

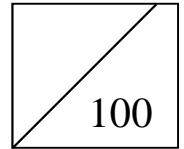
**Buddhist College of Singapore**  
**English Language Entrance Examinations (Sample)**  
English BA

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Candidate No: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Duration of paper : 2 hours

**Marks  
Obtained**



***Instructions :***

- *Answer and write all answers on this paper.*
- *Dictionary or handphone is NOT allowed.*

**Section A : Grammar (30 marks)**

**Choose the most suitable answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.**

1. Susan was at the party yesterday, \_\_\_\_\_ ?

- (1) was she
- (2) wasn't she
- (3) did she
- (4) didn't she

(     )

2. Ben and his brother \_\_\_\_\_ strong swimmers, are they?

- (1) are
- (2) were
- (3) aren't
- (4) weren't

(     )

3. The soup \_\_\_\_\_ been boiled yet.

- (1) has
- (2) hasn't
- (3) have
- (4) haven't

(     )

4. I \_\_\_\_\_ a thunderstorm last night.

- (1) hear
- (2) heard
- (3) was hearing
- (4) had heard

(     )

5. The man \_\_\_\_\_ in the accident at the construction site yesterday.

- (1) was injured
- (2) were injured
- (3) is injured
- (4) had injured (     )

6. Penny \_\_\_\_\_ with her sister after school everyday.

- (1) play
- (2) plays
- (3) is playing
- (4) has played (     )

7. The store \_\_\_\_\_ closed today. We have to come back tomorrow.

- (1) is
- (2) was
- (3) are
- (4) were (     )

8. “The security guard will not let me into the office because I \_\_\_\_\_ have a pass,” said Jim.

- (1) don't
- (2) doesn't
- (3) haven't
- (4) hadn't (     )

9. The title of this movie \_\_\_\_\_ unique. I can't wait to watch it.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were (     )

10. Do you know how much \_\_\_\_\_ the fine for returning a library book late?

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were (     )

11. Samantha and Megan \_\_\_\_\_ breakfast when they received a prank call.

- (1) had
- (2) have
- (3) are having
- (4) were having (    )

12. Leo \_\_\_\_\_ from the fourth round of the competition when he failed to answer the last question.

- (1) eliminated
- (2) is eliminated
- (3) had eliminated
- (4) was eliminated (    )

13. The forest \_\_\_\_\_ engulfed in flames in the early hours of the morning.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were (    )

14. \_\_\_\_\_ you present when the accident occurred?

- (1) Are
- (2) Were
- (3) Had
- (4) Have (    )

15. Half a litre of cordial \_\_\_\_\_ mixed with the same amount of water to make this fruit punch.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were (    )

16. Mandy \_\_\_\_\_ her office when she ran into her superior.

- (1) left
- (2) is leaving
- (3) was leaving
- (4) were leaving (    )

17. A lot of dust \_\_\_\_\_ about when we tried to clean the unoccupied house.

- (1) fly
- (2) flies
- (3) were flying
- (4) was flying (     )

18. The driver \_\_\_\_\_ down an old lady and sped off without stopping.

- (1) knock
- (2) knocks
- (3) knocked
- (4) was knocking (     )

19. He hurts himself when he \_\_\_\_\_ off his skate scooter.

- (1) fall
- (2) falls
- (3) fell
- (4) was falling (     )

20. The wind \_\_\_\_\_ as we lay in our beds in the attic.

- (1) howl
- (2) howls
- (3) was howling
- (4) were howling (     )

21. Anyone who \_\_\_\_\_ the newspapers will know about the murder yesterday.

- (1) read
- (2) has read
- (3) had been reading
- (4) reading (     )

22. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ his mother to sell chicken rice since he was eight.

- (1) helps
- (2) has been helping
- (3) helped
- (4) had helped (     )

23. I \_\_\_\_\_ be sitting for the exam next week.

- (1) shall
- (2) was
- (3) could
- (4) am

(     )

24. Wood that \_\_\_\_\_ treated will usually last longer.

- (1) was
- (2) are
- (3) has been
- (4) have been

(     )

25. Either John or Peter can \_\_\_\_\_ French.

- (1) speak
- (2) speaks
- (3) spoke
- (4) speaking

(     )

26. Before yesterday, I never \_\_\_\_\_ that Maryann could be such a dishonest person.

- (1) think
- (2) have thought
- (3) thought
- (4) had thought

(     )

27. Either Joe or Alex \_\_\_\_\_ in the soccer team last year.

- (1) is
- (2) was
- (3) are
- (4) were

(     )

28. In the past, the living conditions of a worker \_\_\_\_\_ worse than those today.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were

(     )

29. A rainbow \_\_\_\_\_ in the sky after the rain.

- (1) appear
- (2) appeared
- (3) appearing
- (4) have appeared (     )

30. Many animals were killed when a fire \_\_\_\_\_ out in the forest.

- (1) breaks
- (2) has broken
- (3) was breaking
- (4) broke (     )

**Section B: Vocabulary (30 marks)**

**Choose the most suitable answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.**

31. Put this poster in a/an \_\_\_\_\_ place so that more people will notice it.

- (1) prominent
- (2) open
- (3) recognised
- (4) convenient (     )

32. All the items on sale at this shop can be found in this thick \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) brochure
- (2) catalogue
- (3) leaflet
- (4) pamphlet (     )

33. Everyone knows that this \_\_\_\_\_ of the two watches belongs to the famous watch company from Switzerland.

- (1) signal
- (2) logo
- (3) gesture
- (4) icon (     )

34. The colourful neon lights \_\_\_\_\_ on and off on the front of the buildings along Orchard Road.

- (1) flashed
- (2) flared
- (3) glared
- (4) radiated (     )

35. Samples of the new perfume were \_\_\_\_\_ to all the customers in the shopping mall.

- (1) dispersed
- (2) spread
- (3) scattered
- (4) distributed (     )

36. What is the underlying message of this advertisement trying to \_\_\_\_\_ to the public?

- (1) relate
- (2) speak
- (3) convey
- (4) advise (     )

37. Some services and products are spread by word of \_\_\_\_\_ and not through the television or radio.

- (1) experience
- (2) mouth
- (3) tradition
- (4) time (     )

38. The factory is now fully \_\_\_\_\_ with its computers and machines working around the clock.

- (1) automated
- (2) preset
- (3) manual
- (4) mechanical (     )

39. You can \_\_\_\_\_ these robots to tell them what you want them to do.

- (1) fix
- (2) arrange
- (3) coach
- (4) program (     )

40. This new DVD player has more \_\_\_\_\_ than the old one.

- (1) gadgets
- (2) tools
- (3) equipment
- (4) functions (     )

41. The group reached the \_\_\_\_\_ of the mountain after a four-hour climb.

- (1) height
- (2) zenith
- (3) summit
- (4) vertex

(     )

42. Peter and Jackson went on an underwater \_\_\_\_\_ to search for interesting marine life.

- (1) hike
- (2) safari
- (3) patrol
- (4) expedition

(     )

43. The captain found it challenging to \_\_\_\_\_ the ship through the stormy sea.

- (1) navigate
- (2) locate
- (3) cruise
- (4) move

(     )

44. The river was flowing so \_\_\_\_\_ that it was impossible for them to get to the other side.

- (1) rapidly
- (2) speedily
- (3) hastily
- (4) briefly

(     )

45. The hikers saw a bear \_\_\_\_\_ for food near their tents.

- (1) exploring
- (2) pilfering
- (3) foraging
- (4) seeking

(     )

46. Our group \_\_\_\_\_ at the foot of the mountains with the more adventurous ones scaling the steeper mountain.

- (1) disbanded
- (2) detached
- (3) disintegrated
- (4) broke

(     )



47. Melissa spent two months studying the \_\_\_\_\_ tribes who led very simple lives in the wild.

- (1) elementary
- (2) underdeveloped
- (3) primitive
- (4) archaic ( )

48. Whenever Javier is given a new project to do, he \_\_\_\_\_ his work enthusiastically and no one is allowed to disturb him.

- (1) tears at
- (2) tears up
- (3) tears down
- (4) tears into ( )

49. Close to a thousand workers were \_\_\_\_\_ when the company closed down last year.

- (1) laid aside
- (2) laid up
- (3) laid off
- (4) laid in ( )

50. Our boss has not \_\_\_\_\_ the budget for the project.

- (1) decided over
- (2) decided on
- (3) decided with
- (4) decided about ( )

51. What happened to the \_\_\_\_\_ that was saved in the computer yesterday?

- (1) function
- (2) data
- (3) facts
- (4) collection ( )

52. She \_\_\_\_\_ a recent photograph of herself with the email she sent to the clerk.

- (1) joined
- (2) fastened
- (3) attached
- (4) connected ( )

53. Joel has to \_\_\_\_\_ what he has read on the Internet into a short paragraph for his presentation tomorrow.

- (1) trim
- (2) summarise
- (3) review
- (4) create (     )

54. It is important not to \_\_\_\_\_ your home address to anyone you chat with in a chatroom on the Internet.

- (1) expose
- (2) find
- (3) discover
- (4) disclose (     )

55. His secretary accidentally \_\_\_\_\_ all the work that was typed into the computer earlier.

- (1) deleted
- (2) cancelled
- (3) repelled
- (4) discharged (     )

56. It is ethical to pay a small fee to \_\_\_\_\_ songs from the Internet.

- (1) imitate
- (2) copy
- (3) download
- (4) tamper (     )

57. Joanna was often \_\_\_\_\_ her twin sister.

- (1) mistaken with
- (2) mistaken at
- (3) mistaken on
- (4) mistaken for (     )

58. If no one can \_\_\_\_\_ what you have just said, you cannot expect me to believe you so readily.

- (1) vouch to
- (2) vouch with
- (3) vouch by
- (4) vouch for (     )

59. After walking through the alleys and streets, they \_\_\_\_\_ back where they started again.

- (1) landed in
- (2) landed over
- (3) landed on
- (4) landed up

(     )

60. We will \_\_\_\_\_ the decorations \_\_\_\_\_ from the ceiling and walls after the birthday party is over.

- (1) take ... in
- (2) take ... down
- (3) take ... over
- (4) take ... up

(     )

### **Section C: Cloze Passage (10 marks)**

**Choose the correct word in the given box and fill in each blank. (1 mark each)**

#### **Cloze Passage A**

crucial	friends	needs	require	busy
wake	lack	fatigue	colleagues	prefers
task	function	person	though	probable

Sleep is (*e.g.*) probably the furthest thing on many people's minds today. Even then, sleep is simply a time out from their (61) \_\_\_\_\_ lifestyles. However, (62) \_\_\_\_\_ of sleep can affect a person emotionally. A good rest is (63) \_\_\_\_\_ for a person's mental and physical health. A person can become unnecessarily agitated with co-workers and (64) \_\_\_\_\_ and might be unable to perform memory tasks effectively. Even (65) \_\_\_\_\_ sleep is important for all, the amount of sleep of each person is different. If a (66) \_\_\_\_\_ has had insufficient sleep, his actions will give him away during the day. Some people (67) \_\_\_\_\_ effectively in the day after a mere six hours of sleep but others (68) \_\_\_\_\_ up to ten hours of sleep every night. When a person falls asleep while completing monotonous tasks, he most probably (69) \_\_\_\_\_ sleep. This is a sign of (70) \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Section D : Comprehension (10 marks)**

**Read the passage carefully before you attempt any questions. The marks for each question are shown in brackets. Use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question. You are reminded of the importance of clear English and answer in complete sentences.**

We all have friends. These are people we turn to when we get into trouble. But animals such as dogs, can also be good friends. As they say, a dog is a man's best friend. These faithful animals have always shared a close relationship with us. They are a great help to men, especially to people who are blind. With the dogs guiding their movements, blind people can perform daily tasks.

Ask Erin Rumer from Chicago and she will tell you how important her guide dog is to her. You see, Erin has been blind since she was born.

When Erin was 16, she was invited to a talk about guide dogs for the blind. She found out how guide dogs can help a blind person do many things. On her 18th birthday, Erin got Sparkle as her guide dog. A great relationship with Sparkle began.

Erin has always been an animal lover. She was very happy that she had Sparkle. With Sparkle, she could do many things that a normal person does. The quiet teenager also found herself becoming more outgoing and making a lot of new friends, thanks to her guide dog. 'Sparkle really changes me!' said Erin.

Today, Erin is married and she is now with her third guide dog, Onyx. But she will always remember Sparkle, the guide dog that has given her the ability to do things in her life.

71. Which animal is said to be a man's best friend? (1 mark)

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72. How do guide dogs help the blind? (2 marks)

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73. When did Sparkle become Erin's guide dog? (1 mark)

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74. What was the change in Erin after she had Sparkle? (2 marks)

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75. What is the name of Erin's latest dog? (1 mark)

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76. Find a word in the passage that has *the same meaning* as the given word below.  
(1 mark each)

(i) Loyal : \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) Friendly : \_\_\_\_\_

(iii) Power : \_\_\_\_\_

## **Section E: Composition (20 marks)**

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Write a letter of 120 to 150 words to a pen friend in England.**

- You are to write about the followings:

----- Yourself

----- Where you live

----- What you do

----- Your hobbies

----- Your family

Write your composition on the lined page.

**Write your composition on this page.**

[illegible]

\*\*\*\*\* THE END \*\*\*\*\*