**UNIVERSITY OF DEFENCE**

**LANGUAGE CENTRE**

**Přípravný test B2**

**TASK A**

***For sentences 1-20 choose one correct option A, B, C, or D and mark it on your answer sheet as shown in the example. Please, do not write into the test booklet.***

***Example:***

***For many young people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in one of the school teams is very important****.*

1. *having*
2. *taking*
3. *putting*
4. *being*

**A B C D**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**1. “You’ve always wanted to join the army, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?”**

1. had you
2. weren’t you
3. haven’t you
4. did you

**2. “We are late! Our plane\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ off a few minutes ago.”**

1. went
2. put
3. left
4. took

**3. All the soldiers from C company \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so many problems now if they hadn’t disobeyed a direct order from their commander.**

1. wouldn’t have had
2. wouldn’t have
3. haven’t had
4. hadn’t had

**4. “If I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you, I'd do the job right now.”**

1. am
2. were
3. had been
4. would be

**5. Corporal Stevenson\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have stolen the wallet from the locker. He wasn’t in the building at the time.**

1. shouldn’t
2. needn’t
3. can’t
4. mightn’t

**6. “Sorry I am late. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to work overtime by my boss.”**

1. have asking
2. have asked
3. was asking
4. was asked

**7. It usually takes soldiers some time to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ early when they join the army.**

1. used to get up
2. get used to get up
3. be used to getting up
4. get used to getting up

**8. The construction of this building \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ next year.**

1. will finished
2. will to finished
3. will be finished
4. will been finished

**9. The commander announced that anyone caught smoking in the barracks \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. would punished
2. would be punished
3. would have punished
4. would have been punished

**10. “Do you know who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ my wallet? I can't find it anywhere!”**

1. stole
2. did steal
3. stolen
4. has stole

**11. Colonel Winston \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by 7am and then he finished the meeting in the briefing room.**

1. said to be ready his soldiers
2. told his soldiers to be ready
3. said his soldiers to be ready
4. told be ready to his soldiers

**12. “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ?” – “No, he's in a pub with his friends at the moment.”**

1. Does David work
2. Do David working
3. Works David
4. Is David working

**13. “The test was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ difficult. I hardly passed.”**

1. queue
2. quite
3. quit
4. quiet

**14. The price of the modern military equipment has been steadily \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the past few years now.**

1. rising
2. raising
3. arising
4. uprising

**15. Sadly, I was late for the meeting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to a huge traffic jam in the city centre.**

1. because
2. thanks
3. ought
4. due

**16. The briefing was scheduled for tomorrow, but Colonel Smith will probably \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it until the next week due to technical issues.**

1. withhold
2. postpone
3. suspend
4. prolong

**17. There was a bus accident yesterday but, fortunately, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the passengers were hurt.**

1. any
2. none
3. anybody
4. hardly no

**18. As the radio connection was poor, the soldiers couldn’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out what the commander was telling them. They simply couldn’t understand him.**

1. fill
2. take
3. make
4. point

**19. This company is very famous and old. It was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ almost 100 years ago.**

1. found
2. finded
3. founded
4. fined

**20. Although Corporal Johnson is physically healthy, he suffers from serious \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ problems which noticeably affect his behaviour.**

1. psychic
2. psychical
3. psychological
4. psychology

**TASK B**

***Read the following texts and choose one correct option A, B, C, or D. Mark your answers on the answer sheet.***

21. From a lifestyle magazine

How busy is too busy or too stressful? For some it means having to miss the occasional long lunch; for others, it means missing lunch altogether. For a few, it is not being able to take a “sickie” once a month. Then there is a group of people for whom working every evening and weekend is normal, and the pace of their lives is frantic. For most chief executive officers, workloads swing between extremely busy and frenzied. The vice-president of the management consultancy AT Kearney, Neil Plumridge, says his work weeks vary from a “manageable” 45 hours to 80 hours, but average 60 hours.

**What is the MAIN topic of this article?**

1. The most suitable workload for CEOs
2. The importance of having regular meals
3. The perception of stress among people
4. The biggest disadvantages of being busy

22. From a biography

Paul Creedman is a record-breaking record-breaker: He has set more records than anyone else in the world! In the last 40 years, he has established more than 600 records! As a child, Paul loved reading the Guinness Book of World Records. He wanted to be in it too. But he thought people had to be good at sports to be in the book. He wasn’t a good athlete. He felt his dream would never come true. But later in life, Paul learned meditation, and with this, he learned that nothing is impossible.

**Paul started breaking records because of his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. talent in athletics
2. high age and health
3. interest in meditation
4. big childhood wish

23. From a book about philosophy

Happiness may be the primary goal of human existence. Philosophers have wrestled with the concept of happiness. Legislators create laws to support citizens’ rights to pursue happiness. Television, radio, and print advertisers assure consumers that various products will guarantee happiness. Interestingly, people have a tendency to believe they are happier than their neighbours, and they are optimistic about their happiness in the future. Most people assume that they will be happier a decade from now than they are today.

**According to the article, happiness is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. used as a concept to promote merchandise
2. neglected by majority of lawmakers
3. already outdated as a life principle
4. often seen by people as unattainable

24. From the news

Huge reserves of energy have been found in rocks far below the surface of the ground in Britain. It is estimated that the north and southwest regions could hold enough energy in the form of heat to provide power for millions of homes. In fact, up to a fifth of Britain’s energy could be provided by this geothermal source. Extracting the heat and converting it into electricity is difficult and expensive. Thousands of bore holes would be needed; but once they were in place, the heat would keep regenerating indefinitely.

**What is the MAIN purpose of this article?**

1. To show how scarce geothermal power is in Britain
2. To emphasize possible benefits of geothermal power
3. To explain why geothermal power is too hard to exploit
4. To describe in detail how geothermal power is created

25. From Manchester newspapers

Manchester city council want to clear the city of fat pigeons. They say that that people are feeding the birds, which makes them fat. The pigeons get bigger because their normal diet would consist of seeds and insects, not high-fat junk food they are eating in the city centre. The council want people to know that everyone who feeds the pigeons is responsible for the streets being so crowded with these birds. They hope to encourage the birds to move away from the city centre and into parks and open spaces.

**Manchester has a big problem with pigeons because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. Manchester has enough insects
2. pigeons live mostly in parks
3. Manchester has narrow streets
4. people give pigeons food

26. From an economic magazine

Computerized data storage and electronic mail were supposed to lead to a paperless office. But, contrary to expectation, paper consumption throughout the world shows no sign of decreasing. In fact, consumption, especially of printing and writing paper, continues to increase. World demand for paper and cardboard is now expected to grow faster than the general economic growth in the next 15 years. Strong demand will result from the growing industrialization of South East Asia, the reemergence of paper packaging, greater use of photocopiers, and the popularity of direct-mail advertising. It is possible that in 2025, world paper and cardboard demand will reach 455 million tonnes, compared with 241 million tonnes in 1991.

**Which word best describes the news presented in the paragraph?**

1. pessimistic
2. predictable
3. challenging
4. surprising

27. From a sports magazine

A few decades ago, professional footballers spent their nights partying. Now, they are much more aware of the benefits of a good night’s sleep. The change began in the mid-1990s, when mattress salesman Nick Littlehales contacted the manager of the Manchester United football team, Alex Ferguson, asking whether he had ever considered how sleep affected performance on the pitch. Interested, Ferguson arranged for Littlehales to give a presentation to his team. Before long, the whole team had new mattresses and pillows, and Littlehales soon became football’s leading mattress advisor. In 1998, he supplied mattresses for England’s World Cup team, and at the 2004 Euros, he created individual sleep routines for every player.

**The article mainly describes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. a success of a businessman
2. a serious sleeping problem
3. history of a football team
4. a mistake of a football coach

28. From an environmental report

The average air temperature at the surface of the Earth has risen this century, as has the temperature of ocean surface waters. Because water expands as it heats, a warmer ocean means higher sea levels. We cannot say definitely that the temperature rises are due to the greenhouse effect as it hasn’t been precisely measured yet; the heating may be part of a “natural” variability over a long time-scale that we have not yet recognized in our short 100 years of recording. However, assuming the build-up of greenhouse gases is responsible, and that the warming will continue, scientists and inhabitants of low-lying coastal areas would like to know the extent of future sea level rises.

**According to the article, the effect of greenhouse gases is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. responsible for rising ocean levels
2. the result of a natural variability
3. yet to be exactly determined
4. expected to get much worse soon

29. From an article

Well, we're off to a good start in the south this week, as most of the rain from the weekend has disappeared – just a few patches of cloud and maybe some showers here on the east coast. They'll all clear up by lunchtime, though. Over the next day or so, London and the area around Kent can expect a couple of isolated showers, but mostly dry through until Thursday. Some of today's showers will be heavy – and even thundery in Manchester and across the Pennines. Leeds will escape the thunderstorms, with drizzle and light rain only throughout the rest of the day and tonight.

**Where can you probably find this article?**

1. traffic report
2. climate documentary
3. weather forecast
4. brochure about the UK

30. From a magazine about video games

Although video games were first developed for adults, they are no longer exclusively reserved for grown-ups. In 2006, Rideout and Hamel reported that as many as 29 percent of preschool children (children between two and six years of age) in the United States had played console video games, and 18 percent had played hand-held ones. Given young children’s insatiable eagerness to learn, coupled with the fact that they are clearly surrounded by this kind of entertainment, we predict that preschoolers will both continue and increasingly begin to adopt video games for personal enjoyment despite the fact that the majority of gaming equipment will still be designed for a much older target audience.

**Why are video games likely to get even more popular with preschoolers?**

1. Video games are meant primarily for young kids.
2. Preschoolers are encouraged by adults to try them.
3. Preschoolers are curious to discover new things.
4. Video games are a harmless kind of entertainment.

**TASK C**

***Read the following text and complete its summary below. Use only one word for each gap and write your answers on the answer sheet.***

**The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind**

At only 14, William Kamkwamba built a series of windmills that could generate electricity in his African village, Masitala, in Malawi, south-eastern Africa.

In 2002, William Kamkwamba had to drop out of school, as his father, a maize and tobacco farmer, could no longer afford his school fees. But despite this setback, William was determined to get his education. He began visiting a local library that had just opened in his old primary school, where he discovered a tattered science book. With only a rudimentary grasp of English, he taught himself basic physics – mainly by studying photos and diagrams. Another book he found there featured windmills on the cover and inspired him to try and build his own.

He started by constructing a small model. Then, with the help of a cousin and friend, he spent many weeks searching scrap yards and found old tractor fans, shock absorbers, plastic pipe and bicycle parts, which he used to build the real thing.

What he had built was a crude machine that produced 12 volts and powered four lights. When it was all done, the windmill’s wingspan measured more than eight feet and sat on top of a rickety tower 15 feet tall that swayed violently in strong gales. Electricity was generated through the bicycle dynamo. When the wind blew the blades, the bike chain spun the bike wheel, which charged the dynamo and sent a current through wire to his house.

He eventually replaced the tower with a sturdier one that stands at 39 feet tall, and built a second machine that watered his family garden.

The water pump has allowed his family to expand its crops. They have abandoned tobacco and now grow maize, beans, soybeans, potatoes and peanuts. The windmills have also brought big lifestyle and health changes to the other villagers. “The village has changed a lot”, William says. “Now, they are using the time that they would have spent going to fetch water for doing other things. And also the water they are drinking is clean water, so there is less disease.” The villagers have also stopped using kerosene and can use the money previously spent on fuel to buy other things.

William Kamkwamba’s example has inspired other children in the village to pursue science. William says they now see that if they put their mind to something, they can achieve it. “It has changed the way people think”, he says.

**Summary**

In order to obtain necessary knowledge, William kept visiting local library where he managed to learn some **\_\_\_31.\_\_\_** from an old science book. So that he could build a working windmill, William needed important parts. He succeeded in finding almost all the vital parts for his project in a local scrap yard. Apart from one of his friends, William was helped by his **\_\_\_32.\_\_\_** . The first windmill which William built worked and, mainly thanks to its **\_\_\_33.\_\_\_** of several feet, it provided enough electricity to power a few lights. It is possible to say that the first water pump constructed by William revolutionised the way people grew crops in his village. To be more precise, William’s relatives gave up growing **\_\_\_34.\_\_\_** completely and focused on, for example, potatoes and soybeans. William’s invention enabled local people to save money as they didn’t have to spend it on **\_\_\_35.\_\_\_** and could buy other important things.

**TASK D**

***Read the following text and answer the questions below. Do not use more than four words for each answer and write your answers on the answer sheet.***

**A long and healthy lifestyle?**

How long will a baby born today live? A hundred years? A hundred and twenty years?

Scientists are studying genes that could mean long life for us all. There are already many, many people who live to more than a hundred. In fact, there are now so many healthy elderly people that there's a name for them: the wellderly. These are people over the age of eighty who have no major illnesses, such as high blood pressure, heart disease or diabetes.

There are many scientific studies of communities where a healthy old age is typical. These include places like Calabria in southern Italy and the island of Okinawa in Japan. In Calabria, the small village of Molochio has a population of about 2,000. And of these 2,000 people, there are at least eight people over a hundred years old. Researchers ask people like this the secret of their long life. The answer is almost always about food and is almost always the same: 'I eat a lot of fruit and vegetables'; 'I eat a little bit of everything'; 'I never smoke, I don't drink'.

So, in the past, scientists looked at things such as diet and lifestyle for an explanation of long life. But these days they are also looking at genetic factors. Researcher Eric Topol says that there are probably genes that protect people from the effects of the ageing process. The new research into long life investigates groups of people who have a genetic connection. One interesting group lives in Ecuador. In one area of the country there are a number of people with the same genetic condition. It's called Laron syndrome. These people don't grow very tall – just over one metre. But Laron syndrome also gives them protection against cancer and diabetes. As a result, they live longer than other people in their families. On the other side of the world, on the Hawaiian island of Oahu, there's another group of long-lived men. They are Japanese-Americans but they have a similar gene to the Laron syndrome group.

In Calabria, researchers constructed the family trees of the 100-year-old people. They looked at family information from the 19th century to today. They think that there are genetic factors that give health benefits to the men. This is interesting because generally, in Europe, women live longer than men.

So what really makes people live longer? Probably, it's a combination of genes, the environment and one more thing – luck.

**Questions**

36. How old does an elderly person at least have to be so that the person can be considered a member of the wellderly group?

37. Which aspects of life did scientists in the past typically focus on to explain long life?

38. Which serious illnesses are people with Laron syndrome protected against?

39. Using family data from previous centuries up until now, what did researchers in Calabria manage to put together?

40. What is the approximate height of individuals with Laron syndrome?

**TASK E**

***Read the following text and choose one of the options A, B, C, or D which best suits the text. Mark your choice on your answer sheet.***

**Changes in the Inuit Way of Life**

The Canadian Arctic is a vast, treeless polar desert that’s covered with snow for most of the year. Venture into this terrain and you get some idea of the hardships facing anyone who calls this home. Farming is out of the **\_\_\_41.\_\_\_** and nature offers meagre pickings. Humans first settled in the Arctic a mere 4,500 years ago, surviving by **\_\_\_42.\_\_\_** sea mammals and fish. The environment tested them to the limits: sometimes the colonists were successful, sometimes they failed and vanished. But around a thousand years ago, one group emerged that was uniquely well adapted to **\_\_\_43.\_\_\_** with the Arctic environment. These Thule people moved in from Alaska, bringing kayaks, sleds, dogs, pottery and iron tools. They are the **\_\_\_44.\_\_\_** of today’s Inuit people.

Unusual incidents are being reported across the Arctic. Inuit families going off on snowmobiles to prepare their summer hunting camps have found themselves **\_\_\_45.\_\_\_** off from home by a sea of mud, following early thaws. There are reports of igloos losing their insulating properties as the snow drips and refreezes, of lakes draining into the sea as permafrost melts, and sea ice breaking up earlier than usual, carrying seals beyond the reach of hunters. Climate change may still be a rather abstract idea to most of us, but in the Arctic it is already having dramatic effects – if summertime ice continues to **\_\_\_46.\_\_\_** at its present rate, the Arctic Ocean could soon become virtually ice-free in summer. The knock-on effects are likely to include more warming, cloudier skies, increased precipitation and higher sea **\_\_\_47.\_\_\_**. Scientists are increasingly **\_\_\_48.\_\_\_** to find out what’s going on because they consider the Arctic the “canary in the coal mine” for global warming – a warning of what’s in **\_\_\_49.\_\_\_** for the rest of the world.

For the Inuit the problem is urgent. They live in precarious balance with one of the toughest environments on earth. Climate change, whatever its causes, is a direct **\_\_\_50.\_\_\_** to their way of life. Nobody knows the Arctic as well as the locals, which is why they are not content simply to stand back and let outside experts tell them what’s happening.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **A** | **B** | **C** | **D** |
| 41 | doubt | matter | question | wonder |
| 42 | looting | plundering | abusing | exploiting |
| 43 | stick | compete | get away | cope |
| 44 | posterity | ancestors | offspring | descendants |
| 45 | cut | gone | put | got |
| 46 | shrink | deplete | shorten | deflate |
| 47 | phases | stages | grades | levels |
| 48 | fond | wish | keen | aware |
| 49 | store | destiny | ambition | future |
| 50 | deterrent | threat | intimidation | warning |