General Exercise

1. Use the past tense of the word on the left to complete each sentence.

   begin      She ____________ to sing the song.
   eat        My brothers ______ all the sweets.
   ride       The jockey ________ to victory.
   shake      Pauline and Jo ________ their heads as they danced.
   ring       When the bell ______ all the children streamed out of the school doors.
   strike     The clock __________ midnight.

2. Give the opposite meaning of the following words.

   expand ____________ inferior ____________
   guilty ____________ mad ____________
   question ____________ divide ____________

3. Write the plural of the following words.

   handkerchief ____________ dwarf ____________
   passer-by ____________ cupful ____________
   sheep ____________ echo ____________
   daughter-in-law ____________ deer ____________

4. Complete the following table.

   young  mother  father
   _______  hen  _______
   _______  goose  _______
   puppy  _______  _______
   _______  mare  _______
   _______  _______  ram
5. In the spaces write adjectives made from the words on the left.

health  You need good food, exercise and sleep to be ____________
mavel  The fireworks were a ____________ sight.
circle  The ____________ saw was used for cutting logs.
poison  The boy, who ate a ____________ berry, was very ill.
nature  The girl's make-up had a very ____________ look.
caution  He acted in a very ____________ way.

6. One word on each line has a different meaning from the other four words. Underline that word.

amusement  entertainment  pastime  cinema  sport
raise   height   lift   elevate  hoist
hide   reveal   tell   divulge  disclose
intelligence  comprehension  wisdom  bright  understanding
suspense  story   doubt   hesitation  uncertainty
outset  beginning  end   opening  commencement

7. Choose a phrase from the list on the right to fill each space.

An architect uses ____________  a camera
A conductor uses ____________  scissors
A photographer uses ____________  a hammer
An auctioneer uses ____________  a baton
A chemist uses ____________  plans
A hairdresser uses ____________  prescriptions

8. In each space write one word which has the same meaning as the words in heavy type.

The twins were exactly the same in all ways.  ____________
The concert was put off until next week.  ____________
She **made up her mind** to make a cake.

The army **went forward** to attack.

They had a party **once a year**.

As most of the team were ill, the match was **called off**.

Spoons, knives and forks are called ____________________.

Zinc, copper and tin are ____________________.

Cars, buses and lorries are ____________________.

Ants, earwigs and moths are ____________________.

Venus, Mercury and Earth are ____________________.

9. Use these words to complete the sentences below.

| infrequent | inexpensive | incomplete | inaudible | inconsiderate |

The lady was surprised that the coat was so ____________________.

There should have been twenty copies of the textbook but the teacher could find only sixteen. The set was ____________________.

The girl mumbled her reply. She was ____________________.

There were only two buses each day. The service was ____________________.

The girl didn't care how much work she made for other people. She was ____________________.

10. Several words have been left out of this passage. Can you fill them in?

Maria was only eleven, _______ she was already thinking what she would do _______ she left school. Her mother suggested _______ as she liked flying she might become ________________ and _______ the world, but Maria thought _______ would rather be a vet, as _______ main interest was in animals.
11. Look at the idioms on the left of the page, and then at the list of their meanings on the right of the page. Write beside each idiom the number which indicates its correct meaning.

To turn over a new leaf ____  (1) to be exhausted
To smell a rat ____  (2) to crawl
To get into hot water ____  (3) to do much better
To go on all fours ____  (4) to be depressed
To be dead beat ____  (5) to be suspicious
To be down in the mouth ____  (6) to be in trouble

12. Write in the space provided the adverb which best describes each of the verbs in the list on the left.

talked ______________  ravenously
watched ______________  stealthily
ate ______________  hilariously
laughed ______________  carefully
crept ______________  intently
copied ______________  fluently

13. In each space write a suitable preposition.

We shared the conkers __________ the children.
I forgot I had to post a letter, and walked straight __________ the Post Office.
We have breakfast __________ school.
Tea __________ sugar is not sweet.
Chalk is very different __________ cheese.
Put the star _______ the top of the tree.

14. Write the name of a colour in each space.

We never use the clock, so it is a __________ elephant.
I read it in the newspaper, so I saw it in __________ and __________.
It was my birthday, so it was a __________-letter day.
15. Write the name of the person who "fits" the noun.
   Example: Italy Italian
   song
   assistance
   deceit
   favour
   politics
   law

16. Fill in the names of the sounds (e.g., splashing, thudding, howling) made by the following:
   The ______________ of frogs
   The ______________ of a clock
   The ______________ of the wind
   The ______________ of leaves
   The ______________ of water
   The ______________ of hooves

17. In each space, write a word which begins with a silent w (e.g., wretch, wriggling).
   Dad ____________ out the water from the washing.
   She knew she did ____________ to steal the money from the coat pocket.
   Nicola sprained her ____________ when she did a handstand.
   The miserable ____________ had been in prison for years.
   The worms were ____________ along the path.

18. Fill in the missing prepositions.
   My hairstyle is different ____________ yours.
   The man in the dock was guilty ____________ murder.
   According ____________ his letter, he should be here soon.
   I disagree ____________ you about that.