

GRE

Verbal Reasoning Assessment

Sentence Equivalence

Total Questions: 81

Duration: 81 Min

1. **The prize competition was ____ as a showcase for new technology, but instead the competition was marred by disqualifications and disputes.**
 - A. Disappointing
 - B. conceived
 - C. touted
 - D. heralded
 - E. promising
 - F. required
2. **The new institute provides intensive postgraduate teaching to a wide range of students, in the hope that these students will use their knowledge to boost the country's ____ economy.**
 - A. languishing
 - B. emerging
 - C. booming
 - D. domestic
 - E. bankrupt
 - F. flagging
3. **Like other metaphors, the "book of Nature" has two facets: it is ____ but if taken literally, it may mislead.**
 - A. heuristic
 - B. perceptive
 - C. poetic
 - D. insightful
 - E. prosaic
 - F. iconoclastic
4. **The increasing interactivity emerging in the latest computer systems means that the traditional view of the computer as a ____ of information now unduly limiting.**
 - A. gleaner
 - B. transformer
 - C. processor
 - D. producer
 - E. repository
 - F. cache
5. **Turing's life exerts a powerful and ____ effect on writers – the combination of the highly intellectual and the personally dramatic is hard to resist.**
 - A. abiding
 - B. pervasive
 - C. perennial
 - D. irresistible
 - E. unmitigated
 - F. multifaceted
6. **As a result of his regimented upbringing, that left him unable to see the nuances of complex situations, he was often accused of being ____.**
 - A. indecisive
 - B. tyrannical
 - C. obtuse
 - D. boorish
 - E. xenophobic

- F. imperceptive
7. It is paradoxical that String Theory inspires such widespread respect when it is so ____ that few could ever hope to master its claims.
- A. intractable
 - B. confusing
 - C. elevated
 - D. arcane
 - E. obscure
 - F. rigorous
8. Those with a reputation for ____ behavior seldom inspire respect: unwavering adherence to a viewpoint is more admired than flexibility.
- A. capricious
 - B. bombastic
 - C. dogmatic
 - D. fickle
 - E. honorable
 - F. stalwart
9. The courtiers of the time had to be ____ in order to survive in an atmosphere where the least sign of rebellion could lead to banishment or worse.
- A. taciturn
 - B. fawning
 - C. docile
 - D. self-serving
 - E. upright
 - F. servile
10. Forgiveness was fine in theory, but she had trouble in accepting a religion that would allow ____ evil-doers access to heaven.
- A. repentant
 - B. contrite
 - C. blatant
 - D. venial
 - E. pardoned
 - F. recalcitrant
11. The Countess dressed with a (an) ____ elegance which seemed to proclaim to the world just how distinguished she was.
- A. studied
 - B. pronounced
 - C. ingenuous
 - D. understated
 - E. mannered
 - F. rococo
12. It is a waste of time to ____ someone so dimwitted; he is too dull to recognize your barbs.
- A. disparage
 - B. ridicule
 - C. lampoon
 - D. . laud
 - E. enlighten
 - F. train

13. The teacher was so abstracted that she gave a ____ evaluation of what was really an interesting solution to the problem she had set.
- A. philosophical
 - B. cursory
 - C. detailed
 - D. considered
 - E. perfunctory
 - F. tangential
14. Punishment for transgressions of the law ceases to have a deterrent effect if the punishment is frequently ____.
- A. arbitrary
 - B. changed
 - C. waived
 - D. lenient
 - E. commuted
 - F. applied
15. Not only love affects the eye of the beholder; other emotions also ____ the interpretation of the events that we witness.
- A. cloud
 - B. trigger
 - C. devalue
 - D. color
 - E. objectify
 - F. impact
16. The human mind can often reject the most ____ data in favor of something that, though valueless, at least sounds familiar.
- A. anomalous
 - B. inconsequential
 - C. peripheral
 - D. pertinent
 - E. germane
 - F. visible
17. ____ behavior never has the effect its practitioners hope for; the attempt to hide only draws attention to what is hidden.
- A. Misogynistic
 - B. Puritanical
 - C. Covert
 - D. Miserly
 - E. Prudish
 - F. Camouflaging
18. He completed the work with unusual ____ ; his need to get out of the office overcame his habitual torpor.
- A. dispatch
 - B. grace
 - C. effectiveness
 - D. slovenliness
 - E. carelessness
 - F. celerity

19. When Smithers took over as chairperson, her colleagues were looking forward to a less confrontational time on the board of governors, since they reasoned that no one else was likely to be as ____ as her predecessor.
- A. mordant
 - B. aggressive
 - C. flexible
 - D. bellicose
 - E. complaisant
 - F. jaundiced
20. When faced with an urgent problem for which there is no immediately obvious solution, we tend to welcome any suggestion, however ____, that might throw light on the dilemma.
- A. unusual
 - B. hackneyed
 - C. tentative
 - D. outrageous
 - E. illuminating
 - F. flimsy
21. Mannering's personal diary, a record of ____ preoccupations and domestic details, belies the depth of thought for which he was renowned in the academic world.
- A. philosophical
 - B. mundane
 - C. petty
 - D. weighty
 - E. erudite
 - F. untoward
22. Animal welfare charities have found that extensive advertising, especially over the Christmas period, can actually drive down the volume of donations as people who view images of maltreated pets more than a few times rapidly become ____.
- A. inured
 - B. miserly
 - C. disgusted
 - D. hardened
 - E. bored
 - F. overwrought
23. The study's ____ conclusion is that during the first half of the 20th Century improved standards of personal hygiene reduced the risk of an individual's contracting poliomyelitis, yet tended to make the disease more lethal to communities.
- A. exciting
 - B. paradoxical
 - C. unwarranted
 - D. long-awaited
 - E. anomalous
 - F. interim

- 24. The devotion to the syllabus and testing regime has become so extreme that most school students close their minds to anything ____ to the needs of the examination.**
- A. Related
 - B. catering
 - C. extraneous
 - D. similar
 - E. helpful
 - F. peripheral
- 25. The ____ tone of the biography is entirely unexpected since both the biographer in her previous works and her subject in all that he has written have valued levity over solemnity.**
- A. lugubrious
 - B. jaunty
 - C. jocose
 - D. frivolous
 - E. ironic
 - F. melancholy
- 26. After hours of acrimonious arguments the negotiations reached a(n) ____ ; neither side was willing to compromise.**
- A. solution
 - B. impasse
 - C. conclusion
 - D. end
 - E. deadlock
 - F. resolution
- 27. This new staging of King Lear is not a production in which every aspect falls neatly into place throughout; however, the drama does ____ at certain points to give the audience memorable and thought-provoking moments.**
- A. coalesce
 - B. crystallize
 - C. triumph
 - D. flower
 - E. dissolve
 - F. transcend
- 28. The teacher's mercurial mood changes and ____ approach to grading made the students uneasy; they never knew what would please him or what would earn good marks.**
- A. tardy
 - B. authoritarian
 - C. strict
 - D. ambivalent
 - E. whimsical
 - F. hidebound

29. The book is an attempt on the part of the eminent scholar to reconcile the ____ experience and theoretical underpinnings of certain everyday phenomena.
- A. philosophical
 - B. empirical
 - C. arcane
 - D. practical
 - E. superficial
 - F. obtuse
30. The last candidate interviewed conducted herself with commendable ____ even when badgered with questions that had drawn unseemly outbursts from all the other interviewees.
- A. pertinacity
 - B. adroitness
 - C. alacrity
 - D. decorum
 - E. propriety
 - F. presence of mind
31. ____ adherence to outdated political ideas and defunct sects characterized the last years of a man who had, surprisingly, been one of the most flexible thinkers of the 1920s.
- A. Intransigent
 - B. Vacillating
 - C. Sectarian
 - D. Confused
 - E. Frantic
 - F. Dogged
32. The ____ effects of constant noise drove Natasha to seek refuge in a more salubrious spot until she recovered her mental equilibrium.
- A. stimulating
 - B. debilitating
 - C. deafening
 - D. enervating
 - E. soporific
 - F. precipitating
33. Grandfather liked us children to learn self-discipline, and, unlike many others of his generation, seldom ____ us even for those actions that we felt deserved censure.
- A. rewarded
 - B. consoled
 - C. upbraided
 - D. applauded
 - E. cherished
 - F. chided
34. To the layman, a philosopher who attempts to elucidate a complex moral dilemma by reducing it to a simple yet apparently ridiculous test case seems rather to ____ the issue.
- A. ridicule
 - B. obfuscate
 - C. over-simplify
 - D. denigrate
 - E. becloud

F. attenuate

35. Fraser taught by example: he ____ long-windedness in his own lectures and berated his students for any tendency toward circumlocution.

- A. eschewed
- B. epitomized
- C. accentuated
- D. embraced
- E. welcomed
- F. shunned

36. If he had not had the ____ to follow his own iconoclastic theories in the face of the apparently unassailable conclusion of the accepted experts in the field, progress would have been inestimably slower in this area of knowledge.

- A. incentive
- B. audacity
- C. temerity
- D. incapacity
- E. unwillingness
- F. wisdom

37. With an abiding interest in medieval poetry, Boris found it difficult to relate to his peers in school whose ____ ran to nothing even remotely literary.

- A. Predilections
- B. successes
- C. inclinations
- D. backgrounds
- E. achievements
- F. amities

38. The novel is admittedly not the finest example of its genre, but I object to the ____ preface written by a supposed expert on detective fiction from whom we might have expected at least one or two perceptive comments.

- A. egregious
- B. inane
- C. pretentious
- D. subliminal
- E. vacuous
- F. unexamined

39. It is not only the poor and uneducated that fall prey to ____ ; desperate or unhappy individuals from any walk of life or social background can be duped.

- A. mavericks
- B. malcontents
- C. quacks
- D. charlatans
- E. agitators
- F. hypochondriacs

40. The director, accustomed to unquestioning loyalty, was chagrined when she discovered that her directions had been ____ by the chief executive.
- A. underscored
 - B. misinterpreted
 - C. undermined
 - D. misplaced
 - E. substantiated
 - F. subverted
41. Even though Byron is frequently glib, it is still hard to dismiss him as a ____ thinker.
- A. Superficial
 - B. profound
 - C. lightweight
 - D. lucid
 - E. verbose
 - F. uncompromising
42. Far from being an innocent prank, their action is a ____ attempt to spoil my reputation.
- A. malicious
 - B. salubrious
 - C. naïve
 - D. saturnine
 - E. innocuous
 - F. callous
43. Although his findings were initially greeted with ____, the unlikely hero was finally vindicated when the French Academy acknowledged his work.
- A. derision
 - B. accolades
 - C. commendations
 - D. sympathy
 - E. jubilation
 - F. incredulity
44. Their latest theory aims to integrate the seemingly ____ elements of twenty years of research to form a coherent whole.
- A. relevant
 - B. sporadic
 - C. incessant
 - D. disparate
 - E. discrete
 - F. extensive
45. Swenson's ____ in his work earned him few friends: his colleagues probably thought that he would be unwilling to overlook their foibles.
- A. xenophobia
 - B. mendacity
 - C. meticulousness
 - D. intuition
 - E. punctiliousness
 - F. prevarication

46. Icons would be well-advised to write their own memoirs; there are too many ____ writers out there who forego accuracy to pander to the preconceptions of the market.
- A. creative
 - B. lackluster
 - C. hackneyed
 - D. sycophantic
 - E. fawning
 - F. best-selling
47. Both commentators noted the way that Dylan can submerge himself in tradition while somehow managing to create works of startling ____.
- A. gestation
 - B. singularity
 - C. provenance
 - D. conservatism
 - E. nonchalance
 - F. originality
48. When aid is given to an autocracy, the donors are prone to rationalize their decision to support non-democratic governments, and thus lay themselves open to the charge of ____.
- A. . negligence
 - B. hypocrisy
 - C. equivocation
 - D. slander
 - E. autonomy
 - F. nepotism
49. The insertion of a fiction into a news bulletin cannot be condoned, but inserting propaganda for a good cause seems less ____.
- A. untoward
 - B. democratic
 - C. reprehensible
 - D. credible
 - E. insupportable
 - F. utilitarian
50. In showing the shocking images of depravity and degradation, the curators of the art museum said that the importance of historical accuracy outweighed the danger of encouraging ____.
- A. prurience
 - B. avarice
 - C. vandalism
 - D. voyeurism
 - E. outrage
 - F. torture
51. It was discovered that nerve receptors in the face tell the heart to _____ down the instant we hit water, causing pulse rates to drop.
- A. Slow
 - B. Race
 - C. Settle
 - D. Choke

E. Throttle

F. Agitate

52. Among the dangers of free diving, the most _____ is the brain's frightening tendency to shut down within 15 feet of the surface during the ascent.

A. Comforting

B. Perplexing

C. Predictable

D. Disconcerting

E. Unpredictable

F. Critical

53. Without _____ action, the atmosphere's concentration of greenhouse gases is expected to double from pre-industrial levels by the end of this century.

A. Expeditious

B. Valuable

C. Expendable

D. Crucial

E. Prompt

F. Dilatory

54. Blood vessels in the skin and extremities constrict, while those in the brain, heart and lungs dilate, _____ blood to the places that count.

A. Delegating

B. Shunting

C. Bleeding

D. Diverting

E. Relegating

F. Compressing

55. The researchers called for _____ new efforts to improve existing technologies and develop others like fusion reactors or space-based solar power plants.

A. Deleterious

B. Detrimental

C. Intensive

D. Adverse

E. Exhaustive

F. Hazardous

56. The envelope, at least in part, is formed at the end cell division by _____ fragments of the endoplasmic reticulum.

A. Amalgamating

B. Dispersing

C. Rescinding

D. Coalescing

E. Disintegrating

F. Dissipating

57. He belongs to an international panel of experts that works under United Nations _____.

A. Aura

B. Auspices

C. Aeonian

D. Adytum

E. Aegis

F. Sanctum

58. The crux of his speech was that the issue of climate change remains too complex and _____ to generate the requisite focus.

- A. Multifarious
- B. Facile
- C. Contentious
- D. Debatable
- E. Homogenous
- F. Motley

59. In the party that has ruled the country for 25 years continuously, factionalism is not something _____.

- A. Inappropriate
- B. Obscure
- C. Unseemly
- D. Appropriate
- E. Familiar
- F. Arcane

60. A _____ in his nature shows through his record of teaching English in a Junior High School and not trying to speak that language in public later.

- A. Monotony
- B. Tenacity
- C. Split
- D. Dichotomy
- E. Bonding
- F. Cementing

61. Until the mid-20th century, scientists believed that the human chest cavity would _____ at a depth of around 115 feet underwater.

- A. Explode
- B. Implode
- C. Cave in
- D. Saturate
- E. Drown
- F. Drench

62. When he was the President, he gave the impression of an extremely cautious man with high _____ for consensus.

- A. Veneration
- B. Contempt
- C. Trepidation
- D. Reverence
- E. Apathy
- F. Impassivity

63. It is evident that this point of view is given _____ by the prevalence of multinucleate cells.

- A. Citation
- B. Credibility
- C. Casualty
- D. Causality
- E. Credence

F. Excerption

64. He cannot be facing an easy future as the country's next leader and there is nothing to show yet that he will be drawing on secret reserves of _____.

A. Leadership

B. Oratory

C. Vigor

D. Dynamism

E. Resolve

F. Stalemate

65. This is a superstitious practice that can be traced back to great _____, possibly to about 50,000 BC.

A. Archaism

B. Innovation

C. Novelty

D. Antiquity

E. Modernity

F. Currency

66. Amidst the strong criticisms, there were two distinct arguments that could easily be _____.

A. Annulled

B. Cultivated

C. Discerned

D. Neglected

E. Ascertained

F. Nullified

67. The training is highly specific and those who receive it have neither the capacity nor the _____ to quit.

A. Inducement

B. Impiety

C. Incapability

D. Incentive

E. Incertitude

F. Sacrilege

68. This is a ritual which is _____ from the very dawn of human culture and which has been practiced in most parts of the world.

A. Detested

B. Followed

C. Attested

D. Resisted

E. Affirmed

F. Deplored

69. It was argued that business schools must be either unnecessary or _____ because Japan does so well without them.

A. Detrimental

B. Deleterious

C. Delectable

D. Deliberative

E. Deliberate

F. Palatable

70. The _____ belief is that management should be born out of experience and many years of effort and not learnt from educational institutions.

- A. Atrocious
- B. Noteworthy
- C. Customary
- D. Mirthful
- E. Prevailing
- F. Abominable

71. The _____ among these traditional elements has made the industry highly productive and given corporate leadership a longer-term view.

- A. Discord
- B. Harmony
- C. Discontent
- D. Rivalry
- E. Amicability
- F. Dissension

72. Preventive action of this kind has a further significance, for it implies a belief that the dead might be _____ and had power to harm the living.

- A. Magnanimous
- B. Auspicious
- C. Malevolent
- D. Vindictive
- E. Melancholy
- F. Benevolent

73. All definite knowledge belongs to science; all _____ as to what surpasses definite knowledge to theology.

- A. Dogma
- B. Ambiguity
- C. Belay
- D. Belief
- E. Ambidexterity
- F. Obscurity

74. Everything that passes between the cytoplasm and the nucleus in the eukaryotic cell must _____ the nuclear envelope.

- A. Transude
- B. Transverse
- C. Crank
- D. Transpose
- E. Cross
- F. Alchemize

75. It is not good either to forget the questions that philosophy asks, or to persuade ourselves that we have found _____ answers to them.

- A. Irrational
- B. Ironical
- C. Indubitable
- D. Irrefutable
- E. Interactive

F. Fallacious

76. We lend stars our affections only and we lend businessmen our chance of future

_____.

- A. Affectations
- B. Affluence
- C. Bankruptcy
- D. Prosperity
- E. Businesses
- F. Larceny

77. It is like an algebraic equation where the equation is the only truth, and the _____ may stand for anything.

- A. Truth
- B. Equation
- C. Terms
- D. Algebra
- E. Conditions
- F. Catalysts

78. This is an allegory – the _____ of reality in the mirror of illusion.

- A. Restoration
- B. Reflection
- C. Termination
- D. Manifestation
- E. Creation
- F. Restitution

79. The interpretation of this mystery, however, is so well known so as to need no _____.

- A. Explanation
- B. Expedition
- C. Elation
- D. Expediency
- E. Elaboration
- F. Desirability

80. It safeguards the example, _____ it from contamination with history, and protects it from contact with the industrialized, urban world.

- A. Innovates
- B. Inoculates
- C. Immunizes
- D. Imbibes
- E. Intoxicates
- F. Galvanizes

81. A distant train whistle is heard, and the sounds of construction in the clearing _____ with the cries of birds and the rustle of wind in the trees.

- A. Whistle
- B. Mingle
- C. Vie
- D. Clash
- E. Compete
- F. Skirmish