When you have completed your exam and reviewed your answers, click Submit Exam. Answers will not be recorded until you hit Submit Exam. If you need to exit before completing the exam, click Cancel Exam.

Questions 1 to 20: Select the best answer to each question. Note that a question and its answers may be split across a page break, so be sure that you have seen the entire question and all the answers before choosing an answer.

1. As she thinks about an essay she is about to write on the effects of Super PACs on elections, L'Shaun will need to consider which of the following about her audience?
   A. The length of time readers will commit to reading an essay
   B. The medium through which the audience will read her essay
   C. The genre expected by the audience
   D. Their attitudes, beliefs, opinions, and biases

2. Tressa likes to generate ideas and relationships about a topic by writing a central idea in the middle of a piece of paper and then surrounding it with related ideas connected to each other and the main idea with a series of lines or arrows. This approach is best described as
   A. freewriting.
   B. brainstorming.
   C. prewriting.
   D. mapping.

3. Elliot has created a paragraph-by-paragraph outline that consists of a few key words or phrases. This type of outline is known as a ______ outline.
   A. scratch
   B. graphical
   C. simple
   D. key word

4. After settling on an essay topic or being assigned one, one of the most crucial steps is to ______ it to correspond to the length of the required essay.
   A. refine
   B. draft
   C. narrow
   D. revise

5. Which of the following is a common error in composing a thesis statement?
   A. You offer an original perspective on a familiar theme.
   B. Your thesis statement contains two or more central points.
   C. You focus your thesis statement after you begin writing.
6. Please read the following excerpt from an essay, and answer the question that follows.

Biologically, adolescence is marked by hormonal changes that produce secondary sexual characteristics. These include breast development in females and beard growth in males. Psychologically, however, adolescence is a concept that applies only to modern industrial societies. In fact, in most preliterate or tribal societies, the modern American idea of adolescence simply does not exist. In such societies, the social roles of adulthood are to be learned during childhood. Then, around the time of biological puberty, a child becomes an adult through a ritual anthropologists call a rite of passage. By contrast, in American society, adolescence amounts to a sort of social and cultural limbo. Informally, the end of childhood is often marked by one's thirteenth birthday. The child is now a "teenager." More formally, the end of adolescence is marked by legal strictures that vary irrationally. In a given state the age of sexual consent may be 16 for girls and 18 for boys. An 18-year-old may vote or enlist to die for his country, but, until he reaches age 21, he may not legally purchase alcoholic beverages.

If the topic of this paragraph is adolescence, which of the following statements best captures the thesis?
A. Western society has no single concept of adolescence.
B. Adolescence is an aspect of modern society.
C. Adolescence is an irrational concept.
D. Adolescence is defined differently in different societies.

7. When creating a formal outline, all items at the same level need to
A. express a new thought or idea.
B. support the topic or subtopic under which it is placed.
C. relate to the preceding topic or subtopic.
D. relate to the following topic or subtopic.

8. The introduction to an essay should not only engage the reader's attention, but also
A. present a call to action.
B. state your conclusions about the topic.
C. defend your approach to the topic.
D. present your thesis statement and your approach.

9. Information that distracts from or doesn't support the topic sentence detracts from the overall _______ of a paragraph.
A. point of view
B. tone
C. unity
D. evidence

10. One of the nine ways, or patterns, of developing an essay is
A. process analysis.
B. disputation.
11. One of the methods of narrowing a topic involves posing
A. drafting an outline of the essay.
B. who, what, where, when, why, and how questions.
C. creating a thesis statement.
D. writing the first paragraph.

12. Which method of organization is *most* often used in narrative essays?
A. Chronological
B. Most-to-least
C. Spatial
D. Least-to-most

13. Your topic is courtesy, and you're writing from the point of view of a caring mentor. Which of the following sentences is *most* persuasive for an audience of high school graduates from a working-class neighborhood?
A. Courtesy is the oil that lubricates the machinery of discourse.
B. Courtesy to others shows self-respect as much as it shows respect for others.
C. Courtesy yields profits to the impecunious as well as to the wealthy.
D. Remember that you can catch more flies with honey than with vinegar.

14. A well-developed paragraph consists of a topic sentence, supporting details, and a
A. summary of the points discussed in the paragraph.
B. concluding or transitional sentence.
C. restatement of the topic sentence.
D. restatement of the thesis statement.

15. When a paragraph begins with a transition, the topic sentence is usually placed
A. immediately after the transitional sentence or sentences.
B. immediately after the example or evidence indicated by the transitional sentence.
C. immediately before the transitional sentence or sentences.
D. at the end of the paragraph.

16. _______ is a method of narrowing a topic through subdividing it into subtopics, choosing one and subdividing it further until you've settled on a topic that is interesting, appropriate, and manageable.
A. Processing
B. Branching
C. Mapping
D. Outlining

17. Please read the following excerpt from an essay, and answer the question that follows.
I've never actually met a real live humorist. Well, not in person at any rate. However, one summer, having a lot of time on my hands, I discovered unexpected treasures lurking in the local public library. Among the nuggets I unearthed in those musty stacks was a book by humorist Robert Benchley. To this day I remember one of his quips. He wrote, "There are two kinds of people in this world: those who divide the world into two kinds of people and those who don't." After laughing out loud, I became pensive. I wondered why the quip was so funny. A year or so later, I formed a theory. Humor is based on the unexpected.

In the passage above, the topic sentence and the thesis are one and the same. In the paragraph about Robert Benchley, what types of evidence does the writer use to support his thesis, other than narration?

A. Comparison and contrast
B. Historical background
C. Classification
D. Example

18. Please read the following excerpt from an essay, and answer the question that follows.

I've never actually met a real live humorist. Well, not in person at any rate. However, one summer, having a lot of time on my hands, I discovered unexpected treasures lurking in the local public library. Among the nuggets I unearthed in those musty stacks was a book by humorist Robert Benchley. To this day I remember one of his quips. He wrote, "There are two kinds of people in this world: those who divide the world into two kinds of people and those who don't." After laughing out loud, I became pensive. I wondered why the quip was so funny. A year or so later, I formed a theory. Humor is based on the unexpected.

In the passage above, the topic sentence and the thesis are one and the same. What makes the last sentence effective as a thesis statement?

A. Simplicity
B. Humor
C. Assertion
D. Specific detail

19. To narrow a general topic you've selected, which pair of techniques is most likely to be effective?

A. Using a branching diagram and consulting your journal
B. Questioning and choosing an issue that interests you
C. Freewriting and questioning
D. Branching diagram and questioning

20. Read the following opening sentence of an introductory paragraph and answer the question that follows.

Should you ever find yourself in a situation in which you suspect that someone is listening in your private conversation, you might not be as paranoid as you think.
What technique is used to create a strong introduction?

A. Offering a dramatic anecdote
B. Asking a question
C. Describing a hypothetical situation
D. Citing a surprising fact or statistic

End of exam