CXC  MULTIPLE CHOICE [PAPER 1]

YEAR  : JUNE 2000

SUBJECT  : ENGLISH

TIME  : 1½ Hrs.

COPY #  195

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SYNONYMS

Directions: In each of the following sentences, there is one underlined word. Select the option which is nearest in meaning to the underlined word and mark the corresponding space on your answer sheet.

1. We greatly admired her for her valour.
   (A) temerity
   (B) courage
   (C) spirit
   (D) dexterity

2. A citizen is expected to show complete allegiance to his native land.
   (A) obedience
   (B) loyalty
   (C) homage
   (D) respect

3. The bookkeeper said that our account was dormant.
   (A) inadequate
   (B) transferred
   (C) overdrawn
   (D) inactive

4. The stricken family thanked the entire community for their benevolence after the earthquake.
   (A) kindness
   (B) tolerance
   (C) friendship
   (D) courtesy

5. The new employee seems to be a very zealous worker.
   (A) untrustworthy
   (B) enthusiastic
   (C) skillful
   (D) awkward

6. The earthquake caused widespread damage throughout the island.
   (A) expansive
   (B) unlimited
   (C) immense
   (D) extensive
SENTENCE COMPLETION

Items 7 - 12

Directions: Choose the word or set of words that BEST completes each sentence.

7. To conceal his true activities, the spy quickly .......... a plausible excuse for his presence there.
   (A) fabricated
   (B) divulged
   (C) explained
   (D) disguised

8. Banking has become the most .......... industry as evidenced by the huge profits recorded last year.
   (A) popular
   (B) cautious
   (C) ambitious
   (D) thriving

9. .......... people would not frequently change their wardrobe to keep up with every new trend in fashion.
   (A) Fashionable
   (B) Adventurous
   (C) Conservative
   (D) Courteous

10. The journalists were impressed by the .......... of the statesman whose speeches had a profound .......... on all who heard them.
    (A) appearance .......... reaction
    (B) presence .......... result
    (C) emotion .......... sensation
    (D) eloquence .......... effect

11. Her criticism was constructive and honest, with no .......... whatsoever.
    (A) coherence
    (B) malice
    (C) candour
    (D) innuendo

12. Are you trying to .......... that all along he knew of the plot to oust the committee?
    (A) persist
    (B) accuse
    (C) clarify
    (D) insinuate
SPELLING

Items 13 - 18

Directions: In the following sentences one of the underlined words may be misspelt. Choose from the three options A, B, C, the word that is misspelt. If no word is misspelt, choose answer D. Mark your choice on your answer sheet.

13. Practise for beginners in this course will commence at precisely ten o’clock.
   A. Practise
   B. beginners
   C. will commence
   No error
   D.

14. When you are compiling the estimates for recurrent expenditure do you include breakages? No error
   A. compiling
   B. the estimates
   C. recurrent expenditure
   D.

15. The deafening noise blared from John’s cassette recorder and seemed incessant. No error
   A. deafening
   B. noise blared
   C. cassette recorder
   D.

16. The corporal investigated the report of burglary. No error
   A. corporal
   B. investigated
   C. the report
   D.

17. The zealous spectator experienced great disappointment when his favourite team lost. No error
   A. zealous
   B. spectator
   C. experienced
   D.

18. After the incident the boys travelled a different route back to school. No error
   A. incident
   B. the boys
   C. travelled
   D.
READING COMPREHENSION

Items 19 - 27

Directions: Read the extract below and then answer the questions that follow.

Of all the terrifying circumstances to which one's home is vulnerable, nothing equals that of a guest who stares straight at one's bookshelves. It is not the judgemental possibility that is frightening; the fact that one's sense of discrimination is exposed by one's books. Indeed, most people would much prefer to see the guest first scan, then peer and turn away in boredom or disapproval. Alas, too often the eyes, dark with calculation, shift from title to title as from girl to girl in an overheated dance hall. Nor is that the worst. It is when those eyes stop moving that the heart too stops. The guest's body twitches. His hand floats up to where his eyes have led it. There is nothing to be done. You freeze. He smiles. You hear the question even as it forms: "Would you mind if I borrowed this book?"

(Mind? Why should I mind? The fact that I came upon that book in a Paris bookstall in April 1959 - the 13th I believe it was, the afternoon, it was drizzling - that I found it after searching all Europe and North America for a copy; that it is dog-eared at passages that mean more to my life than my heart-beat. Should I mind that you seek to take all that away? That I will undoubtedly never get it back? Then even if you actually return it to me one day, I will be wizened, you cavalier, and the book spoiled utterly by your mishandling? Mind?)

"Not at all. Hope you enjoy it"
"Thanks. I'll bring it back next week."
"No rush. Take your time."

[Liars.]

Not that there is any known way to avoid these exchanges. One has books; one has friends; they are bound to meet. Charles Lamb, who rarely railed, waxed livid on the subject: "Your borrowers of books - those mutilators of collections, spoilers of the symmetry of shelves, and creators of odd volumes." But how are such people to be put off, since they are often we, and the non-return of borrowed books is a custom as old as books themselves?

Still this custom confutes nature. In every other such situation, the borrower becomes a slave to the lender, the social weight of the debt so altering the balance of relationship that a temporary acquisition turns into a permanent loss. This is certainly true with money. Yet it is not at all true with books. For some reason a book borrower feels that a book, once taken, is now his own. This removes both memory and guilt from the transaction. Making matters worse, the lender believes it too. To keep up appearances, he may solemnly extract an oath that the book be brought back as soon as possible; the borrower answering with matching solemnity that the Lord might seize his eyes were he to do otherwise. But it is all a play. Once gone, the book is gone forever. The lender, fearing rudeness, never asks for it again. The borrower never stoops to raise the subject.

19. According to the writer in lines 1 - 8, what is the most frightening thought that occurs when a guest stares at your bookshelves?

(A) He will be distracted from the important business at hand by looking at your books.
(B) He will ask to borrow one of your favourite books.
(C) He will be bored by your selection of books.
(D) He might show disapproval of your taste in books.
20. The guest looks “from title to title as from girl to girl in an overrated dance hall” (line 5). This comparison is intended to suggest a feeling of

(A) anticipation
(B) frustration
(C) confusion
(D) maliciousness

21. The writer uses a series of short sentences in lines 5 - 7 to convey his feeling of

(A) apprehension
(B) disbelief
(C) pleasure
(D) excitement

22. The writer, in paragraph two (lines 9 - 14), describes in detail how he obtained the book in order to

(A) explain to the reader why he is so attached to the book
(B) make the guest aware of how he came to own the book
(C) show the reader that he did not mind if the guest borrowed the book
(D) give his guest the background necessary to understand what the book is about

23. The word “Mind” (line 14) is written in italics because the author wishes to emphasize

(A) that he does not mind at all lending the book to his friend
(B) that his thoughts are not spoken aloud to his friend
(C) how much of a history the particular book has
(D) how much he minds lending his book to his friend

24. In line 18 the writer uses the square brackets to indicate that the word in these brackets

(A) is an expansion of those not in brackets (lines 15 - 17)
(B) parallels those words not in brackets (lines 15 - 17)
(C) contradicts those words not in brackets (lines 15 - 17)
(D) is there to emphasize those words not in brackets (lines 15 - 17)

25. “One has books; one has friends; they are bound to meet.” (lines 19 - 20). This implies that it is

(A) possible to avoid such meetings by hiding away one’s books
(B) inevitable that books will be borrowed by one’s friends
(C) unusual to have neither books nor friends
(D) impossible to have a friend who does not want to keep one’s books

26. Paragraph four (lines 19 - 23) indicates that Charles Lamb regards those who borrow books with

(A) uneasiness
(B) appreciation
(C) anger
(D) respect

27. According to the writer, which of the following is true in the comparison of borrowing books and borrowing money?

(A) The borrower of books never stoops to raise the question of money.
(B) The borrower of books only returns the books through a sense of guilt.
(C) The borrower is more inclined to remember books than money.
(D) The borrower of money becomes a slave to the lender.
Items 28 - 38

Directions: Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow.

The Companion

Kayta was her name. She was nine,
I'd no idea what I could do about her,
but doubt quickly dissolved to certainty:
I'd have to take this thing under my wing;
- girls were in some sense of the word human,
a human being couldn't just be left.
The drooping in the air and the explosions
receded farther into the distance,
it touched the little girl on her elbow.

"Come on. Do you hear? What are you waiting for?"
The world was big and we were not big,
and it was tough for us to walk across it.
She had galoshes on and felt boots,
I had a pair of second-hand boots.

We forded streams and tramped across the forest;
each of my feet at every step it took
taking a smaller step inside the boot.
The child was feeble, I was certain of it.
"Boo-hoo", she'd say. "I'm tired", she'd say.

She'd tire in no time I was certain of it,
But as things turned out it was me who tired.
I growled I wasn't going any further
and sat down suddenly beside the fence.
"What's the matter with you?" she said.

"Don't be so stupid! Put grass in your boots.
Do you want to eat something? Why don't you talk?
Hold this tin, this is crab.
We'll have refreshments. You small boys,
You're always pretending to be brave."

Then out I went across the prickly stubble
marching beside her in a few minutes.
Masculine pride was muttering in my mind:
I scraped together strength and I held out
for fear of what she'd say. I even whistled.

Grass was sticking out from my tattered boots.
So on and on
we walked without thinking of rest
passing craters, passing fire,
under the rocking sky of '41'
trotting crazy on its smoking columns.

Ye vgen Yevtushenko

1A reference to World War II which lasted from 1939 to 1945

28. The episode described in the poem took place after a
(A) fire
(B) volcano
(C) train crash
(D) bombing

29. The speaker's impression of the girl when he decided to take her with him was that she was
(A) unmanageable
(B) weak
(C) unfriendly
(D) silly

30. The speaker's attitude, as revealed in lines 10 - 12 and 18 - 20, is one of
(A) condescension
(B) humour
(C) uncertainty
(D) heartlessness

31. Which of the following BEST describes the speaker as he is revealed in lines 1 - 4?
(A) Disdainful but sympathetic
(B) Cruel and heartless
(C) Thoughtful and tender
(D) Loving but practical
32. At first, the speaker thought that Kayta would be a burden to him. Later, however, it is Kayta who urges him to continue their journey. This is an example of

(A) personification
(B) euphemism
(C) irony
(D) metaphor

33. The speaker and the girl were walking across the country because

(A) their train had reached its destination
(B) they had been deserted
(C) they were looking for a safe place
(D) they were playing truant

34. "Put grass in your boots" (line 25). Katya makes this suggestion to the speaker in the poem to

(A) make him block up the holes in his boots
(B) make fun of him
(C) make the boots fit him more closely
(D) make the grass soak up the blood from his feet

35. Katya, as revealed in lines 26 - 35 of the poem, can BEST be described as

(A) cheerful and understanding
(B) bossy and resourceful
(C) friendly and talkative
(D) angry and mocking

36. Despite his feeling of tiredness, which of the following made the speaker keep on moving across the country?

(A) Fear
(B) Courage
(C) Pride
(D) Hope

37. In the last eleven lines of the poem (lines 30 - 40), the speaker can BEST be described as

(A) strong and fearless
(B) confident and boastful
(C) proud and persevering
(D) sensitive and happy

38. The fact that the speaker in the poem "... even whistled" (line 34) indicates that he was

(A) cheerfully optimistic
(B) trying to cheer up Katya
(C) musically talented
(D) attempting to hide his feelings
Blind people must cope with numerous disadvantages, of course, and one of them is their inability to learn at the same speed as those who can see. To educate themselves, the blind rely heavily on Braille and talking books, but in a world fast becoming computer literate, they're only falling further behind. But perhaps not for long. An Australian inventor, Milan Hudecek, has developed what he says is a significant new computer for the blind. If the device proves an operational success, it could broaden the educational and employment vistas for those without sight.

The invention is a lap-top talking computer called the Eureka A4. Though it is not the first computer for the blind, Hudecek says it is the first portable computer for the blind and the first "built from scratch." Other systems of this type, he asserts, are modified versions of regular computers.

The Eureka weighs only 1.6 kilograms, but it packs some punch: it has 64K of built-in random-access memory and a three-and-a-half-inch disc drive with 792K of memory (or about 300 pages of text). The computer features a special keyboard with six keys and a space bar (combinations of which make up letters), along with eight separate function keys and five cursor keys. If the user gets confused, he can punch a "help" key and get an audible response.

The Eureka can operate as a word processor, calculator, alarm clock, diary, telephone directory and four-voice music composer, to name a few of its 16 different functions. Data are released by a unique voice synthesizer - "the first application of speech generated purely by software," says Hudecek - or through printouts in Braille or English. The system uses so-called "fully contracted Braille" - a type of shorthand for the blind - which can be converted by a microprocessor into standard English. A modem allows the user to communicate with other computers.

Hudecek built the computer in consultation with the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind. David Blyth of the Royal Institute says: "I think it's the best thing since Braille was invented (in 1824). It gives the blind not just literacy, but electronic literacy." Hudecek says Eureka will enable blind children to take regular classes; with minimal supervision, they'll be able to take notes rapidly and produce written papers.

"Once they've mastered the functions," he says, "there are endless opportunities to expand through programming. The blind can grow with the machine."

("Bringing the Blind 'On-line'")
Richard Ennsberger,
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39. In paragraph one (lines 1-15) the writer makes the point that blind people

(A) need exposure to disadvantages as practice for coping
(B) can expect to deal with many disadvantages
(C) must be forced to face disadvantages in learning
(D) are unreasonably exposed to numerous disadvantages
40. One can conclude from paragraph one (lines 1 - 15) that blind people
(A) are generally less intelligent than people who can see
(B) cannot be made computer literate
(C) enjoy more limited opportunities than others
(D) display comparatively low learning abilities

41. The word which BEST conveys the impression created by “But perhaps not for long” (lines 8 - 9) is
(A) doubt
(B) hope
(C) joy
(D) indecision

42. “Vistas” (line 14) in this context is an example of
(A) pun
(B) irony
(C) personification
(D) exaggeration

43. According to the passage, the talking computer
(A) is now a reality
(B) is merely an idea
(C) is a distant possibility
(D) is an impossibility

44. In line 22, “asserts” is used instead of “says” in order to
(A) make the reader aware of Hudecek’s remarks
(B) convince the reader of the effectiveness of Eureka A4
(C) show that the Eureka A4 is not a modified version of a regular computer
(D) show how strongly Hudecek holds his view

45. The writer’s inclusion of the phrase “to name a few” in line 39 is
(A) unnecessary, as he has already provided the list
(B) suggesting that he will go on to name many others
(C) intended to summarise the list of functions given
(D) useful in emphasising the point that the functions are many

46. The phrase “so-called” is used before “fully contracted Braille” (lines 44 - 45) to tell us that the writer
(A) has reservations about the claim made by the inventors of this version of Braille
(B) does not know the technical name for that particular form of Braille
(C) is at this point ridiculing the system and its inventor
(D) wishes to criticize the idea of a “fully contracted Braille”
47. The aim of paragraph four (lines 36 - 49) is primarily to
   (A) publicly reward Hudecek's achievements
   (B) introduce readers to the inventor
   (C) testify to the usefulness of the invention
   (D) explain the background to this new machine

48. The idea conveyed in the concluding sentences (lines 61 - 64) of this article is similar to that of the
   (A) last sentence of paragraph one (lines 12 - 15)
   (B) second sentence of paragraph two (lines 17 - 21)
   (C) last sentence of paragraph two (lines 21 - 23)
   (D) second sentence of paragraph three (lines 29 - 33)

49. The type of language contained in this passage is
   (A) mainly technical jargon
   (B) imaginative and colourful
   (C) generally factual and clear
   (D) interesting because of its puns and metaphors

50. The MAIN purpose of the writer is to
   (A) promote increased sales of a useful electronic invention
   (B) highlight the achievement of a caring inventor
   (C) publicise a potentially valuable new electronic device
   (D) enhance the employment and educational opportunities of the blind
WHY PEOPLE WHO OWN AN STZ 723
ENJOY DRIVING MORE THAN YOU DO.

As diverse as STZ owners are - a sweeping assortment of business executives, professional people, movie stars and royalty - there is one thing they all seem to have in common: an unabashed enthusiasm for their STZ.

An enthusiasm that seems to increase as the years and miles go by!

What causes this exceedingly rare relationship between man and machine? Quite frankly, the calibre of the machine.

The STZ 723 is a luxury sedan designed by racing engineers. The very same engineers responsible for the prodigious reputation STZ has enjoyed over the past decade on the great race circuits of the world.

German engineers who, in the words of the editor of “Speed on Wheels” magazine, believe that “driving, like life, is a two-hand affair that should be grasped firmly, taken seriously and done well.”

Under the hood of STZ 723 is a three-litre, fuel-injected masterwork of engineering that "Car and Track" magazine calls "the most refined inline six in the world."

The suspension is fully independent on all four wheels. Resulting in a degree of control and comfort so unique it will spoil you for the solid rear axle systems found on most imported and all domestic sedans.

All told, it is a car so singularly enjoyable to drive that in Germany - a land of legendary driving machines - as in the rest of Europe, STZ sells more high-performance luxury cars than any other manufacturer.

If you agree that extraordinary performance is the only thing that makes an expensive car worth the money, we suggest you call an STZ dealer and arrange a thorough test drive.

STZ - THE BEST IN DRIVING MACHINES

51. The MAIN purpose of the advertisement is to

(A) tell what type of people buy STZ
(B) compare the STZ to other types of sedans
(C) make people aware of STZ's three-litre fuel tank
(D) make people want to own an STZ

52. In lines 1 - 3 the writer gives the impression that he is

(A) amused
(B) ambitious
(C) objective
(D) optimistic
53. Which of the following means most nearly the same as "a sweeping assortment" in line 1?

(A) A varying number
(B) Outstanding examples
(C) Many different types
(D) A majority

54. The advertisement places MOST emphasis on the STZ's

(A) safety
(B) appearance
(C) performance
(D) economy

55. The words "prodigious reputation" in line 8 mean most nearly

(A) extraordinary renown
(B) massive support
(C) well-deserved praise
(D) increasing demand

56. Which of the following statements about the STZ 723 is based on opinion rather than fact?

(A) The suspension is independent on all four wheels.
(B) It was designed by racing engineers.
(C) It costs more than the average car.
(D) It is very enjoyable to drive.

57. Phrases such as an "exceedingly rare relationship between man and machine" (line 5) and "will spoil you" (line 16) are primarily designed to promote the STZ as an automobile that

(A) is pleasurable to drive
(B) deserves its reputation among racing enthusiasts
(C) was designed by professional engineers
(D) has no competition in the luxury class

58. By telling us that "under the hood of the STZ 723 ... world" (line 13), the writer is MAINLY

(A) showing how accurate "Car and Track" magazine is about the STZ
(B) seeking to support his claims for the superiority of the STZ
(C) showing that the STZ is in fact better than other cars in the world
(D) showing off his knowledge of cars

59. The MAIN purpose of the title "Why people ... you do," is to

(A) arouse the curiosity of readers
(B) state a fact about STZ owners
(C) encourage people to buy cars
(D) ask a very important question

60. The author suggests that the only feature that makes an expensive car cost-effective is that it must

(A) be singularly enjoyable to drive
(B) have extraordinary performance
(C) have a unique degree of comfort and control
(D) be designed by racing engineers

IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS TEST