ASVAB Section 7: General Science

1. Overheating the engine can cause all of the following problems EXCEPT
A. burned engine bearings
B. enlarged pistons
C. melted engine parts
D. improved fuel efficiency
Answer(s): D
2. If an alternator overcharges the battery, a likely explanation is
A. The governor has malfunctioned.
B. The voltage regulator isn't working properly.
C. The ignition coil has overheated.
D. The battery-acid solution is low.
Answer(s): B
3. A primary advantage of the electronic ignition system over conventional ignition systems is
A. the electronic ignition system is less expensive to repair.
B. the electronic ignition system provides a higher voltage.
C. the electronic ignition system allows for use of a lower octane fuel.

D. All of the above.
Answer(s): B
4. The primary purpose of piston rings is to
A. seal the combustion chamber and allow the pistons to move freely.
B. connect the piston to the crankshaft.
C. allow fuel to enter the piston cylinder.
D. provide lubrication to the piston cylinder.
Answer(s): A
5. Connecting rods connect the piston to the
A. flywheel
B. fuel pump
C. crankshaft
D. battery
Answer(s): C
6. In an overhead valve system (OHV), what mechanism opens and closes the valves?
A. rocker arms
B. camshaft
C. valve rotator

D. electrical energy from the alternator
Answer(s): A
7. If a car's ignition system, lights, and radio don't work, the part that's probably malfunctioned is the
A. cylinder block
B. water pump
C. carburetor
D. battery
Answer(s): D
8. A gauge shows the complete loss of oil pressure while driving. The best action is to
A. Stop by the gas station when convenient to top off the oil.
B. Pull over immediately and investigate the problem.
C. Drive directly to a repair garage.
D. Assume everything is fine and continue driving as usual.
Answer(s): B
9. A two-cycle engine will normally be found on
A. small cars
B. large diesel trucks

C. trucks, vans, and some cars
D. snowmobiles, chainsaws, and some motorcycles
Answer(s): D
10. The difference between a single-acting and an opposed piston engine is
A. Single-acting piston engines wear longer.
B. Opposed piston engines have cylinders set in a V-shape.
C. Single-acting piston engines have one piston per cylinder and opposed piston engines have two.
D. Single-acting piston engines are used with carburetors and opposed piston engines are used with fuel injectors.
Answer(s): C
11. A car equipped with limited-slip differential
A. can be readily put into all-wheel (four-wheel) drive.
B. won't lock up when the brakes are applied steadily.
C. transfers the most driving force to the wheel with the greatest amount of traction.
D. is rated for off-road driving.
Answer(s): C
12. Pouring cold water on an overheated engine

A. reduces damage caused by overheating.
B. makes no difference.
C. should only be done by a qualified mechanic.
D. could cause the engine block to crack.
Answer(s): D
13. Soft brake-pedal movement can be caused by
A. air in the hydraulic brake system
B. malfunctioning brake shoes
C. loss of brake fluid
D. worn rotors
Answer(s): A
14. The safest way to make a hole in sheet metal is to
A. burn it with a soldering iron
B. cut it using snips
C. punch it using a metal punch
D. get someone else to do it
Answer(s): C
15. Rebar is used to

A. measure the depth of concrete
B. reinforce concrete
C. stir concrete
D. smooth concrete
Answer(s): B
16. Nail sets are used to
A. protect your fingers from the hammer.
B. set nails below the surface of wood.
C. complete projects requiring sets of nails.
D. mark the position where the nail should go.
Answer(s): B
17. A ripsaw cuts
A. against the grain of the wood
B. with the grain of the wood
C. most materials, including metal
D. only plastic
Answer(s): B
18. Sledges can be used to drive

A. nails
B. screws
C. staples
D. bolts and chisels
Answer(s): D
19. To check for horizontal trueness, the best tool to use is a
A. steel tape rule
B. plumb bob
C. level
D. sliding T-bevel
Answer(s): C
20. A bucking bar is used to
A. pull nails
B. pry wood apart
C. drive rivets
D. drive screws
Answer(s): C