MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1) Which group of the Germanic family is extinct?  
   A) Uber Germanic  
   B) West Germanic  
   C) East Germanic  
   D) North Germanic  
   E) South Germanic

2) English is the most important language in North America primarily because of  
   A) the diffusion of English colonies.  
   B) the global dominance of the United States.  
   C) prohibitions against foreign languages.  
   D) the Norman conquest.  
   E) official government policy.

3) The main difference between languages in the same family, branch, or group is how  
   A) recently in time the languages were once the same.  
   B) similar the cultures of the speakers of each language are.  
   C) closely the speakers of each language live to each other.  
   D) all of the above

4) The Icelandic language has changed less than any other Germanic language because of  
   A) Iceland’s relative isolation from other places.  
   B) migration by German tribes.  
   C) Iceland’s close contact with other people and activities.  
   D) the extinction of the East Germanic group.  
   E) continuous exchange with Norway and Sweden.

5) Which of the following is not a Romance language?  
   A) Italian  
   B) French  
   C) Bulgarian  
   D) Portuguese  
   E) Romanian

6) A literary tradition is  
   A) a form of a language used for official government business.  
   B) a form of a language spoken in a particular area.  
   C) a collection of languages related to each other.  
   D) the variety of dialects in a language.  
   E) the written form of a language.

7) Franglais is  
   A) the standard language of French.  
   B) a language used by French colonial administrations.  
   C) the lingua franca of France.  
   D) the use of English in the French language.  
   E) a dialect of French.
8) Which statement best describes the use of English on the Internet?  
A) Different Internets exist for most other widely spoken languages, like Chinese, Japanese, and Russian.  
B) English has become less dominant but is still the leading Internet language.  
C) English has become more dominant as the most common language on the Internet.  
D) The number of English-speaking Internet users continues to be above 50%.

9) When people who speak a given language migrate to a different location and become isolated from other members of their group  
A) isolation usually results in the differentiation of one language into two.  
B) they immediately develop a literary tradition.  
C) they lose their linguistic abilities.  
D) their language usually shows very little change even over a long period of time.  
E) groups form multiple dialects.

10) According to Colin Renfrew’s Anatolian hearth theory, Indo-European languages diffused across Europe  
A) entirely by sea.  
B) by way of the Kurgan homeland.  
C) with the diffusion of agriculture.  
D) following the silk road.  
E) by warriors on horseback.

11) Immigrants to which American colonies had the most diverse backgrounds?  
A) New England  
B) Middle Atlantic  
C) Southeast  
D) Northern  
E) French Canadian

12) A pidgin language  
A) has no native speakers.  
B) stems from folk culture.  
C) is spread by popular culture.  
D) all of the above  
E) none of the above

13) Official languages in Switzerland include all but which of the following?  
A) Romansh  
B) Flemish  
C) French  
D) German  
E) Italian

14) Celtic languages  
A) were threatened by extinction in England.  
B) are still spoken by people in France.  
C) have an extensive body of literature.  
D) have been revived in some parts of the British Isles.  
E) all of the above

15) Dialects developed within England primarily because  
A) the Viking invaders did not remain long in England.  
B) British Received Pronunciation became the standard dialect.  
C) commerce developed more slowly in England than on the European continent.  
D) the Normans invaded from the south.
E) different Germanic invaders settled in different regions.

16) The Flemings and Walloons live in what country?
   A) France
   B) Liechtenstein
   C) Switzerland
   D) Belgium
   E) South Africa

17) When languages are depicted as leaves on trees, the trunks of the trees represent
   A) possible prehistoric superfamilies.
   B) language families.
   C) language groups.
   D) dialects.
   E) language sects.

18) Chinese is written in the form of
   A) Cantonese.
   B) a literary tradition.
   C) an alphabet.
   D) ideograms.
   E) phonemes.

19) Hebrew is an example of
   A) a revived language.
   B) an isolated language.
   C) an extinct language.
   D) an Altaic language.
   E) a language family.

20) The second most widely spoken language family in Europe is
   A) Indo-European.
   B) Balto-Slavic.
   C) Uralic.
   D) Romance.
   E) Celtic.

21) A group of languages that share a common origin but have since evolved into individual
    languages is a
    A) language branch.
    B) language group.
    C) dialect.
    D) language root.
    E) language family.

22) Every European country is dominated by Indo-European speakers except
    A) Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.
    B) Denmark, Sweden, and Norway.
    C) Finland, Hungary, and Estonia.
    D) Spain, Italy, and Portugal.

23) English is part of which language family?
    A) West Germanic
    B) North Germanic
C) Romance
D) Indo-European
E) Germanic

24) The geographic study of the distribution of languages provides a good example of
   A) political conflicts that arise due to ethnic tensions.
   B) the role and spread of religion across much of the world.
   C) the interplay between globalization and local diversity.
   D) the diffusion of folk culture in different areas of the world.

25) When languages are depicted as leaves on trees, the roots of the trees below the surface
represent
   A) language sects.
   B) language groups.
   C) possible prehistoric superfamilies.
   D) language families.
   E) dialects.

26) An Indo-European language is spoken in which of these European countries?
   A) Finland
   B) Hungary
   C) Bulgaria
   D) Estonia
   E) all of the above

27) Germanic invaders of England included which tribe?
   A) Saxons
   B) Angles
   C) Jutes
   D) Normans
   E) A, B, and C

28) The language spoken by soldiers stationed throughout the Roman Empire was known as
   A) Vulgar Latin.
   B) Catalan.
   C) a Romance language.
   D) a standard language.
   E) a dialect of Latin.

29) Russian is part of what language branch?
   A) Altaic
   B) Indo-Iranian
   C) Romance
   D) Germanic
   E) Balto-Slavic

30) Basque is a good example of a(n)
   A) language group.
   B) isolated language.
   C) lingua franca.
   D) language family.

31) A lingua franca is
   A) an extinct language that has been revived.
B) a language used by French colonial administrations.
C) a language that is mutually understood by people who have different native languages.
D) an official language in a region of the world different from where the language originated.
E) an English word that has entered the French language.

32) ______ is to Canada as ______ is to the United States.
   A) Conflict over ethnicity; conflict over language
   B) Presidential government; parliamentary government
   C) French; Spanish
   D) Northern hemisphere; southern hemisphere

33) Both the Angles and the Normans contributed to the development of the English language, because they
   A) spoke Germanic languages.
   B) diffused English around the world.
   C) spoke languages derived from Latin.
   D) agreed to divide England.
   E) invaded England.

34) The first speakers of the language that evolved into English were tribes that lived in present-day
   A) Denmark.
   B) United States.
   C) Switzerland.
   D) Italy.
   E) France.

35) Australia and New Zealand's language policies differ today in that Australia
   A) recognizes Maori as an official Aboriginal language whereas New Zealand does not.
   B) requires immigrants to take a dictation test whereas the New Zealand test is written.
   C) was settled by English colonists but the original colonial language of New Zealand was French.
   D) regards English as a way to promote cultural diversity while New Zealand gives greater support to other languages.

36) The four most frequently spoken branches of Indo-European include all but
   A) Balto-Slavic.
   B) Germanic
   C) Celtic.
   D) Indo-Iranian.
   E) Romance.

37) The Kurgans
   A) were a Germanic tribe that invaded England.
   B) were horse and cattle herders from the grassland steppes of present day Russia and Kazakhstan.
   C) were the earliest speakers of Sino-Caucasian.
   D) preserved Basque in present-day Spain.
   E) conquered much of East Asia several thousand years ago.

38) Basque is spoken primarily in
   A) Brittany.
   B) Barcelona, Spain.
39) The second-largest language family is
A) Sino-Tibetan.
B) Dravidian.
C) Austronesian.
D) Afro-Asiatic.
E) Indo-European.

40) The survival of any language relies on
A) rapid migration into other areas.
B) the political and military strength of its speakers.
C) the homogenization of its dialects.
D) the spread of its speakers' material culture.

41) English is part of which language group?
A) Germanic
B) Semitic
C) North Germanic
D) Indo-European
E) West Germanic

42) The large number of individual languages documented in Africa has resulted primarily from
A) frequent migration by the different tribal groups.
B) colonial administration of native lands.
C) repeated invasions by outsiders.
D) thousands of years of isolation between tribal groups.
E) introduction of many different languages by the colonial powers.

43) English has achieved unprecedented acceptance globally due to
A) the role of colonialism and imperialism.
B) the diffusion of religion from MDCs to LDCs.
C) the rise of popular culture and the decline of folk culture.
D) its role as the common language of a global economy and culture.

44) British and American English differ in all but which of the following?
A) spelling
B) pronunciation
C) prevalent dialects
D) vocabulary
E) alphabet

45) Urdu is the most important language of
A) Pakistan.
B) Bangladesh.
C) Sri Lanka.
D) India.
E) Iran.

46) The language family encompassing the languages of the People’s Republic of China is
A) Indo-Iranian.
B) Sino-Tibetan.
C) Indo-European.
D) Austro-Asiatic.
E) Mandarin.

47) The most widely spoken language in Brazil is
   A) Creole.
   B) Catalan.
   C) Portuguese.
   D) Spanish.
   E) French.

48) Marija Gimbutas' theory points to the first speakers of the Indo-European language as the ancient
   A) Germans.
   B) Kurgans.
   C) Russians.
   D) Celts.
   E) Dravidians.

49) The most important language family in Sub-Saharan Africa is
   A) Altaic.
   B) Nilo-Saharan.
   C) Niger-Congo.
   D) Afro-Asiatic.
   E) Khoisan.

50) A form of a language spoken in a local area is a
   A) language branch.
   B) dialect.
   C) language family.
   D) language root.
   E) language group.
1) C
2) A
3) A
4) A
5) C
6) E
7) D
8) B
9) A
10) C
11) B
12) A
13) B
14) E
15) E
16) D
17) B
18) D
19) A
20) C
21) A
22) C
23) D
24) C
25) C
26) C
27) E
28) A
29) E
30) B
31) C
32) C
33) E
34) A
35) D
36) C
37) B
38) C
39) A
40) B
41) E
42) D
43) D
44) E
45) A
46) B
47) C
48) B
49) C
50) B