Science and Technology – Test 1

Name: Class: Date: Score: / 30

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Choose the best option (A, B, C or D) for each question.

Part 1: Meaning and word choice

Choose the word or sentence that best fits the meaning.

1. The team made a major _____ in cancer research last year, which could lead to new treatments.
   A outbreak **B** breakthrough **C** breakdown **D** breakout

2. Scientists need to _____ their results by repeating the experiment several times.
   A vary **B** venture **C** verbalise **D** verify

3. Which word means "out of date and no longer used"?
   A obscure **B** obvious **C** obsolete **D** obstinate

4. Which word means "a suggested explanation that has not yet been tested"?
   A conclusion **B** evidence **C** outcome **D** hypothesis

5. The app keeps crashing because of a _____ in the software.
   A leak **B** bug **C** crack **D** stain

6. Choose the correct sentence.
   A The new phone has many useful characters.
   B The new phone has many useful specialities.
   C The new phone has many useful features.
   D The new phone has many useful propositions.

7. Renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power, will never _____.
   A run over **B** run out **C** run into **D** run off

8. "Many people are sceptical about the new technology." What does 'sceptical' mean here?
   A excited about it
   B frightened of using it
   C unaware that it exists
   D doubtful about whether it is true or useful

Part 2: Collocations and phrasal verbs

Choose the word or phrase that naturally goes with the others.

9. Researchers _____ an experiment to test how plants react to music.
   A made up **B** took over **C** carried out **D** did up

10. Before the medicine can be sold, it must go through clinical _____.
    A attempts **B** trials **C** tries **D** efforts

11. Remember to _____ your files in case your laptop breaks.
    A set up **B** keep up **C** put up **D** back up

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12. The company is investing heavily in research and _____.
A development **B** progress **C** growth **D** improvement

13. The scientist _____ a theory that explained the strange results.
A put off **B** put forward **C** put out **D** put down

14. Mobile phones have become an _____ part of everyday life.
A entire **B** intact **C** integral **D** interior

15. Engineers are trying to _____ the problem of overheating batteries.
A grab **B** catch **C** hold **D** tackle

16. Which sentence is correct?
A She has made many researches into renewable energy.
B She has done a lot of researches into renewable energy.
C She has done a lot of research into renewable energy.
D She has made a lot of research about renewable energy.

Part 3: Word families

Choose the correct form of the word in brackets, or find the incorrect word.

17. The invention of the printing press was one of the most _____ events in history. (SIGNIFY)
A significance **B** signified **C** significant **D** signifying

18. Artificial intelligence has led to rapid _____ in many industries. (AUTOMATE)
A automatic **B** automation **C** automatically **D** automated

19. The results of the study were _____, so the scientists had to start again. (CONCLUDE)
A unconcluded **B** misconclusive **C** disconclusive **D** inconclusive

20. Thanks to technological _____, we can now video-call anyone in the world. (ADVANCE)
A advancing **B** advancer **C** advanced **D** advances

21. The _____ of the new vaccine surprised many experts. (EFFECTIVE)
A effectiveness **B** effectivity **C** effection **D** effectiveful

22. Many devices can now be controlled _____ using a smartphone. (REMOTE)
A remoteness **B** remotely **C** remoted **D** remotive

23. Find the incorrect word: "The scientist's discover changed our understanding of the universe."
A scientist's **B** discover **C** understanding **D** universe

Part 4: Vocabulary in context

Read the text and choose the best answer for each question.

Living with Smart Homes

Ten years ago, the idea of talking to your fridge would have sounded like science fiction. Today, smart homes are becoming increasingly common. Lights switch on automatically when you enter a room, heating systems learn your daily routine, and voice assistants can order groceries before you even notice that the milk has run out.

Supporters argue that these devices make life more convenient and help households cut their energy consumption. A thermostat that adjusts the temperature when nobody is at home, for example, can

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significantly reduce electricity bills. For elderly people living alone, sensors that detect a fall and alert a relative could be life-saving.

However, critics point out several drawbacks. Smart devices constantly collect data about their users, and many people are unaware of how this information is stored or shared. Security experts warn that poorly protected devices are vulnerable to hackers, who could, in theory, unlock a front door from the other side of the world. There is also the question of what happens when the technology fails: a power cut or a faulty update can leave residents unable to control basic functions in their own homes.

Dr Amara Osei, who studies the impact of technology on daily life, believes the solution is not to reject innovation but to use it wisely. 'The key,' she says, 'is to stay informed, update your devices regularly, and never assume that something is safe just because it is convenient.'

24. In paragraph 2, the word 'cut' in "cut their energy consumption" is closest in meaning to:
A divide **B** reduce **C** remove completely **D** measure

25. In paragraph 2, 'consumption' refers to:
A the price paid **B** the amount produced
C the amount used **D** the way it is stored

26. In paragraph 3, 'drawbacks' is closest in meaning to:
A benefits **B** delays **C** disadvantages **D** reasons

27. If devices are 'vulnerable to hackers', they are:
A easy for hackers to attack **B** designed by hackers
C hidden from hackers **D** popular with hackers

28. A 'faulty update' (paragraph 3) is one that is:
A expensive **B** automatic **C** optional **D** containing errors

29. In paragraph 4, 'reject innovation' means to:
A slow down new ideas **B** refuse to accept new ideas
C pay for new ideas **D** examine new ideas closely

30. Which word from the text means "the usual order in which you do things every day"?
A function **B** consumption **C** update **D** routine

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Answer key – Science and Technology – Test 1

1 B	2 D	3 C	4 D	5 B	6 C	7 B	8 D	9 C	10 B
11 D	12 A	13 B	14 C	15 D	16 C	17 C	18 B	19 D	20 D
21 A	22 B	23 B	24 B	25 C	26 C	27 A	28 D	29 B	30 D

Explanations

1. **B** – A 'breakthrough' is an important new discovery or development.
2. **D** – To 'verify' means to check that something is true or correct.
3. **C** – 'Obsolete' describes something that is no longer used because something newer has replaced it.
4. **D** – A 'hypothesis' is an idea that scientists test through experiments.
5. **B** – A 'bug' is an error in a computer program.
6. **C** – 'Features' are the functions or parts of a product.
7. **B** – To 'run out' means to be completely used up.
8. **D** – 'Sceptical' means having doubts about something.
9. **C** – We 'carry out' an experiment, meaning we perform it.
10. **B** – 'Clinical trials' are the fixed expression for testing medicines on people.
11. **D** – To 'back up' files means to make a copy of them for safety.
12. **A** – 'Research and development' (R&D) is a fixed collocation.
13. **B** – To 'put forward' a theory means to suggest it for others to consider.
14. **C** – 'An integral part' means an essential, necessary part.
15. **D** – To 'tackle' a problem means to deal with it in a determined way.
16. **C** – 'Research' is uncountable and collocates with 'do' and 'into'.
17. **C** – An adjective is needed before the noun 'events': 'significant'.
18. **B** – A noun is needed after the adjective 'rapid': 'automation'.
19. **D** – 'Inconclusive' means not leading to a clear result; the correct prefix is 'in-'.
20. **D** – A plural noun is needed: 'technological advances' means new developments.
21. **A** – The noun form of 'effective' is 'effectiveness'.
22. **B** – An adverb is needed to describe how they are controlled: 'remotely'.
23. **B** – A noun is needed here, so it should be 'discovery', not the verb 'discover'.
24. **B** – To 'cut' consumption means to reduce the amount used.
25. **C** – 'Consumption' is the amount of something that is used.
26. **C** – 'Drawbacks' are disadvantages or problems.
27. **A** – 'Vulnerable' means easily harmed or attacked.
28. **D** – 'Faulty' means not working correctly because of a fault or error.
29. **B** – To 'reject' something means to refuse to accept it.
30. **D** – A 'routine' is the regular way you do things each day.

Notes for teachers: Use this test after a unit on science and technology, or as a diagnostic before exam preparation. It targets common B2 errors such as 'make an experiment', 'researches' as a countable noun, confusion between similar-looking words (obsolete/obscure, integral/entire) and wrong prefixes or suffixes. As a follow-up, ask students to write a short opinion paragraph about smart homes using at least eight words from the test.

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