

STANDARD 8 MID TERM 2 EXAM 2019

ENGLISH

Read the passage below. It contains blank spaces numbered 1-15. For each blank space, choose the best alternative from the choices given.

Is it worth 1 books, since nowadays there are so many other forms of 2? Some people 3 that paperback books are expensive, and not everyone can 4 books from a library. They might add that television is more 5 and that viewers 6 relax as they watch their favourite 7. All that may be true, but books are still very 8. They encourage 9 reader to use his or her imagination for a start. You can read a chapter of a book, or just 10 pages, and then stop. Of course, it may be 11 fascinating that you can't stop! There are many different kinds of books, so you can choose a crime 12 or an autobiography, or a book which gives you interesting information. If you find it 13 to choose, you can read reviews, or ask friends 14 ideas. Personally, I can't do without books, but I can 15 up television easily enough. You can't watch television at bus stops!

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|-----------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. A. read | B. reading | C. to read | D. to reading |
| 2. A. sport | B. entertainment | C. research | D. study |
| 3. A. say | B. imagined | C. thinks | D. see |
| 4. A. borrow | B. lend | C. buy | D. take |
| 5. A. exited | B. excitable | C. exciting | D. excitement |
| 6. A. would | B. could | C. should | D. can |
| 7. A. plans | B. programmes | C. schedules | D. station |
| 8. A. liking | B. live | C. popular | D. lovely |
| 9. A. the | B. a | C. all | D. some |
| 10. A. a little | B. a few | C. many | D. enough |
| 11. A. such | B. very | C. so | D. too |
| 12. A. film | B. poetry | C. history | D. novel |
| 13. A. hard | B. simple | C. herd | D. cheap |
| 14. A. with | B. on | C. for | D. about |
| 15. A. put | B. set | C. give | D. break |

For questions 16 to 17, choose the word that means the same as the one underlined.

16. Young people are advised not to be extravagant.
 A. miserly B. generous
 C. wasteful D. frugal
17. Hard work eventually pays off if one doesn't give up.
 A. finally
 B. really
 C. actually
 D. lastly
18. It's inhumane to look down on other people.
 A. harass
 B. hate
 C. misunderstand
 D. despise

For questions 19 and 20, select the sentence that means the same as the one underlined.

19. **No sooner had the announcement made than people began applauding**
- A. Immediately the people began applauding, the announcement was made.
 - B. Hardly had the people began applauding when the announcement was made.
 - C. The people began applauding immediately the announcement was made.
 - D. The announcement was made before the people began applauding.
20. **There are a few challenges to be tackled.**
- A. There is hardly any challenge to tackle.
 - B. A number of challenges have not been tackled.
 - C. Many challenges have been tackled.
 - D. There are almost no challenges to be tackled.

In questions 21 to 23, choose the best alternative to complete the sentence.

21. The committee _____ the recent cases of pollution.
- A. discussed about
 - B. spoke of
 - C. discussed
 - D. talked of
22. Maria was congratulated by her _____ brother.
- A. more elder
 - B. older
 - C. oldest
 - D. elder
23. I was never very _____ at history at school and now I work in a museum. How ironic!
- A. good
 - B. expert
 - C. keen
 - D. able

In questions 24 to 25, fill the blank spaces with the appropriate question tags.

24. Little Kantai got the highest marks in the exam, _____
- A. did he?
 - B. didn't he?

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 38.

My tooth hurt throughout the night. I could not bear the excruciating pain which I tried to lessen with painkillers in vain. Worst of all, I did not get a wink of sleep the whole night.

The next morning, I told my mother about my toothache. It was **obvious** I could not go to school. So instead, she took me to the dentist. I was horrified, but I had no choice. I had heard horrendous stories from some of my classmates about their experiences at the dentist's. They were exaggerated and purely gossip. We were often left in stitches.

At nine o'clock, we waited outside the dentist's office. The nurse came and opened the door. I was the first patient. She wrote down my particulars and told me to wait a moment. The dentist had not arrived yet. Meanwhile the tooth still ached like hell.

The burly dentist arrived and I was ushered to the dentist's chair. Normally I would run away from the frightening surgery with all its horrible drills and pliers, but I did not. I had to get the offending tooth out. **The pain dwarfed my fears.** So I sat down on the reclining chair while the dentist kept saying some reassuring words. I relaxed somewhat. He asked me to open my mouth. I did so. He said that the tooth had to come out. I nodded dumbly in reply.

I felt a slight prick of pain when he gave me an injection, but that was nothing compared to the toothache. Soon, miraculously, all pain disappeared. The **anaesthetic** definitely worked very quickly. Then before I knew it, the dentist told me that I could go. I looked at him quizzed and he told me he had already pulled the tooth out. What wonder, I did not even feel it.

The dentist put a wad of cotton over the wound and he told me to keep my mouth shut for a while. I nodded, smiled and went out into the waiting room where my mother was waiting for me. The cotton was removed soaked in blood. That was all.

I also learnt a lot about oral hygiene and taking care of my teeth. Regular brushing, avoiding sugary foods and eating a balanced diet keep teeth strong and healthy. The dentist was a very kind and friendly person.

26. From the first paragraph we can learn the
- painkillers worked perfectly.
 - toothache was unbearable.
 - there was some relief from painkillers.
 - the pain increased despite the painkillers.
27. It is **true** to say that the writer
- had much sleep.
 - had little sleep.
 - had some sleep.
 - did not sleep at all.
28. The expression **obvious** as used in the passage means the same as
- unsure
 - clear
 - doubtful
 - uncertain
29. Stories told by the writer's classmates can be described as
- fictitious.
 - factual.
 - realistic.
 - verifiable.
30. It is true to conclude that the stories told by the writer's classmates were meant to
- scare the writer.
 - make fun.
 - warn against going to the dentist.
 - destroy the dentist's reputation.
31. We can conclude that the writer and his mother arrived at the dentist's
- on time.
 - late.
 - punctually
 - in time.
32. **The pain dwarfed my fears.** This implies the
- pain was more than the fear.
 - pain was not more than the fear.
 - pain was as severe as the fear.
 - fear was worse than the pain.
33. The dentist spoke reassuring words to
- lessen the writer's pain.
 - make the writer calm down.
 - make the writer accept treatment.
 - make the writer like him.
34. **Anaesthetic** as described in the passage is a drug that
- makes one unconscious.
 - helps wounds to heal fast.
 - prevents much bleeding.
 - relieves pain during surgery.
35. Why was the writer surprised when the tooth was pulled out?
- It took a very short time.
 - He did not feel any pain.
 - There was a slight prick of pain.
 - He was not frightened.
36. The work of the wad of cotton put on the wound was to
- stop the bleeding.
 - clean the wound.
 - soak the blood.
 - fill the gap left.
37. All the following are ways of taking care of our teeth. Which one is **not**?
- Regular brushing of teeth.
 - Eating a balanced diet.
 - Chewing tough foods.
 - Avoiding to eat sugary foods.
38. Which one of the following is the **most suitable** title for the passage?
- Taking care of our teeth.
 - Causes of toothaches
 - A terrible toothache.
 - A visit to the dentist.

Read the passage below and answer questions 39 to 50

World over, the standard colour of the attire of soldiers is always green. This is to enable them to camouflage themselves during wartime. Hiding in the jungles, their green attire blend into the surrounding trees and shrubs, making it difficult for the enemies to spot them.

Long before man made use of camouflage, insects had already adopted the tactic of disguise to escape from the clutches of their predators. By having body colours close to those of the rocks and dried leaves, they catch less attention from the predators and hence escape from being pursued. However, this kind of disguise works only if the insects remain still in the presence of their predators.

Butterflies and moths have developed a variety of camouflage strategies since they are quite defenceless and among their predators, birds are **abundant**. Many moth caterpillars resemble dead twigs while the young of certain species of butterflies appear like bird droppings. Adult butterflies and moths camouflage themselves too, in attempts to escape from their hunters birds who are **superior gliders**. Possessing wings which resemble dried leaves help certain butterflies and moths to hide among heaps of dried leaves when predators are around.

Fortunately, not all insects choose the art of disguise to escape from their predators; otherwise, the world would be so dull and colourless. There are insects which **assimilate** the bright body colours of bees and wasps to escape from being pursued by their predators. Long ago, birds learnt to avoid brightly coloured wasps and bees in fear of their painful stings. Hence, many harmless insects have imitated the bright body colours and shapes of bees and wasps. In this way, they appear dangerous to their predators and hence ward them off.

Mimics of the wasps and bees are most commonly found in the gardens. The furry, plump bee-fly not only appears like the bumble bee in terms of body colours and size, even its hums sound similar too. The only difference is that the bee-fly does not have a sting and is hence harmless. The hoverfly is another insect which imitates the body colours of the wasps. Their bodies are striped yellow and black. The only deviations are that hoverflies do not have stings and they have only one pair of wings each while wasps have two pairs each. These variations are hardly noticed by the predators and hence help them to escape

39. From the first paragraph, it would be **true** to say that soldiers
- look the same everywhere.
 - wear similar colours all over the world.
 - love green more than any other colour.
 - wear diverse colours in different nations.
40. Why do soldiers prefer green clothes?
- To spot their enemies easily.
 - To make them easy to spot.
 - Because it is a dull colour.
 - To avoid detection by enemies.
41. It is **true** to say that insects
- learnt to disguise themselves before man.
 - have used camouflage to catch prey.
 - used disguise to hide from man.
 - have since recently used camouflage to survive
42. For an insect to avoid detection from a predator, it must
- be close to rocks and dry leaves.
 - be able to escape quickly.
 - remain motionless.
 - be able to frighten the predator.
43. The word **abundant** as used in the passage means the opposite of
- plentiful.
 - rare.
 - scarce.
 - ample.
44. Which one of the following is **not** a disguise strategy used by moths and butterflies?
- Moth caterpillars look like dead twigs.
 - Some young butterflies look like bird droppings.
 - Adult moths resemble dry twigs.
 - Wings of adult moths and butterflies resemble dry leaves.
45. Which one of the following are cited as **superior gliders**?
- Adult butterflies.
 - Moth caterpillars.
 - Adult moths.
 - Predator birds.
46. The world would be dull and colourless if
- all insects avoided the predators.
 - not all insects disguised themselves.
 - camouflage was used by all insects.
 - only few insects used disguise for survival.
47. The word **assimilate** as used in the passage means to
- adept.
 - adopt.
 - adapt.
 - fit.
48. We can conclude that
- bees and wasps have no predators.
 - harmless insects have acquired stings.
 - brightly coloured insects attract predators.
 - some insects take after bees and wasps.
49. All the following are characteristics of hoverflies. Which one is **not**? They
- have stripped yellow and black bodies.
 - have one pair of wings.
 - fail to possess stings.
 - hum like bees.
50. Which one of the following is the **best** title for the passage?
- Camouflage in insects.
 - Insects and their predators.
 - Survival of insects.
 - Characteristics of insects.