

SOF INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH OLYMPIAD 2019-20

in association with BRITISH COUNCIL

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL ASKED TO DO SO

Total Questions: 50 | Time: 1 hr.

Guidelines for the Candidate

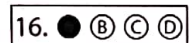
- 1. You will get additional ten minutes to fill up information about yourself on the OMR Sheet, before the start of the exam.
2. Write your Name, School Code, Class, Section, Roll No. and Mobile Number clearly on the OMR Sheet and do not forget to sign it.
3. In the school code column in the OMR Sheet, please fill in code allocated to your school and not the exam center code.
4. The Question Paper comprises three sections: Word and Structure Knowledge, Reading & Achievers Section.
5. All questions are compulsory. There is no negative marking. Use of smart phone is not permitted.
6. There is only ONE correct answer. Choose only ONE option for an answer.
7. To mark your choice of answers by darkening the circles on the OMR Sheet, use HB Pencil or Blue / Black ball point pen only. E.g.

Q.16 : Fill in the blanks.

Please teach my dog ____ a ball.

- A. to fetch B. learn C. show D. to learn

As the correct answer is option A, you must darken the circle corresponding to option A on the OMR Sheet.



- 8. Please fill in your personal details in the space provided on this page before attempting the paper.
9. RETURN THE OMR SHEET AND QUESTION PAPER TO THE INVIGILATOR AT THE END OF THE EXAM.



Name:.....
Section:..... SOF Olympiad Roll No.:..... Contact No.:.....

WORD AND STRUCTURE KNOWLEDGE

FOR QUESTIONS 1 TO 28, CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION TO COMPLETE EACH SENTENCE.

1. He always tries to _____ the information as accurately as he can but sometimes things get missed out.
A. advise
B. relate
C. recommend
D. warn

2. Until yesterday it hadn't rained in this area for _____ a week or so.
A. around
B. sometime
C. approximate
D. just

3. There are several things you _____ do if you want to become head girl next year.
A. haven't
B. couldn't
C. oughtn't
D. didn't

4. The biggest mistake many people make is not to take _____ break when they need one so they get very tired and can easily pick up _____ injuries.
A. a, the
B. no article, a
C. the, the
D. a, no article

5. The concert last night _____ until someone's phone in the audience started to ring.
A. have recorded
B. to have been recorded
C. was being recorded
D. that is recorded

6. The character in the film was _____ a test when all the alarms started to go off in the hall.
A. to take
B. taking
C. taken
D. took

7. It is important that nobody _____ on the grass at the front of the school because it has been replanted recently.
A. walks
B. to walk
C. walked
D. is walking

8. There is unlikely to be another chance to see the show _____ if we travel to another town.
A. that
B. unless
C. whether
D. even

9. The easiest way to decide what to do _____ a coin and let chance decide for you.
A. is toss
B. is to toss
C. has tossed
D. has been tossing

10. I found that the fastest way to improve my game was to make errors and then go through again _____ my strategy.
A. have changed
B. changes
C. changing
D. to be changing

11. The way the news readers talk about some things leads me _____ that they really don't know what's going on.
A. to think
B. thinking
C. had thought
D. be thought

12. I needed to get my project finished over the weekend _____ there was no way I could have gone on the trip the following week.
- A. so that
B. or else
C. in order
D. before
-
13. I need to see my teacher before the end of the day so I called _____ the staff room before leaving to see if I could find her.
- A. out
B. over there
C. in on
D. for
-
14. I am not sure if he was _____ of winning the title last year because he only came out on top because his rival was injured.
- A. contrived
B. happy
C. satiated
D. worthy
-
15. Our new coach seems to be a traditionalist and I think most of his ideas are _____ so may not help us at all.
- A. obsolete
B. reformed
C. embedded
D. serious
-
16. The road was very narrow, so the driver had to back all the way back _____ the way he had come until he could turn around.
- A. up
B. off
C. in
D. by
-
17. If they are not careful, they might wipe the entire population of monkeys _____ by the end of the decade or sooner.
- A. out
B. in
C. up
D. away
-
18. Having just been to the hall where we _____ our last set of exam, I felt very underwhelmed by how old and tired the place looked.
- A. covered
B. chose
C. sat
D. used
-
19. I plan to get round to _____ my homework before the end of the weekend but I have so many other things to do.
- A. have done
B. do
C. be done
D. doing
-
20. Massive trucks, or road trains, are not as common throughout the world _____ they are in the inland areas of Australia.
- A. as
B. which
C. but
D. and
-
21. I feel like I am stuck in a _____ because no matter how hard I train I never seem to get much better.
- A. bog
B. rut
C. swamp
D. place
-
22. The joy of winning was only _____ because afterwards I felt absolutely shattered like I needed to rest for a month.
- A. transient
B. ebullient
C. enduring
D. fearsome
-
23. My classmates seem to have lost their _____ to be the best class in school and unfortunately it will take a whole class effort.
- A. crown
B. gloss
C. zeal
D. grip

24. He would never take a _____ position when it comes to how a batting lineup should look because he has such strong view on the topic.

- A. conciliatory
 - B. ambulatory
 - C. classificatory
 - D. valedictory
-

25. The impressive new _____ at the school took three years to build, so we have had to go in the back entrance for all that time.

- A. catacomb
 - B. cellar
 - C. foyer
 - D. gable
-

26. I can see that a lot of the class is _____ but that's because they are all generally an easily _____ bunch anyway.

- A. excitable, excitable
 - B. excited, excitable
 - C. excited, excited
 - D. excitable, excited
-

27. Due to the weather many people stayed away until now but thankfully, nowadays, the teashop _____ so busy before.

- A. was often to be
 - B. has never been
 - C. is always being
 - D. had sometimes been
-

28. My uncle never has time to hang about with us anymore because he is always working and that takes him _____ the road a lot.

- A. out on
 - B. over by
 - C. about in
 - D. up around
-

FOR QUESTIONS 29 TO 32, CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANTONYM OF THE GIVEN WORD.

29. Spurious

- A. Genuine

- B. Effervescent
 - C. Reinterpreted
 - D. Revolved
-

30. Berate

- A. Enthuse
 - B. Remind
 - C. Revile
 - D. Abolish
-

31. Clench

- A. Grit
 - B. Ease
 - C. Compress
 - D. Desiccate
-

32. Hallowed

- A. Anointed
 - B. Sorted
 - C. Enshrined
 - D. Desecrated
-

FOR QUESTIONS 33 TO 35, CHOOSE THE CORRECT SYNONYM OF THE GIVEN WORD.

33. Altruistic

- A. Imprudent
 - B. Vain
 - C. Stoic
 - D. Humane
-

34. Flurry

- A. Spool
 - B. Bout
 - C. Connection
 - D. Trowel
-

35. Maxim

- A. Adage
- B. Poem
- C. Sonnet
- D. Play

READING

FOR QUESTIONS 36 TO 40, READ THE PASSAGE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW.

(1) The television was invented in 1927 by Philo T. Farnsworth. The technology used was very similar to that used by a cathode ray tube and so is perhaps why Americans call it the tube so often. By early in the 60s many people had televisions in their homes in the UK but there really wasn't much to watch. There was a single free channel that played from 6 am to half past midnight and at the end of the evening the TV stations played the British National anthem. The average screen size was 12 inches, and everything was in black and white.

(2) The amounts people watch, the number of stations, and the quantity of material made for TV is absolutely staggering in comparison these days. Along with the way in which it is transmitted and the devices that can be used to watch it on. In the UK alone, approximately 27,000 hours of shows are made per year that are watched by 28 million homes. There are on average 2-3 TVs in each home in the UK and although the average viewing time is reducing it is estimated at 27 hours per week per household is watched by viewers in the UK.

(3) If I had told my grandmother that in my life, we would be able to watch the news on watches I know she would not believe me but that's how pervasive TV media has become in last two decades. The rapid development in the entertainment business has been **bolstered** with money from advertising and nowadays watching anything will mean sitting through streams of advertising. There is an unbelievable amount of money spent on advertising and although rapidly decreasing because of the shift to digital media there was still nearly

200 billion dollars spent in 2018 on TV ads.

(4) There are a lot of educational programmes produced and there have been many great advances in how TV is used to teach and to allow learner to learn for themselves. You can see programmes from almost every culture around the world and there has been series after series of superb documentary material produced that has shown us the natural world. As a medium for learning and understanding the environment and cultures around us the TV has done more than any other resource to guide and inform the last couple of generations.

36. Choose the best title or heading for the passage.
- A. Watchers Beware
 - B. Watch Out for Bumps
 - C. Watching Less
 - D. Watch When you Can
-
37. What is/are the main benefit(s) TV offers viewers?
- A. Environmental awareness
 - B. Education
 - C. Cultural understanding
 - D. All of these
-
38. The way programmes are watched _____.
- A. means there are fewer TV programmes made
 - B. is not different to the way it was two generations ago
 - C. is not ruined by the amount of advertising
 - D. has changed hugely over the past twenty years
-
39. Which paragraph explains some statistics about TV?
- A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4

40. What does the word 'bolstered' mean in the third paragraph?
- A. Augmented
 - B. Reduced
 - C. Relativised
 - D. Sanctioned

FOR QUESTIONS 41 TO 45, READ THE PASSAGE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW.

(1) Are we taught in the same way our parents were? In most cases the answer is probably not. How do educational changes happen? Why do they happen? and who makes them happen? are all fascinating questions. The simple answer is that educational systems were developed by and within the society that was being educated and for the purpose of fostering a better or more successful 'next generation'. However, now that we are living in a time where globalisation is a reality, it is important to look at these questions again.

(2) Over history there have been few developments that have risen on a global scale instantaneously. Standardisation of basic skills has been tracked and mapped by the OECD for decades now so that benchmarks in a few core subjects can be monitored in a comparative way across the world. The way in which these targets or benchmarks are met however, still differs greatly from country to country and sometimes from one educational board to another.

(3) The psychology of learning is topic that has had a **pervasive** influence over all new education initiatives with the key battle ground for this is generally being played out between rote learning vs critical analysis. It is important to understand that not everyone learns at the same rate or in the same ways. While we have in many fields understood

that the key to post modernism is the respect of individual difference it doesn't seem to have filtered through to educational systems or thinking yet, but the topic is certainly gaining ground.

(4) One problem with some education systems is that they tend to produce under knowledgeable and over opinionated people. Unfortunately, this often is down to the fact they have virtually no underlying knowledge of the topic and have not gained the critical skills necessary to actually get their point across without being irrelevant. This is a shameful outcome of many educational systems. Despite this sad fact, education is getting better and people seem to know more. This is what the OECD statistics would have us believe at least.

41. Choose the best title or heading for the passage.
- A. Education of Change
 - B. Education for Everyone
 - C. Educating the Educated
 - D. Educating Nobody
42. How has education developed recently?
- A. Better and deeper learning
 - B. Technology in the classroom
 - C. Universal testing
 - D. A broader range of topics
43. Education these days is viewed _____.
- A. as similar to what it was 50 years ago
 - B. by developers year to year
 - C. as being worse than previous generations
 - D. on a global scale
44. Which paragraph discussed the differences between ideas of attainment?
- A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4

45. What does the word 'pervasive' mean in the third paragraph?

A. Intercontinental

B. Irrelevant

C. Inescapable

D. Illusory

ACHIEVERS SECTION

FOR QUESTIONS 46 TO 48, CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION TO COMPLETE EACH SENTENCE.

46. I always try to break everything I have learnt over the course of the semester _____ into small yet memorable chunks.

A. around

B. down

C. over

D. through

47. Interestingly, it seems as though there will be no need for us to play the last match because we have a/an _____ lead.

A. dysfunctional

B. undefined

C. intractable

D. unremarkable

48. I think I would _____ stay in any place but this one, so let's see if we can move to

a different campsite before the end of the day.

A. prefer

B. rather

C. better

D. consider

49. CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANTONYM OF THE GIVEN WORD.

Vestigial

A. Obvious

B. Convoluted

C. Malevolent

D. Belittling

50. CHOOSE THE CORRECT SYNONYM OF THE GIVEN WORD.

Anodyne

A. Sedative

B. Reliable

C. Contemptible

D. Suitable





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