**POLYSEMOUS WORD TEST**

Circle the word or phrase that best explains the meaning of the bold word as it is being used in that sentence.

Example A.

I scratched my **head** in confusion.

a. cabbage

b. sneaker

c. part of the body

d. leader of a group

e. to go somewhere

Example B.

The general is the **head** of the army.

a. cabbage

b. sneaker

c. part of the body

d. leader of a group

e. to go somewhere

1. The brutal storm destroyed the old wooden **structure**.

a. part

b. length

c. introduction

d. building

e. organization

2. The **weight** of his evidence changed my decision.

a. heaviness

b. metal

c. power

d. fragrance

e. absence

3. That **chapter** of the crime novel was frightening.

a. time

b. section

c. branch

d. cover

e. description

4. Her **flexible** nature made her easy to like.

a. easily movable

b. thin

c. easygoing

d. funny

e. smart

5. He **strikes** the baseball high into the treetops.

a. physically hits

b. walks out

c. taps

d. comes across to

e. goes away from

6. This poem's final image **carries** lots of anger.

a. drops off

b. avoids

c. holds and moves

d. expresses

e. orders and accepts

7. The puppy **followed** the children through the forest.

a. watched

b. led

c. walked behind

d. understood

e. disagreed with

8. Her comment **points** to mistakes in his reasoning.

a. uses a finger to direct attention

b. scores

c. indicates

d. uses a hand to say stop

e. brings corrections

9. The **light** sweater kept me warm and comfortable.

a. gentle

b. heavy

c. surprising

d. bright

e. thin

10. The book's exciting plot took another sharp **turn**.

a. long break

b. curve

c. steep drop

d. surprising event

e. chance

11. My younger sister **runs** faster than our brother.

a. drives

b. ends

c. owns

d. sprints

e. continues

12. My report **expands** on what we discussed earlier.

a. develops

b. looks

c. raises questions

d. spreads

e. rises

13. I used a yellow marker to **highlight** sentences.

a. verbally call attention to

b. verbally question

c. show the game’s best plays

d. physically mark in color

e. physically erase

14. She **found** her favorite coffee at the market.

a. come upon by chance

b. claimed

c. put down

d. searched for

e. discovered through study

15. He **opened** his report with a funny story.

a. installed

b. unfolded

c. unlocked

d. began

e. compared

16. The woman changed her **position** on the sofa.

a. job

b. way of speaking

c. memory

d. way of sitting

e. point of view

17. The character's **cold** words show she is unhappy.

a. useless

b. mumbled

c. unpracticed

d. freezing

e. unfriendly

18. The oranges increased the **weight** of his backpack.

a. heaviness

b. fragrance

c. metal

d. absence

e. power

19. He revised the **structure** of the whole argument.

a. organization

b. introduction

c. building

d. length

e. part

20. The dancers stretched to keep their bodies **flexible**.

a. easygoing

b. thin

c. easily movable

d. smart

e. funny

21. That **chapter** of our mother's life was frightening.

a. description

b. cover

c. time

d. branch

e. section

22. The little boy **carries** lots of groceries home.

a. drops off

b. expresses

c. orders and accepts

d. holds and moves

e. avoids

23. Your idea **strikes** me as an intelligent one.

a. taps

b. goes away from

c. walks out

d. comes across to

e. physically hits

24. The woman **points** at her old apartment building.

a. uses a hand to say stop

b. scores

c. uses a finger to direct attention

d. brings corrections

e. indicates

25. I **followed** the author's argument through the book.

a. led

b. disagreed with

c. understood

d. watched

e. walked behind

26. The dangerous mountain road took a sudden **turn**.

a. surprising event

b. long break

c. chance

d. curve

e. steep drop

27. The president’s speech had some **light** humor in it.

a. gentle

b. heavy

c. surprising

d. thin

e. bright

28. The city **expands** beyond its ancient rock walls.

a. rises

b. looks

c. raises questions

d. develops

e. spreads

29. One day of the summer **runs** into the next.

a. drives

b. owns

c. ends

d. continues

e. sprints

30. He shouted the words to **highlight** their importance.

a. physically mark in color

b. verbally question

c. verbally call attention to

d. show the game’s best plays

e. physically erase

31. He **opened** the wooden door for his grandmother.

a. compared

b. unfolded

c. began

d. installed

e. unlocked

32. She **found** a connection between walking and health.

a. discovered through study

b. searched for

c. put down

d. claimed

e. come upon by chance

33. My fingers become **cold** without my blue mittens.

a. useless

b. freezing

c. mumbled

d. unpracticed

e. unfriendly

34. The woman changed her **position** in the debate.

a. way of sitting

b. point of view

c. job

d. memory

e. way of speaking