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2. If today _____ the last day of my life, would I want to do what I am about to do today? A. is, B. am, C. was, D. were, E. are.
3. I'm _____ that the only thing that kept me going was that I loved what I did. A. confidence, B. convinced, C. comfortable, D. compromised, E. concurrent.
4. About a year ago I was _____ with cancer. A. checked B. examined C. told D. diagnose E. diagnosed
5. I decided to take a _____ class to learn how to do this. A. calligraphy B. calligraphic C. calligraphical D. paint brush E. painted brush
6. No one wants to die. And yet death is the _____ we all share. A. destiny B. destination C. detour D. detention E. deposition
7. It turned out that getting fired from Apple was the best thing that _____ have ever happened to me. A. would B. can C. could D. may E. might
8. My doctor _____ me to go home and get my affairs in order, which is doctor's code for prepare to die. A. order B. advise C. advised D. help E. push
9. The only way to do _____ work is to love what you do. A. big B. small C. some D. great E. few
10. A difficult decision for single mothers is to work part time _____ earn money or stay at home and raise their child. A. for, B. in, C. to, D. with.
11. As a _____ of fact, China's recent currency changes led to a much more unstable world economy. A. matter, B. method, C. model, D. madder.
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13. A student was expelled last week, because his actions were not in _____ with school policy. A. accordingly, B. accordance, C. according, D. accordances.
14. Due to the large number of candidates, an exam was _____ used to help select the most capable employees. A. initially, B. initial, C. initiation, D. initiated.
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17. In order to change or modify your house, you must first apply for a building _____ from the city government. A. permit, B. contract, C. allowance, D. permission.
18. As a safety mechanism, most ovens have a shut off fuse to prevent them _____ overheating. A. into, B. from, C. by, D. above.
19. After all the votes were counted, Sam Bartlett was _____ the winner of yesterday's election. A. declaring, B. declared, C. declaration, D. declare.
20. Professor Lin needs a teaching assistant to _____ him with the conference display. A. assume, B. assign, C. assent, D. assist

21. It's necessary for Ms. Smith to _____ the costs by tonight. A. final, B. finalize, C. finally, D. finality
22. Ms. Duck was responsible for collecting and _____ the data for the negotiation. A. organize, B. organizing, C. organization, D. organized
23. I suggest that we _____ in more exhibitions to make our product more well-known to the public. A. participate, B. to participate, C. participating, D. participated
24. The electricity went out _____ we were conducting a difficult operation. A. so, B. while, C. since, D. nevertheless
25. The products need to be tested for safety _____ durability. A. but, B. as well as, C. or, D. yet
26. _____ a little longer, but I really have to go now. A. I'd stay, B. I'll stay, C. I can stay, D. I'd have stayed.
27. There is somebody walking behind us. I think _____. A. we are following, B. we are being following, C. we are followed, D. we are being followed.
28. We can't _____ making a decision. We have to decide now. A. put away, B. put over, C. put off, D. put out.
29. Don't worry _____ late tonight. A. if I'm, B. when I'm, C. when I'll be, D. if I'll be.
30. Children under 16 _____ half the population of the city. A. make up, B. put up, C. take up, D. bring up.
31. The sidewalk was icy, so we walked very carefully. We were afraid _____. A. from falling, B. to fall, C. of falling, D. to falling.
32. The water department has warned that the water may not be potable, _____ the residents shouldn't even use it to brush their teeth. A. but, B. so, C. because, D. nor.
33. These amendments will be ratified by a majority before they _____ presented to the legislative body. A. will be, B. would be, C. are, D. were.
34. Since most of the business meetings were at night we were able to spend the day _____. A. to sightsee, B. to enjoy sightseeing, C. going to sightsee, D. sightseeing.
35. The presiding officials took off their hats _____ the slain leader. A. in charge of, B. because of, C. in deference to, D. in light of.

Please read the following passage and answer questions 36 to 40.

AUGUST 1-14: TWO-WEEK SALES AND USE TAX REXEMPTION ON GARMENTS

The tax law has been changed to allow for another two-week exemption from North Carolina State's 3% sales and use taxes for certain garments. However, the latest amendment differs considerably from the same type of sales exemption that took place at the beginning of the year. This exemption does not apply to footwear. The new two-week exemption only applies to purchases of garments. Additionally, this latest exemption is limited to purchases with a cost of less than \$100 per item, whereas the previous exemption had a cost limitation of \$500. Although a suit could sell for \$200, it could be broken down into \$100 for the jacket and \$100 for the pants, thus enabling the buyer to meet the \$100 requirement. This will be the last exemption of this kind this year. The exemption applies to most clothing, assuming it is to be worn by human beings. Fabric, yarn, buttons, zippers, etc., are also covered, provided that these notions are actually part of the clothing itself. Although jewelry, watches, hats, etc., are worn on the body, they will remain taxable as under the previous exemption rules.

36. What is the exemption compared to? A. North Carolina's taxes, B. Sales exemptions, C., A previous exemption, D. Longer exemptions.
37. How many weeks have been exempt this year? A. Two, B. Four, C. Six, D. Eight.
38. What is the difference in cost limitation between the new exemption and the one at the beginning of the year? A. \$100, B. \$200, C. \$400, D. \$500

39. What could be bought under exemption at the beginning of the year but no longer? A. Jewelry, B. Watches, C. Hats, D. Shoes.
40. Which garment items would not be covered by the exemption? A. Yarn to repair a shawl, B. Buttons for a winter coat, D. A head scarf, D. Dress-making fabric.

Please read the following passage and answer questions 41 to 45.

MEMORADUM
ATTENTION ALL HOURLY EMPLOYEES

Effective immediately, paychecks will no longer be handed out on Fridays. Due to changes in payroll, we will now have paychecks available on the first and third Monday of each month. You can either pick your check up on these days in the Human Resources office (on floor 11) before 5:00 p.m., or you can sign up for automatic deposit.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with automatic deposit, this means that your check will be put directly into your checking account and you will receive a receipt of deposit from the bank each month in the mail. If you are interested in automatic deposit, you must sign up before April 1. The sign-up sheet is posted on the door of Human Resources.

For those who pick up their checks directly, remember that if you do not sign for your check on the first or third Monday, it will automatically be sent to you in the mail. Please be aware that we do not take responsibility for checks that are lost in the mail, and stop-payment fees are paid by the employee.

41. When will this change in payroll take place? A. Right away, B. On April 1, C. On Friday, D. The first Monday of the month
42. What is automatic deposit? A. Payment goes into a bank account. B. Payment is automatically sent to you in the mail. C. Checks are handed out directly on Fridays. D. Taxes are withheld regardless of payment method
43. What do hourly employees need to do to pick up their check? A. Provide an employee number and photo I.D. B. They must work on the Monday that they pick up their check. C. They must sign up by April 1. D. They must sign their name.
44. What would be likely to happen if a check got lost in the mail? A. The employee would pick it up on the next Monday. B. The company would pay for a stop payment. C. A deposit slip would be automatically sent to the employee. D. The employee would report the loss and cover the fee.
45. Who would need to read this memo? A. Any worker who goes to Human Resources for their check, B. Any worker who is paid by the hour, C. All employees who want to learn about automatic deposit, D. Employees interested in becoming paid by the hour.
46. We would like to _____ a teleconference with your public relations office regarding the upcoming merger.
A. transact, B. install, C. perform, D. arrange.
47. We knew the economy was _____ a turning point when the interest rates started to fall. A. at, B. about, C. throughout, D. inside.
48. By _____ what the public liked and didn't like, we were able to fine-tune our ads. A. sighting, B. focusing, C. predicting, D. pinpointing
49. The use of pesticides is having a _____ effect on the groundwater. A. devastate, B. devastating, C. devastated, D. devastation
50. When the computer analyst realized what a _____ task it was, he immediately added two more staff to the project. A. precise, B. superfluous, C. short, D. formidable.

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