2) ________ have rainfall amounts and soil moisture contents between those of true deserts and humid lands.
A) Tundras
B) Steppes
C) Sundras
D) Sabkhas

3) Most dry lands lie between ________ degrees north and south of the equator.
A) 40 and 50
B) 20 and 30
C) 5 and 10
D) 0 and 5

4) Which one of the following statements concerning rock weathering is true?
A) Warm temperatures and high soil moisture contents accelerate chemical weathering.
B) Low temperatures and high soil moisture contents accelerate chemical weathering but inhibit mechanical weathering.
C) Warm temperatures and low soil moisture contents both promote rapid rates of mechanical weathering.
D) Temperature has no effect on rock weathering.

5) A ________ is an intermittent stream channel in the dry land areas of the western United States.
A) rivulet
B) playa
C) rill
D) wash

6) ________ refers to the "bouncing" mode of sand transport in a windstorm or stream.
A) Saltation
B) Ventifaction
C) Siltation
D) Deflation

7) Which one of the following will effectively limit further deflation in a given area?
A) sea level
B) desert pavement
C) a hanging valley
D) the repose level

8) Which one of the following statements is correct?
A) Alluvial fans typically rim desert valleys; playas form in the lowest, interior parts of the valleys.
B) Inselbergs are low, circular depressions on gently sloping pediments and bajadas.
C) Playas are typically covered with gravel-sized desert pavement and loess deposits.
D) Saline sediments and evaporites are common in inselbergs and pediments of desert landscapes.

9) In which area would surface water most effectively infiltrate into the local groundwater system?
A) a stream in a steep-sided, bedrock canyon in the mountains
B) streams flowing in the numerous channels of an alluvial fan
C) a playa lake with a thick mud bottom
D) All of the above would promote infiltration.

10) Which of the following characteristics would suggest geologically recent, fault uplift of a desert mountain range?
A) flat, upland surfaces, steep slopes and small alluvial fans
B) extensive pediments and bajadas and small, deep playas
C) inselbergs, extensive pediments and flat valley floors
D) steep playas with extensive, bedrock alluvial fans and numerous sand dunes

11) How is desert pavement formed?
A) Deflation removes the coarse fragments leaving behind a layer of loess.
B) Alluvial fans are eroded to form inselbergs with rocky surfaces.
C) Groundwater in an alluvial fan evaporates, leaving behind a surface layer of hard-baked mud.
D) Runoff and deflation carry off the silt and clay, leaving coarser particles behind.
13) Which one of the following statements about sand dunes is correct?
A) A dune migrates in the direction of inclination of the slip face.
B) The more gently sloping surface is the leeward slope of the dune.
C) Sand is blown up the slip face and rolls down the more gently sloping flank of the dune.
D) In a sand dune, the more gently inclined strata lie parallel to the slip face.

14) Deposition of glacial rock flour from blowing winds is responsible for ________.
A) deflation ventifacts
B) blowout pavement
C) star steppes
D) loess deposits

16) Which one of the following concerning desert lands is false?
A) Less than 30 percent is covered with dunes and drifting sand.
B) Wind erosion and deposition are important processes.
C) Running water has little effect on shaping the landscape.
D) Most desert areas are characterized by descending wind patterns.

17) Desertification has been particularly well documented over the past 50 years in ________.
A) the Empty Quarter of the Arabian Peninsula
B) the Sahel along the southern margin of the Sahara Desert
C) the Dust Bowl states of the Great Plains
D) the steppe lands of southern Russia, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan

18) Which of the following statements concerning dry lands is not true?
A) Precipitation totals are low; dew points are lower in the summer than winter.
B) Evaporation potential exceeds actual precipitation.
C) Storms are infrequent and rainfall amounts are highly variable.
D) Wind is the dominant agent of erosion and sediment transport.

19) How are sand grains transported by the wind?
A) high in the moving air column as suspended load
B) by saltation in the first few meters above the land surface
C) by deflation of abraded desert pavement
D) by being picked up in swirling dust clouds and carried to distant blowouts

20) Which of the following best describes the climatic factors that cause low latitude deserts like the Sahara in Africa?
A) Cool, dry air aloft is descending; surface winds are blowing toward the equator.
B) Warm, humid air aloft is descending; surface winds blow away from the equator.
C) Warm, humid air is rising; surface winds are calm.
D) Cool, dry air at the surface is rising causing winds to blow away from the equator.

21) How is desert pavement formed?
A) Deflation and sheet wash remove fine-sized materials leaving coarse, weathered, rock fragments concentrated at the surface.
B) Blowing wind removes fine-size soil particles; coarser particles abrades to sand size.
C) Running water deposits gravel and sand over the finer-sized soil particles.
D) Intense chemical weathering removes the sand- and silt-sized particles, leaving coarse rock debris covering the land surface.

22) Loess deposits in the central United States ________.
A) blew in from the dry areas in the Great Plains and southwestern desert areas
B) originated as rock flour in Pleistocene glacial streams and rivers
C) accumulated from flooding of the Mississippi River
D) were originally deposited as barchanoid dunes and later redeposited by glaciers

24) Desert and steppe lands cover about what percentage of Earth's land area?
A) 10%
B) 66%
C) 30%
D) 3%
25) Inselbergs are ________.
A) insulated icebergs floating in a hot spring
B) blowouts cut from bedrock in mountainous areas
C) lithified rock formed by cementation of wind-deposited, dune sands
D) bedrock hills in a highly eroded desert landscape

26) A ________ is formed by abrasion of rocks by windblown sand.
A) playa  
B) ventifact  
C) pediment  
D) desert pavement

27) Which one of the following would probably not affect the size and depth of a blowout?
A) a rise in sea level
B) the near surface water table
C) type and density of vegetation
D) areas of desert pavement

28) What mature, desert landscape feature consists of coalesced alluvial fans?
A) balda  
B) bajada  
C) bahia  
D) baja

29) A ________ is a crescent-shaped dune whose tips point downwind.
A) parabarcal  
B) transverse  
C) barchan  
D) star

30) During a typical sandstorm, saltating sand grains reach a maximum height of ________ above the land surface.
A) 1 inch  
B) 2 meters  
C) 10 centimeters  
D) 40 feet

31) Rainshadow deserts are common in ________.
A) vast, dry, steppe lands like the Great Plains  
B) north central Africa  
C) the dry valleys of eastern California and Nevada  
D) Europe north of the Alps

32) A ________ is an intermittent lake on the floor of a desert basin. playa

33) ________ is the skipping and bouncing transport of sand in blowing wind and running water. Saltation

34) In dry lands, ________ is the covering of coarse particles left on the surface after the finer particles are carried away by wind and running water. desert pavement

35) ________ are rocks with one or more flat surfaces abraded by windblown sand. Ventifacts

36) The leeward slope of a sand dune is also known as the ________. slip face

37) ________ are solitary, crescent-shaped dunes whose tips face downwind. Barchan

38) ________ describes the complex, internal stratification or bedding in a sand dune. Cross bedding

39) Deposits of windblown silt are called ________. loess

40) The low, bedrock ridges and peaks of a highly eroded, basin and range, desert landscape are called ________. inselbergs