



Read the text about 5 different festivals below and answer the questions 1-14.

### A. The Rio Carnival in Brazil

This festival is by far the largest in the world. Hundreds of thousands of visitors come every year for the celebrations before the start of Lent, (a fasting period of forty days before Easter). The carnival takes place in the Sambadrome, a huge new stadium. There, samba schools compete with each other for the best costumes and dancing. They spend a lot of time and money on carnival preparations, making fantastic costumes, masks, decorations, mobile floats, and teaching the samba. In the past, the carnival procession was held in the streets of Rio, where beautifully clothed people threw streamers and confetti and danced for four days. Nowadays, the world's biggest street party has become a pleasure only for those who can afford the entrance fee.

### B. Oktoberfest

Foreign beer lovers might think that the Germans are unimaginative when it comes to beer because, good as it is, it all seems to taste very similar. There are, however, many regional and seasonal differences, particularly in Bavaria and Munich. Oktoberfest, the world's largest beer festival, actually begins in September and, to mark the occasion, each of Munich's many breweries makes a special beer. Because of this, an astonishing variety of different types and strengths of beer are available at this festival.

### C. The Fallas Festival

The most spectacular of Spain's thousands of festivals must be Valencia's Fallas Fiesta, a two-day event celebrating the end of winter. The Fallas Fiesta and street party start at noon on St. Joseph's Day, 19th March, with a deafening explosion of fireworks. Then there are contests for the best paella - a traditional Valencian rice dish. People gather in the streets to admire the costumes of the men dressed up as the Moors who occupied the city until the 13th century. In the months before the fiesta, **craftsmen** create around 370 papier mâché sculptures, the fallas, which are detailed caricatures of local people. At midnight, when the fallas are burnt, the burst of flames and fireworks symbolically forces out the winter.

### D. The Tibetan Butter Lamp Festival

Buddhists believe that nothing is permanent, and on the 9th of March, they celebrate this belief. Long before the festival begins, monks make their preparations by mixing brightly-coloured dyes into huge quantities of iced butter. It takes them several months to carve the frozen butter into highly decorated statues, some of

them as much as 8 metres high. On the day of the festival itself, the sculptures supported by wooden frames are carried through the streets and greeted with cheers from the excited crowds. Afterwards, the figures are thrown into a river by the monks who made them demonstrate the idea that not even the most beautiful things last forever.

### E. The Dragon Boat Festival

In China, towards the end of June, people celebrate a holiday known as the Dragon Boat Festival. The festival is held to honour the memory of Qu Xuan, a politician, and poet who, in the year 278 B.C., is said to have committed suicide by jumping into a river. It is said that local people threw rice dumplings into the water to save Xuan's soul from the evil spirits in the river. Nowadays, boat races are held every year to remind people of the search for the body of the dead poet. Spectators eat rice cakes and crews row large dragon-shaped boats. Some researchers, however, say that dragon boats existed long before the death of Qu Xuan, and the modern festival is a combination of several old traditions.

1. Which festival marks the death of a particular person?  
A) A    B) B    C) C    D) D    E) E
2. Which festival gives people a large variety to choose from?  
A) A    B) B    C) C    D) D    E) E
3. Which festivals are meant to remind people of something?  
A) A, D    B) C, E    C) B, E    D) D, E    E) C, D
4. Which festival is based on a religious belief?  
A) A    B) B    C) C    D) D    E) E
5. Which festival takes place in autumn?  
A) A    B) B    C) C    D) D    E) E
6. Which festivals involve a competition?  
A) A, E    B) D, E    C) A, D    D) A, C    E) C, D
7. Which festival teaches dancing skills and secrets?  
A) A    B) B    C) C    D) D    E) E
8. Which festival makes unusual use of food?  
A) A    B) B    C) C    D) D    E) E
9. Which festival now takes place in a building?  
A) A    B) B    C) C    D) D    E) E
10. Which festival marks the beginning of a season?  
A) A    B) B    C) C    D) D    E) E



11. Which festival marks the beginning of a religious period?

- A) A    B) B    C) C    D) D    E) E

12. Which festival probably dates back longer than was previously thought?

- A) A    B) B    C) C    D) D    E) E

13. Which festivals involve dressing up in special costumes?

- A) B, C    B) C, D    C) D, E    D) A, C    E) A, B

14. Which festival may be the biggest in the world?

- A) A    B) B    C) C    D) D    E) E

15. Four of these can complete the common phrase. Which doesn't?

- A) eight ball  
B) scenes  
C) wheel  
D) scissors  
E) times

16. Match the ways of preparing food with the items given.

- |             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1) chop     | a) eggs        |
| 2) stir     | b) carrots     |
| 3) scramble | c) apples      |
| 4) slice    | d) onions      |
| 5) grate    | e) sauce       |
| 6) peel     | f) cooked meat |

- A) 1c, 2f, 3a, 4b, 5a, 6d  
B) 1d, 2e, 3a, 4b, 5f, 6c  
C) 1a, 2c, 3b, 4f, 5e, 6d  
D) 1d, 2e, 3a, 4f, 5e, 6b  
E) 1b, 2c, 3a, 4c, 5d, 6f

17. Choose the correct series.

**If I ... you were coming, I ... the others to stay a little longer so that you ... everything to them. This way they ... what you ... before you ... to Glasgow.**

- A) had known / would have asked / could explain / would understand / had been doing / moved  
B) would have known / would ask / could have explained / would understand / had been doing / would move  
C) had known / would have asked / could explain / would have understood / had been doing / moved  
D) had known / would ask / could explain / would understand / had been doing / had moved  
E) would have known / would have asked / could explain / would have understood / had been doing / moved

18. Match the authors to the novels.

1. Nathaniel Hawthorne	a. Pride and Prejudice
2. Emily Bronte	b. Lord of the Flies
3. William Golding	c. The Scarlet Letter
4. Herman Melville	d. Moby Dick
5. Jane Austin	e. Wuthering Heights

- A) 1a – 2b – 3c – 4d – 5e  
B) 1c – 2a – 3e – 4b – 5d  
C) 1c – 2e – 3b – 4d – 5a  
D) 1e – 2c – 3b – 4d – 5a  
E) 1c – 2e – 3d – 4b – 5a

19. Choose the correct series.

**I hate it when people ... into a serious conversation and then start ... or ... on about their pretty personal problems for hours. The other day I ... out my opinion and then noticed that everybody was at a loss ... words and had gone silent.**

- A) jump / crying / telling / shouted / of  
B) butt / gossiping / rambling / blurted / for  
C) interrupt / yelling / talking / screamed / of  
D) get / shouting / rambling / whispered / of  
E) butt / giggling / chatting / muttered / for

20. At a car boot sale, people sell ... .

- A) only new boots  
B) only new cars  
C) only secondhand goods  
D) only new boots and new cars  
E) only brand-new goods

21. Choose the correct grade of words.

**The ... department expects all customers to get a ... with every purchase they make, otherwise, they will have to pay a ... .**

- A) receipt/ fine/ tax  
B) tax/ receipt/ fine  
C) fine/ receipt/ fine  
D) receipt/ tax/ fine  
E) tax/ receipt/ tax

22. Match the words and form compound nouns.

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| 1) security | a) tool    |
| 2) garden   | b) by      |
| 3) traffic  | c) site    |
| 4) police   | d) guard   |
| 5) web      | e) station |
| 6) passer   | f) jam     |

- A) 1f, 2b, 3c, 4a, 5d, 6e  
B) 1c, 2d, 3f, 4e, 5b, 6a  
C) 1d, 2a, 3f, 4e, 5c, 6b  
D) 1b, 2f, 3e, 4d, 5a, 6c  
E) 1a, 2b, 3f, 4c, 5e, 6d



23. What is the term for cooking food slowly in gently boiling water?

- A) roast
- B) simmer
- C) bake
- D) fry
- E) boil

24. What is the meaning of the word in bold?

He made every **endeavour** to overcome the difficulties he was facing.

- A) effort
- B) movement
- C) promise
- D) gesture
- E) sign

25. **To be down in the dumps** means to be ... .

- A) sad
- B) stupid
- C) poor
- D) ignorant
- E) irresponsible

26. Match the words with their definitions.

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 1) fierce        | a) completely developed                |
| 2) malevolent    | b) trying to appear wise and important |
| 3) sententious   | c) bright red, like fire               |
| 4) fully-fledged | d) violent and frightening             |
| 5) fiery         | e) wanting to cause harm               |

- A) 1d/2b/3e/4a/5c
- B) 1c/2d/3b/4a/5c
- C) 1d/2e/3b/4c/5a
- D) 1d/2e/3b/4a/5c
- E) 1e/2d/3b/4c/5a

Read the text below and answer the questions 27-31.

### Why the world is terrified of Artificial Intelligence

When the likes of Bill Gates and Stephen Hawking are coming to the fore to warn us that life as we know it might soon end at the hands of Artificial Intelligence, is it time to start worrying? After all, these are people who have themselves been the promoters of technological advances that have almost completely reshaped our world. And they are the ones who are now sounding the alarm bell, putting forward scenarios that sound like sci-fi scripts.

Big technological change has always been ushered in with fair amounts of panic about humanity losing its grip over the world. But it is quite surprising that representatives of the technologically savvy elite are so opposed to change. The idea that in the near future,

humans will lose control of intelligent machines and be exterminated or enslaved by them is, however, scary enough to make us take a step back and ponder it.

Stephen Hawking has defined Artificial Intelligence as a “dual use” technology. Like nuclear fission, the science which gave us both power plants and nuclear bombs, A.I. can be capable of great good and great harm, depending on its users’ intentions. What are some harmful uses of A.I? One obvious example is autonomous killing machines. More than 50 nations are currently developing independent battlefield robots, that can autonomously decide who to target and kill without any human input. How will they be able to tell civilians apart from enemies? Who will they answer to? Who is responsible for the actions they perform? These questions are so far unanswered.

Another spine-chilling use of A.I. is data mining. Data-mining software can collect, analyse, and store such huge amounts of information that human brains would take millions of years to process it. Used by governments or security agencies like the U.S. National Security Agency, data mining software means that such institutions can literally know anything and everything about each and every one of us. Until recently, it took a judge to make a decision about access to personal data. Now, the NSA can go around the legal system and break into Yahoo and Google databases by resorting to data mining software.

A.I. techniques are also useful in many ways: they help us navigate the Internet, shop, translate and, soon enough, drive our cars. Many people choose to believe that if they become so smart as to “think” and “feel” in ways similar to us, they will be harmless or even amiable. However, if thinking machines learn to program themselves to become more intelligent, chances are that they will develop basic drives and start looking out for themselves alone. Unless we invest time and money into making sure we retain control over our own creation, what today looks like the road to progress might lead to our extinction.

27. One reason to be sceptical about A.I. is that people who oppose it are ... .

- A) politicians that have our best interests in mind
- B) some of the big brains in the areas of science and technology
- C) philosophers
- D) people who can tell the future
- E) near future humans

28. A **dual use** technology is one that ... .

- A) can solve two tasks at the same time
- B) can be used by two users simultaneously
- C) can be both harmful and beneficial
- D) changes its behaviour unpredictably



E) is able to tell civilians apart from enemies

**29.** What is the problem with using A.I. in military conflict?

- A) Robots will not be able to fight properly.
- B) Robots cannot make ethical choices.
- C) Robots can break down during military operations.
- D) The costs are too high.
- E) More than 50 nations are currently developing independent battlefield robots.

**30.** Data mining software is ... .

- A) used by judges to pass their verdicts
- B) used by Google and Yahoo to make their customers happy
- C) used by security agencies to track and record personal data
- D) used by companies to create better products
- E) collected, analysed, and stored in huge amounts

**31.** If thinking machines start programming themselves, they might ... .

- A) start serving their own interests
- B) better look after us
- C) discover new resources
- D) self-destruct
- E) learn to navigate the Internet, shop, translate and, soon enough, drive our cars

**32.** Which is the odd one out?

- A) My knowledge of ICT technology could help me coin money.
- B) If I go north or south, I will turn up at the same location. It is six of one, half dozen of the other.
- C) I would never invest in their company. They are high rollers and I cannot afford that kind of risk.
- D) He lost his job playing ducks and drakes with the funds of a corporation.
- E) Let us push the boat out and celebrate with a fancy dinner tonight.

**33.** They asked if ... always wanted to be a teacher.

- A) did she
- B) had she
- C) she had
- D) did
- E) has she

**34.** He'll probably have to do what she tells him to, ... ?

- A) will he
- B) won't he
- C) does she
- D) doesn't she
- E) did he

**35.** What novel presents a group of boys who were shipwrecked on a beach after their plane crashed?

- A) Lord of the Flies
- B) Robinson Crusoe
- C) The Treasure on the Island
- D) The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
- E) Crime and Punishment

**36.** The most famous date in English history is 1066 when the Normans defeated the English and took control of England. The Norman Conquest was ... importance for further historical development.

- A) an utmost
- B) of utmost
- C) utmost
- D) the utmost
- E) at most

**37.** Jane is a very ... student. She never misses a class.

- A) honest
- B) conscious
- C) conscientious
- D) gullible
- E) truant

**38.** A lady-in-waiting is ... .

- A) a woman standing in the line
- B) a woman waiting for someone
- C) woman married to a nobleman
- D) a poor woman begging for food or money
- E) a woman who attends to a queen or a princess

**39.** In 1533, King Henry VIII wanted to divorce his first wife (he would marry six times!), Catherine of Aragon, because she had failed to give birth to a son. Pope Clement VII, however, refused to annul this marriage. Therefore Henry VIII decided to establish his own church. What is the name of this church?

- A) The Church of England
- B) The Church of Wales
- C) The Church of Great Britain
- D) The Church of Meulebeke
- E) The Church of Britain

**40.** Find the odd word out.

- A) Filipino
- B) Israeli
- C) Iraquian
- D) Portuguese
- E) Seychellois