The Most Amazing Structure on Earth

There are people who say the most amazing structure on earth is the human brain. It is so complex that it took about 700 million years to develop. Humans started out as wormlike creatures that used one end of the body to move forward. Ever so slowly, a bunch of nerves began developing at that one end — the head. These nerves helped the creature to sense light, food and danger. Eventually, this bunch of nerves became the creature’s brain. To carry messages from the brain to other parts of the body, the creature grew a spinal cord. Later, the creature became a fish with eyes, ears and a nose that could send the brain information about sights, sounds and smells.

More time passed, and the fish grew arms and legs so it could move about on land. For this, it needed a larger and more complex brain. It became an ape-like creature, and the parts of the brain used for seeing images and being social grew much stronger. Finally, the ape-like creature became human, with a brain that was capable of reason, emotion, creativity, memory and the ability to judge right from wrong.

The human brain is very mysterious. Many questions about the brain have not yet been answered. For example, why do we need to sleep or why do we dream? There is a lot about the brain that we do not yet understand. Believe it or not, people used to think of the brain as useless stuffing. Of course, we now know the brain is our control centre. The surface of the brain is called the cerebral cortex. It is the part of the brain that makes us intelligent, and it consists of four parts called lobes. The front lobe is where much of our thinking and feeling happens. The top lobe processes information which is coming from parts of our bodies, such as our skin and muscles. The side lobe plays an important role in hearing, speech and long-term memories while the back lobe processes images from our eyes.

Which do you think is more powerful: your brain or a supercomputer? You might be surprised to learn that the world’s best supercomputer is only about as powerful as half a mouse brain! Your brain is packed with 100 billion brain cells called neurons. They send information to your body telling it what to do, and they receive information from each of your senses, what you see, feel, taste, hear and touch. All of this information travels to and from parts of your body along your spinal cord, which is like a highway found down the centre of your back. As the information travels from neuron to neuron, pathways are created. When you think about or practice something again and again, those pathways get stronger. That’s how the brain learns and remembers. Actually, you were born with most of the neurons you have now, but when you were a baby, you didn’t have many pathways to connect them. As an adult, you now have more than 125 trillion connections between your neurons. No computer on earth can compete with the speed of your brain and how much information it can hold.

1. What is the article mainly about?
   A. The human body.  
   B. The way time has passed by.  
   C. The human brain.  
   D. A super computer.  
   E. none of the above.
2. The brain's neurons use the spinal cord like a _____.
   A. road
   B. map which shows the locations of different parts of the body
   C. way of sending information to the feet only
   D. guide to help people do their necessities
   E. firepole to transport them down

3. People who injure their side lobe of the cerebral cortex _____.
   A. are usually not very intelligent
   B. may not be able to feel happiness or sadness as well as other people
   C. may have trouble remembering things
   D. could not coordinate the way their arms and legs move
   E. might become less intelligent than the rest of the people

4. The brain of a mouse is _____.
   A. about half as strong as the world's best supercomputer
   B. about as strong as the world's best supercomputer
   C. about one third as strong as the world's best supercomputer
   D. about twice as strong as the world's best supercomputer
   E. about twice the size of a peanut

5. How many connections between neurons do adult humans have?
   A. 100 billion.
   B. 700 billion.
   C. 125 trillion.
   D. 150 trillion.
   E. 125 billion.

6. What is the main idea of the third paragraph?
   A. The cerebral cortex, which has four parts, makes us intelligent.
   B. People used to think the brain was not important.
   C. The cerebral cortex has three parts.
   D. The cerebral cortex functions like an autonomous entity.
   E. The cerebral cortex, which is the best part of the brain.

7. What is the function of the top of the cerebral cortex?
   A. To process sounds that people hear.
   B. To process things that people touch.
   C. To process images from our eyes.
   D. To process flavors we try.
   E. To process textures that people see.

8. What is the main idea of the last paragraph?
   A. The brain's neurons send and receive information throughout the body faster than any computer.
   B. People are born with most of the neurons they have when they become adults.
   C. The brain has 100 million cells called neurons.
   D. People lose the same amount of neurons in a day that a rat throughout its life.
   E. The brain’s cells do not function as well as they should when a person is stressed.

9. The cerebral cortex consists of _____.
   A. four parts called neurons
   B. four parts called lobes
   C. useless stuff
   D. four parts called intrasections
   E. four parts called sections of the brain

10. What would the next article of this author probably be about?
    A. The super computer.
    B. The locomotion.
    C. The function of the liver.
    D. The nervous system.
    E. The extremities and their functions.
II. LISTENING (9 points)

Listening I- INTERCULTURAL EXPERIENCES

Instructions
Listen to the following audio and answer the five questions that follow. You will hear the audio twice.

11. When did Federico go out with his Egyptian colleagues?
   A. Some years ago.       D. On the first weekend.
   B. On the first day.      E. None of the above.
   C. On the first week.

12. Why was Federico surprised?
   A. Because they brought their families.
   B. Because they went to the beach.
   C. Because the rest of the people were Egyptians.
   D. Because they kept asking if he was OK.
   E. None of the above.

13. Why didn’t Federico feel comfortable at lunchtime?
   A. Because Manu insisted on sharing food.
   B. Because he doesn’t like to share his food.
   C. Because it is not a habit for Federico to be close to people.
   D. Because he was not hospitable.
   E. None of the above.

14. Why was Manu upset?
   A. Because Federico didn’t want to eat the food.
   B. Because Federico was rude.
   C. Because he thought that Federico was uncomfortable.
   D. Because he did not understand why Federico left if they were polite to him.
   E. None of the above.

15. What can be inferred as the cause of the problem between them?
   A. Federico didn’t understand the language.
   B. Federico didn’t know Egyptian culture.
   C. Federico didn’t understand or know Egyptian hospitality.
   D. Manu was not able to communicate correctly with Federico.
   E. None of the above.

Listening 2- COLOR BRANDING

Instructions
Listen to the following audio and answer the five questions that follow. You will hear the audio twice.

16. What is the single most important ingredient that helps a company update its image?
   A. Brand
   B. Color
   C. Pantone
   D. Image
   E. None of the above.

17. Lisa Herbert works at _____.
   A. a new station
   B. Home Depot
   C. Pantone
   D. a work corporation
   E. None of the above.

18. What will consumers think if they see a faded color on the shelf?
   A. The product is new.
   B. It’s a nice product.
   C. The product is odd.
   D. The product is old.
   E. None of the above.
19. What does Pantone’s “guru” help clients choose to define their company?
   A. A color  D. An idea
   B. A feeling  E. None of the above.
   C. A name

20. What is considered a friendly color?
   A. Orange  D. Yellow
   B. Brown  E. None of the above.
   C. Blue

III. USE OF ENGLISH (4 points)
Instructions
Read the following sentences and choose the answers that best complete them.

   What did the teacher say?
   A. He asked Wilson for a new window glass.
   B. He told Wilson he had seen him break the window glass.
   C. He threatened to break the window glass.
   D. He said he had seen him broke the window glass.
   E. He offered to break the window glass.

22. “I’ll lend you the money, Jimmy”, Gabriel said.
   A. He didn’t agree to lend Jimmy the money.
   B. Gabriel advised Jimmy to go to a bank.
   C. Gabriel promised to lend Jimmy the money.
   D. He invited Jimmy to relax and go to the financial market.
   E. Gabriel refused to lend the money.

23. The doctor asked _____ drinking coffee.
   A. to me that I stop  C. to me to stop  E. me that I stop
   B. me to stop  D. that I stop

24. He _____ stealing the car accessories from the parking lot at Mall del Sol.
   A. admitted  B. promised  C. accused  D. offered  E. warned

25. They haven’t finished fixing my car yet. They’re so slow! I can’t believe it _____ yet! It’s 2 weeks now.
   A. doesn’t fix  C. isn’t fixed  E. isn’t being fixed
   B. hasn’t fixed  D. hasn’t been fixed

26. I _____ some medicine for the cough, but cannot find it anywhere.
   A. prescribed  C. am prescribing  E. was prescribed
   B. have prescribed  D. was prescribing

27. In 2012 Psy released Gangnam Style, _____ exceeded one billion views on YouTube only in the first month!
   A. who  B. which  C. that  D. when  E. whose

28. Paula: I love the “Circle of Life” scene in the Lion King!
   Lisa: Yeah! Me too. That’s _____ Rafiki holds baby Simba for all the kingdom to see.
   A. which  B. whose  C. when  D. who  E. whose

29. If we increased the price on the open market, we _____ the risk of pricing ourselves out of the market.
   A. will run  C. are running  E. would have run
   B. ran  D. would run
30. I’d have sent them the task if they _____ more reliable. However, I didn’t think they weren’t capable of committing to project.
   A. had been  C. will be  E. would have been
   B. were  D. would be

31. The _____ in the newspaper simply said “No More War” about the new peace treaty between North Korea and South Korea.
   A. author  C. celebrity gossip  E. news
   B. breaking news  D. headline

32. I don’t think that I can _____ that apartment. The monthly rent is $2100!
   A. look for a bargain in  C. browse through  E. admit
   B. afford  D. come out

33. This month, De Prati is _____ its customers a 50% discount on all ladies shoes!
   A. agreeing  C. offering  E. recommending
   B. inviting  D. promising

34. On cigarette boxes, there is a label that _____ smokers of possible cancer.
   A. refuses  C. suggests  E. warns
   B. reminds  D. threatens

35. Edward is _____ who writes about his life as a fireman on his website “Living with Fire”.
   A. a blogger  C. a journalist  E. a reporter
   B. an editor  D. a presenter

36. Every Christmas, stores all over the United States offer products that are _____, some as much as 75% off the original price.
   A. in stock  C. guaranteed  E. a good value
   B. on sale  D. reasonably priced

37. What I love about Christmas music is how a(n) _____ can sing so beautifully.
   A. audience  C. musician  E. album
   B. choir  D. orchestra

38. ESPOL usually offers _____ festivals where you can see exhibitions related to the arts, music, literature and even theatre.
   A. charitable  C. musical  E. cultural
   B. creative  D. organised

39. The movie was supposed to be _____, but the audience never laughed. Most of them left early.
   A. an animation  C. a documentary  E. a romance
   B. a comedy  D. a drama

40. I think Vin Diesel would be _____ the new movie about car racing. He looks like a professional driver!
   A. essential for  C. perfect for  E. scared of
   B. interested in  D. popular with
ELECCIÓN MÚLTIPLE

1. RES: C  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: GIST
   OBJ: Reading
2. RES: A  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
   OBJ: Reading
3. RES: C  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
   OBJ: Reading
4. RES: D  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
   OBJ: Reading
5. RES: C  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
   OBJ: Reading
6. RES: A  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
   OBJ: Reading
7. RES: B  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
   OBJ: Reading
8. RES: A  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
   OBJ: Reading
9. RES: B  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
   OBJ: Reading
10. RES: D  PUN: 1  DIF: III  REF: Inference
    OBJ: Reading
11. RES: D
    ENGLISH UNLIMITED B1+ TRACK 1.7
    PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
    OBJ: Listening
12. RES: A
    ENGLISH UNLIMITED B1+ TRACK 1.7
    PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
    OBJ: Listening
13. RES: C
    ENGLISH UNLIMITED B1+ TRACK 1.7
    PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
    OBJ: Listening
14. RES: D
    ENGLISH UNLIMITED B1+ TRACK 1.7
    PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
    OBJ: Listening
15. RES: C
    ENGLISH UNLIMITED B1+ TRACK 1.7
    PUN: 1  DIF: II  REF: Inference
    OBJ: Listening
16. RES: B
    LISTENING Q SKILLS BOOK 2
    PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Detail
    OBJ: Listening
17. RES: C
LISTENING Q SKILLS BOOK 2
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Detail OBJ: Listening

18. RES: D
LISTENING Q SKILLS BOOK 2
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Detail OBJ: Listening

19. RES: B
LISTENING Q SKILLS BOOK 2
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Detail OBJ: Listening

20. RES: D
LISTENING Q SKILLS BOOK 2
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Detail OBJ: Listening

21. RES: B
OBJ: Grammar
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

22. RES: C
OBJ: Grammar
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

23. RES: B
OBJ: Grammar
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

24. RES: A
OBJ: Grammar
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

25. RES: D
OBJ: Grammar
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

26. RES: E
OBJ: Grammar
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

27. RES: B
OBJ: Grammar
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

28. RES: C
OBJ: Grammar
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

29. RES: D
OBJ: Grammar
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

30. RES: A
OBJ: Grammar
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

31. RES: D
OBJ: Vocabulary
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

32. RES: B
OBJ: Vocabulary
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

33. RES: C
OBJ: Vocabulary
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

34. RES: E
OBJ: Vocabulary
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

35. RES: A
OBJ: Vocabulary
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

36. RES: B
OBJ: Vocabulary
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application

37. RES: B
OBJ: Vocabulary
PUN: 1 DIF: I REF: Application
38. RES: E  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Application
   OBJ: Vocabulary
39. RES: B  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Application
   OBJ: Vocabulary
40. RES: C  PUN: 1  DIF: I  REF: Application
   OBJ: Vocabulary