

For items (1-10), read the following texts carefully, and then choose the correct answer from A, B, C or D to complete the sentence/ the question below each text.

Malek crossed the Plaça de Catalunya in the intense heat of the afternoon. The city square was teeming with tourists and locals and he found the noise startling. Back home in the countryside, life moved at a gentle pace. _____. When Malek had announced his intention to leave his home state for the first time and travel alone to Barcelona, everyone tried to talk him out of it, but he was determined. It was a dream since childhood to visit the great football stadium, Camp Nou. And now, in his early 20s, he was making it happen.

1. The sentence that best fits the gap in the paragraph above is

- A) As they passed Malek, they smiled at him
- B) They reminded him of his grandparents back on the farm
- C) He watched the hordes and wondered about their lives
- D) On any given day, he never saw more than a handful of people

2. What was Malek's main motivation for traveling to Barcelona?

- A) To meet relatives
- B) To study abroad
- C) To escape countryside life
- D) To see Camp Nou stadium

3. Which detail shows Malek's independence ?

- A) He moved permanently to Barcelona
- B) He ignored others' advice and traveled alone
- C) He was encouraged by his friends
- D) He waited until his 30s to travel

If Malek thought the platform was cramped, the carriage seemed worse. Every seat was taken, as well as every square inch of standing room. Those who could reach overhead and grasp the handrail to steady themselves were lucky. Many, including Malek, struggled to keep their balance with nothing at all to hold onto. Unaccustomed to the motion, Malek faltered once or twice, then stood firm and stabilized himself. As the train approached the next station, those leaving began to shift in preparation for their exit. Malek wondered how they might navigate their way to the doors, but astonishingly they forged ahead and the carriage emptied slightly before filling up with new passengers.

4. What does the phrase "Every seat was taken" mean?

- A) All the seats were occupied.
- B) The seats were broken.
- C) The seats were reserved.
- D) People refused to sit down.

5. Why did many passengers struggle to keep their balance?

- A) They were carrying heavy bags.
- B) They had nothing to hold onto.
- C) The train stopped suddenly.
- D) They were running through the carriage.

6. What happened as the train approached the next station?

- A) Everyone remained in the same place.
- B) New passengers got off the train.
- C) Passengers preparing to leave moved toward the doors.
- D) The train became completely empty.

7. What can we infer about Malek from the passage?

- A) He was experienced in using crowded public transport.
- B) He was unfamiliar with travelling on crowded trains.
- C) He enjoyed standing throughout the journey.
- D) He preferred travelling by train to any other transport.

The journey continued. Malek was now in the rhythm of it, the same routine at one station and then **another** as people got on and off the train, dispersing on the platform or settling into some corner of the carriage. Three stops from Les Corts, the old man and woman stood up to leave. As they passed Malek, they smiled at him. He desperately wanted to say something, to make some friendly comment, but he was strangely lost for words. Then the doors closed and they were gone. Malek turned and saw that the old man had forgotten his book. It was still on the seat.

8. What does the pronoun "**another**" refer to in the text above?

- A) passenger B) train C) station D) journey

9. What does the word "**dispersing**" most nearly mean in the passage?

- A) Gathering together B) Moving away in different directions
C) Waiting quietly D) Standing in a line

10. Why didn't Malek speak to the old couple?

- A) He did not understand their language. B) He was too tired.
C) He was lost for words. D) They left too quickly.

For items (11-40), read the following items carefully, and then choose the correct answer from A, B, C or D to complete the sentence/ the question below each item.

11. After hurting his ankle, the footballer _____ off the pitch to get some help.

- A) hobbled B) strode C) surged

12. When the Prime Minister got out of the car, the reporters suddenly _____ forward and nearly knocked over the security guards.

- A) shuffled B) surged C) staggered D) wobbled

13. The sea was so rough that everything on the tables was _____ and nearly falling off.

- A) wobbling B) striding C) staggering D) stumbling

14. The airline used to have an excellent reputation, but in recent months, it's been going _____ quickly.

- A) downhill B) boat C) plain D) ride

15. I've also got to retake my final exams next month - so we're in the same _____.

- A) ship B) boat C) canoe D) journey

16. The incessant noise of the roadworks outside his house is driving my uncle up the _____.

- A) wall B) hill C) path D) ship

17. I was so stressed while reading the speech that I _____ over some of the words.

- A) staggered B) stumbled C) jumped D) parked

18. We were completely _____ by the cost of the return tickets.

- A) jumped B) staggered C) stumbled D) drove

19. When Khalid realised he was wrong, he tried to _____ very quickly.

- A) backpedal B) sail C) ride D) park

20. What _____ might you have to overcome to be successful in your chosen career?

- A) effect B) mark C) share D) hurdles

21. Now, that is something the college can really _____ about!

- A) knock B) share C) shout D) brag

22. We're waiting to hear the _____ of the meeting when they finish at 2.

- A) income B) comeout C) outcome D) comeback

23. The invention of the Internet was an incredible _____ for the advancement of humankind.

- A) breakaway B) breakdown C) breakout D) breakthrough

24. I'm not sure about buying a car now because I didn't realise how big the _____ would be.

- A) layout B) outlay C) layoff D) overlay

24. Recently, the rising cost of university education has caused an _____ from students and parents.

- A) outcry B) outlay C) outlook D) outbreak

25. The information I received about flight departure times was wildly _____, leading to me missing my plane.

- A) obvious B) unjustified C) inaccurate D) flawed

26. **The cyclist was definitely not to blame for the accident.**

The correct inversion sentence for the above one is:

- A) No sooner was the cyclist to blame for the accident.
B) Only when the cyclist was to blame for the accident.
C) In no way was the cyclist to blame for the accident.
D) Little is the cyclist to blame for the accident.

27. **It was the first time I had ever seen such an exciting event.**

The correct inversion sentence for the above one is:

- A) Never before I had seen such an exciting event.
B) Never before did I ever see such an exciting event.
C) Never before had I ever seen an exciting event like this.
D) Never before had I seen such an exciting event.

28. **A passing driver waved at me to stop. Then I realised I had a flat tyre.**

The correct inversion sentence for the above one is:

- A) Only when a passing driver waved at me to stop I realised I had a flat tyre.
B) Only when did a passing driver wave at me to stop did I realise I had a flat tyre.
C) Only when a passing driver waved at me to stop did I realise I had a flat tyre.
D) Only when had a passing driver waved at me to stop I realised I had a flat tyre.

29. **She was so happy that she thought she would never stop smiling.**

The correct inversion sentence for the above one is:

- A) So happy was she that she thought she would never stop smiling.
B) So happy she was that she thought she would never stop smiling.
C) So happy she had been that she thought she would never stop smiling.
D) So happy was she to think she would never stop smiling.

30. **Ali was a very talented driver and won every race he entered for two years.**

The correct inversion sentence for the above one is:

- A) Such a talented driver Ali was that he won every race he entered for two years.
B) Such talented driver was Ali that he won every race he entered for two years.
C) Such a talented driver was Ali that he won every race he entered for two years.
D) Such a talented driver he was Ali won every race he entered for two years.

31. **I wanted a mountain bike, not a road bike.**

The correct cleft sentence for the above sentence is:

- A) It was a mountain bike I wanted, not a road bike.
B) It was a road bike I wanted, not a mountain bike.
C) It is a mountain bike I wanted, not a road bike.
D) It has been a mountain bike I wanted, not a road bike

32. **I know everything about the course apart from the start date.**

The correct cleft sentence for the above sentence is:

- A) What I don't know about the course was the start date.
B) What I don't know about the course is the start date.
C) The only thing I don't know about the course was the start date.
D) The only thing I know about the course is the start date

33. **Miss Altabbakh** was my favourite teacher at primary school.

The correct cleft sentence for the above sentence is:

- A) The person who is my favourite teacher at primary school was Miss Altabbakh.
 B) The person who was my favourite teacher at primary school was Miss Altabbakh.
 C) It is Miss Altabbakh who was my favourite teacher at primary school.
 D) It was Miss Altabbakh who is my favourite teacher at primary school.

34. Not only _____ I pass my test, but I passed with flying colours!

- A) do B) did C) had D) was

35. The day _____ we take our driving test is usually an unforgettable one.

- A) that B) where C) when D) which

36. The _____ I'd been very worried about during the test was the reversing part.

- A) thing B) time C) person D) place

37. The way I was spoken to by the assistant was wholly _____, and I was treated as a problem rather than a customer.

- A) unjustified B) inaccurate C) obvious D) flawed

38. Which phrase is used **to show strong preference**?

- A) I'm split between ... and ... B) I'd go for ... anytime!
 C) Alternatively, we could ... D) But on the other hand, ...

39. What is the formal equivalent of **"To top it all ..."**?

- A) At first C) Finally, to our utter disbelief ...
 B) In the beginning D) After that

40. What is the formal equivalent of **"By the skin of our teeth"**?

- A) Just in time B) Very early C) Too late D) Never arrived

ANSWER KEY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
D	D	B	A	B	C	B	C	B	C	A	B	A	A	B	A	B	B	A	D
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
C	D	B	A	C	C	D	C	A	C	A	B	B	B	C	A	A	B	C	A