

Directions:

In the following questions, four alternatives are given for the Idiom/Phrase in bold in the sentence. Choose the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the Idiom/Phrase.

1) Students must learn to keep their belongings in **apple-pie order**.

- a) in perfect order
- b) ordering for apple pie
- c) arranging apples neatly
- d) orderly preparation of apple pie

2) For this act of indifference he will be taken to task by **the authority**.

- a) rewarded
- b) tender his resignation
- c) entrusted with an official job.
- d) get an official reprimand

3) To get admission in present-day educational institutions, all children should be born with a **silver spoon in the mouth**.

- a) be born with silver spoon
- b) be born in a rich family
- c) be born to silver spoon manufacturer
- d) always hold a silver spoon

4) It takes a month of **Sundays to chop all that wood**.

- a) no time
- b) a long time
- c) a special Sunday
- d) a short period

5) Politicians enjoy blowing their own **trumpets**.

- a) to use one's own trumpet
- b) to blow their trumpet loudly
- c) to praise others trumpeting
- d) to boast about their achievements

6) I tried to feel his **pulse on the issue, but in vain**.

- a) enlighten him
- b) argue with him
- c) guide him
- d) find his views

7) The new manager ruled the roost to every one.

- a) rushed through work
- b) got paid very handsomely
- c) created good impression
- d) exercised authority

8) You need to have something up your sleeve if the **present plan does not work**.

- a) have some hidden sources of money
- b) have a secret pocket in the sleeve
- c) have an alternative plan
- d) have some honest means

9) **let sleeping dogs lie**

- a) do not allow dogs to stand
- b) prevent dog mobility
- c) do not bring up an old controversial issue
- d) dogs can raise tempers

10) Children complain about their parents' gifts. They should learn not to look a gift horse in the **mouth**.

- a) not to ask for more gifts
- b) not to find goodness in the gifts
- c) not to look at a horse's mouth
- d) not to find fault with the gifts received

11) **a man of straw**

- a) a man of no substance
- b) a very active person
- c) a worthy fellow
- d) an unreasonable person

12) Acquiring a job is a cakewalk for a student who has **good academic performance coupled with a good attitude**.

- a) a walkway made with cakes
- b) an easy achievement
- c) walk away with a cake
- d) a difficult achievement

13) The issues were settled in court, but after a few **days, it was back to square one**.

- a) to run to the first square
b) to start and return
c) to come to a stop
d) to return to the starting point

14) Scientific knowledge is no longer a closed book in this 21st century.

- a) a covered book b) a mystery
c) a mysterious book d) an unopened book

15) Despite his initial arrogance he had to eat humble pie.

- a) he maintained composure
b) he failed to protest eventually
c) he accepted the food offered
d) he had to yield under pressure

16) The newly-elected Chief Minister has promised to bring about changes in the state.

- a) make b) carry
c) cause to happen d) produce

17) The sailors nailed their colours to their mast.

- a) refused to climb down
b) took over the ship
c) decided to abandon the ship
d) put up a colourful mast

18) The students found it hard to go at equal speed with the professor.

- a) put up with b) keep up with
c) race against d) get away from

19) The mention of her former husband's name still makes Rita foam at the mouth.

- a) vomit b) shy
c) fall sick d) angry

20) to cut one short.

- a) to insult one b) to criticise one
c) to interrupt one d) to love one

21) It is difficult to have a sensible discussion with her as she flies off at a tangent.

- a) starts discussing something irrelevant
b) loses her temper easily
c) does not really understand anything
d) gets carried away

22) After his business failed, he had to work very hard to keep the wolf from the door.

- a) earn an honest living
b) regain his lost position
c) defend from enemies
d) keep away extreme poverty

23) We must husband our resources against hard times.

- a) support b) sing
c) concede d) save

24) If you read between the lines, you will appreciate what he writes.

- a) can read a lot quicker
b) know what the writer thinks
c) can read and write in the language
d) can read leaving lines in between

25) He is a cut above all the other boys in the group.

- a) more active than b) a little rougher than
c) rather superior to d) quite taller than

26) We must work with all our might and main, otherwise we cannot succeed.

- a) complete trust b) exceptional skill
c) full unity d) full force

27) to throw dust in one's eyes.

- a) to deceive b) to show false things
c) to make blind d) to harm someone

28) We had better batten down the hatches. The weather is unpredictable.

- a) prepare for a difficult situation
b) go somewhere safe
c) face the obstacles
d) stay in-door

29) He gave vent to his pleasure with a smile.

- a) allowed b) expressed
c) enjoyed d) shared

30) As soon as the police arrived, the bank robbers showed the white flag.

- a) surrendered b) ran away
c) were incensed d) calmly left the scene

31) The police caught the thief red handed.

- a) with blood in hands
b) at the time of committing the crime
c) after reading the rules
d) in a red uniform

32) When she realised that she had bought a fake product, she knew that her money had gone down the drain.

- a) dropped in the drain b) got washed away
c) her money was safe d) was lost forever

33) You have been caught cheating; now you must face the music.

- a) stand up to unpleasant consequences
b) be debarred
c) be insulted publicly
d) face the unpleasant consequences

34) Some people do not grease anybody's palm on any account.

- a) flatter b) cheat
c) fight d) bribe

35) The car broke down just as it reached the edge of a cliff. It was indeed a close shave.

- a) very risky b) narrow escape from danger
c) to be happy d) to share one's brand

36) The parents are in high spirits as their son has got a decent job.

- a) drunk b) cheerful
c) shocked d) in good position

37) Even though the new clerk was given a difficult task, he remained cool as a cucumber.

- a) caught cold b) was happy
c) was scared d) not nervous or emotional

38) I was so disappointed when my close friend left me in the lurch.

- a) helped me in difficult times
b) abandoned me when I needed help
c) stopped helping me in emergency
d) went away without waiting for me

39) His position in the company was on the brink of disaster.

- a) at the point of b) on the side of
c) on the back of d) at the top of

40) George Bernard Shaw was blessed with the gift of the gab.

- a) ability to work hard
b) ability to speak impressively
c) luck on one's side
d) enormous wealth

41) Nowadays, one gets good literary books once in a blue moon.

- a) at very low cost
b) when moon gives blue light
c) rarely
d) from renowned publisher

42) He decided to bury the hatchet.

- a) to make peace b) to fool someone
c) to bury the wealth d) to keep a secret

43) "If he does not perform his duties properly, I will send him packing," said the manager.

- a) give him a warning
- b) serve him a notice
- c) terminate his services
- d) send him to packing department

44) If you develop friendship with an individual you must stand by him through thick and thin.

- a) under all circumstances
- b) to accompany through a thick forest
- c) in day and night
- d) think about his/her welfare

45) He will certainly come to grief if he does not leave his present friends.

- a) go up to the extreme
- b) suffer
- c) enjoy
- d) addicted

46) The officer kicked up a row over the issue.

- a) made a great fuss
- b) avoided the issue
- c) gave strict orders
- d) gave a kick in the air

47) Fresh out of college, Ram found it difficult to get a job as he was wet behind the ears.

- a) inexperienced
- b) unhealthy
- c) irresponsible
- d) unsuitable

48) Reena is a kind of person who wears her heart on her sleeve.

- a) expresses her emotions caringly
- b) suppresses her emotions openly
- c) suppresses her excitement sparingly
- d) expresses her emotions freely

49) Sarala is always ready to eat anyone's salt.

- a) to cook tasty dishes
- b) an infectious disease
- c) to deceive someone
- d) to be one's guest

50) I hope to talk him over to our view.

- a) analyze
- b) convince
- c) support
- d) oppose