The champion of American English, its spelling, its grammar and its pronunciation. He wrote: "Our honor requires us to have a bestseller, selling over 80 million copies in Webster's lifetime (second only to the Bible)."

He published three elementary books in English, a speller, a grammar and a reader. The American Speller turned out to be a runaway success in the spirit of the New World, he set about filling the gap. Between 1783 and 1785 while still in his twenties, Webster was born in Hartford, Connecticut, and, like many of the American revolutionaries, turned from law to teaching as a schoolteacher, traditionally imported from London, were in short supply. Besides, in Webster's view, they were unsatisfactory. So, very much in the spirit of the New World, he set about filling the gap.

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The most famous of all American dictionary-makers, Noah Webster was as influential in the history of American English as George Washington in the American Revolution. From his Dissertations on the English Language in 1789 to his great monument of 1828, an American Dictionary of the English Language (referred to simply as "Webster's"), his work is a real landmark in American history.

Webster was born in Hartford, Connecticut, and, like many of the American revolutionaries, turned from law to teaching as a means of making his living. It was one of those career changes that transforms a man's life. Britain was at war with the colonies, and schoolbooks, traditionally imported from London, were in short supply. Besides, in Webster's view, they were unsatisfactory. So, very much in the spirit of the New World, he set about filling the gap. Between 1783 and 1785 while still in his twenties, Webster published three elementary books in English, a speller, a grammar and a reader. The American Speller turned out to be a runaway bestseller, selling over 80 million copies in Webster's lifetime (second only to the Bible).

The success of the American Speller gave Webster more than enough to live on, and he now devoted the rest of his life to the championing of the American language, its spelling, its grammar and its pronunciation. He wrote: "Our honor requires us to have a system of our own, in language as well as in government".

**I. Read the text choose the right answer:**

1. Why is Webster called the champion of American English? Because...
   a) he was a famous dictionary-maker
   b) he did much in championing of the cause of the American Language
   c) he wrote: "our honor requires us to have a system of our own".
   d) He was traveling about the printing offices.

2. What did he do to develop American English?
   a) he turned from law to teaching
   b) he imported books from London
c) he registered the American national variant of the English language
d) he took part in the war with Britain

03. What book written by Webster is considered to be his life's work?
a) dissertation on English
b) an American Speller
c) the Bible
d) an American Dictionary of English

II. Translate into Russian:
4. The most famous of all American dictionary-makers, N. Webster was as influential in the history of American English as George Washington in the American Revolution.
5. It was one of those career changes that transforms a man's life.
6. So, very much in the spirit of the New World, he set about filling the gap.
7. Between 1783 and 1785 while still in his twenties, Webster published three elementary books in English, a Speller, a Grammar and a Reader.

III. Choose the right answer:
08. Would you like...apple?
a) an    c) a
b) the   d) -
09. ... roses are my favorite flowers.
a) the    c) an
b) a      d) -
10. What time shall we...?
a) meet ourselves  c) meet ourself
b) meet      d) meet selves
11. I didn’t see...
a) anything    c) something
b) nothing      d) not anything
12. You should go to bed...
a) earlier    c) more earlier
b) more early  d) much early
13. Let's go by car. It's...
a) cheaper    c) far move cheap
b) much cheap d) much move cheap
14. He lives in a...
a) nice sunny house  c) nice house sunny
b) sunny nice house  d) sunny house nice
15. You've got much time. You ... hurry
a) don't need to    c) needn't
b) needn't to  d) don't need
16. I'm sorry. I couldn't come yesterday. I... work late.
a) had to    c) had
b) must      d) will have to
17. In Britain most of the shops ... at 5:30 p.m.
a) closes    c) are closing
b) close      d) have closed
18. Shhh! I can't hear what he ...
a) says    c) say
b) is saying  d) have said
19. Ann ... her lessons by the time I came.
a) has done    c) will have done
b) had done   d) will do
20. When ... raining?
a) has it started  c) is it starting
b) did it start  d) is started
21. Let's finish the translation today ... we?
a) shall    c) don't
b) will      d) are
22. I asked her if she ... to the pictures with us.
a) will come c) would be coming
b) comes  d) would come
23. Peter enjoys ... the fence.
a) to paint    c) to painting
b) painting   d) paint
24. My friend ... a present when he won the competition.
a) been given c) had given
b) was giving  d) was given
25. Don't open the door. The patient... by the doctor.
   a) was examining  
   b) is being examined  
   c) is examined  
   d) examines

26. When a kid I... lots of chocolate
   a) eat  
   b) used to eat  
   c) was used eating  
   d) used to eating

27. -...?
   - Thank you, but it's all right, I can do it
   a) will I do it  
   b) shall I arrange a meeting  
   c) is it all right  
   d) is it OK really - I mean the meeting

28. -...?
   - Terrible
   a) the weather is like  
   b) is the weather like  
   c) like is the weather  
   d) weather is it like

29. -...?
   - wonderful
   a) my  
   b) mine  
   c) him  
   d) her

30. Tom ... by car.
   a) always goes to work  
   b) goes always to work  
   c) goes to work by always  
   d) goes to work always

31. ... study hard when you were at school?
   a) must you  
   b) have you  
   c) did you have to  
   d) were you

32. There is an exam tomorrow, ...?
   a) is there  
   b) isn't there  
   c) is it  
   d) there isn't

33. You must....
   a) pay or either leave the shop  
   b) either pay or leave the shop  
   c) or pay or leave the shop  
   d) either pay nor leave the shop

34. She wanted to know where she ... for her.
   a) would wait  
   b) will wait  
   c) waits  
   d) will be waiting

35. The film was so tragic. It made me ....
   a) cry  
   b) to cry  
   c) crying  
   d) cried

36. If he were free tomorrow, he ... with us to the museum.
   a) will go  
   b) should go  
   c) goes  
   d) would go

37. Only English ... in the shop.
   a) speak  
   b) spoken  
   c) is spoken  
   d) speaks

38. Gemma looked ... lonely.
   a) so  
   b) such  
   c) so much  
   d) so rather

39. My book isn't here any more somebody ... it.
   a) had taken  
   b) took  
   c) has taken  
   d) is taking

40. Let's listen ... the new types.
   a) ...  
   b) to  
   c) for  
   d) over

41. When I was a child I ... a lot of sweets.
   a) used to eat  
   b) was used  
   c) usually eat  
   d) used to eating

42. Who ... that we are having an exam tomorrow?
   a) says  
   b) said  
   c) had said  
   d) say