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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) I have clean hands, so why should I be afraid of any one.

- a) faulty
- b) innocent
- c) hygienic
- d) beautiful

2) You cannot expect even a single penny from him, he is a closefisted man.

- a) boxer
- b) courageous
- c) generous
- d) miser

3) to keep the wolf away from the door

- a) to guard against wild animals
- b) to guard against enemies
- c) to keep aloof from disputed matters
- d) to keep off starvation

4) to set the Thames on fire

- a) do something to suit one's own purpose
- b) to burn someone alive
- c) destroy with fire
- d) do a heroic deed

5) The future of Kashmir is still a vexed question.

- a) None of the given options.
- b) important
- c) confused
- d) controversial

6) 15th August is a red-letter day in the history of India.

- a) blood-donation day
- b) holiday
- c) a historical occasion
- d) an important day

7) I have a feeling in my gut that her husband is cheating her.

- a) slight hint
- b) lot of Proof
- c) strong fear
- d) strong instinct

8) A : Can you help me ? B : Sure, I'll be finished with this in a second.

- a) be satisfied
- b) be exhausted
- c) be through
- d) be thorough

9) a golden mean

- a) middle course between two extremes
- b) a sudden sad event
- c) a subject of contention
- d) comfortable and easy work

10) out of sorts

- a) out of reach
- b) out of sight
- c) not well
- d) not rich

11) We visit the shopping mall off and on.

- a) often
- b) really and truly
- c) once upon a time
- d) up and about

12) Life is an event of give and take.

- a) make believe
- b) always
- c) giving
- d) adjustment

13) Try to make do with what you have.

- a) do
- b) produce
- c) manage
- d) create

14) The personality development, class started with an ice breaking session.

- a) starting conversation
- b) introducing chief guest
- c) making speeches
- d) having breakfast

15) He chickened out when he confronted opposition.

- a) released chicken
- b) hatched eggs
- c) withdrew
- d) ate chicken





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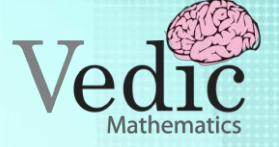
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16) "Don't try to throw dust into my eyes. You will not succeed."

- a) to protect my eyes
- b) blind me with dust
- c) to mislead or confuse me
- d) to blind me with dust

17) He broke down when he heard the news of his son's death.

- a) ceased to smile
- b) stopped working
- c) wept bitterly
- d) resigned his job

18) Don't mix with the bad hats.

- a) people of bad character
- b) people selling bad hats
- c) people of poor status
- d) people with bad hats

19) a man of straw

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

20) The scientist worked for donkey's years to arrive at the formula.

- a) a short time
- b) for donkeys
- c) for few years
- d) a long time

21) He wanted this agreement in black and white.

- a) orally
- b) in discourse
- c) in detail
- d) in writing

22) The President gave away the prizes to the winners.

- a) released
- b) gave back
- c) distributed
- d) let go

23) I am sure the girls will fight tooth and nail for their rights.

- a) without any weapon
- b) in a cowardly manner
- c) with all their rights
- d) with all their might

24) You need to improve your work because it is not up to the mark.

- a) according to the required standard
- b) as good as the others
- c) marked properly and accurately
- d) up to the potential displayed

25) The principal of this school is a hard nut to crack.

- a) difficult
- b) careless
- c) kind
- d) generous

26) The manager gave his assistant a piece of his mind.

- a) advice
- b) gist
- c) scolding
- d) suggestion

27) His observations were beside the mark.

- a) criticized
- b) valid
- c) excellent
- d) irrelevant

28) Your report of the matter is all moonshine.

- a) acceptable
- b) concocted
- c) excellent
- d) familiar

29) We consider the 14th of February a red letter day.

- a) a day marked in red
- b) a day to write letters
- c) an important day
- d) a day to write with red pens

30) At the police station, he showed a clean pair of heels.

- a) displayed clean heels
- b) kneeled down
- c) showed courage
- d) ran away

31) He broke off in the middle of the story.

- a) suddenly stopped
- b) divided his narrative
- c) took time off
- d) fainted

32) Your remarks during the discussion added fuel to the fire.

- a) ignited the fireplace
- b) worsened matters





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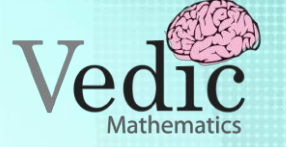
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c) created warmth all around
d) got others angry

33) Why do you fight shy of me ?

a) avoid b) embarrass
c) shout at d) fight with

34) My father's dealings are open and above board.

a) mandatory b) without any secret
c) very clear d) to everyone's liking

35) Winning the competition was quite a feather in my cap.

a) an exciting moment b) an achievement
c) a joy for my parents d) rewarding

36) Some shots were fired at random.

a) for a long time b) to end quarrel
c) thoroughly d) without any aim

37) After the public meeting, the crowd went haywire.

a) protested b) became out of control
c) left the venue d) were in jubilation

38) I can finish the work by myself, but she always tries to be a backseat driver.

a) person who wants to do things by herself
b) person who falsely accuses others
c) person who gives unwanted advice
d) person who misjudge others

39) When he asked me the way to the cafeteria, I told him to follow his nose.

a) to ask someone else b) to follow me
c) to go straight ahead d) to find it by himself

40) They have latched on to tourism as a way of boosting the local economy.

a) discovered b) exposed
c) explored d) promoted

41) Since the children were young, their parents have always taught them to cut one's coat according to one's cloth.

a) live life to the full b) live within one's means
c) be fair d) be thrifty

42) I can work for six hours at a stretch.

a) occasionally b) maximum
c) minimum d) continuously

43) Look sharp or you will miss the opportunity.

a) pay attention b) take control
c) make haste d) be confident

44) It was he who put a spoke in my wheel.

a) helped in the execution of the plan
b) thwarted in the execution of the plan
c) destroyed the plan
d) tried to cause an accident

45) My student is one who knows how many beans make five.

a) is fiercely loyal
b) well informed and intelligent
c) is accurate and precise
d) knows mathematical calculations

46) The rock concert proved to be a big draw.

a) huge attraction b) gain
c) big bang d) favourite

47) Our fleet bore down upon the enemy.

a) moved quickly to the left
b) moved quickly to the right
c) moved quickly towards
d) moved quickly backwards

48) The lawyer's closing arguments were full of red herrings.

a) references and allusions to previous crimes
b) clues intended to distract or mislead
c) loopholes





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d) sound judgement

49) Our old Rolls Royce has become a white elephant.

- a) antique item or possession
- b) any traditional possession
- c) a unique item or possession
- d) a costly but useless possession

50) to get into hot waters.

- a) to suffer loss
- b) to get into trouble
- c) to being a confused state of mind
- d) to be impatient

