

Part I – **READING COMPREHENSION** – Read the following text and answer questions 1 to 10.

THE FALL OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

You can look at the rise and fall of any nation in terms of cycles and Great Britain is no exception.

5 The fall of any nation is never the result of one single event but a series of **foolish** decisions.

Great Britain was falling

10 long before World War II. As early as the turn of the 20th century, cartoons showed the famous crowned Lion, (the symbol of Great Britain's power and influence) with **its** teeth pulled out. This was a sad commentary on a once **proud** and formidable world

15 empire. But the British were simply subject to the age-old rise and fall of nations.



20

But the main reason for the fall of the British Empire was World War II for two reasons. Firstly, many nations, such as India, could not accept slavery anymore and started revolting against the British to get back their own land. They started demanding, **either** through armed rebellion or peaceful protest and politics, the right to be self-governing dominions. Some of the colonies literally drove the British out of

25

their countries. Secondly, the UK was financially exhausted and in debt to the US and its naval and military forces were weak. This left it almost impossible to defend its colonies by force. By 1980 they faced a threat from the relatively insignificant forces of Argentina, who **claimed** the British Falkland Islands as their own. Great Britain finally sank to its lowest point since the early 1400's.

Adapted from: <http://wiki.answers.com>

I – **UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT**

1. The main idea of the text above is to:

- a) highlight the current influence of the British Empire.
- b) show the symbol of Great Britain's power and influence.
- c) briefly explain the decline of the British Empire.
- d) present the causes and consequences of the war.

2. The text above says that:

- a) one single event can make a nation fall.
- b) every nation has a symbol.
- c) in the 20th century Great Britain grew stronger.
- d) nations have risen and fallen throughout history.

3. Choose the **CORRECT** alternative according to the text.

- a) World War II was crucial to the fall of the British Empire.
- b) There were no armed rebellions against the British.
- c) The British decided to leave some of their colonies.
- d) Many nations bought their land from the British.

4. Choose the **INCORRECT** alternative according to the text.

- a) A financial crisis contributed to the fall of the Empire.
- b) The UK military forces have always been strong.
- c) The UK owed money to the US.
- d) The UK had a military conflict with Argentina.

II – **REFERENCE**

5. The word '**its**' (line 13) refers to:

- a) Great Britain
- b) the famous crowned Lion
- c) formidable world empire
- d) the British

6. The word '**their**' (line 25) refers to:

- a) the dominions
- b) the British
- c) some of the colonies
- d) politics

III – **VOCABULARY**

7. In the text, the word '**foolish**' (line 8) means:

- a) important
- b) serious
- c) irrelevant
- d) stupid

8. The word '**proud**' (line 14) means:

- a) vainglorious
- b) modest
- c) ashamed
- d) damaged

9. The word '**either**' (line 22) states in the sentence the idea of:

- a) contrast
- b) alternative
- c) consequence
- d) condition

10. The word '**claimed**' (line 31) means:

- a) lost
- b) donated
- c) demanded
- d) denied

PART II – USE OF ENGLISH

For questions **11 to 20**, choose the option that **CORRECTLY** completes the sentences. (X = no word)

11. **A:** Have you _____ been abroad?
a) unless b) yet c) just d) ever
B: No, never.
12. **A:** Would you like some coffee?
a) just b) yet c) still d) ever
B: No, thanks. I've _____ had some.
13. **A:** Why aren't you reading your book?
a) never b) already c) yet d) ever
B: I've _____ finished it. You can ask me any questions if you want.
14. Joseph is _____ man I've _____ met.
a) the richest / still b) the richer / yet c) the richest / ever d) the richer / just
15. This is the _____ book that they _____ in the store.
a) more expensive – have sold ever c) more expensive – already sold
b) most expensive – have sold yet d) most expensive – have ever sold
16. My brother and I weren't accepted into the basketball team because we're _____ all the other players.
a) as short as b) the shortest c) not as tall as d) much shorter
17. When I _____ for help, our teacher explained it to us – it was _____ we thought.
a) have asked / not trickier than c) asked / not as tricky than
b) asked / not as tricky as d) have asked / not less tricky as
18. **A:** How long _____ you _____ to your ex-husband?
a) were – married / got b) have – been married / got c) have – married / have d) were – married / have
B: For ten years. We _____ divorced last year.
19. We know it's good _____ a social life. People go to parties _____ new friends and to try _____ a new romance.
a) having / for to make / to start c) having / to making / starting
b) to have / to make / to start d) to have / for to make / starting
20. _____ outside with the family can be really enjoyable. Families love _____ and when the conversation develops in a pleasant way it stops you from _____ about your problems.
a) Eating / to talk / to think c) Eat / to talk / thinking
b) To eat / talking / to think d) Eating / talking / thinking

For questions **21 to 25**, choose the **INCORRECT** option.

21. a) She has travelled all around the world.
b) Many people have never travelled by plane.
c) When have you travelled by plane?
d) Where did you last travel to?
22. a) What did you see on TV last night?
b) I've seen her an hour ago.
c) I haven't seen my cousins for ages.
d) How many times have you seen this film?
23. a) I never waste my time watching TV on Sundays.
b) I'd like to spend more time with my family.
c) Some people are never at time for meetings.
d) Chris takes a long time to get dressed.
24. a) In Brazil you must to be 16 to vote.
b) I had to study for my exams last night.
c) Do you have to wear a uniform at school?
d) You mustn't park your car here.
25. a) The weather's really hot today.
b) German is an incredible difficult language.
c) I'm a bit hungry. Shall we have a sandwich?
d) I often feel quite tired in the evening.

For questions **26 to 30**, choose the option which has the same meaning and idea as the words or phrases in *italics*.

26. *Why don't you go to bed?*
a) You have to go to bed. b) You had to go to bed. c) You may go to bed. d) You should go to bed.
27. *Unless I have time, I won't go to the cinema.*
a) If I have time, I won't go to the cinema.
b) If I don't have time, I won't go to the cinema.
c) If I had time, I wouldn't go to the cinema.
d) If I didn't have time, I wouldn't go to the cinema.
28. *I'm nervous because I've never flown before.*
a) This is my first flight.
b) I never travel.
c) I'll never fly again.
d) This is the last time I've travelled by plane.
29. *She's been married for ages.*
a) She's just got married.
b) She got married a long time ago and she's still married.
c) She's married to an old man.
d) She got married at an old age.
30. *If I were very rich, I'd travel abroad.*
a) I am very rich and I'll visit a foreign country.
b) I have enough money to travel to a different country.
c) I can't afford to travel outside my country.
d) I've never wanted to travel within my country.

Answer questions **31 to 40** according to the instructions.

31. Choose the option where the spelling of all the verbs in the gerund form is **CORRECT**.
 a) crying / playing / waiting
 b) dieing / having / being
 c) openning / doing / learning
 d) remembering / travelling / mixing
32. Choose the option with the **INCORRECT** definition.
 a) When you miss someone, it means you don't know where he/she is.
 b) When you miss an explanation, it means you don't understand it.
 c) When you miss a bus, it means you're too late to get on it.
 d) When you miss classes, it means you're absent.
33. Choose the **CORRECT** option in relation to the use of the words **win / earn**.
 a) He earned a lot of money in the lottery.
 b) I'd like to win a better salary.
 c) My team won the match.
 d) England earned the war – they defeated Argentina.
34. Choose the option where all the words are in the same vocabulary group.
 a) fly / mosquito / spider / belt
 b) chicken / horse / cap / camel
 c) bear / scarf / shark / tiger
 d) sheep / pig / goat / bull
35. Choose the option where the spelling of all the words is **CORRECT**.
 a) pijamas / jacket / suit
 b) dolphin / crocodile / butterfly
 c) whalle / rabbit / wasp
 d) traksuit / shoes / tights
36. Choose the option where the underlined vowels of both words have the same pronunciation as in 'come'.
 a) op / one
 b) drank / gone
 c) fun / known
 d) brother / won
37. Choose the option where the underlined consonants of both words have the same pronunciation as in 'show'.
 a) machhine / chess
 b) csh / confshion
 c) patshient / cautshion
 d) sghar / sghupper
38. Choose the option where the letters '-s'/'-es' at the end of both verbs are pronounced as in 'buys'.
 a) loves / cares
 b) takes / cleans
 c) names / watches
 d) studies / uses
39. Choose the option where the letters '-ed' at the end of both verbs are pronounced as in 'moved'.
 a) hated / carried
 b) listened / pretended
 c) stayed / remembered
 d) noticed / robbed
40. Choose the option in which the underlined words are **INCORRECT** in the sentence.
 a) I found the wallet into the drawer.
 b) She moved the books onto the second shelf.
 c) He threw the letter into the trash can.
 d) They got off the train and stepped onto the platform.

For questions **41 to 50**, fill in the blanks with the appropriate word(s) and mark the **CORRECT** alternative. (Note: **X= no word**)

Sir Winston Leonard Spencer-Churchill was a British politician and statesman known for his _____⁴¹ of the United Kingdom during the Second World War. People see him as one of the _____⁴² wartime leaders the world _____⁴³. He served as Prime Minister twice. A noted statesman and orator, Churchill was also an officer in the British Army, a _____⁴⁴, a writer, and an artist. Churchill was born into the aristocratic family of the Dukes of Marlborough. His father, Lord Randolph Churchill, was a charismatic _____⁴⁵ who served as Chancellor of the Exchequer. As a young army officer, Churchill _____⁴⁶ action in British India, the Sudan and the Second Boer War. He _____⁴⁷ fame as a war correspondent and through books he wrote about his campaigns. For fifty years, he _____⁴⁸ many political and cabinet positions. On 10 May 1940, Churchill became Prime Minister. He refused _____⁴⁹ defeat, surrender or a compromise peace, which helped inspire British resistance, especially during the difficult early days of the Second World War when Britain stood alone in its active _____⁵⁰ to Hitler.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 41. a) leadernism | b) leaderness | c) leaderation | d) leadership |
| 42. a) more great | b) most great | c) greater | d) greatest |
| 43. a) has seen ever | b) has ever seen | c) seen ever | d) ever seen |
| 44. a) historian | b) historiator | c) historic | d) historical |
| 45. a) political | b) politics | c) politician | d) politicalicist |
| 46. a) saw | b) has seen | c) was seeing | d) would see |
| 47. a) gained | b) has gained | c) was gaining | d) would gain |
| 48. a) held | b) has held | c) was holding | d) would hold |
| 49. a) consider | b) to considering | c) considering | d) to consider |
| 50. a) opposite | b) opposition | c) oppositing | d) oppotionism |

