

1. - *I can't even untangle this thread - I have been feeling \_\_\_ today!*  
 A. Here and there  
 B. Down and out  
 C. All (fingers and) thumbs  
 D. Out and about
2. - *He \_\_\_ the simple task, turning a ten-minute job into an hour-long ordeal.*  
 - *They \_\_\_ assembling the flat-pack furniture, despite the clear and simple instructions.*  
 A. Scoffed at  
 B. Made a practice of  
 C. Put paid to  
 D. Made heavy weather of
3. - *After the surgery, his health \_\_\_, and he started to recover quickly.*  
 A. Ran high  
 B. Made a huge dent  
 C. Looked askance  
 D. Took a turn for the better
4. - *Though the politician appeared flawless on the surface, his career was jeopardized when a journalist unearthed a(n) \_\_\_ by raking up a decade-old scandal involving corruption that he had hoped was long forgotten.*  
 A. Hundred and ten percent  
 B. Skeleton in the cupboard/closet  
 C. Status quo  
 D. Real kick in the pants
5. - *Given the heavy traffic this morning, you should \_\_\_ for her lateness.*  
 - *Teachers often \_\_\_ for students who have learning disabilities.*  
 A. Make allowances  
 B. Bed out  
 C. Make hay while the sun shines  
 D. Simmer down
6. - *I'd love to stay longer but I really need to \_\_\_.*  
 - *After finishing up all the paperwork, we decided to call it a day and \_\_\_ before the evening rush hour.*  
 A. Hit the road  
 B. Wise up  
 C. Pawn off  
 D. Take it up a notch
7. - *I can't drive you to the mall, I already have \_\_\_ things to get done today.*  
 A. Seasoned with  
 B. A hundred and one  
 C. In the trenches  
 D. Exposed to the elements
8. - *Scholarships are available \_\_\_ for those who meet the criteria.*  
 - *With his strikingly excellent qualifications, the job was his \_\_\_.*  
 A. After a fashion  
 B. For the asking  
 C. At every turn  
 D. From top to toe
9. - *The new smartphone model \_\_\_ its competitors with its advanced features and sleek design.*  
 - *His performance on the field \_\_\_ everyone else's, securing the victory for his team.*  
 A. Put paid to  
 B. Knocked spots off  
 C. Made mincemeat of  
 D. Made free with
10. - *She spent a lot of time \_\_\_ the idea of moving to a new city but never took any concrete steps.*  
 - *He enjoyed \_\_\_ her at the party, but he wasn't looking for a serious relationship.*  
 A. Dallying with  
 B. Raking off  
 C. Conniving in  
 D. Harping on about
11. - *She was chosen for the position \_\_\_ her extensive experience and skills.*  
 - *They earned the top spot in the competition \_\_\_ their hard work and dedication.*  
 A. Hell-bent on  
 B. By virtue of
12. - *Get \_\_\_ that view! Isn't it amazing?*  
 A. A lapse of  
 B. A blow of  
 C. A film of  
 D. A load of
13. - *After becoming the new manager, he started \_\_\_ his \_\_\_, making all the important decisions without consulting his team.*  
 - *At family gatherings, she is always \_\_\_ her \_\_\_, deciding the agenda and making sure everyone follows her plans.*  
 A. Throwing \_\_\_ weight around/about  
 B. Holding \_\_\_ thumbs/Keeping \_\_\_ fingers crossed  
 C. Eating \_\_\_ heart out
14. - *His speech was \_\_\_ humor, making it engaging for the audience.*  
 A. In the trenches  
 B. In the weeds  
 C. In the red  
 D. Seasoned with
15. - *She seems to \_\_\_ of her mentor, always seeking advice from him.*  
 - *I \_\_\_ of my niece - she's a smart, loving girl.*  
 A. Hit the books  
 B. Pick holes  
 C. Think the world  
 D. Get a wiggle on
16. - *After a long week of work, they decided to have a(n) \_\_\_, exploring new restaurants and dancing the night away.*  
 A. Pipe dream  
 B. Night on the town  
 C. Leading light  
 D. Pretty penny
17. - *After winning the lottery, they found themselves living in the \_\_\_ with a mansion and multiple exotic cars.*  
 A. Weak links  
 B. Ballpark figure  
 C. Pretty penny  
 D. Lap of luxury
18. - *The judge decided to \_\_\_ a fair sentence.*  
 - *The coach never fails to \_\_\_ reasonable praise and criticism to his team based on their performance.*  
 A. Draw a veil over  
 B. Look up  
 C. Share in  
 D. Mete out

19. - I meant to call her back yesterday, but it completely \_\_\_ my \_\_\_.

- I planned to bring the documents, but it \_\_\_ my \_\_\_ while I was rushing out the door.

- The meeting was important, but it somehow \_\_\_ his \_\_\_ amid all the chaos.

- A. Boggled \_\_\_ brain  
C. Got/Had \_\_\_ ducks in a row

- B. Slipped \_\_\_ mind  
D. Took to \_\_\_ heels

20. - After losing his job, he took a temporary position at a much lower salary. It was a case of \_\_\_ to keep some income coming in.

- When the company's sales plummeted, they accepted a buyout offer from a competitor. It wasn't the best option, but it was \_\_\_.

- A. Any port in a storm  
C. Deaf ears

- B. Ivory towers  
D. Sitting ducks

21. - I want to be \_\_\_ about any changes to the event schedule.

- A. Kept posted  
C. Made a dent

- B. Set back  
D. Passed over

22. - A: You do know that you could have just put off fixing that pipe leak until tomorrow instead, right?

- B: \_\_\_.

- A. A stitch in time (saves nine)  
C. Fat chance (of that)

- B. That dog won't hunt / That cock won't fight  
D. The jig is up

23. - The company \_\_\_ several smaller startups to expand its market share.

- The kids \_\_\_ the cookies as soon as they came out of the oven

- The mounting legal costs quickly \_\_\_ their savings

- A. Knocked spots off  
C. Galloped through

- B. Laid into  
D. Gobbled up

24. - Just when we thought we'd seen the last of him, he showed up at the party like a(n) \_\_\_.

- That issue with the old car is like a(n) \_\_\_, it keeps coming back no matter how many times we fix it.

- A. Bad penny  
C. Lead balloon

- B. Weather eye  
D. Straight arrow

25. - She decided to \_\_\_ painting as a hobby during her free time.

- The new furniture seems to \_\_\_ too much space in the living room.

- He decided to \_\_\_ the job offer from the prestigious company.

- A. Branch out into  
C. Fob off

- B. Save for  
D. Take up

26. - She may be a(n) \_\_\_, but her kindness and intelligence make her truly special.

- The new car model is a bit of a(n) \_\_\_, with no standout features or exciting design elements.

- A. Hundred and ten percent  
C. Plain Jane

- B. Lead balloon  
D. Low ebb

27. - I don't mean to \_\_\_ my \_\_\_, but I did finish the project ahead of schedule.

- He is always trying to \_\_\_ his \_\_\_ about his latest business ventures.

- A. Toot \_\_\_ own horn/Blow \_\_\_ own trumpet  
C. Knock \_\_\_ lights out

- B. Stick to \_\_\_ guns  
D. Roll up \_\_\_ sleeves/Pull \_\_\_ socks up

28. - His negative comments really \_\_\_ our first day at the beach.

- The unexpected rainstorm \_\_\_ the outdoor wedding.

- A. Laid into  
C. Took the bloom off

- B. Made a practice of  
D. Made free with

29. - The bodies were mutilated beyond recognition.

- > The bodies were mutilated \_\_\_.

- A. Around the bend  
C. In stitches

- B. Out of all recognition  
D. Standard-issue

30. - Despite her cold, she decided to \_\_\_ the illness and return to work quickly.

- After a long day, he took a walk to \_\_\_ the stress.

- The spy had to \_\_\_ the agents tailing him before meeting his contact

- A. Stamp out  
C. Keep a tight rein on

- B. Tally with  
D. Shake off

31. - The crowd cheered as the fireworks began to \_\_\_ into the night sky.

- The sprinters lined up, ready to \_\_\_ at the sound of the starting gun.

- We're about to \_\_\_ on this new project with a team meeting next week.

- A. Plunge ahead  
C. Blast off

- B. Hold the fort  
D. Go by the numbers

32. - When he has an exam, he either studies day and night or does nothing at all. He can never find the \_\_\_.

- A. Knight of the road  
C. Hatchet job

- B. Happy medium  
D. Cream of the crop

33. - The event was supposed to be well-organized, but they \_\_\_ the scheduling.

- He \_\_\_ his first attempt at baking, burning the cake completely.

- A. Made a muck of  
C. Put paid to

- B. Made mincemeat of  
D. Made free with

34. - The doctor was \_\_\_, having to decide between telling the patient the harsh truth or keeping their spirits up with hope.

- She felt like she was \_\_\_, trying to balance her career ambitions with her family commitments.

- The politician was \_\_\_, torn between supporting the party line and listening to the demands of the constituents.

- A. In the trenches  
 C. In a cleft stick  
 B. Over a barrel  
 D. In a rut
35. - His approach may be \_\_\_, but he gets the job done efficiently.  
 - The cabin was \_\_\_, but it provided shelter and warmth.  
 - They had a(n) \_\_\_ plan to handle the situation, lacking detail but effective.
- A. Spick and span  
 C. Rough and ready  
 B. High and low  
 D. Out and about
36. - It is surprising how she managed to keep the house so \_\_\_, given that she's got two kids who's always frolicking around the house.
- A. Spick and span  
 C. Cock-and-bull  
 B. Out and about  
 D. Neither here nor there
37. - There is no \_\_\_ for solving climate change; it requires multiple approaches and global cooperation.
- A. Bad penny  
 C. Silver bullet  
 B. Narrow squeak  
 D. Hundred and ten percent
38. - She's been pretending to work on the project for weeks, but when her boss asks for progress and found nothing, she realizes \_\_\_.
- A. Knock it off  
 C. The jig is up  
 B. Down the hatch  
 D. Fat chance (of that)
39. - In \_\_\_ rage, he slammed the door so hard it almost came off its hinges.  
 - She couldn't help but break into \_\_\_ laughter after hearing the hilarious joke.
- A. A film of  
 C. A lapse of  
 B. A fit of  
 D. A load of
40. - We're planning a(n) \_\_\_ for Lisa next Friday. It's going to be an amazing send-off before her wedding.
- A. Circuit breaker  
 C. Hen night  
 B. Million-dollar question  
 D. Wooden spoon
41. - The movie was so touching that it made the whole audience \_\_\_.
- A. Hit the books  
 C. Cry a river  
 B. Plunge ahead  
 D. Hold the field
42. - As a traveling consultant, he has to \_\_\_, moving to a new city every few weeks.
- A. Roll over  
 C. Hit the books  
 B. Live out of a suitcase  
 D. Pack the house
43. - After losing his job and his home, he felt like he was \_\_\_ his \_\_\_, with nowhere to turn.  
 - After a series of unfortunate events, he found himself \_\_\_ his \_\_\_, struggling to make ends meet.
- A. Off \_\_\_ trolley  
 C. Worth \_\_\_ salt  
 B. By the seat of \_\_\_ pants  
 D. On \_\_\_ beam ends / On \_\_\_ uppers
44. - Raising his glass to the bride and groom, he said, "To your happiness! \_\_\_!"
- A. Make haste  
 C. In for a penny, in for a pound  
 B. Touché  
 D. Down the hatch
45. - Despite their best efforts, the team finished with the \_\_\_ in the tournament.  
 - After a non-stop series of losses, the club was awarded the \_\_\_ for their performance.  
 - She humorously accepted the \_\_\_, knowing that participating was more important than winning.
- A. Wooden spoon  
 C. Sticky end  
 B. Common touch  
 D. Emotional baggage
46. - The fans \_\_\_ every moment of the concert, cheering loudly for their favorite songs.  
 - She \_\_\_ the praise from her colleagues after successfully completing the project.  
 - He \_\_\_ all the attention at the party, basking in the admiration of his friends.
- A. Took after  
 C. Scoffed at  
 B. Lapped up  
 D. Put the wind up
47. - Winning the lottery and becoming a millionaire is just a(n) \_\_\_ for most people.
- A. Knight of the road  
 C. Pipe dream  
 B. Hard/Tough row to hoe  
 D. Thick skin
48. - Even though there was some evidence against him, the jury gave him the \_\_\_ and found him not guilty.  
 - She missed the meeting, but I'll give her the \_\_\_ and assume she had a good reason.
- A. Benefit of the doubt  
 C. Hard pill to swallow  
 B. Common touch  
 D. Weak links
49. - They set off on their hike at the \_\_\_ to enjoy the sunrise from the mountain top.
- A. Crack of dawn  
 C. Bad apple  
 B. Double take  
 D. Elbow grease
50. - After her injury, she has been \_\_\_ and hasn't been seen at social events for months.  
 - Ever since he retired, he has been \_\_\_ and spends most of his time traveling.
- A. Hard at it  
 C. Out of circulation  
 B. In the black  
 D. Out of the frying pan into the fire
51. - The team worked late into the night and \_\_\_ in the project backlog.  
 - After hours of sorting and organizing, they \_\_\_ in cleaning the garage.
- A. Caved/Gave in  
 C. Fell off a cliff  
 B. Hit the ground running  
 D. Made a huge dent
52. - After catching the flu, he was \_\_\_ for a whole week.
- A. Standard-issue  
 C. On the lam/run  
 B. Over a barrel  
 D. Sick as a dog

53. - *The casino managed to \_\_\_ large sums of money from tourists visiting the city.*  
 - *During the holiday season, many stores \_\_\_ substantial revenue due to increased sales.*  
 A. Shudder to think  
 B. Rattle through  
 C. Dole out  
 D. Rake in
54. - *After being scolded, the kids silently \_\_\_ their classroom.*  
 A. Brought off  
 B. Scoffed at  
 C. Made heavy weather of  
 D. Filed into
55. - *She takes vitamins to keep illnesses \_\_\_ during the winter months.*  
 - *Regularly checking your emails can help keep chaos \_\_\_.*  
 - *To keep debt \_\_\_, he carefully monitors his spending and saves diligently.*  
 A. At bay  
 B. In the red  
 C. Sick as a dog  
 D. Around-the-clock/Round-the-clock
56. - *\_\_\_! The bus is about to leave and we can't miss it.*  
 A. Make haste  
 B. It takes two to tango  
 C. More haste, less speed  
 D. A watched pot never boils
57. - *The journalist was accused of doing a(n) \_\_\_ on the celebrity, focusing solely on negative aspects.*  
 A. Hard/Tough row to hoe  
 B. Duck's back  
 C. Rearguard action  
 D. Hatchet job
58. - *Whether to buy a house now or wait for the market to cool down is the \_\_\_ for many first-time homebuyers.*  
 A. Real kick in the teeth  
 B. Pie in the sky  
 C. Million-dollar question  
 D. Glutton
59. - *We watched a comedy movie last night and it had us \_\_\_ throughout.*  
 A. Around the bend  
 B. Rat-assed / Rat-arsed  
 C. Over a barrel  
 D. In stitches
60. - *He decided to burn the midnight oil and \_\_\_ to be able to ace the test.*  
 A. Charge the earth  
 B. Ward off  
 C. Think the world  
 D. Hit the books
61. - *The corrupt official was found to be \_\_\_ a percentage of the funds meant for the project.*  
 - *He always succeeds in \_\_\_ a commission from every deal, even the small ones.*  
 A. Nipping at the heels of  
 B. Dealing in  
 C. Moping about  
 D. Raking off
62. - *Before we jump to conclusions, let's \_\_\_ our \_\_\_ and review the data*  
 A. Hold \_\_\_ horses  
 B. Set/Put \_\_\_ mind  
 C. Roll up \_\_\_ sleeves/Pull \_\_\_ socks up  
 D. Raise \_\_\_ hand against
63. - *He puts on \_\_\_ when he's around the elite, but everyone can see through his facade.*  
 - *The new neighbor had \_\_\_, always talking about their luxurious vacations and expensive taste in wine.*  
 A. Bits and bobs/pieces  
 B. Airs and graces  
 C. Dribs and drabs  
 D. Twists and turns
64. - *Despite all the challenges he faced, he continued to \_\_\_ his dreams of becoming a writer.*  
 A. Rattle through  
 B. Put one over on  
 C. See to  
 D. Hold fast to
65. - *Without proper funding and resources, the initiative won't \_\_\_ and will fail to make a significant difference.*  
 - *Laws need to \_\_\_ to deter potential violators and maintain order.*  
 A. Have teeth  
 B. Break the mould/mold  
 C. Hit the books  
 D. Make hay while the sun shines
66. - *Without any clues, his answer to the riddle was just a(n) \_\_\_.*  
 - *Launching the new product in that market with no prior market research felt like a(n) \_\_\_.*  
 A. Penny  
 B. Breadline  
 C. Shot in the dark  
 D. Pretty penny
67. - *The startup company is \_\_\_, rapidly expanding its customer base and increasing its revenue.*  
 - *The basketball team has been \_\_\_ recently, winning their last eight games in a row.*  
 A. Stone broke  
 B. Off-the-peg  
 C. On a tear  
 D. By the wayside
68. - *That latest-gen Threadripper CPU must have cost a(n) \_\_\_.*  
 A. Thick skin  
 B. Lap of luxury  
 C. Pretty penny  
 D. Bad hair day
69. - *Securing the major contract was a(n) \_\_\_ his \_\_\_, showcasing his skills in negotiation.*  
 A. Feather in \_\_\_ cap
70. - *I haven't even \_\_\_ in that huge stack of papers I have to read.*  
 A. Done for  
 B. Opened a can of worms  
 C. Passed over  
 D. Made a dent
71. - *His plan to set up a successful business in this disgustingly capitalistic economy is just \_\_\_.*  
 A. High horse  
 B. Emotional baggage  
 C. Pie in the sky  
 D. Bad penny
72. - *When he told me he won the lottery, I was so shocked you could have \_\_\_ me \_\_\_.*  
 - *She was so stunned by the news of her promotion that you could have \_\_\_ her \_\_\_.*  
 A. Knocked \_\_\_ down/over with a feather

73. - The very thought of having to pay more tax for a government with such half-assed healthcare made him \_\_\_\_.  
 - My mom went \_\_\_\_ when she found out that I have broken her favorite vase.  
 A. No-frills B. In stitches  
 C. In the weeds D. Purple with rage
74. - Despite \_\_\_\_ to the star player, he made crucial contributions to the team's victory.  
 A. Playing second fiddle B. Falling off a log  
 C. Fitting a quart into a pint pot D. Nailing jelly to the wall
75. - She's been going through a(n) \_\_\_\_ at work, dealing with multiple project failures.  
 - Their relationship hit a(n) \_\_\_\_ when they had to deal with long-distance separation.  
 - The company is facing a(n) \_\_\_\_ due to declining sales and increased competition.  
 A. Par for the course B. Stag night/Stag party/Bachelor party  
 C. Hatchet job D. Bad/Difficult/Rough/Sticky patch
76. - \_\_\_\_ - Don't expect to pay less tax and still get a plenty of local services.  
 A. It's funny you should ask B. It takes two to tango  
 C. You can't have your cake and eat it (too) D. A watched pot never boils
77. - The project was \_\_\_\_ by technical issues, which forced the team to delay the product launch.  
 A. Passed over B. Caught napping  
 C. Set back D. Sniped at
78. - The meeting was attended by everyone, \_\_\_\_ a few members who were out of town.  
 A. Touch up B. Save for  
 C. Abound in/with D. Rake in
79. - The old mansion had gone to \_\_\_\_ after years of abandonment.  
 - The once-thriving business went to \_\_\_\_ following the economic downturn.  
 A. Bib and tucker B. Bed and board / Board and lodging  
 C. Rack and ruin D. Thick and thin
80. - You should come down off your \_\_\_\_ and listen to what they have to say.  
 - He needs to get off his \_\_\_\_ and realize that he's not always right.  
 A. High horse B. Real kick in the teeth  
 C. Hatchet job D. Common touch
81. - The suspect has been \_\_\_\_ ever since his escape from prison last year.  
 A. In the weeds B. Standard-issue  
 C. Around the bend D. On the lam/run
82. - After the surgery, it was \_\_\_\_ for a while, but she eventually pulled through.  
 - The doctors informed us that the next few hours would be \_\_\_\_, as they weren't sure if the patient would make it through the critical phase of the operation.  
 - Due to the bad weather, our flight was \_\_\_\_, but we landed safely in the end.  
 A. Bed and board / Board and lodging B. Hustle and bustle  
 C. Touch and go D. Lock and key
83. - The company decided to \_\_\_\_ its profits into research and development to drive innovation and future growth.  
 A. Plough back B. Stamp out  
 C. Hem in D. Butter up
84. - The family \_\_\_\_ all year so they could go on a summer vacation.  
 A. Hemmed/Hummed and hawed B. Scrimped and saved
85. - There's no need to \_\_\_\_ about the new office policies.  
 - Don't \_\_\_\_ just because we disagree on this.  
 A. Get bent out of shape B. Plough through  
 C. Separate the wheat from the chaff D. Take the plunge
86. - When the kid was late again, the teacher began to \_\_\_\_ about his irresponsibility and lack of respect.  
 A. Rant and rave B. Bow and scrape  
 C. Stretch and tone D. Wax and wane
87. - Being passed over for the promotion was a(n) \_\_\_\_, especially after all his hard work.  
 - Losing my job despite years of dedicated service was a(n) \_\_\_\_.  
 - Finding out that his best friend had lied to him felt like a(n) \_\_\_\_.  
 A. Double take B. Smoking gun  
 C. Real kick in the teeth D. Status quo
88. - If I don't pass this exam, my chances of graduating on time are \_\_\_\_.  
 - The doctor said if I don't take care of my health, my life will be \_\_\_\_.  
 A. Passed over B. Caught napping  
 C. Set back D. Done for
89. - We're almost done; just a few more details to \_\_\_\_ before the presentation.  
 - Let's \_\_\_\_ this meeting and get back to our other tasks.  
 A. Wrap up B. Put one over on  
 C. Rifle through D. Big up
90. - Stop \_\_\_\_, Billy, and just stand still for a moment!  
 A. Fitting a quart into a pint pot B. Pressing the flesh  
 C. Jigging about D. Playing second fiddle

91. - Her warnings about the impending storm fell on \_\_\_ as no one took them seriously.  
 - His concerns about the project's feasibility fell on \_\_\_, with management deciding to proceed anyway.  
 A. Force of circumstances B. Stony ground  
 C. Curtains D. Hot air
92. - The project succeeded because everyone \_\_\_ their \_\_\_ and worked together efficiently.  
 A. Pulled \_\_\_ weight B. Boggled \_\_\_ brain  
 C. Got/Had \_\_\_ ducks in a row D. Blew \_\_\_ top
93. - He tends to \_\_\_ about his favorite movies, sometimes without realizing he's lost the interest of his listeners.  
 A. Take issue with B. Butter up  
 C. Ramble on D. Work at
94. - She \_\_\_ about her friend's cooking skills, even though the meal was just average.  
 - When he introduced the guest speaker, he really \_\_\_, making it sound like she was a superstar.  
 A. Laid it on with a trowel / Laid it on a bit thick B. Threw in the towel  
 C. Set the wheels in motion D. Hit the wall
95. - Life is full of \_\_\_, but it's how we handle them that defines us.  
 A. Beer and skittles B. Dribs and drabs  
 C. Ins and outs D. Ups and downs
96. - The company is dedicated to \_\_\_ electronics, offering a wide range of gadgets and devices.  
 - He made a fortune by \_\_\_ rare coins and antique jewelry.  
 - She enjoys \_\_\_ vintage clothing and often attends flea markets to find unique pieces.  
 A. Nipping at the heels of B. Moping about  
 C. Dealing in D. Raking off
97. - Let's \_\_\_ the unpleasant incident and focus on the future.  
 - He decided to \_\_\_ his mistakes and start afresh.  
 A. Draw a veil over B. Dole out  
 C. Pick up on D. Rake up
98. - He's \_\_\_ about his role in the big soccer game this weekend.  
 A. Over the hump B. Keen as mustard  
 C. Seasoned with D. Exposed to the elements
99. - She looked \_\_\_ for her missing keys, but they were nowhere to be found.  
 A. Here and there B. Down and out  
 C. Cock-and-bull D. High and low
100. - It really \_\_\_ my \_\_\_ how cheap the E5-2680v4 is despite its impressive core count!  
 A. Took to \_\_\_ heels B. Got/Had \_\_\_ ducks in a row  
 C. Boggled \_\_\_ brain D. Slipped \_\_\_ mind
101. - The plot of the novel is full of \_\_\_.  
 A. Ups and downs B. Twists and turns  
 C. Dribs and drabs D. Ins and outs
102. - The detective examined the crime scene \_\_\_, leaving no stone unturned.  
 A. For the asking B. For the record  
 C. Flat out D. From top to toe
103. - The company has been operating \_\_\_ for the past two quarters, thriving with very little expenses.  
 A. In the black B. No-frills  
 C. At loggerheads D. Down the drain
104. - The apartment seems to \_\_\_ their lifestyle \_\_\_, offering everything they were looking for in a new home.  
 A. Tug at \_\_\_ heartstrings B. Fit \_\_\_ like a glove  
 C. See \_\_\_ through D. Psych \_\_\_ up
105. - She spilled coffee on her shirt during breakfast and missed the bus, and now she's getting berated by the boss, talk about a(n) \_\_\_!  
 A. Bad hair day B. Church mouse  
 C. Common touch D. Par for the course
106. - Her homemade cookies are the \_\_\_; I could eat them all day.  
 - That new restaurant in town is the \_\_\_; everyone is raving about the food and ambiance.  
 A. Deaf ears B. Bee's knees  
 C. Any port in a storm D. Force of circumstances
107. - My son finally got out of his room and did his own laundry for once. \_\_\_!  
 A. Fat chance (of that) B. More haste, less speed  
 C. A watched pot never boils D. Wonders will never cease
108. - Just \_\_\_, I never agreed to those terms, if that's what you're implying.  
 A. Flat out B. For the record  
 C. To the fore D. For the asking
109. - The company decided to \_\_\_ by launching their new product during the holiday season when consumer spending was still high.  
 A. Make hay while the sun shines B. Call a spade a spade  
 C. Make headway D. Go by the numbers
110. - He missed the deadline, but it's \_\_\_; there's no point in stressing about it now.  
 A. Pretty penny B. Far cry  
 C. Crime of passion D. Water over the dam

111. - He can play the piano \_\_\_, but he's far from a professional.  
 - She managed to clean up the room \_\_\_, though it was still somewhat cluttered.  
 - The new software works \_\_\_, but it still has many bugs to fix.  
 - He spoke French \_\_\_, enough to get by, but not fluently.
- A. From top to toe  
 B. After a fashion  
 C. To the fore  
 D. Flat out
112. - The story about the lost puppy finding its way home will surely \_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_.
- A. Tug at \_\_\_ heartstrings  
 B. Fit \_\_\_ like a glove  
 C. See \_\_\_ through  
 D. Sweep \_\_\_ under the carpet
113. - Despite the numerous setbacks, the project continued to \_\_\_, barely making any progress.
- A. Forge ahead  
 B. Part company  
 C. Limp on  
 D. Hold out/Offer/Extend an olive branch
114. - Despite the challenges, she was determined to \_\_\_ the project \_\_\_ to the end.
- A. Have \_\_\_ in a half-nelson  
 B. See \_\_\_ through  
 C. Fit \_\_\_ like a glove  
 D. Sweep \_\_\_ under the carpet
115. - I'll be back in a few minutes. Can you \_\_\_ and take care of the customers?  
 - While I'm away, my sister will \_\_\_ and look after the kids.
- A. Hold the fort  
 B. Plough through  
 C. Make headway  
 D. Take the plunge
116. - After losing his job and struggling to find another, he ended up \_\_\_, living on the streets and relying on shelters for food.
- A. Down and out  
 B. All (fingers and) thumbs  
 C. Spick and span  
 D. Here and there
117. - After the breakup, he started \_\_\_ more frequently to cope with his emotions.
- A. Playing second fiddle  
 B. Hitting the bottle  
 C. Pressing the flesh  
 D. Jiggling about
118. - Despite the storm warnings, they decided to \_\_\_ with their hiking trip, determined to reach the summit.  
 - With no map and only a vague idea of the path, they decided to \_\_\_ into the dense forest.
- A. Make good time  
 B. Make headway  
 C. Shuffle off  
 D. Plunge ahead
119. - The salesman tried to \_\_\_ his customers with compliments to close the sale.
- A. Stamp out  
 B. Take heart from  
 C. Pin down  
 D. Butter up
120. - For our new marketing campaign, we need creative thinkers, and John's innovative ideas \_\_\_\_.  
 - I've been looking for an unnecessarily overpriced backpack, and this Gucci backpack seems to \_\_\_\_.
- A. Pop the question  
 B. Hold the field  
 C. Limp on  
 D. Fit the bill
121. - He \_\_\_ for a long time before finally deciding to buy the car.  
 - The committee \_\_\_ over the proposal, delaying their decision for weeks.
- A. Scrimped and saved  
 B. Hemmed/Hummed and hawed
122. - After months of isolation, he was starting to go \_\_\_\_.
- A. Around the bend  
 B. Over a barrel  
 C. In a cleft stick  
 D. Over the hump
123. - After the bumpy boat ride, she looked \_\_\_ and needed to lie down.  
 - Some of the passengers looked kind of \_\_\_ after the trip!
- A. Over the hill  
 B. By the wayside  
 C. Green around the gills  
 D. Blue in the face
124. - Our team has been \_\_\_, working tirelessly to develop the new software update.  
 - During the busiest season, you'll find the manager \_\_\_, working alongside the staff to meet the deadlines.
- A. At loggerheads  
 B. Keen as mustard  
 C. Down the drain  
 D. In the trenches
125. - The show's ratings \_\_\_ after the lead actor left the series.  
 - The team's performance \_\_\_ in the second half of the season, losing most of their games.
- A. Fell off a cliff  
 B. Tripped up  
 C. Pitched in  
 D. Pushed the boat out
126. - In the debate, she \_\_\_ her opponent's arguments with her well-researched points.  
 - The lawyer \_\_\_ the witness's testimony, exposing inconsistencies and lies.  
 - The new startup \_\_\_ the competition by offering better products at lower prices.
- A. Put the wind up  
 B. Made mincemeat of  
 C. Took a shine to  
 D. Galloped through
127. - If you don't \_\_\_, we'll be late for school!
- A. Turned/Came up trumps  
 B. Take the plunge  
 C. Throw the baby out with the bathwater  
 D. Get a wiggle on
128. - He keeps signing up for these tough marathons. He's a(n) \_\_\_ for punishment!  
 - Despite the labor and stress, she's a(n) \_\_\_ for work and never complains.  
 - He loves being in the spotlight and is a real \_\_\_ for attention.
- A. Glutton  
 B. Bad penny  
 C. Skeleton in the cupboard/closet  
 D. Duck's back

129. - The design was elegant and minimalistic; adding more features would just \_\_\_\_.
- The house was perfect as it was, but the new owners decided to \_\_\_\_ by renovating it.
- A. Ward off  
C. Gild the lily
- B. Pop the question  
D. Batten down the hatches
130. - They had a big argument last year, but it's all \_\_\_\_ now.
- A. Water under the bridge  
C. Benefit of the doubt
- B. Wet blanket  
D. Double bind
131. - Everyone \_\_\_\_ as soon as the food was served, enjoying the delicious meal.
- They \_\_\_\_ to the picnic, eager to try all the homemade goodies
- A. Tucked in  
C. Flew off the handle / Hit the roof/ceiling
- B. Darted off  
D. Zonked out
132. - We're planning a(n) \_\_\_\_ for Tom next Friday. It's going to be an amazing send-off before his wedding.
- A. Silver bullet  
C. Cool customer
- B. Double bind  
D. Stag night/Stag party/Bachelor party
133. - At that very moment, Gojo felt \_\_\_\_, as if he really were the honored one.
- A. A hundred and one  
C. At peace with the world
- B. Up the wall  
D. Off-the-peg
134. - He doesn't have the authority to \_\_\_\_ on me.
- When the team couldn't agree on the new policy, the senior manager decided to \_\_\_\_ and implemented the changes himself using his power.
- A. Plunge ahead  
C. Pull rank
- B. Call a spade a spade  
D. Hold the reins
135. - Whether he prefers to study in the morning or at night is \_\_\_\_; what matters is that he completes his assignments.
- He mentioned that he doesn't like broccoli, but that's \_\_\_\_ since we were talking about dessert options.
- A. Cock-and-bull  
C. High and low
- B. Neither here nor there  
D. Spick and span
136. - When I first got married, I was as poor as a(n) \_\_\_\_.
- A. Stag night/Stag party/Bachelor party  
C. Wooden spoon
- B. Church mouse  
D. Cream of the crop
137. - When you arrive in the city, your \_\_\_\_ should be the visitor information center.
- If you're looking to adopt a pet, the local animal shelter should be your \_\_\_\_.
- A. Duck's back  
C. Bad/Difficult/Rough/Sticky patch
- B. Night on the town  
D. First port of call
138. - To meet the tight deadline, the construction crew worked \_\_\_\_, often putting in double shifts.
- A. In the pink  
C. Into the weeds
- B. Run-of-the-mill  
D. Around-the-clock/Round-the-clock
139. - The vibrant patches of forest, where countless species reside, \_\_\_\_ wildlife.
- A. Draw a veil over  
C. Take up
- B. Abound in/with  
D. Put one over on
140. - His \_\_\_\_ allows him to laugh any kind of criticism off.
- A. Thick skin  
C. Plain Jane
- B. Wrong end of the stick  
D. Night on the town
141. - The company has been operating \_\_\_\_ for the past two quarters, struggling to cover its expenses.
- A. In the red  
C. Peppered with
- B. On the lam/run  
D. Around-the-clock/Round-the-clock
142. - "If the bill passes, we're certainly not going to \_\_\_\_ and say that's fine," he said.
- They're not going to just \_\_\_\_ and let him play because they're getting pressure from everybody.
- A. Make good time  
C. Vamp it up
- B. Roll over  
D. Hit the books
143. - It took a lot of \_\_\_\_ to scrub the stains off the kitchen floor.
- The old car had been sitting in the garage for years, but with some \_\_\_\_, he managed to get it sparkling clean and running smoothly again.
- A. Elbow grease  
C. Pie in the sky
- B. Line of least resistance  
D. Bad apple
144. - It's time to \_\_\_\_ the young plants in the garden now that the frost has passed.
- Farmers need to \_\_\_\_ seedlings early in the season for a successful harvest.
- A. Call a spade a spade  
C. Get bent out of shape
- B. Bed out  
D. Think the world
145. - She kept a(n) \_\_\_\_ on her investments, ensuring she made informed decisions.
- The captain kept a(n) \_\_\_\_ on the horizon, watching for any signs of an approaching storm.
- A. Chain of events  
C. Cool cat
- B. Weather eye  
D. Breadline
146. - He tried to \_\_\_\_ the difficult tasks to his colleagues.
- The seller \_\_\_\_ the defective merchandise as if it were new.
- He decided to \_\_\_\_ his old phone to his friend, claiming it was still in perfect condition.
- A. Come to the table  
C. Pawn off
- B. Hit the road  
D. Take it up a notch



147. - It's hard to \_\_\_ exactly when the tradition started, as there are many conflicting accounts.  
 - The scientist was able to \_\_\_ the cause of the anomaly after conducting several experiments.  
 A. Abound in/with B. Pin down  
 C. Rifle through D. Rake up
148. - She found learning languages as easy as \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. Pressing the flesh B. Barking up the wrong tree  
 C. Running the show D. Falling off a log
149. - She was quick to \_\_\_ the subtle hints he was dropping about the surprise party.  
 - It's impressive how children can \_\_\_ new languages so quickly!  
 - He didn't \_\_\_ the sarcasm in her voice and took her comment literally.  
 A. Butter up B. Pick up on  
 C. Hold fast to D. Rattle through
150. - The \_\_\_ of a true friendship is whether it endures through the toughest times.  
 - Their performance in the finals will be the \_\_\_ of their skills.  
 A. Acid test B. Pipe dream  
 C. Status quo D. Pie in the sky
151. - We were able to observe the wildlife at \_\_\_, giving us an incredible view of their natural behavior.  
 - The soldiers trained to fight at \_\_\_, preparing for hand-to-hand combat situations.  
 - Living in a small apartment means we're always at \_\_\_ with each other.  
 A. Force of circumstances B. Close quarters  
 C. Cat's pajamas/meow/whiskers D. Stony ground
152. - The new office furniture was all \_\_\_, but it still looked quite stylish.  
 - He prefers bespoke suits over \_\_\_ ones because they fit better.  
 A. Off-the-peg B. At large  
 C. On a tear D. By the wayside
153. - After working the same job for ten years, he felt like he was \_\_\_ and needed a change.  
 - She's been \_\_\_ since the breakup, doing the same things every day without enthusiasm  
 A. Into the weeds B. Egged on  
 C. At loggerheads D. In a rut
154. - Speeding through the rain to get home faster caused him to skid off the road. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 - He tried to chop the vegetables quickly but ended up cutting himself. Sometimes, \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. Touché B. Fat chance (of that)  
 C. More haste, less speed D. Down the hatch
155. - His entire family \_\_\_ his job promotion.  
 - We all \_\_\_ her as she competed in the talent show.  
 A. Laid into B. Made free with  
 C. Rooted for D. Took after
156. - As the hurricane approached, residents were advised to \_\_\_ and stock up on emergency supplies.  
 A. Come to the table B. Hold out/Offer/Extend an olive branch  
 C. Take it up a notch D. Batten down the hatches
157. - She had to do a(n) \_\_\_ when she saw the striking resemblance between the two strangers.  
 - He did a(n) \_\_\_ when he saw his old friend from school in the busy marketplace, unable to believe his eyes at first.  
 A. Crime of passion B. Wet blanket  
 C. Double take D. Happy medium
158. - Take a break this weekend and have some fun. \_\_\_ makes life dull.  
 A. All work and no play B. Line of least resistance  
 C. Acid test D. Load of cobblers
159. - It's easier to accept the \_\_\_ than to push for change.  
 - To innovate, companies must challenge the \_\_\_ and think outside the box.  
 A. Bad penny B. Spot of bother  
 C. Far cry D. Status quo
160. - After a few lessons, the children \_\_\_ the subject like ducks to water.  
 - The puppy \_\_\_ its new home immediately, exploring every corner with enthusiasm.  
 - He \_\_\_ his new job with ease, impressing his colleagues with his quick learning.  
 A. Agonized over B. Rooted for  
 C. Took to D. Laid into
161. - Her unique fashion sense and chill attitude makes her the archetypal \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. Cool customer B. Cool cat  
 C. Weak links D. Wooden spoon
162. - During the interview, he experienced \_\_\_ memory and couldn't recall the name of the company.  
 - Her mistake was attributed to \_\_\_ judgment during a stressful situation.  
 - The accident happened due to \_\_\_ concentration while driving.  
 A. A blow of B. A lapse of  
 C. A film of D. A fit of
163. - The artist decided to \_\_\_ the painting by adding a little more detail to the background.  
 A. Fob off B. Branch out into  
 C. Touch up D. Weave a web of

164. - They decided to move to a remote cabin in the mountains and live \_\_\_, relying on solar power and a well for water.

- Our \_\_\_ vacation was so peaceful; no internet, no phone signal, not a cell phone in sight, just people living in the moment.

A. On a tear

C. In the black

B. Peppered with

D. Off-the-grid

165. - He's a boy from a poor background who \_\_\_ on Wall Street.

- My uncle owed thousands, but eventually he \_\_\_ on all of his debts.

- He promised to repay the loan by the end of the month, and he \_\_\_ on his word.

- He took a big risk by starting his own company, but he \_\_\_ and turned it into a thriving business.

A. Darted off

C. Made good

B. Made a huge dent

D. Scarfed down

166. - He gave \_\_\_ to his creativity during the project, coming up with innovative solutions.

- The art workshop was a place where children could give \_\_\_ to their imaginations.

A. Head start

C. Dirty dog

B. Full play

D. Bad/Difficult/Rough/Sticky patch

167. - Some historical figures met a(n) \_\_\_ due to their controversial actions.

- If you keep making risky decisions, you might come to a(n) \_\_\_.

- The villain in the movie came to a(n) \_\_\_ after his plans were foiled.

A. Lap of luxury

C. Weak links

B. Sticky end

D. Wooden spoon

168. - The politician \_\_\_ his advisor \_\_\_ to distance himself from the scandal.

- When the project failed, he \_\_\_ teammate \_\_\_ to avoid taking the blame.

A. Raised \_\_\_ hackles

C. Throw \_\_\_ under the bus

B. Put \_\_\_ up

D. Saved \_\_\_ bacon

169. - He is a well-seasoned veteran who knows all the \_\_\_ of the business.

A. Ups and downs

C. Twists and turns

B. Ins and outs

D. Airs and graces

170. - Once we secure this final contract, we'll be \_\_\_ with the project.

- After acing the last test, she knew she was \_\_\_ for the semester.

A. Neither here nor there

C. Out and about

B. Home and dry

D. Down and out

171. - I \_\_\_ what my parents will say when I tell them I've failed my exams.

A. See to

C. Take heart from

B. Shudder to think

D. Work at

172. - He was accused of \_\_\_ the embezzlement scheme, helping to divert company funds for personal gain.

- The students were caught \_\_\_ the cheating plan during the exam.

A. Conniving in

C. Nipping at the heels of

B. Sifting through

D. Harping on about

173. - When he heard about the unfair decision, he \_\_\_ and started shouting.

A. Tripped up

C. Ran high

B. Flew off the handle / Hit the roof/ceiling

D. Pitched in

174. - During the marathon, he \_\_\_ at the 20-mile mark and struggled to keep running.

- The team \_\_\_ midway through the game, losing their momentum and energy.

A. Caved/Gave in

C. Hit the wall

B. Fetched up

D. Tripped up

175. - She invited her family to \_\_\_ her travel experiences through photos and stories.

- He wanted his friends to \_\_\_ his joy when he announced his engagement.

- The shareholders were eager to \_\_\_ the company's profits.

A. Branch out into

C. Weave a web of

B. Share in

D. Butter up

176. - To ensure the project runs smoothly, we need to \_\_\_ and stick to the outlined steps.

- In an emergency situation, it's crucial to \_\_\_ to make sure everyone stays safe.

A. Think the world

C. Go by the numbers

B. Pack the house

D. Shuffle off

177. - She's such a(n) \_\_\_; Even during the emergency, she managed to keep her cool and knew exactly what to do.

A. Hen night

C. Emotional baggage

B. Water over the dam

D. Cool customer

178. - His repeated requests for more funding fell on \_\_\_, as the board was not interested in increasing the budget.

A. Force of circumstances

C. Close quarters

B. Stony ground

D. Deaf ears

179. - Let's \_\_\_ everyone's suggestions and decide on the best course of action.

A. Weave a web of

C. Tally with

B. Tally up

D. Ramp up

180. - The strong poison \_\_\_ the entire colony of ants.

- He \_\_\_ his knee during the soccer match and had to sit out the rest of the season.

- The heavy rain \_\_\_ our plans for a picnic.

A. Hit the wall

C. Acquired a taste

B. Did in

D. Made a huge dent

181. - Mr Nam accused us of being \_\_\_, as if nothing had happened.

- A. As cool as a cucumber
- C. At loggerheads

- B. For the high jump
- D. Out of the fire

182. - It's a pathetic, cowardly man who would \_\_\_ his \_\_\_ a child.

- A. Raise \_\_\_ hand against
- C. Hold \_\_\_ horses

- B. Roll up \_\_\_ sleeves/Pull \_\_\_ socks up
- D. Toot \_\_\_ own horn/Blow \_\_\_ own trumpet

183. - The candidate spent the afternoon \_\_\_ at the county fair, shaking hands with voters and listening to their concerns.

- A. Pressing the flesh
- C. Playing second fiddle

- B. Falling off a log
- D. Jigging about

184. - After the marathon, she \_\_\_ a big plate of pasta.

- The kids \_\_\_ the cookies as soon as they came out of the oven.

- He \_\_\_ his breakfast in a hurry before heading to work.

- A. Made a huge dent
- C. Scarfed down

- B. Went against the grain
- D. Flew off the handle / Hit the roof/ceiling

185. - He was so exhausted from the long day at work that he \_\_\_ on the couch as soon as he got home.

- After spending all day at the beach, the kids \_\_\_ in the backseat on the way back to the hotel.

- A. Got stood up
- C. Zonked out

- B. Hit the wall
- D. Made good

186. - She faced challenges \_\_\_ while trying to start her own business.

- The investigation revealed new clues \_\_\_, making the case more complex.

- A. Flat out
- C. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred

- B. To the fore
- D. At every turn

187. - The band's performance was so popular that they managed to \_\_\_ every night of their tour.

- A. Bed out
- C. Grapple with

- B. Simmer down
- D. Pack the house

188. - It's time for you to \_\_\_ and see that they're just using you.

- A. Go by the numbers
- C. Simmer down

- B. Ride out
- D. Wise up

189. - She tried to stay calm, but she eventually \_\_\_ her \_\_\_ when her kids ignored her for the fifth time.

- The manager \_\_\_ his \_\_\_ when he found out that the team had missed the deadline.

- A. Got/Had \_\_\_ ducks in a row
- C. Pulled \_\_\_ weight

- B. Boggled \_\_\_ brain
- D. Blew \_\_\_ top

190. - The new manager \_\_\_, implementing changes within her first week.

- After graduating, he \_\_\_ in his new job, impressing his colleagues with his skills.

- The team \_\_\_ at the start of the project, meeting all the initial deadlines.

- A. Acquired a taste
- C. Fetched up

- B. Hit the ground running
- D. Scarfed down

191. - Both sides need to \_\_\_ and discuss their differences to reach an agreement.

- A. Come to the table
- C. Forge ahead

- B. Pull rank
- D. Throw the baby out with the bathwater

192. - For the plan to succeed, both departments need to collaborate. \_\_\_.

- A. Make haste
- C. It takes two to tango

- B. Down the hatch
- D. In for a penny, in for a pound

193. - The rigorous interview process is designed to \_\_\_ and find the most qualified candidates.

- The editor's job is to \_\_\_, ensuring only the best articles are published.

- A. Separate the wheat from the chaff
- C. Make headway

- B. Pop the question
- D. Make hay while the sun shines

194. - The community \_\_\_ the local family who lost their home in a fire, providing them with food, clothing, and shelter.

- When he was going through a tough time, his friends all \_\_\_ to offer their support and help.

- People from all over the town \_\_\_ to raise funds for the new community center.

- A. Rallied round
- C. Crowded around

- B. Put paid to
- D. Made a practice of

195. - The company launched a(n) \_\_\_ to promote its new smartphone, featuring ads on TV, radio, and social media.

- A. Emotional baggage
- C. Narrow squeak

- B. Media blitz
- D. Happy medium

196. - A vacation can \_\_\_ for your stress levels.

- The new treatment shall \_\_\_ for patients with rare diseases.

- A. Do/Work wonders/miracles
- C. Hold the field

- B. Make good time
- D. Swing a cat

197. - His nonchalant but controversial comments \_\_\_ a few \_\_\_ at the meeting.

- During the heated discussion, she made a remark about his punctuality, which clearly \_\_\_ his \_\_\_.

- A. Throw \_\_\_ under the bus
- C. Ruffled \_\_\_ feathers

- B. Raised \_\_\_ hackles
- D. Did \_\_\_ in

198. - Many kids who try to run away from unhappy homes discover that they've jumped \_\_\_ when they try to live on their own.

- A. A hundred and one
- C. Out of the frying pan into the fire

- B. Beyond the norm
- D. At peace with the world

199. - Without proper defenses, the soldiers were like \_\_\_ to the enemy attack.

- Leaving the valuables in plain sight made them \_\_\_ for thieves.

- A. Deaf ears
- C. Ivory towers

- B. Sitting ducks
- D. Stony ground

200. - We've already invested a lot of time into this project, so we might as well see it through. \_\_\_!

- A. In for a penny, in for a pound
- C. Fat chance (of that)

- B. That dog won't hunt / That cock won't fight
- D. A stitch in time (saves nine)

201. - After losing his job, he found himself on the \_\_\_, relying on food banks to feed his family.

- A. Water over the dam
- C. Bad/Difficult/Rough/Sticky patch

- B. Breadline
- D. Wet blanket

202. - The young entrepreneur decided to \_\_\_ by introducing a revolutionary product that changed the market.

- A. Plunge ahead
- C. Grapple with

- B. Live out of a suitcase
- D. Break the mould/mold

203. - The teacher answered the student's difficult question \_\_\_, showing her deep knowledge of the subject.

- When the project manager asked for my input out of the blue, I had to speak \_\_\_, but I think I made some good points.

- A. Garden-variety
- C. Into the weeds

- B. At bay
- D. Off the cuff

204. - The CEO's \_\_\_ made her approachable and well-liked by employees at every level of the company.

- Her novels have a(n) \_\_\_, resonating deeply with readers due to their relatable characters and everyday struggles.

- A. Real kick in the pants
- C. Common touch

- B. Benefit of the doubt
- D. Sticky end

205. - She didn't want to \_\_\_ old memories of her difficult childhood.

- The historian managed to \_\_\_ forgotten facts about the ancient civilization.

- A. Shake off
- C. Rake in

- B. Dredge up
- D. Work at

206. - The manager tried to \_\_\_ the customer with a half-hearted apology and a small discount.

- She tried to \_\_\_ her responsibilities onto her colleagues, but they noticed and pushed back.

- The parent had to \_\_\_ the child's questions with vague answers, avoiding a long discussion

- A. Pick up on
- C. Shudder to think

- B. Fob off
- D. Big up

207. - My brother is the best lawyer in town, and he's pulled me \_\_\_ on more than one occasion!

- The president gets all the credit for the economic recovery, but it was really a team of international financial strategists that pulled it \_\_\_.

- A. Around the bend
- C. Out of the fire

- B. Out of circulation
- D. No-frills

208. - They promised to support each other through \_\_\_, no matter what they faced.

- A. Hustle and bustle
- C. Thick and thin

- B. Nook and cranny
- D. Lock and key

209. - \_\_\_, she's the first to arrive at work every morning.

- A. To the fore
- C. From top to toe

- B. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred
- D. For the asking

210. - Having failed his mid-term, he was told to \_\_\_ his \_\_\_ if he wanted to pass the finals.

- After receiving poor grades on his report card, he knew it was time to \_\_\_ his \_\_\_ and start studying harder.

- A. Roll up \_\_\_ sleeves/Pull \_\_\_ socks up
- C. Fill \_\_\_ shoes

- B. Set/Put \_\_\_ mind
- D. Stick to \_\_\_ guns

211. - During the crisis, his long-hidden leadership skills came \_\_\_, earning him widespread respect.

- The issue of climate change has come \_\_\_ in recent years, prompting global action.

- A. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred
- C. To the fore

- B. For the record
- D. At every turn

212. - As you fix the broken toy, be careful not to \_\_\_ by removing the parts that still work.

- A. Turned/Came up trumps
- C. Blast off

- B. Roll over
- D. Throw the baby out with the bathwater

213. - The future of the company is now \_\_\_ after several bad investments and a shrinking customer base.

- Their relationship has been \_\_\_ ever since they started arguing about finances.

- A. At peace with the world
- C. Beyond the norm

- B. On the rocks
- D. Around the bend

214. - After hearing the bad news, he took a few deep breaths to \_\_\_ himself \_\_\_ before speaking to his team.

- She had to \_\_\_ herself \_\_\_ quickly after the unexpected setback to continue with the presentation.

- A. Stick to \_\_\_ guns
- C. Pull \_\_\_ together

- B. Fill \_\_\_ shoes
- D. Roll up \_\_\_ sleeves/Pull \_\_\_ socks up

215. - A: You always say I'm late, but what about the time you missed the deadline last month?

- B: \_\_\_. You have a point.

- A. Touché
- C. More haste, less speed

- B. A watched pot never boils
- D. You can't have your cake and eat it (too)

216. - He \_\_\_ the snacks at the party, not realizing they were meant for later.

- Their guests \_\_\_ the amenities, using all the hot water without asking.

- A. Crowded around
- C. Rooted for

- B. Made free with
- D. Took a shine to

217. - The electrician installed a new \_\_\_ to protect the home's electrical system from overloads.  
 A. Water over the dam  
 C. Penny-pincher  
 B. Circuit breaker  
 D. Weak links
218. - Despite the setbacks, the team decided to \_\_\_ with the project.  
 A. Plough through  
 C. Think the world  
 B. Sing like a canary  
 D. Forge ahead
219. - My mom is always \_\_\_ the importance of eating vegetables.  
 - He kept \_\_\_ the need to recycle, even though we all got the point.  
 - She can't stop \_\_\_ her ex-boyfriend, even though everyone is tired of hearing about it.  
 A. Dallying with  
 C. Raking off  
 B. Harping on about  
 D. Conniving in
220. - After the breakup, he spent days \_\_\_ the house, feeling sorry for himself.  
 - Instead of \_\_\_ the lost opportunity, he decided to focus on new possibilities.  
 - On rainy days, he wastes time \_\_\_ and doing nothing productive.  
 A. Sifting through  
 C. Moping about  
 B. Nipping at the heels of  
 D. Harping on about
221. - Buying cheap old GPUs might seem smart, but it's \_\_\_ if you end up having to pay twice for the electric bills.  
 A. Peppered with  
 C. Around-the-clock/Round-the-clock  
 B. Penny-wise and pound-foolish  
 D. By the wayside
222. - After a long hike, that cold lemonade really \_\_\_\_\_.  
 - Those morning coffee cups always \_\_\_ for me.  
 - After working all day, a warm bath really \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. Live out of a suitcase  
 C. Think the world  
 B. Hit the spot  
 D. Make hay while the sun shines
223. - She was \_\_\_ for the promotion, despite her qualifications and hard work.  
 - The will specified that the property would be \_\_\_ to the eldest son.  
 A. Opened a can of worms  
 C. Passed over  
 B. Made a dent  
 D. Done for
224. - The room was so cramped, you could barely \_\_\_ in there.  
 A. Simmer down  
 C. Hit the books  
 B. Swing a cat  
 D. Think the world
225. - I've got a pile of paperwork to \_\_\_!  
 A. Plough through  
 C. Crop up  
 B. Turned/Came up trumps  
 D. Hold the reins
226. - He planned a romantic dinner by the beach to \_\_\_ under the stars.  
 A. Part company  
 C. Call it quits  
 B. Pop the question  
 D. Come to the table
227. - When planning the event, she asked the caterer for a(n) \_\_\_ of how much the service would cost.  
 A. Chain of events  
 C. Ballpark figure  
 B. Water over the dam  
 D. Wet blanket
228. - When the company went bankrupt, the employees were left \_\_\_, with no severance pay or job prospects.  
 A. High and dry  
 C. Down and out  
 B. Neither here nor there  
 D. Cock-and-bull
229. - She's the \_\_\_ - always willing to lend a hand and never expecting anything in return.  
 A. Lower reaches  
 C. Cat's pajamas/meow/whiskers  
 B. Deaf ears  
 D. Salt of the earth
230. - Her presentation at the conference \_\_\_, earning her a standing ovation.  
 - The marketing campaign was so effective that it \_\_\_, doubling the sales.  
 - The team \_\_\_ with their innovative new product, capturing the market's attention.  
 A. Made good  
 C. Fetched up  
 B. Went against the grain  
 D. Hit the ball out of the park
231. - She \_\_\_ items for the art project the whole morning.  
 A. Fetched and carried
232. - She is a(n) \_\_\_ in the world of modern dance, known for her innovative choreography.  
 - As the founder of the company, he remains a(n) \_\_\_ in the tech industry, guiding the team to new heights.  
 A. Leading light  
 C. Silver bullet  
 B. Hamster wheel  
 D. Hatchet job
233. - My brother \_\_\_ with an offer of help.  
 - Everyone in the neighborhood \_\_\_ to help clean up the park after the storm.  
 - When I first bought this dilapidated house, all my friends \_\_\_ to help fix it up.  
 A. Hit the ground running  
 C. Pitched in  
 B. Made good  
 D. Ground to a halt
234. - Parents have to \_\_\_ their job commitments to spend enough time with their kids.  
 A. Juggle with  
 C. Skimp out on  
 B. Work at  
 D. Take heart from
235. - I donned my best \_\_\_ for the wedding.  
 A. Lock and key  
 B. Rack and ruin

- C. Thick and thin  
236. - We noticed some errors in the report, and I \_\_\_ that they are being corrected as we speak.  
A. Hem in  
C. Save for  
D. Bib and tucker  
B. Slam down  
D. Hasten to add/point out/say
237. - Failing the exam was a(n) \_\_\_, teaching him to study more diligently.  
- Getting that rejection letter was a(n) \_\_\_, but it motivated him to work even harder  
A. Hard/Tough row to hoe  
C. Wet blanket  
B. Wooden spoon  
D. Real kick in the pants
238. - The case was a(n) \_\_\_ rather than a real murder with premeditated malice.  
A. Crime of passion  
C. Duck's back  
B. Spot of bother  
D. Million-dollar question
239. - When questioned about her recent tardiness, Wendy gave some \_\_\_ story about how her train took the wrong track and she had to hitchhike to work from the station across town.  
A. Cock-and-bull  
C. Down and out  
B. Home and dry  
D. Rough and ready
240. - The essay was \_\_\_ historical quotes, with references to different politicians here and there.  
A. Under the plough  
C. Peppered with  
B. Penny-wise and pound-foolish  
D. Seasoned with
241. - Every \_\_\_ of the house was stuffed with souvenirs of their trips abroad.  
A. Nudge and wink  
C. Nook and cranny  
B. Bib and tucker  
D. Bed and board / Board and lodging
242. - He put in a(n) \_\_\_ to make his dream a reality, working day and night.  
A. Acid test  
C. Narrow squeak  
B. Hundred and ten percent  
D. Elbow grease
243. - She \_\_\_ the entire novel in just one evening.  
- The speaker \_\_\_ the presentation, leaving little time for questions or discussion.  
- He \_\_\_ his notes the night before the exam, hoping to remember the key points.  
A. Galloped through  
C. Rallied round  
B. Made heavy weather of  
D. Made a muck of
244. - The new marathon champion \_\_\_ his father in his love for sports.  
- She \_\_\_ her aunt who was a nurse and pursue a career in medicine.  
A. Rooted for  
C. Took the bloom off  
B. Took after  
D. Brought off
245. - With the budget cuts, the company had to \_\_\_ spendings to avoid any financial issues.  
- As the project manager, she needs to \_\_\_ the team's progress to ensure they meet the deadline.  
A. Abound in/with  
C. Keep a tight rein on  
B. Hem in  
D. Juggle with
246. - After several meetings, the negotiators finally began to \_\_\_ towards a peace agreement.  
- She has been studying hard and is starting to \_\_\_ in understanding complex mathematical concepts.  
A. Pawn off  
C. Hold the field  
B. Make headway  
D. Charge the earth
247. - Finishing this project by the end of the week is a(n) \_\_\_, but I think we can do it.  
- Preparing a five-course meal in under an hour is a(n) \_\_\_ for even the best chefs.  
A. Tall order  
C. Bad hair day  
B. Hard pill to swallow  
D. Hamster wheel
248. - People thought he was completely \_\_\_ his \_\_\_ for trying to build a flying car in his garage.  
A. By the seat of \_\_\_ pants  
C. Off \_\_\_ trolley  
B. On \_\_\_ beam ends / On \_\_\_ uppers  
D. Worth \_\_\_ salt
249. - She gave him a(n) \_\_\_, hinting at the surprise party planned for his birthday.  
A. Thick and thin  
C. Hustle and bustle  
B. Rack and ruin  
D. Nudge and wink
250. - We've finally gotten \_\_\_ with this project; it's smooth sailing from here.  
A. Over the hump  
C. Around-the-clock/Round-the-clock  
B. In stitches  
D. With (brass) knobs on
251. - Despite the late hour, she was still \_\_\_, trying to finish the report before the deadline.  
A. Around-the-clock/Round-the-clock  
C. Stone broke  
B. Hard at it  
D. In stitches
252. - Life isn't all \_\_\_; You have to work hard and face challenges.  
A. Beer and skittles  
C. Bits and bobs/pieces  
B. Dribs and drabs  
D. Ups and downs
253. - When faced with multiple options, he always takes the \_\_\_, choosing whatever requires the least effort.  
- Rather than arguing with her colleagues, she followed the \_\_\_ and agreed to their plan.  
A. Line of least resistance  
C. Water over the dam  
B. Lead balloon  
D. Common touch
254. - Despite the challenges, she \_\_\_ and delivered an excellent presentation.  
- The underdog team \_\_\_ and won the championship.  
A. Grapple with  
C. Turned/Came up trumps  
B. Plough through  
D. Fit the bill

255. - *Living on the streets often means being \_\_\_\_, facing harsh weather conditions daily.*  
 A. Beyond the norm B. In the red  
 C. Exposed to the elements D. Egged on
256. - *We need to reform these outdated laws which \_\_\_\_ the economy \_\_\_\_.*  
 A. Psych \_\_\_\_ up B. Rip \_\_\_\_ off  
 C. Have \_\_\_\_ in a half-nelson D. Fit \_\_\_\_ like a glove
257. - *We missed the bus, but \_\_\_\_.* *We'll catch the next one.*  
 - *I didn't get the job I wanted, but \_\_\_\_.* *Something better might come along.*  
 A. In for a penny, in for a pound B. C'est la vie  
 C. You can't have your cake and eat it (too) D. That dog won't hunt / That cock won't fight
258. - *She's \_\_\_\_ at school over the last few months, with continual studying and testing.*  
 A. Had a bumpy ride B. Pushed the boat out  
 C. Laid it on with a trowel / Laid it on a bit thick D. Hit the skids
259. - *After finding out he lied to her, she called him a(n) \_\_\_\_.*  
 - *He cheated in the game and everyone called him a(n) \_\_\_\_.*  
 A. Dirty dog B. Crack of dawn  
 C. Line of least resistance D. Wooden spoon
260. - *His joke about the boss went down like a(n) \_\_\_\_, and no one laughed.*  
 A. Real kick in the teeth B. Lead balloon  
 C. Common touch D. Shot in the dark
261. - *That get-rich-quick scheme was nothing but a(n) \_\_\_\_.* *It looked promising, but it was just a waste of time.*  
 A. Gold brick B. Far cry  
 C. Par for the course D. Narrow squeak
262. - *She didn't want to be a(n) \_\_\_\_, but she had to point out the flaws in their plan.*  
 A. Benefit of the doubt B. Wet blanket  
 C. Crime of passion D. Bad apple
263. - *You can tell her to clean her room until you are \_\_\_\_, but she won't do it.*  
 A. At bay B. Green around the gills  
 C. Blue in the face D. Exposed to the elements
264. - *The teacher tried to \_\_\_\_ the key points of the lesson to ensure they covered everything before the test.*  
 - *Despite the tight deadline, she managed to \_\_\_\_ the report and submit it on time.*  
 A. Save for B. Weave a web of  
 C. Juggle with D. Rattle through
265. - *Wearing a helmet \_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_ when he fell off his bike.*  
 - *The unexpected bonus from work really \_\_\_\_ their \_\_\_\_ just when they were struggling to pay bills.*  
 A. Raised \_\_\_\_ hackles B. Tucked \_\_\_\_ in  
 C. Throw \_\_\_\_ under the bus D. Saved \_\_\_\_ bacon
266. - *Her spirits were at a(n) \_\_\_\_ after hearing the disappointing news.*  
 - *The market is currently at a(n) \_\_\_\_, with investors feeling uncertain about the future.*  
 A. Lap of luxury B. Wet blanket  
 C. Low ebb D. Spot of bother
267. - *As soon as she saw the look on his face, the \_\_\_\_ dropped, and she realized he had been the anonymous donor all along.*  
 - *It took a moment, but the \_\_\_\_ dropped when she noticed the clue hidden in the text.*  
 A. Pie in the sky B. Penny  
 C. Silver bullet D. Penny-pincher
268. - *After much speculation, she finally \_\_\_\_ her \_\_\_\_ and run for city council.*  
 A. Threw \_\_\_\_ hat in the ring B. Lavished \_\_\_\_ on
269. - *I'll be \_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_ for you during your exam tomorrow.*  
 - *Fans across the country are \_\_\_\_ their \_\_\_\_ for the team to win the championship.*  
 A. Eating \_\_\_\_ heart out B. Throwing \_\_\_\_ weight around/about  
 C. Holding \_\_\_\_ thumbs/Keeping \_\_\_\_ fingers crossed
270. - *He \_\_\_\_ the idea of taking a vacation, saying he had way better things to do.*  
 - *She \_\_\_\_ his attempts to apologize, not believing he was sincere.*  
 - *Many \_\_\_\_ the proposal, dismissing it as unrealistic and impractical.*  
 A. Scoffed at B. Brought off  
 C. Filed into D. Rooted for
271. - *It was a real race \_\_\_\_ to get all the costumes sewn for the play.*  
 - *The doctors fought \_\_\_\_ to save the patient, who could have passed away at any moment after the severe accident.*  
 - *The team worked \_\_\_\_ to complete the project before the end of the day.*  
 A. Sick as a dog B. In the black  
 C. Against time/the clock D. Around the bend
272. - *He had to \_\_\_\_ the difficult decision of whether to move for a new job.*  
 - *The community is trying to \_\_\_\_ the aftermath of the natural disaster.*  
 - *She had to \_\_\_\_ feelings of doubt and uncertainty after the breakup.*  
 - *Students often \_\_\_\_ complex theories in advanced mathematics.*  
 A. Part company B. Pick holes

- C. Get a wiggle on  
273. - *I had to \_\_\_ the burger so I could get back on the road straight away.*  
A. Slam down  
C. Hasten to add/point out/say  
B. Think highly of  
D. Draw a veil over
274. - *The president became a(n) \_\_\_ after the election, with limited power to influence new legislation.*  
A. Lap of luxury  
C. Skeleton in the cupboard/closet  
B. Bad hair day  
D. Lame duck
275. - *After trying to fix the old car for hours, he finally \_\_\_ and called a mechanic.*  
- *Realizing he couldn't fix the issue, he \_\_\_ and called for help.*  
A. Threw in the towel  
C. Made good  
B. Caved/Gave in  
D. Hit the deck
276. - *By signing the contract, she \_\_\_ for a new project.*  
- *The flashy groundbreaking ceremony \_\_\_ for the redevelopment of the downtown area.*  
- *After weeks of planning, they finally \_\_\_ for their new business venture.*  
A. Pushed the boat out  
C. Set the wheels in motion  
B. Scarfed down  
D. Made good
277. - *The success of the project was hampered by a few \_\_\_ in the team who couldn't keep up with the deadlines.*  
A. Weak links  
C. Media blitz  
B. Happy medium  
D. Wrong end of the stick
278. - *When the female mugger attacked him, he had no choice but to \_\_\_ his \_\_\_ to protect himself.*  
A. Roll up \_\_\_ sleeves/Pull \_\_\_ socks up  
C. Knock \_\_\_ lights out  
B. Speak \_\_\_ mind  
D. Raise \_\_\_ hand against
279. - *The school is going to be cut again this year, but then that's \_\_\_.*  
- *Long meetings are \_\_\_ in the corporate world.*  
A. Real kick in the pants  
C. Par for the course  
B. Breadline  
D. Stag night/Stag party/Bachelor party
280. - *The politician's speech was full of \_\_\_, with no real plans or solutions.*  
- *He always makes grand promises, but it's all just \_\_\_.*  
A. Hot air  
C. Curtains  
B. Stony ground  
D. Force of circumstances
281. - *She got the \_\_\_ about the party—it's a costume party, not a formal dinner.*  
- *You must have got the \_\_\_; we're meeting at the new office, not the old one.*  
A. Wrong end of the stick  
C. Pretty penny  
B. Wooden spoon  
D. Lap of luxury
282. - *After months of training, he was as fit as a(n) \_\_\_ and ready for the marathon.*  
- *Despite her age, she came through the surgery as fit as a(n) \_\_\_.*  
A. Shot in the dark  
C. Far cry  
B. Hard pill to swallow  
D. Butcher's dog / Fiddle
283. - *He's such a(n) \_\_\_; he never splurges on anything.*  
A. Church mouse  
C. Lead balloon  
B. Penny-pincher  
D. Low ebb
284. - *People \_\_\_ the scene of the accident to see what had happened.*  
A. Took a shine to  
C. Put the wind up  
B. Galloped through  
D. Crowded around
285. - *Without sufficient funding, the construction project \_\_\_, leaving the site abandoned.*  
A. Ground to a halt  
C. Pressed ahead  
B. Hit the skids  
D. Fetched up
286. - *The artist \_\_\_ by using unconventional materials for his sculpture, challenging traditional art forms.*  
A. Pushed the boat out  
C. Went against the grain  
B. Made good  
D. Darted off
287. - *No worries - The documents are safely under \_\_\_ at my place.*  
A. Thick and thin  
C. Bed and board / Board and lodging  
B. Hustle and bustle  
D. Lock and key
288. - *After much consideration, she \_\_\_ herself \_\_\_ for the promotion, hoping to advance her career.*  
- *After the storm damaged their house, the neighbors \_\_\_ them \_\_\_, providing them board and lodging until repairs were made*  
- *When her flight was canceled, a kind stranger \_\_\_ her \_\_\_ for the night.*  
A. Raised \_\_\_ hackles  
C. Saved \_\_\_ bacon  
B. Tucked \_\_\_ in  
D. Put \_\_\_ up
289. - *The team \_\_\_ an incredible comeback in the last minutes of the game.*  
- *Despite the economic downturn, the company \_\_\_ a major deal with an international client.*  
A. Brought off  
C. Made a muck of  
B. Made mincemeat of  
D. Gobbled up
290. - *Unfortunately, if this merger doesn't go through, it's \_\_\_ for our company.*  
- *It's \_\_\_ for the defending champs if they don't pull off a miraculous comeback.*  
A. Curtains  
C. Force of circumstances  
B. High cotton  
D. Sitting ducks



291. - It's getting late, let's \_\_\_ for the day and pick up where we left off tomorrow.

- After several failed attempts, he decided to \_\_\_ and try a different approach.

- A. Make good time
- C. Batten down the hatches

- B. Call it quits
- D. Simmer down

292. - His extensive background in the field gave him a(n) \_\_\_ when he began his new job.

- A. Head start
- C. Church mouse

- B. Leading light
- D. Gold brick

293. - They plan to \_\_\_ improving their product to better meet customer needs.

- A. Slam down
- C. Work at

- B. Ramble on
- D. Shudder to think

294. - Despite the heavy traffic, they managed to \_\_\_ and reached the campsite before sunset.

- A. Make good time
- C. Pick up the pieces

- B. Grapple with
- D. Make hay while the sun shines

295. - The soldiers fought a(n) \_\_\_ to hold off the enemy while the rest of their unit withdrew to safer ground

- The team, outmatched in skill, played a(n) \_\_\_, focusing on defense to keep the scoreline respectable.

- A. Penny-pincher
- C. Acid test

- B. Real kick in the pants
- D. Rearguard action

296. - Academics sitting in \_\_\_ have no understanding of what is important for ordinary people.

- The new policy proposals, drafted in the \_\_\_ of the capital, don't address the actual needs of the rural population.

- A. Empty threats
- C. Salt of the earth

- B. Ivory towers
- D. Sitting ducks

297. - She \_\_\_ on the rug and fell face first onto the floor.

- She \_\_\_ during her speech when she forgot her lines.

- I \_\_\_ on the last question and lost a few points.

- A. Got stood up
- C. Tripped up

- B. Pitched in
- D. Made a huge dent

298. - The fingerprints on the weapon were the \_\_\_ that led to the suspect's arrest.

- The video footage was the \_\_\_ that proved the company's involvement in the fraud.

- The leaked documents served as the \_\_\_, exposing the corruption within the organization.

- A. Low ebb
- C. Smoking gun

- B. Common touch
- D. Penny

299. - They invited us to \_\_\_ with them and we ended up all collapsing in beery exhaustion.

- A. Take up
- C. Get sauced

- B. Slam down
- D. Tally up

300. - The towering mountains \_\_\_ the small village, creating a sense of isolation.

- A. Ramble on
- C. Shake off

- B. Rake in
- D. Hem in

301. - Health officials are working tirelessly to \_\_\_ the spread of the virus.

- The government launched a new campaign to \_\_\_ corruption in public offices.

- A. Hasten to add/point out/say
- C. Stamp out

- B. Wrap up
- D. See to

302. - She had to \_\_\_ a lot of money \_\_\_ the new kitchen renovation, but it was worth every penny.

- He had to \_\_\_ \$2000 \_\_\_ a new laptop after his old one broke down unexpectedly.

- A. Fork out \_\_\_ for

303. - By \_\_\_, she had to switch careers after her company went bankrupt.

- A. Bee's knees
- C. Empty threats

- B. Force of circumstances
- D. Sitting ducks

304. - Charity organizations always \_\_\_ food and supplies to those in need.

- A. Pick up on
- C. Take issue with

- B. Dole out
- D. Tally up

305. - The mystery turned out to be a(n) \_\_\_, remaining unresolved after months of research.

- A. Million-dollar question
- C. Straight arrow

- B. Smoking gun
- D. Hard/Tough nut to crack

306. - His warnings about quitting were just \_\_\_; he never had any intention of leaving the company.

- A. Any port in a storm
- C. Ivory towers

- B. Close quarters
- D. Empty threats

307. - The President is used to being \_\_\_ by his opponents whenever a new policy is proposed.

- A. Sniped at
- C. Passed over

- B. Kept posted
- D. Set back

308. - He \_\_\_ at the newcomer, unsure whether to trust him.

- A. Looked askance
- C. Caved/Gave in

- B. Laid it on with a trowel / Laid it on a bit thick
- D. Hit the ball out of the park

309. - A: "Do you know if we'll have a meeting tomorrow?"

- B: "\_\_\_! I have just received an email about it."

- A. In for a penny, in for a pound
- C. It's funny you should ask

- B. You can't have your cake and eat it (too)
- D. Touché

310. - She decided to \_\_\_ for the party, wearing a stunning red dress and bold makeup.  
 - The dress is simple and elegant, but you could \_\_\_ for evening wear with some stunning jewellery.  
 A. Call it quits B. Pick up the pieces  
 C. Ward off D. Vamp it up
311. - The company tried to \_\_\_ the financial discrepancies \_\_\_, hoping no one would notice.  
 A. Sweep \_\_\_ under the carpet B. See \_\_\_ through  
 C. Have \_\_\_ in a half-nelson D. Psych \_\_\_ up
312. - She always leaves early to be \_\_\_ and avoid any traffic delays.  
 - I know the weather looks fine now, but let's bring an umbrella just to be \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. Up the wall B. Around the bend  
 C. Over a barrel D. On the safe side
313. - The sudden travel restrictions \_\_\_ our vacation plans.  
 - The unexpected rise in costs \_\_\_ the company's expansion plans.  
 A. Lapped up B. Put paid to  
 C. Knocked spots off D. Made a practice of
314. - In our meetings, everyone is encouraged to \_\_\_ their \_\_\_ and share their ideas.  
 A. Speak \_\_\_ mind B. Roll up \_\_\_ sleeves/Pull \_\_\_ socks up  
 C. Hold \_\_\_ horses D. Knock \_\_\_ lights out
315. - The principal was caught in a(n) \_\_\_ because whether she expelled the student or let him off, she would still get blamed.  
 A. Pie in the sky B. Hard pill to swallow  
 C. Wrong end of the stick D. Double bind
316. - The defense was \_\_\_, allowing the opposing team to score an easy goal.  
 - I was \_\_\_ when the phone rang, and I wasn't expecting any calls.  
 A. Sniped at B. Passed over  
 C. Kept posted D. Caught napping
317. - We had to \_\_\_ in the back of the car for an hour to find the missing keys.  
 A. Root around B. Call the shots  
 C. Do/Work wonders/miracles D. Crop up
318. - It's frustrating to watch him \_\_\_ to those in power instead of asserting his own opinions.  
 - He always had to \_\_\_ to his boss, going out of his way to show respect and obedience.  
 A. Wax and wane B. Rant and rave  
 C. Stretch and tone D. Bow and scrape
319. - The once wild and untamed valley is now \_\_\_, ready for this season's crops.  
 A. Under the plough B. On tenterhooks  
 C. For the high jump D. Beyond the norm
320. - He \_\_\_ the route \_\_\_ so he wouldn't get lost on the way.  
 - The actor \_\_\_ his lines \_\_\_ for the upcoming performance.  
 A. Committed \_\_\_ to memory B. Throw \_\_\_ under the bus  
 C. Put \_\_\_ up D. Sent \_\_\_ packing
321. - With all these new projects, I'm really \_\_\_ and struggling to keep up with my workload.  
 - During the dinner rush, the kitchen staff found themselves \_\_\_, trying to manage the flood of orders.  
 - He's one of those rare people who can get down \_\_\_ and work on the details, but still see the big picture.  
 - I don't want to get too lost \_\_\_, but there is a margin of error.  
 A. Down the drain B. Run-of-the-mill  
 C. In the weeds D. Over a barrel
322. - The printer is \_\_\_ again, so we can't print the documents right now.  
 - His attempt to fix the leak went \_\_\_, and now the problem is worse.  
 - The project was behind schedule and over budget, and it looked like the entire plan was \_\_\_, with no chance of success.  
 A. Off the cuff B. Rat-assed / Rat-arsed  
 C. In the red D. Up the spout
323. - The threat of a heavy storm \_\_\_ the residents, making them rush to secure their homes.  
 - The boss's stern warning \_\_\_ the employees about meeting their deadlines.  
 A. Made free with B. Gobbled up  
 C. Put the wind up D. Made a practice of
324. - The students \_\_\_ their professor, praising his engaging teaching style.  
 A. Dole out B. Pin down  
 C. Weave a web of D. Think highly of
325. - Oh, \_\_\_ Alex! I'm really not in the mood for your jokes.  
 A. More haste, less speed B. In for a penny, in for a pound  
 C. It's funny you should ask D. Knock it off
326. - Time spent just sitting on a train can be a rare chance to step off the \_\_\_ and observe the world.  
 A. Circuit breaker B. Hamster wheel  
 C. Smoking gun D. Elbow grease
327. - The president's \_\_\_ was tasked with silencing opposition.  
 A. Spot of bother B. Church mouse  
 C. Narrow squeak D. Hatchet man

328. - She joined a yoga class to \_\_\_ her muscles.

- A. Rant and rave
- C. Bow and scrape

- B. Wax and wane
- D. Stretch and tone

329. - Could you \_\_\_ it that the documents are delivered on time?

- The nurse will \_\_\_ the patient's needs throughout the night.

- I'll \_\_\_ the arrangements for the meeting, so you don't have to worry about it.

- A. Shake off
- C. Rifle through

- B. Work at
- D. See to

330. - The luxurious hotel we stayed at this year is a(n) \_\_\_ from the budget motel we stayed at last year.

- A. Bad hair day
- C. Elbow grease

- B. Far cry
- D. Cream of the crop

331. - After reading her a story, he \_\_\_ his daughter \_\_\_ and kissed her goodnight.

- A. Raised \_\_\_ hackles
- C. Tucked \_\_\_ in

- B. Did \_\_\_ in
- D. Saved \_\_\_ bacon

332. - Passions \_\_\_ as both teams fought for the championship title.

- A. Hit the ground running
- C. Looked askance

- B. Took a turn for the better
- D. Ran high

333. - His enthusiasm for the project seemed to \_\_\_ over time.

- The town's prosperity would \_\_\_ with the fortunes of the local industries.

- A. Bow and scrape
- C. Stretch and tone

- B. Wax and wane
- D. Rant and rave

334. - I thought installing an AIO cooler would be straightforward, but as soon as I opened the box, I realized I had \_\_\_.

- A. Passed over
- C. Sniped at

- B. Opened a can of worms
- D. Set back

335. - The athlete's performance was \_\_\_, breaking records and setting new standards.

- Her approach to solving the problem was truly \_\_\_, showcasing her creativity and ingenuity.

- A. In the pink
- C. Across the board

- B. Egged on
- D. Beyond the norm

336. - After her promotion, she finally gets to \_\_\_.

- A. Hit the road
- C. Come to the table

- B. Call the shots
- D. Make good time

337. - He tends to \_\_\_ old grievances every time we argue, making it hard to move forward.

- The journalist decided to \_\_\_ the politician's past scandals to create a sensational story.

- A. Hold fast to
- C. Stamp out

- B. Share in
- D. Rake up

338. - Notwithstanding the obstacles, she \_\_\_ to meet the deadline.

- They \_\_\_ with the project despite the setbacks.

- A. Pressed ahead
- C. Made a huge dent

- B. Tripped up
- D. Did in

339. - She was \_\_\_ all the necessary information before the important meeting.

- The soldiers, \_\_\_ heavy weapons, were ready for the mission.

- A. Primed with

340. - They \_\_\_ reviewing their finances monthly to ensure they stayed on budget.

- He \_\_\_ reading a book every week to expand his knowledge.

- A. Made a practice of
- C. Knocked spots off

- B. Agonized over
- D. Made a muck of

341. - I \_\_\_ those who push their children too hard.

- A. Take issue with
- C. Shake off

- B. Ramble on
- D. Put one over on

342. - Quick, \_\_\_ before the show starts!

- A. Call it quits
- C. Simmer down

- B. Pawn off
- D. File in

343. - He always brags about his big plans, but he's \_\_\_. Nothing ever gets done.

- A. Under the plough

- B. On the safe side

- C. Hard at it

- D. All bark and no bite / All talk (and no action) / All talk/mouth (and no trousers)

344. - He thinks he'll get a promotion with that arrogant attitude? \_\_\_!

- A. It's funny you should ask
- C. The jig is up

- B. Fat chance (of that)
- D. C'est la vie

345. - She took over the company and is now \_\_\_ with her innovative ideas and strong leadership.

- A. Pressing the flesh
- C. Running the show

- B. Nailing jelly to the wall
- D. Hitting the bottle

346. - After recovering from the flu, she's now \_\_\_ and feeling great.

- Despite his age, he's still \_\_\_ and active every day.

- A. Stone broke
- C. In the weeds

- B. In the pink
- D. In a rut

347. - The children \_\_\_ their new teacher, feeling comfortable and eager to learn.  
 - The customer immediately \_\_\_ the vintage car, deciding to purchase it on the spot.  
 - She \_\_\_ the quaint little café and made it her go-to spot for weekend brunches.
- A. Rallied round  
C. Took to  
B. Made heavy weather of  
D. Took a shine to
348. - Inflation sucks; They now \_\_\_ just for a cup of coffee.
- A. Hold the fort  
C. Pull rank  
B. Forge ahead  
D. Charge the earth
349. - Problems can \_\_\_ when you least expect them, so always be prepared.
- A. Make hay while the sun shines  
C. Throw the baby out with the bathwater  
B. Blast off  
D. Crop up
350. - The kids were so hyper after the party, it took a while for them to \_\_\_ and get ready for bed.  
 - The manager asked everyone to \_\_\_ so they could have a productive discussion without interruptions.
- A. Make headway  
C. Simmer down  
B. Do/Work wonders/miracles  
D. Batten down the hatches
351. - He \_\_\_ for his daughter's wedding, sparing no expense.
- A. Pushed the boat out  
C. Ran high  
B. Went against the grain  
D. Laid it on with a trowel / Laid it on a bit thick
352. - They decided to \_\_\_ the storm in their cozy cabin.  
 - The company managed to \_\_\_ the economic downturn without laying off any employees.  
 - We need to \_\_\_ these tough times and stay focused on our goals.
- A. Ride out  
C. Gild the lily  
B. Call the shots  
D. Break the mould/mold
353. - If you're finding this workout too easy, \_\_\_ by adding some weights or increasing the intensity
- A. Pawn off  
C. Have teeth  
B. Take it up a notch  
D. Ride out
354. - When the male CEO retired, the new female leader had big shoes to fill, but she quickly proved she could \_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_.
- With the star player injured, the rookie had to step up and \_\_\_ his \_\_\_ on the team.
- A. Pull \_\_\_ together  
C. Set/Put \_\_\_ mind  
B. Fill \_\_\_ shoes  
D. Knock \_\_\_ lights out
355. - She \_\_\_ which job offer to accept, weighing the pros and cons of each.  
 - He \_\_\_ every detail of his work, striving for perfection.
- A. Crowded around  
C. Agonized over  
B. Took a shine to  
D. Galloped through
356. - The newly elected president will soon \_\_\_ of the government.  
 - She was promoted to call the shots and \_\_\_ of the new project due to her excellent track record.
- A. Hold the reins  
C. Ward off  
B. Part company  
D. Gild the lily
357. - The suspect is still \_\_\_, and the police are conducting a manhunt to capture him.  
 - The new policy received mixed reactions from the public \_\_\_\_.  
 - The report covered the issue \_\_\_, providing extensive details and analysis.
- A. In a rut  
C. In the weeds  
B. At large  
D. Over the hump
358. - The contractor tried to \_\_\_ materials, leading to a poorly constructed building.
- A. Hasten to add/point out/say  
C. Skimp out on  
B. Stamp out  
D. Branch out into
359. - Before submitting the project proposal, Jane made sure she \_\_\_ her \_\_\_, with every detail meticulously organized and double-checked.
- A. Pulled \_\_\_ weight  
C. Slipped \_\_\_ mind  
B. Got/Had \_\_\_ ducks in a row  
D. Took to \_\_\_ heels
360. - The IT team is working to \_\_\_ the server capacity to handle the increased traffic on the website.  
 - The company plans to \_\_\_ production to meet the growing demand for its products.
- A. Tally with  
C. See to  
B. Look up  
D. Ramp up
361. - The sudden gust of wind \_\_\_ the tightrope walker \_\_\_\_.
- The unexpected interview question \_\_\_ her \_\_\_, and she struggled to answer.  
 - The competitor's new tactics \_\_\_ the team \_\_\_, forcing them to adapt quickly.
- A. Threw \_\_\_ off balance  
C. Sent \_\_\_ packing  
B. Did \_\_\_ in  
D. Tucked \_\_\_ in
362. - After repeated warnings about his performance, the company finally \_\_\_ him \_\_\_\_.
- When she found out he was lying, she \_\_\_ him \_\_\_ without a second thought.
- A. Raised \_\_\_ hackles  
C. Threw \_\_\_ off balance  
B. Ruffled \_\_\_ feathers  
D. Sent \_\_\_ packing
363. - After traveling for hours without a plan, we finally \_\_\_ at a small village.  
 - After losing his job, he \_\_\_ in a new city looking for work.  
 - He \_\_\_ at our door late at night, completely unannounced.
- A. Fetched up  
C. Zonked out  
B. Got stood up  
D. Caved/Gave in

364. - Every new recruit was given a(n) \_\_\_ uniform and equipment upon joining.  
 - The office laptops were all \_\_\_ models, with no special features or customizations.
- A. Standard-issue  
 C. At loggerheads  
 B. In stitches  
 D. In a cleft stick
365. - Following their breakup, she slowly started to \_\_\_ and move on.  
 - The town came together to \_\_\_ after the devastating hurricane.  
 - The fire was a blow, but we were determined to \_\_\_ and get the business back on its feet.
- A. Separate the wheat from the chaff  
 C. Get bent out of shape  
 B. Pick up the pieces  
 D. Gild the lily
366. - The race car driver performed a(n) \_\_\_, proudly displaying the checkered flag after his triumphant win.
- A. Bad penny  
 C. Hundred and ten percent  
 B. Night on the town  
 D. Lap of honor
367. - They planned to go to the movies together, but he \_\_\_ and ended up having to watch the film alone.
- A. Got stood up  
 C. Did in  
 B. Fell off a cliff  
 D. Ran high
368. - The team tried to \_\_\_, preventing their opponents from scoring for the entire match.  
 - Despite the fierce battle, the troops managed to \_\_\_ until reinforcements arrived.
- A. Live out of a suitcase  
 C. Simmer down  
 B. Hold the field  
 D. Ride out
369. - He joked that he was officially \_\_\_ when he turned 50.  
 - Some people think she's \_\_\_, but she's still producing amazing work.
- A. Off-the-peg  
 C. Over the hill  
 B. In the black  
 D. Seasoned with
370. - The drawer is full of \_\_\_ - clothes, toys, even books!
- A. Bits and bobs/pieces  
 C. Beer and skittles  
 B. Dribs and drabs  
 D. Ins and outs
371. - He \_\_\_ the government, criticizing their heavily prejudiced policies during the debate.  
 - The manager \_\_\_ the employee for consistently arriving late to work.
- A. Made free with  
 C. Made a muck of  
 B. Filed into  
 D. Laid into
372. - Organizing such a large event in such a small city centre is like \_\_\_.
- A. Falling off a log  
 C. Fitting a quart into a pint pot  
 B. Nailing jelly to the wall  
 D. Playing second fiddle
373. - When his GPS failed during the road trip, he navigated \_\_\_ his \_\_\_, using road signs and a general sense of direction.
- A. Worth \_\_\_ salt  
 C. By the seat of \_\_\_ pants  
 B. On \_\_\_ beam ends / On \_\_\_ uppers  
 D. Off \_\_\_ trolley
374. - The new startup is \_\_\_ the industry leader, challenging their market dominance  
 - With the approaching deadline \_\_\_ the employee, he had to put in a hundred and ten percent.
- A. Raking off  
 C. Harping on about  
 B. Conniving in  
 D. Nipping at the heels of
375. - Tom wants to sue them, but \_\_\_ if you ask me.
- A. Touché  
 C. It's funny you should ask  
 B. That dog won't hunt / That cock won't fight  
 D. Wonders will never cease
376. - She listened to her favorite music to \_\_\_ herself \_\_\_ before the presentation.
- A. Psych \_\_\_ up  
 C. Fit \_\_\_ like a glove  
 B. See \_\_\_ through  
 D. Have \_\_\_ in a half-nelson
377. - During the meeting, we got a little \_\_\_ discussing the technical specifications, which confused some of the team members.  
 - Let's not get \_\_\_ with the budget details right now; we need to focus on the overall strategy.
- A. Into the weeds  
 C. On the safe side  
 B. Standard-issue  
 D. Off-the-grid
378. - Just wanted to \_\_\_ my friend for landing that awesome new job! Congratulations!
- A. Big up  
 C. Tally with  
 B. Shake off  
 D. Branch out into
379. - The book remained in the \_\_\_ of the bestseller list for months before gaining popularity.  
 - The study focused on the \_\_\_ of the social hierarchy and its impacts on health.
- A. Any port in a storm  
 C. Deaf ears  
 B. Lower reaches  
 D. Curtains
380. - To be \_\_\_ is practically the same thing as flat broke.
- A. Beyond the norm  
 C. In the pink  
 B. Stone broke  
 D. Exposed to the elements
381. - Faced with the threat of a long prison sentence, he chose to \_\_\_ and testify against his accomplices.
- A. Turned/Came up trumps  
 C. Hold the reins  
 B. Make good time  
 D. Sing like a canary
382. - Under the intense scrutiny of the press, the politician eventually \_\_\_ and provided a full confession.
- A. Caved/Gave in  
 C. Got stood up  
 B. Laid it on with a trowel / Laid it on a bit thick  
 D. Zonked out

383. - He had to \_\_\_ the recipe online before cooking dinner.  
 - The kids \_\_\_ to their coach as a role model.  
 - Things started to \_\_\_ once he found a new job.
- A. Look up  
 C. Mete out  
 B. Stamp out  
 D. Rifle through
384. - The two companies were \_\_\_ over the terms of the merger.  
 - The neighbors have been \_\_\_ for years about the property boundary.
- A. At loggerheads  
 C. Run-of-the-mill  
 B. Up the wall  
 D. At large
385. - She was \_\_\_ by her peers to prank the teacher.
- A. Off-the-peg  
 C. Beyond the norm  
 B. At loggerheads  
 D. Egged on
386. - After a long and fulfilling career, he decided it was time to \_\_\_ into a well-deserved retirement.  
 - He would \_\_\_ to his room every evening, avoiding any social interaction.
- A. Shuffle off  
 C. Take the plunge  
 B. Take it up a notch  
 D. Hold the reins
387. - Despite the hardships, both teams were \_\_\_ winning the championship title.
- A. Hell-bent on  
 B. By virtue of
388. - The symptoms she described were just \_\_\_ cold symptoms, nothing to be worried about.  
 - He's a(n) \_\_\_ sports fan who watches the big games but doesn't follow every detail of the season.
- A. Garden-variety  
 C. In a rut  
 B. For the high jump  
 D. Against time/the clock
389. - After years of working together, the two business partners decided to \_\_\_ due to differing future visions.
- A. Come to the table  
 C. Limp on  
 B. Part company  
 D. Sing like a canary
390. - During the debate, the opposition team tried to \_\_\_ in the argument presented by their opponents.  
 - She couldn't help but \_\_\_ in his story, questioning every detail he shared.
- A. Pick holes  
 C. Root around  
 B. Crop up  
 D. Batten down the hatches
391. - Trying to convince conservatives to change their mind is like \_\_\_\_.
- A. Barking up the wrong tree  
 C. Falling off a log  
 B. Running the show  
 D. Nailing jelly to the wall
392. - The old derelict bookshelf was covered by \_\_\_ dust.
- A. A film of  
 C. A blow of  
 B. A lapse of  
 D. A load of
393. - He didn't let the negative feedback affect him; it was like water off a(n) \_\_\_\_.  
 - I've told him that he's heading for trouble, but he doesn't seem to listen - it's just water off a(n) \_\_\_\_.
- A. Cool customer  
 C. Duck's back  
 B. Common touch  
 D. Rearguard action
394. - After recovering from her illness, she was finally \_\_\_, enjoying the fresh air and visiting friends.
- A. Cock-and-bull  
 C. Down and out  
 B. Rough and ready  
 D. Out and about
395. - Stop checking your phone for the job interview call. \_\_\_. Try to relax and keep busy.
- A. Touché  
 C. In for a penny, in for a pound  
 B. A stitch in time (saves nine)  
 D. A watched pot never boils
396. - She tried to \_\_\_ her teacher by turning in the same essay she used for another class.  
 - Mysterio tried to \_\_\_ the entire world, making them believe he was a hero.
- A. Take heart from  
 C. Put one over on  
 B. Keep a tight rein on  
 D. Fling off
397. - The delivery came in \_\_\_; First I got the CPU, then the RAM, then the GPU.
- A. Ins and outs  
 C. Bits and bobs/pieces  
 B. Ups and downs  
 D. Drips and drabs
398. - The car was going \_\_\_ on the highway, pushing its limits.  
 - She was working \_\_\_ to finish the project before the deadline.
- A. After a fashion  
 C. At every turn  
 B. From top to toe  
 D. Flat out
399. - With his new job demanding so much of his time, his hobbies have fallen \_\_\_\_.  
 - Despite her initial enthusiasm, her New Year's resolution to exercise daily fell \_\_\_ after just a few weeks.
- A. Keen as mustard  
 C. By the wayside  
 B. As cool as a cucumber  
 D. Up the wall
400. - She started to \_\_\_ her bag in search of her keys.
- A. Juggle with  
 C. Touch up  
 B. Rifle through  
 D. Pin down
401. - Despite the criticism, she decided to \_\_\_ her \_\_\_ and pressed ahead with her original plan.
- A. Toot \_\_\_ own horn/Blow \_\_\_ own trumpet  
 C. Stick to \_\_\_ guns  
 B. Hold \_\_\_ horses  
 D. Set/Put \_\_\_ mind

402. - As the alarm went off, everyone \_\_\_ to avoid potential flying debris.  
 - He saw the ball coming fast toward him, so he \_\_\_, lying flat on the ground.  
 A. Flew off the handle / Hit the roof/ceiling  
 B. Did in  
 C. Had a bumpy ride  
 D. Hit the deck
403. - This new model comes with all the features of the old one, but \_\_\_!  
 - Your report is just like my report \_\_\_ — it's 30 pages longer, with no extra content whatsoever.  
 A. Out of all recognition  
 B. Off the cuff  
 C. Over the hill  
 D. With (brass) knobs on
404. - His story didn't \_\_\_ the facts presented by the witnesses.  
 - The final count must \_\_\_ the records we have on file.  
 A. Rake up  
 B. Tally with  
 C. Put one over on  
 D. Ramble on
405. - No doctor \_\_\_ their \_\_\_ would recommend such a treatment without thorough research.  
 - Any engineer \_\_\_ their \_\_\_ should be able to troubleshoot this problem without much difficulty.  
 A. On \_\_\_ beam ends / On \_\_\_ uppers  
 B. By the seat of \_\_\_ pants  
 C. Off \_\_\_ trolley  
 D. Worth \_\_\_ salt
406. - As soon as they heard the sirens, the robbers \_\_\_ their \_\_\_ and disappeared into the night.  
 - When the angry crowd gathered, he \_\_\_ his heels \_\_\_ avoid getting caught in the commotion.  
 A. Slipped \_\_\_ mind  
 B. Took to \_\_\_ heels  
 C. Pulled \_\_\_ weight  
 D. Blew \_\_\_ top
407. - The new police chief is known as a(n) \_\_\_ who won't tolerate any form of corruption.  
 - He's a(n) \_\_\_ when it comes to following company policies and ethical guidelines.  
 A. Butcher's dog / Fiddle  
 B. Real kick in the teeth  
 C. Straight arrow  
 D. Wet blanket
408. - Ever since she got that promotion, she's been living in \_\_\_\_.  
 - With our sales figures reaching new heights, we're really in \_\_\_ this quarter.  
 A. Curtains  
 B. High cotton  
 C. Any port in a storm  
 D. Hot air
409. - They have us \_\_\_ with this contract; We have no choice but to acquiesce to it.  
 A. In stitches  
 B. No-frills  
 C. Seasoned with  
 D. Over a barrel
410. - Losing his job started a(n) \_\_\_ that forced him to reevaluate his life and career  
 - The detective pieced together the \_\_\_ leading up to the crime to understand the suspect's motive.  
 A. Chain of events  
 B. Hard/Tough row to hoe  
 C. Bad penny  
 D. Head start
411. - The disrespect he showed our professor during class \_\_\_ my \_\_\_ so badly that I had to go take a walk to calm down.  
 A. Sent \_\_\_ packing  
 B. Did \_\_\_ in  
 C. Threw \_\_\_ off balance  
 D. Raised \_\_\_ hackles
412. - His bullshit explanation for being late was a(n) \_\_\_\_.  
 A. Pipe dream  
 B. Pretty penny  
 C. Load of cobblers  
 D. Crack of dawn
413. - She drinks a cup of ginger tea every morning to \_\_\_ colds.  
 - They used mosquito repellent to \_\_\_ the bugs while camping.  
 A. Swing a cat  
 B. Hold the fort  
 C. Crop up  
 D. Ward off
414. - The gratingly incessant buzzing noise from the mosquitoes is driving me \_\_\_\_.  
 A. Over the hill  
 B. In the black  
 C. Across the board  
 D. Up the wall
415. - He doesn't sugarcoat his opinions and always tends to \_\_\_\_.  
 - We need to \_\_\_ and face the fact that the current strategy isn't working.  
 A. Have teeth  
 B. Swing a cat  
 C. Pick up the pieces  
 D. Call a spade a spade
416. - The company announced a salary increase \_\_\_, benefiting all employees.  
 - The new policy changes will apply \_\_\_, affecting students, teachers, and staff.  
 A. Out of the fire  
 B. Across the board  
 C. Out of all recognition  
 D. Around-the-clock/Round-the-clock
417. - When she missed the deadline, her chances of getting the promotion went \_\_\_\_.  
 - After investing heavily in the failed startup, all his savings went \_\_\_\_.  
 A. Off-the-peg  
 B. Down the drain  
 C. Blue in the face  
 D. Up the wall
418. - When the coach found out about the broken rules, the entire team was \_\_\_\_.  
 - He missed another deadline, so he's \_\_\_ with the manager this time.  
 - After he was caught stealing from the company, everyone knew he was \_\_\_\_.  
 A. Hard at it  
 B. Over the hill  
 C. For the high jump  
 D. By the wayside
419. - The job posting mentioned that \_\_\_ would be provided, so she wouldn't have to worry about finding a place to stay or meals.  
 A. Rack and ruin  
 B. Nudge and wink  
 C. Lock and key  
 D. Bed and board / Board and lodging

420. - It was a(n) \_\_\_ learning that my father's fortune had been squandered.  
 A. Hard pill to swallow B. Penny  
 C. Pipe dream D. Tall order
421. - In \_\_\_ luck, she found the lost ring on the beach.  
 - Losing his job during the economic downturn was \_\_\_ misfortune.  
 A. A film of B. A fit of  
 C. A blow of D. A load of
422. - She was \_\_\_, waiting for the results of her medical tests.  
 - After the job interview, he was \_\_\_, hoping for a positive response.  
 A. In the red B. Down the drain  
 C. On tenterhooks D. Stone broke
423. - The long hike really \_\_\_ me \_\_\_; I'm exhausted.  
 A. Did \_\_\_ in B. Ruffled \_\_\_ feathers  
 C. Saved \_\_\_ bacon D. Committed \_\_\_ to memory
424. - The mechanic tried to \_\_\_ me \_\_\_ by charging double for the repairs.  
 A. Have \_\_\_ in a half-nelson B. Rip \_\_\_ off  
 C. Sweep \_\_\_ under the carpet D. Fit \_\_\_ like a glove
425. - If you think I'm the one who made the mistake, you're \_\_\_. It was someone else.  
 A. Fitting a quart into a pint pot B. Barking up the wrong tree  
 C. Jigging about D. Falling off a log
426. - I can't believe you thought I was serious! I was just \_\_\_ your \_\_\_ when I said I was moving to Mars.  
 A. Pulling \_\_\_ leg
427. - If you just \_\_\_ your \_\_\_ to revising, I'm sure you will get a 10.  
 A. Set/Put \_\_\_ mind B. Pull \_\_\_ together  
 C. Stick to \_\_\_ guns D. Toot \_\_\_ own horn/Blow \_\_\_ own trumpet
428. - After establishing a strong presence in the domestic market, the company decided to \_\_\_ international sales.  
 A. Tally up B. Mete out  
 C. Abound in/with D. Branch out into
429. - He finds it hard to trust people because of the \_\_\_ from his previous relationship.  
 - She realized that to move forward in her career, she needed to let go of the \_\_\_ from her childhood experiences.  
 A. Bad hair day B. Emotional baggage  
 C. Duck's back D. Stag night/Stag party/Bachelor party
430. - Even though you did not win the race, \_\_\_ the fact that you did your best.  
 A. Take heart from B. Take issue with  
 C. Shudder to think D. Take up
431. - The restaurant was just \_\_\_. Nothing on the menu stood out, and the service was subpar.  
 A. Run-of-the-mill B. Off-the-grid  
 C. Over the hump D. Into the weeds
432. - The cat spotted a butterfly and \_\_\_ to chase it across the garden.  
 - He got an urgent call and \_\_\_ without saying goodbye.  
 - She remembered she left the oven on and \_\_\_ to the kitchen.  
 A. Darted off B. Looked askance  
 C. Tripped up D. Fell off a cliff
433. - The students in the honors program are considered the \_\_\_ in the school.  
 A. Cream of the crop B. Far cry  
 C. Media blitz D. Hard/Tough row to hoe
434. - Ugh, once Mom came in, yelling that I had to get up, I had no choice but to \_\_\_ the blankets and finally get out of bed.  
 - She couldn't do anything but \_\_\_ her gloves in frustration after the argument.  
 A. Skimp out on B. Fling off  
 C. Work at D. Slam down
435. - It's a(n) \_\_\_ store supplying only basic goods at affordable prices.  
 - The \_\_\_ grocery store offers the lowest prices, but don't expect fancy displays or gourmet products.  
 A. No-frills B. Sick as a dog  
 C. Over a barrel D. In a cleft stick
436. - He enjoys \_\_\_ music recommendations to find new songs to add to his playlist.  
 - She spent the afternoon \_\_\_ her old photos, deciding which ones to keep and which to discard.  
 A. Conniving in B. Raking off  
 C. Sifting through D. Dallying with
437. - The boys got completely \_\_\_ at the party, even though they weren't old enough to drink!  
 A. On the rocks B. Rat-assed / Rat-arsed  
 C. Around-the-clock/Round-the-clock D. Over the hump
438. - A: I feel just awful for Mary - she's been \_\_\_ her \_\_\_ ever since she found out she was rejected by her top-choice school.  
 - B: Tell her to get over it already or she's gonna put on a heck ton of weight.  
 A. Throwing \_\_\_ weight around/about B. Eating \_\_\_ heart out  
 C. Holding \_\_\_ thumbs/Keeping \_\_\_ fingers crossed



439. - After the heated argument, she decided to \_\_\_ by apologizing and suggesting they start over.  
 A. Hold the field B. Live out of a suitcase  
 C. Hold out/Offer/Extend an olive branch D. Make good time
440. - The con artist managed to \_\_\_ lies to deceive the unsuspecting victims.  
 - The author's skills allowed him to \_\_\_ intrigue, keeping readers on the edge of their seats.  
 - The politician's speech appeared to \_\_\_ promises and assurances, but it was hard to see the concrete plans.  
 - She decided to \_\_\_ manipulation, playing each member of the group against one another.  
 A. Weave a web of B. Touch up  
 C. Dredge up D. Hasten to add/point out/say
441. - She always looks like the \_\_\_ in her vintage dresses and stylish accessories.  
 A. Curtains B. Stony ground  
 C. Ivory towers D. Cat's pajamas/meow/whiskers
442. - After the new competitors entered the market, the once-thriving company \_\_\_ and struggled to stay afloat.  
 - The economy \_\_\_ during the recession, with many businesses closing down and unemployment rising.  
 A. Went against the grain B. Looked askance  
 C. Scarfed down D. Hit the skids
443. - It was a(n) \_\_\_, but she managed to avoid the accident by swerving just in time.  
 - He had a(n) \_\_\_ in passing the exam; he just made it by one point.  
 A. Wooden spoon B. Dirty dog  
 C. Cream of the crop D. Narrow squeak
444. - The \_\_\_ of the city can be overwhelming.  
 A. Thick and thin B. Hustle and bustle  
 C. Rack and ruin D. Nook and cranny
445. - The new team member turned out to be a(n) \_\_\_, causing conflicts and disrupting harmony in the workplace.  
 - The class was well-behaved, but there was one \_\_\_ who constantly caused trouble.  
 A. Gold brick B. Circuit breaker  
 C. Bad apple D. Million-dollar question
446. - Raising four children on a single income was a(n) \_\_\_, but I managed to do it anyway.  
 A. Rearguard action B. Lead balloon  
 C. Hard/Tough row to hoe D. Lap of honor
447. - We had a(n) \_\_\_ with the car on our way to the beach, but luckily it was just a flat tire.  
 - There was a(n) \_\_\_ at the airport when our flight got delayed due to bad weather.  
 A. Spot of bother B. Hatchet job  
 C. Weak links D. Million-dollar question
448. - You can occasionally find wildflowers growing \_\_\_ around the field.  
 A. High and low B. Here and there  
 C. Down and out D. High and dry
449. - She \_\_\_ attention \_\_\_ her guests, making sure everyone felt welcome and comfortable.  
 - The coach \_\_\_ praise \_\_\_ the team after their outstanding performance.  
 A. Lavished \_\_\_ on B. Threw \_\_\_ hat in the ring
450. - In the 1930s, many men became "\_\_\_" during the Great Depression, traveling in search of work or adventure.  
 A. Knight of the road B. Hundred and ten percent  
 C. Crime of passion D. Lead balloon
451. - They had been dating for a long time and finally decided to \_\_\_ and get married  
 - Despite the risks, he finally decided to \_\_\_ and invested in the new tech startup.  
 A. Take the plunge B. Make allowances  
 C. Vamp it up D. Bed out
452. Successful people always seize an opportunity whenever it \_\_\_ itself.  
 A. Presents B. Reveals  
 C. Displays D. Shows
453. Many feel that the President is, whether by accident or \_\_\_, starting a war with Iran.  
 A. Design B. Motive  
 C. Intent D. Purpose
454. Conflicting witness statements present a \_\_\_ picture of the incident.  
 A. Writhed B. Confused  
 C. Muddled D. Grained
455. Tony's had that terrible pain in his eye since morning. I'm afraid some \_\_\_ body must have got inside it and is causing discomfort.  
 A. Outside B. Foreign  
 C. Exotic D. External
456. The neighborhood was dealing with a(n) \_\_\_ of burglaries, leaving residents fearful and on edge.  
 A. Attack B. Plague  
 C. Assault D. Outbreak

1C	2D	3D	4B	5A	6A	7B	8B	9B	10A
11B	12D	13A	14D	15C	16B	17D	18D	19B	20A
21A	22A	23D	24A	25D	26C	27A	28C	29B	30D
31C	32B	33A	34C	35C	36A	37C	38C	39B	40C
41C	42B	43D	44D	45A	46B	47C	48A	49A	50C
51D	52D	53D	54D	55A	56A	57D	58C	59D	60D
61D	62A	63B	64D	65A	66C	67C	68C	69A	70D
71C	72A	73D	74A	75D	76C	77C	78B	79C	80A
81D	82C	83A	84B	85A	86A	87C	88D	89A	90C
91B	92A	93C	94A	95D	96C	97A	98B	99D	100C
101B	102D	103A	104B	105A	106B	107D	108B	109A	110D
111B	112A	113C	114B	115A	116A	117B	118D	119D	120D
121B	122A	123C	124D	125A	126B	127D	128A	129C	130A
131A	132D	133C	134C	135B	136B	137D	138D	139B	140A
141A	142B	143A	144B	145B	146C	147B	148D	149B	150A
151B	152A	153D	154C	155C	156D	157C	158A	159D	160C
161B	162B	163C	164D	165C	166B	167B	168C	169B	170B
171B	172A	173B	174C	175B	176C	177D	178D	179B	180B
181A	182A	183A	184C	185C	186D	187D	188D	189D	190B
191A	192C	193A	194A	195B	196A	197C	198C	199B	200A
201B	202D	203D	204C	205B	206B	207C	208C	209B	210A
211C	212D	213B	214C	215A	216B	217B	218D	219B	220C

301C	302A	303B	304B	305D	306D	307A	308A	309C	310D
311A	312D	313B	314A	315D	316D	317A	318D	319A	320A
321C	322D	323C	324D	325D	326B	327D	328D	329D	330B
331C	332D	333B	334B	335D	336B	337D	338A	339A	340A
341A	342D	343D	344B	345C	346B	347D	348D	349D	350C
351A	352A	353B	354B	355C	356A	357B	358C	359B	360D
361A	362D	363A	364A	365B	366D	367A	368B	369C	370A
371D	372C	373C	374D	375B	376A	377A	378A	379B	380B
381D	382A	383A	384A	385D	386A	387A	388A	389B	390A
391D	392A	393C	394D	395D	396C	397D	398D	399C	400B
401C	402D	403D	404B	405D	406B	407C	408B	409D	410A
411D	412C	413D	414D	415D	416B	417B	418C	419D	420A
421C	422C	423A	424B	425B	426A	427A	428D	429B	430A
431A	432A	433A	434B	435A	436C	437B	438B	439C	440A
441D	442D	443D	444B	445C	446C	447A	448B	449A	450A
451A	452A	453C	454C	455B	456D				