

15th INTERNATIONAL KANGAROO LINGUISTIC CONTEST 2018

Student Level (Class 11 & 12)

Time Allowed: 60 minutes

3 - Point Questions

For questions 1–10, read and choose the correct answer.

1. Which word is not a correct nationality?

- A) Filipino B) Israeli C) Iraquian
D) Portuguese E) Cuban

2. You would hardly expect her to know that, ?

- A) wouldn't you B) do you C) don't she
D) would you E) won't she

3. Find the word whose underlined part is pronounced differently from the others.

- A) bath B) smooth C) breath
D) health E) birth

4. children are also capable of abstract thinking and hypothetical reasoning.



- A) Twelve-year-olds B) Twelve-years-old C) Twelve-year's old
D) Twelve-year-old E) Twelfth-year-old

5. My boss was lenient enough to my mistake.

- A) overtake B) overgrow C) overdo
D) overlook E) overpass

6. You tired after the marathon yesterday.

- A) should be B) had to be C) might have been
D) must have been E) ought to have been

7. If you don't like spending money, you are mean. What's the opposite of mean?

- A) tight-fisted B) spendthrift C) stingy
D) penny-pinching E) down-at-heel

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8. Brian was from military service on health grounds.
- A) ejected B) exempt C) barred
D) earmarked E) forbidden
9. Anyone is accepted at this college of race, gender and creed.
- A) devoid B) deprived C) depending
D) considering E) irrespective
10. rained last Sunday, we would've celebrated Mia's birthday in the garden.
- A) It not had B) It had not C) Had it not
D) Not it had E) Hadn't it

4 - Point Questions

For questions 11–20, read and choose the correct answer.

11. The president has announced he does not intend to for re-election.
- A) represent B) mean C) run for
D) stand E) seek
12. He couldn't believe his eyes; right there on top of the desk lay a state-of-the-art computer. What does *state-of-the-art* mean?
- A) old-fashioned B) modern C) antique
D) contemporary E) the latest version
13. People were amazed that the burglary took place in daylight.
- A) wide B) broad C) open
D) narrow E) large
14. This is the second time I've been passed for promotion.
- A) across B) through C) over
D) off E) away
15. I thought we might call your sister on our way – I've got some magazines for her.
- A) in B) out C) in on
D) round E) in to

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16. *Writer's block* refers to

- A) all the books written by a writer
- B) an area where writers use to write
- C) a writer's temporary loss of ability to write
- D) a story written in block capitals
- E) a group of buildings where lots of writers live

17. My sister is clearly a disadvantage when it comes to speaking a foreign language.

- A) to
- B) in
- C) on
- D) from
- E) at

18. They broke the glass and ran along the fence and hid behind the nearest bushes.

- A) in full swing
- B) to the full
- C) in full
- D) at full tilt
- E) in full cry

19. Find the letters that are missing to name someone who is very strange and unusual:
W - - - D.

- A) I/E/R
- B) Y/E/R
- C) U/I/R
- D) E/I/R
- E) E/Y/R

20. World peace can only if all nations work together to achieve it.



- A) come along
- B) come up
- C) come across
- D) come about
- E) come to

5 - Point Questions

Read the text. For each question (21-25), choose the correct answer.

FAKE NEWS IN THE AGE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Although it has become the major talking point in media and politics, the debate over fake news is still plagued by misunderstanding about the phenomenon and why it poses such a serious threat, not just to journalism but to democracy. When BBC Future Now summoned a panel of 50 experts in March 2017 to voice their opinions about the greatest challenges we face in the 21st century, many pointed at the breakdown of trusted information sources as a primary threat.

Truth is no longer dictated by the powers that be, it is networked by peers. While it is an accepted fact that misinformation is nothing new, the internet makes it possible now for new voices to be heard, many of which would not have found their way through the filtering of news by in an earlier age. Journalism, as a stream of public information gathered and disseminated according to a set of values, has an ethical imperative to be fact-based. However, false information is a disruptive force in modern communications, one which poses a serious threat to democracy as revealed by the big media scandals surrounding the United States Presidential election and the British referendum on European Union membership.

Over the past two decades social media have profoundly shaped the ways in which we buy and sell, how we work and socialize, and, not least, how we engage with and practice our politics. Behind this sea change is the exploitation of technology by a handful of corporations who have taken over the everexpanding internet. Companies such as Google, Facebook, Amazon and Apple have accumulated immense capital and have become enormously powerful by harvesting unprecedented amounts of personal data from users and selling it on to advertisers on a scale never seen before. While many people find this new environment stimulating and helpful, few fully comprehend the threats and risks to democracy when this power is not harnessed constructively or responsibly. Using sophisticated algorithms and bots and fed by gigantic databanks providing access to millions of users, this business model thrives on "viral information", the kind of shareable, easy content that delivers enough clicks to bring in digital advertising and thus money. In this economy, whether information is true is of no importance. What matters is that it is provocative enough to attract quantifiable attention.

The use of algorithms to manage information often gets the big tech companies into hot water or makes them look downright ridiculous. Take the example of Facebook censoring an iconic Vietnam War era photograph because of its depiction of child nudity. Digital robots may be useful but they obviously cannot be encoded with ethical and moral values or the ability to properly understand context. While this would obviously be best left in the hands of sentient human beings, the digital business model leaves out both journalists and editors.

What is more, journalists and others in the news business have to deal with the economic transformation of the media market. The technology companies have siphoned off the stream of money that has so far financed public interest journalism, which in turn has resulted in a steady decline in professional media scrutiny. Unless steps are taken to redress this skewed balance, democratic pluralism may weaken beyond repair.

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21. The results of the British referendum on European Union membership can be attributed to
- A) the media scandal surrounding authority figures.
 - B) the waning power of professional information filters.
 - C) lack of public debate.
 - D) reputation of politicians.
 - E) popularity of electronic media.
22. The main problem with viral information is that
- A) it makes some companies rich.
 - B) it reaches too many people.
 - C) it circulates too fast.
 - D) it is too complex to understand.
 - E) its sole purpose is to attract user engagement.
23. The problem with using A.I. in military conflict is that
- A) robots will not be able to fight properly.
 - B) the costs are too high.
 - C) robots cannot make ethical choices.
 - D) robots can break down during military operations.
 - E) robots don't read the news.
24. Facebook's censorship of an iconic Vietnam War photo is a good example of
- A) the proper protection of children.
 - B) the undiscerning ways in which algorithms operate.
 - C) the amount of personal data that Facebook collects from users.
 - D) how users are manipulated.
 - E) how useful the digital robots are.
25. Professional media companies suffer from
- A) a lack of funding.
 - B) a decline in credibility.
 - C) disinterest from politicians.
 - D) mistrust on the part of the general public.
 - E) a lack of journalists.

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26. We all admired the of this young painter.

- A) stills-life B) still lifes C) stills lives
D) still lives E) still alive

27. What does the word in italics mean? After so many years of drought, the *barren* fields can't even sustain a tumbleweed.

- A) sandy B) soggy C) hilly
D) arid E) grimy

28. When Columbus announced that he the Indies by sailing west, everybody he fail.

- A) would reach/ thought/ is going to
B) was going to reach/ thought/ would
C) will reach/ thought/ will
D) would reach/ would think/ would
E) reached/ thought/ would

29. What does it mean if a British person says that he feels peckish?

- A) He feels nervous. B) He is feeling sleepy.
C) He's in a lousy mood. D) He is a bit hungry.
E) He's had too much to eat.

30. *Everything was at sixes and sevens* means that

- A) everything was of great standard B) everything was in a muddle
C) everything was quiet D) the game could start
E) I couldn't find the way home

