

## OCM

- 1) The start-up costs were high, as they had \_\_\_\_\_ in the latest technologies.  
a) heavy invested  
b) invested heavily  
c) heavily invest  
d) invested heavy
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ their first clients, there was a major publisher.  
a) Among  
b) Of  
c) One  
d) Then
- 3) A good project manager is always friendly and \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) sticking  
b) calculating  
c) bothered  
d) approachable
- 4) I'm \_\_\_\_\_ to confirm our initial order for 50,000 copies.  
a) writing  
b) write  
c) wrote  
d) written
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ access to the internet that has made online shopping a success.  
a) It is the increased  
b) What has increased  
c) The increased  
d) How it increased
- 6) What caused the business to fail was \_\_\_\_\_ website design.  
a) it's poor  
b) its poor  
c) it was poor  
d) their poor
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_ that attracts people to online shopping is the convenience.  
a) The reason why  
b) The thing  
c) That is what  
d) How it is

- 8)** The reason why I like eBay is \_\_\_\_\_ it's fun to take part in an auction.  
a) with  
b) that  
c) then  
d) what
- 9)** It was the \_\_\_\_\_ that made her decide to start shopping online.  
a) queuing  
b) queued  
c) underlining  
d) lined
- 10)** Your local bank manager may be \_\_\_\_\_ to discuss a possible business loan.  
a) might  
b) will  
c) willing  
d) want
- 11)** If the little girl hadn't been holding her mother's hand, the \_\_\_\_\_ might have been even worse.  
a) must come  
b) coming  
c) income  
d) outcome
- 12)** Both local and central governments provide start-ups with \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) funded  
b) is funded  
c) funding  
d) fund
- 13)** You can take risks but it's not a good idea to risk your home \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) too also  
b) in that  
c) will be  
d) as well
- 14)** The project \_\_\_\_\_ had been extended to 31st January.  
a) background  
b) setback  
c) deadline  
d) multitask
- 15)** It's going to be impossible to \_\_\_\_\_ on this issue.  
a) reach a consensus  
b) over the budget  
c) number the record  
d) cost materials

- 16)** We have an excellent \_\_\_\_\_ record  
a) trick  
b) track  
c) treat  
d) trash
- 17)** \_\_\_\_\_ payment is received soon; we have no other choice but to close your account.  
a) Unless  
b) If  
c) When  
d) Please
- 18)** Different working styles can create \_\_\_\_\_ tension.  
a) then  
b) again  
c) more  
d) most
- 19)** We'd be very \_\_\_\_\_ if you could give this matter your urgent attention.  
a) relief  
b) happiness  
c) grateful  
d) debt
- 20)** Why don't we \_\_\_\_\_ some ideas?  
a) kick a ball  
b) kick around  
c) kick it  
d) kick bang
- 21)** This strategy seems like a  
a) stake up  
b) stake in  
c) odd shot  
d) long shot
- 22)** He \_\_\_\_\_ of the MBA course just before the exams.  
a) dropped out  
b) dropped in  
c) drop out  
d) drop in
- 23)** Thank you \_\_\_\_\_ the advertising information.  
a) to sending  
b) for sending  
c) to send  
d) for send

- 24)** The boss has \_\_\_\_\_ the meeting.  
a) call off  
b) call on  
c) called off  
d) called on
- 25)** \_\_\_\_\_ that our competition will lower their prices soon.  
a) The evens are  
b) The odds are  
c) The same are  
d) The unlikely are
- 26)** It was difficult to \_\_\_\_\_ with the heavy workload.  
a) cope  
b) coped  
c) manager  
d) managed
- 27)** It's \_\_\_\_\_ difficult to find a replacement.  
a) such  
b) so  
c) such as  
d) so as
- 28)** I would really appreciate your \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) disagree  
b) agree  
c) output  
d) input
- 29)** He was so despondent! He was \_\_\_\_\_ the entire holiday!  
a) doleful  
b) grinning  
c) elated  
d) giggled
- 30)** I'm sorry but I don't have that information yet. I'll \_\_\_\_\_ to you later in the day.  
a) get back  
b) go back  
c) return with  
d) return on

## Read the following text and then answer the questions that follow

### *A Streetcar Named Desire*

A Streetcar named desire is a classic of the American theatre. Tennessee Williams' landmark work was a "tour de force" in its original stage production in 1947 and continues to **resonate** with audiences and readers today despite—or perhaps because of—its simplistic though layered story.

A faded Southern belle, Blanche DuBois, arrives at her sister's seedy New Orleans /5 apartment where she is tortured by her **brutish** brother-in-law, Stanley Kowalski. Blanche puts on airs of class and happiness throughout the play, though internally she is miserable and haunted by her tragic and scandalous past. Stanley forces Blanche to face her dolorous reality with his vitriol and, finally, his act of sexual aggression, and in doing so, he causes her to lose her tenuous grip on sanity. /10

Most have argued (correctly) that the play is about the ways the past haunts our present or (again correctly) that it is about the ways class and sexuality impact our lives. However, few have seen the play for what it is: an **allegory** for the theatre itself.

Before Williams wrote Streetcar, the theatre had been dominated by melodrama. A brief interlude in the 1930s brought political theatre to centre stage (pardon the /15 pun), but by the 1940s, its principal playwright, Clifford Odets, had left New York for Hollywood, and the sensationalized and maudlin form of melodrama once again flourished.

The theatre was in limbo, and Williams had a desire to bring something new to the world. It would bring the realism of the political theatre of the 1930s but without /20 the political) underpinnings. To that end, he created lifelike characters who spoke in realistic dialect. But to make his point that melodrama was flawed, he added an equally unrealistic character. Blanche, unlike the other characters, speaks theatrically, acts larger than life on stage, and uses floral language and heightened mannerisms. Blanche is a character not to be trusted. /25

She lies about everything, and the only thing that finally exposes her lies is reality itself: Stanley. He finally forces her off the stage and into the insane asylum by forcing himself on her sexually. And with that, realism forcibly removed melodrama from the stage.

It is not possible to imagine A Streetcar Named Desire without the influence of Marlon /30 Brando, the actor who rose to fame playing Stanley Kowalski. On the page, the part is fairly simplistic. Stanley is a monster and a beast without any redeeming qualities. But Brando and the play's original director, Elia Kazan, imagined the character as having a soft underbelly, rooted in his own sorrow, insecurities, and soulful complexity.

Brando's Stanley is a brute, yes, but he is a brute who hates the fact that he is so /35 awful. He is also unable to control himself and his passions, and this lack of control is equally embarrassing to him, even as it is also threatening to Blanche and alluring to her sister Stella. For instance, after he hits Stella, he comes back to her, famously begging for forgiveness by shouting "Stella" outside their apartment. But in Brando's depiction on the stage and later on the screen, he is soaked from the rain and looks /40 completely desperate, as though he needs Stella to live.

He looks and seems totally helpless and weak, the exact opposite of the brute he appears later when he forces himself onto Blanche. The play is excellent and memorable, even when read. But it is Brando's interpretation of the male lead role that makes the play indelible. Without Brando, the play would still have a deep meaning, /45 but with Brando's interpretation, the play becomes even more profound.

*www.ReadTheory.org and eNotes.com, Steven G. Kellman, November 2017*

## Questions

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- 31)** The first paragraph provides
- The name of the playwright.
  - An explanation of why modern audiences desire cars.
  - A brief plot synopsis of a possible play.
  - The names of the actors.
- 32)** What word is closest in meaning to “**resonate**” (line /3)?
- Annoy
  - Appeal to
  - Appease
  - Apply
- 33)** Which word is closest in meaning to “**brutish**” (line /6)?
- kindly
  - bestial
  - feeble
  - tiny
- 34)** According to the author, the character of Blanche DuBois is:
- intentionally honest.
  - pretending to be happy even though she’s not.
  - more and more authentic.
  - brutally frank during the play.
- 35)** Which word is closest in meaning to “**allegory**” (line /13)?
- A story that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning.
  - An open story with no hidden meaning.
  - A story that uses basic language.
  - An easy story with few complications.
- 36)** The author argues that Marlon Brando’s portrayal of Stanley Kowalski:
- didn’t earn the actor much pomp and glory.
  - is what ruined the play.
  - made the play more profound and helped the actor rise to fame.
  - was not a very good portrayal.
- 37)** According to the text, who is Elia Kazan?
- The play’s original director.
  - The play’s main actor.
  - The make-up artist.
  - The financial director.
- 38)** Based on the text, what can we conclude about Stanley Kowalski?
- He was a bitter, angry man who expressed harsh criticism.
  - He was a nice, charming man.
  - He was easy-going and jolly.
  - He was pleasant and peaceful.

**39)** What can be inferred about the author's opinion of Stanley Kowalski?

- a) Stanley is a gentle character who would like to be more placid.
- b) Stanley is an aggressive character who doesn't regret his actions.
- c) Stanley is a gentle character who would like to be more aggressive.
- d) Stanley is an aggressive character who regrets his actions.

**40)** The author's main argument concerning *A Streetcar Named Desire* is that it was:

- a) an amazing stage production.
- b) not as good as the written version.
- c) not melodramatic enough.
- d) unsuccessful due to Marlon Brando.