Verbs Test
With Bugs...

Reading Level 2

Part One | Verb Phrases

Directions: Read each sentence and identify the complete verb phrase (main verb and any helping verbs). Circle your answer.

1. Ladybug's sparkly shoes shimmered in the sun.
   a) shimmered                     b) shimmered in
   c) shoes shimmered               d) shimmered in the

2. Cricket will be playing his violin by your window all night long.
   a) playing                     b) be playing
   c) will be playing             d) will be playing his

3. Flea and his ten thousand brothers were afraid of Dragonfly.
   a) were                        b) were afraid
   c) afraid of                  d) were afraid of

4. Bee's mother had warned him about Hornet and Wasp's bad influence on his life.
   a) had                         b) had warned
   c) warned                     d) had warned him

5. Ladybug put on her favorite spotted dress and went to the spring dance.
   a) put                        b) went to dance
   c) put and dance              d) put and went

6. Ant could lift 50 times his weight in stale pizza crusts.
   a) could                      b) lift
   c) could lift                d) could lift in

7. Hornet and Wasp are not allowed at the picnic with Ant and Ladybug.
   a) are                        b) allowed
   c) are allowed                d) are allowed at
8. Mantis brushed her teeth and washed her hands after the meal with her boyfriend.
   a) brushed  
   b) brushed her  
   c) brushed and washed  
   d) brushed her and washed her

9. Bee will be buzzing by flowers and through showers this spring.
   a) buzzing  
   b) will be  
   c) be buzzing  
   d) will be buzzing

10. Tick is having a warm, refreshing drink of camper's blood.
    a) is  
    b) drink  
    c) drink of  
    d) is having

11. Butterfly fluttered by a fly beside a butter knife.
    a) fluttered  
    b) by  
    c) fluttered by  
    d) fluttered by the

12. Mantis invited her boyfriend over for a tasty snack.
    a) invited  
    b) invited her  
    c) invited for an  
    d) invited for snack

13. Hornet and Wasp were flying around and looking for trouble.
    a) were flying  
    b) were flying and looking  
    c) flying and looking  
    d) were flying around and looking

14. Can you hear Cricket's song in your lawn?
    a) hear  
    b) Can hear  
    c) Can you hear  
    d) song

**Part Two | Conjugation, Tense, and Aspect**

**Directions:** Read each sentence. Choose the answer that best completes it based on conjugation, tense, and aspect. Circle your answer.

15. Ant ________ his crumbs with his friend Lady Bug until that hungry Spider showed up.
    a) were going to share  
    b) we're going to share  
    c) was going to share  
    d) will be sharing
16. Wasp and Hornet ______ around the yard and looking for some luckless fool to sting.
   a) flew  
   b) was flying  
   c) had flown  
   d) were flying

17. "If I ________ Bee, I'd mind my own beeswax," said Hornet to his troublesome friend Wasp.
   a) were  
   b) we're  
   c) was  
   d) where

18. If Ant ________ that it was going to rain so much, he wouldn't have even came to the picnic.
   a) knew  
   b) had knew  
   c) had known  
   d) knows

19. Mantis ________ at her bigheaded boyfriend and licking her lips.
   a) looks  
   b) looked  
   c) had looked  
   d) was looking

20. Tick ________ very thirsty by the time the campers begin to set up their tents.
   a) is  
   b) will be  
   c) had been  
   d) has been

21. After Grasshopper smashed up Spider's bedroom, Spider ________ that it was time to build a new home.
   a) decide  
   b) decided  
   c) decides  
   d) will decide

22. Flea ________ of his ten-thousand brothers taking his things without asking.
   a) sick  
   b) was sick  
   c) were sick  
   d) we're sick

23. Fly ________ the cookie crumbs, but he flew off to find a stinkier treat.
   a) could a ate  
   b) could of eaten  
   c) could a eaten  
   d) could have eaten

24. Spider ________ a new room to his home below the gutter.
   a) be busy adding  
   b) we're busy adding  
   c) was busy adding  
   d) were busy adding
25. Wasp ________ Bee with the flowers, but Wasp was much too busy scaring children.
   a) would a helped               b) would of helped
   c) would of help               d) would have helped

26. "_______ too busy eating this dog," said Flea to his parasitic friend Tick.
   a) Were               b) We's
   c) We're               d) We was

27. Fly ________ by Butterfly under summer sunshine.
   a) flew               b) flied
   c) flyed               d) flown

28. Mantis ________ pantless.
   a) dances and prances               b) dances and prancing
   c) dancing and prances               d) danced and prancing

29. Ant ________ more food for the winter, but he was busy playing with Grasshopper.
   a) should a stored               b) should of store
   c) should of stored               d) should have stored

30. Spider ________ before he took a rejuvenating nap.
   a) is tired               b) has been tired
   c) had been tired               d) was going to be tired

31. Flea, Moth, and Tick ________ a really cool insect party in your sweater.
   a) throwing               b) is throwing
   c) be throwing               d) are throwing

32. Fly ________ the pungent scent of my locker.
   a) love               b) loves
   c) be loving               d) loving

33. Ladybug, Bee, and Mantis ________ an afternoon tea party.
   a) planning               b) is planning
   c) are planning               d) was planning