Passives - Extra Practice

Choose the correct word or words to complete each sentence.

1. In most major cities of the United States, the mayor __________ by a simple majority.
   a. is being elected
   b. is elected
   c. had been elected
   d. were being elected

2. The traditions in our family __________ from generation to generation, and I expect this will continue in the future.
   a. are going to be passed down
   b. were being passed down
   c. may have been passed down
   d. have been passed down

3. My passport __________ last year while I was on vacation.
   a. is stolen
   b. was stolen
   c. will be stolen
   d. was being stolen

4. Most of the e-mail accounts at our company __________ by a virus last week.
   a. affected
   b. was affected
   c. were affected
   d. have been affected

5. Over 400 babies __________ in our community last year.
   a. born
   b. be born
   c. are born
   d. were born

6. It __________ that supplies of oil and natural gas may be exhausted in under 100 years.
   a. believes
   b. is believed
   c. is believing
   d. be believed

7. Where __________ that only men can become president of this club?
   a. it is written
   b. is it written
   c. is it being written
   d. it is being written

8. I think students __________ to major in the sciences at this university for the past several years.
   a. was being encouraged
   b. are being encouraged
   c. should be encouraged
   d. have been encouraged

9. __________ a tour of the facilities? It is important for you to see everything.
   a. Were you given
   b. You could be given
   c. You had been given
   d. Are you given

10. Many issues __________ at the meeting by the time you arrived.
    a. are raised
    b. raised
    c. had been raised
    d. have been raised

11. Many important but rare species of plants __________ in the Amazon.
    a. finds
    b. are finding
    c. are found
    d. is found
12. The people in the last row were __________ first.
   a. seating   c. seated
   b. seat      d. been seated

13. Where __________?
   a. those photos were taken  c. have been taking those photos
   b. those photos taken       d. those photos have been taken

14. Details of the accident will __________ some time tomorrow.
   a. release            c. are released
   b. be released        d. being released

15. It the past, it was __________ that the sun revolved around the Earth.
   a. thinking         c. has thought
   b. think            d. thought

16. Congratulations to Dr. Casey. She has __________ a "first-class surgeon" by a national journal.
   a. be named      c. been naming
   b. being named   d. been named

17. Mike __________ to the program because he didn't have an undergraduate degree in a relevant field.
   a. should not admit    c. was not admitting
   b. should not have been admitted d. was being admitted

18. The results of Claire's study __________ by her advisor right now.
   a. are being reviewed  c. was reviewed
   b. is reviewed        d. had been reviewed

Choose the correct response to complete each conversation.

19. A: It's been snowing all day.
   B: ____________________________
   a. It'll probably continue for another hour.
   b. It won't be continued for long.
   c. It is going to be continued for a while longer.

20. A: Have you been interviewed by the company directors yet?
   B: ____________________________
   a. Yes, I interviewed them yesterday.
   b. Yes, they have been interviewed.
   c. No, I'm going tomorrow.

21. A: Has Kevin been given a warning about his job performance?
   B: ____________________________
   a. Yes, his manager gave it to him yesterday.
   b. No, Kevin hasn't given him anything.
   c. Not yet. Kevin is giving the warning today.
22. A: Should the late applications have been accepted in this year's review?
B: ___________________________________
   a. Why didn't we accept them?
   b. No, but it wasn't my decision.
   c. When do we stop accepting applications?

23. A: The new cars are being delivered tomorrow.
B: ___________________________________
   a. I'll come back then.                     c. Let's go look at them.
   b. What do the cars deliver?

24. A: I came downstairs and then I saw all the cookies had been eaten!
B: ___________________________________
   a. Why did you eat all the cookies?
   b. Who do you think ate them?
   c. Do you think we can eat them now?

25. A: We have been told to leave the building.
B: ___________________________________
   a. Who did you tell?                     c. When will they tell us?
   b. Who told you?

The agent is omitted in the sentence. Choose the reason the agent was omitted.

26. Sugar has been used to sweeten tea and coffee for over a thousand years.
   a. The agent is unknown.
   b. The agent is obvious.
   c. The author is avoiding a general subject.
   d. The author is avoiding blame.

27. The lock on our front door was broken while we were sleeping.
   a. The agent is unknown.
   b. The agent is obvious.
   c. The author is avoiding a general subject.
   d. The author is avoiding blame.

28. A lot of rice is eaten in Asia.
   a. The agent is unknown.
   b. The agent is obvious.
   c. The author is avoiding a general subject.
   d. The author is avoiding blame.

29. A few of this newspaper's recent articles have been poorly researched.
   a. The agent is unknown.
   b. The agent is obvious.
   c. The author is avoiding a general subject.
   d. The author is avoiding blame.

30. All of the birthday presents were opened in front of the guests.
   a. The agent is unknown.
   b. The agent is obvious.
   c. The author is avoiding a general subject.
Complete each sentence with the correct passive form of the verb in parentheses. Use contractions when possible.

31. Jake ____________________ (hit) hard in the game yesterday, but he is fine.

32. Lisa raised many interesting questions, but few of these _________________________ (answer) at the meeting yesterday.

33. Contrary to what many people think, the Great Pyramids _________________________ (not / locate) in Cairo, Egypt. They are in Giza.

34. This money must arrive right away, or my account ______________________________ (will / overdraw).

35. Our plane ____________________ (strike) by lightning last night, but we landed safely.

Short Answer: Change the active sentence to a passive sentence where possible. If the sentence cannot be changed, write NP.

36. Police caught the escaped prisoners late last night.

37. The examination consists of ten different question types.

38. By the time we arrived, doctors had reviewed the results of her blood test.

39. Beginning next semester, the security guards will allow only registered students to enter the building at night.

40. The managing director is going to reassign the offices on the third floor.

41. Victor and I stayed at a beautiful lodge overlooking Lake Michigan.

42. The baggage handlers have lost Martin's luggage.

Passives Exercises: Answers
MULTIPLE CHOICE

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COMPLETION
31. was hit
32. were answered
33. aren't located
34. will be overdrawn
35. was struck

SHORT ANSWER
36. The escaped prisoners were caught late last night.
37. - NP
38. - By the time we arrived, the results of her blood test had been reviewed.
39. - Beginning next semester, only registered students will be allowed to enter the building at night.
40. - The offices on the third floor are going to be reassigned.
41. - NP
42. - Martin's luggage has been lost.