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For Items 1-35, choose the best answer for each question and write the corresponding letter on the answer card.

I. **Vocabulary (30%)**

選擇題請在答案卡上作答，否則不予計分。

- When stevia first _____ the U.S. market in 2008, many in the nutritional community were over the moon about the health potential of this new sugar substitute.
(A) crashed (B) listed (C) hit (D) fractured
- Advent is celebrated on four _____ Sundays, beginning on the Sunday closest to November 30 and ending on December 24, Christmas Eve.
(A) intermittent (B) consecutive (C) followed (D) chronological
- Procrastination is an urge many of us give in to even when the _____ are high. That is, even if we know there will be a high price to pay, we still put off doing things.
(A) stables (B) shares (C) stakes (D) stocks
- She is an outspoken _____ of a variety of health-related causes, trying her best to promote the health of the general public.
(A) advocate (B) adversary (C) antagonist (D) autocrat
- If the local company wants to increase market share and profits, it must seize this _____ opportunity to sell products overseas by cooperating with the international enterprise.
(A) sign (B) indicator (C) symbol (D) landmark
- The judges had no _____ to refer to before making their decision on the controversial case.
(A) articulation (B) precedent (C) configuration (D) alignment
- The _____ of your solution is about whether or not you are able to implement your plan to solve the problem in an effective manner.
(A) feasibility (B) convenience (C) seriousness (D) uniformity
- John has been trying to _____ Sue's reputation by spreading rumors about her.
(A) underestimate (B) undertake (C) underline (D) undermine
- A rich merchant _____ the famous artist to paint her portrait at a price of six figures.
(A) prescribed (B) commissioned (C) annihilated (D) imparted
- It was _____ of him to open a store at that part of the city. He should have conducted a thorough market analysis beforehand.
(A) rash (B) anxious (C) provocative (D) invasive
- I didn't get a wink of sleep the whole night last night because of the dog's _____ barking.
(A) enlightened (B) ultimate (C) incessant (D) extraneous
- A sauce can enhance and _____ ingredients through flavor, texture and moisture.
(A) complement (B) compliment (C) comprise (D) compose
- The **prevalence** of excessive purchasing is on the rise, thanks to society's focus on everything material. The word "prevalence" is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) popularity (B) generality (C) phenomenon (D) sensation

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14. One audience **refuted** the speaker's claim by referring to opposing arguments from a recent study. The word "refute" means _____.
- (A) to get a second opinion (B) to prove to be false or incorrect
(C) to support with examples (D) to humiliate publicly
15. Students are required to write an essay based on a **prompt**. The word "prompt" means _____.
- (A) an organization of resources
(B) a reminder to complete a task on time
(C) a recap of important points
(D) a cue to begin something

II. Grammar (20%)

16. It's pouring rain outside. I can't imagine Tim _____ by bike.
(A) go (B) to go (C) going (D) gone
17. Mary _____ in Paris for five years next week. I would say four years at most.
(A) won't have been living (B) couldn't have lived (C) mustn't live (D) shouldn't have been living
18. The photo was taken in a(n) _____ village last year.
(A) old beautiful Russian (B) beautiful old Russian
(C) Russian old beautiful (D) old Russian beautiful
19. Congratulations _____ your new job!
(A) by (B) on (C) for (D) at
20. The book contains poems that are romantic, soothing, and _____.
(A) enjoy (B) enjoyed (C) enjoying (D) enjoyable
21. Many young people, when facing difficulties in life, may not seek help _____ fear of embarrassment or threat to their self-esteem.
(A) because (B) because so (C) because of (D) because that
22. Headlee's book *Do Nothing* discusses ways that software _____ to make people anxious that they are not productive enough in their own lives.
(A) designs (B) designed (C) is designed (D) be designed
23. _____ all the work required by his boss, Joshua is now ready for a vacation away from the office.
(A) Completed (B) To complete (C) Being completed (D) Having completed
24. _____ better recipe for building someone's confidence than to administer regular dosages of success.
(A) Have no (B) Not having (C) There is no (D) There has not
25. Simon _____ the interview if he did not do all the research and learn so much about the company's history.
(A) did not pass (B) could not be passed (C) were not able to pass (D) could not have passed

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III. Reading comprehension (20%)

Passage 1

When you express negative feelings indirectly instead of openly talking about them, you are being passive-aggressive. Someone who uses passive aggression may feel angry, resentful, or frustrated, but they act neutral, pleasant, or even cheerful. They then find indirect ways to show how they really feel. Passive aggression is not a mental illness, but people with mental health conditions may act that way. Passive aggression could damage your personal and professional relationships.

When someone uses passive aggression, they might say one thing, like "Sure, I'd be happy to!" and do another, like **brood** and complain while completing the task. They might also do something that seems kind on the surface but is opposite to another person's wishes. For example, if you tell a co-worker you're trying to lose weight, a passive-aggressive colleague might bring you a cake the next day.

Anger, frustration, and displeasure are normal emotions. People who rely on passive aggression rather than direct communication to show these emotions often grew up in a family where that behavior was common. It might not have felt safe for them to directly express their feelings as a child. But people can also pick up this behavior as adults. They may act this way because it helps them get what they want, or they may do it to avoid confrontation. Many people are only passive-aggressive in some situations—for example, at work—but not in others.

Many people don't realize that they're being passive-aggressive. The behavior may feel "normal" to them. Or they might think it's the best way to avoid hurting someone's feelings or to prevent something bad from happening, like losing their job. Everyone can behave passive aggressively from time to time. But if it's a pattern, that's when it's a problem. If the passive aggression of a friend, family member, or colleague is troubling you, try being direct about what you want or need without labeling them. Using **"I" statements** can be helpful. For example, "I don't like it when you regularly show up for meetings late. It makes me feel like this isn't important to you. Would you please try to be on time going forward?" Sometimes, behaving assertively can show the other person how to behave that way, too. You may have to keep telling a passive-aggressive person your needs before you see an improvement in the way they act. If the behavior doesn't change, consider getting the advice of a therapist.

26. What is this passage mainly about?

- (A) The development of a special mental disease.
- (B) An introduction to a specific interpersonal behavior.
- (C) How emotions can be controlled through therapeutic interventions.
- (D) The art and techniques of communication and relationship building.

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27. Which of the following properly represents the four paragraphs as they appear in the passage?
- (A) signs, causes, management, definition
 (B) causes, management, definition, signs
 (C) definition, signs, causes, management
 (D) management, definition, signs, causes
28. Which of the following words is closest in meaning to “brood” in the second paragraph?
- (A) agonize
 (B) forecast
 (C) expose
 (D) convert
29. Based on the passage, which of the following statement is true?
- (A) Passive aggressors are violent or tend to react negatively most of the time.
 (B) If passive aggression is not genetic, it has to be rooted in childhood trauma.
 (C) The most common venue for passive aggression to happen is the workplace.
 (D) Constant practice is necessary to help others to be less passive aggressive.
30. Which of the following could be an example of the “I” statements discussed in the final paragraph?
- (A) “I do not want a cake now. I want to have control over my calorie intake.”
 (B) “I can’t believe you are bringing me a cake. Don’t you know I am on a diet?”
 (C) “I think you need to see a therapist. I am much behind on being passive aggressive.”
 (D) “I am so happy you brought me a cake. I’ll worry about losing weight tomorrow.”

Passage 2

Tobias Lütke was originally a software engineer by trade. By 2004, he didn’t want to work as a programmer anymore—he was burned out. He decided to pursue a passion and open an online store called Snowdevil where he would sell snowboards from third parties. Right away, he ran into a huge problem. Every software tool that Lütke tried to use to build Snowdevil frustrated him. What he really wanted was a simple, user-friendly tool—one that didn’t exist yet. Lütke decided that instead of using an off-the-shelf solution like Yahoo! Stores, he would build the online store infrastructure for Snowdevil from the ground up. Lütke and his early team built an easy-to-use product Shopify and also gave other small merchants the tools to solve their problems. This created a new market of people who had never been able to successfully sell online before—but now had everything they needed.

They had a profitable season of snowboard gear sales in 2004, but the initial response to Shopify stood out to them even more than their store. They passed their e-commerce platform around and got numerous inquiries about how they had built the website. Lütke saw an opportunity to help other people sell online. He and his cofounder then realized they were more interested in helping other merchants than running their online snowboard store. They shelved Snowdevil and refocused on creating a product that would help people build

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their own online stores.

At first, Shopify's goal was, "making it easy for anyone to create a beautiful and powerful online store." But to continue growing, Shopify expanded their vision to an even wider audience. Instead of focusing only on e-commerce software, which benefitted online sellers, they worked towards "making commerce better for everyone." Today, their platform Shopify hosts over 325,000 shops for individual sellers and internet giants like Google and Tesla. The company generates over \$20 million in revenue each month.

31. Which of the following statements is true about the beginning of Shopify?
- (A) Its interface targeted third parties.
 - (B) It was out of frustration with existing tools.
 - (C) Its initial goal was to share business opportunities.
 - (D) It was meant to prevent young people from job burnout.
32. Which of the following best represents Shopify's development?
- (A) Joining other merchants to rival big players like Yahoo and Google.
 - (B) Expanding from a tool to a platform to an online/offline ecosystem.
 - (C) Combining computer programming and sports gear in one business.
 - (D) Generating revenue by disrupting traditional e-commerce business models.
33. Which of the following best describes Snowdevil?
- (A) It sold snowboards but later became a shelf company.
 - (B) It was originally built to boost Yahoo's snowboard business.
 - (C) It started as Lütke's side hustle when he was a programmer.
 - (D) It was a business that inspired Lütke to build a user-friendly platform.
34. Which of the following words is closest in meaning to the word "off-the-shelf" in the first paragraph?
- (A) Hybrid.
 - (B) Prompt.
 - (C) Shelfless.
 - (D) Ready-made.
35. Who are the major clients of Shopify?
- (A) Small merchants.
 - (B) Internet celebrities.
 - (C) Passionate audience.
 - (D) Winter sports athletes.

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IV. Writing (30%)

Nowadays, communicating online seems to become the norm. People are writing blogs, creating Facebook profiles, sharing videos on YouTube and tweeting on Twitter. In particular, social media has given people the power to share and stay connected; however, social media may also promote negative experiences such as feeling inadequate about your life or appearance. Please write an essay of about 300 words to illustrate how people can minimize the negative effects of social media.



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註

- 一、作答於試題上者，不予計分。
- 二、試題請隨卷繳交。