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Directions:

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

1) She is quite at sea and does not know what course of action to take in the matter.

- a) displeased
- b) perplexed
- c) danger
- d) at ease

2) I have a bone to pick with you in this matter.

- a) selfish motive
- b) selfless motive
- c) desire
- d) am angry

3) The smell from the kitchen makes my mouth water.

- a) makes me vomit
- b) stimulates my appetite
- c) makes me sick
- d) makes me giddy

4) To work on this project is like flogging a dead horse.

- a) dragging something too far
- b) over-spending money
- c) None of these
- d) harp upon a question that has been settled

5) The inspector was caught red-handed.

- a) caught in the act of committing the crime
- b) caught with dirty hands
- c) found with hands tied
- d) quickly

6) It is time that professors came down from their ivory towers and studied the real needs of present-day students.

- a) detachment and seclusion
- b) dreamlands
- c) a tower made of ivory
- d) expensive fee

7) The cashier wiped the nose of his employer by presenting false bills.

- a) cheated
- b) slapped

c) doomed

d) abused

8) His boss was always breathing down his neck.

- a) giving him strenuous work
- b) abusing and ill-treating him
- c) watching all his actions closely
- d) shouting loudly at him

9) My friend got the sack from his first job.

- a) got tired of
- b) was dismissed from
- c) was demoted from
- d) resigned

10) She was in a brown study and did not notice my entrance.

- a) dream
- b) fear
- c) reverie
- d) sleep

11) a storm in a tea cup

- a) something which encourages
- b) big fuss over a small matter
- c) special positions
- d) steam while having tea

12) keep body and soul together

- a) continue with his work
- b) to have just enough to sustain
- c) be physical and spiritual
- d) maintain his health

13) blue- blooded

- a) of noble birth
- b) of unknown origin
- c) unhealthy
- d) inferior

14) mare's nest

- a) worthless thing
- b) joyful event
- c) huge mistake
- d) phenomenal discovery

15) throw in the towel

- a) acknowledge defeat
- b) get success
- c) concentrate more
- d) fight with vigour

16) do a roaring trade





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- a) highly successful
- b) in the habit of shouting at others
- c) extremely reluctant
- d) in the animal business

7) will-o-the-wisp

- a) marsh land
- b) unreal imagining
- c) rumour whispered by many
- d) smoky place

18) make one's mark

- a) score high marks
- b) highlight something in a page
- c) reveal something
- d) distinguish oneself

19) cloak-and-dagger

- a) a game of martial skill
- b) an activity that involves mystery and secrecy
- c) a wide coat without sleeves and a small sword
- d) an armoured suit

20) palm off

- a) uneasy with something
- b) to dispose off with the intent to deceive
- c) conceal
- d) clearly visible

21) go to rack and ruin

- a) a state of despair
- b) a condition of exhilaration
- c) get into a bad condition
- d) a state of utter chaos

22) build castles in the air

- a) fly
- b) dream
- c) film something
- d) work tirelessly

23) lose face

- a) feel angry
- b) get injured
- c) feel surprised
- d) become embarrassed

24) the seamy side

- a) unpleasant aspect
- b) visible aspects
- c) on the left side of something
- d) on the right side

25) too many chiefs and not enough Indians.

- a) an inefficient situation
- b) an anti-national meeting
- c) a top-level meeting
- d) a proud gathering

26) fall back on

- a) overtaken
- b) suffer an accident
- c) resort to something
- d) retreat

27) have a chip on one's shoulder

- a) feel physically tall
- b) suffer an ailment
- c) carry a burden
- d) nurse a grudge

28) take the bull by the horns

- a) grapple the situation courageously
- b) close your eyes and attack the bull
- c) take defensive measures to deal with a crisis.
- d) crush something with a heavy hand

29) a gentleman at large

- a) a man without a job
- b) a man who runs around
- c) a man who is generous
- d) a man in the crowd

30) bite the dust

- a) suffer a defeat
- b) clean something
- c) attack and defeat somebody
- d) eat poorly

Directions:

In the following questions, four alternatives are given for the Idiom/Phrase in bold in the sentence. Choose





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the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the Idiom/Phrase.

31) He usually goes to bed very early and rises with the lark.

- a) very late
- b) very early
- c) after sunrise
- d) at midnight

32) At his wit's end, he turned to his old trade.

- a) After careful thinking
- b) Confidently
- c) Not knowing what to do
- d) Overjoyed

33) A closefisted man does not know the significance of human life.

- a) a rich man
- b) a miser
- c) an ill-mannered man
- d) a poor man

34) Before the report reached the authority, the media spilled the beans.

- a) dropped the charges
- b) spilled the content of the package
- c) revealed the secret information
- d) hinted at the consequences.

35) Their attempt to get back the stolen necklace proved to be a wild goose chase.

- a) wise decision
- b) useless search
- c) timely action
- d) delayed action

36) He and his neighbour are always at loggerheads.

- a) disagreeing on everything
- b) aloof from each other
- c) abusing each other
- d) agree on everything

37) The winning team decided to go for the jugular in the last quarter of the match.

- a) give easy opportunities to the opposite team
- b) give reserve players a chance
- c) attack all out

d) forfeit the match

38) His friend turned out to be snake in the grass.

- a) a hidden enemy
- b) an unreliable and deceitful person
- c) low and mean
- d) cowardly and brutal

39) Instead of keeping his promise of helping me with office work, he just left me high and dry.

- a) left me in a state of anger
- b) left me alone to do the work
- c) left me feeling like a fool
- d) left me without a drop of water

40) Everybody thought Asha and Ashok were a happy couple, but it was all just make believe.

- a) treachery
- b) reality
- c) pretence
- d) hatred

41) I and my friend always go Dutch when we eat out.

- a) pay for each other's meal
- b) go together
- c) divide the costs
- d) drive together

42) Amit said to Rekha, "Don't make a mountain out of a mole hill."

- a) attempt an impossible task
- b) create problems
- c) start looking for mole hills in mountains.
- d) exaggerate a minor problem

43) The day the new product was launched, people made a beeline to purchase it.

- a) rushed
- b) were doubtful
- c) refused
- d) went online

44) I am going to stay at home because I am feeling under the weather today.

- a) depressed
- b) irritated
- c) sick
- d) unhappy





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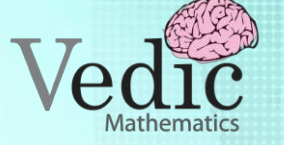
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45) I shall always remember my alma mater with gratitude.

- a) teacher who inspired me
- b) mother's loving care
- c) kindergarten days
- d) institution where I got education

46) I hope you will back me at the meeting.

- a) speak after I do
- b) follow
- c) support
- d) criticize

47) Unless you make amends for the loss, nobody is prepared to excuse you.

- a) confess
- b) compensate
- c) pay debt
- d) improve

48) When it comes to dancing, he is all-thumbs.

- a) an expert
- b) a trainer
- c) clumsy
- d) lazy

49) He's as daft as a brush. Don't believe a word of what he says.

- a) very funny
- b) really silly
- c) unreliable
- d) a liar

50) Even in the middle of the fire he kept a level head.

- a) was sensible
- b) was crazy
- c) was self centered
- d) was impulsive

