

Most scientists believe that all the water on earth today was created in one short geological period when the earth was young, when hot gas from inside the planet erupted through volcanoes, geysers, and hot springs. Amazingly, over all these billions of years, the (1) of water on earth has (2) nearly constant. Water molecules are (3) heavy to escape gravity and float into space, but every so often a few will break up into hydrogen and oxygen. (4) the light hydrogen can and does (5), the amount of water escaping into space each year is small and is replaced by "juvenile water," water that escapes from the earth's interior.

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|-----|-------------|--------------|
| (1) | a. amount | c. most |
| | b. bulk | d. origin |
| (2) | a. become | c. increased |
| | b. remained | d. lasted |
| (3) | a. so | c. not |
| | b. very | d. too |
| (4) | a. Unless | c. Only |
| | b. Even | d. Although |
| (5) | a. that | c. either |
| | b. form | d. escape |

6. "How long have you been sick?"
"I've been ill since school ____."
a. started
b. had started
c. starts
d. has been started
7. "I didn't realize he gambled so much."
"Yes, ____ that he has lost all of his money."
a. the fact
b. in fact
c. the fact is
d. fact is
8. "Who's coming to the party?"
"Greg isn't and ____ is Dave."
a. either
b. neither
c. also
d. so
9. "I thought you were planning to take a trip."
"Well, my wife recommended that ____ the money."
a. us not spending
b. us not to spend
c. we're not spending
d. we not spend
10. "These cookies are really good!"
"They're nothing ____ to those my mother makes."
a. compares
b. comparing
c. comparison
d. compared
11. "Are you sorry that your sister is moving?"
"Yes. It's been nice ____ in the same town."
a. living
b. we had lived
c. lived
d. we have lived
12. "Let me take your picture."
"No, no, I always ____."
a. look terribly
b. am looking terribly
c. am looking terrible
d. look terrible
13. "I'm sorry I'm so late."
"What ____? I've been waiting for over an hour."
a. happened
b. was happened
c. had happened
d. would have happened
14. "Why did you eat all the ice cream?"
"I couldn't ____."
a. help
b. help me
c. help it
d. be helped
15. "Sarah lives in Lansing, doesn't she?"
"No, I think you're ____."
a. mistaking
b. mistake
c. mistaken
d. mistook

16. The committee approved the modifications.
- plans
 - requests
 - rules
 - changes
17. You'll have to hustle.
- pay
 - hurry
 - clean up
 - dress up
18. Technical education is compulsory in that country.
- important
 - expensive
 - required
 - popular
19. That may fall under the heading of old business.
- be similar to
 - be rejected as
 - be done before
 - be classified as
20. Jim always tries to distort what we say.
- copy
 - hear
 - change
 - understand
21. I like this bread because it has a very light _____.
- texture
 - fixture
 - synthesis
 - compression
22. The tests are so similar that scores on them are _____.
- transactional
 - interchangeable
 - variable
 - reversible
23. The papers were _____ neatly on the table.
- stacked
 - crouched
 - restrained
 - lured
24. The book was cheaper than I had _____.
- anticipated
 - previewed
 - surveyed
 - persevered
25. Mary has a painful _____ in her ear.
- impulse
 - throbbing
 - orator
 - stance

For years, since the 1920's, rear-wheel drive was the automobile industry standard in the United States. But in the late 1970's, when automobile companies began shrinking their cars to increase fuel economy, front-wheel drive came into vogue. While rear-wheel drive has an engine in front driving the rear wheels through a drive shaft running the length of the car, in front-wheel drive the engine drives the front wheels. In fact, front-wheel drive became a selling point, although the reason for the change was seldom explained. The term "modern, front-wheel drive cars" was used so often it became an advertising cliché.

Automotive engineers generally agree that neither front-wheel nor rear-wheel drive is superior in all applications. The major advantage of front-wheel drive, most say, is that it groups the transmission and other drive components at one end of the car, leaving more room for passengers and luggage in the remainder of the vehicle. With this arrangement the size of a car can be reduced without cutting interior dimensions, an important consideration because people like a lot of room.

Because of this more efficient use of space, virtually all compact and subcompact cars sold today have front-wheel drive. However, in the late 1980's, American drivers began wanting larger cars with bigger engines that could start and stop on a dime. Because rear-wheel drive cars accelerate and stop better than those with front-wheel drive, the U.S. auto industry returned to the tried and true, and rear-wheel drive made a comeback.

26. According to the passage, in the early years of the U.S. auto industry, . . .
 - a. front-wheel drive was common in all cars.
 - b. rear-wheel drive was common in all cars.
 - c. standard transmission was common.
 - d. fuel economy was a common selling point.

27. In front-wheel drive cars, the exterior is . . .
 - a. bigger and the interior is bigger too.
 - b. bigger, but the interior is smaller.
 - c. smaller, but so is the interior.
 - d. smaller, but the interior is the same size.

28. In the late 1970's, the U.S. auto industry started making smaller cars because . . .
 - a. cars needed to get better mileage.
 - b. drive shafts were inefficient.
 - c. smaller cars were fashionable.
 - d. engines moved to the back of the car.

29. According to the passage, in the late 1980's, . . .
 - a. front-wheel drive cars were no longer made.
 - b. front-wheel drive cars increased in popularity.
 - c. rear-wheel drive cars became popular again.
 - d. American drivers wanted cheaper cars.

30. What is an advantage of rear-wheel drive over front-wheel drive cars?
 - a. They are more fuel efficient.
 - b. They have smaller interiors.
 - c. The drive shaft runs the whole length of the car.
 - d. The brakes operate more efficiently.