day and greeting guests with a purr and a rub, but occasionally she cannot resist reverting to her more natural wild behavior, and our furniture bears the scars of sudden attacks and mad dashes after imaginary prey.

a. My cat tries very hard to behave in a civilized manner, sleeping through most of the day and greeting guests with a purr and a rub, but occasionally she cannot resist reverting to her more natural wild behavior, so our furniture bears the scars of sudden attacks and mad dashes after imaginary prey.

b. My cat tries very hard to behave in a civilized manner, sleeping through most of the day and greeting guests with a purr and a rub, but, occasionally, she cannot resist reverting to her more natural wild behavior, so our furniture bears the scars of sudden attacks and mad dashes after imaginary prey.

c. My cat tries very hard to behave in a civilized manner, sleeping through most of the day and greeting guests with a purr and a rub, but occasionally she cannot resist reverting to her more natural wild behavior; so our furniture bears the scars of sudden attacks and mad dashes after imaginary prey.

d. No change necessary.

53. Every person who reads this website dedicated to encouraging the legislature to fund efforts to protect the environment should seriously consider donating at least ten dollars to a public service organization of his choice that supports our efforts.

a. Every person who reads this website dedicated to encouraging the legislature to fund efforts to protect the environment should seriously consider donating at least ten dollars to a public service organization of his or her choice that supports our efforts.

b. Every person, who reads this website dedicated to encouraging the legislature to fund efforts to protect the environment, should seriously consider donating at least ten dollars to a public service organization of their choice that supports our efforts.

c. Every person who reads this website, dedicated to encouraging the legislature to fund efforts to protect the environment, should seriously consider donating at least ten dollars to a public service organization of his choice that supports our efforts.

d. No change necessary.

54. The entire team was stunned and disheartened by our star player suddenly resigning from the team for unspecified reasons that he labeled “personal.”

a. The entire team were stunned and disheartened by our star player’s suddenly resigning from the team for unspecified reasons that he labeled “personal.”

b. The entire team was stunned and disheartened by our star player’s suddenly resigning from the team for unspecified reasons that he labeled “personal.”

c. The entire team were stunned and disheartened by our star player suddenly resigning from the team, for unspecified reasons that he labeled “personal.”

d. No change necessary.
55. Built in the second half of the eighteenth century to serve as a parsonage for a small town church, we were unable to resist the charm and the history of the little clapboard cottage we recently purchased in the Coastal Region of South Carolina.

a. Built in the second half of the eighteenth century to serve as a parsonage for a small town church, the little clapboard cottage we recently purchased in the coastal region of South Carolina had a charm and a history that we were unable to resist.

b. Built in the second half of the eighteenth century to serve as a parsonage for a small town church, we were unable to resist the charm and the history of the little clapboard cottage which we recently purchased in the Coastal Region of South Carolina.

c. Built in the second half of the eighteenth century to serve as a parsonage for a small town church, the little clapboard cottage which we recently purchased in the Coastal Region of South Carolina had a charm and a history that we were unable to resist.

d. No change necessary.

56. Henry’s new bird feeder hung unused and unnoticed for almost a week; eventually, though, the birds that he had seen flitting among the branches of the neighboring trees began to sample the seed with which he had filled it; first a dull red female cardinal, then a group of four little finches who squabbled with one another for access to the choicer bits in the pan, and finally a nearly constant stream of all varieties of local birds.

a. Henry’s new bird feeder hung unused and unnoticed for almost a week; eventually, though, the birds that he had seen flitting among the branches of the neighboring trees began to sample the seed with which he had filled it. First a dull red female cardinal, then a group of four little finches who squabbled with one another for access to the choicer bits in the pan, and finally a nearly constant stream of all varieties of local birds.

b. Henry’s new bird feeder hung unused and unnoticed for almost a week, eventually, though, the birds that he had seen flitting among the branches of the neighboring trees began to sample the seed with which he had filled it. First a dull red female cardinal came, then a group of four little finches, who squabbled with one another for access to the choicer bits in the pan, and finally a nearly constant stream of all varieties of local birds.

c. Henry’s new bird feeder hung unused and unnoticed for almost a week. Eventually, though, the birds that he had seen flitting among the branches of the neighboring trees began to sample the seed with which he had filled it: first, a dull red female cardinal, then a group of four little finches who squabbled with one another for access to the choicer bits in the pan, and finally a nearly constant stream of all varieties of local birds.

d. No change necessary.
57. Portraits are best photographed using a mid-range telephoto lens with a large aperture because such a lens can separate the main subject that is in sharp focus from the background that is blurred because it is not in focus. The very best such portrait lenses, unfortunately, can be quite expensive like the latest offering from Canon that is priced at over $2000 dollars.

a. Portraits are best photographed using a mid-range telephoto lens with a large aperture because such a lens can separate the main subject that is in sharp focus from the background that is blurred because it is not in focus. The very best such portrait lenses, unfortunately, can be quite expensive like the latest offering from Canon that is priced at over $2000 dollars.

b. Portraits are best photographed using a mid-range telephoto lens with a large aperture because such a lens can separate the main subject that is in sharp focus from the background that is blurred because it is not in focus. The very best such portrait lenses, unfortunately, can be quite expensive, like the latest offering from Canon that is priced at over $2000 dollars.

c. Portraits are best photographed using a mid-range telephoto lens with a large aperture, because such a lens can separate the main subject that is in sharp focus from the background that is blurred because it is not in focus. The very best such portrait lenses, unfortunately, can be quite expensive, like the latest offering from Canon that is priced at over two thousand dollars.

d. No change necessary.

58. A person who refuses to serve on a jury when they receive an official summons is not only violating a state law but is also neglecting to meet an important responsibility that they have to their community and their country.

a. A person who refuses to serve on a jury when he or she receives an official summons is not only violating a state law, but is also neglecting to meet an important responsibility that they have to their community and their country.

b. People who refuse to serve on a jury when they receive an official summons are not only violating a state law, but they are also neglecting to meet an important responsibility that we have to our community and country.

c. People who refuse to serve on a jury when they receive an official summons are not only violating a state law but are also neglecting to meet an important responsibility that they have to their community and their country.

d. No change necessary.

59. Our friend struggled for many years to complete his first novel in a way that met the approval of his publisher, and when he finished his fifth complete rewriting, he decided to give it the title “My Choice of Nightmares.”

a. Our friend struggled for many years to complete his first novel in a way that met the approval of his publisher, and when he finished his fifth complete rewriting, he decided to give it the title “My choice of nightmares.”

b. Our friend struggled for many years to complete his first novel in a way that met the approval of his publisher, and, when he finished his fifth complete rewriting, he decided to give it the title My Choice of Nightmares.

c. Our friend struggled for many years to complete his first novel in a way that met the approval of his publisher; when he finished his fifth complete rewriting, he decided to give it the title “My Choice of Nightmares.”

d. No change necessary.
60. Employees of this company are clearly told when they first start their employment that they are not allowed to bring very young children into the workplace because they are likely to be disruptive and they demand the attention of the adults who are attempting to be productive.

   a. Company managers tell new employees clearly that they may not bring very young children into the workplace because they may disrupt work and demand the attention of the adults who are attempting to be productive.
   b. Company managers tell new employees clearly that they may not bring very young children into the workplace because they are likely to be disruptive, and they demand the attention of the adults who attempt to be productive.
   c. Employees of this company are told clearly, when they are first employed, that they are not allowed to bring very young children into the workplace because children are likely to be disruptive and they demand the attention of the adults who are attempting to be productive.
   d. No change necessary.

61. According to legend, when George Washington was questioned by his father about the loss of a favorite cherry tree, George quoted, "I cannot tell a lie, father . . . . I cut it with my little hatchet", but it is almost certain that the story is apocryphal.

   a. According to legend, when George Washington was questioned by his father about the loss of a favorite cherry tree, George quoted, "I cannot tell a lie, father . . . . I cut it with my little hatchet"; but it is almost certain that the story is apocryphal.
   b. According to legend, when George Washington was questioned by his father about the loss of a favorite cherry tree, George replied, "I cannot tell a lie, Father . . . . I cut it with my little hatchet"; it is almost certain that the story is apocryphal.
   c. According to legend, when George Washington was questioned by his father about the loss of a favorite cherry tree, George stated, "I cannot tell a lie, father . . . . I cut it with my little hatchet"; but it is almost certain that the story is apocryphal.
   d. No change necessary.

62. Computers are very complicated machines, and many people, especially those who grew up before computers were prevalent, can become very frustrated when faced with a complex program; however, learning at least the rudiments of successful computer use is required if you want to succeed in modern society.

   a. Computers are very complicated machines, and many people, especially those who grew up before computers were prevalent, can become very frustrated when faced with a complex program; however, people must learn at least the rudiments of successful computer use if they want to succeed in modern society.
   b. Computers are very complicated machines, and many people, especially those who grew up before computers were prevalent, can become easily frustrated when faced by a complex program; however, you must learn at least the rudiments of successful computer use if you want to succeed in modern society.
   c. Computers are very complicated machines, and many people, especially if you grew up before computers were prevalent, can become easily frustrated when faced by a complex program; however, learning at least the rudiments of successful computer use is required if you want to succeed in modern society.
   d. No change necessary.
63. If I were to exercise faithfully every day, I would probably be a much healthier person than I am now, but, even though I know I should exercise more, I find the process so boring that I usually give up after just a very few minutes and find something more mentally stimulating to do.

a. If I were to exercise faithfully every day, I would probably be a much healthier person than I am now, but, even though I know I should exercise more, I find the process so boring that I usually give up after just a very few minutes and find something more mentally stimulating to do.

b. If I was to exercise faithfully every day, I would probably be a much healthier person than I am now, but, even though I know I should exercise more, I find the process so boring that I usually give up after just a very few minutes, and find something more mentally stimulating to do.

c. Even if I were to exercise faithfully every day, I would probably be a much healthier person than I am now, but, even though I know I should exercise more, I find the process so boring that I usually give up after just a very few minutes and find something more mentally stimulating to do.

d. No change necessary.

64. If you were the owner of a jewelry store in a busy urban shopping mall, whom would you be more likely to trust: an elderly lady carrying a large shopping bag or a young man with long hair and a beard dressed in blue jeans and a tie-dyed T-shirt?

a. If you were the owner of a jewelry store in a busy urban shopping mall, who would you be more likely to trust; an elderly lady carrying a large shopping bag or a young man with long hair and a beard dressed in blue jeans and a tie-dyed t-shirt?

b. If you were the owner of a jewelry store in a busy urban shopping mall, whom would you be more likely to trust; an elderly lady carrying a large shopping bag, or a young man with long hair and a beard dressed in blue jeans and a tie-dyed t-shirt?

c. If you were the owner of a jewelry store in a busy urban shopping mall, who would you be more likely to trust; an elderly lady carrying a large shopping bag or a young man with long hair and a beard dressed in blue jeans and a tie-dyed t-shirt?

d. No change necessary.

65. I am often amused by seeing foods in the grocery store proudly carrying the label “organic,” since the obvious alternative, it seems to me, is food that is “inorganic,” rock soup, perhaps, or water flavored water.

a. I am often amused by seeing foods in the grocery store proudly carrying the label “organic,” since the obvious alternative, it seems to me, is food that is “inorganic”; rock soup, perhaps, or water flavored water.

b. I am often amused by seeing foods in the grocery store proudly carrying the label “organic” since the obvious alternative, it seems to me, is food that is “inorganic”; rock soup, perhaps, or water flavored water.

c. I am often amused by seeing foods in the grocery store proudly carrying the label “organic,” since the obvious alternative, it seems to me, is food that is “inorganic.” Rock soup, perhaps, or water flavored water?

d. No change necessary.
Select the phrase that best describes the underlined words in items 66-70.

66. There are millions of guns of various sorts owned by private individuals in our country; therefore, many politicians see that the gun culture in our country is so entrenched that legislation putting limits on gun ownership is not likely to be accepted by their constituencies.
   a. A coordinating conjunction that should be preceded by a comma rather than a semicolon
   b. A conjunctive adverb that should be set off from the rest of the clause with punctuation because it is parenthetical
   c. A subordinating conjunction that introduces a dependent clause
   d. An unnecessary word, which should be eliminated to make the wording of the sentence more economical

67. Living in the deep South all my life, I have developed habits of eating that people from other parts of the country may find unfamiliar, like having grits for breakfast and rice with dinner almost every day.
   a. A participial phrase modifying the subject of the sentence
   b. An introductory phrase describing the eating habits of the speaker
   c. A gerund phrase establishing important information needed to interpret the main sentence
   d. An adverb phrase describing why I developed unique eating habits

68. The generations old prayer that starts with the words “Now I lay me down to sleep” is still taught to countless children throughout the country.
   a. “Lay” is a form of the verb “to lay,” and it is transitive.
   b. “Lay” is a form of the verb “to lie,” and it is intransitive.
   c. “I lay” is an archaic use of this word, and it really should be changed to “I lie.”
   d. This phrase is the subject of the verb “is taught.”

69. When it celebrates its anniversary next year, the charitable organization will have been selling donated goods at its thrift store for fifty years in order to raise money for the poor.
   a. Future perfect progressive tense, passive voice, transitive
   b. Future progressive tense, active voice, transitive
   c. Future perfect progressive tense, active voice, transitive
   d. Future perfect progressive tense, passive voice, intransitive

70. The newest digital televisions that are much larger and thinner than any of the older CRT televisions have almost completely replaced the older technology in the consumer market.
   a. A restrictive adjective clause that should be separated by commas
   b. A restrictive adjective clause that should start with “which” instead of “that”
   c. A non-restrictive adjective clause that is used correctly in the sentence
   d. A non-restrictive adjective clause that should be separated by commas and introduced with “which” instead of “that”
Read this selection from Stephen Crane’s short story “The Open Boat” and then answer the questions about it.

A seat in this boat was not unlike a seat upon a bucking broncho, and by the same token, a broncho is not much smaller. The craft pranced and reared, and plunged like an animal. As each wave came, and she rose for it, she seemed like a horse making at a fence outrageously high. The manner of her scramble over these walls of water is a mystic thing, and, moreover, at the top of them were ordinarily these problems in white water, the foam racing down from the summit of each wave, requiring a new leap, and a leap from the air. Then, after scornfully bumping a crest, she would slide, and race, and splash down a long incline, and arrive bobbing and nodding in front of the next menace.

A singular disadvantage of the sea lies in the fact that after successfully surmounting one wave you discover that there is another behind it just as important and just as nervously anxious to do something effective in the way of swamping boats. In a ten-foot dinghy one can get an idea of the resources of the sea in the line of waves that is not probable to the average experience which is never at sea in a dinghy. As each slatey wall of water approached, it shut all else from the view of the men in the boat, and it was not difficult to imagine that this particular wave was the final outburst of the ocean, the last effort of the grim water. There was a terrible grace in the move of the waves, and they came in silence, save for the snarling of the crests.

In the wan light, the faces of the men must have been grey. Their eyes must have glinted in strange ways as they gazed steadily astern. Viewed from a balcony, the whole thing would doubtless have been weirdly picturesque. But the men in the boat had no time to see it, and if they had had leisure there were other things to occupy their minds. The sun swung steadily up the sky, and they knew it was broad day because the color of the sea changed from slate to emerald-green, streaked with amber lights, and the foam was like tumbling snow. The process of the breaking day was unknown to them. They were aware only of this effect upon the color of the waves that rolled toward them.

71. Which statement best reflects Crane’s stance in writing this story?
   a. The writer is fiercely sympathetic with his characters, describing in detail the stresses with which they must deal.
   b. The writer is dispassionate in his attitude toward his characters, though he seems to understand well the predicament in which they have found themselves.
   c. The writer is highly amused by his characters, who act out their story like small puppets lacking in intelligence or wisdom.
   d. The writer has a great sense of adventure and enjoys pulling the reader into the dangers and glories of life on the sea.

72. When Crane says that “The craft pranced and reared,” he is using
   a. litotes.
   b. simile.
   c. personification.
   d. onomatopoeia.

73. The statement that begins the second paragraph above could be considered
   a. hyperbole.
   b. zeugma.
   c. litotes.
   d. metonymy.

74. This sentence (the one that begins the second paragraph) also reflects the use of
   a. assonance.
   b. onomatopoeia.
   c. ellipsis.
   d. alliteration.
75. When Crane speaks of a “terrible grace” at the end of the second paragraph, he is using a(n)
   a. paradox.
   b. pleonasm.
   c. oxymoron.
   d. polysyntedon.

76. This passage from the story focuses on
   a. description of character.
   b. description of setting.
   c. advancing the plot.
   d. creating anticipation.

77. Which statement fits this passage?
   a. The men have the grit and determination that they will need in order to make it to shore.
   b. The sea represents the height of beauty in nature.
   c. Nature as represented by the sea is an insurmountable obstacle.
   d. These men are caught in a situation they do not deserve.

78. Given the view of nature in this passage, Crane’s story reflects what type of literature?
   a. Realism
   b. Romanticism
   c. Surrealism
   d. Naturalism

79. The boat itself, which Crane tells us is a dinghy, may symbolize
   a. the inherent weakness of humans to combat forces of nature.
   b. an entity that protects human beings and carries them to safety.
   c. life and its uncertainties.
   d. small things that nevertheless have a strong impact.

80. What aspect of this passage creates the fear that these men are doomed?
   a. The fact that the men can see nothing beyond their little boat.
   b. The silence in which the struggle against the waves occurs.
   c. The description of the movement of the waves.
   d. All of the above.

Read this passage from “The Subjection of Women” by John Stuart Mill and answer the questions that follow.

The generality of a practice is in some cases a strong presumption that it is, or at all events once was, conducive to laudable ends. This is the case, when the practice was first adopted, or afterwards kept up, as a means to such ends, and was grounded on experience of the mode in which they could be most effectually attained. If the authority of men over women, when first established, had been the result of a conscientious comparison between different modes of constituting the government of society; if, after trying various other modes of social organisation — the government of women over men, equality between the two, and such mixed and divided modes of government as might be invented — it had been decided, on the testimony of experience, that the mode in which women are wholly under the rule of men, having no share at all in public concerns, and each in private being under the legal obligation of obedience to the man with whom she has associated her destiny, was the arrangement most conducive to the happiness and well-being of both; its general adoption might then be fairly thought to be some evidence that, at the time when it was adopted, it was the best: though even then the considerations which recommended it may, like so many other primeval social facts of the greatest importance, have subsequently, in the course of ages, ceased to exist. But the state of the case is in every respect the reverse of this. In the first place, the opinion in favour of the present system, which entirely subordinates the weaker sex to the stronger, rests upon theory only; for there never has been trial made of any other: so that experience, in the sense in which it is vulgarly opposed to theory, cannot be pretended to have pronounced any verdict. And in the second place, the adoption of this system of inequality never was the result of deliberation, or
forethought, or any social ideas, or any notion whatever of what conduced to the benefit of humanity or the good order of society. It arose simply from the fact that from the very earliest twilight of human society, every woman owing to the value attached to her by men, combined with her inferiority in muscular strength, was found in a state of bondage to some man. Laws and systems of polity always begin by recognising the relations they find already existing between individuals. They convert what was a mere physical fact into a legal right, give it the sanction of society, and principally aim at the substitution of public and organised means of asserting and protecting these rights, instead of the irregular and lawless conflict of physical strength. Those who had already been compelled to obedience became in this manner legally bound to it. Slavery, from being a mere affair of force between the master and the slave, became regularised and a matter of compact among the masters, who, binding themselves to one another for common protection, guaranteed by their collective strength the private possessions of each, including his slaves. In early times, the great majority of the male sex were slaves, as well as the whole of the female. And many ages elapsed, some of them ages of high cultivation, before any thinker was bold enough to question the rightfulness, and the absolute social necessity, either of the one slavery or of the other. By degrees such thinkers did arise; and (the general progress of society assisting) the slavery of the male sex has, in all the countries of Christian Europe at least (though, in one of them, only within the last few years) been at length abolished, and that of the female sex has been gradually changed into a milder form of dependence. But this dependence, as it exists at present, is not an original institution, taking a fresh start from considerations of justice and social expediency — it is the primitive state of slavery lasting on, through successive mitigations and modifications occasioned by the same causes which have softened the general manners, and brought all human relations more under the control of justice and the influence of humanity. It has not lost the taint of its brutal origin. No presumption in its favour, therefore, can be drawn from the fact of its existence. The only such presumption which it could be supposed to have, must be grounded on its having lasted till now, when so many other things which came down from the same odious source have been done away with. And this, indeed, is what makes it strange to ordinary ears, to hear it asserted that the inequality of rights between men and women has no other source than the law of the strongest.

81. For what reason did women become subordinate to men, according to Mill?
   a. Men would provide homes, while women would remain in the home to raise children and see that the family was taken care of.
   b. Women are of value to men, and so men used their superior strength to dominate them.
   c. Women are the inferior sex; they do not think so well as men.
   d. Women enjoy many privileges they would not have were they not protected by men.

82. In their subordination, he sees women as being like slaves, with one major difference:
   a. Slaves are now free, and women are not.
   b. Women in general do not need to work so hard as slaves.
   c. Women receive many grants and favors that slaves do not.
   d. Slaves seek freedom when they have the opportunity, but a woman will continue to live with a man and accept her position.
83. Mill says that he would find the current position of women more agreeable if
   a. women were treated more justly even as they submit to a man.
   b. women would vote to say that they prefer it this way.
   c. society had used some logical process to arrive at this as being the most conducive means of happiness for all.
   d. women would be granted property rights though not every right that a man holds.

84. Mill asserts that when laws are made they are likely to be based on
   a. what is best for the common good.
   b. what will bring the most profit to the upper classes.
   c. what will protect the poor.
   d. what practices have been used up to that time.

85. Mill says that at the present time
   a. women are kept in a mild state of dependence upon men.
   b. women are savagely beaten by their husbands with great regularity in order to ensure their obedience.
   c. women are in rebellion against their treatment and trying to seek their rights.
   d. women enjoy their lives only because they do not recognize how badly they are treated.

86. Mill says that changes in the status of women have occurred because of
   a. tighter laws restricting what they do.
   b. society in general becoming more just.
   c. women having become more militant in their fight for equality.
   d. society having come to appreciate at least somewhat the value of a feminine influence.

87. Because of the nature of this piece, we can classify it as
   a. description.
   b. cause and effect.
   c. argumentation.
   d. narrative.

88. High school students and even some college students might find this essay challenging to read because of its
   a. inflated vocabulary.
   b. complex thought.
   c. British spelling.
   d. long sentences.

Read this poem, “To an Athlete Dying Young” by A. E. Housman, and answer the questions that follow.

The time you won your town the race
We chaired you through the market-place;
Man and boy stood cheering by,
And home we brought you shoulder-high.

To-day, the road all runners come,
Shoulder-high we bring you home,
And set you at your threshold down,
Townsman of a stiller town.
Smart lad, to slip betimes away
From fields were glory does not stay
And early though the laurel grows
It withers quicker than the rose.

Eyes the shady night has shut
Cannot see the record cut,
And silence sounds no worse than cheers
After earth has stopped the ears:

Now you will not swell the rout
Of lads that wore their honours out,
Runners whom renown outran
And the name died before the man.

So set, before its echoes fade,
The fleet foot on the sill of shade,
And hold to the low lintel up
The still-defended challenge-cup.

And round that early-laurelled head
Will flock to gaze the strengthless dead,
And find unwithered on its curls
The garland briefer than a girl's.

89. In the opening sentence of the third stanza (“Smart lad, to slip betimes away”), A. E. Housman is using
   a. paradox.
   b. metonymy.
   c. allusion.
   d. hyperbole.

90. This same line (“Smart lad, to slip betimes away”) also illustrates
   a. personification.
   b. apostrophe.
   c. caesura.
   d. litotes.

91. This poem can be considered a(n)
   a. ode.
   b. sonnet.
   c. elegy.
   d. dramatic monologue.

92. When Housman writes that “early though the laurel grows/it withers quicker than the rose,” he is saying that
   a. life is short, so we should make the most of it.
   b. only love is worth living and dying for.
   c. from dust we come and to dust we shall return.
   d. the glories of championship are more short lived than other aspects of life.

93. The laurel symbolizes
   a. a prize to be eagerly striven for.
   b. the fruitless efforts of human beings.
   c. recognition of one’s achievement.
   d. an element of nature that dies quickly.

94. Housman tells the athlete that his dying early has prevented him from
   a. seeing others surpass his achievements.
   b. attaining further victories.
   c. marrying and having children.
   d. enjoying the glory of his achievements.
Read “Because I Could Not Stop for Death” by Emily Dickinson and answer the questions that follow.

Because I could not stop for Death –
He kindly stopped for me –
The Carriage held but just Ourselves –
And Immortality.

We slowly drove – He knew no haste
And I had put away
My labor and my leisure too,
For His Civility –

We passed the School, where Children strove
At Recess – in the Ring –
We passed the Fields of Gazing Grain –
We passed the Setting Sun –

Or rather – He passed us –
The Dews drew quivering and chill –
For only Gossamer, my Gown –
My Tippet – only Tulle –

We paused before a House that seemed
A Swelling of the Ground –
The Roof was scarcely visible –
The Cornice – in the Ground –

Since then – 'tis Centuries – and yet
Feels shorter than the Day
I first surmised the Horses' Heads
Were toward Eternity –

95. Which is NOT a similarity between Dickinson's poem and Housman’s poem?
   a. Both are about death.
   b. Both are told by a first person speaker.
   c. Both use an AABB rhyme scheme in each stanza.
   d. Both compare the grave to a building.

96. Which statement about the two poems is NOT true?
   a. One has six stanzas while the other has seven.
   b. In one, the speaker of the poem addresses the deceased person while in the other the speaker is the deceased person.
   c. One is ironic in saying that death in this case is good while the other views death with fear.
   d. One uses exact rhyme while the other uses slant rhyme.

97. Dickinson’s poem features several of her idiosyncrasies. Which idiosyncrasy is NOT featured in this poem?
   a. She uses dashes.
   b. She uses words in ways they are not often used.
   c. She capitalizes many words not normally capitalized.
   d. She has a whimsical touch.
98. When Dickinson speaks of death stopping for her, she is using
   a. metonymy.
   b. personification.
   c. onomatopoeia.
   d. hyperbole.

99. “silence sounds no worse than cheers” - Housman
   “my Labor and my Leisure too” - Dickinson
   What do these two lines have in common?
   a. alliteration
   b. caesura
   c. symbolism
   d. onomatopoeia

100. Housman speaks of death as the night (“Eyes the shady night has shut”) and Dickinson
    refers to death as the setting of the sun (“We passed the Setting Sun--/Or rather---he
    passed us”). Night in one poem and sunset in another can be seen not only as metaphors
    but also as
    a. allusions.
    b. Analogies.
    c. symbols.
    d. oxymorons.