Write your contestant number in the upper right corner, and circle your grade below.
Circle Grade Level:  5  6  7  8

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University Interscholastic League
2016-17 Dictionary Skills Contest
Fall/Winter District Test — Grades 7 & 8

1. The capital of Burundi is
   A. Bangui.  C. Bujumbura.
   B. Hobart.  D. Suva.

2. A shilling is equal to which of the following?
   A. 1 U.S. dollar
   B. 20 British pounds
   C. 1/20 of a British pound
   D. 10 U.S. pennies

3. Which of the following is NOT a synonym of the word gracious?
   A. affable  C. cordial
   B. uncongenial  D. genial

4. Which of the following characteristics does NOT accurately describe a peccary?
   A. They are active usually at night.
   B. They gather in herds.
   C. They have a long flexible snout.
   D. They are American mammals of warm regions.

5. QUESTION HAS BEEN OMITTED (QUESTION TYPE NO LONGER USED ON TEST)

6. How long is the Ebro River?
   A. 565 miles  C. 1700 miles
   B. 355 miles  D. 850 miles

7. Which of the following is NOT a synonym for the word monstrous?
   A. horrifying  C. tremendous
   B. colossal  D. stupendous

8. Which of the following horse breeds is known for having long silky hair on its legs?
   A. Percheron  C. Belgian
   B. Hackney  D. Clydesdale

9. Tawny best describes which of the following colors?
   A. a light shade of blue
   B. a brownish orange to light brown
   C. a bright red to orange
   D. a deep green
10. QUESTION HAS BEEN OMITTED (QUESTION TYPE NO LONGER USED ON TEST)

11. A centaur’s body is half man and half
   A. bull.       C. deer.
   B. goat.      D. horse.

12. Hemlock is any of several poisonous herbs related to the
    A. turnip.
    B. carrot.
    C. dandelion.
    D. mushroom.

13. Who is credited as being the first person to grow sideburns?
    A. Clarence Seward Darrow C. Louis Henri Sullivan
    B. Ambrose Everett Burnside D. James Russell Lowell

14. Which of the following planets is 9.54 astronomical units away from the sun?
    A. Earth
    B. Mars
    C. Uranus
    D. Saturn

15. What is the adjective form of the word rickettsia? _______________________

16. Of the following people, who is remembered as a Nobel Prize winner?
    A. Richard Wagner C. Theodore Dreiser
    B. Maria Mitchell D. Barbara McClintock

17. What is the Roman numeral notation for 464?
    A. DCLXVI
    B. CCCLXX
    C. CDLXXIX
    D. CDLXIV

18. Which of the following words does NOT have an alternate spelling?
    A. amok
    B. glamour
    C. flyer
    D. mortar

19. 3.888 grams is equal to one
    A. dram.
    B. gill.
    C. grain.
    D. scruple.

20. What is the 20th letter of the Greek alphabet?
    A. omicron
    B. tau
    C. upsilon
    D. sigma

21. Which of the following is a fruit?
    A. jerboa
    B. remora
    C. gherkin
    D. amanita
22. What term is used to describe a large bottle of glass or stoneware enclosed in a basket of the same shape?
   A. gonococcus  
   B. truncheon  
   C. mullein  
   D. demijohn

23. Which of the following is in correct alphabetical order?
   A. periwig, peroration, perianth, peritoneum, pernicious  
   B. demagogue, dendrite, dendrology, derelict, despondent  
   C. toque, torpor, tracheid, travertine, trammel  
   D. festoon, fermium, ferrule, filamentous, fife

24. In some European countries, a burgomaster is the
   A. mayor of a town.  
   B. head of state.  
   C. president of the country.  
   D. Chief Justice.

25. QUESTION HAS BEEN OMITTED (QUESTION TYPE NO LONGER USED ON TEST)

26. What does the abbreviation BSA stand for?
   A. Business Students Association  
   B. Bachelors of Science and Arts  
   C. Bank of San Antonio  
   D. Boy Scouts of America

27. The Age of Fishes refers to which geological time period?
   A. Devonian  
   B. Cambrian  
   C. Ordovician  
   D. Permian

28. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of a partridgeberry?
   A. produces somewhat tart scarlet berries  
   B. found in Canada and the eastern U.S.  
   C. closely related to cranberries  
   D. is an evergreen plant

29. Which of the following is a group of stars seen south of Pisces and Aries?
   A. Canopus  
   B. Cetus  
   C. Capricorn  
   D. Capela

30. Which of the following describes someone who is very bold and daring?
   A. meritorious  
   B. spontaneous  
   C. audacious  
   D. facetious

31. Which of the following elements is radioactive?
   A. osmium  
   B. tantalum  
   C. meitnerium  
   D. cesium
32. Which of the following is NOT a definition of the word phase?
   A. a particular part or feature
   B. a physically different portion or kind of matter present in a mixed system
   C. a step or part in a series of events or actions
   D. a small unit of a musical passage usually several measures long

Match each of the following words to its correct meaning:

_____ 33. asperity  A. the waste or by-product of a process
_____ 34. schism                      B. extreme poverty
_____ 35. inveigle                C. harshness of temper, manner, or tone
_____ 36. offal                   D. to put down completely
_____ 37. fete                        E. to win over by flattery
_____ 38. ubiquitous             F. being everywhere at the same time
_____ 39. penury                   G. a fancy entertainment or party
_____ 40. quash                  H. lack of harmony
University Interscholastic League
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Answer Key

1. C
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. QUESTION OMITTED
6. A
7. A
8. D
9. B
10. QUESTION OMITTED
11. D
12. B
13. B
14. D
15. rickettsial
16. D
17. D
18. D
19. A
20. C
21. C
22. D
23. B
24. A
25. QUESTION OMITTED
26. D
27. A
28. C
29. B
30. C
31. C
32. D
33. C
34. H
35. E
36. A
37. G
38. F
39. B
40. D