What are the two things that make humans different from all other animals? One is language and the other is music. It is true that some animals, such as birds and whales, can sing, but ___(1)___ song of these animals is limited in type. Besides that, no other animal ___(2)___ a musical instrument so far.

Music is a strange thing. It is ___(3)___ different from language. People can, nevertheless, use it to communicate their emotions. When it is combined with speech in a song, it is one of the most powerful means of communication that humans have, but, biologically speaking, what is it?

If music ___(4a)___ truly different from speech, then it ___(4b)___ to come from a distinct part of the brain. That part keeps music separate from other sounds, including language. The evidence indicates that such a part exists.

People ___(5)___ language-processing ability is damaged do not automatically lose their musical abilities. ___(6)___, Vissarion Shebalin, a Russian composer, suffered a stroke to the left side of his brain in 1953. After that, he could no longer speak or understand speech. He could, however, still compose music ___(7)___ his death. On the other hand, in one or two cases, people have lost their musical abilities, ___(8)___ they can still speak.

A lot is known about how music works its magic. Geoffrey Miller, a researcher at University College, London, thinks that music and love ___(9)___ to each other. Therefore, in the case when someone wants to win the heart of someone else, he uses music by singing or playing an instrument. Singing properly or playing a musical instrument requires ___(10)___ memory. When a man sings his music to the woman he loves, he will most probably succeed in ___(11)___ his lover’s attention.
Most people think of Beethoven’s hearing loss as a barrier to composing music. Yet, he produced his most powerful works ___(12)___ he was completely deaf. This is one of ___(13)___ cases of achievement, but his biographer, Maynard Solomon, has a different view. Beethoven’s deafness certainly affected his personality. Solomon thinks that his deafness also “heightened his achievement as a composer.” In his deaf world, Beethoven ___(14)___ compose music free from the sounds of the outside world.

Hearing loss does not seem ___(15)___ the musical ability of musicians who become deaf. In fact, they “hear” music more accurately ___(16)___ they did before. Michael Eagar, who became deaf at the age of 21, describes this ___(17)___ phenomenon. Within three months, he was able to say: “My former musical experiences began to play back to me …”

How is it that the world we see, touch, hear and smell is both “out there” and at the same time within us? The cochlear implant, which is a device for the deaf, is the best example of this connection ___(18)___ the outside world and the inner world. No man-made device can replace the ability to hear, but it ___(19)___ be possible to interpret the signals which the deaf receive.

When Michael Eager first “switched on” his cochlear implant, he had difficulty ___(20)___ the sounds clearly. Gradually, with much hard work, he began to identify everyday sounds: “The bell of my old typewriter became clear almost at once just like the insistent ringing of the telephone.”

The primary purpose of the implant is to provide communication with others. Cochlear implants ___(21)___ the deaf to hear again in a way that is not perfect, but they definitely change their everyday lives. The hearing ability obviously has no equivalent. If Beethoven were alive today, even the most amazing cochlear implants would be useless while composing music, ___(22)___?

12. a) during  b) if  c) when  d) as
13. a) more glorious  b) the most glorious  c) glorious  d) as glorious as
14. a) must  b) could  c) should  d) were able to
15. a) have affected  b) affecting  c) affect  d) to affect
16. a) than  b) that of  c) those of  d) that
17. a) fascination  b) fascinated  c) fascinate  d) fascinating
18. a) from  b) between  c) to  d) till
19. a) used to  b) has to  c) might  d) needs to
20. a) heard  b) to hear  c) to be heard  d) hearing
21. a) let  b) allow  c) make  d) have
22. a) wouldn’t they  b) weren’t he  c) were he  d) would it