1. Which of the following commands let us perform a set of instructions repeatedly?  
a) for  
b) while  
c) until  
d) for, while, until

Answer: d  
Explanation: For repeatedly performing a set of instructions, we have to use loops. Shell features three types of loops —while, for and until. All of them repeat the instruction set enclosed by certain keywords.

2. Which of the following keywords are used in while loop?  
a) do  
b) done  
c) then  
d) do and done

Answer: d  
Explanation: while loop repeatedly performs a set of instructions until the control command returns a true exit status. The general syntax for while loop is:

while condition is true

do

commands

done

3. until loop operates with a reverse logic as used in while loop.  
a) True  
b) False

Answer: a  
Explanation: Shell also offers an until statement which operates with a reverse logic used in while. With until the loop body is executed as long as the condition remains false.

4. Which one of the following is used for looping with a list?  
a) while  
b) until  
c) case  
d) for

Answer: d  
Explanation: The shell’s for loop differs in structure as used in C. for loop doesn’t test a condition but it uses a list instead. The syntax for using for loop is:

for variable in list

do

commands

done

5. Which of the following loop statements uses do and done keyword?  
a) for  
b) while  
c) case  
d) for and while

Answer: d  
Explanation: Like while loop, for also uses the keywords do and done, but the additional parameters used in for are variables and list.

6. \_\_\_\_ statement is used for shifting arguments left.  
a) set  
b) shift  
c) cut  
d) paste

Answer: b  
Explanation: shift statement transfers the content of a positional parameter to its immediate lower numbered one. This process continues as many times as shift is invoked. For example, when called once, $2 becomes $1 and $3 becomes $2 and so on.

$ echo “$@”

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$ echo $1 $2 $3

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$ shift

$ echo $1 $2 $3

Jan 8 09:48:44 // parameters shifted

7. Which one of the following is an internal command?  
a) cut  
b) expr  
c) set  
d) Is

Answer: c  
Explanation: set statement is an internal command which assigns its arguments to positional parameters $1, $2 and so on. While cut, Is and expr are external commands.

8. The \_\_\_\_ allows us to read data from the same file containing the script.  
a) >>  
b) <<  
c) !!  
d) —

Answer: b  
Explanation: It may happen that the data our program wants to read is fixed and limited. The shell uses << symbol to read data from the same file containing the script. This is referred to as a here document, signifying that the data is here rather than in a separate file.

9. Which of the following option is used with a set for debugging shell scripts?  
a) -a  
b) -x  
c) -d  
d) -e

Answer: b  
Explanation: As we know that set command is used for assigning values to positional parameters, it also serves as debugging tool. For this purpose, we’ve to use -x option with it.

10. Suppose x =10, then what will be the value of x$x$?  
a) undefined  
b) erroneous  
c) 100  
d) x10$

Answer: d  
Explanation: Since x contains the value 10, and $ symbol is used with any variable for displaying its value. So $x will display 10. Hence the output will be x10$.

11. Given x=10 then,

x$x$ == $x$x.

The given statement is \_\_\_\_  
a) True  
b) False

Answer: b  
Explanation: x$x$ will be equal to x10$ and $x$x will be equal to 1010. Hence they are not equal.

12. A shell script stopped running when we change its name. Why?  
a) location of the file changed  
b) we can’t change the name of the script  
c) $0 was used in the script  
d) many possible reasons

Answer: c  
Explanation: A shell script will stop running when we change its name if we’d used the positional parameter $0 in it as $0 contains the name of the script file.

13. Where is the exit status of a command stored?  
a) $0  
b) $>  
c) $1  
d) $?

Answer: d  
Explanation: The exit status of a command is that particular value which is returned by the command to its parent. This value is stored in $?.

14. test statement cannot \_\_\_\_\_\_  
a) compare two numbers  
b) compare two strings  
c) compare two files  
d) check a file’s attributes

Answer: c  
Explanation: test works in three ways:  
• compare two numbers  
• compare two strings  
• check a file’s attributes