

I. Choices—Voc & Grammar: 2.5 points each. Choose the best answer for each question.

1. Our company needs support from outside to _____ the financial crisis.
(A) hold (B) treat (C) achieve (D) weather
2. You have to grow up! Be responsible and learn to _____ the risk of your own decisions.
(A) admit (B) bear (C) cross (D) deliver
3. The restaurant is big enough to _____ over 300 people at a time.
(A) house (B) allow (C) collect (D) employ
4. I can't think _____ with so much noise around.
(A) simply (B) exact (C) straight (D) equally
5. Tie your hair _____ so that it won't keep falling down.
(A) hard (B) fast (C) strong (D) prettily
6. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, dozens of _____ have been closed.
(A) plants (B) stages (C) cabinets (D) transportation
7. Mom _____ her hand on my shoulder to encourage me and show her support.
(A) lied (B) lain (C) laid (D) lay
8. Which of the following sentences is NOT correct?
(A) This birthday cake took Agatha three hours to make.
(B) Making this birthday cake took Agatha three hours.
(C) It took Agatha three hours to make this birthday cake.
(D) Agatha took three hours making this birthday cake.
9. Can you remember _____?
(A) what happened to Tom
(B) how did the flood happen
(C) when did your wife cook the dinner
(D) where you go out this morning
10. After failing many times, I wanted to give up my dream; however, my father would not _____ me.
(A) hope (B) allow (C) let (D) want
11. Big Ben is a famous tourist destination _____ is located in London. Millions of people visit it every year.
(A) where (B) it (C) , which (D) that

12. Having a sense of responsibility makes work _____.
(A) to be meaningful (B) be meaningful
(C) meaningful (D) as meaningful
13. There were many students _____ in the library before the monthly exam.
(A) studying (B) study (C) to study (D) who had studied
14. Which of the following sentences is NOT correct?
(A) When Tina retires next month, she will have taught for 30 years.
(B) What courses are you taking this semester?
(C) I had studied for 5 hours. No wonder I am tired.
(D) Kate arrived just now.

II. Cloze + Comprehension & Blank Filling: 2.5 points each. Choose the best answer for each question.

(A)

2020 has been a hard year for everyone, with many people losing their jobs and struggling to pay bills.

As the holidays came, many parents found 15 unable to provide their children with a proper dinner or gifts. So, when Matt Lima, a police officer in Massachusetts, was 16 by a grocery shop to arrest a family who 17 food, he acted from his heart.

On 18 the family, Officer Lima realized that the family could not afford food, but still wanted to do something special for their children for the holidays. 19 arresting them, Officer Lima gave them a trespass order which was 20 serious and didn't press any charges. What's more, Officer Lima bought the family gift cards worth \$250 from his pocket so that they could buy dinner for the holidays.

When asked why he decided to help the family out, he answered, "...I just tried to 21 and show a little bit of empathy."

Empathy is so important, especially in these harsh times. What is a kind gesture that you would do for others?

15. (A) them (B) themselves (C) theirs (D) they
16. (A) called up (B) called off (C) called back (D) called in
17. (A) caught to steal (B) was caught stealing
(C) has been catching to steal (D) had been caught to steal
18. (A) treating (B) worrying about (C) questioning (D) rounding up
19. (A) Far from (B) Well above (C) Instead of (D) In spite of

20. (A) not at all (B) a little (C) a little more (D) much less
21. (A) put myself in that family's shoes
(B) have a monkey on the family's back
(C) talk peace with the family
(D) step in line
22. What is the purpose of this passage?
(A) To show that 2020 was a challenging year for many people.
(B) To express thankfulness to police officer Matt Lima.
(C) To discuss reasons why Officer Lima handled the case with justice and love.
(D) To encourage more warm acts in society.

(B)

March 12, 2020 was the 12th World Day Against Cyber Censorship. Reporters Without Borders celebrated this day by opening a unique library. This library is 23 with collecting articles that governments around the world have 24. Even more surprising, the library is located within the *Minecraft* video game. With the 25 of 24 gamers from around the world, the Uncensored Library was designed and built in around 250 hours.

People can browse articles by reporters from Egypt, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam. These journalists have been 26 in their own countries through pressure, exile, or even violence and murder. Through *Minecraft*, people can get 27 their governments are trying to suppress, even in countries where freedom of the 28 is threatened.

(A) press	(B) accepted	(C) information	(D) silenced
(AB) cooperation	(AC) banned	(AD) explanation	(BC) concerned

III. Comprehension & Competency-based Questions: 3 points each. Choose the best answer for each question.

(A)

Bookstores often evoke a sense of peace and quietness where book lovers can freely roam between shelves. 29.

A recent post on Reddit shows a Taiwan bookstore immersed in the darkness where lights only illuminate books, tables and other merchandise, leaving many foreigners bewildered. The dimly lit picture evoked numerous responses from the members and friends of the foreign community who questioned the bookstore's real intentions, with one

commenting "It's all fun and games until someone falls over and slams his face on the table."

The bookstore is actually the "Wuguan Bookstore" located in Kaohsiung, Pier 2. In fact, the reasoning behind the pitch-black bookstore lies in the owner's goal of letting readers focus on the books and forget about their surroundings. According to various media reports, the concept behind the store is for customers to remember their childhood, when there was a book that they just couldn't put down. If parents turned off the lights, most kids would duck under their bedsheets and shine a flashlight to continue reading. With this observation in mind, a similar "ambiance" was replicated in the Wuguan Bookstore.

29. Which of the following sentences would best fit the missing blank in the first paragraph?

- (A) The effect is a magical, twinkling bookstore where you can feel like you're the only person in a world of infinite books.
(B) This one-of-a-kind bookstore lets you browse your books in peace.
(C) With dark wooden cabinets and huge windows, visitors are definitely picking up Hogwarts vibes in here. What are the chances it smells delightfully of old books?
(D) Would the same be true in a pitch-black bookstore though?

30. What is the real purpose that the Wuguan bookstore owner opened the unique store?

- (A) He'd like readers to focus on the books rather than video games.
(B) He'd like to recommend books that readers couldn't put down.
(C) He'd like to reproduce the experience where readers are immersed in books.
(D) He'd like to introduce the fun of special flashlight and bedsheet designs.

31. What can we infer from the passage?

- (A) Readers are open to potential risks when they visit the bookstore in question.
(B) Dimly-lit space can increase readers' love for books.
(C) The Wuguan bookstore gained great popularity among book lovers.
(D) The Wuguan bookstore is a highly recognizable structure.

32. Which of the following items is least likely seen in this bookstore?

- (A) Heavy curtains.
(B) Succulent plants.
(C) Food menu.
(D) Groceries.

33. Which of the following words best describes this bookstore?

- (A) Elegant. (B) Scary. (C) Futuristic. (D) Experimental.

(B)

Hokkien Mee, the braised thick yellow noodles in dark aromatic soy sauce with a medley of pork strips, fish cake, vegetables and sometimes pork liver, topped off with the essential cubes of crispy deep-fried pork lard, has come a long way in history and a couple of variations have been developed in several countries. What makes this simple dish of fried noodles so special that this local treat has come to be one of their favorite comfort food is the “Wok Hei,” a certain kind of char that is imparted by the hot wok during stir frying. For an even deeper charred flavor in the noodles, the traditional way will be to cook the dish over a charcoal-fuelled fire. “Wok Hei” can only be achieved under conditions of intense heat, so it’s not easy to achieve at home without a commercial cooking range.

Ingredients: (3-4 servings)

500g thick yellow noodles; 100g pork fat, diced
300g sliced pork, or mixture of sliced pork + prawns
1 fish cake, sliced; 250g vegetables, shredded or cut into lengthwise
5 cloves garlic, minced

Soy Sauce Mixture

1 tablespoon soy sauce; 2 tablespoons dark soy sauce
1 tablespoon oyster sauce; 1 teaspoon flounder fish powder
200ml water/stock

Directions

Step 1: Heat the wok and put in the pork fat cubes and cook until the lard begins to render. Turn the heat down, simmer on low for 15 minutes, and stir the pork fat occasionally until the cubes are golden brown and crispy.

Step 2: **Remove the pork lard cubes** into an absorbent paper towel; let them cool and then store them in a container. Filter the lard into a clean glass jar and let it cool down before covering the lid.

Step 3: Combine all the ingredients of the soy sauce mixture in a bowl. Set it side.

Step 4: Heat the wok again and add 2 tablespoons of pork lard, add in the sliced pork, and stir fry until the meat changes color. Add in prawns and fish cake slices, and toss for 30-45 seconds just until it turns pink. Remove them from the wok and set them aside.

Step 5: In the same wok, sauté the minced garlic until it is fragrant; then add the vegetables and stir fry for about 1 minutes. Next, add the noodles and give everything a quick toss, and pour in the soy sauce mixture (Step 3). Stir-fry to combine, and let the sauce and noodles

come up to a simmer; continue to cook for another minute or two until the sauce has reduced slightly. Stir occasionally as it simmers.

Step 6: Add the pork and the prawns (Step 4) back into the wok. Stir until all are combined and continue to simmer until the sauce has thicken to your desired consistency.

Step 7: Transfer to a serving dish, sprinkle the crispy pork cubes on top, and serve.

Answer the following questions based on the recipe.

34. Which of the following is NOT true?

- (A) Hokkien Mee is heart-soothing food to people in certain areas, especially when they have a bad day.
- (B) Intense heat should be applied throughout cooking to make tasty Hokkien Mee.
- (C) Charcoal fire helps enhance the taste of Hokkien Mee.
- (D) Cooked Pork and prawns are added at the end to prevent overcooking.

35. Hokkien Mee is most likely to be the popular food in _____.

- (A) Saudi Arabia.
- (B) India.
- (C) Singapore.
- (D) Argentina.

36. What would a wok most possibly look like?

(A)



(C)



(B)



(D)



37. What is the finishing touch to this dish?

- (A) Wok Hei.
- (B) Cooked pork and prawns.

- (C) Crispy pork cubes.
- (D) Dark aromatic soy sauce.

38. What does “**Remove the pork lard cubes**” mean?

- (A) Take the pork lard cubes away from the wok.
- (B) The pork lard cubes are no longer needed.
- (C) Set the pork lard cubes aside the wok.
- (D) Put the pork lard cubes in a container.

(C)

One bright morning as the Fox was following his sharp nose through the woods in search of a bite to eat, he saw a Crow on the limb of a tree overhead. This was by no means the first Crow the Fox had ever seen. What caught his attention this time and made him stop for a second look was that the lucky Crow held a bit of cheese in her beak.

“No need to search any farther,” thought the Fox. “Here is a dainty bite for my breakfast.”

Up he trotted to the foot of the tree in which the Crow was sitting, and looking up admiringly, he **cried**, “Good-morning, beautiful creature! You are the prettiest bird I have ever seen.” The Crow, her head cocked on one side, watched the Fox suspiciously. She kept her beak tightly closed on the cheese and did not return his greeting. Seeing no response from the Crow, the Fox went on, “What a beautiful bird you are! Oh the shine of your feathers, the regal grace with which you hold your head! You are a bird with spectacular wings!” The crow fell for it, but still she did not respond. The Fox noticed a change in the crow’s expression and tried to woo her one more time by saying, “Such a wonderful Bird must have a very lovely voice, since everything else about her is so perfect. Could she sing just one song? I know I should hail her Queen of Birds.” Then **the Fox sighed, as though with longing**.

The Crow was deeply flattered this time and the initial suspicion was gone. No one had called her beautiful before, or wanted to hear her sing! Surely she could please this kind Fox and sing a little song for him! Taking a deep breath, she opened her beak...and let fall the piece of cheese. The first caw was not even out of his throat when the Fox had snapped up the piece of cheese and run off through the woods with it!

“Thank you,” said the Fox sweetly, as he went off, “Maybe you have a sweet voice, but where are your wits?”

39. What does the word “cry” in the second paragraph mean?

- (A) To make sad noises along with lots of tears.
- (B) To shout aloud.
- (C) To make a complaint.
- (D) To produce an attractive sound.

40. Which of the following is NOT the moral of the fable?

- (A) Never trust anyone blindly.
- (B) Quick thinking solves many problems.
- (C) The flatterer lives at the expense of those who will listen to him.
- (D) Do not give your enemy the means of destroying you.

41. What is the tone of the last sentence “Maybe you have a sweet voice, but where are your wits?”

- (A) Mocking.
- (B) Praising.
- (C) Funny.
- (D) Confusing.

42. Which of the following facts about the fable is true?

- (A) The Crow is the first one that the Fox had ever seen.
- (B) The Crow was not tricked into believing the Fox’s words until the latter praised her voice.
- (C) As soon as the Crow sang her first caw, her breakfast fell into the mouth of the Fox.
- (D) The Crow wanted to sing a song for the Fox in return for the Fox’s appreciation.

43. At the end of the second paragraph, what is the reason why “the Fox sighed, as though with longing?”

- (A) Because the Crow did not respond to him.
- (B) Because he wanted the cheese too badly.
- (C) Because he’d like to express how much he admired the Crow.
- (D) Because he felt guilty about the lies he told the Crow.