

CogAT Verbal

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Hot Vocab

Spell each word two times on the space provided.

a c c u s e

to charge; to place blame.

a d v e r t i s e

to give notice over public media.

a n n u a l

occurring every year.

a r r o g a n c e

excess pride; haughtiness; the feeling of superiority shown by an overbearing manner.

a u d i t o r i u m

a large room for an audience.

b a n k

heap; piled-up mass; embankment; lateral tilting (as of an aircraft in turning).

b e n e d i c t i o n

a blessing; an expression of thanks; grace.

b i t i n g
sharp; cutting.

c o m p o s e d
to make up; to form; to constitute.

b r a k e
anything used to slow or stop the
motion of a wheel.

c u s t o d y
watchful keeping; charge; care.

c a r e e r
a job; profession; occupation.

d i s t a n c e
lack of friendliness or familiarity;
coldness of manner; reserve.

c h r y s a l i s
the change; the stage of
development from a larva to
butterfly.

e n e r g y
power; strength.

f a n c i f u l

using creative images instead of reason and logic.

i n s u l t

to say or do something very scornful, rude, or harsh to.

f o r e m a n

a boss of a workforce; a manager.

l e t h a r g y

drowsy dullness; lack of energy; sluggish inactivity; prolonged sluggishness of body or mind.

g l i s s a d e

a slide over snow or ice in descending a mountain slope.

m e t i c u l o u s

extremely careful; to every detail.

h y g i e n i c

free of disease germs.

n o w a d a y s

in the present time or age.

p a r t i c l e

a small piece; a very little bit.

r u f f l e

to disturb the smoothness of, to upset mildly.

p h r a s e o l o g y

in language, the way phrases and words are employed.

s h i e l d

a piece of armor made of metal, plastic, or other material.

p r i o r t o

before; preceding to.

s t o m p

to stamp with the foot; to walk with heavy steps.

r e g a i n

to get again; to recover.

Reading: The young slave tied food,

Choose the appropriate words to complete the passage. To make the right choice, sometimes you have to read the text that follows.

The young slave tied food, money, and a knife up in a cloth. She stared out into the sky and thought about her _____ She'd been plotting her escape for a while.

1. (A) plan
- (B) hair
- (C) rings
- (D) village
- (E) nails

Would she make it?

When darkness fell, Harriet Tubman dashed through the fields and into the trees. Before picking her way through the forest, she looked back. There was no one in sight. She turned and ran through the _____ toward Philadelphia.

2. (A) woods
- (B) plain
- (C) meadow
- (D) yard
- (E) city

Harriet knew she would be safe in Philadelphia. By law, there were no slaves in that city. There were no masters, either. In Philadelphia, slavery was not, _____.

3. (A) forgotten
- (B) feared
- (C) hated
- (D) common
- (E) allowed

The year was 1849, and slavery was a big issue in the United States. Some states permitted it, but others did not. People who did not believe in slavery had set up the Underground Railroad. This was a system to _____ slaves.

4. (A) trap
- (B) help
- (C) sell
- (D) catch
- (E) buy

It aided them in escaping from states that had slavery to states that didn't.

The Underground Railroad had no real trains. It did have "stations" and "conductors;" though. Stations were resting places for the runaway slaves. Conductors were people who helped the slaves on the journey to their _____.

5. (A) library
- (B) home
- (C) freedom
- (D) hospital
- (E) cellar

When the slaves got to the North, they were no longer slaves. In the North, laws said that each person is his or her own master.

With the help of the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman became a free woman. She _____ the North.

6. (A) left
- (B) hated
- (C) reached
- (D) feared
- (E) deserted

When she arrived in Philadelphia, a great feeling came over her. "I looked at my hands to see if I was the same person now that I was free;" she said. "I felt like I was in heaven"

Harriet Tubman wanted others to _____ the feeling of freedom.

7. (A) lose
- (B) shake
- (C) ruin
- (D) share
- (E) fear

She wanted others to feel wonderful the way she did. Harriet became a conductor on the Underground Railroad and returned to the South 19 times. Running through swamps and hiding in caves, she led more than 300 slaves to freedom. She was a daring conductor who never lost a passenger.

Confusing Words

Choose the best from the given choices to complete each of the following.

8. There was a _____ celebration when we won.
 (A) grate
 (B) great
9. He was the _____ survivor of the crash.
 (A) loan
 (B) lone
10. The eagle has as its _____ small birds and mammals.
 (A) pray
 (B) prey
11. I enjoy eating a juicy _____
 (A) pair
 (B) pare
 (C) pear
12. The ocean is at low _____
 (A) tide
 (B) tied
13. A rose is a beautiful _____
 (A) flour
 (B) flower
14. Show us _____ the new books are kept.
 (A) ware
 (B) wear
 (C) where
15. The _____ for the new school has been selected.
 (A) cite
 (B) sight
 (C) site
16. Mary was _____ introduced to her future-in-laws.
 (A) formally
 (B) formerly
17. The _____ came down the snowy hill.
 (A) slay
 (B) sleigh

Reading: The Purest Heart

The Purest Heart
A Story from China

¹In a forest in China, there lived a snake. The snake had a beautiful garden of flowers. One day the snake caught Chow Wing gathering the snake's flowers for his three daughters. The snake was angry. "Chow Wing," he hissed, "you must give me one of your daughters as a wife." Frightened, the man agreed.

²At home, Chow Wing grew sick with worry. He could neither eat nor sleep.

³"Please eat, Father," said his eldest daughter, Hua.

⁴"I am too worried," he said. "Hua, will you marry the snake and save us?"

⁵"You cannot ask me to marry a snake, Father!" said Hua, laughing. "He is so ugly, and I am beautiful. Everyone says so."

⁶Next he turned to Fung, his middle daughter. "Fung, will you marry the snake?"

.....

⁷"Dearest Father," said Fung, sighing deeply. "This snake is so harsh. I cannot!"

⁸The youngest daughter, Tao, stepped forward. "I will marry the snake," she said.

⁹In the forest some days later, sweet Tao married the snake. She became a good wife, cleaning and cooking and always being kind and respectful to her husband.

¹⁰One scorching summer afternoon, Tao returned from collecting water to find the snake dying from thirst. Quickly she plunged him into the cool water that she had brought. Before her eyes, he began to grow and change. When he had completed this change, he was a strong and handsome young man!

¹¹"Tao," he said. "A spell changed me into an ugly snake, but your love and kindness changed me back into my real self."

¹²The happy couple visited Chow Wing, Hua, and Fung. How amazed they were! The sisters also felt pangs of envy, now that Tao

was married to such a fine young man. Deep in their hearts, though, they knew that she was the one of pure heart, the only one who could have broken the evil spell.



Kapapitoe and the Lizard A Story from Indonesia

¹ In an Indonesian jungle lived an old woman who had raised a lizard as if he were her son. One day the lizard said, “Please go to the house of seven sisters. Ask if one of the sisters will marry me.”

² The old woman went to the seven single sisters’ house and asked the oldest to marry the lizard. The young woman laughed, saying, “Who would marry a lizard?”

³ Each day for a week, the old woman returned with bridal gifts and the marriage offer. One by one, six of the seven sisters refused. Finally she came to the

youngest sister, Kapapitoe. “I will marry him,” she said. A week later, the old woman returned with the bridal gifts and the lizard in a basket.

⁴ The six older sisters were cruel to Kapapitoe’s lizard husband. After working in the jungle all day, they would clean their feet on his scaly back. As the planting feast of Ta Datoe approached, they said to him, “You may not go to this feast, for you are an ugly lizard.” Kapapitoe was kind to her husband and hated the way her sisters treated him. As the youngest, though, she had no power over them.

⁵ The day before the feast, the lizard asked his wife to carry him into the jungle. There he used his long, slashing tail to cut trees and grass until he had cleared a field for planting. “There, now they will surely let me go to the planting feast tomorrow!” he said to Kapapitoe. Remaining cruel, the six sisters told him he was too revolting to be seen in their company.

⁶ On the day of the feast, Kapapitoe was ready to go to the river and wash. “Please take me to

the river with you,” said her husband, and so she did. The lizard went into the water. When he came out, he was a handsome young man dressed in fine clothes!

⁷ At the feast everyone asked, “Who is that handsome man with Kapapitoe?”

⁸ The old woman smiled and said, “It is her husband.”

⁹ Oh, how jealous those six sisters were! They tried time and time again to steal Kapapitoe’s husband from her, but he loved only his wife.

18. These passages are best described as
- (A) modern-day science fiction stories.
 - (B) fables about animals who learn a lesson.
 - (C) myths that explain how things began.
 - (D) fairy tales from two different countries.

19. Read this sentence from “Kapapitoe and the Lizard.”

Remaining cruel, the six sisters told him he was too revolting to be seen in their company.

Which word is a synonym for revolting?

- (A) cheerful
- (B) disgusting
- (C) wonderful
- (D) cruel

20. In “Kapapitoe and the Lizard,” how did Kapapitoe’s six sisters show how much they disliked and disrespected the lizard?

- (A) They would not give him any food to eat or water to drink.
- (B) They told Kapapitoe that she must leave their home with him.
- (C) They cleaned their dirty feet by wiping them on his rough skin.
- (D) They made him work hard all day, every day, in the jungle.

21. Both the snake and the lizard change into men when they
- (A) are in water.
 - (B) see water.
 - (C) drink water.
 - (D) say “water.”

Reading: Most fish have two

Most fish have two eyes. Their eyes can only see under the water. But there is a fish with four eyes. It can see above and below the water at the same time.

This fish has two eyes on top of its head. They look like two round, glass balls. Each eye is really two eyes in one. The top part of the eye can see in the air. The bottom part can see in the water. Each part works by itself.

This strange fish is long and thin. It swims just under the water. The top part of each eye sticks out of the water. Now the fish has two eyes above the water and two eyes below.

The eyes on top can see insects on the water or in the air. The eyes on the bottom can search for food under the water. The four-eyed fish eats well!

22. Which part of the eye sees in the air?
- (A) top
 - (B) bottom
 - (C) side
 - (D) back

eyes.

-
23. Which word in Paragraph 4 means “look carefully”?
- (A) food
 - (B) eats
 - (C) search
 - (D) well
24. The story tells mostly about the _____ of a four-eyed fish.
- (A) nest
 - (B) eyes
 - (C) shape
 - (D) eggs
25. Which paragraph tells how the fish swims in the water?
- (A) 1
 - (B) 2
 - (C) 3
 - (D) 4
26. Bottom is the opposite of top.
Below is the opposite of _____
- (A) under
 - (B) down
 - (C) above
 - (D) water

27. The story does not say, but you can decide that a four-eyed fish _____.
- (A) eats insects
 - (B) cannot see very well
 - (C) has glass eyes

Reading: A dogfish is not a

A dogfish is not a friendly family pet. It is a small shark. Dogfish hunt together like wild dogs. The pack races through a school of fish and kills them for food.

There are different kinds of dogfish. They may be from two to five feet long. Most of them have sharp teeth. As a dogfish grows older, its teeth grow bigger. The teeth grow in three or four rows. If the outside row wears out, the next row is ready. The dogfish always has a good set of teeth.

Most dogfish live in warm waters. Some live very deep in dark waters. People who have fishing jobs don't like dogfish. The fierce hunters break the fishing nets or eat the fish.

Dogfish do have some uses, though. Many people eat dogfish meat. Some farmers dry the meat. Then they put it on their fields. It makes plants grow better.

friendly

-
28. An older dogfish will have _____ teeth.
 (A) sharper
 (B) fewer
 (C) no
 (D) bigger
29. Which word in Paragraph 2 means "having a pointed, cutting edge"?
 (A) different
 (B) long
 (C) sharp
 (D) ready
30. The story tells about the _____ of dogfish.
 (A) babies
 (B) tail
 (C) color
 (D) teeth
31. Which paragraph tells why people with fishing jobs don't like dogfish?
 (A) 1
 (B) 2
 (C) 3
 (D) 4

32. Large is the opposite of small.
Young is the opposite of

-
- (A) good
 - (B) old
 - (C) long
 - (D) big

33. School means _____ in
Paragraph 1.

- (A) a group of fish
- (B) a place where people go to learn

Completing a Story

Completing the story.

34. Mrs. Smith had a store. In her _____ she had things to buy.

- (A) house
- (B) store
- (C) room

35. I had a dog. Its name was Spot. It was black and white. One day Spot ran away. I was so _____.

- (A) happy
- (B) sad
- (C) cry

My father said, "I have an idea. We will put a _____ in the store.

- (A) name
- (B) dog
- (C) picture

We will say, "Spot is lost. Please _____ Spot for us."

- (A) feed
- (B) like
- (C) find

I said, "Good _____!"

- (A) dog
- (B) day
- (C) idea

So we went to the store. There was a _____ for pictures.

- (A) place
- (B) name
- (C) light

36. We did what father said.
Then we went _____.

- (A) car
- (B) home
- (C) other

That night, we had
_____.

- (A) dinner
- (B) sleep
- (C) show

The phone _____.

- (A) rang
- (B) call
- (C) stop

My father talked to a man on
the phone. “He has found
Spot!” my father said. We
_____ to the man’s
house.

- (A) on
- (B) went
- (C) are

Spot was wet and
_____.

- (A) dirty
- (B) no
- (C) sleep

Spot said, “Bark! Bark!” We
said “ _____ you!” to the
man.

- (A) Yes
- (B) Take
- (C) Thank

We went home. Now Spot is
with us again.

37. On rainy mornings in the
_____,

- (A) yard
- (B) farm
- (C) city
- (D) desert

the cars on the street swish
through the puddles. The water

- (A) sprays
- (B) paints
- (C) colors
- (D) heats

people walking on the
_____.

- (A) buildings
- (B) sidewalks
- (C) cars
- (D) bridges

making them even more cold
and _____.

- (A) warm
- (B) dry
- (C) happy
- (D) wet

Related Words of Fortune

Finish each sentence with the word in the list.

Fortuna
fortune cookie
fortunate
fortunisteller
fortune

38. When you break open a _____, there is a little slip of paper called a _____ that tells you a prediction about your future.
39. I can't see the future. I'm no _____.
40. At her birthday party, Susan was feeling very _____ that she had so many good friends.
41. In Roman mythology, the goddess of fortune was named _____.
42. He made a _____ selling cold lemonade on a hot day.

If you Lose a Pet

A pet can be an important part of your family.

A pet can seem like an innocent creature that just wants to love you and be loved. Pets can inspire loving relationships. When they die, it's a great loss.

Your feelings of grief may be very strong. Just seeing a pet's favorite toy may increase your sorrow. These are normal feelings. No one should say, "Oh, it's just a pet. Don't let it bother you."

If you lose a pet, don't hesitate to tell people how you feel. It's a good idea to talk to relatives or friends who have lost a pet, too. They will understand how you feel.

Don't think you have to be independent and handle this all alone. Gather family and friends for a good-bye ceremony. Make a speech, or show some favorite pictures of your animal. Ask everyone to think of something special about your pet and share it. It will make you feel better to remember all the fun you had with your pet and the joy and

companionship this animal brought you.

Use words from the box to fill in the blanks. Hint: You can use a word more than once.

grief
hesitate
increase
independent
innocent

43. The only thing a pet may be guilty of is wanting to love and be loved. The opposite of guilty is _____.
44. Owning a pet can give you much happiness. Losing a pet brings sorrow. The opposite of happiness is _____.
45. It's okay to feel needy or rely on others when you've lost a pet. The opposite of needy is _____.
46. You should quickly confide in people who would understand your feelings. The opposite of moving quickly is _____.

47. One way to lessen your sorrow is share memories of your pet with others. The opposite of lessen is _____.
48. Your feelings of well-being may grow with a good-bye ceremony for your pet. The opposite of the phrase feelings of well-being is _____.

Answer Key

Hot Vocab

Reading: The young slave tied food,

.....

1. A
2. A
3. E
4. B
5. C
6. C
7. D

Confusing Words

8. (B) great
9. (B) lone
10. (B) prey
11. (C) pear
12. (A) tide
13. (B) flower
14. (C) where
15. (C) site
16. (A) formally
17. (B) sleigh

Reading: The Purest Heart

18. D
19. B
20. C
21. A

Reading: Most fish have two eyes.

.....

22. A
23. C
24. B
25. C
26. C
27. A

Reading: A dogfish is not a friendly

.....

28. D
29. C
30. D
31. C
32. B
33. A

Completing a Story

34. B
35. (B) sad
(C) picture
(C) find
(C) idea
(A) place
36. (B) home
(A) dinner
(A) rang
(B) went
(A) dirty
(C) thank
37. (C) city
(A) sprays
(B) sidewalks
(D) wet

Related Words of Fortune

38. fortune cookie, fortune
39. fortune-teller
40. fortunate
41. Fortuna
42. fortune

If you Lose a Pet

43. innocent
44. grief
45. independent

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- 46. hesitate
- 47. increase
- 48. grief