

CHUYÊN ĐỀ 23: CỤM TỪ CÓ ĐỊNH

A. SOME USEFUL COLLOCATIONS

STT	CỤM TỪ	NGHĨA
1	▪ A recipe for a disaster	▪ cách dẫn đến sự hỗn loạn, thảm họa
2	▪ A roaring success	▪ một thành công lớn, vang dội
3	▪ A stroke of luck	▪ dịp may bất ngờ
4	▪ Above the law	▪ đứng trên luật pháp
5	▪ Alive and kicking	▪ còn sống và rất khỏe mạnh, tràn đầy sức sống
6	▪ Alleviate suffering	▪ giảm bớt đau đớn, khổ sở
7	▪ At a standstill	▪ bị bế tắc, ngưng lại
8	▪ At all hours	▪ bất cứ khi nào
9	▪ At death's door	▪ bên ngưỡng cửa của tử thần, hấp hối, gần chết
10	▪ At odds	▪ gây sự bất hòa
11	▪ At one's disposal	▪ tùy ý sử dụng
12	▪ Back to the drawing board	▪ quay lại từ đầu để chuẩn bị một kế hoạch mới vì kế hoạch trước đã thất bại
13	▪ Bare necessity	▪ nhu yếu phẩm cơ bản(thức ăn, thuốc men,...)
14	▪ Be a big fish in a small pond	▪ một nhân vật quan trọng và có ảnh hưởng trong một cộng đồng nhỏ hay phạm vi hẹp
15	▪ Be a pack of lies	▪ toàn là lời dối trá
16	▪ Be awfully tired	▪ vô cùng mệt mỏi
17	▪ Be deep in something	▪ ngập sâu vào, mải mê, đắm chìm vào cái gì
18	▪ Be in sb's good/bad books	▪ được yêu thích/bị người nào ghét, có tên trong sổ đen của ai
19	▪ Be in the public eye	▪ trước mắt công chúng, bị dư luận soi xét
20	▪ Be in the right frame of mind	▪ đang trong tâm trạng tốt, thích hợp
21	▪ Be keenly interested in something	▪ rất thích, quan tâm điều gì

22	▪ Be made redundant	▪ bị sa thải
23	▪ Be on the level	▪ thật thà, chân thật, nói điều thật
24	▪ Be part and parcel	▪ phần cơ bản, quan trọng, thiết yếu
25	▪ Be put on probation	▪ chịu án treo, đang trong thời gian quản chế
26	▪ Be terminally ill	▪ bị bệnh nan y, vô phương cứu chữa
27	▪ Be wide awake	▪ hoàn toàn tỉnh táo
28	▪ Begin from scratch	▪ bắt đầu từ đầu, từ con số không
29	▪ Bite your tongue	▪ giữ im lặng, nhẫn nhịn không nói điều gì
30	▪ Box - top	▪ phòng vé
31	▪ Brain drain	▪ chảy máu chất xám
32	▪ Breach of contract	▪ vi phạm hợp đồng
33	▪ Break into the market	▪ thâm nhập thị trường
34	▪ break the ice	▪ làm cho người chưa gặp bao giờ cảm thấy thoải mái và bắt đầu nói chuyện với nhau.
35	▪ Brink of collapse	▪ bờ vực phá sản, sụp đổ
36	▪ By the same token	▪ vì lẽ ấy, đồng thời
37	▪ Capacity for something	▪ năng lực, khả năng làm gì
38	▪ Catch a glimpse of something	▪ nhìn thoáng qua, lướt qua
39	▪ Clap/lay/set eyes on sb/sth	▪ Để ý, để mắt cái gì/ai đó ngay từ lần đầu gặp
40	▪ Come to pass	▪ xảy ra như dự định
41	▪ Con (someone) out of sth	▪ lừa gạt ai đó
42	▪ Continuously throughout the night	▪ liên tục suốt đêm
43	▪ Corporal punishment	▪ hình phạt về thể xác, hành hạ thể xác
44	▪ Cost the earth	▪ chi phí đắt đỏ, tốn kém
45	▪ Count something on (the fingers of) one hand	▪ điều gì đó mà xảy ra rất hiếm hoặc tồn tại với số lượng rất nhỏ
46	▪ Creaking board	▪ tấm ván kéo kẹt
47	▪ Dead-end job	▪ một công việc không có thăng tiến, triển vọng
48	▪ Do somebody a good/bad turn	▪ làm điều gì đó giúp đỡ hoặc có hại cho ai
49	▪ Do something by the book = to	▪ tuân thủ luật lệ

	obey the rules while doing something	
50	▪ Drive somebody to something	▪ dồn ai vào thế bí phải làm gì
51	• Dull ache	▪ đau âm ỉ
52	▪ Excruciating pain	▪ cực kỳ đau đớn
53	▪ Exert oneself to something	▪ cố gắng, nỗ lực
54	▪ Fall prey to somebody/ something	▪ làm con mồi, nạn nhân của ai/ cái gì
55	▪ Fizzy drinks	▪ nước giải khát có ga
56	▪ Float through space	▪ lơ lửng trong không gian
57	▪ Fly by the seat of one's pants	▪ làm việc gì khó mà không có kinh nghiệm, kĩ năng cần thiết, làm theo cảm tính
58	▪ Follow/obey something to the letter	▪ làm chính xác như những gì ai đó bảo
59	▪ For the sake of somebody/ something	▪ vì lợi ích của ai/ cái gì
60	▪ Force your way through/into etc something	▪ chen lấn, xô đẩy, di chuyển khó khăn để đến nơi nào đấy
61	▪ Frighten/scare sb out of their wits	• làm cho ai vô cùng hoảng sợ
62	▪ Gain a competitive edge	▪ có được lợi thế cạnh tranh
63	▪ Garden sparrow	▪ chim sẻ nhà
64	• Get a move on	▪ nhanh lên
65	▪ Give an account of sth	▪ thuật lại chuyện gì
66	▪ Give chapter and verse	▪ nói có sách, mách có chứng (có chứng cứ rõ ràng, xác thực)
67	▪ Go grey	▪ có tóc bạc, bạc đầu
68	▪ Go to great lengths	▪ cố gắng hết sức, làm mọi thứ để đạt được điều gì
69	▪ Grasp an opportunity	▪ nắm bắt/ chớp lấy cơ hội
70	▪ Have a thirst for something	▪ có niềm khao khát, đam mê làm gì
71	▪ Have an aversion to something	▪ không thích cái gì
72	▪ Have an enquiring mind	▪ có tinh thần học hỏi
73	▪ Have an outstanding command of a language	▪ thông thạo vượt trội 1 thứ tiếng
74	▪ Have recollection of	▪ có hồi ức về
75	▪ Have time on one's hands	▪ chẳng có gì để làm, rảnh rỗi

76	▪ Heinous crime	▪ tội ác ghê tởm, tàn bạo
77	▪ Hold opinion	▪ có ý kiến
78	▪ In close proximity	▪ rất gần
79	▪ In deadly earnest	▪ vô cùng nghiêm trọng
80	▪ In deep (trouble)	▪ vô cùng rắc rối
81	▪ In earnest	▪ nghiêm túc, đứng đắn
82	▪ In mint condition	▪ trong điều kiện tốt như thể mới tinh
83	▪ In no mood for sth/ to do sth	▪ không có tâm trạng làm gì
84	▪ In the balance	▪ do dự, lưỡng lự
85	▪ (In) the middle of nowhere	▪ cách xa thị trấn và thành phố và là nơi có ít người sinh sống
86	▪ In the peak of physical condition	▪ ở trong tình trạng sức khỏe tốt nhất
87	▪ In the realm of	▪ trong lĩnh vực
88	▪ In vain	▪ thất bại, vô ích
89	▪ In/during/over the course of something	▪ trong suốt quá trình, trong khi
90	▪ Innocuous remark	▪ nhận xét vô hại, vô thưởng vô phạt
91	▪ Invariably pain	▪ lúc nào cũng mưa
92	▪ It goes without saying	▪ chắc chắn, hiển nhiên, khỏi phải nói
93	▪ It never crossed my mind	▪ chưa từng nảy ra nghĩ điều gì
94	▪ Jump the queue	▪ vượt lên trước, chen lấn chỗ khi xếp hàng
95	▪ Keep somebody company	▪ ở lại với ai đó để họ không cô đơn
96	▪ Keep track (of someone/ something)	▪ tiếp tục theo sát, để mắt đến ai, cái gì
97	▪ Kill time	▪ giết thời gian
98	▪ Lay trust in	▪ đặt niềm tin vào
99	▪ Lend itself to something	▪ thích hợp với, có thể dùng làm
100	▪ Let alone do something	▪ chưa kể đến, nói chi là làm gì
101	▪ Let it announce	▪ khẳng định, làm cho mọi người biết
102	▪ Lethal weapon	▪ vũ khí giết người
103	▪ Make cutbacks	▪ thực hiện cắt giảm

104	▪ Make head or tail of	▪ hiểu đầu đuôi
105	▪ Move up ladder	▪ chuyển nấc thang (tiến lên, phát triển)
106	▪ Narrow something down	▪ loại bỏ các lựa chọn ít quan trọng hơn để việc lựa chọn dễ dàng hơn
107	▪ Nowhere near	▪ còn lâu
108	▪ Odd cough and cold	▪ ốm vặt
109	▪ Of one's own accord	▪ tự nguyện, tự ý
110	▪ Off the record	▪ không được ghi, không chính thức
111	▪ On a par with somebody/ something	▪ bằng, ngang tầm/ chất lượng với ai, cái gì
112	▪ Oniocation	▪ quay ở hiện trường, quay ở trường quay ngoài trời
113	▪ On principle	▪ theo nguyên tắc (đạo đức), niềm tin cố định của mình
114	▪ On the pretext	▪ lấy cớ, viện lý do
115	▪ One way or another	▪ cách này hay cách khác
116	▪ Open prison	▪ án treo
117	▪ Out of condition	▪ không khỏe mạnh (đủ để tập thể dục nặng vì không tham gia thể thao/ các hoạt động thể chất)
118	▪ Out of harm's way	▪ tránh những nơi có thể gây hại, ở nơi an toàn
119	▪ Overhead cost	▪ chi phí chung để hoạt động (phí thuê mặt bằng, điện nước,...)
120	▪ Pay in arrears	▪ trả tiền quá hạn, khất nợ
121	▪ Peer pressure	▪ áp lực từ bạn bè, người đồng trang lứa
122	▪ Pet project/theory/subject	▪ dự án/ lý thuyết/ chủ đề được chú ý/ yêu thích nhất/ nổi bật nhất
123	▪ Pinpoint the problems	▪ chỉ ra, xác định mọi vấn đề đang gặp phải
124	▪ Pit your wits against somebody/ something	▪ có đủ thông minh để đấu lại ai, cái gì
125	▪ Poor chance/ slim chance	▪ cơ hội mong manh
126	▪ Pour something into something	▪ đổ cái gì vào cái gì
127	▪ Press conference	▪ cuộc họp báo

128	▪ Provoke somebody into (doing) something	▪ khiêu khích, xúi giục ai đó làm gì
129	▪ Pull yourself together	▪ bình tĩnh, điều khiển lại được cảm xúc sau khi tức giận/ buồn
130	▪ Put yourself in somebody's position	▪ thử đặt mình vào vị trí/ hoàn cảnh của người khác
131	▪ Qualified success	▪ sự vừa đủ khả năng thành công
132	▪ Quench one's thirst	▪ giải tỏa cơn khát
133	▪ Raise (someone's) hopes/expectations	▪ nhen nhóm niềm tin, hi vọng trong ai đó
134	▪ Reach a consensus	▪ đạt được sự nhất trí, đồng thuận
135	▪ Read between the lines	▪ hiểu được ẩn ý, ngụ ý
136	▪ Read between the lines	▪ tìm ra ngụ ý, hiểu được ẩn ý
137	▪ Redeeming feature	▪ một phẩm chất tốt mà phần nào bù đắp cho những phẩm chất xấu trong một người hay 1 vật
138	▪ Run a business	▪ điều hành kinh doanh
139	▪ Sales manager	▪ quản lý kinh doanh
140	▪ Secure in knowledge that	▪ tự tin, chắc chắn về điều gì
141	▪ See red	▪ bùng bùng nổi giận, nổi xung
142	▪ Set a good pattern	▪ nêu gương tốt, tấm gương tốt
143	▪ Set one's heart on doing sth	▪ thực sự ham muốn điều gì đó, mơ ước về điều gì đó
144	▪ Shed tears	▪ rơi lệ, nhỏ lệ
145	▪ Sheer cost	▪ giá cả cực kỳ cao
146	▪ Sheer pleasure	▪ chỉ là niềm vui vì
147	▪ Sheer pleasure	▪ niềm vui tuyệt đối, duy nhất
148	▪ Shrink duty	▪ trốn tránh trách nhiệm, nhiệm vụ, bổn phận
149	▪ Slap in the face	▪ tát vào mặt (sỉ nhục, lăng mạ)
150	▪ Slash the prices	▪ giảm giá
151	▪ Slight cold	▪ cảm lạnh nhẹ
152	▪ Snatch of something	▪ phần nhỏ, đoạn ngắn
153	▪ Sole topic	▪ chủ đề chính, duy nhất

154	▪ Splitting headache	▪ đau đầu như búa bổ
155	▪ Squander savings	▪ lãng phí tiền tiết kiệm
156	▪ Stand someone in good stead	▪ có ích cho ai, có lợi cho ai; sẵn sàng giúp đỡ ai
157	▪ State of affairs	▪ tình trạng (chung) của vụ việc này, sự kiện trong 1 thời điểm nhất định
158	▪ Strongly ask	▪ mạnh mẽ yêu cầu
159	▪ Substitute something for something	▪ dùng cái gì thay thế cho cái gì khác
160	▪ Suit somebody down to the ground	▪ hoàn toàn thích hợp với ai
161	▪ Take a (heavy, terrible....) toll of something	▪ gây tổn hại, gây thiệt hại
162	▪ Take a course	▪ tham gia vào một khóa học
163	▪ Take effect	▪ có hiệu lực
164	▪ Take its course	▪ phát triển và kết thúc một cách tự nhiên
165	▪ Take something as read	▪ thừa nhận cái gì là đúng mà không bàn cãi
166	▪ Take sth as read	▪ chấp nhận một thứ gì đó là đúng
167	▪ Take the initiative in something	▪ dẫn đầu trong việc gì, khởi xướng việc gì
168	▪ Teach (your) grandmother to suck eggs	▪ trứng đòi khôn hơn vịt (dạy ai đó làm việc gì đó mà họ đã biết và thành thạo từ trước rồi)
169	▪ The apple doesn't fall far from the tree	▪ con nhà tông không giống lông cũng giống cánh, hủ phụ sinh hủ tử
170	▪ The big day	▪ ngày trọng đại
171	▪ The death penalty	▪ hình phạt tử hình
172	▪ The length and breadth of somewhere	▪ đi hết tất cả mọi nơi của địa điểm nào đó
173	▪ The letter of the law	▪ tính xác đáng của thuật ngữ pháp lý
174	▪ The quest for a new homeland	▪ cuộc tìm kiếm vùng đất mới
175	▪ The scene of the crime	▪ hiện trường vụ án
176	▪ Thorough examination	▪ kiểm tra tổng quát
177	▪ Thoroughly enjoy yourself	▪ hoàn toàn vui vẻ
178	▪ Throbbing headache	▪ đau nhói đầu
179	▪ Through no fault of one's own	▪ không phải lỗi của ai

180	▪ Throw caution to the winds	▪ thiếu thận trọng, liều lĩnh khi làm gì
181	▪ To do market research	▪ tiến hành, thực hiện nghiên cứu thị trường
182	▪ Tragedy strike	▪ bị kịch ập đến, giáng xuống
183	▪ Under lock and key	▪ được cất giấu an toàn, kỹ lưỡng
184	▪ Under the counter	▪ bán chui, bán lậu
185	▪ Utmost squalor	▪ sự dơ bẩn cực kỳ
186	▪ Vocation for something	▪ năng khiếu với việc gì
187	▪ Warts and all	▪ đầy đủ, không che giấu những nét hư, tật xấu
188	▪ Win - at -all - costs attitude	▪ thái độ háo thắng (muốn chiến thắng bằng mọi giá)
189	▪ Within reach of	▪ ở gần, trong tầm tay
190	▪ Within/in walking distance	▪ không xa lắm
191	▪ Written all over sb's face	▪ lộ rõ trên khuôn mặt

B. PRACTICE EXERCISES

Exercise 1.1: Mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

Question 1: Because I believed his lies, he _____ me out of a lot of money. I will never believe in him again.

A. conned B. took C. deceived D. stolen

Question 2: Language belongs to everyone, so most people feel that they have a right to _____ an opinion about it.

A. express B. have C. hold D. take

Question 3: Open-air markets, for example, always carry huge in-store advertisements when they _____ the prices of products.

A. slash B. reduce C. increase D. highlight

Question 4: It is always difficult for designer sportswear to _____ into the market because there is too much competition from leading brands like Adidas.

A. invade B. cut C. break D. interfere

Question 5: When an interviewer from Playboy asked David whether he enjoyed doing “Tonight Show”, he gave a vivid _____ of how it felt to face Carson.

A. imagination B. vision C. feeling D. account

Question 6: Jack prefers to be a big _____ in a small pond so he works for a small company with only sixty employees.

A. fish B. starfish C. dolphin D. shark

Question 7: Maria doesn't know why she's telling Crystal how to use the piano. It seems to her like teaching your grandmother to suck_____.

A. pines B. eggs C. lemons D. apples

Question 8: Jim worked many_____jobs before finally deciding to start his own bussiness. He had collected many experiences for himself.

A. dead-end B. attractive C. well-paid D. monetary

Question 9: The president didn't agree with our new ideas for the company so we had to go back to the drawing_____.

A. start B. way C. board D. refreshment

Question 10: My father sees_____when he sees my sister going out with a strange boy.

A. green B. red C. yellow D. blue

Question 11: You can count the number of times she's offered to buy me a drink on the_____of one hand.

A. thumbs B. wrists C. fingers D. elbows

Question 12: We had no fighting experience before so we were really_____by the seat of our pants.

A. flying B. using C. utilizing D. winning

Question 13: She has dreamt about becoming a singer when she was a little girl, so she set her_____on winning the first prize.

A. heart B. eye C. mind D. head

Question 14: Southern Europe is experiencing a high "brain_____" these days because of the lack of economic prospects.

A. losing B. lacking C. drain D. rain

Question 15: He literally was at death's_____when a kidney became available for transplant.

A. verge B. egde C. border D. door

Question 16: He acts like his father. You know, the_____doesn't fall far from the tree.

A. apple B. strawberry C. orange D. cucumber

Question 17: It_____without saying that Mrs Trang Anh is a very enthusiastic teacher. I love her so much.

A. goes B. comes C. appears D. gets

Question 18: As soon as Ferlin came to party, he immediately set his_____on Melin. Maybe he was captivated by her.

A. eye B. heart C. decision D. feeling

Question 19: Making sacrifices in your personal life is part and_____of being a film star. You should consider this.

A. completion B. half C. whole D. parcel

Question 20: Dawson I hear that the new regulations will take _____ from October 1st, won't it?

A. effect B. force C. power D. use

Question 21: Mary waited for them about 20 minutes and she was very nervous. Fortunately, they arrived alive and _____.

A. safe B. kicking C. vulnerable D. unscathed

Question 22: Crocodiles see well, their eyes are equipped with three eyelids, each having a different function. Their eyeballs slide back out of _____ way during an attack.

A. harm's B. danger's C. injury's D. damage's

Question 23: She took up many hobbies when she retired that she had hardly any _____.

A. in hand B. out of hand C. on her hands D. at hand

Question 24: I'm _____ no mood to go to the party tonight because I have an argument over party cake with Jane this afternoon.

A. in B. at C. for D. under

Question 25: After a few minutes Julia _____ herself together and explained her problem clearly.

A. pulled B. took C. started D. fired

Question 26: Although the hardened criminal committed a crime, there was a strong movement supporting the abolition of the death _____. Many people believed that this punishment is very cruel.

A. punishment B. penalty C. condemnation D. discipline

Question 27: My friend, Karen is hoping that she gets enough experience in the sales team, for her next job, she'll be able to apply for as a sales _____.

A. controller B. manager C. organizer D. conductor

Question 28: Although famous film stars make a fortune but they are always in the public _____.

A. eye B. watching C. service D. investigation

Question 29: The police tried in _____ to persuade the journalist to divulge the source of her information.

A. success B. failing C. vain D. determination

Question 30: Anna wants to improve her pronunciation so she decided to _____ a course at her school.

A. arrange B. buy C. give D. take

Question 31: In this puzzle, you have a chance to _____ your wits against the most intelligent people in Japan.

A. set B. try C. beat D. pit

Question 32: The drunken couple did nothing to keep the flat clean and tidy and lived in the utmost _____.

A. contamination B. pollution C. squalor D. convenience

Question 33: Jenny was offered a scholarship to study in Japan and she _____ the opportunity with both hands.

A. agreed B. hold C. grasped D. accepted

Question 34: "In one _____ or another I intend to discover the truth. Believe in me" she promises.

A. way B. road C. path D. street

Question 35: The BlackPink's tour is in the _____ making their fans very nervous. They waited for them for a long time.

A. balance B. consideration C. decision D. delay

Question 36: It was a _____ of luck that we found somewhere to park quickly last night.

A. stroke B. blow C. hit D. pat

Question 37: Although I like the dress very much, the _____ cost of it is what really put me off.

A. expensive B. extraordinary C. cheap D. sheer

Question 38: This _____ of affairs shouldn't be allowed to get worse by the government otherwise the masses lose their belief in them.

A. state B. situation C. prospect D. view

Question 39: Don't criticize me. If you _____ yourself in my position, you would behave the same.

A. set B. put C. think D. consider

Question 40: Once she's _____ a few tears she'll resign herself to the situation.

A. shed B. split C. sobbed D. released

Question 41: I've had my car examined three times now but no mechanic has been able to _____ the problem.

A. focus B. highlight C. pinpoint D. specify

Question 42: Don't thank me for helping in the garden. It was _____ pleasure to be working out of doors.

A. sheer B. mere C. simple D. plain

Question 43: His father doesn't allow him to use his car because in the hand of a reckless driver like him, a car becomes a _____ weapon.

A. fatal B. lethal C. mortal D. venal

Question 44: His chance of being picked for the Olympic swimming team is very _____.

A. big B. poor C. slim D. B and C

Question 45: She had _____ mind which kept her alert and well-informed even in old age.

A. an examining B. a demanding C. an enquiring D. a querying

Question 46: People in financial difficulties sometimes fall _____ to unscrupulous money lenders.

A. prey B. fool C. scapegoat D. sacrifice

Question 47: The politician gave a press_____to deny the charges that had been levelled at him.

A. conference B. seminar C. discussion D. gathering

Question 48: Experts have now come up with proof that such stories were_____earnest after all.

A. on B. in C. at D. under

Question 49: His_____topic of conversation was the weather, which makes him very tedious.

A. sole B. only C. important D. loving

Question 50: I'm sorry Bob. I haven't got the time to do my own work,_____alone help you with yours.

A. let B. do C. come D. leave

Exercise 1.2: Mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

Question 1: His English was roughly on a_____with my Greek, so communication was rather difficult.

A. similarity B. same C. position D. par

Question 2: The job requires a(n)_____for hard work in difficult conditions. If you can, apply for it.

A. ability B. competence C. capacity D. faculty

Question 3: He left the meeting early on the unlikely_____that he had a sick friend to visit and had to come home immediately.

A. pretext B. excuse C. claim D. motivation

Question 4: He looks much older. His financial worries seem to have taken a terrible_____on his health.

A. burden B. toll C. stress D. strain

Question 5: Apart from the_____cough and cold, I've been remarkably healthy all my life.

A. odd B. opportune C. regular D. timely

Question 6: Jane has got such a_____headache that she can't concentrate on the lecture. She has a permit to stay home until she's healthy.

A. beating B. drumming C. hammering D. throbbing

Question 7: The real test of your relationship will come when you start to see your new boyfriend_____and all.

A. faults B. warts C. spots D. moles

Question 8: He told the court that it was his desperate poverty that had_____him to steal the bread. The court decided to send him in prison for 2 days.

A. driven B. forced C. led D. brought

Question 9: She gave up nursing training when she found she had no_____for looking after the sick.

A. vocation B. mission C. ambition D. dream

Question 10: Don't worry about making a noise. The children are wide _____. They are watching cartoon.

A. awake B. woken C. waking D. awoke

Question 11: This rehabilitation scheme is at a _____. They are trying their best to come up with the solution.

A. hill B. mountain C. standstill D. valley

Question 12: They were _____ in conversation and didn't notice me leaving the room. When they called me to ask where I went, I had been at home for 15 minutes.

A. deep B. thoroughly C. solidly D. captivated

Question 13: I was really looking forward to going to the game and I could hardly wait until the _____ day came.

A. major B. important C. big D. huge

Question 14: Jack was tired of working for other people. He hate being criticized unfairly by them, so he decided to _____ his own business.

A. run B. open C. start D. initiate

Question 15: They eventually _____ a consensus on the new business plan after discussing for two weeks.

A. reached B. achieved C. had D. came

Question 16: Advertising companies always do a lot of market _____ before they design new products.

A. investigation B. examination C. exploration D. research

Question 17: The company made _____ at their stores in New Zealand and many employees were dismissed.

A. money B. success C. cutbacks D. failure

Question 18: They pay one month in _____ to all their designers making them very worried.

A. later B. after C. arrears D. full

Question 19: Jonie _____ all his savings in an unsuccessful business plan because of his arrogant character.

A. lost B. failed C. squandered D. consumed

Question 20: An increase in rents in the shopping mall increased the _____ costs of all the shops which operated there.

A. fixed B. total C. whole D. overhead

Question 21: Kenny believes that sport professionals deserve high salaries because constant hard training is necessary so that they can _____ themselves to the limit when they compete.

A. exert B. ahead C. go D. apply

Question 22: One of the causes of obesity is that many people are out of _____ and don't do exercise

regularly.

A. condition B. shape C. weight D. fitness

Question 23: Youth sport is being ruined by a win-at-all-costs_____,which includes cheating and breaking the rules to achieve victory.

A. desire B. attitude C. dream D. yearning

Question 24: Some people believe that it is waste to_____money into space research. Nevertheless, they are wrong.

A. pour B. invest C. earn D. spend

Question 25: Most of the arguments in favour of space programs are in the_____of science fiction.

A. dawn B. area C. field D. realm

Question 26: As humans are destroying their own planet, the_____for a new homeland in the universe is essential.

A. demand B. quest C. request D. search

Question 27: It is necessary at times to infringe on personal freedoms because people who lack necessary experience or who are not in the_____of physical condition sometimes take up dangerous sports.

A. peak B. high C. height D. maximum

Question 28: I believe that the courts must apply the strict_____of the law and impose the harshest possible sentences on criminals.

A. force B. method C. letter D. power

Question 29: Many schools have abandoned the policy of_____punishment for children who misbehave and prefer to give extra work or detention after school instead.

A. corporal B. physical C. strict D. mental

Question 30: The young offender was put on_____because his crime was not serious enough to send him to prison.

A. probation B. immunity C. consideration D. trial

Question 31: Don't take it as_____that you'll be promoted in your job, other colleagues stand a good chance too.

A. standard B. availability C. read D. common

Question 32: The planes were delayed and the hotel was awful, but by the same_____we still had a good time.

A. value B. contrary C. as D. token

Question 33: My grandfather didn't have any_____of phoning me last night. He is forgetful.

A. remembrance B. reminding C. recollection D. reminiscence

Question 34: Few people can do creative work unless they are in the right_____of mind. What about you?

A. frame B. trend C. attitude D. pattern

Question 35: The experimental play was only a _____ success, which disappointed the playwright.

A. local B. qualified C. cautious D. huge

Question 36: It was mindless of you to slap Jerky in the _____. You should never have done it if you expect him to love you.

A. face B. heart C. head D. mind

Question 37: It had been assumed Feryen would take over the manager's post after the man retired. But, it never _____ to pass since he's decided to change his place of work.

A. came B. happened C. coincided D. ran

Question 38: Reading between the _____, it seems neither Cole nor Ledley King will be going to Japan next month.

A. lines B. columns C. situations D. people

Question 39: We've got some time to _____ before the meeting begins, so let's go for a stroll in the park. I want to have a coffee.

A. destroy B. kill C. pass D. spend

Question 40: "There is no further treatment we can give", said Dr Jekyll, "We must let the disease take its _____",

A. end B. term C. trend D. course

Question 41: They could sail out for days into the unknown and assess the area, secure in the _____ that if they didn't find anything, they could turn about and catch a swift ride back on the trade winds.

A. belief B. mind C. knowledge D. miss

Question 42: Rose has been all over the world, but he still has a _____ for seeing new places and enjoying new experiences.

A. thirst B. dream C. crave D. yearning

Question 43: Space tourism would be really tedious, simply _____ through space and looking out of the window of the spacecraft.

A. flying B. moving C. floating D. running

Question 44: While Vietnam is quickly moving up the _____ into smartphones and semiconductors, the biggest chunk of its exports to the UK remained textiles.

A. success B. tendency C. fame D. ladder

Question 45: He used to have a deep _____ to fish but now he likes it too much. He eats fish three times a week.

A. dislike B. aversion C. intimacy D. warmth

Question 46: The high quality of Mercedes cars has enabled the company to gain a competitive _____ over its rivals in the world markets.

A. advantage B. money C. edge D. strategy

Question 47: The car company has closed down so 1000 employees have been made _____. Now they don't know what to do to make a living.

A. redundant B. overthrown C. overflowed D. bountiful

Question 48: I was so nervous about meeting Sophie's parents for the first time, but her dad immediately broke the _____ by asking about my car, and everything went great after that.

A. boulder B. ice C. stone D. rock

Question 49: After my brother won a little bit money from lottery, he began throwing _____ to the winds and gambling everything we had.

A. caution B. money C. status D. alertness

Question 50: Lyn was very excited when she saw that bird but her brother told her it wasn't a rare bird, just a common or _____ sparrow.

A. ordinary B. common C. garden D. strange

Exercise 1.3: Mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

Question 1: In Lorchester's _____ centre you can enjoy high-quality urban living, with reliable public transport and shops and restaurants.

A. busy B. bustling C. hectic D. flurry

Question 2: Key features of the plan include the restoration of _____ buildings and a tree-planting scheme.

A. unreliable B. rustic C. derelict D. desirable

Question 3: _____ roads are normal on holiday weekends.

A. congested B. choked C. massed D. stuffed

Question 4: With commercial and recreational facilities within _____ distance and open all hours, it is hoped that people will choose to leave their cars at home.

A. running B. miles C. comfortable D. walking

Question 5: He lives in a tiny house in the middle of _____ where nothing ever happened and where I felt bored.

A. nowhere B. quiet C. beyond D. track

Question 6: Look at the time! We'd better get a _____ on or we're going to be late.

A. rush B. move C. jump D. hurry

Question 7: You travel so much! I can't keep _____ of all the countries you have been to.

A. note B. chance C. track D. sign

Question 8: I don't want to raise your _____, but there's a chance we might be flying to America.

A. hope B. belief C. understanding D. ambition

Question 9: I can't believe that woman just tried to _____ the queue and got to the front first.

- A. break B. form C. join D. jump

Question 10: My dad's beginning to _____ grey, and he's only 35.

- A. turn B. change C. go D. raise

Question 11: I followed your instructions to the _____ but I still couldn't get the printer to work properly.

- A. word B. letter C. alphabet D. line

Question 12: Reading _____ the lines, it seems that the government's considering tightening media regulations.

- A. between B. beyond C. among D. from

Question 13: You've had some good news, haven't you? It's written all over your _____

- A. head B. nose C. face D. ear

Question 14: I take it as _____ that you've checked your facts carefully.

- A. granted B. certain C. sure D. read

Question 15: Many politicians will only speak to journalists if their comments are off the _____.

- A. record B. office C. censor D. point

Question 16: Don't break the rules - just do it by the _____.

- A. time B. charge C. book D. word

Question 17: We've travelled the length and _____ of the country looking for the next Teen Star.

- A. width B. breadth C. depth D. load

Question 18: Some people will go to any _____ to make money.

- A. length B. cost C. price D. condition

Question 19: If the manager says anything about the missed deadlines., just _____ your tongue, say nothing and we can discuss it later.

- A. swallow B. eat C. suck D. bite

Question 20: I didn't realize you were so _____ interested in fishing.

- A. keenly B. vividly C. extensively D. patently

Question 21: I'm hoping this work experience stand me in good _____ in my future career.

- A. stead B. ground C. footing D. precedent

Question 22: Take the doctor's advice into consideration. He's in _____ earnest about the epidemic.

- A. deadly B. fatally C. gravely D. mortally

Question 23: Pornography may be illegal banned but it is still available _____ the counter.

- A. on B. beneath C. under D. in

Question 24: We all have to follow the rules- none of us is _____ the law.

A. beyond B. over C. above D. onto

Question 25: Paul's been in Alice's bad _____ ever since he offended her at the party.

A. eyes B. books C. likes D. treats

Question 26: Feel free to come to us at all _____ if you need our advice.

A. whiles B. moments C. hours D. occasions

Question 27: If you do that again you'll be in _____ trouble!

A. deep B. dire C. adverse D. detrimental

Question 28: The professor's _____ theory is singing the preceded speech.

A. fond B. fancied C. pet D. preferable

Question 29: It may be raining but I'm _____ enjoying myself.

A. thoroughly B. desperately C. highly D. extremely

Question 30: The first amusement park in our city was a _____ success for its owners. Everyone would go there to have a good time.

A. cracking B. roaring C. sparkling D. ringing

Question 31: I'd opt for a glass of mineral water just to _____ my thirst.

A. quiver B. quieten C. quench D. quit

Question 32: It never _____ my mind that he was lying to me.

A. entered B. crossed C. occurred D. put

Question 33: Don't thank me for helping you in the garden. It was _____ pleasure to be working out of doors.

A. plain B. mere C. simple D. sheer

Question 34: He's a nice guy, _____ always _____ ready to do somebody a good _____.

A. help B. play C. turn D. support

Question 35: She worried _____ about her exams and couldn't focus on her revision.

A. constantly B. practically C. decidedly D. endlessly

Question 36: If it hadn't been for the hint the professor _____, nobody would have found out the correct answer.

A. dropped B. cast C. threw D. flung

Question 37: A middle-aged man was running away from the _____ of the crime.

A. place B. scene C. location D. point

Question 38: The most powerful force in a teenager's life is probably _____ pressure.

A. friend B. peer C. company D. crowd

Question 39: We finally managed to _____ our way through the crowd and reach the exit.

A. create B. insist C. move D. force

Question 40: Since it was a minor crime, Derk was sent to _____ prison.

- A. an open B. an easy C. a soft D. a weak

Question 41: Don't worry - the documents are safely _____ lock and key at my place.

- A. under B. in C. on D. within

Question 42: Who need more than the _____ necessities of life?

- A. naked B. pure C. bare D. sole

Question 43: Over the _____ of the next few years, their relationship changed completely.

- A. span B. spell C. course D. term

Question 44: Although he was a hardened criminal, his one _____ feature was his love of children.

- A. saving B. redeeming C. recovering D. acquitting

Question 45: When I got stuck in the elevator, I was scared out of my _____.

- A. brains B. heads C. wits D. nerves

Question 46: It seems too good to be true. Are you sure this guy is on the _____?

- A. flat B. wagon C. level D. town

Question 47: I'm going for a walk in the park. Would you like to _____ me company?

- A. keep B. stay C. ward D. follow

Question 48: He let it _____ that the Prime Minister was a friend of his.

- A. announce B. talk C. drop D. infer

Question 49: Let's _____ the place; it looks so gloomy and unpleasant.

- A. miss B. depart C. disappear D. abandon

Question 50: For stamps and coins to be of value, they need to be in _____ condition.

- A. might B. flat C. sharp D. mint

Exercise 1.4: Mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

Question 1: The whole movie was filmed on _____ in the Southern Indian.

- A. site B. location C. spot D. venue

Question 2: Eventually the list of candidates for the job was _____ down to three.

- A. lowered B. decreased C. narrowed D. dropped

Question 3: The doctor gave the patient a(n) _____ examination to discover the cause of his collapse.

- A. thorough B. universal C. exact D. whole

Question 4: Dana bought a lot of _____ drinks such as lemonade and orangeade.

- A. frozen B. fresh C. flat D. fizzy

Question 5: What he told me was a _____ of lies.

A. pack B. load C. mob D. flock

Question 6: Candace would _____ her little sister into an argument by teasing her and calling her names.

A. advocate B. provoke C. prompt D. trigger

Question 7: If you are on a diet, you should _____ honey for sugar in your tea.

A. change B. substitute C. replace D. convert

Question 8: The heavy rain lashed on _____ throughout the night without letting up.

A. continually B. continuously C. perpetually D. eternally

Question 9: Due to the computer, malfunction all our data was lost. So unhappily, we had to begin all the calculations from _____.

A. onset B. source C. original D. scratch

Question 10: Do you think this kind of meat _____ itself to stewing?

A. allows B. gives C. offers D. lends

Question 11: It was Martain who _____ the initiative in introducing our guests to the princess.

A. adopted B. took C. led D. pursued

Question 12: I was _____ tired. However, I made up my mind to apply myself to this task once again.

A. awfully B. acutely C. hugely D. intensely

Question 13: You may feel sure the casting will be done perfectly, just _____ your trust in me and you will see I'm right.

A. lay B. grant C. forward D. allow

Question 14: The _____ boards in the staircase would always wake us up whenever somebody climbed up at night.

A. screeching B. cracking C. roaring D. creaking

Question 15: His parents have always wanted Phillip to set a good _____ to his younger brothers both at school and at home.

A. form B. model C. pattern D. guidance

Question 16: "This will cause all sorts of problems". "I know. It's a _____ for disaster".

A. recipe B. ingredient C. receipt D. reason

Question 17: He didn't mean to be offensive; it was quite an _____ remark.

A. innocuous B. indehiscent C. incendiary D. insidious

Question 18: Poor management brought the company to the _____ of collapse.

A. brink B. rim C. fringe D. brim

Question 19: He will be sue for _____ of contract if he does not do what he promised.

A. breach B. fracture C. crack D. rupture

Question 20: When people live in such close _____ to each other, there are bound to be occasional

problems.

A. neighbourhood B. vicinity C. position D. proximity

Question 21: I'm a vegetarian. I refuse to eat meat on_____.

A. belief B. conscience C. principle D. theory

Question 22: Tragedy_____yesterday when a man was swept out to sea by a freak wave.

A. struck B. sparked C. hit D. came

Question 23: Patients who are_____ill often prefer to die at home surrounded by their loved ones.

A. lethally B. terminally C. ultimately D. eventually

Question 24: Her last movie was a surprise_____hit.

A. box-department B. box-ticking C. box-top D. box-office

Question 25: He had such_____pain that he had to_____lie quite still in his bed.

A. agonizing B. excruciating C. extreme D. piercing

Question 26: Whenever we plan to go on a picnic, it_____rains.

A. continuously B. invariably C. unavoidably D. interminably

Question 27: The drugs did nothing to_____her suffering.

A. alleviate B. mollify C. minimize D. lighten

Question 28: We could have provided him with a detached house but he_____asked for a small flat.

A. decidedly B. specifically C. strongly D. solely

Question 29: She's not in pain, She's just felt a_____ache at the back of her head.

A. lasting B. dull C. dim D. deadly

Question 30: Sally has an_____command of the French language.

A. extreme B. utter C. outstanding D. intensive

Question 31: I had a heavy cold and_____headache, so I wasn't in good mood.

A. splitting B. dreadful C. frightful D. horrible

Question 32: I took a day off work yesterday. It was nothing serious, just a_____cold.

A. light B. slight C. biting D. nasty

Question 33: I didn't see the whole occurrence. I just managed to catch a_____of it.

A. glimpse B. look C. sight D. view

Question 34: You can't expect to win the competition. Your drawings are_____near as professional as the other painters' ones.

A. never B. nothing C. nowhere D. nobody

Question 35: You may use the facilities freely. They are all at your_____.

A. disposition B. dispossession C. display D. disposal

Question 36: The passengers were asked to put on life belts for the_____of their safety.

A. risk B. sake C. care D. point

Question 37: Because we live within easy_____of the city centre, we don't have to travel to school by bus.

A. range B. distance C. access D. reach

Question 38: It was hard to make head or_____of what the man was talking about.

A. neck B. back C. nose D. tail

Question 39: The actor was so nervous that he could only remember small_____of dialogue

A. shreds B. pieces C. patches D. snatches

Question 40: Even the other convicts considered it a_____crime.

A. guilty B. hard-bitten C. heinous D. hell-bent

Question 41: She resigned_____. No one forced her to do so.

A. for her own sake B. of her own accord C. with a will D. on purpose

Question 42: It is far too easy to lay the blame_____on the shoulders of the management.

A. flatly B. willingly C. squarely D. perfectly

Question 43: The brother and sister were_____over who would get to inherit the beach house.

A. at large B. at odds C. at a standstill D. at a loose end

Question 44: Social work suits her _____to the ground.

A. for B. down C. out D. round

Question 45: He lost his job_____no fault of his own.

A. with B. by C. through D. over

Question 46: He's so lazy! We all have to work harder because he's always_____his duties.

A. evading B. shirking C. ducking D. dodging

Question 47: I found the information for the project in the encyclopaedia but I couldn't give_____and verse on it.

A. chapter B. unit C. poem D. extract

Question 48: A meal in that restaurant costs the_____but still it is always packed.

A. world B. soil C. earth D. moon

Question 49: Because of cutbacks in council spending, plans for the new swimming pool had to be_____.

A. stockpiled B. overthrown C. shelved D. disrupted

Question 50: With traffic_____along the main roads, residents seeking to emerge from the side roads in which they live find it virtually impossible to do so.

A. bumper to bumper B. hectic C. dense D. neaten

