WEST AFRICAN SENIOR SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 1 — OBJECTIVE TEST

2019

SECTION 1

In each of the following sentences, there is a word underlined and one gap. From the list of words lettered A to D, choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the underlined word and that will, at the same time, correctly fill the gap in the sentence.

1. The once **audible** ticks of the clock have suddenly become _____.

A. Regular
B. Invisible
C. Muted
D. Sluggish

2. It is inspiring how the actor rose from **obscurity** into _____.

A. Opulence
B. Prominence
C. Brightness
D. Royalty

3. The Supreme Court **ratified** the result it had earlier _____.

A. Despised
B. Suppressed
C. Discarded
D. Annulled

4. Far from being **provocative**, Akoto's remark was seen as rather _____.

A. Conciliatory
B. Reasonable
C. Mild
D. Appropriate

5. Joan prefers **roomy** cars to _____ ones.

A. Compressed
B. Heavy
C. Sizeable
D. Compact

6. The reception accorded the travellers was neither **cordial** nor _____.

A. Negative
B. Cold
C. Impolite
D. Improper

7. It is difficult to explain why crimes which were **rare** in the past are now _____.

A. Current
B. Conspicuous
C. Visible
D. Rife

8. The once **jovial** Mohammed has become too _____ for my liking.

A. Conceited
B. Moody
C. Cautious
D. Submissive

9. Some people we meet in life are **pleasant** while some others are _____.

A. Wrong
B. Indifferent
C. Disagreeable

D. Indolent

10. It is more difficult to **scale** the hill than to _____ it.

A. Descend
B. Dismount
C. Surmount
D. Disembark

SECTION II

From the words lettered A to D, choose the ones that best complete each of the following sentences.

11. There was no evidence to _____ his guilt.

A. Settle
B. Build
C. Manage
D. Establish

12. The offending drivers were pardoned because they gave _____ excuse.

A. a plausible
B. a strong
C. a perceived
D. an obvious

13. If Richard had taken advice, he wouldn't have _____ the disease.

A. Contacted
B. Contracted
C. Accepted
D. Suffered

14. I suggest that we seek _____ medical advice in this case.

A. Academic
B. Professional
C. Educated
D. Trained

15. The suspect has been on the _____ for several months.

A. Fence
B. Edge
C. Go
D. Run

16. Abena was commended for playing a unique _____ in the success of the team.

A. Side
B. Role
C. Support
D. Rapport

17. The students were advised to _____ their assignments before submission.

A. Search
B. Confirm
C. Review
D. Judge

18. Several months _____ before applications were invited.

A. Past
B. Rolled
C. Went
D. Elapsed

19. Moro's latest novel has _____ his reputation as a writer.

A. Heightened
B. Boosted
C. Sharpened
D. Soared

20. The Minister denied all the allegations _____ against him.

A. Charged
B. Pushed
C. Levelled
D. Preferred

SECTION III

Choose from the alternatives lettered A to D the one which is nearest in meaning to the underlined word or expression in each sentence.

21. You will be considered **astute** if you do not indulge in frivolous pursuits.

A. Considerate
B. Cautious
C. Wise
D. Reasonable

22. There is an almost **endless** supply of knowledge on the internet.

A. Limitless
B. Unchecked
C. Matchless
D. Unbroken

23. Jamie gave us his **unreserved** apologies.

A. Serious
B. Humble
C. Right
D. Sincere

24. Getting stranded in a new environment can be **traumatic**.

A. Upsetting
B. Risky
C. Embarrassing
D. Troublesome

25. The officer was promoted because of the **outstanding** qualities he displayed.

A. Fundamental
B. Excellent
C. Correct
D. Famous

26. Some people derive **exquisite** delight in antiquities.

A. Pleasurable
B. Intense
C. Genuine
D. Satisfactory

27. Her kind gesture is a sterling example worthy of **emulation**.

A. Commendation
B. Consideration
C. Association
D. Imitation

28. Some experiences in life teach us to exhibit **appropriate** behaviour at all times.

A. Attractive
B. Exciting
C. Inspiring
D. Suitable

29. The leader advised his followers not to **gauge** success by wealth.

A. Consider
B. Measure
C. Test
D. Imagine

30. This approach may be **sound** for certain types of situation.

A. Workable
B. Rewarding
C. Robust
D. Solid

SECTION IV

After each of the following sentences, a list of possible interpretations of all or part of the sentence is given. Choose the interpretation you consider most appropriate for each sentence.

31. As we approached our destination, I grinned from ear to ear. This means that I

A. Heard desirable news
B. Became deeply impressed
C. Was extremely happy
D. Began to have sweet memories

32. The matter is already water under the bridge. This means that it

A. Is partially suspended
B. Cannot be accepted any longer
C. Cannot be changed
D. Is hardly talked about

33. The incident cast a shadow over the rest of the holiday. This means that it

A. Failed to produce any excitement
B. Stopped the enjoyment
C. Caused a measure of concern
D. Gave respite to our activities

34. Many successes were recorded in the twilight of the chief's reign. This means that they occurred

A. All along his reign
B. At the beginning of his reign
C. During the final stages of his reign
D. In the middle of his reign

35. Retail traders made a pile from the business during the festive period. This means that they

A. Charged higher prices
B. Displayed a lot of goods
C. Joined in the festivities
D. Made huge profits

36. A week to her wedding, Martha got cold feet. This means that she

A. Faced a lot of difficulties
B. Became frightened of failure
C. Ran out of money
D. Became very ill

37. The survivors did not lose heart although their rescue was delayed. This means that they

A. Refused to give in to threats
B. Managed to sustain their lives
C. Did not despair
D. Did not experience any loss

38. Moro realized too late that his close associates were fair-weather friends. This means that they were

A. Very considerate
B. Friends only in good times
C. Reliable friends
D. Hard to please

39. The manager was taken to task for his role in the matter. This means that the manager was

A. Condemned
B. Demoted
C. Dismissed
D. Criticized

40. His argument flies in the face of available facts. This means that his argument

A. Is worrying
B. Is uncertain
C. Lacks reason
D. Causes despair

SECTION V

In the following passage, the numbered gaps indicate missing words. Against each number in the list below the passage, four choices are offered in columns lettered A to D. For each numbered gap, choose from the options provided for that number the word that is most suitable to fill the gap.

Scientific inventions rarely come to us without their attendant risks. One such invention is electricity which is put to a wide variety of uses. Electricity can be produced in many ways. Before hydroelectricity, for example, can be produced, a —41— has to be built across a fast-flowing river. An artificial —42— is then formed and its water channelled through —43— specially designed and built to —44— electricity. Electricity is used to power a vast array of electronic —45— in homes and for reading at night. It is when there is power —46— that the value of electricity is really felt. Electrical —47— are not stable; sometimes there are fluctuations and this can damage appliances. Amounts of electrical power are measured in —48— and flow through wires which are —49—. This is done to prevent shocks and —50—. Faulty wiring can cause fire outbreaks. Indeed, the benefits and risks associated with electricity make it a good servant but a bad master.

41.

A. Tunnel
B. Barrier
C. Dam
D. Bridge

42.

A. Lake
B. Lagoon
C. Reservoir
D. Pond

43.

A. Engines
B. Dynamos
C. Machines
D. Propellers

44.

A. Manufacture
B. Make
C. Create
D. Generate

45.

A. Tools
B. Materials
C. Gadgets
D. Instruments

46.

A. Outage
B. Stoppage
C. Shortage
D. Halt

47.

A. Waves
B. Currents
C. Charges
D. Surges

48.

A. Degrees
B. Hertz
C. Ohms
D. Watts

49.

A. Insulated
B. Padded
C. Stuffed
D. Covered

50.

A. Execution
B. Electrification
C. Electrocution
D. Extermination