

**CONCOURS ECRISTART 2009 – ANGLAIS SUJET**

*Each sentence in this section has a word underlined. Under each sentence you will see four words marked a) b) c) and d). Choose the one word that is closest in meaning to the original word in the sentence.*

- 1) ***Gold is a precious metal.***
  - a) valuable
  - b) scarce
  - c) favourite
  - d) common
  
- 2) ***He never presents his work correctly – it's always sloppy.***
  - a) well laid-out
  - b) untidy
  - c) interesting
  - d) highly personal
  
- 3) ***She followed a strict diet and became slimmer in a few weeks.***
  - a) less agreeable
  - b) more attractive
  - c) fatter
  - d) thinner
  
- 4) ***Girls like to get dolled up if they're going out to a party.***
  - a) dressed smartly
  - b) heavily made up
  - c) driven by their boyfriends
  - d) invited in advance
  
- 5) ***After a language course in Berlin, Elizabeth's fluency in German increased.***
  - a) interest in
  - b) indifference to
  - c) control of
  - d) hatred of
  
- 6) ***We could go out for a walk later if the rain lets up.***
  - a) stays as it is
  - b) stops
  - c) becomes heavier
  - d) allows us
  
- 7) ***It's a complicated situation, and we're not sure of all the ramifications.***
  - a) consequences
  - b) reasons
  - c) complications
  - d) administrative costs

- 8) *If we want to sell our new product, we must sensitize the general public.*  
a) warn  
b) educate  
c) turn off  
d) reflect
- 9) *Against the government forces, the rebels had no option but to surrender.*  
a) find better weapons  
b) fight on  
c) give up  
d) regroup
- 10) *Look! The price has been reduced – it's a real bargain.*  
a) product imported from abroad  
b) expensive product  
c) waste of money  
d) good deal
- 11) *I was delighted to hear that you had passed your exam.*  
a) very happy  
b) surprised  
c) astonished  
d) disappointed
- 12) *If someone doesn't show pity, they are said to be heartless.*  
a) ill  
b) compassionate  
c) cruel  
d) sympathetic
- 13) *During the university holidays, she worked as an intern in an advertising agency.*  
a) trainee  
b) secretary  
c) saleswoman  
d) cleaner
- 14) *Dorothy's a bit potty. She's always doing the silliest things.*  
a) friendly  
b) crazy  
c) thoughtless  
d) self-centred
- 15) *By always being economical, you'll save your money.*  
a) entrepreneurial  
b) prudent  
c) generous  
d) adventurous

- 16) *I haven't eaten for more than ten hours – I'm ravenous.*  
a) extremely hungry  
b) sick of food  
c) not hungry at all  
d) on a diet
- 17) *He's so chaotic, it's hardly surprising that he bungled the project.*  
a) invented  
b) succeeded in  
c) rejected  
d) mismanaged
- 18) *Central London's streets are emptier now but they used to be congested.*  
a) favoured by taxi-drivers  
b) avoided by car-drivers  
c) preferred by buses  
d) blocked with traffic
- 19) *Under pressure from the police, the criminal disclosed the names of the other members of the gang.*  
a) hid  
b) revealed  
c) spelled  
d) denied
- 20) *No-one was very keen on the project. It was given a lukewarm welcome.*  
a) unpleasant  
b) hostile  
c) unenthusiastic  
d) unexpected
- 21) *She was in such a hurry that she had time only to scribble a short message.*  
a) send  
b) post  
c) write quickly  
d) remember
- 22) *John's such an ordinary guy, he's so down-to-earth.*  
a) sensible  
b) sensitive  
c) rustic  
d) cultivated
- 23) *Wearing a seat-belt is compulsory when a plane takes off.*  
a) boring  
b) advisable  
c) unnecessary  
d) obligatory

- 24) ***We don't need a new chairman! The incumbent is going a great job.***  
 a) last one  
 b) present one  
 c) future one  
 d) only candidate
- 25) ***It was the sub-primes crisis in the US that triggered the financial collapse.***  
 a) stopped  
 b) caused  
 c) intensified  
 d) calmed

*In this section, three of the words are similar. Choose the fourth word marked a) b) c) or d) which does not belong with the other three.*

- 26) a) prohibit                      b) ban                      c) allow                      d) forbid
- 27) a) get                              b) gain                      c) obtain                      d) abandon
- 28) a) biased                          b) partial                      c) favourite                      d) sectarian
- 29) a) gallon                          b) pint                          c) litre                          d) mile
- 30) a) news                              b) advice                      c) information                      d) detail

*Each sentence in this section is incomplete. Beneath each sentence you will see four possible answers a) b) c) and d). Choose the letter of the answer which best completes the sentence.*

- 31) ***He won \_\_\_\_\_ money at the casino.***  
 a) lot of  
 b) a lot  
 c) a lot of  
 d) lots
- 32) ***She will contact her parents as soon as she \_\_\_\_\_.***  
 a) will arrive  
 b) will be arriving  
 c) arrives  
 d) had arrived
- 33) ***If I put a piece of ice in hot water, it \_\_\_\_\_.***  
 a) melts  
 b) has melted  
 c) had melted  
 d) will have melted

- 34) \_\_\_\_\_ *I want, is to be left alone.*  
a) This  
b) That  
c) Which  
d) What
- 35) *Every year, they \_\_\_\_\_ to the same hotel in Spain.*  
a) were going  
b) would go  
c) might go  
d) would have gone
- 36) *Mary isn't really interested \_\_\_\_\_ politics.*  
a) in  
b) for  
c) with  
d) to
- 37) *We all enjoyed listening to the symphony \_\_\_\_\_ Beethoven.*  
a) of  
b) from  
c) by  
d) with
- 38) *You're prepared to do that for us, \_\_\_\_\_ ?*  
a) aren't you?  
b) won't you?  
c) don't you?  
d) isn't it?
- 39) *If he stops exercising, he \_\_\_\_\_ fat.*  
a) has got  
b) will get  
c) had got  
d) would have got
- 40) *Don't forget, I'm depending \_\_\_\_\_ you to help me.*  
a) with  
b) to  
c) for  
d) on
- 41) *I prefer tea \_\_\_\_\_ coffee.*  
a) to  
b) than  
c) more  
d) or

- 42) *It's high time \_\_\_\_\_ your revision!*  
a) you start  
b) you started  
c) for you to start  
d) for you starting
- 43) *I would like \_\_\_\_\_ my plan.*  
a) you are supporting  
b) you support  
c) you supporting  
d) you to support
- 44) *They said they would give us a reduction \_\_\_\_\_ 25%.*  
a) of  
b) by  
c) for  
d) to
- 45) *Louise is looking forward \_\_\_\_\_ at Oxford next year.*  
a) for studying  
b) to study  
c) to studying  
d) and studying
- 46) *I must remember \_\_\_\_\_ that important letter.*  
a) and post  
b) and I post  
c) to post  
d) of posting
- 47) *I hope you'll excuse me \_\_\_\_\_ late.*  
a) for being  
b) to be  
c) and I am  
d) if I will be
- 48) *They want their only daughter \_\_\_\_\_ in life.*  
a) she succeeds  
b) succeed  
c) to succeed  
d) will have success
- 49) *I didn't want to read the book because I \_\_\_\_\_ the film.*  
a) have already seen  
b) had already seen  
c) was already seeing  
d) would already have seen

- 50) *If you had asked me, \_\_\_\_\_ you.*  
 a) I am helping  
 b) I was helping  
 c) I would have helped  
 d) I had helped
- 51) *She was good enough to give me \_\_\_\_\_ .*  
 a) some good advice  
 b) any good advice  
 c) some good advices  
 d) any good advices
- 52) *She wishes she \_\_\_\_\_ her Australian cousins more often.*  
 a) is seeing  
 b) sees  
 c) saw  
 d) has been seeing
- 53) *You're right! I \_\_\_\_\_ with you.*  
 a) am agree  
 b) am agreed  
 c) am O.K.  
 d) agree
- 54) *Would you please \_\_\_\_\_ less noise? You're disturbing me!*  
 a) make  
 b) to make  
 c) and make  
 d) for making
- 55) *They \_\_\_\_\_ in Washington D.C. since 2005.*  
 a) live  
 b) are living  
 c) have lived  
 d) were living

In each sentence there are four parts underlined. Choose the part a) b) c) or d) which you feel is not acceptable in correct written English.

- 56) *We get fewer news of our former neighbours, the Wilsons, now that they live  
 a b c d  
 somewhere in the Australian outback.*
- 57) *This portrait of Queen Elizabeth I, completed on the last year of her reign, is  
 a b  
one of many painted from life.  
 c d*



- 65) **The journalist claims that**
- a) sales of video games are lower than ever
  - b) more video games than ever are being sold
  - c) the video industry, like other industries, is in a bad way
  - d) the prices of video games are rising fast
- 66) **Which of the following statements is true?**
- a) Games sales in the US remain stable.
  - b) 35% of Americans now own a video game.
  - c) In the US, year-on-year sales were up in October.
  - d) Americans are spending less than before on video games.
- 67) **For the journalist, video games are "recession-proof" (line 6). This means**
- a) they are inspired by present economic problems
  - b) they exploit the current economic crisis
  - c) they remain popular in spite of the bad economic climate
  - d) they will last as long as present economic difficulties
- 68) **Which of the following statements is not made by the journalist?**
- a) Sales of video games are not affected by economic factors.
  - b) Sales of video games contribute to a country's economy.
  - c) Sales of video games follow their own cycle.
  - d) Sales of video games are something apart in a country's economy.
- 69) **According to the journalist, every few years**
- a) lots of new games appear and people rush to buy them
  - b) many new games are invented, but the old games remain popular
  - c) many new games are invented, but only a few are marketed
  - d) some new games are promoted but their success is not always guaranteed
- 70) **In the journalist's opinion,**
- a) gamers are becoming more and more selective
  - b) gamers are buying any new game that comes along
  - c) gamers have more and more money to spend
  - d) gamers get caught up in a vicious circle

### Reading Comprehension 2

Line 1 On July 11, a really cool piece of gadgetry went on the market and, in the blink of three days,  
 Line 2 into more than a million pockets. New buyers' attitudes toward the iPhone3G were by and  
 Line 3 large uniform: stoked. But in one respect the revolutionary phone is as old as, say the walkman:  
 Line 4 it has anticipated the needs we didn't know we had. Which raises a different sort of question,  
 Line 5 one whose urgency long predates the iPhone, the iBook, the YouTube, the Wii: what happened  
 Line 6 to all the once useful things which we wanted before? The cell phone that's not a computer,  
 Line 7 the GPs that's not a phone, the squarely three-dimensional television, the *videotape rewinder*?  
 Line 8 In most households – nothing. A recent survey by the classified ads Web site Kijiji.com says that  
 Line 9 70 percent of Americans simply keep old hardware around. When it comes to electronics, the  
 Line 10 overwhelming trend is in with the new, no change with the old.

From an article in *Newsweek*

- 71) ***In this extract, the journalist***  
a) underlines the importance of gadgets today  
b) proves that Americans are keen on technology  
c) shows surprise at how Americans hold on to old gadgets  
d) offers a solution for old-fashioned gadgets
- 72) ***When the journalist says a gadget is "cool" (line 2) it is,***  
a) expensive  
b) marvellous  
c) essential  
d) life-changing
- 73) ***Which of the following statements is untrue?***  
a) The iPhone3G was a slow seller at the start.  
b) The iPhone3G sold massively in the days following its launch.  
c) Lots of Americans rushed to buy the new gadget.  
d) Americans bought the iPhone3G because of its technical potential.
- 74) ***If new buyers' attitudes were "stoked" (line 3), it means they were***  
a) excited by the product's applications  
b) indifferent to the product  
c) pessimistic about the product's prospects  
d) encouraged by advertising campaigns
- 75) ***For the journalist, both the iPhone3G and the walkman***  
a) were invented at the same time  
b) now belong to the past  
c) were inspired in the same way  
d) will soon become obsolete
- 76) ***According to the journalist, the iPhone3G***  
a) created new needs in the population  
b) met some needs but ignored others  
c) created and answered people's needs  
d) was an intrusion on people's private lives
- 77) ***The journalist puts "videotape rewinder" in italics (line 7), because***  
a) it still is a favourite gadget with Americans  
b) today it seems to be a crazy invention  
c) it is one of the most important inventions ever made  
d) it is a gadget which has never been bettered
- 78) ***Which of the following statements is untrue?***  
a) Few Americans seem to part with their old gadgets.  
b) Most Americans are happy to hold on to their old gadgets.  
c) The majority of Americans do not bother to throw out old gadgets.  
d) Most Americans are glad to be rid of their old gadgets.

- 79) *By "hardware" (line 9) the journalist means*
- a) metal objects
  - b) gadgets that people have trouble throwing away
  - c) gadgets that have resisted the passage of time
  - d) computer equipment
- 80) *Which of these headlines would best suit the extract?*
- a) "The beauty of old gadgets"
  - b) "The consumer society"
  - c) "iJunk"
  - d) "The computer revolution"