

Directions: For the following questions, select the two answer choices that, when inserted into the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and yield complete sentences that are similar in meaning.

20. Known to all as having a silver tongue, the orator easily distracts audiences from the meaning of his words with his _____ speech.

- ☐ A mellifluous
- ☐ B flowing
- ☐ C stumbling
- ☐ D laconic
- ☐ E euphonic
- ☐ F strident

21. When the underdogs so soundly beat the team favored to win, their victory _____ the entire sports world.

- ☐ A horrified **horrified**
- ☐ B electrified **electrified**
- ☐ C shook **shook**
- ☐ D bored
- ☐ E alienated
- ☐ F stunned

22. Despite the efforts made by the municipal government to increase public transportation usage, many people of the city continued to drive their own vehicles, complaining that the bus schedules were too _____ to be relied upon.

- ☐ A **irregular**
- ☐ B **exacting**
- ☐ C **circuitous**
- ☐ D **rigid**
- ☐ E **isolated**
- ☐ F **erratic**

23. Word painting is a musical technique in which the progression of the notes _____ the meaning of the lyrics; a famous example of this can be found in Handel's *Messiah* in which the notes rise with the mention of "mountains" and fall with the mention of "low."

- ☐ A sustains
- ☐ B mimics
- ☐ C contrasts
- ☐ D reflects
- ☐ E opposes
- ☐ F reinforces

24. After naturally occurring smallpox was eradicated, the World Health Organization chose to _____ the remaining samples of the virus in hopes that they may be later used in developing means to combat other viruses.

- ☐ A eliminate
- ☐ B duplicate
- ☐ C preserve
- ☐ D retain
- ☐ E extirpate
- ☐ F cultivate

25. The *Magna Carta* was one of the most _____ political declarations of the Middle Ages because it declared the monarch's powers to be limited by the law; although its practical effects were not immediate, it is commonly seen as the genesis of constitutional law in England.

- ☐ A remarkable
- ☐ B immense
- ☐ C pivotal
- ☐ D recondite
- ☐ E ancient
- ☐ F momentous

26. Though _____ filled the streets, people seemed unconcerned with the appearance of their city.

- ☐ A detritus
- ☐ B refuge
- ☐ C gaudiness
- ☐ D bedlam
- ☐ E refuse
- ☐ F barrenness

27. G. K. Chesterton's wit is exemplified in his often _____ responses to his friend and rival George Bernard Shaw.

- ☐ A punctilious
- ☐ B vociferous
- ☐ C waggish
- ☐ D vicious
- ☐ E scathing
- ☐ F lighthearted

28. Electrotherapy has been used for over 150 years in various physical rehabilitation programs, even though many of its precise effects remain _____.

- ☐ A uncertain
- ☐ B disputed
- ☐ C disproved
- ☐ D unstudied
- ☐ E elusive
- ☐ F precarious

29. Despite a long career at famous establishments, the noted croupier chose instead to join the new casino, where he felt he was properly appreciated for his professional _____ and efficiency at the table.

- ☐ A articulation
- ☐ B demeanor
- ☐ C reputation
- ☐ D history
- ☐ E mien
- ☐ F dexterity

30. Although the river itself had vanished, the banks and bed were _____ years of erosion from running water.

- ☐ A a repudiation of
- ☐ B witness to
- ☐ C coarsened by
- ☐ D an attestation to
- ☐ E vindicated by
- ☐ F recovered from

31. While he was still _____, the doctors advised Phillip to remain home, lest he was contagious, even though his symptoms had receded.

- ☐ A impaired
- ☐ B ailing
- ☐ C convalescing
- ☐ D nauseous
- ☐ E enfeebled
- ☐ F recuperating

32. The advent of the Internet has created an unprecedented increase in communication _____, as it allows for the near-instant transmission of information.

- ☐ (A) potential
- ☐ (B) controversies
- ☐ (C) theories
- ☐ (D) litigation
- ☐ (E) prospects
- ☐ (F) revolutions

33. Although she did not approve of her father's smoking, she was forced to admit that the smell of his pipe tobacco was _____ her youth.

- ☐ (A) reminiscent of
- ☐ (B) redolent of
- ☐ (C) salubrious for
- ☐ (D) pungent with
- ☐ (E) odorous with
- ☐ (F) evocative of

34. Her fractured wrist made the aspiring flutist _____ about her future career; however, her doctor assured her it would heal without long-term damage.

- ☐ (A) alarmed
- ☐ (B) truculent
- ☐ (C) panegyric
- ☐ (D) disquieted
- ☐ (E) ebullient
- ☐ (F) phlegmatic

35. Although English is the de facto language of the United States of America, its being made the official language is _____ given the diversity of the population, in particular the rapid rise in the Spanish-speaking demographic.

- ☐ A feasible
- ☐ B unlikely
- ☐ C improbable
- ☐ D impossible
- ☐ E plausible
- ☐ F preposterous

36. As excited as he was to have been chosen for the reality television show, he was _____ about involving his family, particularly his children, whom he felt would not understand the situation fully.

- ☐ A thrilled
- ☐ B timorous
- ☐ C vacillating
- ☐ D horrified
- ☐ E resigned
- ☐ F wavering

37. Because the architect had found evidence of decay in a supporting wall, her official report _____ the structural integrity of the building as a likely cause of the accident.

- ☐ A proposed
- ☐ B validated
- ☐ C rejected
- ☐ D advanced
- ☐ E deplored
- ☐ F condemned

38. Max's repertoire of cooking techniques was remarkably broad, allowing him to draw upon many culinary traditions to create _____ dishes.

- ☐ A artful
- ☐ B catholic
- ☐ C dilettantish
- ☐ D eclectic
- ☐ E savory
- ☐ F ambrosial

39. The space shuttle is an _____ of human creativity and engineering, unparalleled in its complexity and ingenuity.

- ☐ A expression
- ☐ B apogee *apogee*
- ☐ C encroachment *encroachment*
- ☐ D assertion
- ☐ E excess *excess*
- ☐ F apex *apex*

40. He _____ visiting Blarney Castle, fearing the summer tourist crowds, and chose a quieter destination for himself.

- ☐ A contemplated
- ☐ B eschewed
- ☐ C deprecated
- ☐ D considered
- ☐ E forwent
- ☐ F discouraged

Directions: For the following questions, select the **two** answer choices that, when inserted into the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and yield complete sentences that are similar in meaning.

21. As modern scholarship continues to dim the possibility that Homer was a single historic figure, the question of authorship of his works has been raised; although we might never know who wrote them, scholars still need some way to refer to the author or authors of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, so the term "Homeric tradition" has been _____ as a possible new terminology.
- ☐ A selected
 - ☐ B established
 - ☐ C appropriated
 - ☐ D bestowed
 - ☐ E suggested
 - ☐ F proposed
22. _____ commercial arsenic usage has diminished, its ongoing presence in water and soil continues to be a major public health concern, given the extremely high toxicity of the substance.
- ☐ A After
 - ☐ B Whereas
 - ☐ C Inasmuch as
 - ☐ D Considering
 - ☐ E While
 - ☐ F Because

23. Early sewing machines were poorly received by textile workers, who feared the technology would _____ the demand for their skills; despite their protests, the sewing machine became popular both in the factory and in the home.
- ☐ (A) overwhelm
 - ☐ (B) diminish
 - ☐ (C) obviate
 - ☐ (D) mitigate
 - ☐ (E) eliminate
 - ☐ (F) belittle
24. The protest march quickly turned into a riot, and in the response by police, several people on either side were killed and dozens more wounded; it would later be _____ remembered by both sides as a tragic accident, and no blame would be assigned.
- ☐ (A) indignantly
 - ☐ (B) mournfully
 - ☐ (C) spitefully
 - ☐ (D) bitterly
 - ☐ (E) soberly
 - ☐ (F) melancholically
25. Regardless of his limited success, the philosopher was _____ in his search for understanding and continued to think and write.
- ☐ (A) content
 - ☐ (B) disaffected
 - ☐ (C) dogged
 - ☐ (D) triumphant
 - ☐ (E) perseverant
 - ☐ (F) isolated

26. The ascent of Mount Everest was first conquered nearly sixty years ago, but it nevertheless remains a symbol of _____ struggle in the popular psyche, demanding incredible determination and physical endurance.
- ☐ A arduous
 - ☐ B Daedalean
 - ☐ C colossal
 - ☐ D adamant
 - ☐ E Herculean
 - ☐ F Gordian
27. Carl enjoyed the music and culture surrounding the opera house, but, possessing a _____ attention span, he secretly wished the performances could be slightly truncated.
- ☐ A limited
 - ☐ B interminable
 - ☐ C picayune
 - ☐ D finite
 - ☐ E paltry
 - ☐ F infinitesimal
28. Facing the pressure of an impending deadline, Sarah was afflicted with a case of _____ writer's block; she could not think of a single word to write.
- ☐ A middling
 - ☐ B thorough
 - ☐ C consummate
 - ☐ D unmitigated
 - ☐ E customary
 - ☐ F egregious

29. "Leaf viewing" is a popular outing in New England, where one can behold magnificent fall colors when the leaves change; this remarkable sight can be attributed to the _____ of green chlorophyll in leaves, which allows the carotenoids to show through.
- ☐ (A) expulsion
 - ☐ (B) consumption
 - ☐ (C) abatement
 - ☐ (D) irradiation
 - ☐ (E) ebbing
 - ☐ (F) nourishment
30. Building trust is a crucial yet difficult aspect of friendship; trust can take years to be _____ but only moments to be broken.
- ☐ (A) forged
 - ☐ (B) established
 - ☐ (C) fostered
 - ☐ (D) acquiesced
 - ☐ (E) capitulated
 - ☐ (F) undertaken
31. James _____ that his efforts in the project had earned him a prolonged vacation, but when his boss rejected the idea, James returned to work without complaint.
- ☐ (A) professed
 - ☐ (B) contended
 - ☐ (C) ventured
 - ☐ (D) insisted
 - ☐ (E) averred
 - ☐ (F) opined

32. The doctor's handwriting was entirely _____, much to the frustration of the other staff of the hospital, but some wondered whether it was not intentionally so in order to prevent forgery of prescriptions.
- ☐ (A) rudimentary
 - ☐ (B) indecipherable
 - ☐ (C) lucid
 - ☐ (D) hieroglyphic
 - ☐ (E) unprofessional
 - ☐ (F) rustic
33. While all the coworkers participated in attempting to merge their company with a rival, after their proposal collapsed, Dustin was the one _____ as a scapegoat in the resulting chaos and was forced to leave the company.
- ☐ (A) blamed
 - ☐ (B) ostracized
 - ☐ (C) elected
 - ☐ (D) designated
 - ☐ (E) excommunicated
 - ☐ (F) chosen
34. Although the stems of the rhubarb plant have various culinary and medicinal uses, the leaves are in fact poisonous, making it a plant best grown only by those familiar with both its _____ and dangers.
- ☐ (A) benefits
 - ☐ (B) treatments
 - ☐ (C) purposes
 - ☐ (D) contingencies
 - ☐ (E) utilities
 - ☐ (F) exigencies

35. Because William had left no will, after the funeral, _____ arose among his children over ownership of the family heirlooms; it was tragic to see such bitterness among the family in a time of mourning.

- ☐ A a conflagration
- ☐ B repudiation
- ☐ C dissension
- ☐ D contention
- ☐ E a Rubicon
- ☐ F a squall

36. Seeing that the student had clearly rushed through the assignment at the last minute, the professor returned the paper with a failing grade and cautioned the student to dedicate more time to his studies and to avoid handing in such _____ work in the future.

- ☐ A jaunty
- ☐ B sloppy
- ☐ C pithy
- ☐ D burnished
- ☐ E slipshod
- ☐ F blithe

37. The difficulty one has in describing its unique flavor, as well as its slogan "Love it or hate it," makes Marmite a perfect example of _____ taste.

- ☐ A a refined
- ☐ B an idiosyncratic
- ☐ C an acquired
- ☐ D a novel
- ☐ E an endowed
- ☐ F a mediocre

38. Given his long history of penny-pinching behavior, we could not help but feel that his refusal to donate to the charity only reinforced his _____ image.
- ☐ (A) parsimonious
 - ☐ (B) avaricious
 - ☐ (C) covetous
 - ☐ (D) penurious
 - ☐ (E) selfish
 - ☐ (F) rapacious
39. Although we are constantly beset by stories of exploitation and abuse during widespread catastrophes, it is important also to _____ the good Samaritans who may be found in these same times of crisis.
- ☐ (A) commend
 - ☐ (B) recall
 - ☐ (C) exploit
 - ☐ (D) remember
 - ☐ (E) promote
 - ☐ (F) proscribe

Questions 40 through 43 are based on the passage below.

The origins of the English language can be traced back to the Saxon and other Germanic settlers in Britain beginning in the 5th century CE. Its unusual nature can be attributed to the diverse linguistic origins of the groups that contributed to its development and their role in English society. Although English belongs to the Germanic language family, and its grammatical and syntactical rules reflect this, English vocabulary can be seen to be from multiple origins. In fact, a large part of the vocabulary was not derived from the Germanic languages at all but is rather of Latin origin. This can be explained by the influence on Old English of Old French and Latin during the Norman Invasion in the 11th century. By the time of the Norman Invasion, Old English was already a language, with both its grammar and vocabulary based in the Germanic language family. However, the establishment of a ruling class who spoke a Romance language caused significant changes in the indigenous tongue. It is also interesting to note that there is a distinct

to relation between the length of a word and its origin—most of the shorter words in the English language are derived from the Germanic languages, whereas the longer words are from a Latin background. One theory to explain this is that the more elaborate and complex words were primarily used by the elite after the Norman Invasion—who would have favored a Latin-based (or Romance) vocabulary—whereas words with the same meaning in the Old English were used primarily by the lower classes and thus fell into disuse. Modern English words, then, concerning more complex and theoretical, rather than utilitarian, ideas (astronomy, poetry, and epistemology) can generally be found to be of Romance origin, whereas more mundane words, such as pronouns and auxiliary verbs, can be traced back to a Germanic origin.

40. Which of the following best describes the relationship between the highlighted phrases?
- ☐ (A) The argument and its counterargument
 - ☐ (B) Two examples of the scope of the passage
 - ☐ (C) The topic and scope of the passage
 - ☐ (D) The scope of the passage and an example
 - ☐ (E) The topic of the passage and an example
41. Read the following answer choices and select all that apply. Based on the passage, of what origin would we expect the word “they” to be?
- ☐ (A) Germanic
 - ☐ (B) Romance
 - ☐ (C) Norse
42. Based on the passage, what is a likely reason why English has not been reclassified as a Romance language?
- ☐ (A) It developed as a Germanic language in its first incarnation, Old English.
 - ☐ (B) The core of the language, its grammar and syntax, is still Germanic.
 - ☐ (C) A larger portion of the English vocabulary is Germanic rather than Romance.
 - ☐ (D) The Normans felt an affinity for the local tongue, which was Germanic.
 - ☐ (E) Neither linguistic heritage has a claim to preeminence.