

**Michigan State University**  
**English Language Examinations**

**EXAMINATION  
FOR  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY'S  
CERTIFICATE  
OF  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

**MSU-CELP**

**Skills Practice  
(with key)**

**Volume 1**

**Anatolia  
College**

**Testing Office**

## THE GRAMMAR AND READING SECTIONS OF THE MSU-CELP

This set of five short practice tests has been produced to help candidates familiarize themselves with the skills tested in two of the four sections of the MSU-CELP examination:

**Grammar You Can Use!** – MSU-CELP Test of English Grammar  
**Read About It!** – MSU-CELP Test of English Reading Ability.

Below are examples of each of the different types of problems with the correct answer indicated with an asterisk (\*).

### Grammar You Can Use! – MSU-CELP Test of English Grammar

Candidates are required to choose the word or phrase which best completes the given sentence.

E.g. A year after the floods, the authorities reported \_\_\_\_\_ the toxicity of soil in the region.  
a. that significantly increased                      b. a significant increase in\*  
c. to significantly increase                          d. significant the increase in

### Read About It! – MSU-CELP Test of English Reading Ability

**VOCABULARY:** Vocabulary is not tested discretely in the limited context of isolated sentences but within the context of an entire reading passage or a part of it. Candidates are required to choose the given word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the word highlighted in a sentence from the passage.

E.g. The sentences from the passage may read as follows:

Q1. *The first things children learn in school are very elementary. This is to be expected when they are introduced to something for the first time.*  
a. interesting    b. necessary    c. unusual    d. basic\*

**READING COMPREHENSION:** The question types in this section include comprehension of the main idea of the passage to discrete points of information, inference, and structure/logic questions, e.g. selecting the correct place in the given text to insert a given sentence.

E.g.

<sup>(A)</sup> At least 9,000 properties are expected to be inundated completely, and as many as 30,000 damaged as the Bremmer and Brisbane rivers hit record levels over the next two days. The warnings come after a flash flood swept through Queensland's Lockyer Valley on Monday, lifting houses off their foundations and smashing cars into trees. Many residents were swept away while still in their homes.<sup>(B)</sup>

The valley funnelled rain from a freak storm — forecasters estimated up to 150 millimetres fell in half an hour near the city of Toowoomba — into a fast-moving stream that left a path of destruction. <sup>(C)</sup>The raging floodwaters killed at least 10 people, including a four-year-old boy who reportedly died as rescuers tried to save him and his family. <sup>(D)</sup>

The passage above was taken from an Internet report from CBC News - World

Q1. What can be inferred from what is said in the highlighted text in line 4?

- a. A flash flood usually damages the foundations of houses.
- b. A flash flood occurs shortly after a warning.
- c. No cars or trees are left standing after a flash flood.
- d. People are caught unawares by a flash flood.\*

Q2. The direction taken by the floodwaters appears to have been determined by

- a. a freak storm                      b. Toowoomba                      c. Lockyer Valley \*                      d. a path of destruction

Q3. At which point in the passage would the following sentence best fit?

“Even more severe flooding has been predicted.”

- a. (A)\*                      b. (B)                      c. (C)                      d. (D)

# Test 1

## Grammar You Can Use!

Choose the answer that best fits the sentence.

1. Who knows what John \_\_\_\_\_ when he said that to his boss.
  - a. thought
  - b. had thought
  - c. was thinking
  - d. would think
2. Mum likes \_\_\_\_\_ immediately after a party.
  - a. to cleaning up
  - b. her cleaning up
  - c. that clean up
  - d. to clean up
3. Had Mario listened to my advice, he \_\_\_\_\_ into trouble with his parents.
  - a. wouldn't have gotten
  - b. wouldn't get
  - c. wouldn't have been
  - d. hadn't been
4. The teacher recommended that \_\_\_\_\_ for the scholarship.
  - a. Steve was applying
  - b. Steve to apply
  - c. Steve apply
  - d. Steve is applying
5. A rather \_\_\_\_\_ smell was coming from our neighbor's yard.
  - a. offender
  - b. offence
  - c. offensive
  - d. offending
6. \_\_\_\_\_, he read his emails.
  - a. Soon George has returned from school
  - b. The minute George returned from school
  - c. Soon George returned from school
  - d. The minute George returns from school
7. Can anyone tell me \_\_\_\_\_ a shop selling oriental foods?
  - a. where I can find
  - b. where can I find
  - c. where will I find
  - d. where is to be found
8. The information \_\_\_\_\_ to the local authorities.
  - a. have been given
  - b. are being given
  - c. has been given
  - d. are to be given
9. On Saturday evenings, the Smiths usually \_\_\_\_\_ to the house.
  - a. have delivered a couple of pizzas
  - b. have delivering a couple of pizzas
  - c. have a couple of pizzas to deliver
  - d. have a couple of pizzas delivered
10. We have arranged to send the goods \_\_\_\_\_ the customer by courier.
  - a. at
  - b. towards
  - c. into
  - d. to
11. \_\_\_\_\_ you please keep the noise down! I'm trying to concentrate!
  - a. Need
  - b. May
  - c. Ought
  - d. Would
12. Isn't it time Dora \_\_\_\_\_ taking better care of her property?
  - a. starting
  - b. started
  - c. has to start
  - d. has started
13. \_\_\_\_\_ having a bad headache, I managed to finish my assignment.
  - a. Despite
  - b. Since
  - c. However
  - d. Although
14. The new Sales Manager has a really \_\_\_\_\_ CV.
  - a. impressed
  - b. impression
  - c. impressive
  - d. impressing
15. As long as \_\_\_\_\_, you may make use of her office while she is away.
  - a. will Pamela not object
  - b. Pamela not going to object
  - c. Pamela does not object
  - d. Pamela would not object

## Read About It!

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the **highlighted** word/s in each sentence. In the actual examination, the vocabulary items tested will be highlighted within a much longer text, thereby providing candidates with a wider context in which to determine the meaning of the words. The following sentences are meant to represent such test items when found in longer contexts.

16. You should never believe everything you read; newspapers often **distort** the truth in order to mislead us.  
a. extend                      b. twist                      c. expand                      d. distend
17. Mrs. Stevens had **misgivings** about having sold her house. She wondered whether she should have waited a little longer. If she had done so, she might have received a better offer.  
a. losses                      b. doubts                      c. fears                      d. thoughts
18. I tried my very best, but my sister **resolutely** refused to listen to my advice. She is rather obstinate and does not change her mind very easily.  
a. firmly                      b. finally                      c. timidly                      d. loyally
19. Residents reported the **vile** odor coming from the factory to the authorities in the hope that they would take the necessary steps to improve the quality of air in the area.  
a. retentive                      b. aromatic                      c. sharp                      d. unpleasant
20. Nylon is a cheap, **durable** material that is widely used in industry today as a substitute for other more traditional raw materials.  
a. expendable                      b. expandable                      c. long-lasting                      d. edible
21. The company has decided to **adopt** a new sales plan, which it is hoped will bring better results in the future.  
a. renew                      b. change                      c. project                      d. implement
22. Stray dogs can be a serious **menace** in residential areas. Reports have been received of an increasing number of canine attacks on small children.  
a. trait                      b. obstacle                      c. threat                      d. feature
23. I was woken up by someone **pounding** on the front door to the dorm. They must have been locked out.  
a. hammering                      b. slamming                      c. hanging                      d. ringing
24. Most varieties of bamboo have stems that are **hollow**. A few have fairly solid stems and are sturdier.  
a. straight                      b. empty                      c. weak                      d. bare
25. Sand is to be found in **abundance** on most beaches and can be a variety of colors depending on what it is derived from.  
a. scarcity                      b. dunes                      c. profusion                      d. mounds
26. The sales team was **devoid of** fresh ideas. It needed to come up with something really innovative.  
a. supplying                      b. emptying                      c. stripping                      d. lacking
27. A **stench** of rotting fish greeted the authorities who began clearing the beaches a few days after the tsunami struck.  
a. aroma                      b. fragrance                      c. stink                      d. scent
28. The dentist decided to **extract** the decayed tooth, which had been giving me sleepless nights.  
a. fill                      b. exchange                      c. evacuate                      d. remove
29. Mr. Rivers is on night **shift** next week because the usual night watchman has been hospitalized.  
a. duty                      b. period                      c. term                      d. time
30. Unless you respond **promptly**, you might miss the opportunity, so do what you need to do at once!  
a. quickly                      b. positively                      c. negatively                      d. hastily

# READING COMPREHENSION

You come across the following passage taken from *Natural History*, Vol. 114, No. 9, November 2005 while doing research for an anthropology assignment. Read the passage carefully; then answer the questions that follow.

How much can a bit of detective work glean from a few ancient bones? Sometimes, the answer is a lot. For one thing, anthropologists can get a pretty good idea, from traces of various elements in the bones, what their original owners ate. An abundance of the isotope carbon-13 indicates a diet rich in plants that build sugar molecules out of compounds containing four rather than three carbon atoms – known as “C4” photosynthesis. The relative proportion of the nitrogen-15 isotope reflects the diet’s protein content. By analyzing the ratios of various isotopes, Ekaterina A. Pechenkina, an anthropologist at the City University of New York, and her collaborators inferred diets of peasant farmers—along with the diets of the farmers’ pigs and dogs—who lived in northern China’s Yellow River basin between 4,000 and 7,000 years ago.

The investigators determined that the farmers cultivated and consumed a tremendous amount of millet, the region’s only C4 crop plant. And, surprisingly, the animals ate even more of the grain: it comprised as much as 90 percent of their diets. That suggests the pigs not only dined on millet-bearing human refuse –stems and leaves, table scraps, and feces—but were also fed the grain directly. The dogs ate millet, too, and likely boosted their overall intake of it by hunting millet-eating mice.

Grain-fed animals signal a well-off farming community that can afford to lose most of the grain’s calorific value by using it to fatten up animals. If the farmers didn’t regularly dine on pork, they may, at least, have raised the pigs for special occasions, such as ritual sacrifices or feasts.

31. The passage states that examination of ancient bones from the northern part of China’s Yellow River basin
- will show what animals were domesticated by ancient populations.
  - would be more revealing if more bones were available.
  - has given scientists a good idea of how to trace various elements.
  - can provide information on the diets of ancient populations and the animals they domesticated.
32. The word **reflects** in line 5 is closest in meaning to
- reduces
  - enhances
  - indicates
  - improves
33. Investigators found that millet
- grew in great abundance in the wild.
  - was purchased by farmers in great quantities.
  - was the only crop grown in the region.
  - was grown only for animal consumption.
34. The dogs increased the amount of millet they consumed by
- eating mice that had consumed millet.
  - eating everything the pigs ate.
  - hunting various animals in the wild.
  - dining together with the pigs.
35. Researchers conclude that the ancient populations of the northern part of the Yellow River basin must have been prosperous because
- they regularly dined on pork.
  - they had millet in their diet.
  - they used so much of their millet to fatten animals.
  - they had pigs and dogs.

## Test 2

### Grammar You Can Use!

Choose the answer that best fits the sentence.

1. I have never seen \_\_\_\_\_ of fish before. I wonder if it is edible?
  - a. a type
  - b. one type
  - c. the type
  - d. this type
2. \_\_\_\_\_, she was greeted by a sight that filled her with horror and disgust.
  - a. Opening the door
  - b. She opened the door
  - c. Opened the door
  - d. When the door she opened
3. \_\_\_\_\_, he would have decidedly differently.
  - a. If Dave knew the details
  - b. If Dave has known the details
  - c. Had Dave known the details
  - d. To have known Dave the details
4. The manager blames \_\_\_\_\_ for everything that has happened to the company.
  - a. to herself
  - b. for yourself
  - c. herself
  - d. in herself
5. Nowhere in the world \_\_\_\_\_ clearer seas than in the Maldives.
  - a. you will find
  - b. will you find
  - c. are you to find
  - d. you have to find
6. I've been here since the box-office \_\_\_\_\_! What kept you?
  - a. has opened
  - b. opened
  - c. has been opened
  - d. opens
7. I \_\_\_\_\_ her for a classmate of mine and started waving to her until I realized she was a stranger.
  - a. mistaking
  - b. mistake
  - c. mistaken
  - d. mistook
8. Well, \_\_\_\_\_ that he didn't study enough, so he's to blame for his poor grades.
  - a. the truth is
  - b. in truth
  - c. the truth
  - d. truth is
9. It's been nice \_\_\_\_\_ for a week, but tomorrow it's back to work.
  - a. I have taken things easy
  - b. taking things easy
  - c. to taking things easy
  - d. I take things easy
10. All the reports \_\_\_\_\_ to the explosion at the train station are missing.
  - a. relation
  - b. relate
  - c. relations
  - d. relating
11. After all the adverse publicity, it was suggested that the sales manager \_\_\_\_\_ immediately.
  - a. to resign
  - b. resigning
  - c. resign
  - d. resigns
12. I didn't want to invite her to my party, but I'm afraid I couldn't \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. avoid it
  - b. avoid
  - c. be avoided
  - d. to avoid it
13. I'm sorry I didn't get here on time, but I \_\_\_\_\_ by heavy traffic.
  - a. delayed
  - b. have been delayed
  - c. am delayed
  - d. was delayed
14. My steak is really superb, but the carrots \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. have tasted awfully
  - b. taste awful
  - c. taste awfully
  - d. are tasting awfully
15. When Sharon arrived home, her mother wasn't there, and \_\_\_\_\_ was her father.
  - a. either
  - b. also
  - c. so

d. neither

## Read About It!

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the **highlighted** word/s in each sentence. In the actual examination, the vocabulary items tested will be highlighted within a much longer text, thereby providing candidates with a wider context in which to determine the meaning of the words. The following sentences are meant to represent such test items when found in longer contexts.

16. Shakespeare is one of the most **prolific** dramatists England has known. I have his complete works.  
a. interesting      b. productive      c. famous      d. controversial
17. Medical experts battled to **arrest** the spread of the disease before it claimed many more lives.  
a. apprehend      b. stop      c. alleviate      d. sever
18. Most of us found it difficult to **decipher** what the speaker was saying. He was quite unintelligible.  
a. make off      b. make for      c. make out      d. make up
19. The stream of abuse coming from the **irate** cab driver shocked passersby.  
a. rude      b. angry      c. provocative      d. nervous
20. Following the route taken by the caravans of old, the team took two months to **trek** across the desert.  
a. spread      b. venture      c. expedite      d. journey
21. His mind **groped** to make sense of what he had just learned in order to explain his girlfriend's behavior.  
a. managed      b. refused flatly      c. felt unable      d. searched blindly
22. John and Peter decided to **collaborate** on the project to reduce each other's workload.  
a. cooperate      b. divide      c. distribute      d. compete
23. After the quake, rescue teams searched the **rubble** for remaining survivors using specially-trained dogs.  
a. debris      b. leftovers      c. damages      d. wrecks
24. The brothers' constant **bickering** upset their parents; there was never a moment's peace when they were around.  
a. mocking      b. arguing      c. scheming      d. teasing
25. You needn't worry; we have **ample** food to last us at least a month.  
a. excess      b. surplus      c. sufficient      d. scarce
26. She **amassed** a fortune by the time she was twenty-five as a result of several prudent investments.  
a. spent      b. inherited      c. squandered      d. accumulated
27. New drivers are usually rather **skittish** in heavy traffic and are forced into making mistakes.  
a. careless      b. willful      c. sober      d. nervous
28. Sarah is **obsessed** with the idea of leaving home as soon as she can support herself; she's extremely independent.  
a. preoccupied      b. influenced      c. confronted      d. excited
29. Sixty contestants will **vie** for the Miss Universe title in next month's finals.  
a. confront      b. compete      c. participate      d. enter
30. Many people are **prone to** colds in winter, so they take extra precautions to remain in good health.  
a. safe from      b. protected from      c. likely to get      d. usually addicted to





# READING COMPREHENSION

You come across the following passage taken from *Natural History*, Vol. 114, No. 9, November 2005, while doing research for a biology assignment. Read the passage carefully; then answer the questions that follow.

If you could redesign your own head, where would you put your eyes? The question isn't entirely  
2 frivolous. To see in three-dimensions, and so to gauge distances effectively, your two eyes must face  
forward. But **binocular vision** comes at a price: it leaves a dangerous blind spot behind the head. On the  
4 other hand, a creature with eyes on either side of its head may have all-around vision, but its perception of  
distance is diminished.

6 The way an animal usually catches its food settles the dilemma. Apes, cats, raptors, and the like that  
catch live, fast-moving prey tend to have forward-facing eyes. Aardvarks, rabbits, zebras, and other  
8 animals that rely on a more sedentary diet have eyes on each side of the head, maximizing their ability to  
spot lurking dangers. Why then, asked a team of British ornithologists, led by Graham Martin of the  
10 University of Birmingham, in England, does Africa's filter-feeding lesser flamingo have eyes that face  
forward? After all, the bird feeds with its head upside down, which means that its eyes are pointing  
12 backwards.

It seems that for lesser flamingos there is more to life than filtering diatoms and algae from the mud.  
14 Unlike filter-feeding ducks, which raise self-feeding chicks, lesser flamingos must feed their young for  
the first ten to twelve weeks of their lives. The task requires accurate delivery of "crop milk" from parent  
16 to chick, directly into the chick's open mouth. Martin's team suggests that this is possible only with  
forward-facing eyes.

31. What do we understand from the term **binocular vision** in *line 3* of the text?
  - a. It is vision that could lead to blindness.
  - b. It is a form of double vision.
  - c. It is the vision you have when your eyes are positioned to see ahead.
  - d. It is vision that allows you to see ahead and behind.
32. Animals with one eye on each side of the head
  - a. are in a better position than other animals in all respects.
  - b. still see in three dimensions.
  - c. do not perceive distance as well as those with "binocular vision".
  - d. have to turn their head left or right in order to gauge distance.
33. Apes, cats and raptors apparently have forward-facing eyes to enable them
  - a. to depend on a more sedentary diet.
  - b. to measure how far away their prey is.
  - c. to outrun their prey.
  - d. to avoid lurking dangers.
34. The filter-feeding lesser flamingo's eyes are forward-facing to enable it
  - a. to hold its head upside down.
  - b. to compete with filter-feeding ducks.
  - c. to spot dangers approaching from behind when it is feeding.
  - d. to successfully feed its chicks.
35. The chicks of filter-feeding ducks
  - a. need less "crop milk" from the parent birds.
  - b. are able to feed themselves.
  - c. are fed "crop milk" for a shorter period.
  - d. reject "crop milk" from the parent birds.

## Test 3

### Grammar You Can Use!

Choose the answer that best fits the sentence.

- The boss has gone to London, \_\_\_ with the chairman of the company tomorrow morning.
  - where he met
  - where he is meeting
  - where will he meet
  - where is he going to meet
- We need to change the company's image, as the market has become really \_\_\_\_\_.
  - competitive
  - competing
  - competitor
  - competition
- It is imperative \_\_\_\_\_ immediately for the station if he wants to make the 9:15 train to Boston.
  - Tim leaving
  - that Tim leave
  - Tim leaves
  - that Tim to leave
- Unless the unions \_\_\_\_\_ about the problem at once, it is going to get much worse.
  - will do something
  - don't do something
  - doing something
  - do something
- Seldom \_\_\_\_\_ such a plentiful supply of oranges in this season; the weather has been kind to growers this year.
  - are you finding
  - you find
  - you will find
  - do you find
- Since he retired, Bob has had \_\_\_\_\_ problems with his health. He needs to look after himself better.
  - a little
  - a few
  - few
  - little
- The bride just needs \_\_\_\_\_ and then she'll be ready to leave for the church.
  - to have her veil put on
  - having her veil put on
  - to have put on her veil
  - putting on her veil
- Do you have any idea \_\_\_\_\_ to my new shoes?
  - what the dog did do
  - what was the dog doing
  - what has the dog done
  - what the dog has done
- Brenda spoke rudely to the teacher, \_\_\_\_\_ suspended from school for two days.
  - that got her
  - that it got her
  - which got her
  - which it got her
- Once we \_\_\_\_\_ home, the children will need to get ready for bed.
  - are arriving
  - arrive
  - will arrive
  - are going to arrive
- Sue must \_\_\_\_\_ to invite Dave to the party. I don't see him anywhere.
  - forget
  - be forgetting
  - to forget
  - have forgotten
- My dad has \_\_\_\_\_ to the one you bought.
  - the similar boat
  - a boat similar
  - similar boat
  - one similar boat
- I hope \_\_\_\_\_ my research paper by Friday.
  - to finish
  - finishing
  - will finish
  - finish
- Paul does so well at school and yet he \_\_\_\_\_ studies.
  - ever hardly
  - hardly ever
  - hardly never
  - never hardly
- Dora \_\_\_\_\_ very attentively. She doesn't seem to have heard a word the boss said.
  - couldn't have been listening
  - couldn't be listening
  - couldn't listened

d. couldn't listening

## Read About It!

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the **highlighted** word/s in each sentence. In the actual examination, the vocabulary items tested will be highlighted within a much longer text, thereby providing candidates with a wider context in which to determine the meaning of the words. The following sentences are meant to represent such test items when found in longer contexts.

16. The youth of the country soon **embraced** the rebel leader's revolutionary ideas and sought change.  
a. rejected      b. defied      c. denied      d. accepted
17. Advocates of euthanasia claim it is a(n) **humane** act and want it legalized as soon as possible.  
a. cruel      b. responsible      c. compassionate      d. understandable
18. Special equipment is capable of measuring the **velocity** of the missile during flight.  
a. accuracy      b. speed      c. range      d. weight
19. Three policemen were **mortally** wounded after confronting drug traffickers the border.  
a. fatally      b. accidentally      c. seriously      d. slightly
20. Amid mounting tension between them, both sides will meet for talks in the hope of **averting** a new war.  
a. inciting      b. preventing      c. deferring      d. preparing
21. The political party decided to **ally** itself with two smaller parties so as to form a stronger opposition front.  
a. mingle      b. converge      c. blend      d. align
22. Good managers know how to treat their **subordinates**, who should always be made to feel an essential part of the company.  
a. inferiors      b. assistants      c. equals      d. peers
23. Visiting Disney world was a **memorable** experience for the youngsters, who bought dozens of souvenirs.  
a. lasting      b. unforgettable      c. eternal      d. durable
24. The **fugitive** remains at large despite police efforts to recapture him; he's believed to be armed.  
a. escapee      b. refugee      c. captive      d. inmate
25. A sudden breeze disturbed the **tranquil** surface of the lake.  
a. dark      b. dull      c. calm      d. bright
26. I found his excuse quite **plausible**. I had not reason to doubt he was telling me the truth.  
a. unacceptable      b. legible      c. tangible      d. reasonable
27. His lawyer advised him to **peruse** the contract carefully in case there were any loopholes.  
a. rewrite      b. examine      c. phrase      d. draft
28. There has been little **perceptible** improvement in the patient's condition, which remains stable.  
a. steady      b. hopeful      c. noticeable      d. positive
29. Natasha is a really **articulate** speaker. It's a pleasure listening to her.  
a. interesting      b. clear      c. engaging      d. convincing
30. The **enmity** between the two families led to great bloodshed that affected several generations of their descendants.  
a. hatred      b. rivalry      c. competition      d. grudge

# READING COMPREHENSION

You come across the following passage taken from *Scientific American, February 2005*, while doing research for an assignment on people's eating habits. Read the passage carefully; then answer the questions that follow.

Beginning in the 1980s, the average weight of Americans began to soar, and by 2002, 31 percent  
2 were classified as obese. <sup>(A)</sup> Although the reasons for this epidemic remain controversial, researchers have  
implicated at least four developments. The first is the decrease in energy expenditure throughout the 20<sup>th</sup>  
4 century, following the introduction of automobiles and the replacement of high-energy blue-collar work  
by low-energy office occupations. The second is the growing affluence of Americans, who could now  
6 afford more and better food. The third is the technological transformation of the food industry in the past  
30 years, which made available cheap, convenient, high-calorie and tasty foods. The last is the decline  
8 through much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in extended breast-feeding, which tends to reduce an infant's chances of  
obesity in later life. <sup>(B)</sup>

10 As a consequence of these shifts, the average weight of Americans increased throughout the century.  
But because many were underweight in the earlier years, the epidemic of obesity did not become apparent  
12 until the 1980s, when these historical developments apparently reached critical mass. Dietary fat, though,  
has not played a major role in the epidemic. Although clinical trials have shown that reducing dietary fat  
14 leads to weight reduction, the average amount consumed has declined in recent decades. <sup>(C)</sup> Heavy  
television viewing by children is linked to obesity, yet there is no definitive proof of a causal relationship.  
16 The decline in smoking and the popularity of eating out – restaurants typically serve extra-large portions –  
have also been blamed, but the evidence remains contradictory. <sup>(D)</sup>

31. According to the text,
  - a. researchers are at a complete loss to explain why obesity has soared.
  - b. there is disagreement over the percentage of the population classified as obese.
  - c. researchers disagree over when the obesity epidemic began.
  - d. full agreement has not yet been reached on why obesity in America has soared.
32. Which of the following is NOT a development that researchers feel has contributed to the obesity epidemic?
  - a. the population's need to expend more energy
  - b. the more extensive use of cars
  - c. the greater demand for office workers
  - d. the population's ability to eat more and better food
33. Extended breast-feeding of infants is cited as a way
  - a. to increase their tendency to become obese in later life.
  - b. to overcome a decline in their proper nutrition.
  - c. to reduce their chances of becoming obese in later life.
  - d. to make up for a lack of high-calorie and tasty foods.
34. At which point in the passage would the following sentence best fit?  
“Consequently, other factors that might contribute to obesity have been considered by researchers”
  - a. <sup>(A)</sup>
  - b. <sup>(B)</sup>
  - c. <sup>(C)</sup>
  - d. <sup>(D)</sup>
34. The text maintains that heavy television viewing, the decline in smoking, and the popularity of eating out
  - a. are almost certain to contribute to the problem of obesity.
  - b. have been dismissed as factors that encourage obesity.
  - c. have never been considered as factors that encourage obesity.
  - d. may or may not contribute to the problem of obesity.

## Test 4

### Grammar You Can Use!

Choose the answer that best fits the sentence.

- For dessert, we had a large bowl of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - chilled, delicious fresh fruit salad
  - fresh, delicious, chilled fruit salad
  - fresh fruit, delicious, chilled salad
  - delicious, chilled, fresh fruit salad
- Hardly \_\_\_\_\_ without him complaining about something or other.
  - a day goes by
  - goes by a day
  - does go by a day
  - a day has to go by
- Simon asked the teacher to explain \_\_\_\_\_.
  - what meant the word 'charity'
  - what did the word 'charity' mean
  - what meant 'charity'
  - what the word 'charity' meant
- The teacher's suggestion was that Panos \_\_\_\_\_ into the possibility of studying abroad.
  - look
  - will look
  - looking
  - will be looking
- We got an expert \_\_\_\_\_ us an estimate on the house we were planning to sell.
  - giving
  - to give
  - give
  - to giving
- The last question \_\_\_\_\_ at the interview made me sure I was going to be offered the job.
  - I was asked
  - I was asked it
  - which I was asked it
  - which they asked it
- After a child \_\_\_\_\_ to walk, it is necessary to keep fragile items out of reach.
  - will begin
  - will have begun
  - has begun
  - is going to begin
- All the students are wondering \_\_\_\_\_.
  - what will be on the test
  - what will there be on the test
  - what the test will be
  - what will there be the test
- The \_\_\_\_\_ child woke up when the bedroom door slammed shut.
  - asleep
  - sleeping
  - slept
  - sleepy
- \_\_\_\_\_ to Paul is that he'll be suspended from school.
  - The worst that can happen
  - Worst that will happen
  - No worse that can happen
  - The worst happening
- Since the table is \_\_\_\_\_, I can carry it by myself.
  - so light that
  - so light
  - as light as
  - as light
- Diana \_\_\_\_\_ to meet me here an hour ago.
  - supposed
  - had been supposed
  - had supposed
  - was supposed
- I wish you \_\_\_\_\_ going out in this awful weather!
  - wasn't
  - weren't
  - didn't
  - hadn't
- This food is very \_\_\_\_\_ what I'm used to.
  - different from
  - different of
  - more different than
  - differently to
- Joe's father said it was necessary \_\_\_\_\_ immediately.
  - Joe to return home
  - that Joe return home
  - Joe's return home
  - Joe returns home

## Read About It!

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the **highlighted** word/s in each sentence. In the actual examination, the vocabulary items tested will be highlighted within a much longer text, thereby providing candidates with a wider context in which to determine the meaning of the words. The following sentences are meant to represent such test items when found in longer contexts.

16. The advice the master chef gave me was **indispensable**. It really made a difference to the dish.  
a. unique            b. essential            c. unbelievable            d. incomparable
17. For a pensioner, Harry is remarkably full of **vigor**. He spends hours doing odd jobs around the garden.  
a. optimism            b. energy            c. determination            d. boredom
18. We did everything possible to **gratify** their wishes, so they would have nothing to complain about.  
a. hide            b. change            c. fulfill            d. reward
19. The young musician was really **versatile**; he was able to play several different instruments.  
a. celebrated            b. outstanding            c. impressive            d. multitalented
20. Most of the staff were **fundamentally** opposed to the scheme and wanted it replaced by something fairer.  
a. extremely            b. jointly            c. unanimously            d. basically
21. The success of their new model has boosted the company's **prestige** and caused their sales to soar.  
a. reputation            b. partiality            c. exports            d. provisions
22. Students are expected to **abide by** the rules of the school and will face disciplinary action for any violations.  
a. follow            b. anticipate            c. represent            d. reflect
23. After a(n) **illustrious** career in music, she established three scholarships for talented young musicians.  
a. famous            b. devoted            c. distinguished            d. proud
24. The school authorities have promised to **address** the problem of bullying, which has been ignored far too long.  
a. solve            b. tackle            c. emphasize            d. alleviate
25. Roses are **hardy** plants that grow in most climates, and their flowers are highly prized for use in floral arrangements.  
a. evergreen            b. common            c. attractive            d. tough
26. We spent a lovely evening in very **genial** company and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.  
a. friendly            b. sociable            c. intelligent            d. admirable
27. Dave had a **premonition** of disaster, so he stayed home that evening only to learn the next morning that the club he had been planning to visit was gutted by a fire that claimed 47 lives.  
a. fear            b. forewarning            c. dread            d. vision
28. The new manager has many outstanding **attributes**, among which are honesty and a willingness to learn.  
a. skills            b. qualifications            c. qualities            d. opinions
29. She's a(n) **avid** reader of pulp fiction and can often finish as many as half a dozen books a week,  
a. eager            b. outspoken            c. extensive            d. broad
30. All my efforts to get his support were **to no avail**; he simply refused to back my proposal.  
a. deafened            b. unaware            c. futile            d. wasteful



## READING COMPREHENSION

You come across the following passage taken from *Scientific American*, January 2006, while doing research for an assignment on natural disasters. Read the passage carefully; then answer the questions that follow.

Before the December 2004 event, the Indian Ocean had no tsunami-warning system. Since then, several international groups, coordinated by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, have raced to correct the problem. To achieve the monitoring capability that currently exists in the Pacific, the Indian Ocean needs three basin-wide technological components: an improved seismic network to locate large earthquakes, a minimum of five tsunameters to detect tsunami waves as they travel across the open ocean, although 13 are needed to detect a tsunami in less than 30 minutes, and a real-time network of tide gauges near shore.

Key steps took place in the past year. Two seismic networks—one entirely new—now report automatically to the national earthquake centers in Indonesia and Malaysia; the latter will soon make its information available to the entire region. Four tide gauges have already been upgraded for tsunami monitoring—including one near Indonesia, which lies closest to tsunami-generating faults. More than 20 additional installations and improvements are scheduled for the coming months.

It is unclear how and when the necessary tsunameters can be acquired, and political challenges must be overcome in certain countries before the seismic network can be completed, but UNESCO remains optimistic. If all goes well, a basic monitoring system should be operational by July. Computer models then combine those measurements into accurate warnings.

Once warnings are available, they must still be disseminated to people on the coasts. Along most of the Indian Ocean's 66,000 kilometers of shoreline, the first wave will not arrive for two hours or more—enough time for most people to move inland after an alarm sounds. In places where tsunami waves will strike in an hour or less, an alarm may come too late. Residents must instead recognize natural signs—severe ground shaking and a receding ocean—that often precede an incoming surge.

In both cases, swift evacuation to pre-designated safe zones is essential. Local officials have already held practice drills in some parts of Thailand, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia that were hit hard in 2004.

31. Since December 2004, UNESCO has worked hard
  - a. to install a tsunami-warning system in the Indian Ocean.
  - b. to improve the existing tsunami-warning system in the Indian Ocean.
  - c. to correct the defects in the Indian Ocean's tsunami-warning system.
  - d. to form an Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.
32. UNESCO hopes to create for the Indian Ocean a tsunami-warning system
  - a. that relies only on an improved seismic network to locate large earthquakes.
  - b. that needs no more than five tsunameters.
  - c. that uses past records of tides occurring near shores.
  - d. to match that of the Pacific Ocean.
33. To date, the only basin-wide technological component that has not been introduced is
  - a. improved seismic networks.
  - b. tsunameters required to detect tsunami waves.
  - c. tide gauges to monitor tsunamis.
  - d. national earthquake centers.
34. UNESCO remains optimistic that a seismic network can be completed
  - a. only if the tsunameters are acquired.
  - b. even if only one of the three basin-wide technological components is installed.
  - c. if political issues do not obstruct their efforts.
  - d. if there is less seismic activity in the region.
35. Once a tsunami warning is issued, what action is recommended for populations in places expected to be hit in an hour or less?
  - a. to contact local officials for advice
  - b. to evacuate their homes only after the alarm sounds
  - c. not to evacuate their homes before the alarm sounds
  - d. to be alert to unusual physical phenomena

## Test 5

### Grammar You Can Use!

Choose the answer that best fits the sentence.

1. If Jan had taken the Miami job, she \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. would have earned much more now
  - b. will earn much more now
  - c. would be earning much more now
  - d. is earning much more now
2. The problem was considered too \_\_\_\_\_ for the junior executive to handle.
  - a. weightless
  - b. weighing
  - c. weighty
  - d. weight
3. She really gets on my nerves. She \_\_\_\_\_ her neighbors!
  - a. will always running down
  - b. is always running down
  - c. is running down always
  - d. is running always down
4. Basic training for soldiers includes \_\_\_\_\_ rifles.
  - a. to dismantle and assemble
  - b. dismantling and to assemble
  - c. to dismantle and assembling
  - d. dismantling and assembling
5. My friends discouraged me from taking the job, but I finally decided to \_\_\_\_\_ it a go.
  - a. making
  - b. make
  - c. giving
  - d. give
6. Either a fox or dogs \_\_\_\_\_ at least a dozen chickens.
  - a. have attacked and killed
  - b. were attacked and killed
  - c. has attacked and killed
  - d. have attacked and killing
7. \_\_\_\_\_ the poor ticket sales, they have had to cancel the concert.
  - a. Despite
  - b. Because
  - c. Due to
  - d. A result of
8. That's my brother Jim you can hear \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. is singing
  - b. singing
  - c. has been singing
  - d. to sing
9. It's time \_\_\_\_\_! It's a disgrace driving it around town in such a state!
  - a. you had your car washed
  - b. you are having your car washed
  - c. you to wash your car
  - d. your car washed
10. Have you seen my keys anywhere? I seem to remember \_\_\_\_\_ next to the telephone.
  - a. to put them
  - b. I was putting them
  - c. having put them
  - d. having them put
11. Don't apologize for losing your temper. I'm sure I \_\_\_\_\_ the same thing.
  - a. had done
  - b. did
  - c. would be doing
  - d. would have done
12. Jan's got a car just like mine, but hers is \_\_\_\_\_ color.
  - a. slightly a different
  - b. a slight different
  - c. a slightly different
  - d. slightly different
13. When I realized my passport had expired, I \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. renew it
  - b. had renewed it
  - c. had it renewed
  - d. have renewed it
14. We didn't attend the concert last night \_\_\_\_\_ we couldn't find a baby-sitter.
  - a. whereas
  - b. yet
  - c. consequently
  - d. since
15. The smell \_\_\_\_\_ the gas-pipe alarmed a passer-by, who immediately called the police.
  - a. coming from
  - b. which coming from
  - c. came from
  - d. that it was coming from

## Read About It!

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the **highlighted** word/s in each sentence. In the actual examination, the vocabulary items tested will be highlighted within a much longer text, thereby providing candidates with a wider context in which to determine the meaning of the words. The following sentences are meant to represent such test items when found in longer contexts.

16. George becomes **irritable** when he can't get his way, so think twice before you do anything to upset him.  
a. moody      b. apologetic      c. bad-tempered      d. impatient
17. Much of the Amazon rain forest is being cut down for **timber**, much of which is destined for the construction industry.  
a. farmland      b. lumber      c. trunks      d. minerals
18. The explorers are preparing to **descend** into the volcanic crater to a depth of approximately 100 meters.  
a. go around      b. explore      c. go down      d. tunnel
19. The petroleum deposits were too small to be exploited profitably, so the mining operations were **halted**.  
a. curbed      b. reduced      c. increased      d. stopped
20. Sue bought some **stationery** from the bookstore to prepare for the arrival of the new secretary.  
a. desk diaries      b. organizers      c. software      d. writing paper
21. When winter came, the journey through the mountains became **perilous** because of the constant threat of avalanches.  
a. random      b. hazardous      c. endangered      d. daring
22. The other side asked for a little more time to **deliberate** before they made a final offer.  
a. consider      b. calculate      c. conspire      d. recoil
23. The clinic is on the **outskirts** of town and many patients without their own transportation have difficulty getting to it.  
a. edge      b. suburbs      c. districts      d. slums
24. If a manager **delegates** responsibilities carefully, all departments of a business will function efficiently.  
a. undertakes      b. assigns      c. weighs      d. avoids
25. It is **costly** to have a swimming pool built, so a pool is beyond the means of the average family.  
a. wasteful      b. worthless      c. valuable      d. expensive
26. An ugly confrontation took place between the rival fans, and in the fight that **ensued**, fifty of them were badly injured.  
a. followed      b. ended      c. worsened      d. spread
27. Receptionists should be **personable**, so applicants for such a position should report for an interview prepared to show how sociable they are.  
a. fashionable      b. knowledgeable      c. smart      d. friendly
28. Lady Gaga is famous for her **outlandish** costumes, which always cause a sensation whenever she appears in public.  
a. bizarre      b. stylish      c. trendy      d. judicious
29. Unfortunately, his efforts to expand the company proved to be **calamitous**, and he soon had to declare bankruptcy.  
a. misinformed      b. catastrophic      c. overdue      d. misjudged
30. The store sells a wide range of **sophisticated** bugging devices for would-be detectives.  
a. pretentious      b. expensive      c. advanced      d. primitive

# READING COMPREHENSION

You come across the following passage taken from *Natural History*, Vol. 115, No. 8, October 2005, while doing research for an anthropology assignment. Read the passage carefully; then answer the questions that follow.

The announcement that some 160 human footprints have been discovered embedded in an ancient layer of volcanic ash near Puebla, Mexico, has stirred the continuing debate about how, and when, people first arrived in the Americas. In spite of disputed evidence and many challenges to the contrary, the consensus among paleoanthropologists has been that the first people to set foot on the continent crossed from Siberia into Alaska about 11,500 years ago. Clovis points, the spearheads that trace their culture are scattered across North America.

But the Mexican footprints have been dated to 40,000 years ago, raising new doubts about the “Clovis-first” theory. Silvia Gonzalez, of Liverpool John Moores University in England, and a team of British, Australian and Mexican paleontologists are studying the find. Children probably made about a third of the human prints, they report. The investigators also discovered about a hundred animal footprints, mostly from dogs, big cats, and what may have been camels, cows, or deer.

The discovery is also noteworthy because fossilized footprints are rare. In the present case, they probably formed when people walked along a lakeshore covered with soft ash after the nearby Cerro Toluquilla volcano erupted. When the lake flooded, the imprints were preserved under silt. Where the people came from, and whether they arrived by land or sea, remain open questions.

31. The recent discovery of some 160 human footprints near Puebla, Mexico,
  - a. has confirmed the validity of the “Clovis-first” theory.
  - b. has revealed many more Clovis points.
  - c. has made investigators question the validity of the “Clovis-first” theory.
  - d. has spearheaded investigation of a new culture.
32. Clovis points are to be found
  - a. throughout North America.
  - b. concentrated in the region around Puebla.
  - c. where Siberia meets Alaska.
  - d. in the Americas.
33. Paleontologists studying the footprints have reported with near certainty
  - a. finding footprints made by deer.
  - b. finding footprints made by camels.
  - c. finding footprints made by human adults and children.
  - d. finding footprints made by cows.
34. We learn from the text that the discovery of the footprints is of special significance
  - a. because of the fact that human and animal footprints were found together.
  - b. because its is uncommon to find fossilized footprints.
  - c. because the footprints give more valuable information than Clovis points.
  - d. because of the large number found in the same place.
35. What is quite certain from the evidence available?
  - a. Flooding of the area helped preserve the footprints.
  - b. The footprints were made by people fleeing a volcanic eruption.
  - c. The evidence tells us the origin of the people who made the footprints.
  - d. The lakeshore was formed after the eruption of Cerro Toluquilla.

**ANSWER KEY**  
**Volume 1**

<b>Test 1</b>	<b>Test 2</b>	<b>Test 3</b>	<b>Test 4</b>	<b>Test 5</b>
1. c	1. d	1. b	1. d	1. c
2. d	2. a	2. a	2. a	2. c
3. a	3. c	3. b	3. d	3. b
4. c	4. c	4. d	4. a	4. d
5. c	5. b	5. d	5. b	5. d
6. b	6. b	6. b	6. a	6. a
7. a	7. d	7. a	7. c	7. c
8. c	8. a	8. d	8. a	8. b
9. d	9. b	9. c	9. b	9. a
10.d	10.d	10.b	10.a	10.c
11.d	11.c	11.d	11.b	11.d
12.b	12.a	12.b	12.d	12.c
13.a	13.d	13.a	13.b	13.c
14.c	14.b	14.b	14.a	14.d
15.c	15.d	15.a	15.b	15.a
16.b	16.b	16.d	16.b	16.c
17.b	17.b	17.c	17.b	17.b
18.a	18.c	18.b	18.c	18.c
19.d	19.b	19.a	19.d	19.d
20.c	20.d	20.b	20.d	20.d
21.d	21.d	21.d	21.a	21.b
22.c	22.a	22.a	22.a	22.a
23.a	23.a	23.b	23.c	23.a
24.b	24.b	24.a	24.b	24.b
25.c	25.c	25.c	25.d	25.d
26.d	26.d	26.d	26.a	26.a
27.c	27.d	27.b	27.b	27.d
28.d	28.a	28.c	28.c	28.a
29.a	29.b	29.b	29.a	29.b
30.a	30.c	30.a	30.c	30.c
31.d	31.c	31.d	31.a	31.c
32.c	32.c	32.a	32.d	32.a
33.c	33.b	33.c	33.b	33.c
34.a	34.d	34.c	34.c	34.b
35.c	35.b	35.d	35.d	35.a