



ECPE

Sample Test

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**MICHIGAN
LANGUAGE
ASSESSMENT**



Cambridge Assessment
English



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Writing Section

WRITING SECTION INSTRUCTIONS

30-MINUTE TIME LIMIT

- The examiner will have already provided you a writing answer document on which to write your essay. Make sure you have filled in your name, your signature, your birthdate, and your registration number.
- Do NOT write your essay in this test booklet. Write your essay on the answer document you have been provided.
- Use a #2 (soft) pencil only.
- You will have 30 minutes to write on one of the two topics. If you do not write on one of these topics, your paper will not be scored.
- You may make an outline if you wish, but your outline will not count toward your score.
- Write about one-and-a-half to two pages. Your essay will be marked down if it is extremely short.
- Write inside the boxes on pages 2, 3, and 4 of your answer document.
- Extra sheets of paper or scratch paper will not be scored. Please use only the space provided on the answer document to write your essay.
- You will not be graded on the appearance of your paper, but your handwriting must be readable. You may change or correct your writing, but you should not recopy the whole essay.
- Your essay will be judged on clarity and overall effectiveness, as well as on topic development, organization, and the range, accuracy, and appropriateness of your grammar and vocabulary.

Topic Set B

1. In many countries, a university education has traditionally included study of classical works of literature, art, theater, and music. However, some teachers and students think that these classics are irrelevant nowadays, and more study should be devoted to popular culture. Do you agree? Support your opinion with reasons and examples.
2. Many tourists enjoy traveling to historical or environmentally unique destinations. However, some people argue that these destinations can be damaged by tourism and that the number of visitors should be reduced. What are the advantages and disadvantages of placing limits on tourism? Support your opinion with reasons and examples.

When you have selected your topic, remember to fill in “1” or “2” in the **ECPE Writing Response** box in the front of your writing answer document.

Please observe silence. Do not leave the room during the time period. Remember, you have 30 minutes to complete your essay.

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL THE EXAMINER HAS TOLD YOU TO DO SO.



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General Instructions

Keep your eyes on your own test. Examinees giving or receiving answers or using notes or other aids will be disqualified, and they will fail. Examination fees will not be refunded.

Look at the TOP RIGHT of SIDE ONE of your answer sheet. Fill in the following information on the lines:

- **FULL NAME:** print your full name in this order: family name, then first name, then middle initial (MI). Use all capital letters.
- **YOUR SIGNATURE:** sign your name.
- **TEST CENTER:** print the name of the test center.
- **NATIVE LANGUAGE:** print your native language.
- **TODAY'S DATE:** print the month, day, and year.

Look at the TOP LEFT of SIDE ONE of your answer sheet. Use capital letters to fill in the following information in the blocks. Use the same spelling you used on your registration form:

- **LAST NAME:** print your main family name in the blocks, one letter per block. There are 13 blocks. If your last name is longer than 13 letters, print only the first 13 letters.
- **FIRST:** print the first 6 letters of your first name.
- **MI:** print the initial of your middle name.

Look at the columns of CIRCLES BELOW THE BLOCKS:

- Find the letter that is the same as the letter you have printed in the block above.
- Darken the circle completely so that you cannot see the letter inside.
- Do this for all the letters of your last name, first name, and your middle initial.
- Darken only one circle in each of the columns.

Look at the **BOTTOM LEFT** of **SIDE ONE** of your answer sheet.

- **BIRTHDATE:** find the month you were born and darken the circle next to it.
- **DAY:** print the day you were born. If it is a 1-digit day, write zero first. Darken the circles underneath these numbers.
- **YEAR:** print the last 2 digits of the year you were born. Darken the circles underneath these numbers.
- **SEX:** darken the circle “**M**” (male) or “**F**” (female).
- **LANG. (LANGUAGE):** print the 2-digit code number for your native language (the examiner will tell you the number). Darken the circles.
- **CENTER NO.:** print the 3-digit test center number (the examiner will tell you the number). Darken the circles.
- **REG. NO.:** print your 6-digit personal registration number. Include all zeros, including those at the beginning of the number. Darken the circles.
- **SPKG:** do not fill in the space marked SPKG.
- **FORM:** darken the circle of the form letter on your test booklet. Make sure the form letter you darken matches the form letter on this booklet.

The example below shows the correct way for Joao Costa Almeida dos Santos, born April 3, 1991, tested at center no. 001, and whose personal registration number is 100265, to fill out the information section.

[illegible]

This test may be machine scored, so you must follow instructions carefully:

- Do not bend or fold your answer sheet.
- Mark all your answers on the separate answer sheet, not in the test booklet.
- Use a number 2 (soft) pencil.
- Your mark must be dark enough to be picked up by the scanning machine. The scanner cannot see very light marks.
- Do not make any other marks on your answer sheet.
- If you change your mind about an answer, erase your first mark completely.
- Fill in only one circle for each problem.
- Any problem with more than one answer marked will be counted wrong.
- If you are not sure about an answer, you may guess.

When instructed to, look through the rest of the test booklet to see that it is complete. Check the pages quickly. You should have 23 numbered pages in your test booklet. If there are pages missing from your test booklet, raise your hand and a proctor will give you a replacement.

LISTENING SECTION INSTRUCTIONS

This is a test of your ability to understand spoken English. The listening section has three parts. There are 50 questions. Mark all your answers on the separate answer sheet. Do not make any stray marks on the answer sheet. If you change your mind about an answer, erase your first answer completely.

PART 1

In this part, you will hear short conversations. From the three answer choices, select the answer which means about the same thing as what you hear, or is true based upon what you hear. For example, listen to the conversation:

Example (listen):

- a. They will stay home.
- b. They will go to a game.
- c. They don't like football.

The correct answer is b.

For problems 1 through 15, **mark your answers on the separate answer sheet**. No problems can be repeated. Please listen carefully. Do you have any questions?

-
- | | | | |
|----|--|-----|---|
| 1. | a. The hotel only takes phone reservations.
b. The price for the reservation may change.
c. He will telephone the hotel for her. | 9. | a. She wants to borrow a book from him.
b. She wants him to buy a book for her.
c. She wants him to return a book to her. |
| 2. | a. He is nervous about speaking to his supervisor.
b. His supervisor turned down his request for vacation.
c. He does not like what his supervisor said. | 10. | a. His daughter is very active.
b. His daughter has learned how to walk.
c. His daughter is too big to carry. |
| 3. | a. She will think about his decision.
b. He is not sure what he should do.
c. She thinks he made the right choice. | 11. | a. She will try to attend some events.
b. He wants to know why she was absent.
c. She needs a recommendation for a job. |
| 4. | a. He needs to make the report longer.
b. He's busy with many projects.
c. He doesn't mind making changes. | 12. | a. She just changed departments at work.
b. He is going to buy a new cell phone.
c. They work for the same company. |
| 5. | a. Bob is older than he looks.
b. Bob is about twenty-five years old.
c. Bob is a university student. | 13. | a. She can park her bike at his house.
b. She's going to hike by the river.
c. He knows a place where she can ride. |
| 6. | a. The show was smaller than they thought.
b. They liked the ocean pictures a lot.
c. The photos were taken from space. | 14. | a. He needs help finding a parking space.
b. He doesn't know how to pay for parking.
c. She gave him a parking ticket. |
| 7. | a. He will not eat lunch today.
b. He will eat lunch at work.
c. He will go to lunch with her. | 15. | a. They can choose when to present the report.
b. The client wants a report before the fifteenth.
c. They will practice their presentation on the thirteenth. |
| 8. | a. The man thinks they should continue studying.
b. The woman is too tired to study.
c. The man will get the woman some coffee. | | |

PART 2

In this part, you will hear a question. From the three answer choices given, choose the one which best answers the question. For example, listen to the question:

Example (listen):

- a. The wedding's next Saturday.
- b. Yes, she's married.
- c. Two weeks ago.

The correct answer is a.

For problems 16 through 35, **mark your answers on the separate answer sheet**. No problems can be repeated. Please listen carefully. Do you have any questions?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>16. a. It seems like ages.
b. It lasted about two weeks.
c. It will be next year.</p> <p>17. a. No, they don't want it returned.
b. Yes, but we managed to solve it.
c. Yes, but I hope we won't need it.</p> <p>18. a. Your paper must have been really good.
b. I'm surprised she was so harsh.
c. She's always been kind to me, too.</p> <p>19. a. Yes, that's the fastest way to get there.
b. Sorry, I'm just a visitor here.
c. No, I think it's in room 401.</p> <p>20. a. No, I don't think I need any help.
b. No, I don't have the money right now.
c. No, I'll be staying here for most of the semester.</p> <p>21. a. I think he'll be back at the end of next week.
b. I usually email him when he's out of the office.
c. He said it was okay to use his office when he's gone.</p> <p>22. a. There's a special price for students.
b. I'm hoping to live on my own.
c. I'm going to move out soon.</p> <p>23. a. No, I could fit twice that much if I wanted to.
b. Yeah, I wish I had bought something smaller.
c. Well, I did buy it secondhand.</p> <p>24. a. We saw you before then.
b. We stopped on the way.
c. Because we were on time.</p> <p>25. a. Then we'll just have more chairs than we need.
b. I'll go see if the conference room is available.
c. All of their names are on the agenda I sent out.</p> | <p>26. a. No, she doesn't get bothered very easily.
b. I thought she hated insects.
c. I think so—she should probably go home.</p> <p>27. a. I keep mine in my pocket.
b. Yes, here's a black one.
c. Let me check the top shelf.</p> <p>28. a. I'm not feeling well, either.
b. I loaned him a sweater.
c. I think he's just a little insecure.</p> <p>29. a. That's better than where we met last time.
b. I think we'll be in the library.
c. During the week is too busy.</p> <p>30. a. You do look tired.
b. I hope we find out soon.
c. I can't believe it either.</p> <p>31. a. He's probably seeing if Chris has come back.
b. He's probably heading home early today.
c. He has probably lost his keys again.</p> <p>32. a. I really like my job there.
b. It was fun but expensive.
c. I'm sorry we couldn't fix it.</p> <p>33. a. We could take down some of the lights.
b. The stove was just replaced last year.
c. Painting the walls might help.</p> <p>34. a. I'm surprised Jake finally went along with them.
b. Usually they get along so well together.
c. They must've finished the meeting early this week.</p> <p>35. a. It's next door.
b. I had a great time.
c. It's as good as any.</p> |
|---|---|

PART 3

In this part, you will hear three short segments from a radio program. The program is called "Learning from the Experts." You will hear what three different radio guests have to say about three different topics. Each talk lasts about three minutes. As you listen, you may want to take some notes to help you remember information given in the talk. Write your notes in this test booklet. After each talk, you will be asked some questions about what was said. From the three answer choices given, you should choose the one that best answers the question according to the information you heard.

Remember, no problems can be repeated. For problems 36 through 50, mark all your answers on the separate answer sheet. Do you have any questions?

Segment 1

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Notes

36. What is the report mainly about?
- A decrease in worldwide frog populations.
 - Common habitats of frogs in the wild.
 - The importance of fungus to frog life.
37. How does chytrid fungus affect frogs?
- It poisons their food supply.
 - It harms their skin.
 - It causes them to avoid water.
38. Why does the biologist mention zoos?
- to indicate the source of the chytrid fungus
 - to compare frog habitats in captivity to those in the wild
 - to explain where some frogs are being treated
39. What does the biologist say about shipping frogs internationally?
- Healthy frogs should not be transported.
 - Governments should ban the shipping of frogs.
 - Frogs should not be delivered until proven healthy.
40. According to the reporter, how can listeners help address the problem?
- by contacting their government officials
 - by visiting their local zoos
 - by contributing to an animal organization

Segment 2**Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.****Notes**

41. What is the report mainly about?
- a. difficulties with using the Gregorian calendar
 - b. difficulties with making an accurate calendar
 - c. difficulties with measuring the earth's orbit
42. Why does the reporter mention Julius Caesar?
- a. to describe why the Julian calendar was popular
 - b. to emphasize how long people have known about leap years
 - c. to explain how the need for leap years was discovered
43. What can be inferred about most people's knowledge of leap years?
- a. They do not know that the Julian calendar used leap years.
 - b. They do not know how often leap years occur.
 - c. They do not know why they are called leap years.
44. What does the astronomer emphasize about the Gregorian calendar?
- a. It added extra leap years to the Julian calendar.
 - b. It observes leap years differently than the Julian calendar.
 - c. It was not accepted by people observing the Julian calendar.
45. What does the reporter say would happen if days were eliminated from the modern calendar?
- a. Some people would be happy.
 - b. The calendar would finally be accurate.
 - c. There would be a lot of confusion.

Segment 3

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Notes

46. Why are different types of foundations discussed at the beginning of the report?
- a. to describe how corporations prefer to raise money
 - b. to explain why one type can be more effective than others
 - c. to introduce the Atlanta Community Foundation
47. What does Dr. Stephens imply about private and corporate foundations?
- a. They prefer not to focus on local or regional issues.
 - b. They may not provide funding where it is needed most.
 - c. They do not get involved with school improvement projects.
48. Why does Dr. Stephens mention computer technology?
- a. to show how popular issues can influence giving
 - b. to discuss a recent community foundation program
 - c. to give an example of an unsuccessful project
49. According to Dr. Stephens, what is housing an example of?
- a. a special project
 - b. an issue with regional implications
 - c. a popular national issue
50. What does the reporter conclude that citizens can do themselves?
- a. go to foundations with their problems
 - b. become involved in foundation events
 - c. identify local contributors

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51. Have you been feeling _____ the weather lately?
a. below
b. over
c. beside
d. under
52. Researchers are studying immune cells _____ protect against infection.
a. their function can
b. whose function it is to
c. that's function to
d. which function in order
53. There is growing agreement that _____ maintain staffing at appropriate levels, they must start paying better salaries.
a. because hospitals are important
b. whether our hospitals can
c. rather than
d. if our hospitals are to
54. "Annie can't decide which job offer to accept."
"I'm sure she'll be happy _____."
a. however she takes one
b. with whichever one she takes
c. whether she takes one
d. when whatever she takes
55. The project team says that they'll finish the report today. _____, they'll be able to deliver it to the client tomorrow.
a. If that's the case
b. If it's the case
c. In the case of this
d. For that case
56. Having left his wallet at home, Steve _____ the items later.
a. had to pay to return with
b. had been returning to pay
c. returned to pay for
d. was to be paid for returning
57. It sometimes takes courage to _____ your beliefs when others disagree with you.
a. stand by
b. stand on
c. stand up to
d. stand with
58. The problem is not with the new design _____, but rather the way it is marketed.
a. with or without itself
b. in and of itself
c. just by itself
d. all by itself
59. Can you tell me _____ the answer to this question?
a. when can I find
b. who to find
c. where I might find
d. what will I find
60. That red bird is native _____ this region.
a. near
b. of
c. to
d. for
61. The government just passed a law _____ achieving huge reductions in carbon-based energy usage by 2050.
a. in efforts to
b. for their hopes of
c. aimed at
d. regardless of
62. Jessica moved into her friend's apartment temporarily _____ where she would go next.
a. except had no idea about
b. until having the idea
c. not having as an idea
d. but without any idea of
63. In a job interview, you may be asked a question _____.
a. for that you did not prepare
b. that you are not prepared for
c. that you do not prepare for
d. that for which you did not prepare
64. Canada's unemployment rate tends to be _____ the United States.
a. as same as
b. same as that
c. the same in
d. the same as that of

65. For the past week, my cousin and my aunt _____ at my house.
a. stay
b. had stayed
c. have been staying
d. are staying
66. "What are they arguing about?"
"They have very different political _____."
a. believing
b. believers
c. beliefs
d. believe
67. The hotel manager was so nice to us that we let _____ into staying another day.
a. himself talk to us
b. him to talk us
c. ourselves talk
d. ourselves be talked
68. The town's new hospital _____ founder, William Price.
a. is in name of the
b. was named for its
c. named for the
d. was the name of the
69. The technology staff assured me that our new printer is _____ our vendor offers.
a. one of the most reliable
b. most reliable one of
c. to be one of the reliable
d. the one reliable
70. I'm not sure _____ the preparations for the big celebration.
a. when can I help you in
b. but maybe if I assisted you in
c. whether I can help out with
d. I possibly contribute to
71. The city council will continue to organize the annual jazz concert, _____ there is not enough money to pay for it.
a. despite
b. then
c. however
d. unless
72. "My boss says I'll get to travel if I accept the new position."
"And you'll get a pay raise, right? _____ reason why you should consider it."
a. That would be more
b. That's the most
c. That's all the more
d. It gives the most
73. _____ the university to raise tuition fees, many students might decide to transfer somewhere else.
a. Was
b. Were
c. If
d. Whether
74. For centuries, people have used garlic in _____.
a. a way of variety
b. a variety of ways
c. a various way
d. ways various
75. In 2002, the university carried out a study of people _____ campus.
a. who lived in
b. living on
c. lived on
d. who live in
76. _____ home all day, I went shopping.
a. Rather than staying
b. Rather to stay
c. Instead of to stay
d. Instead to stay
77. Cell phones are very popular these days and _____ an important part of many people's lives.
a. are becoming
b. becomes
c. to become
d. were becoming
78. For years, store owners in cities and suburbs _____ the business of local families.
a. have been competing to
b. have competed for
c. are competing with
d. had competition in

79. _____ graduate school, it is necessary to read extensively.
- To succeed in the order of
 - To succeed in order to
 - In order to succeed in
 - Succeeding at
80. After how the company treated Susan, _____ she took a different job.
- no wonder then
 - not to wonder why
 - it's no wonder that
 - it's not to wonder
81. "Could I speak to Julie, please?"
"I'm sorry, but she _____ works here."
- not longest
 - not longer
 - no longer
 - no long
82. Teachers should talk with students who are careless _____ their homework.
- to do
 - in doing
 - when do
 - for doing
83. When _____, Rita's an expert.
- it's coming to baking
 - it comes to baking
 - come to bake
 - coming to bake
84. According to a recent press release, _____ at the state level to ban the use of fireworks.
- there are efforts in this way
 - efforts are along the way
 - efforts are under way
 - the efforts are in a way
85. Although she has spoken to her boss several times before, Sophia will try _____ a raise one last time.
- ask regarding
 - asking for
 - to ask him
 - and ask to
86. If you prepare well in advance, the presentation _____ be any trouble.
- wouldn't
 - hadn't
 - shouldn't
 - couldn't
87. This recipe doesn't say for how long to bake the pie _____ whether we need to add salt.
- neither
 - either
 - or
 - also
88. "How often do you work on your project?"
"I work on it every day, _____ Sundays."
- apart from
 - without
 - except from
 - although
89. Even though Megan's father doesn't approve of her decision to leave her job, he _____ what's best for her.
- doesn't know to presume
 - doesn't presume to know
 - cannot presume knowing
 - isn't to presume having known
90. New managers can be really hard _____ they feel like they're not meeting their objectives.
- on themselves when
 - on ourselves as
 - with oneself when
 - at them if

This passage is about energy production.

Dairy farms have long had an overabundance of waste, particularly manure, produced by their cows. Some farmers, however, have found a way to (91) it to good use: they have been converting it into electricity. First, bacteria are added to the cows' manure to break it (92). This process, known as manure digestion, produces biogas, which can then (93) be used to generate electricity.

Recently, (94) dairy farmer who became interested in manure digestion thirty years ago was finally able to start using the system. He was able not only to produce (95) electricity to use on his own farm, (96) he was also able to sell his surplus electricity to the local power company.

(97) a senior agricultural engineer, environmental concerns, the country's growing need for renewable (98), and rising electricity costs render manure digestion an increasingly attractive option. (99) farmers say that they would like to reduce or even (100) their electric bills. Doing this by transforming farm waste into electricity would help the environment at the same time.

- | | | |
|------|------------------------------------|--|
| 91. | a. shape
b. turn | c. put
d. make |
| 92. | a. off
b. down | c. out
d. in |
| 93. | a. in order
b. in turn | c. following
d. sequentially |
| 94. | a. one
b. the | c. any
d. only |
| 95. | a. ample
b. full | c. such
d. decent |
| 96. | a. yet
b. since | c. still
d. but |
| 97. | a. According to
b. In line with | c. Responding to
d. In agreement with |
| 98. | a. supplies
b. substances | c. energy
d. capacity |
| 99. | a. Particular
b. Regular | c. Much
d. Many |
| 100. | a. exclude
b. remove | c. eliminate
d. omit |

This passage is about establishing a new business.

In the United States, entrepreneurs face numerous decisions when starting up a new business. In (101) selecting a business name, logo, and location, new business owners must also determine the type of business entity to establish. (102) this decision has tax and legal implications, careful planning and consideration is (103) to ensure success.

There are several business structures (104) which to choose. These (105) from sole proprietorships, in which a single business owner is fully responsible for all assets and liabilities, to corporations, in which the business (106) is held liable instead. Corporations are complex, and are typically more appropriate for large companies with many employees. (107) form of business is called a limited liability company, or LLC. It offers the owner or owners certain legal protections, (108) to corporations, while allowing a greater degree of operational flexibility.

Entrepreneurs might feel overwhelmed (109) making these important initial decisions. Fortunately, there are numerous online resources (110) to helping new business owners succeed. In addition, mentoring and consulting services are offered around the country, often free of charge.

- | | | |
|------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 101. | a. as much as
b. lieu of | c. addition to
d. so far as |
| 102. | a. For
b. Since | c. Now
d. Whereas |
| 103. | a. enforced
b. deserved | c. required
d. prescribed |
| 104. | a. on
b. by | c. from
d. of |
| 105. | a. stretch
b. range | c. encompass
d. reach |
| 106. | a. themselves
b. oneself | c. himself
d. itself |
| 107. | a. Another
b. Some | c. An equivalent
d. The main |
| 108. | a. related
b. coinciding | c. parallel
d. similar |
| 109. | a. whose
b. when | c. where
d. how |
| 110. | a. tending
b. bound | c. dedicated
d. concerned |

111. The new curriculum has been designed to _____ student learning by combining theory with hands-on practice.
- maneuver
 - optimize
 - endow
 - sharpen
112. Many people question Steve's _____, believing he cannot be trusted with company secrets.
- integrity
 - consciousness
 - foundation
 - reliance
113. It is _____ impossible to find an inexpensive place to eat downtown.
- approximately
 - literally
 - substantially
 - reasonably
114. "Jack and Helen are always arguing."
"Yeah, they need to learn to _____ each other better."
- treat
 - care
 - contribute
 - provide
115. Katherine found herself _____ by the confusing terms in the textbook.
- let go
 - put on
 - bogged down
 - edged out
116. Everyone laughed at the funny _____ Tom made during lunch.
- explanation
 - remark
 - sentence
 - opinion
117. University students gathered in the streets to _____ against increases in tuition fees.
- protest
 - conflict
 - deny
 - disapprove
118. In the last quarter, the company's profits reached _____ one billion dollars.
- an enlarged
 - an accounted
 - a trustworthy
 - a reported
119. The human body has natural _____ that regulate functions such as internal body temperature.
- latencies
 - supplements
 - mechanisms
 - conditions
120. All the students are smart, but Jim is _____ intelligent.
- exceptionally
 - explicitly
 - extensively
 - extravagantly
121. The bird species' home _____ as far south as Florida.
- changes
 - replaces
 - follows
 - ranges
122. Although they were best friends, it was mere _____ that John and Bill were in the same class at school.
- compromise
 - coincidence
 - conjunction
 - conspiracy
123. If the runner had known his legs were going to _____ during the race, he would have eaten more protein.
- start over
 - back off
 - carry out
 - give out

124. The creation of new jobs has _____ economic growth in the city by attracting many people to the area.
- originated
 - exerted
 - formulated
 - stimulated
125. All academic articles _____ to this topic can be found in our database.
- pertaining
 - adjacent
 - resorting
 - compelled
126. Overall, Ellen liked the new business plan; her only _____ was the cost.
- reservation
 - restriction
 - condition
 - suppression
127. The purpose of the new employee manual is to show, briefly and _____, how to stay safe in the laboratory.
- unambiguously
 - impeccably
 - assuredly
 - authentically
128. Immediately before the election, the media will be _____ with political advertisements and editorial commentary.
- consolidated
 - saturated
 - negotiated
 - endorsed
129. The university has several _____ campuses in nearby cities.
- spare
 - component
 - accessory
 - satellite
130. The new apartment building _____ the residents' view of the ocean.
- obscured
 - ceased
 - displaced
 - confined
131. At the meeting, the president of the company _____ the board members' uncertainty about the future of the organization.
- echoed
 - guided
 - discharged
 - energized
132. It's hard to miss the library's new advertisements, which are _____ displayed throughout the newspaper.
- vaguely
 - prominently
 - unanimously
 - potentially
133. Taking a class in early childhood education _____ Sarah's desire to become a teacher.
- reiterated
 - reissued
 - reinvented
 - reinforced
134. Although the editors of this newspaper are strong _____ of freedom of expression, they will not print offensive material.
- advisers
 - applicants
 - proponents
 - patrons
135. Due to _____ gas prices across the country, more and more people are using alternative modes of transportation.
- rushing
 - aspiring
 - soaring
 - scaffolding
136. The professor _____ the idea because there wasn't enough evidence to support it.
- dismissed
 - dissented
 - dispersed
 - dispensed
137. No business analyst could have predicted a transformation of this _____ in this industry.
- gravity
 - extent
 - magnitude
 - expanse

138. Congress _____ accepted the president's plan to cut taxes further.
- irresistibly
 - exceedingly
 - grudgingly
 - progressively
139. The manager _____ the efforts of the employees to bring more customers to the store.
- conformed
 - commended
 - entrusted
 - acclaimed
140. Margaret wasn't sure which university to attend, but she finally _____ South State.
- settled on
 - arranged with
 - concluded in
 - determined for
141. People completing the survey were required to answer questions on a _____ ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree."
- continuum
 - progression
 - proportion
 - sphere
142. This job may not pay well, but it has certain _____ benefits, such as friendly colleagues and a stimulating environment.
- obscure
 - indefinite
 - intangible
 - immaterial
143. Some young children might _____ better in private, rather than public, elementary schools.
- operate
 - undertake
 - resolve
 - fare
144. The company cannot accept _____ for injuries resulting from improper use of rental equipment.
- validity
 - liability
 - compensation
 - privilege
145. To make an effective presentation, it is important to speak as clearly and _____ as possible.
- palpably
 - evidently
 - coherently
 - penetratingly
146. With time being a critical factor, the doctors worked without _____ to help the patient.
- drawback
 - obstruction
 - hesitation
 - impediment
147. Our company is looking for someone with experience using technology and a _____ for creative design.
- sensation
 - flair
 - tendency
 - hunch
148. As a _____, politicians and other public figures should avoid making direct statements that could be used against them.
- show of hands
 - word of mouth
 - rule of thumb
 - change of heart
149. The professor has _____ students to read several additional books.
- applied
 - promoted
 - encouraged
 - emphasized
150. After a long discussion about the sales plan, the manager _____ the conversation in a new direction.
- steered
 - proceeded
 - conducted
 - controlled

This passage is about snow.

In many of the temperate, mountainous regions of the world, winter sports are a significant part of both the economy and the culture. Ski resorts are found on all continents except Antarctica, and sufficient amounts of snow are needed for their operation. When the weather doesn't cooperate, artificial snow is created.

The large-scale implementation of snowmaking began in the 1970s in the French Alps. It gained popularity in North America after the disastrous 1977 ski season, when a drought kept many resorts closed for the entire winter. With the advent of snowmaking, the slopes started opening earlier and closing later in the season. During the ski season, snow levels can be maintained, even without regular snowfall.

The creation of usable artificial snow requires certain conditions. Temperatures should ideally be between -5°C and -10°C , with relative humidity less than 40 percent. Large machines called "snow guns" shoot water and compressed air into the atmosphere. The water droplets freeze as they fall. In many cases, additives of bacterial protein are used to accelerate freezing, in spite of concerns about how these bacteria may disrupt ecosystems. Because it is formed from water droplets, artificial snow is inherently different from naturally occurring snow. Instead of water droplets, natural snow comprises thin flakes made up of tiny points in a symmetric design. The structure of natural snow creates a texture with a desirable level of friction, but artificial snow lacks this complex crystalline structure. Additionally, machine-made snow is often wetter than real snow, which is relatively dry.

As it lacks the texture of actual snow, artificial snow is not uniformly popular with winter sports enthusiasts, in spite of its widespread use. It causes concern amongst environmentalists as well. The energy required to create snow is considerable, and a huge amount of water is needed for snowmaking. Much of this water is being diverted from rivers and streams—in areas that are already prone to water shortages. But the winter sports industry has experienced expansion and consolidation that brings with it an increased drive for profit. This, coupled with the burgeoning effects of increasing average temperatures in many areas, makes it unlikely that the popularity of snowmaking will begin to wane any time soon.

151. What is the passage mainly about?
 - a. the increased popularity of skiing
 - b. the history of snowmaking
 - c. the differences between types of snow
 - d. the creation of snow for winter sports
152. According to the passage, why did snowmaking become widespread?
 - a. It provides economic benefits to ski resorts.
 - b. It makes it possible to ski almost anywhere.
 - c. It is popular with environmentalists.
 - d. It produces a better texture than real snow.
153. Why are bacteria added to the water that is used to make snow?
 - a. to increase the friction of the snow
 - b. to maintain the proper humidity level
 - c. to create a crystalline structure
 - d. to cause the water to freeze quickly
154. According to the passage, why might a skier prefer real snow?
 - a. It provides a better surface for skiing.
 - b. Resorts that use only real snow charge less.
 - c. Bacteria in artificial snow make some skiers sick.
 - d. The best resorts use only real snow.
155. What does the author think about the prospects for snowmaking?
 - a. It will probably cease to be commonly used.
 - b. Its use will probably stabilize.
 - c. Its use will face increasing opposition.
 - d. It will probably remain widespread.

This passage is about a dinosaur discovery.

Dinosaurs have a reputation as being fearsome predators, and a recent discovery made by scientists just might add to that reputation. While studying a fossil of the *Sinornithosaurus*, a three-foot-long birdlike dinosaur that lived 125 million years ago, researchers noticed its skull has some unusual features. It has grooves in the teeth, a duct running along the base of the teeth, and a mysterious space in the jawbone. The scientists concluded that the dinosaur must have been venomous. Some modern poisonous snakes and lizards use grooved teeth to deliver venom, so the scientists speculate that the space they found in the jaw of the dinosaur's fossil contained a gland that produced venom, which flowed through the duct and then down the grooves of the teeth.

The researchers said the jaw and teeth of the turkey-sized dinosaur were not strong enough for the "bite and gulp" type of attack used by more powerful dinosaurs such as the huge *Tyrannosaurus rex*. Instead it probably used a "bite and hold" approach, like a modern-day cobra or Gila monster, a venomous lizard native to the United States. The teeth of the *Sinornithosaurus* were similar to a snake's and about three inches long. However, unlike the hollow, needle-like front fangs of most poisonous snakes, they were located in the back of the jaw like some lizards and less common rear-fanged snakes that exist today. The scientists do not know what kind of venom this dinosaur might have had, but they suspect that if it were like the type found in modern rear-fanged venomous animals, the venom stunned victims rather than killed them.

As a result of this discovery, scientists are eager to begin examining other types of dinosaurs to try to determine whether or not they might have also had this weapon in their hunting arsenal.

156. According to the author, what do dinosaurs have a reputation for?
- being terrifying hunters
 - having frightening appearances
 - using weapons to hunt
 - being difficult to study
157. What did the scientists discover about *Sinornithosaurus*?
- Its poison was probably deadly.
 - It did not deliver its poison with its teeth.
 - It probably poisoned its prey.
 - Its poison was deadlier than that of modern-day animals.
158. What is mentioned about *Tyrannosaurus rex*?
- It was about the same size as *Sinornithosaurus*.
 - Its style of attack differed from *Sinornithosaurus*.
 - It hunted *Sinornithosaurus*.
 - It competed with *Sinornithosaurus* for food.
159. *Sinornithosaurus*' body size and shape was most similar to which animal?
- a tiger
 - a lizard
 - a snake
 - a bird
160. What are scientists likely to investigate about other dinosaurs?
- if they shared the same features as *Sinornithosaurus*
 - if they were more effective hunters than *Sinornithosaurus*
 - if they hunted with *Sinornithosaurus*
 - if they often fought with *Sinornithosaurus*

This passage is about nutrition education for children.

Medical evidence suggests that high fruit and vegetable consumption plays an important role in disease prevention. Nevertheless, many children fall short of the recommended intake every day, often preferring highly processed snack foods containing artificial ingredients. Recent studies show that a combination of classroom instruction in nutrition and hands-on school gardening activities are an effective way to promote eating fresh produce and establish healthy eating habits that are maintained into adulthood.

School gardens typically involve students in every aspect of planting, maintaining, harvesting, and serving fruits and vegetables. To evaluate the effectiveness of such projects, one experiment measured students' attitudes toward fruits and vegetables with a questionnaire. They were asked about their willingness to try unfamiliar fruits and vegetables. They specified their preferences in a series of choices between two foods. They also completed food-recall journals, writing down everything they had recently eaten. The same questionnaire was administered after the experiment.

The students were then divided into two groups. The first received classroom nutrition instruction. The second participated in hands-on gardening and ate what they grew. Students that both received classroom instruction and participated in the "seed to table" project became more willing to eat a greater variety of fruits and vegetables. They doubled their previous consumption of fresh produce, and continued to prefer it over processed snacks six months later.

Critics of school gardens say that they waste hours that should be spent on core curriculum subjects, such as math and history. Supporters point to studies showing that school gardens are associated with improved academic performance as well as more positive attitudes about school and education. Opponents also contend that school gardens do not produce enough food to feed the children what they lack. This argument misses the point that the goal is educational—to prepare students to make good choices as future consumers.

161. What is the passage mainly about?
- the results of poor nutrition in childhood
 - the effects of a school program on children's behavior
 - the research findings about children's nutritional needs
 - the role of fresh produce in the prevention of illness
162. What is the relationship between the gardening programs and classroom instruction in nutrition?
- The programs cost less than classroom instruction.
 - The programs support classroom instruction.
 - The programs eliminate the need for classroom instruction.
 - The programs provide teachers for classroom instruction.
163. What did the scientists do at the start of the experiment?
- They asked the children to explain why certain foods are healthy choices.
 - They let the children make food purchases at the grocery store.
 - They observed what the children typically ate for snacks.
 - They asked children to indicate their food choices.
164. In the fourth sentence of paragraph 3, what does the phrase **seed to table** suggest?
- The children gave a report of their experience at the end.
 - The children enjoyed cooking for their classmates.
 - The children were involved from start to finish.
 - The children performed two different tasks.
165. In the first sentence of paragraph 4, to what does the word **they** refer?
- gardens
 - critics
 - hours
 - subjects

This passage is about security systems.

In the past few years, many security systems have started to use biometrics, which identifies people through physical features unique to them, such as their fingerprints or the position of features on their faces. These systems can be fooled, however. For example, a group of researchers was able to deceive an iris scanner by showing it a laser-printed picture of a person's eye. They also got past a facial recognition scanner by showing the camera a short video. And, unlike passwords, which can be changed when compromised, we cannot just change our faces.

To address this problem, security experts are developing *cancelable biometrics*. Before biometric features are stored, computers alter them in a specific, repeatable way. Hackers who break into a system would not see the original images, which they would hope to use for criminal purposes. If they also manage to learn the pattern used to distort the images, the pattern could simply be canceled and a different one used in its place.

With cancelable biometrics, stolen data become less valuable. Because different organizations can use different formulas for altering people's features, data stolen from one place wouldn't work in another. The limited utility of stolen information would be a disincentive for would-be data thieves. Also, if an organization can check only its version of distorted biometrics, it could reduce people's fear that governments or big companies might maintain vast databases for intrusive tracking or marketing purposes.

Still, no single security system is foolproof. Thus, it is recommended that multiple methods be used together. For example, use biometrics plus a password to enter a secure area. It is also recommended that appropriate methods be chosen for each security context. After all, a person can't get past a security guard with a piece of paper showing someone else's eye.

166. According to the passage, what is one disadvantage of traditional biometric systems?
- They can be changed easily.
 - They can be tricked.
 - They require using multiple security methods.
 - They use predictable passwords.
167. According to the passage, what do thieves want to steal?
- facial scanners
 - computer passwords
 - images of criminals
 - pictures of people
168. What is one benefit of information from cancelable biometric systems?
- It cannot be scanned.
 - It can be used for marketing.
 - It is less useful for thieves.
 - It works at more organizations.
169. In the last sentence, why does the author mention security guards?
- to illustrate how security systems can be used together
 - to demonstrate that printed pictures are inappropriate identification
 - to give an example of the most reliable form of security
 - to explain why guards use cancelable biometric methods
170. What is the main purpose of this passage?
- to identify ways of tricking security systems
 - to criticize the use of security systems
 - to compare the security systems different organizations use
 - to describe a way to improve security systems

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