

BIG GREEN IDEAS FOR THE WORKPLACE

(1) Computers and related technologies account for 3-4% of the world's carbon emissions, according to a recent report by Global Action Plan – that's more than the much-vilified aviation industry. So changing the type of computers your company uses can make a difference. Also, choose hardware that uses less toxic chemicals in the manufacturing process. If you work for a large company, your main environmental culprit is likely to be your data centre, the place where large companies keep their most powerful servers. According to a report by analyst firm BroadGroup, the average British data centre, filled with vast racks of machines that need to be constantly and simultaneously powered and cooled, uses more energy in a year than the entire resident population of the city of Leicester.

(2) Cycling is one of the greenest ways to travel to work and there is lots you can do to propagate its many benefits. Firstly, get your company to join Cyclescheme, which is a government-subsidised initiative giving workers the chance to buy a bicycle tax-free. You can also set up a bicycle users group (commonly known as Bugs) to spread the word, offer advice to new cyclists, arrange for bicycle doctors – people who can fix bikes – to regularly visit the workplace, set up a cycling newsletter, campaign for showers at work – whatever is needed.

(3) The eco message has a tendency sometimes to come across as a bit worthy and unfortunately this can put many people off being green, particularly at work. Getting involved in an eco-promotion is a more light-hearted and inclusive way to approach being green and can get people doing things they may never otherwise have done. There are lots of initiatives out there to take you pick from.

(4) Whatever business you are in, you can switch your electricity supply from carbon fuels to clean energy such as wind or solar power. To do this you don't have to climb on your roof and install some expensive device. Simply call a green energy provider such as Ecotricity and it will arrange for all those resource-hungry computers to run on renewable energy.

(5) It may sound like a wacky idea, but growing a garden on your office roof is simple to do and has many environmental benefits. A green roof will insulate a building from heat loss in the winter and heat gain in the summer. It will also help absorb pollution in urban areas. Green roofs can also reduce rainwater run-off by at least 50%, which helps prevent flooding. They can also attract wildlife, particularly birds. The type of vegetation you grow on your roof needs to be carefully thought out, of course, and it is probably best to consult experts such as Living Roofs rather than getting out a ladder and some gardening gloves and attempting to do it yourself.

I. Read the text. Choose the most suitable heading from the list (A-G) for each part (1-5) of the text. There are two extra headings which you do not need to use.

- A. Spread your Love of Riding Bikes
- B. Going Green on Top
- C. All Aboard
- D. Start a New Eco-Friendly Life
- E. Matters of Policy
- F. Green Machines
- G. Turn to Green Electric Energy

II. Read the text. For statements (6-15) choose “True” if the statement is true according to the text, “False” if the statement is false.

6. The aviation industry releases a greater amount of carbon than computer equipment.

7. Computer manufacturing process is considered to be eco-friendly.

8. The equipment of data centres doesn't always need chilling and energy supplying.

9. If one buys a bicycle in Cyclescheme he/she shouldn't pay any taxes.

10. *Bugs* can give recommendations to beginning bicyclists.

11. Eco-promotion is usually appreciated by all co-workers.

12. You can use wind and solar power only if you work in a large company.

13. A garden on the roof will make the office building warmer in the cold season and colder in the hot one.

14. Green roofs in cities and towns contribute to environmental protection.

15. It doesn't matter what kinds of plants and trees you grow on your roof.

III. Read the text. For questions (16-20) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

16. Data centres in big companies _____.
- A. emit less than 5 per cent of carbon in the world
 - B. are probably their major contaminants of environment
 - C. constantly change types of their computers
 - D. release lots of toxic chemicals into the atmosphere
17. Bicycle users groups _____.
- A. are always funded by the government
 - B. buy inexpensive bicycles to the workers
 - C. hire bicycle doctors to cure their cyclists
 - D. can issue bulletins to the bicyclists
18. An eco-promotion _____.
- A. seems to be very significant at work
 - B. only involves light-headed people
 - C. can make people behave in an unusual way
 - D. moves a lot of people off their work
19. If you want to use renewable energy it will be necessary for you to _____.
- A. substitute carbon fuels for clean energy
 - B. install wind motors and solar batteries yourself
 - C. avoid Ecotricity, a green energy provider
 - D. throw away resource-hungry computers
20. According to the article, a green roof may _____.
- A. have a lot of environmental disadvantages
 - B. increase the amount of water after the rain
 - C. contain any type of greenery you wish
 - D. be tempting especially for the flying fauna

IV. Match words (21-30) with their definitions (a-l). There are two definitions that you do not need to use.

- | | | | |
|----|----------------|---|---|
| 21 | technology | a | to supply a device with mechanical or electrical energy |
| 22 | toxic | b | material such as coal, gas, or oil that is burned to produce heat or power |
| 23 | simultaneously | c | to protect something by interposing material that prevents the loss of heat or the intrusion of sound |
| 24 | to power | d | the application of scientific knowledge for practical purposes, especially in industry |
| 25 | light-hearted | e | (of energy or its source) not depleted when used |
| 26 | to approach | f | to cause plants to germinate and develop |
| 27 | fuel | g | amusing and entertaining |
| 28 | renewable | h | including all the services or items normally expected or required |
| 29 | benefit | i | poisonous |
| 30 | to insulate | j | to come close to a number, level, or standard in quality or quantity |
| | | k | at the same time |
| | | l | an advantage or profit gained from something |

GRAMMAR TEST

Choose the correct form.

1. – _____ this film yet? – Not yet. I _____ it by the end of _____ week.
A. Did you see, will see, –
B. Have you seen, will have seen, the
C. Had you seen, will see, a
D. Have you seen, see, the
2. _____ I see her, she _____ different.
A. Every time, looks
B. All time, is looking
C. Each time, was looking
D. All times, has looked
3. Your boss will be angry _____ you if you _____ late _____ the office again.
A. at, will be, to
B. about, are, for
C. on, will be, in
D. with, are, for
4. You _____ not let him _____ to you in _____ rude way.
A. must, talk, such a
B. may, to talk, so
C. might, to talk, such
D. can, talking, so
5. When I arrived _____ the party, Tom _____ home already, some guests _____.
A. in, was going, were still dancing
B. at, has gone, have still been dancing
C. at, had gone, were still dancing
D. to, went, still danced
6. – There weren't any other questions to him, _____? – Oh, he _____ a lot of questions by his colleagues.
A. were they, asked
B. weren't there, had been asked
C. weren't they, had asked
D. were there, was asked
7. The doctor _____ for. Before he _____, I _____ take any medicine.
A. just sent, will come, don't
B. has just been sent, comes, won't
C. was just sent, comes, don't
D. had just sent, came, wouldn't
8. Everybody _____ busy now as the welcoming party _____ in honour _____ the distinguished visitors.
A. is, is being prepared, of
B. are, is preparing, for
C. are, has been prepared, for
D. is, has been preparing, of
9. I'm too tired _____. I think I _____ a taxi. I'll phone you when I _____ at home.
A. to walk, am taking, will be
B. of walk, take, am going to be
C. walking, will take, will be
D. to walk, will take, am
10. The National Gallery of London _____ in 1824. It's one of _____ beautiful galleries in the world.
A. founded, more
B. was founded, the most
C. was found, most
D. found, –
11. Mary told me she _____ go home the next day until she _____ her work.
A. wouldn't, would finish
B. won't, doesn't finish
C. wouldn't, finished
D. didn't, wouldn't finish
12. _____ I read _____ I know. But why do I forget so _____?
A. More, more, many
B. The more, the more, much
C. The most, the most, little
D. As much, as much, few
13. I _____ my fountain-pen. I must buy _____ one.
A. have lost, another
B. lost, other
C. had lost, the other
D. have been lost, the others
14. You _____ read the whole book but you _____ read _____ first four chapters.
A. shouldn't, have, the
B. ought not to, need, –
C. don't have, should, –
D. needn't, must, the
15. Money _____ everything in my life, but it's considered _____ difficult to live without _____.
A. aren't, to be, them
B. isn't, be, it
C. isn't, to be, it
D. aren't, being, them
16. In _____ USA elections for the President _____ four years.
A. the, hold, each
B. –, are held, all
C. –, are holding, –
D. the, are held, every
17. She looked _____ the window but she couldn't see _____.
A. out of, anybody
B. from, somebody
C. at, no one
D. in, everyone
18. He was _____ first _____ this question. The question was _____.
A. –, to answer, quite easy
B. the, to answer, easy enough
C. the, answering, enough easy
D. –, having answered, rather easy
19. – _____ I translate _____ article by tomorrow? – No, you _____.
A. Must, the whole, needn't
B. Shall, all, shan't
C. Should, whole, shouldn't
D. Must, all the, mustn't

20. Despite _____ snowfalls, we _____ drive home _____ than an hour.
 A. yesterday, could, fewer
 B. yesterday's, managed to, little
 C. yesterday's, were able to, less
 D. yesterday, had to, more
21. Who is going to look _____ your _____ children when you _____ at work?
 A. at, sisters, are
 B. after, sisters', will be
 C. for, sister's, will be
 D. after, sister's, are
22. In a week a new programme _____ by the government to help _____ unemployed.
 A. will be announced, the
 B. is announced, –
 C. is going to announce, the
 D. will announce, –
23. Your secretary says she _____ us two agreements but we received _____ of them last week.
 A. sent, no one
 B. had sent, neither
 C. has sent, none
 D. had sent, any
24. I told him that he _____ hope to catch a big fish _____ a small rod like this.
 A. could not, with
 B. cannot, on
 C. must not, by
 D. may not, for
25. – What _____? – I'm moving _____ my new house _____ last month.
 A. are you doing, to, buying
 B. do you do, at, bought
 C. do you do, for, buying
 D. are you doing, into, bought
26. _____ tea _____ coffee can interrupt sleep and relaxation if they _____ at night.
 A. Either, or, drink
 B. Either, and, are drunk
 C. Both, and, are drunk
 D. Neither, nor, are drinking
27. When there are _____ than _____ hundred of species left, they are considered _____ almost extinct.
 A. less, –, being
 B. fewer, a, to be
 C. fewer, a, be
 D. less, the, to be
28. We _____ to increase _____ awareness _____ environmental problems.
 A. try, peoples', in
 B. tried, people's, at
 C. have tried, people, on
 D. are trying, people's, of
29. Be careful! If you _____ the lock, the thieves will break in when you _____ for a holiday next time.
 A. don't repair, go
 B. won't repair, will go
 C. won't repair, go
 D. don't repair, will go
30. All the telephonists speak English. If they _____ English, they _____ half of the callers.
 A. wouldn't know, wouldn't have understood
 B. didn't know, wouldn't understand
 C. don't know, wouldn't understand
 D. hadn't known, wouldn't have understood
31. I _____ two strangers _____ my way to work. One of them greeted me, but _____ didn't do it.
 A. just met, on, another
 B. had just met, in, the other
 C. have just met, on, the other
 D. was just meeting, in, other
32. If _____ news _____ while I _____ away, let me know.
 A. any, comes, am
 B. some, come, will be
 C. all, come, am
 D. no, comes, will be
33. Their flat _____ before they returned from their trip to _____ Mediterranean Sea.
 A. was burgled, –
 B. had burgled, the
 C. had been burgled, the
 D. burgled, –
34. I decided not to buy a car last year. If I _____ it then, I _____ to drive it at once.
 A. would have bought, would have learnt
 B. bought, would learn
 C. would buy, would learn
 D. had bought, would have learnt
35. Many people feel _____ when they are with friends than when they are _____.
 A. much more happily, lonely
 B. much happier, on their own
 C. far happily, alone
 D. far more happy, by themselves
36. I have just spoken to three women, _____ of _____ speaks Spanish.
 A. neither, them
 B. no one, whom
 C. nobody, who
 D. none, whom
37. _____ lit cigarette thrown _____ a car _____ start a fire in a forest.
 A. A, out of, may
 B. The, from, has
 C. –, off, should
 D. A, away, ought
38. The salmon tastes _____, but it is rich _____ protein, omega-3 fatty acids, and vitamin D.
 A. awfully, at
 B. awful, with
 C. awful, in
 D. awfully, for
39. I am used to _____ in the country. I think it's _____ expensive and _____ comfortable than to live in big cities.

- A. living, less, more
B. live, less, the most
40. My mother said that if I _____ a warm bath just before I went to bed, I _____ much better soon.
- A. take, will feel
B. took, would feel
C. live, less, more
D. living, least, most
C. would take, would feel
D. would take, felt