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#### Directions:

In the following question, out of the four alternatives, select the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the idiom/phrase.

#### 1) There's no such thing as a free lunch

- a) Even a mother will expect something for her love
- b) There is no genuine kindness in this world
- c) Those who are tempted by free things, end up spending more
- d) It isn't possible to get something for nothing

#### 2) Throw up the sponge

- a) To laugh at someone
- b) To talk loudly
- c) To attack
- d) To surrender

#### 3) Make an ass out of

- a) Work very hard like a donkey
- b) Make a mistake
- c) Cause someone or oneself to look foolish or stupid
- d) Be smart but act dumb

#### 4) Chicken-hearted

- a) Short tempered
- b) Bold
- c) Coward
- d) Composed

#### 5) Know the ropes

- a) To understand the details
- b) Main support
- c) To climb on a rope
- d) Unable to understand

#### 6) The thin end of the wedge

- a) Be aware of the trick
- b) Start of harmful development
- c) Not a worthy possession
- d) In strict vigilance

#### 7) In a jiffy

- a) In an appropriate manner
- b) To fall in love
- c) Fail to win appreciation

d) Something that is done very quickly

#### 8) fits and starts

- a) quickly
- b) slowly
- c) continuously
- d) not regularly

#### 9) Rat race

- a) Be an oppressive boss and treat employees like animals
- b) Play games with the lives of other people and see them run aimlessly
- c) Make others fight for scraps and get sadistic pleasure out of it
- d) A way of life in which people are caught up in a fiercely competitive struggle for wealth or power

#### 10) An axe to grind

- a) To act like a fool
- b) To take risk
- c) To act bravely
- d) To have a selfish motive

#### 11) To hit the nail on the head

- a) To make a wrong decision
- b) To unwittingly fall into a trap
- c) To take out frustration by beating a person
- d) To find exactly the right answer

#### 12) Give somebody a ring

- a) Inform about the death of a loved one
- b) Trap somebody in a difficult relationship
- c) Propose marriage
- d) Call someone on the telephone

#### 13) To chip on his shoulder

- a) Wearing your battle scars like medals
- b) Uniform decorated with stars and medals
- c) Holding a grudge or grievance that readily provokes a fight
- d) To have huge responsibilities on one's shoulders





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#### 14) To make amends

- a) To feel guilty for something you have not done
- b) To make flimsy excuses
- c) To make new friends
- d) To compensate

#### 15) Teething problems

- a) Problems at the start of a new project
- b) Problem of having good dentist
- c) Oral problems
- d) Problems for quite a long time in adjusting in the new place

#### 16) He knows how to break in horses.

- a) tend
- b) train
- c) force
- d) rear

#### 17) My uncle's business has gone to the dogs.

- a) is dead
- b) is sick
- c) is angry
- d) is ruined

#### 18) Sheila's tall tales have no meaning.

- a) greed
- b) boasting
- c) pride
- d) jealousy

#### 19) I stirred the hornet's nest by my honest statement.

- a) caused anger in many people
- b) stopped people criticizing someone
- c) acted with energy and interest
- d) responded to criticism angrily

#### 20) Despite the highs and lows, life tends to average itself out.

- a) be unvarying
- b) show equal value
- c) get compatible
- d) balance itself

#### 21) On second thoughts she refused to accept his invitation.

- a) reviewing leisurely
- b) moral grounds
- c) seeing his brashness
- d) on reconsidering

#### 22) His plan was so complicated that it floored his listeners.

- a) annoyed
- b) entertained
- c) puzzled
- d) encouraged

#### 23) The judge declared the agreement null and void.

- a) annulled
- b) unavoidable
- c) not binding
- d) empty

#### 24) The bridge gave way under the heavy weight.

- a) endured
- b) withstood
- c) stooped
- d) collapsed

#### 25) We should bury the hatchet and become friends.

- a) influence friends
- b) make peace
- c) keep a secret
- d) obtain

#### Directions:

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

#### 26) He has a very nice manner, but you would better take what he says with a grain of salt.

- a) to criticize
- b) to talk sensibly
- c) to complement
- d) to listen to something with considerable doubt

#### 27) Many young artists were dropping names at the party to impress the gathering.

- a) hinting at high connections
- b) using pet names
- c) talking informally
- d) talking proudly about their family members

#### 28) The passing of anti-defection law struck a chill to the heart of every opportunistic legislator.

- a) aroused fear
- b) caused relief





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c) awakened bitterness

d) caused anger

29) Since you couldn't accept a timely warning, it's no use repenting now. Why cry over spilt milk?

- a) cry needlessly
- b) to regret uselessly
- c) feel guilty of
- d) cry over irreparable loss

30) To make one's blood boil

- a) to get excited
- b) to develop fever
- c) to make someone nervous
- d) to make somebody furious

31) cold comfort

- a) slight satisfaction
- b) , deception
- c) foolish proposal
- d) absurdity

32) to strain every nerve

- a) to be a diligent worker
- b) to feel weak and tired
- c) to be methodical In work
- d) to make utmost efforts

33) I joined college late and found it difficult to catch up with other students.

- a) to overtake them
- b) to come to their level
- c) to hold them and stop
- d) to compete with

34) Winter was so bad that the nomadic tribesmen found it difficult to keep the wolf from the door.

- a) get woolen clothes
- b) escape starvation
- c) walk on ice
- d) hunt wild animals

35) a bolt from the blue

- a) an unexpected event
- b) an inexplicable event
- c) an unpleasant event
- d) a delayed event

36) He has too many irons in the fire.

a) has many ideas in his head

b) has several problems

c) has a fire burning constantly in his house

d) is engaged in too many enterprises at the same time

37) The robber murdered, the woman in cold blood for the sake of the jewels.

- a) a murder done in great anger
- b) a murder done in revenge
- c) a murder done in enmity
- d) a murder done without feeling

38) The clerk turned a deaf ear to his officer's advice.

- a) disregarded
- b) paid attention to
- c) acknowledged gratefully
- d) disputed

39) a white elephant

- a) huge and colossal waste of human energy
- b) a report by the government to give information
- c) costly and troublesome possession useless to its owner
- d) an extinct species of elephant found in Burma

40) The young and the old sat cheek by jowl in the large audience.

- a) tongue tied
- b) very far
- c) irritated
- d) very near

41) I trust you will bear with me a few minutes more.

- a) carry the burden for
- b) support
- c) be in control for
- d) have patience with

42) The effort to trace the culprit was a wild goose chase.

- a) ideal seeking
- b) futile search
- c) genuine effort
- d) fruitful hunting

43) The failure of crops in successive years put the farmer in a tight corner.

- a) In a difficult situation
- b) in a small field
- c) in a meadow
- d) in a closed room







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44) Don't worry about the silly row. It was just a storm in a tea cup.

- a) commotion over a trivial matter
- b) hot tea being served
- c) confusion and chaos
- d) important matter dealt with ease

45) to bum the candle at both ends

- a) to be extravagant
- b) to be stingy
- c) to survive difficulty
- d) to spend cautiously

46) They were offered six months' rent in lieu of notice to vacate the building.

- a) despite of
- b) in place of
- c) in addition to
- d) in spite of

47) He spoke well though it was his maiden speech.

- a) first speech
- b) brief speech
- c) emotional speech
- d) long speech

48) At last the rioters fell back.

- a) ran back
- b) yielded
- c) turned back
- d) fell on the ground

49) to take to one's heels

- a) to march forward'
- b) to run away
- c) to hop and jump
- d) to walk slowly

50) The population of our country is increasing by leaps and bounds.

- a) irregularly
- b) very quickly
- c) very systematically
- d) very slowly

