Part I: Incomplete Sentences

1. The popularity of portable CD players has waned ______ the arrival of the iPod.
   (A) for (B) by (C) with (D) as

2. The new software allows us to download music on a ______ system.
   (A) share (B) sharing (C) shared (D) shares

3. Their performance in the marketing arena is more than ______, especially with regard to maximizing consumer interest.
   (A) required (B) ever (C) adequate (D) expectation

4. In ______ of relinquishing the wireless market, Kyrotec Mobile still remains a leader in the telecommunications industry.
   (A) case (B) light (C) consideration (D) spite

5. Online auctions have become an ________ to regular shopping, with more people than ever before using the web to purchase products.
   (A) anticipate (B) alternative (C) expectation (D) invest

6. This school admits more professionals with general backgrounds than with ______ ones.
   (A) concrete (B) specialized (C) developed (D) personal

7. Something as simple as recycling office waste paper is an effective ______ of protecting the environment.
   (A) vehicle (B) agency (C) manners (D) means

8. This system is a ______ of the clever combination of simple mathematics with complex electronics.
   (A) product (B) program (C) performance (D) project

9. The Feather light ______ the latest in digital photo technology. If you are a digital photography enthusiast, it is for you.
   (A) requests (B) responds (C) represents (D) retails

10. Using the computer to ______ unwanted or objectionable messages or to disturb other users may result in disciplinary action.
    (A) contribute (B) distribute (C) attribute (D) retrieve

11. One industry that has been ______ by computers is the motion picture industry. Computers have forever changed the way movies are made.
    (A) promoted (B) created (C) revolutionized (D) upgraded

12. Intel Corp. has combined several top positions as part of restructuring designed to ______ the company’s management structure.
    (A) ramify (B) simplify (C) indemnify (D) intensify

13. Local government may require individuals to limit the carbon dioxide they produce to ________ global warming.
    (A) decorate (B) inflame (C) combat (D) resume

14. Scientists want to improve communications around the world by using robotic airship ______ a substitute to telecom towers.
    (A) as (B) with (C) on (D) to

15. The NDC documentary “The Age of All-Mart” ______ larger audiences than any other business program on the network that week.
    (A) reacted (B) embarked (C) attracted (D) assented

16. Microsoft, which is gearing up to release new versions of its two most important products, is ready itself
for a slowdown with its _______. (A) rival  (B) ally  (C) partner  (D) enemy

17. The Federal Reserve chairman _______ on Monday that the campaign of raising interest rates may be coming to an end.
   (A) lulled  (B) signaled  (C) stifled  (D) toiled

18. The high speed rail is a joint _______ between Taiwanese and Japanese companies.
   (A) union  (B) corporation  (C) venture  (D) division

19. Please detail the correct _______ for installing this software so that I will know how to do it properly.
   (A) position  (B) procedure  (C) performance  (D) proceeding

20. New innovations in research and development have _______ from traditional approaches to designing the product.
   (A) departure  (B) departed  (C) departing  (D) depart

21. As a matter of fact, China’s recent currency changes _______ a much more unstable world economy.
   (A) led to  (B) resulted from  (C) due to  (D) stopped from

22. _______ prejudice being influenced by social and cultural factors, there is evidence that it is also taught.
   (A) In addition to  (B) Inclusive of  (C) In case of  (D) in terms of

23. There has been strong competition, _______ the company had made great profits.
   (A) Instead  (B) Then  (C) Although  (D) Nevertheless

24. It is the policy of the company to maintain a work environment free of gender discrimination, _______ equal employment.
   (A) it impedes  (B) impedes  (C) which impeding  (D) which impedes

25. Increases in the cost of raw materials — _______ 50% so far this year — will inevitably lead to price increases for our customers.
   (A) up  (B) equal  (C) beyond  (D) top

Part II : Text Completion

Quite a few customers use their credit cards to purchase _______ and services that they are not really able to _______. As a result, they have difficulty _______ up with their monthly payments. They have to pay high interest _______ the unpaid balance each month, and they _______ deeper and deeper _______ debt.

For that reason, financial advisors suggest that consumers not _______ too many credit cards. They also advise consumers to try to pay the _______ amount of their credit card bills each month.

26. (A) balance  (B) catalogs  (C) advances  (D) merchandise
27. (A) charge  (B) afford  (C) apply  (D) require
28. (A) kept  (B) keep  (C) keeping  (D) to keep
29. (A) with  (B) by  (C) in  (D) on
30. (A) do  (B) turn  (C) become  (D) go
31. (A) for  (B) into  (C) on  (D) with
32. (A) had  (B) to have  (C) have  (D) having
33. (A) minimum  (B) great  (C) part  (D) full

Part III : Reading Comprehension

This summer’s attack of computer viruses has reached epidemic proportions. Since early August, the world’s computer systems have been invaded by hundreds of viruses. On Aug. 11, the Blast virus struck, hammering dozens of corporations, including Casa Air’s reservation and airport check-in systems. Ten days later, the TooBig virus took over, causing delays in freight traffic at rail giant SCK Corp., shutting down more than 3,000 computers belonging to the company. Worldwide, over fifteen percent of large companies and thirty percent of small companies and home users were affected by TooBig, according to anti-virus
corporations, which caused an estimated total of $2 billion in damages, making it one of the costliest viruses ever. This year alone viruses will likely cost companies almost $13 billion in damages.

34. What does the article say about the virus problem?
   (A) It has become very serious
   (B) It is under control
   (C) It is only affecting corporations
   (D) Virus prevention will cost $13 billion

35. What did viruses do to Casa Air?
   (A) Caused delays in shipping
   (B) Shut down 3,000 computers
   (C) Attacked its reservation system
   (D) Caused $2 billion in damages

36. How many home users were affected by a virus this summer?
   (A) Around 15 percent
   (B) Almost one third
   (C) Hundreds
   (D) At least 3,000

Alton-Lawrence, Inc. is one of the oldest Asian art dealers in America. Located at 126 Williams St. in Boston, Massachusetts, Alton-Lawrence specializes in a wide variety of Asian art and antiquities, primarily from China and Korea. Our gallery is open to the public, though advanced appointments are suggested due to our erratic travel schedule. Alton-Lawrence, Inc. was founded in the early 1960s by two Asian art enthusiasts, Russ Alton and Lisa Lawrence. Over the years, Alton-Lawrence has earned an international reputation as one of the leading names in the field of art collection.

37. Why does the ad suggest advanced appointments?
   (A) Russ Alton and Lisa Lawrence have an unpredictable traveling schedule.
   (B) Russ Alton and Lisa Lawrence are usually in Korea and China.
   (C) Security has become a recent concern for Russ Alton and Lisa Lawrence.
   (D) Russ Alton and Lisa Lawrence are usually booked throughout the year.

38. When was Alton-Lawrence, Inc. established?
   (A) Two years ago
   (B) In 1959
   (C) At the beginning of the 1960s
   (D) Toward the end of the 1960s

39. What does Alton-Lawrence specialize in?
   (A) Asian art
   (B) Travel through China and Korea
   (C) International trade
   (D) Tours of Asia

The Earth's population will be forced to leave home for two others planets within fifty years if natural resources continue to be used at the current rate a report stated this week. A study by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), to be released on Tuesday, warns that the human race is using up the planet at a pace that outstrips its capacity to support life. Taking a slap at Western society's high consumption levels, it adds that the extra planets (the equivalent size of Earth) will be required by the year 2050 as existing resources are exhausted. The report, based on scientific data from across the world, shows that more than a third of the natural world has been
destroyed by humans over the past three decades alone. Experts say that seas will become emptied of fish while forests, which absorb carbon dioxide, are on their way to becoming completely destroyed. Freshwater supplies are either scarce or polluted. The study also reveals a sharp fall in the planet’s ecosystems between 1970 and 2002 with the Earth’s forests shrinking by about 12 percent, the ocean’s biodiversity by a third, and freshwater ecosystems in the region of 55 percent.

40. What has happened over the last three decades?
(A) Air quality has improved.
(B) Two planets have been targeted that would support human life.
(C) Over a third of natural resources have been destroyed.
(D) Scientists have argued over the validity of environmental reports.

41. What group does the report specifically criticize?
(A) Consumers in developing countries
(B) Western consumers
(C) The World Wildlife Fund
(D) The Earth’s population

42. What does the report state will be required by 2050?
(A) Two more planets for humans to live on
(B) Stronger laws to protect fish
(C) More money for the WWF
(D) A ban on all deforestation

With the widespread uses of computers all over the world, there are many new terms popping out, which may leave “laymen” in perplexity. Since the Information Age has brought about a great revolution in communication and interaction between people, many of these new terms have something to do with the way we communicate with other people, or the way we make our lives within the reach of our cyber pals. For example, many people have posted their “blogs” on line; that is, they keep e-diaries on the Internet and make them accessible to Internet-surfers. The term is derived from the word “log,” which means the book that records in detail a ship’s voyage or an aircraft’s flight. Besides, if you “instant-messaging” your key pals, that means you virtually “talk” to them on line with the words you key in, while the message can be sent immediately to them and their messages in reply sent immediately back to you. In this way, you can join a small discussion group to “talk” simultaneously to several people and exchange the latest information.

Another new term “flash mob” refers to members of a crowd who may not be acquaintances in the real world, and yet who gather together under an organizer to perform a specific mission. An organizer of flash mobs may send text messages or e-mails to a large number of people, who in turn pass them on to their friends. At the appointed time and location, they get together to do something stunning, and then they disperse in all directions. For better or for worse, the terms mentioned above are here to stay; therefore, we may well get to know them and try to understand what they are all about.

43. What does the word “laymen” in the second line mean?
(A) Those without any religious belief.
(B) Those who seldom use computers.
(C) Those who know nothing about mass media.
(D) Those who often resort to computers as a means of communication.

44. The new terms mentioned in the passage above are related to 
(A) search engines (B) communication
45. If you need interactive communication and discussion with a couple of friends, you can resort to _____.
   (A) instant-messaging
   (B) keeping a blog online
   (C) joining flash mobs
   (D) becoming an organizer of flash mobs

46. For what purpose may people join flash mobs?
   (A) To shock onlookers.
   (B) To protest against the government.
   (C) To promote public morality and awareness.
   (D) To have a happy reunion with their old friends.

47. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage above?
   (A) A way of exposing your personal life online.
   (B) A group of people who gather together to do something.
   (C) A way of spreading computer viruses through the Internet.
   (D) A means of simultaneous communication.

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Islandnet Internet Services

Thank you for choosing Islandnet! The based rate for your monthly broadband Internet service is $38.00. This fee covers unlimited downloads and uploads during non-peak hours (00:00 through to 06:00) and the first one gigabyte of data transferred each month. There is no time limit to your monthly usage; your broadband connection is always active, and your usage is measured by how much data you transfer.

For most of you who use the Internet for occasional browsing and e-mail, one megabyte will be more than enough. Those who frequently download large media files, surf extensively or carry out large data transfers online may find that you use more than 50 megabytes per month.

You may view your current month's usage online at [www.my.islandnet.com]

48. Who would most likely receive this notice?
   (A) New subscribers
   (B) All clients
   (C) Visits to Islandnet's website
   (D) Clients who exceed 50 MB

49. Which would likely NOT cause you to exceed the basic usage amount?
   (A) Downloading media files
   (B) Conducting large data transfers
   (C) Leaving the computer on over night
   (D) Surfing the 'net all day long

50. How is peak hour usage measured?
   (A) By the number of minutes online
   (B) By the amount of data downloaded only
   (C) By the amount of hours over 50
   (D) By the amount of data transferred