

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

LL Only

1. At his funeral, Malcolm X was ____ by admirers such as Ossie Davis.
(A) praised
(B) rescued
(C) delighted
(D) forgotten
2. The art collector must have very ____ tastes; he owns pieces from all over the world.
(A) crude
(B) broad
(C) good
(D) old-fashioned
3. The water in the pond was ____ enough to allow one to see objects on the bottom.
(A) deep
(B) clear
(C) salty
(D) cold
4. Since moisture hastens decay, ____ vegetation can often last a long time.
(A) rare
(B) dead
(C) tasty
(D) dried
5. Because Joel did not ____ his homework assignment on time, the teacher ____ his grade.
(A) submit . . accepted
(B) notify . . ignored
(C) understand . . contradicted
(D) complete . . lowered

LL-ML

6. Because of ____ in the temperature of the region, it is difficult to know whether to dress for hot weather or cold.
(A) rainfalls
(B) changes
(C) heat waves
(D) cold snaps
7. The two houses do not ____ each other; there is a narrow alleyway ____ them.
(A) neighbor . . separating
(B) resemble . . under
(C) face . . above
(D) touch . . between
8. The athlete was so ____ by the heat that he could barely walk.
(A) annoyed
(B) strengthened
(C) pleased
(D) exhausted
9. Only the most ____ soldiers volunteered to be in the platoon, since that was where they were in greatest danger of being wounded or ____.
(A) cheerful . . promoted
(B) clever . . scratched
(C) polite . . maimed
(D) courageous . . killed
10. The new senator was ____, so he only proposed legislation that stood a reasonable chance of passing.
(A) confident
(B) realistic
(C) ambitious
(D) inexperienced

11. She didn't like her birthday present, but she ____ to like it to avoid ____ her grandfather's feelings.
- (A) hid . . showing
(B) suppressed . . displaying
(C) pretended . . hurting
(D) felt . . creating
12. Rats mature very quickly and ____ prolifically, facilitating the ____ of disease.
- (A) run . . control
(B) hide . . prevention
(C) breed . . spread
(D) mutate . . obstruction
13. A public official who accepts ____ is guilty of ____.
- (A) aid . . abuse
(B) awards . . dishonesty
(C) bribes . . corruption
(D) advice . . misbehavior
14. Though Elena had received the company's ____ possible service award, her supervisor felt it necessary to ____ her for arriving ten minutes late.
- (A) highest . . admonish
(B) poorest . . vex
(C) best . . commend
(D) finest . . extol
15. As the supply of fresh water ____, the castaways were forced to ____ the remainder.
- (A) dwindled . . ration
(B) stabilized . . waste
(C) grew . . preserve
(D) drained . . distribute
16. He was an ____ art collector and had ____ several fine paintings by such artists as Picasso and Matisse.
- (A) unsuccessful . . bought
(B) active . . released
(C) avid . . acquired
(D) enthusiastic . . destroyed
17. Most of those polled seemed ____ a change and ____ that they would vote to re-elect the mayor.
- (A) wary of . . stated
(B) cautious about . . denied
(C) afraid of . . disputed
(D) open to . . asserted
18. Before rolling out the pie crust, the chef ____ the counter with flour to ____ the dough from sticking.
- (A) drenched . . halt
(B) baked . . banish
(C) kneaded . . alleviate
(D) dusted . . prevent
19. Despite the ____ price of the car, Jose's parents were ____ to permit him to buy it.
- (A) affordable . . willing
(B) outrageous . . hesitant
(C) usual . . afraid
(D) reasonable . . reluctant
20. The speaker ____ on for hours, repeating herself at length and ____ her audience to tears.
- (A) prated . . frightening
(B) simpered . . forcing
(C) whined . . provoking
(D) droned . . boring

ML-UL

21. He was ____ enough by the affront to ____ the person who had insulted him.
(A) incensed . . strike
(B) sad . . congratulate
(C) glad . . thank
(D) scared . . frighten
22. Although they were intelligent people, they were ____ by the advertiser's false ____.
(A) addressed . . messages
(B) displeased . . speech
(C) amused . . budget
(D) deceived . . claims
23. Newcastle in northern England is an important source of coal, so "carrying coals to Newcastle" means doing something ____.
(A) appropriate
(B) normal
(C) unnecessary
(D) dirty
24. George concealed his true ____ under a guise of ____.
(A) passions . . instability
(B) humility . . modesty
(C) concern . . indifference
(D) generosity . . altruism
25. Though normally quite ____, the grizzly can become ____ when disturbed by a human.
(A) enormous . . frightened
(B) affectionate . . happy
(C) harmless . . ferocious
(D) voracious . . appeased
26. Many people ____ that owls are intelligent, but this claim is nothing more than a ____.
(A) assume . . fact
(B) agree . . rebuttal
(C) refute . . tale
(D) believe . . myth
27. Roberta was ____ for cheating, though she believed that her ____ use of encyclopedia entries was not deceitful.
(A) censured . . fraudulent
(B) reprimanded . . paltry
(C) honored . . primitive
(D) chastised . . treacherous
28. The newspaper editorial argued that allowing violence to pass without ____ gives the appearance of ____ it.
(A) comment . . condoning
(B) incident . . provoking
(C) activity . . soothing
(D) agitation . . pacifying
29. Investigators believe that the rash of fires was not the work of ____ but a ____ of unfortunate accidents.
(A) a pyromaniac . . factor
(B) an accomplice . . consequence
(C) a criminal . . premonition
(D) an arsonist . . series
30. Archaeologists ____ the documents while ____ the remains of a 1,000-year-old Roman fort in what is now northern England.
(A) attached . . marring
(B) unearthed . . excavating
(C) diverted . . mourning
(D) construed . . surmising

31. At his concert debut, the young violinist tossed off the most difficult passages without any apparent effort, ____ the audience with his ____.
- (A) enraging . . timorousness
(B) impressing . . prestige
(C) enthralling . . stolidity
(D) dazzling . . virtuosity
32. Except for a few ____ shrubs, the frozen, windswept tundra provides little ____ for the herds of caribou that migrate across it seasonally.
- (A) stunted . . nourishment
(B) harmful . . credit
(C) formless . . refuge
(D) premature . . privacy
33. The writing process is ____ for most, but she is able to compose poems without much ____.
- (A) repugnant . . skill
(B) amusing . . pain
(C) tedious . . excitement
(D) arduous . . effort
34. Despite the ____ predictions of noted meteorologists, the damage caused by the storm was ____.
- (A) accurate . . foreseen
(B) ominous . . minimal
(C) dire . . terrible
(D) encouraging . . slight
35. Tony and Marcia spent an ____ afternoon ____ hand in hand through the sun-dappled park.
- (A) untimely . . traipsing
(B) ebullient . . recurring
(C) exhaustive . . persevering
(D) idyllic . . strolling
36. Since Ricky's college interview had gone well, his counselor was ____ to learn that he was ____ about applying for college.
- (A) relieved . . ambivalent
(B) troubled . . decisive
(C) disappointed . . unenthusiastic
(D) delighted . . aghast
37. Deirdre was ____ as a leader in student government, even though she would have been just as happy to play a(n) ____ role.
- (A) questioned . . minor
(B) applauded . . pivotal
(C) hailed . . integral
(D) recognized . . supporting
38. Later that evening, the snow ____ in huge drifts, making driving ____ difficult and finally impossible.
- (A) melted . . continually
(B) accumulated . . increasingly
(C) amassed . . conversely
(D) evaporated . . starkly
39. Because the astronomy textbook was so difficult to ____, she had to rely on the physics professor's lectures to explain the more ____ concepts.
- (A) consider . . intricate
(B) orbit . . essential
(C) repudiate . . basic
(D) follow . . complicated

40. The 16th-century chateau is ____ decorated with delicately wrought tapestries, hand-crafted ____, and leaded stained glass windows.
- (A) sumptuously . . furnishings
(B) artistically . . accompaniments
(C) concisely . . cadences
(D) imprudently . . trappings
41. At the mercy of his ____ appetite, Henry was ____ to stay on his diet.
- (A) light . . unwilling
(B) moderate . . free
(C) massive . . sure
(D) healthy . . unable
42. Weighted down with heavy armor, medieval knights ____ their broadswords too ____ to fight for more than a few minutes at a time.
- (A) wielded . . awkwardly
(B) parried . . perversely
(C) hoisted . . obdurately
(D) swung . . actively
43. To his admirers, the Prime Minister was ____ ; to his ____, merely stubborn.
- (A) eminent . . imitators
(B) remarkable . . adherents
(C) tenacious . . detractors
(D) complimentary . . endorsers
44. In his ____ to eliminate clutter, Terry discarded old files and documents ____, heedless of their potential future importance.
- (A) zeal . . indiscriminately
(B) agitation . . persuasively
(C) bravado . . competitively
(D) insomnia . . tactfully

UL Only

45. The author's first novel was critically acclaimed for its originality and ____, but its ____ appeal was limited.
- (A) repartee . . individual
(B) suspensefulness . . vital
(C) obscurity . . lasting
(D) sophistication . . popular
46. Given the ____ in today's market, our sale predictions may have been a little ____.
- (A) upturn . . inexact
(B) boom . . audacious
(C) instability . . reckless
(D) stagnation . . optimistic
47. Tory painted a(n) ____ view of the city, starting at the lakefront and ____ inland for several miles.
- (A) impressionistic . . burnishing
(B) ascetic . . eddying
(C) intrinsic . . embellishing
(D) panoramic . . ranging
48. The film has a ____ effect on viewers, leaving them emotionally ____ and physically spent.
- (A) flippant . . relaxed
(B) normal . . intact
(C) stern . . laconic
(D) cathartic . . drained

All Levels

49. She was a(n) ____, living by herself and avoiding other people.
(A) adventurer
(B) socialite
(C) hermit
(D) fool
50. As a strict vegetarian, she ____ meat, eggs, and dairy products.
(A) sells
(B) ignores
(C) avoids
(D) grades
51. The professor's students ____ him so much that they would ____ his mannerisms and style of dress.
(A) admired . . imitate
(B) feared . . plan
(C) ignored . . notice
(D) fought . . see
52. The utter failure in which the project ended is evidence of the ____ of the people who planned it.
(A) lack of ability
(B) strength of character
(C) careful planning
(D) wild imagination
53. The hummingbird is a voracious eater, ____ many times its own weight in food each day.
(A) finding
(B) rejecting
(C) making
(D) consuming
54. The witness had always shown great ____ in the past, so it seemed reasonable to believe her account now.
(A) honesty
(B) kindness
(C) cowardice
(D) care
55. Some animals will ____ themselves when presented with a(n) ____ amount of food.
(A) control . . absent
(B) deceive . . plentiful
(C) starve . . eaten
(D) gorge . . unlimited
56. He was too ____ to compromise even with people whose views were relatively close to his own.
(A) loyal to his friends
(B) strongly opinionated
(C) quick to action
(D) friendly to strangers
57. The child was obedient and well-behaved at home, but at school her teachers found her ____.
(A) small and weak
(B) hard to control
(C) eager to learn
(D) slow and careful
58. The theory of evolution is probably true, since scientists have found a lot of ____ for it.
(A) supporting evidence
(B) other names
(C) public scorn
(D) popular support

59. Because the instructor was so ____, the explanation took much longer than necessary.
- (A) serious
 - (B) intelligent
 - (C) wordy
 - (D) experienced
60. On an assembly line, each step in the production process is ____ in exactly the same way every time, ensuring that the finished items are ____.
- (A) costly . . cheap
 - (B) repeated . . identical
 - (C) complicated . . efficient
 - (D) strange . . unique
61. It was once common for younger people to show ____ by standing up when an elder entered the room.
- (A) respect
 - (B) bravery
 - (C) fear
 - (D) intelligence
62. Because leather is so ____, it is used in clothing to ____ fabric from cuts and scrapes.
- (A) tough . . protect
 - (B) warm . . cool
 - (C) smelly . . prevent
 - (D) attractive . . design
63. Widely reported incidents of crime in a city tend to ____ fear and suspicion among the residents.
- (A) create
 - (B) reduce
 - (C) confuse
 - (D) condemn
64. In the film *Citizen Kane*, a reporter tries and fails to make sense of the title character's ____ last word, "Rosebud."
- (A) clever
 - (B) mysterious
 - (C) sarcastic
 - (D) dying
65. The governor's opponents looked for evidence of past wrongdoing on her part, but her record was ____.
- (A) unbroken
 - (B) conclusive
 - (C) popular
 - (D) spotless
66. The teacher tried to ____ the student's ____ use of grammar and vocabulary.
- (A) replace . . remarkable
 - (B) distort . . uncomplimentary
 - (C) approve . . perfect
 - (D) correct . . faulty
67. After its engine ____, the boat drifted ____ for days.
- (A) started . . swiftly
 - (B) raced . . slowly
 - (C) died . . aimlessly
 - (D) broke . . briefly
68. Cowbirds ____ their eggs in the nests of other birds, who ____ raise the chicks as their own.
- (A) deposit . . unwittingly
 - (B) steal . . enthusiastically
 - (C) exchange . . debatably
 - (D) ignore . . unanimously

69. The politician's thoughtful ____ helped to ____ the skeptical public.
(A) beliefs . . warn
(B) service . . justify
(C) presence . . betray
(D) argument . . convince
70. The lake was in serious jeopardy; it was being contaminated and ____ by human beings faster than nature could ____ and replenish it.
(A) endangered . . flow
(B) drained . . purify
(C) modified . . improve
(D) impelled . . filter
71. Because it features many ____ actors, the new film is ____ to be a major box office success.
(A) important . . doomed
(B) prominent . . expected
(C) unknown . . certain
(D) talented . . unlikely
72. The shrewd private investigator noticed several ____ clues that the police had failed to ____.
(A) significant . . detect
(B) irrelevant . . pursue
(C) crucial . . scan
(D) spurious . . find
73. After being unfairly ____ by the chairperson, Luis ____ out of the meeting room.
(A) upbraided . . stormed
(B) burdened . . sauntered
(C) scrutinized . . strolled
(D) heckled . . strutted
74. Through years of ____, the once ____ cathedral was allowed to become shabby, dirty, and increasingly unappealing.
(A) renovation . . impressive
(B) adornment . . decrepit
(C) neglect . . majestic
(D) improvement . . towering
75. Although the game was ____ in its early stages, it later turned into a ____.
(A) unfair . . debacle
(B) close . . rout
(C) uneven . . trouncing
(D) uncontested . . stalemate
76. The news wire service ____ information so ____ that events are reported all over the world shortly after they happen.
(A) records . . precisely
(B) falsifies . . deliberately
(C) verifies . . painstakingly
(D) disseminates . . rapidly
77. Nearly everyone has seen photographs of the Grand Canyon, but its ____ topography cannot be fully ____ through two-dimensional images.
(A) spectacular . . appreciated
(B) copious . . decorated
(C) dingy . . screened
(D) peripheral . . saturated
78. The farmers continued to work long hours throughout the fall and winter, ____ their ____ and repairing buildings and equipment.
(A) clearing . . crop
(B) reaping . . fauna
(C) securing . . debris
(D) tending . . livestock

79. The ancient stone carvings are wonderfully ____, depicting in intricate detail the ____ in battle of thousands of soldiers.
(A) fragmentary . . succumbing
(B) beautiful . . lunging
(C) worn . . enacting
(D) ornate . . clashing
80. Faced with such a paucity of ____ information about the millionaire's new husband, the newspaper has ____ printing unsubstantiated rumors.
(A) paramount . . balked at
(B) reliable . . resorted to
(C) wealthy . . refrained from
(D) immediate . . wavered about
81. Once ____ across the continent, wolves had been ____ almost to extinction by the 1950s.
(A) nonexistent . . propelled
(B) numerous . . hunted
(C) garrulous . . abducted
(D) captive . . secured
82. The hostess invited relatively ____ guests, making the party seem less ____ than it had last year.
(A) eccentric . . unique
(B) talkative . . lengthy
(C) ordinary . . banal
(D) undistinguished . . exclusive
83. The best archaeological evidence ____ that the gigantic structures were ____ by an extinct aboriginal people.
(A) indicates . . erected
(B) specifies . . registered
(C) replies . . built
(D) imagines . . drafted
84. Cockroaches are one of the most ____ of all creatures because they can ____ in almost any situation.
(A) adaptable . . thrive
(B) disgusting . . reside
(C) frail . . survive
(D) versatile . . die
85. The violinist gave an ____ performance in the final movement and left the audience ____.
(A) extended . . early
(B) accomplished . . astounded
(C) exquisite . . afflicted
(D) absorbing . . distracted
86. Somehow, in spite of her ____ study habits, Mary always received ____ grades on her history exams.
(A) atrocious . . failing
(B) lackadaisical . . mediocre
(C) careful . . outstanding
(D) excellent . . poor
87. Having seen the film before, Mark was ____ to be as ____ as we who were viewing it for the first time.
(A) prone . . bewildered
(B) predicted . . critical
(C) flagrant . . blissful
(D) unlikely . . shocked
88. A born pessimist, Lisa was ____ when her favorite team ____ in the final quarter of the last regular season game.
(A) impartial . . tied
(B) forgiven . . forfeited
(C) depressed . . conceded
(D) stunned . . triumphed

89. Having procrastinated far too long, he attacked the project so ____ that he made many ____ errors.
- (A) hastily . . inadvertent
(B) learnedly . . noticeable
(C) methodically . . fundamental
(D) weakly . . trivial
90. Most of the opinions expressed in her book are ____, but it does contain a few ____ insights.
- (A) sensible . . intelligent
(B) absurd . . brilliant
(C) useless . . ambitious
(D) sound . . practical
91. The politician ____ his position and ____ a proposal he had previously opposed.
- (A) changed . . criticized
(B) reversed . . supported
(C) modified . . blocked
(D) upheld . . defended
92. Moviegoers were thrilled by the hero's daring ____ and amused by his sidekicks madcap ____.
- (A) feats . . tribulations
(B) escapades . . ordeals
(C) tedium . . zaniness
(D) exploits . . antics
93. Some claim that the new educational project ____ to gifted pupils while ____ the needs of average students, who constitute a clear majority.
- (A) adapts . . emulating
(B) salutes . . effecting
(C) objects . . implying
(D) caters . . ignoring
94. The bears that frequent the campground are bold and occasionally ____ in their ____ for food.
- (A) abundant . . capacity
(B) emphatic . . inclination
(C) aggressive . . quest
(D) unbalanced . . pressure
95. Brett brought Vicky's horse back to the stable by improvising a harness that ____ the mare to his own ____.
- (A) hitched . . zenith
(B) motivated . . goal
(C) spurred . . steed
(D) yoked . . mount
96. The whale shark is ____ encountered by divers because of its low numbers and ____ habits.
- (A) successfully . . congenial
(B) anxiously . . unfortunate
(C) constantly . . indifferent
(D) rarely . . solitary
97. The ____ deposited tons of mineral-rich volcanic ash, restoring to the soil nutrients ____ decades of farming.
- (A) eruption . . depleted by
(B) abyss . . harvested during
(C) tumult . . alien to
(D) barrier . . entrenched in
98. Members of the sect ____ from before sun-up until long after dusk, ____ the sin of sloth.
- (A) fasted . . savoring
(B) sanctified . . tainting
(C) concealed . . deploring
(D) toiled . . avoiding

99. Meteorologists ____ storm systems in order to give shoreline residents adequate ____ of hurricanes, floods, and other disasters.
- (A) track . . forewarning
 - (B) study . . almanacs
 - (C) record . . barometers
 - (D) design . . pretense
100. The firm employed many lackadaisical employees, who had a(n) ____ approach to their work.
- (A) creative
 - (B) independent
 - (C) unproductive
 - (D) discontented
101. Due to ____ weather, the school closed and ____ all classes.
- (A) cold . . continued
 - (B) severe . . cancelled
 - (C) humid . . relieved
 - (D) frosty . . alleviated
102. Many paleontologists believe that modern birds and crocodiles are the ____ of the ancient dinosaurs.
- (A) descendants
 - (B) ancestors
 - (C) neologisms
 - (D) reptiles
103. Her eyes were wide with ____ as the ship ____ with gold, jewels, and precious metals sailed into port.
- (A) amazement . . arrived
 - (B) reason . . purged
 - (C) wonder . . laden
 - (D) purpose . . meandered
104. It was Mount Vesuvius that erupted and ____ the city of Pompeii in the year 79 C.E.
- (A) desiccated
 - (B) decimated
 - (C) erected
 - (D) detected
105. The determined young cadet ____ every character trait that the ideal soldier should have.
- (A) embodied
 - (B) created
 - (C) secluded
 - (D) vaporized

PRACTICE QUESTION ANSWERS

LL Only

1. A

Using the clue word “admirers,” we realize that the blank must be correspondingly positive. When you admire someone, you offer “praise,” so (A) is the correct choice.

2. B

The key phrase here is “owns pieces from all over the world,” since it tells us the blank should indicate a wide range of tastes, or choice (B), “broad.”

3. B

A Logic Sentence Completion: if the water was ____ enough to see things on the bottom of the pond, the water must be fairly “clear.”

4. D

The structural clue word “Since” tells us that the blank must be opposite in meaning to the first portion of the sentence and the key phrase “last a long time” tells us that the blank must mean without moisture, or “dried,” (D).

5. D

Cause and effect again—if Joel did not “complete” his homework on time, you would expect his teacher to “lower” his grade.

LL-ML

6. B

The key phrase “difficult to know whether to dress for hot or cold” tells us the blank must be a word indicating variability, hence (B), “changes,” is correct.

7. D

The clue “narrow alleyway” indicates that the buildings are separate, making (D) correct.

8. D

Excessive heat rendered the athlete barely able to walk, so the blank must mean something close to “weakened.” Choice (D), “exhausted,” is correct.

9. D

To “volunteer” for a spot in which soldiers are in great danger, the soldiers must be “courageous,” so (D) fits the first blank. (D) also fits the second blank best. (C), “maimed,” would be redundant.

10. B

The key phrase here is “stood a reasonable chance of passing,” so “realistic” is the most consistent adjective to describe the senator.

11. C

The second word must be “hurting,” (C), since the second words in the other choices don’t make sense.

12. C

“Mature quickly and breed prolifically” (meaning a lot) describes why rats contribute to the “spread” of disease.

13. C

This is a clear cause and effect statement: A public official who accepts “bribes” is by definition guilty of “corruption.”

14. A

Elena was “ten minutes late,” so we can assume her supervisor would “admonish,” or scold, her. This stands in direct opposition to the fact that she received the “highest” service award.

15. A

We are looking for a logical connection here. Because ____ happened to the water, the castaways had to ____ the water. Only (A), “dwindled” and “rationed,” makes sense.

16. C

What kind of an art collector would have paintings by Picasso and Matisse? Someone either (C), “avid,” or (D), “enthusiastic.” However, only (C), “acquired,” makes any sense in the second blank.

17. A

Voters who say they would “vote to re-elect the mayor” are not in favor of change. They are “wary of” change, and this is what they “stated.”

18. D

What would the chef do to the counter? Would he want the pie crust to stick? He’d probably want to “prevent” it from sticking, and he’d do this by making sure that he’d “dusted” the counter.

19. D

“Despite” tells us that the cost of the car and Jose’s parents response to his buying it stood in opposition to each other. While the cost was “reasonable,” his parents were “reluctant.”

20. D

The speaker repeated herself at length—in other words, she “droned” on for hours, consequently “boring” her audience to tears.

ML-UL

21. A

The clue word here is “affront,” meaning offense. This would inspire a negative reaction, which is only offered by choice (A).

22. D

The clue word “Although” indicates a contrast between the intelligence of the people described and their behavior. (D) supplies the right contrast—they were “deceived” by false “claims.”

23. C

If there is coal in Newcastle already, then bringing more is “unnecessary,” choice (C).

24. C

The clue words “true” and “guise” indicate a contrast between the two words—George concealed his “concern” under a guise of “indifference.”

25. C

Again, the clues indicate a contrast—the grizzly is normally “harmless” but can become “ferocious.”

26. D

“But this claim” suggests that what people ____ about owls is false—“believe” and “myth” fit the assumption-reality structure here.

27. A

The second blank should suggest cheating—it’s her “fraudulent” use of encyclopedia entries that gets Roberta in trouble. “Censured” means scolded or reprimanded.

28. A

Tricky vocabulary here. “Condoning” means approving, so if a newspaper editorial didn’t offer any “comment” on a violent incident, it might seem like they were “condoning” violence, (A).

29. D

“Arsonist” and “pyromaniac” are both words for people who start fires—but “series” is the only word that fits the second half of the sentence.

30. B

When archeologists dig things up, they “excavate,” sometimes “unearthing” treasures.

31. D

“Virtuosity” is the word that best describes “dazzling” musical ability here.

32. A

The clue words “except for” indicate a contrast here—except for “stunted” shrubs, the tundra provides little “nourishment” for the caribou.

33. D

Contrast between most people’s experience and that of the poet is what you’re looking for here. Most people find writing “arduous” (hard work), but she does it without “effort.”

34. B

“Despite” indicates that the predictions of the meteorologists were the opposite of the damage the storm actually caused. “Ominous” and “minimal” are the opposites that we are looking for.

35. D

The phrases “hand in hand” and “sun-dappled” suggest that Tony and Marcia’s walk was pleasant or “idyllic.” Also, only “strolling” fits in with the kind of meandering action we are looking for.

36. C

“Since” is the key word here. Ricky’s interview went well, but his counselor was “disappointed” to learn Ricky was “unenthusiastic” about going to college.

37. D

“Even though” tells us that we have a contrast. While Deidre was a clear leader, or “recognized” as a leader, she was just as happy to play a secondary, or “supporting,” role.

38. B

Driving must go from one state of difficulty to being “finally impossible.” Logically, only “increasingly” difficult fits here. Also, the fact that the snow “accumulated” in big drifts accounts for the worsening driving conditions.

39. D

The textbook was difficult it logically follows that the professor’s lectures would have to help her with the more “intricate,” (A), or “complicated,” (D), concepts. However, only “follow” logically fits in the first blank.

40. A

What would be hand-crafted? A strong case can be made for “furnishings,” and a weaker case made for “trappings.” Looking at the first blank, however, only “sumptuously,” (A), makes sense.

41. D

“At the mercy of” is the clue here. Henry has a “healthy” appetite, which renders him “unable” to stay on his diet.

42. A

The knights are “Weighted down with heavy armor.” It follows logically that fighting, or “wielding,” a sword with all that armor would be very uncomfortably, or “awkwardly,” performed.

43. C

The semicolon and the key word “merely” indicate that we need words that are opposites. His admirers found the Prime Minister tough, or “tenacious,” but his enemies, or “detractors,” found him merely stubborn.

44. A

“Heedless” tells us that Terry was a little careless and overeager to clean up his mess. In other words, he had too much “zeal” and carelessly, or “indiscriminately,” discarded the files.

UL Only

45. D

Positive word for the first blank—originality and “sophistication.” Limited in “popular” appeal is another way of saying the book did not appeal to a broad range of people.

46. D

“Given” and “may have been” tell us that whatever the market is doing, the “predictions” were the opposite. Given the “stagnation” or slowness of the market, predictions were too “optimistic,” or positive.

47. D

Tory’s painting depicts the “lakefront” and “inland.” Such a broad view is summed up in the word “panoramic” for the first blank. “Ranging” is also the only word to fit logically into the second blank.

48. D

“And physically spent” clues us that the viewers were also emotionally spent, or “drained.” Something “cathartic” would accomplish this.

All Levels

49. C

The key phrase here is “living by herself,” which tells us that the woman may be reclusive and a “hermit,” choice (C).

50. C

A logic Sentence Completion: if she is a vegetarian, she must not eat meat. In other words, she “avoids” it, choice (C).

51. A

This two-blank cause-and-effect Sentence Completion must have a second blank that logically follows the implication of the first blank. Using word charge, you’ll find that (A) is the only positive-positive pair.

52. A

“Utter failure” are the strong clue words here—they show that the project planners had a “lack of ability,” (A). All the other choices are too positive.

53. D

“Voracious eater” is the key phrase here. You’re looking for a word that means eating—(D), “consuming,” fits the bill.

54. A

“Reasonable to believe her” is the key phrase in this question, indicating that “honesty,” (A), is the word you’re looking for.

55. D

There’s a strong connection between the two blanks here, so plug each choice in to see which one fits. (D) has the most logical connection.

56. B

“Too ___ to compromise” is the key phrase in this question, indicating that “strongly opinionated,” (B), is the phrase you’re looking for.

57. B

The structural clue “but” indicates a contrast—that the child was “obedient and well-behaved” at home, but “hard to control” at school.

58. A

What phrase would support the assertion that a theory was “probably true”? “Supporting evidence” is the best answer.

59. C

Explanations taking longer than necessary? Couldn’t have been a Kaplan teacher. Might have been an excessively “wordy” teacher from another test-prep service.

60. B

The key phrase is “exactly the same way,” which tells you to look for a word that means the same in the second blank. Choice (B) is the only option.

61. A

By standing up when an elder enters, one shows “respect,” choice (A).

62. A

The key phrase is “from cuts and scrapes,” which tells us that the second blank should indicate that leather “protects” against cuts and scrapes. Choice (A) is the correct answer.

63. A

Increases in crime lead to fear, so “create,” choice (A), is the most logical choice.

64. B

The key phrase is “make sense of,” which leads us to “mysterious,” or hard to explain.

65. D

The structural clue word “but” tells us that if opponents searched for wrongdoing, the blank should indicate that they didn’t find any. “Spotless,” choice (D), is correct.

66. D

What’s a likely scenario between a teacher and student here? “Correct” and “faulty” make the best sense in this sentence.

67. C

“Drifted” is the clue word here—a boat would drift “aimlessly” if its engine “died.”

68. A

Here, it’s hard to predict the blanks; you have to plug in each answer choice. Only (A) makes sense—other birds would “unwittingly” (without realizing it) raise cowbird chicks as their own if the eggs were “deposited” in their nests.

69. D

The clue words “thoughtful” and “helped” indicate positive words for both blanks here. With a thoughtful “argument,” a politician might “convince” a skeptical public.

70. B

Only “purify” fits the second blank here; “purify” describes the natural process by which a lake replenishes itself.

71. B

A typical cause-and-effect sentence here—because x , then y . (B) fits the structure of the sentence; a film with “prominent,” or famous, actors would be “expected” to be successful.

72. A

The clues are obviously either (A), “significant,” or (C), “crucial,” here. Only “detect” fits the second blank, however.

73. A

“After” indicates cause and effect. “Unfairly” tells us that Luis was not treated kindly—he was either (A), “upbraided,” or (D), “heckled.” But only (A), “stormed,” shows the effect we are looking for.

74. C

Cause and effect again. The cathedral has become “shabby, dirty, and increasingly unappealing,” so the cathedral was once either (A), “impressive,” or (C), “majestic.” But only (C), “neglect,” fits the first blank.

75. B

You are looking for opposites. The game was “close” but became a “rout.”

76. D

Events are reported “shortly,” or “rapidly,” after they happen, because the news wire service is able to “disseminate,” or spread, information.

77. A

“But” tells us that “photographs” and “two-dimensional images” don’t give us the full impact of the real Grand Canyon. Its “spectacular” topography cannot be fully “appreciated” through pictures alone.

78. D

Only (D) makes sense here. While “repairing buildings and equipment,” farmers are also “tending” their “livestock.”

79. D

The stone carvings depict a battle scene “in intricate detail.” While both (B), “beautiful,” and (D), “ornate,” seem like possibilities for the first blank, the answer clearly must be (D), because “clashing” is the only appropriate word to describe a battle scene.

80. B

“Paucity” means scarcity. “Unsubstantiated” means unproven. So we can assume that the newspaper has very little proven, or “reliable,” information and has relied on, or “resorted to,” rumors.

81. B

The word “Once” tells us that while wolves are now extinct, they were “numerous” at one point. The only word to logically fit into the second blank is “hunted.”

82. D

The hostess has done something to make this year’s guests less ___ than last year’s. In other words, we want opposites. “Undistinguished” and “exclusive” fit the bill.

83. A

What would “an extinct aboriginal people” have done with a “gigantic structure”? Either (A), “erected” it, or (C), “built” it. But only (A), “indicates,” fits into the first blank.

84. A

The two words we are looking for relate closely to each other. Cockroaches are ____ and consequently can _____. “Adaptable” and “thrive” are the only words that relate to each other in this way.

85. B

The audience reacted in a particular way as a direct result of how the violinist played. Again, we need words that relate to each other strongly. Only “accomplished” and “astounded” fit the bill.

86. D

“Somehow” tells us that Mary’s study habits and grades are in opposition to each other. The answer must be (D), since “excellent” and “poor” are opposites.

87. D

Mark has already seen the film, while everyone else is seeing it for the first time. Both parties’ reactions will be opposite each other. Mark is “unlikely” to be as “shocked” as everyone else.

88. D

The sentence sets up a contrast. While Lisa is a “pessimist,” or someone who looks at the down side of things, her team did well. So she was “stunned” when her team “triumphed.”

89. A

He “procrastinated,” or waited until the last minute to do his work. It follows that he would have to attack the project in a big hurry, or “hastily.” As a result of this haste, it follows that he would make careless or “inadvertent” errors.

90. B

“But” tells us that most of her “opinions” stand in contrast to a “few ____ insights.” “Absurd” and “brilliant” oppose each other in the way that we want.

91. B

“Previously” tells us that what the politician is now doing with the proposal stands in opposition to what he did formerly. In other words, he “reversed” his position on a proposal that he had “supported” earlier.

92. D

A hero would perform either daring (B), “escapades,” or (D), “exploits.” However, only “antics” would amuse an audience.

93. D

“While” tells us that the “new educational project” appears one way to some and another way to others. In other words, it “caters” to some people while “ignoring” others.

94. C

If the bears are “bold,” it follows logically that they would be “aggressive” in their search, or “quest,” for food.

95. D

If Brett “improvised” a harness, he had to make one up. (A), “hitched,” or (D), “yoked,” makes sense for the first blank, but only (D), “mount,” fits the second blank.

96. D

“Low numbers” tells us that there aren’t many sharks. In other words, they are “rarely” encountered by divers due to their lonely, or “solitary,” habits.

97. A

We know that soil nutrients were restored. This must mean that the soil nutrients were at one time taken away, or “depleted,” from the Earth. Volcanic ash is deposited by a volcano’s “eruption.”

98. D

What would a sect do from “sun-up until long after dark”? Logically, they would work or “toil,” thus “avoiding” laziness or the “sin of sloth.”

99. A

Meteorologists would either (A), “track,” or (B), “study,” storm systems. But only (A), “forewarning,” fits logically into the second blank.

100. C

“Lackadaisical” means showing a lack of interest or spirit, being listless or languid. If the firm employed lackadaisical workers, these workers probably had an “unproductive” approach to their work.

101. B

If you tried each of the choices in the first blank, you’d see that they all fit. As for the second blank, only one choice makes sense: Because of “severe” weather, all classes were “cancelled.”

102. A

This question is filled with elements that the test makers hope to fool you with. Both the answer choices and the question itself contain difficult vocabulary (i.e., “neologisms” and “paleontologists”).

In addition, the antonym for the correct answer is thrown in as a curve ball. However, the only choice that makes sense is (A), “descendants.” Many paleontologists believe that birds and crocodiles are descended from dinosaurs.

103. C

Her eyes could well have been wide with “amazement,” “reason,” “wonder,” or “purpose” as the ship sailed in. But the only choice that makes sense when you try to fill in the second blank is that “her eyes were wide with *wonder* as the ship *laden* with gold, jewels, and precious metals sailed into port.” The other combinations just don’t make sense.

104. B

It’s possible to infer from the information in the sentence that Mount Vesuvius is a volcano. Regular hills and mountains don’t erupt; only volcanoes do. And volcanoes don’t “erect” cities, nor do they “detect” or “desiccate” cities. Indeed, volcanoes are very dangerous because they have the potential to “decimate” cities.

105. A

To “embody” means to personify. (A) is the only choice that works here. The cadet doesn’t “create” the characters of an ideal soldier, nor does he “seclude” or for that matter “vaporize” those character traits.