PRONOUN AGREEMENT – EXERCISE 1

Directions: Choose the pronoun that establishes agreement. Check your answers with the interactive version of the exercise.

1. Before my lecture on good nutrition, neither of my uncles knew that chocolate-broccoli muffins were a good way to increase ____ intake of vitamin C.

   A. his
   B. their

2. The troupe of jugglers shocked ____ audience when an ill-flung knife impaled our friend Jarod’s foot.

   A. its
   B. their

3. Either the assistant managers or Mrs. Wallace, the owner, must give ____ permission for you to return that half-eaten double cheeseburger.

   A. her
   B. their

4. Both the computer screen and the refrigerator door have ____ smeared with dog snot from our curious puppy Oreo.

   A. its shiny surface
   B. their shiny surfaces
5. As a result of Coach Moody’s demanding training, the team from Weaver High School inevitably outperforms ____ competition at every track meet.
   A. its
   B. their

6. At the Halloween dance, the catering committee received many compliments for ____ squid eyeball stew.
   A. its
   B. their

7. The new and improved laundry detergent restored Hector’s mud-stained pants to ____ original condition.
   A. its
   B. their

8. As we slogged through Melville’s *Moby-Dick*, Professor Carson asked us to determine the motivation of each character on the *Pequod* and what archetype ____.
   A. he best represents
   B. they best represent

9. Every puppy and kitten will cry at night until ____ owner offers a spot on the bed.
   A. its
   B. their

10. Do you think that any of these playlists will calm down high-strung Helena with ____ soothing melodies?
    A. its
    B. their
11. My grandmother, as well as too many other Americans, believes every silly word that ____ in trashy supermarket tabloids.

   A. she reads
   B. they read

12. If either of Leonard’s nieces hopes to try one of Louise’s famous fudge-stuffed mushrooms, ____ had better hurry before the other guests devour all these delicious treats.

   A. she
   B. they

13. Each of these computers has ____ own technical glitch that can frustrate the user.

   A. its
   B. their

14. If Tito’s Taco Palace continues to increase ____ prices, Samantha will not be able to afford even the cheapest lunch burrito.

   A. its
   B. their

15. Tito’s Taco Palace stuffs ____ tortillas with many unusual items; for example, you can order peanut butter and guava jelly burritos or cricket and mango tacos.

   A. its
   B. their
16. On the hike through the forest, not only all the Girl Scouts but also Mrs. Pennington, the troop leader, looked up in surprise as a giant spaceship descended from the sky and hovered above _____.
   A. her head
   B. their head

17. Sonya must remember to buy shampoo so that her roommates can wash ____ hair tomorrow morning with something other than dish soap.
   A. his or her
   B. their

18. Neither Floyd the dog nor Madison’s three cats enjoy sleeping on the hard, cold floor when ____ can jump onto the soft, warm bed as soon as she leaves for work.
   A. he
   B. they

19. These two young men will not pass the final exam in Fundamentals of Biology because ____ spent the semester flirting with the pretty Josephine instead of listening to Professor Shuman.
   A. he has
   B. they have

20. Not only the crickets but also a frog chirped outside David’s window for so long last night that ____ kept the poor boy from getting any rest before his important pronoun agreement quiz.
   A. it
   B. they