

To complete each item, choose the best word or phrase from among the choices.

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- (1) The airline decided to ( ) its new route to the Far East with a special reduced fare offer.  
A. vacillate  
B. plagiarize  
C. disabuse  
D. inaugurate  
E. sham
- (2) He tried to ( ) matters at home by getting a part-time job.  
A. expiate  
B. facilitate  
C. ebb  
D. sham  
E. daunt
- (3) I want to ( ) my error before it is too late.  
A. haggle  
B. coagulate  
C. rectify  
D. jest  
E. gouge
- (4) If you try to ( ) my character, you will face a slander suit.  
A. babble  
B. placate  
C. defame  
D. bode  
E. waver
- (5) The reviewers praised the new restaurant's ( ) selection of dishes, which ranged from Oriental stir fries to French ragouts and stews.  
A. eclectic  
B. arable  
C. wan  
D. zany  
E. ashen
- (6) His frequent use of clichés made his essay seem ( ).  
A. fabricated  
B. banal  
C. coy  
D. avid  
E. zany
- (7) Her teacher's praise ( ) a spark of hope inside her.  
A. kindled  
B. slackened  
C. vexed  
D. gaped  
E. espied
- (8) The doctor called her patient a ( ) because he had borne the pain of the examination without whimpering.  
A. cabal  
B. liability  
C. stoic  
D. cant  
E. smirk
- (9) He overlooked many weaknesses when he inspected the factory in his ( ) manner.  
A. bacchanalian  
B. diabolical  
C. perfunctory  
D. dire  
E. passé
- (10) To him, hunger was an ( ) concept; he had never missed a meal.  
A. rabid  
B. crabbed  
C. abstract  
D. taut  
E. pithy
- (11) The crickets kept up an ( ) chirping that disturbed our attempts to fall asleep.  
A. lachrymose  
B. incessant  
C. potable  
D. spry  
E. aloft
- (12) Many of the characters portrayed by Clint Eastwood are ( ) types: strong men of few words.  
A. laconic  
B. anachronistic  
C. affable  
D. vile  
E. eerie

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- (13) Your composition is (            ); you can easily reduce its length.  
A. taciturn  
B. emaciated  
C. sebaceous  
D. wan  
E. redundant
- (14) In (            ) to his desires, the employers granted him a holiday.  
A. labyrinth  
B. elaboration  
C. hue  
D. deference  
E. aegis
- (15) Nothing depressed her for long; she was so naturally (            ) that she was soon as high-spirited as ever.  
A. factual  
B. inaccessible  
C. effervescent  
D. pied  
E. buxom
- (16) His coarse, hard-bitten exterior (            ) his inner sensitivity.  
A. badgered  
B. shackled  
C. aped  
D. reeked  
E. belied
- (17) Your reasoning must be (            ) because it leads to a ridiculous answer.  
A. Machiavellian  
B. flaccid  
C. fallacious  
D. wary  
E. adept
- (18) We lived, not in central London, but in one of those (            ) suburbs that spring up on the outskirts of a great city.  
A. tacit  
B. glacial  
C. macabre  
D. peripheral  
E. vital
- (19) She read (            ) works in philosophy.  
A. saccharine  
B. staccato  
C. equable  
D. abstruse  
E. giddy
- (20) Disapproving of drugs in general, Laura refused to take sleeping pills or any other medicine that might (            ) her.  
A. rail  
B. quail  
C. broach  
D. stupefy  
E. mete
- (21) Tell what happened simply, without any (            ).  
A. cache  
B. elaboration  
C. cue  
D. din  
E. cleft
- (22) Crushed by his authoritarian father, Will had no defiance left in him; he was totally (            ) in the face of authority.  
A. hackneyed  
B. submissive  
C. capacious  
D. dour  
E. mangy
- (23) The scholarship covered his major expenses at college and some of his (            ) expenses as well.  
A. lackluster  
B. gracious  
C. audacious  
D. incidental  
E. jaded
- (24) The NBC sportscasters (            ) every American victory in the Olympics and decried every American defeat.  
A. baffled  
B. acclaimed  
C. manacled  
D. mused  
E. doused

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- (25) The defense called several respectable witnesses who were able to ( ) the false testimony of the prosecution's only witness.  
A. garner  
B. slake  
C. refute  
D. raze  
E. posit
- (26) He is a powerful storyteller, but he is weakest when he attempts to ( ) character.  
A. delineate  
B. fray  
C. harass  
D. loiter  
E. foster
- (27) Even advocates of the war ( ) the loss of so many lives in combat.  
A. baited  
B. lamented  
C. retained  
D. touted  
E. honed
- (28) The leader of the group was held responsible even though he could not control the ( ) of his followers.  
A. machinations  
B. tract  
C. din  
D. yen  
E. fanaticism
- (29) His ( ) nature prevented him from refusing any beggar who accosted him.  
A. lackadaisical  
B. placid  
C. benevolent  
D. gory  
E. s pry
- (30) I fail to understand why such an innocent remark should create such ( ).  
A. pachyderm  
B. reactionary  
C. perturbation  
D. lull  
E. peon
- (31) Grinning from ear to ear, Janet Evans was clearly ( ) by her Olympic victory.  
A. sacrilegious  
B. tractable  
C. elated  
D. coy  
E. regal
- (32) The ( ) of his remarks was unnoticed by most of his audience.  
A. cacophony  
B. diadem  
C. subtlety  
D. wrath  
E. taper
- (33) His ( ) remarks made us see the fallacy in our plans.  
A. incisive  
B. precarious  
C. sanguinary  
D. dank  
E. amiss
- (34) In Hollywood, an "Oscar" is the highest ( ).  
A. vacillation  
B. ejaculation  
C. oaf  
D. accolade  
E. fluke
- (35) If we ( ) these experienced people to positions of unimportance because of their political persuasions, we shall lose the services of valuably trained personnel.  
A. validate  
B. sham  
C. attain  
D. relegate  
E. tarry
- (36) In stories, lovelorn damsels used to ( ) and pine away.  
A. waive  
B. coalesce  
C. arraign  
D. languish  
E. veer

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- (37) The old man was well liked because of his ( ) attitude toward friend and stranger alike.
- A. laconic
  - B. alacrity
  - C. rapacious
  - D. benign
  - E. pert
- (38) The reform candidate ( ) the corrupt city officers for having betrayed the public's trust.
- A. cajoled
  - B. denounced
  - C. ordained
  - D. goaded
  - E. flayed
- (39) The ( ) odor of mothballs clung to the clothes and did not fade away until they had been thoroughly aired.
- A. tactless
  - B. exacting
  - C. tentative
  - D. pert
  - E. pervasive
- (40) The waitresses disliked serving him dinner because of his very ( ) taste.
- A. fastidious
  - B. practicable
  - C. salutary
  - D. liberal
  - E. adept