

**I. Read the following text and do the tasks below.**

Desertification usually occurs in dry areas where there is no rain and where the climate is harsh. In these places, the top layer of the soil is destroyed so that the land can no longer be used for growing crops or grazing animals. This means that people who depend on the land for food have to move to 'greener' areas in order to survive. A proportion of the population may survive by moving, but others may die because of shortages of food and water.

Although natural changes in the climate often start the process, the activities of human beings are often the real cause of desertification. Because there are growing numbers of people to feed, farmers tend to over cultivate their land, with the result that the soil becomes poor and unproductive. Other farmers overgraze their land and this permanently kills off grass and other plants. Deforestation also erodes the soil. Trees are usually cut down to make more agricultural land, but once there are no trees and plants on an area of land, there is nothing to stop the wind and rain from blowing or washing away the top layer of soil.

**Choose the right answer a, b, c or d**

1. The actual reason of desertification is.....  
A. wind erosion B. climate change C. human activities D. drought
2. Forests are cut down so that farmers can....  
A. grow more crops B. overcultivate their land C. overgraze their land D. survive
3. Some people can stay alive when they move to .....  
A. cities B. more fertile land C. more unproductive areas D. areas with extreme climates
4. The land cannot be used for farming when the top layer of soil is....  
A. reclaimed B. blown by the wind C. washed away by the rain D. both B and C

**Choose the meaning/ definition of the following words:**

5. **shortages** means:  
A. too much B. plenty of C. lack or state of not having D. overflow
6. **erode** means:  
A. destroy slowly B. fix C. reclaim D. harm quickly
7. **harsh** means:  
A. mild B. severe C. cold D. hot

**II. Read the following text and do the tasks below.**

Samuel Beckett was one of the most important writers of the 20th century and was friends with other influential writers, such as James Joyce. He wrote novels, plays and poems in both French and English about what it is to be human. Since there is no single answer to the question of human nature, the ideas in Beckett's writing can only be taken as one possible response. In his works, he suggests that the purpose of life is not something that is given to us; it is something we must make for ourselves. This way of thinking is known as 'absurdism' because its followers believe that it is an absurd, or very improbable, idea to believe that the universe has a natural order and purpose.

Waiting for Godot is one of the most famous absurdist plays. The play is also somewhat symbolic. In the play, Beckett uses satire so that we can understand his views on human nature. Its two main characters – Vladimir and Estragon – are waiting for the mysterious Godot, who will probably never arrive. While they are waiting, they cannot find a purpose for their lives. In this way, we see their foolishness and begin to understand how silly Beckett thinks it is to wait for a purpose, rather than making your own. His play is both tragic and comedic because he uses satire to make us laugh at his characters' silly behaviour at the same time as making us feel pity for them because of how they behave.

**Choose the correct answer a, b, c or d.**

8. "Waiting for Godot" is a play that is known as a ....  
A. comedy B. tragicomedy C. tragedy D. none of them is correct
9. Beckett believes that the aim of life is something we have to..... for.  
A. wait B. dream C. look D. work
10. Beckett's novels, plays and poems were about.....  
A. human nature B. human will C. human contribution D. human intelligence
11. Vladimir and Estragon are waiting for Godot who was.....  
A. an old acquaintance B. someone they know before C. a close friend  
D. someone they didn't know before

**Choose the correct meaning of the underlined words:**

12. **response** means:  
A. behaviour or attitude B. connected to what is important C. something we buy D. an answer or a key to understand something
13. **absurd** means:  
A. logical and reasonable B. wildly unreasonable or illogical C. natural and common D. accepted by one's mind
14. **pity** means  
A. feel angry B. feel hungry C. feel sorry D. feel fine

**III. Choose the right answer:**

15. Those chemicals are only dangerous if you ..... them.  
A. overuse B. reuse C. underuse D. misuse
16. The rainforest has been cut down..... make more farmland.  
A. in order to B. because C. so that D. this leads to
17. On wet days, the biomes are full ..... visitors sheltering from the rain.  
A. with B. of C. in D. on
18. There would be a ..... situation in society if there were no ..... systems.  
A. chaos B. innocent C. chaotic D. innocence
19. The letter came this morning – completely out of the .....
- A. green B. red C. blue D. white
20. The council is ..... spaces for new houses.  
A. going along with B. cut down on C. running out of D. keep up with
21. It ..... be an interesting place to work. I feel sure it is.  
A. must B. can't C. might D. may
22. .... buildings, all I can see from my window are fields and trees.  
A. Whereas B. More C. Instead of D. Although
23. The police sergeant ..... two people so far today.  
A. had interviewed B. has interviewed C. was interviewing  
D. interviewed

