UNIVERSITA’ DEGLI STUDI DI TRENTO

Prova di ammissione al corso di laurea in

LINGUE MODERNE

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Leggete con attenzione il seguente brano quindi rispondete ai quesiti da 01 a 10.

Cheap labour
The history of successful industries has always been a story of cheap labour. Clearly, if you can get people to work for very little, your business will be more profitable. Even in more recent times, you can track the movement of industry - textiles and tuna canning are two striking examples - to the places where the work can be done more cheaply. But imagine the profits if your labourers work for nothing. In other words, if you use slaves as the European colonial powers of the 16th to the 19th centuries did. Those countries which had colonised the Americas became dependent on enslaved labour for their survival. Colonial officials believed that the land they had ‘discovered’ in the Americas was useless without sufficient labour to exploit it. However, since there were not sufficient European or Native American workers, large numbers of African people were captured and transported to the Americas to work. The trans-Saharan slave trade had long supplied slaves from central Africa to work on sugar plantations in the Mediterranean. Having proved themselves competent workers in Europe, enslaved Africans became the labour force of choice in colonial America. Of the 6.5 million immigrants who survived the crossing of the Atlantic and settled in the western hemisphere between 1492 and 1776, only one million were Europeans. The remaining 5.5 million were African. Eighty percent of these enslaved Africans were employed as field-workers. Women as well as children worked. Only the very young and infirm escaped. Outside of the last named two categories, everybody else was initially placed by their ‘owners’ to work first on the sugar plantations, then on the tobacco plantations and, following the invention of the cotton gin in 1793, on the cotton plantations. These products brought great riches to the United States. Even though the majority of slaves were employed in agriculture, perhaps the luckier ended up in other modes of employment too - as butlers, waiters, maids, carriage drivers, blacksmiths and stable boys. In urban areas, such as New Orleans and Philadelphia, where they accounted for up to a third of the population, their owners made the slaves learn the trades of carpenter, stonemason, baker, etc. And so not just agriculture but the whole economy came to depend on this unpaid labour. At the same time, the British textile industry grew rich making clothes from America’s cheap imported cotton. Unfortunately, even though slavery was abolished a long time ago, the temptation to exploit people for extra profit by employing them on low wages has not gone away.

01. The author demonstrates the following principle:

A) the lower the worker’s payment, the more the employer’s profit.
B) the employer’s sole aim is to make others suffer.
C) people work for a low salary everywhere.
D) recent trends have led to the abolition of slavery.

Risposta corretta: A

02. The text, at one point, hypothesizes a modern scenario that

A) places workers on a par with slaves.
B) depends on tuna and textiles.
C) leads to the re-introduction of slavery.
D) has great respect for workers.

Risposta corretta: A

03. According to the article, which of the following statements is true?

A) The UK, France and others became considerably dependent on their possessions overseas.
B) There was an inter-dependence based on respect between colonial power and colony.
C) More land was sought by the colonists to create space for slaves.
D) The native North American population did not want to work.

Risposta corretta: A

04. In the slave trade described by the author

A) Africa was exploited so as to supply unpaid workers.
B) the Sahara supplied all the slaves.
C) Africans preferred Europe to Africa.
D) 6.5 million Africans crossed the ocean.

Risposta corretta: A

05. According to the article, which of the following statements is true?

A) Recent offspring and the infirm did not work.
B) After various attempts, the old and the infirm managed to escape.
C) The infirm were the only ones not to work.
D) The old and the infirm commanded considerable respect.

Risposta corretta: A

06. A peripheral aspect of slavery analysis is that

A) many of the imported people were used in urban settlements.
B) slavery did not create great wealth for the USA.
C) there were too few slaves for the plantations.
D) weaker people became butlers and drivers.

Risposta corretta: A

07. What does the word [?] mean in this context?

A) A device.
B) An alcoholic drink.
C) A way of employing a device.
D) A warehouse

Risposta corretta: A

08. The author of the article demonstrates that

A) unpaid labour was the order of the day.
B) the owners were benevolent in training for different activities.
C) many slaves were free to choose their respective occupations.
D) many slaves transferred to Philadelphia and New Orleans to become bakers or similar.

Risposta corretta: A

09. From the article it can be deduced that textiles were produced

A) in the UK.
B) in the USA.
C) partly in the USA and partly in the UK.
D) to make clothes for the plantation workers.

Risposta corretta: A

10. From the passage the reader understands that cheap labour

A) is today's version of slavery.
B) is what was practised on the plantations.
C) is a result of the abolition of slavery.
D) exists because of a shortage of money.

Risposta corretta: A

COMPRENSIONE DEL TESTO [11-20]
Leggete con attenzione il seguente brano quindi rispondete ai quesiti da 11 a 20.

The Facebook party that became a riot
It began as a plan for a normal 16th birthday party. Merthe wanted a quiet celebration with a small group of friends in her family home in the Dutch town of Haren. Like many teenagers, she decided to send invitations via a social network site. But Merthe made one big mistake: open-access settings on Facebook. Not just her friends could see details of the event - lots of strangers could too.
The number of invitation acceptances snowballed into an avalanche. Not marking the event as ‘private’ meant the electronic invitation was eventually seen by 240,000 people, of whom 30,000 confirmed online they planned to attend. Even worse, an unauthorised campaign was launched to promote the party through a dedicated website and Twitter account, which received hundreds of thousands of hits. The party become known as ‘Project X Haren’ after the 2012 American film Project X in which three high school students throw a party that spins out of control. Video trailers for Merthe’s party were produced, with scenes from Project X edited in. They were posted on YouTube and T-shirts featuring Merthe’s face were also made, all without her knowledge or consent.
Even after Merthe’s parents had cancelled the party, the publicity didn’t stop. Local media reported on the forthcoming event and teenagers turned up to have their pictures taken outside the family home. On the evening the party was to have taken place, about 5,000 teenagers began gathering in Haren, many outside the house. When it became clear that there was nothing to [gatecrash], violence broke out and 500 riot police equipped with helmets, shields and batons were
called to control the crowd. Shops in the centre of Haren were vandalised and looted, journalists were attacked, cars were set on fire or overturned and street signs and lamp-posts were damaged. However, Facebook was also involved in the clean-up effort in the days after the riot. A dedicated group ‘Project Clean-X Haren’ gathered and organised volunteers. Another Facebook venture, ‘Suspect-X Haren’, set out to help police identify and arrest the rioters by sharing photos and videos. Other 'Facebook parties' have spiralled out of control, including the 16th birthday party of British Bradley McAnulty in April 2012. Bradley had not posted details of the event on the Internet and had been careful to ask his friends not to, but somehow the news leaked out and appeared on Blackberry Messenger and Facebook. Some 400 gatecrashers invaded his home in Poole, Dorset, causing extensive damage.

11. The author of the article focuses on
   A) the organization of a teenage party.
   B) a quiet teenage party the parents did not approve of.
   C) a party that eventually took place.
   D) Merthe’s organization of a mega-party.
Risposta corretta: A

12. The passage shows how
   A) a user was inattentive.
   B) a social network is not useful as an organizational tool.
   C) Facebook should never be used for intimate planning.
   D) Facebook executes the desires of the user.
Risposta corretta: A

13. According to the article, which of the following statements is true?
   A) The acceptances spiralled.
   B) The invitations were sent out in the cold of winter.
   C) All invited parties decided to attend.
   D) Merthe set up a dedicated website.
Risposta corretta: A

14. The main party discussed by the author
   A) took on further characteristics after the input of a second network.
   B) gained no momentum after initial information was relayed.
   C) was never intended to take place.
   D) is the one that took place in Poole.
Risposta corretta: A

15. According to the article, which of the following statements is true?
   A) The party was at one stage scheduled to take place.
   B) Merthe’s house was severely damaged by rioters.
   C) The party organizers did not want it to get wide publicity.
   D) The party was successful in its aim.
Risposta corretta: A

16. The Haren evening event witnessed
   A) police on the scene to meet the teenagers.
   B) the burning of shops.
   C) a carbon copy of the American experience.
   D) premeditated violence on the teenagers’ part.
Risposta corretta: A

17. What does the word **gatecrash** mean in this context?
   A) To gain admittance to without being invited.
   B) To break down a barrier in order to enter.
   C) To be so voluminous that the crowd causes the gate to give way.
Risposta corretta: A
D) To use a vehicle to break through an entrance.
Risposta corretta: A

18. The author of the article reports on successful use of Facebook
   A) for two specific initiatives.
   B) for a sole initiative.
   C) for the way the police set up ‘Suspect X Haren’.
   D) for how Merthe used it for the clean-up.
Risposta corretta: A

19. The English party referred to
   A) highlights a more targeted type of destruction.
   B) concentrates on destruction in the streets.
   C) does not have to do with a contemporary of the Dutch girl.
   D) shows how the boy made the same mistake as Merthe.
Risposta corretta: A

20. The cause of the disaster in Poole was
   A) news of the party reached the wrong people
   B) the boy's decision not to use social media.
   C) his friends' contacting Blackberry.
   D) antipathy towards Bradley.
Risposta corretta: A

COMPETENZA GRAMMATICALE
Scegliete la risposta corretta fra le quattro opzioni (A - D). Una sola risposta è possibile.

21. If Doris ______________ eat so much, I'm sure she would be a lot slimmer.
    A) didn't
    B) hadn't
    C) wouldn't
    D) won't
Risposta corretta: A

22. We're getting married next month.
    - Really? __________
    A) That's very good news!
    B) That's a very good new!
    C) Those are great news!
    D) These are wonderful news!
Risposta corretta: A

23. Several ___________ involved in corruption scandals.
    A) politicians were
    B) politics have
    C) politicals are
    D) policies was
Risposta corretta: A

24. We did our best __________ our promise.
    A) not to break
    B) for not break
    C) to not breaking
    D) for not to break
Risposta corretta: A
25. Joan ____________ goes out in the evening.
   A) hardly ever
   B) hardly never
   C) never hardly
   D) almost hardly
   Risposta corretta: A

   A) catch up with
   B) come up with
   C) get until
   D) be up to
   Risposta corretta: A

27. ______________, this is the best option.
   A) As far as I’m concerned
   B) To what I am concerned
   C) For that I am concerned
   D) For what I concern
   Risposta corretta: A

28. He’s got __________ money and can’t __________ a car.
   A) little / afford
   B) little / permit him
   C) few / afford
   D) too few / buy
   Risposta corretta: A

29. I think hospital nurses are __________, especially considering the salaries they are paid.
   A) overworked
   B) extraworked
   C) aboveworked
   D) upworked
   Risposta corretta: A

30. I __________ on my way home from work.
   A) had my bag stolen
   B) was stolen of my bag
   C) stole of my bag
   D) had stolen my bag
   Risposta corretta: A

31. __________ this weather! It’s raining again!
   A) I’m fed up with
   B) I can’t support
   C) I don’t stand
   D) I get on bad with
   Risposta corretta: A

32. You ____________ him the truth.
   A) shouldn’t have told
B) shouldn’t have said
C) mustn’t have told to
D) you didn’t need tell

Risposta corretta: A

33. Noam Chomsky is a philosopher, historian, and linguist. ___________, he is a political activist.
A) Moreover
B) Beside
C) Although
D) In addition to

Risposta corretta: A

34. Miss Gina has 15 ____________ children in her kindergarten class.
A) four-year-old
B) four-years-old
C) four-year-olds
D) four years olds

Risposta corretta: A

35. He has lots of watches, ____________ are worth a lot of money.
A) some of which
B) some of the which
C) many of whom
D) several of whose

Risposta corretta: A

36. I can’t remember where ____________ my glasses.
A) I left
B) did I leave
C) I did leave
D) have I left

Risposta corretta: A

37. I ____________ sugary snacks, but I love crisps.
A) am not keen on
B) don’t go mad with
C) disagree with
D) am not fond with

Risposta corretta: A

38. Not only ____________ the letter, but I also e-mailed it.
A) did I translate
B) I translated
C) I did translate
D) I didn’t translate

Risposta corretta: A

39. ____________ what you may think, social networks are not changing the way we define friends.
A) Regardless of
B) In spite
C) Nevertheless
D) As regard

Risposta corretta: A
40. The baby ________________ his father. He's got the same blue eyes.
   A) takes after
   B) takes for
   C) looks similar to
   D) looks after
   Risposta corretta: A

41. Jack didn't pass the exam and ________________.
   A) neither did Susan
   B) Susan didn't too
   C) nor didn't Susan
   D) Susan didn't neither
   Risposta corretta: A

42. It was ________________ remember his girlfriend's birthday.
   A) foolish of him not to
   B) fool of him to not
   C) foolish he hadn't
   D) foolish his not
   Risposta corretta: A

43. Since you're here, ________________ me with these heavy boxes?
   A) would you mind helping
   B) do you mind to help
   C) would you mind to help
   D) do you bother to help
   Risposta corretta: A

44. I'll ________________ you my motorbike ________________ you drive carefully.
   A) lend / as long as
   B) borrow / if
   C) give / if not
   D) lend to / only if
   Risposta corretta: A

45. I ________________ she hasn't finished yet.
   A) wonder why
   B) wander if
   C) ask me whether
   D) ask me if
   Risposta corretta: A

46. Soon after the plane ________________, I swallowed a sleeping pill.
   A) took off
   B) took up
   C) gave up
   D) went above
   Risposta corretta: A

47. You look great! ________________ out at the fitness center?
   A) Have you been working
B) Have you being working
C) Have you working
D) You’ve being working

Risposta corretta: A

48. She __________ very early. She has to be in the office at 8 am.

A) is used to getting up
B) used to stand up
C) is used to wake up
D) got used to wake at

Risposta corretta: A

49. I prefer to start exercising _______________ go on a diet.

A) rather than
B) in place of
C) before to
D) instead to

Risposta corretta: A

50. I __________ the test but I’m not sure because the results __________ yet.

A) might have passed / haven’t been published
B) might be passed / weren’t published
C) ought to pass / haven’t been public
D) could pass / aren’t been published

Risposta corretta: A

Rispondete alle successive domande 51 e 52 SOLO se espressamente indicato dalla Commissione.

DOMANDE DI RISERVA [ 51-52 ]

51. It’s a secret. I’d rather you _________ anything about it

A) didn’t say
B) don’t tell
C) won’t tell
D) don’t tell to anyone

Risposta corretta: A

52. Those old boots are horrible. Why don’t you _________ them?

A) get rid of
B) get out of
C) go away with
D) get off with

Risposta corretta: A