

GRE Sentence Equivalence Practice Test 6

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

2. 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

3. 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

4. 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

5. 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

6. 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

7. 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

8. 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

9. 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

10. 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

11. ____ 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

12. 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

13. 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

14. 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

15. 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

16. 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

17. 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

18. 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

19. 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

20. 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