



**CAN THO UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

# **REVIEW**

**Can Tho, July 2020**

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**SCHOOL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

**REVIEW**

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**Can Tho, July 2020**

# **PAPER 1. LISTENING**

## **PAPER 1. LISTENING**

**Time allowance: approximately 40 minutes**

**Number of questions: 35**

<b>Parts</b>	<b>Types of audios</b>	<b>Number of recordings</b>	<b>Number of questions</b>	<b>Listening skills tested</b>
I	Short talks (announcements, ...) OR short conversations	08	08 (01 question/ recording)	Listen for specific information
II	Long conversations	03	12 (04 questions/ conversation)	Listen for gist and details
III	Long talks	03	15 (05 questions/ talk)	Listen for gist and details

# GENERAL RULES FOR LISTENING

## *Preparation*

- Improve your listening skills by listening to English as regularly as possible and by listening to different types of talks or conversations.
- Develop your **VOCABULARY** on different topics, mainly the FOUR themes: personal, public, educational and occupational.

## *On the test*

What to listen for: instructions, signposts, background noise, and stressed words.

- Look at the questions => key words => predict the topic and main content of the recording
- Instructions => any clues to the situation:
  - o Who the speaker is/ who the speakers are,
  - o Where the speaker is/ where they are, and
  - o Why the speaker is speaking/ why they are speaking
- For long talks, listen to the introduction carefully because the gist or main idea(s) and purpose of the talk are often presented at the beginning.
- Listen for signposts/ indicating words such as the following.
  - o Suggestions/ recommendations
  - o Positive/ agreement
  - o Negative/ disagreement
  - o Contrary
  - o Addition
  - o Causes
  - o Effects
  - o Examples
- Listen for background noise => clues to predict where the place is
- Listen for the speakers' intonation and interjections => positive, negative or neutral feelings

- Listen for stressed words and repeated vocabulary.
- You have to read, write and listen at the same time. Therefore, don't lose your attention and/ or get nervous for the words that you can't hear. Keep going in order not to miss the upcoming information.
- The order of the questions usually follows the order of information in the recording. However, please try to look at 2 questions at a time. The information to answer these questions may come immediately after each other.
- If you take notes, develop your system of abbreviations (short forms of the words or symbols), and use them instead of full words.
- Eliminating incorrect answer options to choose the correct one.
- Transfer the answers to the answer sheet carefully to avoid mistakes.
- Don't leave any blank answers => guess in case you are not sure about the correct answer.
  - Some tips to guess the answer
    - Choose the longer option
    - Choose the option uses synonyms of the words used in the recording
    - Use background knowledge to make smart guesses
    - Avoid choosing the first option (this is not applicable with computer-based test since the answer options are randomly arranged)

# SPECIFIC TIPS FOR VSTEP LISTENING

## PART 2: Conversations

- **Questions** => key words
- **Recordings** => what to hear and note
  - Instructions => any clues to the situation: who the speakers are, where they are and why they are speaking
  - Background noise => clues for the place and the situation
  - Voice of speakers => who is who => key words in the Q => listen for the answer
  - Listen for signposts/ indicating words such as the following.
    - Positive/ agreement
    - Negative/ disagreement
    - Contrary
- **Answer options** => how to choose the correct one
  - The order of the questions usually follows the order of the information in the recording and pay attention to TWO questions at a time.
  - Pay attention to questions which ask information about a specific speaker (i.e. what speaker A talks, does, plans, etc.) because in the recording some answer options may be mentioned but they belong to the other speaker (speaker B, not speaker A).
- You have to read, write and listen at the same time. Therefore, don't lose your attention and/ or get nervous for the words that you can't hear. Keep going in order not to miss the upcoming information.

## PART 3: Talks/ Lectures

- **Questions** => key words
- **Recordings** => what to hear and note
  - **Introduction**
    - who the speaker is (name, position/ title, organization, etc.)

- what the topic of the talk is,
- what the purpose of the talk is
- the structure of the talk => main ideas/ main content
- **Main talk**
  - Signposts => signal the main parts and the supporting ideas
  - Stressed words, repeated words => important information
- **Conclusion**
  - The summary and remarks
- **Answer options** => how to choose the correct one
  - Usually the order of the questions will follow the order of the talk, and pay attention to TWO questions at a time.
  - Remember the key words/ ideas and concentrate on the recordings.
  - Note the answer options => listen and choose the answer
  - The correct answer usually paraphrases or uses synonyms of the information in the recording.
  - Guess the answer and move on in case you are not sure of the answer.



## LISTENING PRACTICE TEST 1

### PART 1-Questions 1-8

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear EIGHT short announcements or instructions. There is one question for each announcement or instruction. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.

**1. How long does the man want to stay?**

- A. 1 day
- B. 1 night
- C. 2 nights
- D. 2 days

**2. What happens to the Chairman?**

- A. His car was broken down.
- B. His car caused traffic jam.
- C. His car got stuck.
- D. He has gone to Toronto.

**3. Who is the woman?**

- A. A manager
- B. A receptionist
- C. A flight attendant
- D. A waitress

**4. How many sessions have the man missed?**

- A. 1
- B. 7
- C. 2
- D. 8

**5. How much does the woman want to order?**

- A. \$15
- B. \$44
- C. \$11
- D. \$3

**6. When was the product shipped?**

- A. 2<sup>nd</sup> September
- B. 14<sup>th</sup> September
- C. 18<sup>th</sup> September
- D. 10<sup>th</sup> September

**7. What kind of room does the man request?**

- A. A room with breakfast service
- B. A smoking room
- C. A double room
- D. A room with a view of Huron Street

**8. What are they talking about?**

- A. A meeting
- B. Contents of a presentation
- C. A new manager
- D. Financial plans

**PART 2-Questions 9-20**

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE conversations. The conversations will not be repeated. There are four questions for each conversation. For each question, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTIONS 9-12**

**9. What type of club does the man want to join?**

- A. under 14s club
- B. under 16s club
- C. under 18s club
- D. over 18s club

**10. When is the training at the club?**

- A. Monday and Tuesday
- B. Monday and Thursday
- C. Tuesday and Thursday
- D. Thursday and Saturday

**11. How much does the man have to pay for classes?**

- A. £14
- B. £16
- C. £18
- D. Nothing

**12. What does the man have to bring when registering?**

- A. A photograph
- B. An identity card
- C. A fee
- D. A swimming suit

**QUESTIONS 13-16**

**13. What are the speakers mainly talking about?**

- A. The Pomodoro Technique
- B. Star Students
- C. Personnel management
- D. Cooking tips

**14. Which of the following is TRUE about the system?**

- A. It is very complicated to use.
- B. It is quite easy to follow.
- C. It is only used in professional work.
- D. It reminds people of a long break after work

**15. What should be first done to start the system?**

- A. List all things needed to do to complete the task.
- B. Think about what you want to complete.
- C. Set up the time allocation for the task.
- D. Write all of the tasks needed complete on a paper.

**16. How does the man set up the timer?**

- A. He uses the timer on his mobile.
- B. He uses his father's kitchen timer.
- C. He uses clock to time himself.
- D. He sets up timer on his watch.

**QUESTIONS 17-20**

**17. What are in the blue pages?**

- A. The courses the college offers
- B. All information about the college
- C. The facilities of the college
- D. Plans for social activities in the college

**18. What time will be the test?**

- A. 9.00
- B. 9.30
- C. 10.00
- D. 10.45

**19. Where will the students have the welcome lunch?**

- A. Cafeteria
- B. School café
- C. Indian restaurant
- D. Mexico restaurant

**20. Why does the woman say the man will love the food?**

- A. Because the man like spicy food.
- B. Because the man has never been to the restaurant.
- C. Because the food here is very delicious.
- D. Because the food here is very sweet.

**PART 3-Questions 21-35**

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE talks or lectures. The talks or lectures will not be repeated. There are five questions for each talk or lecture. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTIONS 21 TO 25**

**21. The teacher suggests eating \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. sugary snacks
- B. only apples
- C. fruit and cereals
- D. sweet

**22. If students feel stressed they should \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. go to bed
- B. go out for a walk
- C. drink some water
- D. cycle around the block

**23. Students are advised to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. select the important things to learn
- B. read through everything once
- C. make notes about every topic
- D. memorize all the details

**24. The teacher understands that repeating things can be \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. difficult
- B. exciting
- C. tiring
- D. uninteresting

**25. The teacher recommends a break of five minutes every \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. hour
- B. two hours
- C. thirty minutes
- D. three hours

### **QUESTIONS 26-30**

**26. Who is Bill?**

- A. a lifeguard
- B. a sport instructor
- C. an athlete
- D. a health expert

**27. What is he mainly talking about?**

- A. Training, lifestyle and diet
- B. Sport injuries and diet
- C. How to become a professional athlete
- D. Brand-new sport equipment

**28. In the main gym, you must \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. use your own towel
- B. wear trainers
- C. take a bottle of water
- D. bring your membership card

**29. The lifeguard can also \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. give you some tips to improve your swimming
- B. demonstrate the best way to swim
- C. give you swimming lessons
- D. show you the way to the lockers

**30. The timetable for the classes is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. available online
- B. in a brochure
- C. on the noticeboard
- D. at the information desk

### **QUESTIONS 31-35**

**31. What do the students use to open the swipe locks at their rooms?**

- A. Their keys
- B. Their student cards
- C. Their codes
- D. Nothing

**32. What do the students have for their windows?**

- A. A curtain
- B. A shuttle
- C. A swipe lock
- D. A key

**33. What does the security guard tell the woman about the students' windows?**

- A. He often finds them open.
- B. He never checks the windows.
- C. He often opens the windows.
- D. He often closes the windows.

**34. What happens when a student presses his personal alarm?**

- A. The alarm emits red light.
- B. The alarm emits green light.
- C. The alarm sings a song.
- D. The alarm gives out a loud noise.

**35. How often does the security bus go?**

- A. Every an hour
- B. Every 15 minutes
- C. Every 30 minutes
- D. Every 20 minutes



## LISTENING PRACTICE TEST 2

### PART 1-Questions 1-8

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear EIGHT short announcements or instructions. There is one question for each announcement or instruction. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.

**1. What does the woman recommend?**

- A. Renewing the contract
- B. Having a talk with the supplier
- C. Finding another supplier
- D. Changing some details in the contract

**2. How many photocopiers does the man's company have?**

- A. 2
- B. 3
- C. 5
- D. 8

**3. Who are the speakers?**

- A. A boss and an employee
- B. Two friends
- C. A customer and a salesperson
- D. An engineer and a salesclerk

**4. How long does it take to deliver the items?**

- A. 3 days
- B. 2 days
- C. 5 days
- D. 4 days

**5. What is the man buying?**

- A. A newspaper
- B. A birthday card
- C. A Book
- D. A pair of shoes

**6. How much will the man pay?**

- A. \$1,000
- B. \$9
- C. \$15
- D. \$6

**7. Why does the man refuse to go with the woman?**

- A. He has to another business thing to do.
- B. He is going to the football stadium.
- C. He wants watch a soccer match.
- D. His boss has told him to stay in the office.

**8. When does Bob Delaney want to meet?**

- A. On Thursday
- B. On Tuesday
- C. On Wednesday
- D. On Monday

**PART 2-Questions 9-20**

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE conversations. The conversations will not be repeated. There are four questions for each conversation. For each question, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTIONS 9-12**

**9. Magic Kingdom at Disney World in Florida \_\_\_\_.**

- A. has the largest area
- B. has the most rides
- C. has the biggest number of visitors
- D. has a lot of attractions

**10. Cedar Point in Ohio is introducing \_\_\_\_ this year.**

- A. a new rollercoaster
- B. three new water rides
- C. animatronic dinosaurs
- D. the biggest magic shops

**11. Andy thinks a wingcoaster is \_\_\_\_ than a normal rollercoaster.**

- A. more relaxing
- B. more frightening
- C. more dangerous
- D. more exciting

**12. Lotte World in South Korea \_\_\_\_.**

- A. is the biggest outdoor theme park
- B. is the largest indoor theme park
- C. has the world's biggest ride
- D. attracts tourists with a dark ride

**QUESTIONS 13-16**

**13. What does the woman say about her eating habits?**

- A. She does not like beef.
- B. She is a serious vegetarian.
- C. She is allergic to sea food.
- D. She is sometimes a vegetarian.

**14. Why does the woman want to be the only guest in the host family?**

- A. She is a quiet person.
- B. She does not want to share rooms.
- C. She can practice English more.
- D. She wants to be seriously treated.

**15. What is the highest price she can afford a week?**

- A. £60
- B. £80
- C. £100
- D. £120

**16. When does the woman want to start living with a host family?**

- A. 21<sup>st</sup> March
- B. 23<sup>rd</sup> March
- C. 10<sup>th</sup> March
- D. 2<sup>nd</sup> March

**QUESTIONS 17-20**

**17. What is the woman's name?**

- A. Ginny Chan
- B. Jinny Chan
- C. Genny Chan
- D. Jenny Chan

**18. What is the best time to contact the woman?**

- A. After 7.00
- B. After 9.00
- C. Between 9.00 and 9.30
- D. Between 9.00 and 10.30

**19. How long does the woman intend to stay?**

- A. More than 1 year
- B. No plan
- C. 1 year
- D. 4 months

**20. What does the woman say about her writing skill?**

- A. Advanced
- B. Not as good as speaking skill
- C. Better than speaking skill
- D. Not good

<b>PART 3-Questions 21-35</b>
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**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE talks or lectures. The talks or lectures will not be repeated. There are five questions for each talk or lecture. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTIONS 21-25**

**21. What do workers need to do in order to be employed?**

- A. To learn about technology
- B. To apply frequently for a job
- C. To be continuously trained
- D. To have a training course

**22. What does the speaker say about the life cycle of products?**

- A. It is slightly longer.
- B. It is becoming shorter.
- C. There is no change.
- D. It is much longer.

**23. To deal with the changes, what do companies require from the staff?**

- A. Being more hard-working
- B. Being more knowledgeable
- C. Being more flexible
- D. Being more sociable

**24. What happen when the job market changes?**

- A. People want to change their job frequently.
- B. It is hard for those who have done a job for a long time.
- C. Employees are highly required from their boss.
- D. There is nearly no permanent jobs.

**25. What is the wonderful change brought about by technological revolution for office workers?**

- A. They do not have to go to work anymore.
- B. They can organize their work and their family reasonably.
- C. They can exchange more information at work.
- D. They can work anytime they want.

### **QUESTIONS 26-30**

**26. The park which makes up Hampstead Heath is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. very large
- B. fairly large
- C. fairly small
- D. very small

**27. According to the speaker, Hampshire underground station is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. the shallowest in the system
- B. the deepest in the system
- C. the oldest in London
- D. the newest in London

**28. The speaker suggests that after their walk, people might want to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. have a meal in the famous restaurants
- B. avoid Hampstead village as it is very busy
- C. visit Hampstead village to look at the shops
- D. have a cup of tea because it is very famous

**29. What does the speaker say about the village?**

- A. It is always quiet at night.
- B. It is only busy at night.
- C. It is only busy in the early morning.
- D. It is busy the whole day and night.

**30. The houses in the Vale of the Heath are built \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. on the edge of the Heath
- B. on the Heath itself
- C. opposite the Heath
- D. just outside the Heath

### **QUESTIONS 31-35**

**31. The Clavie is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. a whisky container
- B. a wooden cross
- C. a bonfire
- D. a street parade

**32. In the Up Helly Aa festival, they burn \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. a wooden man
- B. a Viking boat
- C. a line in the grass
- D. a bunch of wood

**33. During a pancake race, you have to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. eat as many pancakes as possible while running
- B. run as fast as possible while tossing a pancake in a pan.
- C. run and jump over ropes without dropping the pancake.
- D. toss as many pancakes as possible in a limited time

**34. Nowadays, the people who win the cheese rolling competition are usually \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. top athletes
- B. people from the village
- C. visitors from all over the world
- D. famous chefs

**35. The fastest snail in the Snail Racing is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. cooked with garlic and butter
- B. rescued from the barbecue
- C. offered a big party
- D. given a prize of extra lettuce



## LISTENING PRACTICE TEST 3

### PART 1-Questions 1-8

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear EIGHT short announcements or instructions. There is one question for each announcement or instruction. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.

**1. Why does the man want to go back to school?**

- A. To improve his English
- B. To qualify for a visa
- C. To get a better job
- D. To impress his employer

**2. What entertainment is offered on the flight?**

- A. A game
- B. Music
- C. A movie
- D. None

**3. What does the woman like to do on weekends?**

- A. Read
- B. Go shopping
- C. Go boating
- D. Go to concerts

**4. Where is this conversation likely taking place?**

- A. A school cafeteria
- B. A classroom
- C. A boardroom
- D. A conference

**5. What problem is the woman having?**

- A. Many students in her class were sick.
- B. She is tired because of evening class.
- C. Her teacher was late for class.
- D. Her class was suddenly canceled.

**6. What did the accountant's daughter hit?**

- A. A cat
- B. A car
- C. A garbage can
- D. A garage door

**7. What does the man enjoy about France?**

- A. The travel
- B. The food
- C. The music
- D. The art galleries

**8. What can people NOT do with these products?**

- A. Cook in them
- B. Serve in them
- C. Freeze food in them
- D. Refrigerate food in them

**PART 2-Questions 9-20**

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE conversations. The conversations will not be repeated. There are four questions for each conversation. For each question, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTIONS 9 TO 12**

**9. What time did Adam go to bed?**

- A. At half past midnight
- B. At one o'clock in the morning
- C. At twenty to four
- D. At six o'clock in the morning

**10. What did he forget to bring in the morning?**

- A. His wallet
- B. His breakfast
- C. His friend's dress
- D. His paper

**11. Which of the following is NOT true about Adam's day?**

- A. He has no money to buy petrol.
- B. He has a little money for lunch.
- C. His car is broken down on the way home.
- D. He was busy at work.

**12. What will he do in the evening?**

- A. Relax and watch TV
- B. Spend time with his family
- C. Do some paperwork.
- D. See some friends

**QUESTIONS 13 TO 16**

**13. From the flat, what could the traveler see?**

- A. The ocean
- B. The mountain
- C. The forest
- D. The skyscrapers

**14. The traveler found New Yorkers to be \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. kind
- B. rude
- C. pushy
- D. sociable

**15. Which people showed the traveler around New York?**

- A. Her friend
- B. Her relative
- C. Her friend's neighbors
- D. Strangers

**16. What event did the traveler see?**

- A. A chess tournament
- B. The Feast of San Gennaro
- C. The Annual African American Day Parade
- D. The Flamenco through Manhattan

**QUESTIONS 17 TO 20**

**17. How long does the tour "Whale Watching" last?**

- A. One days
- B. Two days
- C. Three days
- D. Four days

**18. How are they going to travel?**

- A. By coach
- B. By boat
- C. By minibus
- D. By train

**19. What is the maximum group size on the tour?**

- A. 12
- B. 13
- C. 14
- D. 15

**20. How often is the tour currently?**

- A. Once a week
- B. Once a month
- C. Twice a week
- D. Twice a month

**PART 3-Questions 21-35**

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE talks or lectures. The talks or lectures will not be repeated. There are five questions for each talk or lecture. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTIONS 21 TO 25**

**21. What are the speakers mainly discussing?**

- A. How to register a new member of the Sport Center
- B. Types of sports offered in the Sport Center
- C. Working hours at the reception of the Sport Center
- D. How to enroll a training class at the Sport Center

**22. Which of the following does NOT need for registration?**

- A. A union card
- B. A passport-sized photograph
- C. Cash or cheque
- D. A registration form

**23. What benefits does the sport card offer students?**

- A. Freely attend training classes
- B. Use all kinds of sport center facilities
- C. Have half-price sessions at weekends
- D. Meet professional athletes

**24. When is the Sport Center open this year?**

- A. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. on weekdays
- B. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at weekends.
- C. 5 a.m. - 6 p.m. on weekdays
- D. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at weekends

**25. How much is the morning-discount this year?**

- A. 30%
- B. 40%
- C. 50%
- D. 60%

**QUESTIONS 26-30**

**26. How long will it take to get to Paris?**

- A. About one hour
- B. About three hours
- C. About four hours
- D. About five hours

**27. What should passengers do with their passports?**

- A. Leave them with their steward
- B. Lock them away
- C. Carry them all times
- D. Visit the local garden

**28. When should passengers be in the restaurant car for dinner?**

- A. 7.45 p.m.
- B. 8.00 p.m.
- C. 8.15 p.m.
- D. 8.45 p.m.

**29. What will the passengers do when the train gets to the Italian border?**

- A. Change trains
- B. Go on a tour
- C. Have lunch in a local café
- D. Visit some local attractions

**30. What should passengers NOT do?**

- A. Eat their own food on the train
- B. Open their cabin window
- C. Have a drink on the train
- D. Leave the train before it gets to Italy

**QUESTIONS 31-35**

**31. What is the talk mainly about?**

- A. Advertising the best temporary jobs
- B. Recommending the dream stable jobs
- C. Advising how to apply for the office work
- D. Discussing how to deal with work problems

**32. What do you have to do if you want one of these jobs?**

- A. Compete other hundred candidates for the job position you want
- B. Post a short video to prove you are the best one for that position
- C. Send a detailed personal résumé to the companies offering your dream job
- D. Experience at least one year at the job position you wish to apply

**33. Who would apply the job of outback adventurer?**

- A. Teenagers who are on holidays
- B. Old people who passionate nature
- C. Young people who love outdoors
- D. Workers who experience adventure

**34. Which of the following is NOT a place for the job number two?**

- A. In Northern Territory
- B. In Tropical Queensland
- C. In Great Barrier Reef
- D. In Lizard Island

**35. What kind of job would you do if you are more journalistic?**

- A. Taking care of wild animals
- B. Working in the city's café
- C. Writing music for events
- D. Photographing entertainment events

**This is the end of the listening paper.**



## LISTENING PRACTICE TEST 4

### PART 1-Questions 1-8

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear EIGHT short announcements or instructions. There is one question for each announcement or instruction. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D. Then, on the answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer that you have chosen.

**1. What options are offered to passengers?**

- A. Get a refund or wait
- B. Exchange tickets
- C. Rent a car
- D. Take a plane

**2. In what department does Peter work?**

- A. Sales
- B. Collections
- C. Accounting
- D. Human resources

**3. Where is the conference?**

- A. It's in the town center.
- B. It's far away from the town.
- C. It's near the convention centre.
- D. It's in the industrial zone.

**4. How many branches does this business have?**

- A. Five
- B. Seven
- C. Nine
- D. Eleven

**5. Which is NOT the rule during the performance?**

- A. Leave before the comedy ends
- B. Don't chat with friends
- C. Don't take photographs
- D. Don't make any phone calls

**6. How will she get there?**

- A. By car
- B. On foot
- C. By train
- D. By bike

**7. How much did the man pay for the jacket?**

- A. About \$200
- B. About \$400
- C. About \$500
- D. About \$900

**8. Which change is announced to students?**

- A. More tests will be assigned.
- B. New topics will be covered.
- C. A term paper is due on a different date.
- D. More term paper will be assigned.

**PART 2-Questions 9-20**

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE conversations. The conversations will not be repeated. There are four questions for each conversation. For each question, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTION 9-12**

**9. The man and woman are talking about a \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. full-time, temporary job
- B. full-time, permanent job
- C. part-time, temporary job
- D. part-time, permanent job

**10. How many welfare officers is going to recruit this year?**

- A. Three
- B. Four
- C. Six
- D. Eight

**11. Where are most of the students from?**

- A. The Far East
- B. The Middle East
- C. Eastern Europe
- D. North Africa

**12. Which of the following is TRUE to this job position?**

- A. They know many foreign languages
- B. They are local residents.
- C. They spend long hours with people.
- D. They should be a good listener.

**QUESTIONS 13-16**

**13. How will the woman send the man's tickets?**

- A. By email
- B. By post
- C. By text message
- D. By fax

**14. The author Sandra Harrington will \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. tell people about her latest book
- B. read extracts from one of her earlier books
- C. explain where writers get their ideas from
- D. answer questions about her future plans

**15. To go to one of the author talks, the man must \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. reserve some tickets online before he goes.
- B. buy tickets from the Book Fare tickets.
- C. complete a form which the woman will send to him
- D. go to the fair as early as possible to reserve a seat.

**16. How will the man get to the fair from the city center?**

- A. By car
- B. On foot
- C. By public transport
- D. By motorbike

**QUESTIONS 17-20**

**17. Which of the following has Amir done already?**

- A. Used the library search engine
- B. Reserved some books
- C. Used the e-journals
- D. Been on a library induction tour

**18. On how many days per week are library inductions currently available?**

- A. 7 days per week
- B. 5 days per week
- C. 2 days per week
- D. 1 day per week

**19. What can Amir do on level two?**

- A. Use the computers
- B. Sign up for a library tour
- C. Find the electrical engineering books
- D. Meet Mark Taylor

**20. What time should Amir return to meet the subject librarian?**

- A. At around 12.15
- B. At around 12.30
- C. At around 1.00
- D. At around 2.00

<b>PART 3-Questions 21-35</b>
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**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE talks or lectures. The talks or lectures will not be repeated. There are five questions for each talk or lecture. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTIONS 21-25**

**21. The prerequisite for administration is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. 3.6 GPA
- B. 3.9 GPA
- C. 3.8 GPA
- D. 3.7 GPA

**22. Applying to Cambridge is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. very different to applying to university in your home country
- B. very different to applying to other British Universities
- C. very different to applying to Oxford
- D. very different to applying to UCAS

**23. How many essential forms are students required to fill out?**

- A. One
- B. Two
- C. Three
- D. Four

**24. British undergraduate degree are \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. better quality than in other countries
- B. longer and more specialized than in other countries
- C. longer and higher quality than I other countries
- D. highly specialized in order to be shorter

**25. Cambridge University chooses students who \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. have a high GPA average
- B. have a high degree of ability in their chosen field
- C. have a lot of hobbies and interests
- D. are good at both school major and outside interests.

**QUESTIONS 26-30**

**26. PS Camping has been organizing holidays for \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. 15 years
- B. 20 years
- C. 25 years
- D. 30 years

**27. How many sites can we choose if we book a camping holiday with PS Camping?**

- A. More than 300
- B. Almost 300
- C. More than 64
- D. Almost 64

**28. The company has most camping sites in?**

- A. France
- B. Italy
- C. Switzerland
- D. Spain

**29. Which organized activity can children do every day of the week?**

- A. Football
- B. Drama
- C. Model making
- D. Poster making

**30. Some areas of the site have a “no-noise” rule after \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. 9.00 pm
- B. 9.30 pm
- C. 10.00 pm
- D. 10.30 pm

**QUESTIONS 31-35**

**31. An au pair may help in the house for up to \_\_\_\_\_ hours a day for pocket money.**

- A. five
- B. six
- C. seven
- D. eight

**32. Which of the following task does an au pair may do in the house?**

- A. Dusting the house
- B. Painting the house
- C. Mowing lawn
- D. Picking children up at schools

**33. How much money should be given as pocket money?**

- A. 14 to 20 pounds a week
- B. 15 to 20 pounds a week
- C. 15 to 20 pounds a month
- D. 50 to 100 pounds a month

**34. An au pair must be a single girl aged \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. under 17
- B. under 27
- C. more than 27
- D. between 17 and 27

**35. Which is the appropriate nationality for an au pair?**

- A. Japanese
- B. Spanish
- C. Turkish
- D. Russia

**This is the end of the listening paper.**



## **LISTENING PRACTICE TEST 6**

**Time allowance: approximately 40 minutes**

**Number of questions: 35**

### **PART 1-Questions 1-8**

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear EIGHT short announcements or instructions. There is one question for each announcement or instruction. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.

**1. What will the weather be like at the weekend?**

- A. It will be sunny.
- B. It will be cloudy.
- C. It will be rainy.
- D. It will be windy.

**2. What did the woman do on holiday?**

- A. She went hiking in the mountain.
- B. She sunbathed on the beach.
- C. She swam in the sea.
- D. She visited some nice villages.

**3. Where is the man's book?**

- A. It is under the flower vase.
- B. It is on the desk with other books.
- C. It is on chair next to the TV.
- D. It is on the bookshelf

**4. What is the man going to do?**

- A. telephone the suppliers
- B. call the woman back
- C. order a new part
- D. pick up the motorbike

**5. Where is the manager's office?**

- A. on the second floor
- B. near the restaurant
- C. next to the changing rooms
- D. Next to the staff kitchen

**6. What time is the taxi coming?**

- A. 8 o'clock
- B. 7 o'clock
- C. half past four
- D. half past two

**7. The man wants to order some equipment to \_\_\_\_.**

- A. make corrections
- B. hold documents together
- C. print out documents
- D. file documents away

**8. What is the problem?**

- A. There are only four single rooms in the hotel.
- B. Only expensive rooms are available.
- C. The hotel doesn't like large groups of people.
- D. The hotel is busy at that time.

**PART 2-Questions 9-20**

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE conversations. The conversations will not be repeated. There are four questions for each conversation. For each question, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTIONS 9-12**

**9. When Peter first went to England, he visited his \_\_\_\_.**

- A. grandfather
- B. uncle and aunt
- C. cousins
- D. sister

**10. Peter spends most of his year \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. near the beach
- B. in a city
- C. at his farm
- D. In foreign countries

**11. What problem did Peter have in the desert?**

- A. His vehicle broke down.
- B. He didn't have enough water.
- C. He was frightened by an animal.
- D. He was ill.

**12. What does Peter want to do in the future?**

- A. publish another novel
- B. write a history book
- C. spend more time travelling
- D. become a director

### **QUESTIONS 13-16**

**13. How does Sam feel when he reaches the top of a mountain?**

- A. Proud
- B. Exhausted
- C. Energetic
- D. Scared

**14. Sam thinks that we all have a moment in childhood \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. when we know what our ambition is
- B. when we realise we can't do everything we want
- C. when we make plans about our future
- D. when we are excited about something

**15. What was the attitude of Sam's parents when he took up the sport?**

- A. They were anxious.
- B. They didn't want to discourage him.
- C. They forced him to stop.
- D. They were not very supportive.

**16. It can be inferred from Sam that feeling confident \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. is the result of doing many climbs with his friend
- B. is natural after some time
- C. can provoke people to make mistakes
- D. can encourage people to take risks

#### **QUESTIONS 17-20**

**17. What first inspired Jim to choose this project?**

- A. textiles displayed in an exhibition
- B. a book about a botanic garden
- C. carpets he saw on holiday
- D. interest in textile when he was young

**18. Jim eventually decided to do a practical investigation on \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. using a range of dyes with different fibres
- B. applying different dyes to one type of fibre
- C. testing one dye and a range of fibres
- D. testing two dyes and one fibres

**19. When doing his experiments, Jim was surprised by \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. how much natural material was needed to make the dye
- B. the fact that dyes were widely available on the internet
- C. the time that he had to leave the fabric in the dye
- D. how hard to find dye nowadays

**20. What problem did Jim have with using tartrazine as a fabric dye?**

- A. It caused allergy.
- B. It was not a permanent dye on cotton.
- C. It was ineffective when used on nylon.
- D. It changed the color on nylon.

<b>PART 3-Questions 21-35</b>
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**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE talks or lectures. The talks or lectures will not be repeated. There are five questions for each talk or lecture. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTIONS 21 TO 25**

**21. When the group meet at the airport they will have**

- A. breakfast.
- B. coffee.
- C. lunch.
- D. toffee.

**22. The group will be met at Munich Airport by**

- A. an employee at the National Theatre.
- B. a theatre manager.
- C. a tour operator.
- D. a tourist.

**23. How much will they pay per night for a double room at the hotel?**

- A. 110 euros
- B. 120 euros
- C. 150 euros
- D. 180 euros

**24. Which is NOT true about the group's activity on Tuesday evening?**

- A. having dinner in a Lebanese restaurant
- B. going out for dinner near their hotel
- C. having dinner together
- D. having dinner in an Italian restaurant

**25. Who will they meet on Wednesday afternoon?**

- A. an actor
- B. a playwright
- C. a theatre director
- D. an actress

#### **QUESTIONS 26 TO 30**

**26. The land where the Sculpture Park is located was previously**

- A. completely covered by forest.
- B. the site of a private house.
- C. occupied by a factory.
- D. surrounded by a big swamp.

**27. What is unusual about the Anglia Sculpture Park?**

- A. Artists have made sculptures especially for it.
- B. Some of its sculptures were donated by the artists.
- C. It only shows contemporary sculptures.
- D. The sculptures were given by the locals.

**28. What is the theme of Joe Tremain's 'burnt' sculptures?**

- A. the contrast between nature and urban life
- B. the effect of man on the environment
- C. the effect of the environment on man
- D. the violence of nature

**29. What does the speaker say about the Visitor Centre?**

- A. It has received a national award.
- B. It has received an international award.
- C. It is being enlarged at present.
- D. It was designed by a Canadian architect.

**30. Today, visitors can buy snacks and sandwiches**

- A. at the kiosk.
- B. in the Terrace Room.
- C. at the Lower Lake Café.
- D. at the Upper Lake Café.

**QUESTIONS 31-35**

**31. The speaker's first felt the Matthews article was of value when she realized**

- A. how it would help her difficulties with left-handedness.
- B. the relevance of connections he made with music.
- C. the impressive size of his research project.
- D. how it would help left-handed people live happily.

**32. The speaker feels that the findings on handedness will be of value in**

- A. helping sportspeople identify their weaknesses.
- B. aiding sportspeople as they plan tactics for each game.
- C. developing suitable training programs for sportspeople.
- D. inventing appropriate tools for sportspeople.

**33. The speaker feels that most sports coaches**

- A. know nothing about the influence of handedness.
- B. focus on the wrong aspects of performance.
- C. underestimate what science has to offer sport.
- D. overestimate what science has to offer sportspeople.

**34. A German study showed there was greater 'mixed handedness' in musicians who**

- A. started playing instruments in early youth.
- B. play a string instrument such as the violin.
- C. practise a great deal on their instrument.
- D. did not want to play music at an early age.

**35. Studies on ape behavior show that**

- A. apes have a greater proportion of left - and right - handers than humans.
- B. apes have the same proportion of left - and right - handers as humans.
- C. more apes are left-handed than right-handed.
- D. apes which always use the same hand to get food are most successful.



## LISTENING PRACTICE TEST 7

**PART 1 – Questions 1 – 8**

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear EIGHT short announcements or instructions. There is one question for each announcement or instruction. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D. Then, on the answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer that you have chosen.

- 1. Who is the second speaker?**
  - A. An electrician
  - B. A banker
  - C. An engineer
  - D. A jeweler
- 2. Where is the conversation taking place?**
  - A. At a men's clothing store
  - B. In a courtroom
  - C. At an art gallery
  - D. In a paint store
- 3. What are they doing?**
  - A. Buying clothing
  - B. Going through customs
  - C. Going grocery shopping
  - D. Getting their luggage
- 4. Why is Mr. Maras leaving?**
  - A. To talk to a client
  - B. To go to his office
  - C. To board an airplane
  - D. To meet his wife
- 5. How long was Ms. Shearson out of the country?**
  - A. For a few days
  - B. For a month
  - C. Exactly a year
  - D. Just over a year

- 6. What is the problem with the bicycle?**
- A. It is very old.
  - B. There is no key for the lock.
  - C. It has been stolen.
  - D. There is no air in one tire.
- 7. What is wrong with the apartment?**
- A. It is too big for him.
  - B. It does not have enough rooms.
  - C. It is too expensive.
  - D. It is not in the right location.
- 8. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an occasion to use these products?**
- A. Retirements
  - B. Weddings
  - C. Birthdays
  - D. Meetings

**PART 2-Questions 9-20**

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE conversations. The conversations will not be repeated. There are four questions for each conversation. For each question, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTIONS 9 TO 12**

- 9. How long does the tour “Whale Watching” last?**
- A. One days
  - B. Two days
  - C. Three days
  - D. Four days
- 10. How are they going to travel?**
- A. By coach
  - B. By boat
  - C. By minibus
  - D. By train
- 11. What is the maximum group size on the tour?**
- A. 12
  - B. 13
  - C. 14
  - D. 15

**12. When is the next tour going?**

- A. April 18<sup>th</sup>
- B. April 19<sup>th</sup>
- C. April 20<sup>th</sup>
- D. April 21<sup>st</sup>

**QUESTIONS 13 TO 16**

**13. What is included in the price of the tour?**

- A. fishing trip
- B. reptile park entry
- C. table tennis
- D. tennis

**14. How much is the tour?**

- A. \$50
- B. \$120
- C. \$280
- D. \$300

**15. How many days must bookings be made in advance?**

- A. 12
- B. 14
- C. 20
- D. 30

**16. What is the customer's reference number?**

- A. 39745T
- B. 39754T
- C. 39475T
- D. 39574T

**QUESTIONS 17 TO 20**

**17. At what time will students gather in Main Hall?**

- A. 10 a.m.
- B. 10:30 a.m.
- C. 11 a.m.
- D. 11:30 a.m.

**18. What will students do in the Main Hall?**

- A. Attend a lecture
- B. Do social activities
- C. Meet principal and staff
- D. Take a final test

**19. What is the Director of Studies going to tell students about?**

- A. The different requirements for each course
- B. The various services
- C. The student activities
- D. The student accommodation

**20. Where is the Main Hall?**

- A. At the Main Entrance
- B. Beside Language Laboratory
- C. In front of Computer Laboratory
- D. Next to the library

**PART 3-Questions 21-35**

**Directions:** In this part, you will hear THREE talks or lectures. The talks or lectures will not be repeated. There are five questions for each talk or lecture. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.

**QUESTIONS 21 TO 26**

**21. What is the talk mainly talking about?**

- A. household waste recycling
- B. carbon dioxide emissions
- C. energy consuming
- D. household chores

**22. By 2008, what percentage must the carbon dioxide emission be reduced compared with 1990?**

- A. 9%
- B. 12.5%
- C. 15%
- D. 18.5%

**23. What possible solution does the speaker suggest to help lower the carbon dioxide emissions?**

- A. lower the household gases through cooking
- B. limit the uses of chemicals in agriculture
- C. save energy through the production of recycled waste
- D. reduce the number of plastic bags in daily life

**24. What problem is connected with the household recycling waste?**

- A. There is no recycled bin for every household.
- B. The household recycling waste is not collected every day.
- C. Glass designed to be utilized for cooking cannot be recycled.
- D. The household waste is not sorted in the recycled bin.

**25. In the UK, how many tons of glass is annually recycled?**

- A. 400.000
- B. 500.000
- C. 600.000
- D. 700.000

**QUESTIONS 26 TO 30**

**26. In 1993 Dan Pearman went to Ecuador \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. as a tourist guide
- B. as part of his studies
- C. as a voluntary worker
- D. as a bike racer

**27. Dan's neighbor was successful in business because he \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. employed carpenters from the area
- B. found it easy to reach customers
- C. was the most skilled craftsman in the town
- D. could do many jobs without any troubles

**28. Dan says the charity relies on \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. getting enough bicycles to send regularly
- B. finding new areas which need the bicycles
- C. charging for the bicycles it sends abroad
- D. giving bicycles to the poorest people

**29. What does Dan say about the town of Rivas?**

- A. It has received the greatest number of bikes.
- B. It has almost as many bikes as Amsterdam.
- C. Its economy has been totally transformed.
- D. It is now the first place everyone owns a bike.

**30. What problem did the charity face in August 2000?**

- A. It had no enough bikes to send to the poorest regions.
- B. It was criticized I the British media.
- C. It had to delay sending the bikes.
- D. It couldn't afford shipping bills.

### QUESTIONS 31 TO 35

- 31. The speaker says international students at UK University will be \_\_\_\_\_.**
- A. offered accommodation with local families
  - B. given special help by their lectures
  - C. expected to work independently
  - D. required to join international organization
- 32. What does the speaker say about university accommodation on campus?**
- A. Most places are given to undergraduates.
  - B. No places are available for postgraduates with families.
  - C. A large number of accommodations are available for all students.
  - D. A limited number of places are available for new postgraduates.
- 33. Students wishing to live off-campus should apply \_\_\_\_\_.**
- A. several months in advance
  - B. two or three months in advance
  - C. at the beginning of term
  - D. a few days before the start of term
- 34. The university accommodation officer will \_\_\_\_\_.**
- A. send a list of agents for students to contact
  - B. contact accommodation agencies for students
  - C. ensure that students have suitable accommodation
  - D. ask students to share available accommodation
- 35. With regard to their English, the speaker advises the students to \_\_\_\_\_.**
- A. tell their lectures if they have problems understanding
  - B. have private English lessons when they arrive
  - C. practise their spoken English before they arrive
  - D. take part in English Speaking Club at school

**This is the end of the listening test.**

# **PAPER 2. READING**

## **PAPER 2. READING**

**Time allowance: approximately 60 minutes**

**Number of questions: 40**

### **Format of a VSTEP Reading Test**

<b>Parts</b>	<b>Types of reading texts</b>	<b>Number of questions</b>	<b>Reading kills tested</b>
I	A 450-word passage about daily life topics	10 MCQs	Reading for:  - Main ideas  - Details  - Inferences
II	A 450-word passage about topics of natural or social sciences	10 MCQs	
III	A 450-word passage about natural or social sciences or other fields	10 MCQs	
IV	A 500-word passage about more complex topics or literature	10 MCQs	

### **QUESTION TYPES IN THE TEST**

1. Vocabulary – Guess the meaning of the word in context
2. Vocabulary – Recognize referents
3. Detail Questions – Find factual information
4. Detail Questions – Understand negative information
5. Simplified sentence
6. Inference questions
7. Rhetorical purpose questions
8. Insertion questions
9. Organization questions
10. Main idea/ topic questions
11. Tone/ purpose/ course questions



## PRACTICE TEST 1

### PASSAGE 1 – Questions 1 – 10

All humans do not have the same type of blood. In different types of blood, certain antibodies and antigens may or may not be present. **There are different systems for classifying blood, and one of the systems is the ABO system.** In this system, a person's blood is classified as either type A, type B, type AB, or type O. the purpose of this system is to describe which types of blood are compatible. This means which types of blood can be taken from or given to a person. There are three **principles** that govern which types of blood are compatible.

[A] ■ The first principle is that a particular blood type is always compatible with itself. [B] ■ This means, **for instance**, that a person with type A can **receive** type A blood and that a person with type B blood can accept type B blood. [C] ■

The second principle is that type O blood can be given to any of the other blood groups. Type O can be given to a patient with type A, B, or AB blood. For this reason, type O is called the universal **donor**.

The last principle is that patients with type AB blood can receive blood from types A, B, or O. this means that **they** can compatibly receive any other types of blood from any other donors. [D] ■

1. It is stated in paragraph 1 that certain antibodies and antigens in the blood \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Are omitted from the ABO system
  - B. Have not been classified
  - C. Are universal donors
  - D. May not be in all blood
2. Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence in paragraph 1?

- A. The ABO system is the only system for classifying blood.
  - B. All of the systems for classifying blood are based on the ABO system.
  - C. The ABO system is one of the systems for classifying blood.
  - D. One of the many ABO systems is used to classify blood.
3. According to the passage what is NOT true about the ABO system?
- A. It classifies blood as one of four types.
  - B. It describes which types of blood can work together.
  - C. It shows which types of blood can be taken from one person for another.
  - D. It does not show which kind of blood can be given to a person.
4. The word ‘**principle**’ in paragraph 1 is most likely \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Leaders
  - B. Effects
  - C. Rules
  - D. Trials
5. The author uses the phrase ‘**for instance**’ in paragraph 2 to show that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. An example will follow
  - B. A contrasting idea will follow
  - C. A result will follow
  - D. An explanation will follow
6. The word ‘**receive**’ in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Send
  - B. Offer
  - C. Deny
  - D. Accept
7. Which place in the passage would the following sentence best fit?
- It also means that a person with type AB blood can receive type AB blood and that a person with type O blood can receive type O blood.**
- A. [A]
  - B. [B]

- C. [C]  
D. [D]
8. It can be inferred from the passage that type A blood can \_\_\_\_.
- A. Accept types A or O blood  
B. Accept types O or AB blood  
C. Accept types A or AB blood  
D. Accept types A or B blood
9. The word '**donor**' in paragraph 3 is most likely someone who \_\_\_\_.
- A. Receives  
B. Gives  
C. Shows  
D. Takes
10. The word '**they**' in paragraph 4 refers to \_\_\_\_.
- A. Patients with type AB blood  
B. Types A, B, or O  
C. Types of blood  
D. Donors

### **PASSAGE 2 – Questions 11 – 20**

One **amazing** characteristic of the humpback whale is its ability to sing. A male humpback whale may sing individually, or it may sing in concert with other nearby male humpback whales. One song can last as long as 15 minutes, and it can be made up of as many as seven themes that are used repeatedly throughout the song. The song consists of low moaning sounds, blasts that sound like horns, and high squeals.

There is a lot that scientists know about the songs of the humpback whale. However, some of the things are not known **with certainty**. They are how the humpback whales produce their songs, why they are singing the songs, and when and where the humpback whales sing.

[A] ■ It is unclear how humpback whales are able to produce sounds while they are singing. [B] ■ This is unclear because humpback whales do not have vocal cords. [C] ■ It is also unclear because their mouths are not moving while they are singing. [D] ■

Something else that is not clear is the reason why humpback whales sing. When a male humpback whale begins singing, other male humpback whales respond. It is not female whales that respond. **Perhaps the males are joining together to sing because they want female whales that are far away to hear them.**

In addition to not understanding how and why humpback whales sing, scientists also do not understand **fully** when and where **they** produce their songs. Humpback whales from Alaska travel to Hawaii for the winter months of November through May, and then they return to Alaska. The whales rarely sing when they are in Alaska, but sometimes they do. They sing a lot more and a lot more often when they are in the waters of Hawaii.

11. The word ‘**amazing**’ in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.

- A. Common
- B. Surprising**
- C. Average
- D. Boring

12. What kind of whale sound is NOT mentioned in paragraph 1?

- A. Moaning
- B. Blasting
- C. Squealing
- D. Clicking**

13. The expression ‘**with certainty**’ in paragraph 2 could best be replaced by \_\_\_\_.

- A. For sure**
- B. As a possibility
- C. At most
- D. By chance

14. What is indicated in paragraph 3 about how whales produce sounds?

- A. They use their vocal cords and move their mouths.
- B. They use their vocal cords but do not use their mouths.
- C. They do not use their vocal cords but do use their mouths.
- D. They do not use their vocal cords and do not use their mouths.

15. Which place in the passage would the following sentence best fit?

**This is different from human production of sounds, in which vocal cords are used and the mouth is moving.**

- A. [A]
- B. [B]
- C. [C]
- D. [D]

16. Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the bold sentence in paragraph 4?

- A. It is possible that male whales sing together to attract distant female whales.
- B. Perhaps male whales sing with female whales in order to sing really loudly.
- C. Maybe male whales sing only when they are together with female whales.
- D. It is possible that male whales sing because they want female whales to stay away.

17. The word '**fully**' in paragraph 5 could best be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Usually
- B. Normally
- C. Completely
- D. Accurately

18. The word '**they**' in paragraph 5 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Humpback whales
- B. Scientists
- C. Songs
- D. Winter months

19. It can be inferred from paragraph 5 that humpback whales would most likely be in Alaska in \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. January
- B. April
- C. September
- D. November

20. According to paragraph 5, when do humpback whales sing?

- A. They always sing when they are in Alaska.
- B. They never sing when they are in Alaska.
- C. They never sing when they are in Hawaii.
- D. They sing more often in Hawaii than they do in Alaska.

### PASSAGE 3 – Questions 21 – 30

Amy Tan, the American-born daughter of Chinese immigrants, received the Commonwealth Club Gold Award in 1989 for her first work of fiction, the best-selling *Joy Luck Club*. The sixteen interrelated stories that constitute **the work** alternate between the tales of four Chinese immigrant mothers and their Americanized daughters, in an exploration of the generational and cultural **tensions** experienced by many first-generation daughters of immigrants.

Tan's parents, like many immigrants, had high expectations for their children and often set confusing standards, expecting Amy and her two brothers to think like Chinese but to speak perfect English, excel academically, and take advantage of every circumstance that might lead to success. Tan, however, **rebelled against** her parents' expectations, which included such exalted professions as neurosurgery, and devoted herself to being thoroughly American and dreaming of being a fiction writer.

Tan obtained a bachelor's degree in English and linguistics and a master's degree in linguistics and eventually established herself as a highly successful business writer. Tan, however, was not satisfied despite her material success. Turning to her life long dream, she wrote her first short story, 'Endgame,' and then a second, 'Waiting between the Trees'. In 1987 Tan visited her half-sisters in China with her mother, a trip that proved to be a turning point in her life and career. Tan felt a sense of completeness, a bonding with the country and its culture that she had never expected. Returning from China, Tan was surprised to learn that on the strength of her short stories she had received an **advance** from a publisher. Tan closed

her business and wrote the remaining stories for the *Joy Luck Club*. It was a **resounding** success, well received by the critics and appearing on the New York Times bestseller list. It has been translated into seventeen languages, including Chinese, and was made into a movie in 1993.

21. What is the author's main purpose in this passage?
- A. To analyze Amy Tan's literary works
  - B. To support Amy Tan's decision to become a fiction writer
  - C. To present biographical information about Amy Tan
  - D. To criticize Amy Tan's rebellion against her parents
22. According to the passage, Amy Tan's visit to China \_\_\_\_.
- A. Was disappointing
  - B. Had a profound affect on her
  - C. Was not surprising in the least
  - D. Was a trip she had always dreamed of taking
23. In paragraph 1, the words '**the work**' refer to \_\_\_\_.
- A. Stories
  - B. Writing
  - C. Commonwealth Club Gold Award
  - D. *Joy Luck Club*
24. The word '**tensions**' in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.
- A. Confusions
  - B. Conflicts
  - C. Advantages
  - D. Stories
25. Before becoming a fiction writer, Amy Tan was a successful \_\_\_\_.
- A. Business writer
  - B. Publisher
  - C. English teacher
  - D. Neurosurgeon

26. The expectations of Tan's parents included all of the following EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Excelling academically  
B. Speaking perfect English  
C. Questioning tradition  
D. Choosing an important profession
27. It can be concluded from this passage that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Parents don't know what's best for their children  
B. Tan did not use personal experience in her writing  
C. Tan made the right decision when she closed her business  
D. Tan always knew she was Chinese foremost and American only in her imagination
28. The words '**rebelled against**' in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Defied  
B. Forgot  
C. Worked toward  
D. Failed
29. The word '**resounding**' in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Minimal  
B. Huge  
C. Certain  
D. Potential
30. As used in paragraph 3, the word '**advance**' means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Offer  
B. Congratulations  
C. Message  
D. Payment

#### **PASSAGE 4 – Questions 31 – 40**

Committees, task forces, and ad hoc groups are frequently assigned to identify and recommend decision alternatives or, in some cases, to actually make important decisions. In



essence, a group is a tool that can focus the experience and expertise of several people on a particular problem or situation. Thus, a group offers the advantage of greater total knowledge. Groups accumulate more information, knowledge, and facts than individuals and often consider more alternatives. Each person in the group is able to draw on his or her unique education, experience, insights, and other resources and contribute those to the group. The varied backgrounds, training levels, and expertise of group members also help overcome tunnel vision by enabling the group to view the problem in more than one way.

Participation in group decision making usually leads to higher member satisfaction. People tend to accept a decision more readily and to be better satisfied with it when they have participated in making that decision. In addition, people will better understand and be more committed to a decision in which they have had a say than to a decision made for them. As a result, such a decision is more likely to be implemented successfully.

While groups have many potential benefits, we all know that they can also be frustrating. [A] ■ One obvious disadvantage of group decision making is the time required to make a decision. [B] ■ The time needed for group discussion and the associated compromising and selecting of a decision alternative can be **considerable**. [C] ■ Time costs money, so a waste of time becomes a disadvantage if a decision made by a group could have been made just as effectively by an individual working alone. [D] ■ **Consequently**, group decisions should be avoided when speed and efficiency are the primary considerations.

A second disadvantage is that the group discussion may be dominated by an individual or subgroup. Effectiveness can be reduced if one individual, such as the group leader, dominates the discussion by talking too much or being closed to other points of view. Some group leaders try to control the group and provide the major input. Such dominance can stifle other group members' willingness to participate and could cause decision alternatives to be ignored or overlooked. All group members need to be encouraged and permitted to contribute.

Another disadvantage of group decision making is that members may be less concerned with the group's goals than with their own personal goals. They may become so sidetracked in trying to win an argument that they forget about group performance. On the other hand, a group may try too hard to compromise and consequently may not make optimal decisions. Sometimes this stems from the desire to maintain friendships and avoid disagreements. Often groups exert tremendous social pressure on individuals to conform to established or expected patterns of behavior. Especially when they are dealing with important and **controversial** issues, interacting groups may be prone to a phenomenon called groupthink.

31. In paragraph 1, the author states that groups frequently \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Generate more options than individuals  
B. Agree on the way that the problem should be approached  
C. Make recommendations instead of decisions  
D. Are chosen to participate because of their experience
32. According to paragraph 2, why do group decisions tend to be more successful?  
A. When more people are involved, there are more ideas from which to choose.  
B. People are more accepting of decisions when they have been involved in them.  
C. Implementing ideas is easier with a large number of people to help.  
D. People like to be participants in decisions that are successful.
33. The word '**considerable**' in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Valuable  
B. Significant  
C. Predictable  
D. Unusual
34. The word '**consequently**' in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. About now  
B. Without doubt  
C. Before long  
D. As a result

35. According to paragraph 3, group discussion can be problematic because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Individual decisions are always more effective  
B. It takes more time for a group to arrive at a decision  
C. It costs more to pay all of the group members  
D. Interaction among group members can be a problem
36. What can be inferred about a group leader?  
A. A good leader will provide goals for the group to consider and vote on.  
B. The purpose of the leader is to facilitate the participation of all of the members.  
C. A group leader should be the dominant member of the group.  
D. Expectations for group behavior must be presented by the group leader.
37. The word ‘**controversial**’ in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Accepted  
B. Debatable  
C. Recent  
D. Complicated
38. According to paragraph 5, how does the author explain compromise in a group?  
A. The group may try to make a better decision by compromising.  
B. A compromise may be the best way to encourage groupthink.  
C. Compromising may allow the group members to remain friends.  
D. To compromise can help one member to reach a personal goal.
39. Which place in the passage would the following sentence best fit?  
**In fact, the traditional group is prone to a variety of difficulties.**  
A. [A]  
B. [B]  
C. [C]  
D. [D]
40. The paragraph following this passage would most likely be about \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Patterns of behavior  
B. Interacting groups  
C. Groupthink  
D. Social pressure

**THE END**

## PRACTICE TEST 2

### PASSAGE 1 – Questions 1 – 10

In 1603, Queen Elizabeth I of England died. She had never married and had no **heir**, so the throne passed to a distant relative: James Stuart, the son of Elizabeth's cousin and one-time rival for the throne, Mary, Queen of Scots. James was crowned King James I of England. At the time, he was also King James VI of Scotland, and the combination of roles would create a spirit of conflict that haunted the two nations for generations to come.

The conflict developed as a result of rising tensions among the people within the nations, as well as between them. Scholars in the 21st century are far too hasty in dismissing the role of religion in political disputes, but religion undoubtedly played a role in the problems that faced England and Scotland. By the time of James Stuart's succession to the English throne, the English people had firmly embraced the teachings of Protestant theology. Similarly, the Scottish Lowlands was decisively Protestant. In the Scottish Highlands, however, the clans retained their Catholic faith. James acknowledged the Church of England and still sanctioned the largely Protestant translation of the Bible that still bears his name.

James's son King Charles I proved himself to be less committed to the Protestant Church of England. Charles married the Catholic Princess Henrietta Maria of France, and there were suspicions among the English and the Lowland Scots that Charles was quietly a Catholic. Charles's own political troubles extended beyond religion in this case, and he was beheaded in 1649. Eventually, his son King Charles II would be crowned, and this Charles is believed to have converted secretly to the Catholic Church. Charles II died without a legitimate heir, and **his** brother James ascended to the throne as King James II.

James was recognized to be a practicing Catholic, and his commitment to Catholicism would prove to be his downfall. James's wife Mary Beatrice lost a number of children during their

infancy, and when she became pregnant again in 1687 the public became concerned. If James had a son, that son would undoubtedly be raised a Catholic, and the English people would not stand for this. Mary gave birth to a son, but the story quickly circulated that the royal child had died and the child named James's heir was a **foundling** smuggled in. James, his wife, and his infant son were forced to flee; and James's Protestant daughter Mary was crowned the queen.

In spite of a strong resemblance to the king, the young James was generally rejected among the English and the Lowland Scots, who referred to him as "the Pretender." But in the Highlands the Catholic princeling was welcomed. He inspired a group known as Jacobites, to reflect the Latin version of his name. His own son Charles, known affectionately as Bonnie Prince Charlie, would eventually raise an army and attempt to recapture what he believed to be his throne. The movement was soundly defeated at the Battle of Culloden in 1746, and England and Scotland have remained Protestant ever since.

1. The word 'heir' in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.
  - A. Will
  - B. Child
  - C. Family
  - D. Inheritance
2. Which of the following can be inferred about King James II's son?
  - A. Considering his resemblance to King James II, the young James was very likely the legitimate child of the king and the queen.
  - B. Given the queen's previous inability to produce a healthy child, the English and the Lowland Scots were right in suspecting the legitimacy of the prince.
  - C. James "the Pretender" was not as popular among the Highland clans as his son Bonnie Prince Charlie.
  - D. James was unable to acquire the resources needed to build the army and plan the invasion that his son succeeded in doing.

3. What was the result of King Charles I's political troubles?
  - A. He was beheaded
  - B. He was exiled
  - C. He was hanged
  - D. He was dethroned
4. Who does the passage say ascended the throne because someone else did not have a legitimate heir?
  - A. King James Stuart
  - B. Queen Elizabeth I
  - C. King Charles II
  - D. King James II
5. The word 'his' in paragraph 3 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. King Charles I
  - B. King Charles II
  - C. James
  - D. King James II
6. The word 'floundling' in paragraph 4 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. A prince
  - B. An orphan
  - C. A nephew
  - D. An illegitimate child
7. What is the nickname of the founder of a group called the Jacobites?
  - A. Jacob
  - B. The Deceiver
  - C. The Pretender
  - D. The Fool
8. What was the end result of the conflict after the Battle of Culloden?
  - A. England and Scotland became Catholic as a result of the battle

- B. James the Pretender and his wife had to flee for safety
  - C. This battle started conflict that would continue for generations
  - D. England and Scotland have remained Protestant
9. Which of the following best describes the main idea of the passage?
- A. The lineage of the current Queen of England
  - B. The history of religion in Scotland and in England
  - C. The role of religion had in conflict between England and Scotland
  - D. The history and origin of the Jacobites
10. Which of the following best describes the organization of the information in the passage?
- A. Cause-effect
  - B. Chronological sequence
  - C. Problem-solution
  - D. Comparison-contrast

## **PASSAGE 2 – Questions 11 – 20**

The green building movement is changing the way buildings are constructed. This movement started in the 1970s, as people began to see that modern life was destroying the environment we all share. Natural resources were being destroyed, energy and water consumption was rising, and so was pollution of all kinds. This environmental destruction has continued, and one important factor has been the way that buildings are constructed. In fact, energy use in buildings represents about 32 percent of all energy use in the United States. In the early years, green builders were a small minority, and their goals of reducing the environmental impact of buildings were considered unrealistic. Now, however, the green building movement is growing, as builders have been able to take advantage of new technology and as the costs of this technology have gone down. Environmental building methods are now practical enough to save money for builders and for building owners, even as they reduce damage to the environment.

First, **green builders** try to make use of recycled materials as much as possible. In fact, vast amounts of materials such as steel, cement, and wood are used in construction. Now there are companies that specialize in gathering old materials, processing them, and selling them to builders for new buildings. States and cities are encouraging these companies, as the reuse of materials also means less waste in dumps. For larger builders or individual homeowners, it is possible to find everything from steel and cement to doors, windows, sinks, tubs, brick, and hardware.

Another way that builders can reduce environmental impact is to reduce the energy requirements of a building. This can be done in several ways. One is to provide an alternative, nonpolluting source of energy. The first alternative energy source to be developed was solar power. With solar panels-wide, flat sheets of special material-it is possible to produce electricity from the rays of the sun. Builders can install solar panels on the roofs of buildings and connect them to cooling or lighting systems. Once the panels are installed, they provide energy at no cost and with no pollution. Another, nonpolluting solution for reducing energy use is a technology known as geothermal heating. To obtain geothermal heat, builders place special pipes below ground, where temperatures remain constant all year. In the winter, the earth's natural heat can be collected in these pipes, and then transferred into the building's heating system. In the summer, heat in the building can be collected and sent to the pipes underground.

11. According to the passage, all of the following leads to environmental destruction EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the increasing number of buildings
- B. the increase of water consumption
- C. the increase of energy consumption
- D. the destruction of natural resources



12. The way buildings are constructed in America also contributes to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. water pollution  
B. air pollution  
C. the use of water  
D. environmental destruction
13. The early years, it was believed that the use of green buildings to reduce environmental destruction was \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. impractical  
B. authentic  
C. unique  
D. feasible
14. One of the reasons why green buildings were not popular is that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. they took too much time to build  
B. they were inconvenient  
C. they were costly to build  
D. they looked too boring
15. The phrase “**green buildings**” in the passage can also be understood as \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. environment-friendly buildings  
B. buildings with tree inside  
C. buildings with open stairs  
D. buildings painted green
16. The phrase “**green builders**” in the first line of the second paragraph refers to those who \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. build green buildings  
B. work in green buildings  
C. use green materials  
D. put trees in buildings

17. According to the passage, all of the following can be made from recycled materials EXCEPT \_\_\_\_.
- |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| A. furniture | C. hardware |
| B. sinks     | D. windows  |
18. The author mentioned all of the following as ways to reduce environmental destruction EXCEPT \_\_\_\_.
- A. providing alternative energies
  - B. using geothermal heating
  - C. using recycled materials to construct buildings
  - D. having more green plants in buildings
19. Solar panels are NOT used to \_\_\_\_.
- A. light the house
  - B. cool the house
  - C. warm the house
  - D. transfer electricity to the sun rays
20. Geothermal heating technology is \_\_\_\_.
- A. using underground pipes to collect geothermal heat
  - B. collecting pipes from below ground
  - C. using underground pipes to control underground temperature
  - D. using up the heating energy

### **PASSAGE 3 – Questions 21-20**

Starting time the African continent is home to some of the poorest countries on earth, where people struggle to feed their families on less than \$2.00 a day. Nevertheless, Africa is also the world's fastest growing market for cell phones. Cell phones have brought twenty-first century technology to villages where people light their huts with candles and walk hours to find drinking water. Some experts think cell phones will improve life for the 680 million

Africans more than any other invention of our time. Why are cell phones spreading so rapidly in Africa?

One reason is simply that other forms of communication are difficult. The roads are terrible in many countries, making travel lengthy and expensive. Regular phones require lines to be laid across Africa's vast jungles and deserts. Cell phones, however, send their signals from towers, which can easily be constructed by hand, sometimes out of leftover pieces of metal. Furthermore, with the difficult economic situation in many African countries, cell phones can be extremely useful. Many Africans have had to move far from their home villages to look for work. With a cell phone, they can call home regularly and keep in touch or even send money. It is also possible in some countries to make purchases or bank deposits with cell phones. People who run small businesses can use the phones to send in orders or keep in touch with customers. Others can make money selling phone time to those who don't have a cell phone of their own.

Recent studies have shown that where cell phone use has increased in Africa, the economy has been strengthened and the people are **better off**. In Uganda, for example, a charity group has started a new program with Uganda's largest cell phone company. The program, called villagePhone, helps village women get started as phone owners. The women borrow small amounts of money from banks connected to villagePhone and then use their loan money to buy a phone and some calling minutes. Then they can sell phone time in the village to people without phones. **In very little time, these women are usually able to repay the money they have borrowed.** ■ [A] One such woman named Fatima had a small shop in her Ugandan village where she sold household goods and food to support her four children. In the past, Fatima rarely had enough money to buy things to sell in her store and so she made very little money from her business. ■ [B] However, she realized that there was a need for a telephone in her village, since the closest phone was 6.7 miles (4 km) away. She bought a phone with a loan from villagePhone and ran it off an automobile battery. Since starting her villagePhone

business, Fatima's income has grown. What's more, her store is now a center of village life. Fatima's story is like many throughout Uganda. ■ [C] And for each woman with a phone, a whole village has access to new services and new economic possibilities. A similar program has started in neighboring Uganda. Soon women there will be using cell phones to raise their income level and improve their lives. ■ [D]

21. What can be inferred about the life of African countries?

- A. They are very poor.
- B. They are agriculture-based.
- C. They are technology-oriented.
- D. They place a great emphasis on technology.

22. Which of the following is **NOT** true about the African continent?

- A. People there live in huts.
- B. Africans walk long hours to find water.
- C. Africa offers a large market for mobile phones.
- D. African is fighting against the popularity of mobile phones.

23. What is the main reason for the popularity of mobile phones in Africa?

- A. They are convenient for communication.
- B. They are cheap.
- C. They provide private communication.
- D. They are easy to carry around.

24. For which of the following are mobile phones NOT often used by Africans working far from home?

- A. calling home
- B. getting in touch with family
- C. sending money to family
- D. renting phones to others

25. What can be inferred about the use of mobile phones in the life of Africans?
- A. Cell phones cost Africans a lot.
  - B. The economy is getting worse with the increase of cell phone use.
  - C. Africans become stronger together with the use of cell phones.
  - D. The increase of mobile phone use helps Africans have a better life.
26. The word “**better off**” in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. healthy
  - B. affluent
  - C. greedy
  - D. ambitious
27. What do women do with the money they borrow from the bank?
- A. buying a phone and using it to find a job
  - B. buying a phone and selling calling time
  - C. opening a phone shop
  - D. going to the city to find a job
28. What is NOT True about Fatima?
- A. She benefited from villagePhone.
  - B. She lives in a village.
  - C. She has 4 children.
  - D. She bought an automobile.
29. Which of the following best summarizes the highlighted sentence in the final paragraph?
- A. Women can often pay back the loan in a very short time.
  - B. Women have a little time to pay back the money they borrowed.
  - C. The money they borrowed must be returned quickly.
  - D. The loan can be paid little by little.

30. Look the gaps [■] in the final paragraph. Where does the following sentence best fit?

**Her villagePhone business is one of about 2,000 such success stories, with more women joining every day.**

A. [A]

B. [B]

C. [C]

D. [D]

#### **PASSAGE 4 – Questions 31- 40**

Since 1980, the use of wind to produce electricity has been growing rapidly. [A] ■ In 1994 there were nearly 20,000 wind turbines worldwide, most grouped in clusters called wind farms that collectively produced 3,000 megawatts of electricity. [B] ■ Most were in Denmark (which got 3 percent of its electricity from wind turbines) and California (where 17,000 machines produced 1 percent of the state’s electricity, enough to meet the residential needs of a city as large as San Francisco). [C] ■ In principle, all the power needs of the United States could be provided by exploiting the wind potential of just three states – North Dakota, South Dakota, and Texas. [D] ■

Large wind farms can be built in six months to a year and then easily expanded as needed. With a moderate to fairly high net energy yield, these systems **emit** no heat-trapping carbon dioxide or other air pollutants and need no water for cooling; manufacturing them produces little water pollution. The land under wind turbines can be used for grazing cattle and other purposes, and leasing land for wind turbines can provide extra income for farmers and ranchers.

Wind power has a significant cost advantage over nuclear power and has become competitive with coal-fired power plants in many places. With new technological advances and mass production, projected cost declines should make wind power one of the world’s cheapest ways to produce electricity. In the long run, electricity from large wind farms in remote areas might be used to make hydrogen gas from water during periods when there is less than peak

demand for electricity. The hydrogen gas could then be fed into a storage system and used to generate electricity when additional or backup power is needed.

Wind power is most economical in areas with steady winds. In areas where the wind dies down, backup electricity from a utility company or from an energy storage system becomes necessary. Backup power could also be provided by linking wind farms with a solar cell, with conventional or pumped-storage hydropower, or with efficient natural-gas-burning turbines. Some drawbacks to wind farms included visual pollution and noise, although these can be overcome by improving their design and locating them in isolated areas.

**Large wind farms might also interfere with the flight patterns of migratory birds in certain areas, and they have killed large birds of prey (especially hawks, falcons, and eagles) that prefer to hunt along the same ridge lines that are ideal for wind turbines.**

The killing of birds of prey by wind turbines has pitted environmentalists who champion wildlife protection against environmentalists who promote renewable wind energy. Researchers are evaluating how serious this problem is and hope to find ways to eliminate or sharply reduce this problem. Some analysts also contend that the number of birds killed by wind turbines is dwarfed by birds killed by other human-related sources and by the potential loss of entire bird species from possible global warming. Recorded deaths of birds of prey and other birds in wind farms in the United States currently **amount to** no more than 300 per year. By contrast, in the United States an estimated 97 million birds are killed each year when they collide with buildings made of plate glass, 57 million are killed on highways each year; at least 3.8 million die annually from pollution and poisoning; and millions of birds are electrocuted each year by transmission and distribution lines carrying power produced by nuclear and coal power plants.

The technology is in place for major expansion of wind power worldwide wind power is a virtually unlimited source of energy at favorable sites, and even excluding environmentally

sensitive areas, the global potential of wind power is much higher than the current world electricity use. In theory, Argentina, Canada, Chile, China, Russia and the United Kingdom could use wind to meet all of their energy needs. Wind power experts **project** that by the middle of the twenty-first century wind power could supply more than 10 percent of the world's electricity and 10-25 percent of the electricity used in the United States.

31. According to paragraph 1, which of the following best explains the term wind farms?

- A. Farms using windmills to pump water.
- B. Research centers exploring the uses of wind.
- C. Types of power plant common in North Dakota.
- D. Collections of wind turbines producing electric power.

32. The word **emit** in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. use
- B. require
- C. release
- D. destroy

33. According to paragraph 3, which of the following is true about periods when the demand for electricity is relatively low?

- A. These periods are times when wind turbines are powered by hydrogen gas.
- B. These periods provide the opportunity to produce and store energy for future use.
- C. These periods create storage problems for all forms of power generation.
- D. These periods occur as often as periods when the demand for electricity is high.

34. In paragraph 4, the author states that in areas where winds are not steady \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Power does not reach all customers.
- B. Wind farms cannot be used.
- C. Solar power is more appropriate.
- D. Backup systems are needed.

35. According to paragraph 4, what can be inferred about the problems of visual pollution and noise associated with wind farms?

- A. Both problems affect the efficiency of wind farms.
- B. Possible solutions are known for both problems.
- C. Wind power creates more noise than visual pollution.
- D. People are more concerned about visual pollution than noise.



36. Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the bold sentence in paragraph 5? Incorrect choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

- A. Hawks, falcons, and eagles prefer to hunt along ridge lines, where wind turbines can kill large numbers of migratory birds.
- B. Wind turbines occasionally cause migratory birds to change their flight patterns and therefore may interfere with the areas where birds of prey prefer to hunt.
- C. Some of the best locations for large wind farms are places that may cause problems for migrating birds and birds of prey.
- D. Large wind farms in certain areas kill hawks, falcons, and eagles and thus might create a more ideal path for the flight of migratory birds.

37. In paragraph 5, why does the author give details about the estimates numbers of birds killed each year?

- A. To argue that wind farms should not be built along ridge lines.
- B. To point out that the deaths of migratory birds exceed the deaths of birds of prey.
- C. To explain why some environmentalists oppose wind energy.
- D. To suggest that wind turbines result in relatively few bird deaths.

38. The phrase **amount to** in the passage is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. can identify
- B. change
- C. are reduced by
- D. total

39. The word **project** in the passage is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. estimate
- B. respond
- C. argue
- D. plan

40. Look at the four places [ ] that indicate where the following sentence can be added to the passage.

**Some companies in the power industry are aware of this wider possibility and are planning sizable wind-farm projects in states other than California.**

Where would the sentence best fit?

- A. [A]
- B. [B]
- C. [C]
- D. [D]

**THE END**

## PRACTICE TEST 3

### PASSAGE 1 – Questions 1-10

There are three **primary** colors. These basic colors are red, blue and yellow. They cannot be made by using other colors. All other colors are created by mixing basic colors. For instance, red and yellow make orange. Blue and yellow make green. Red and blue make purple. Orange, green and purple are called complementary colors. This means that they make a pair with a basic color. Thus green is complementary to red and orange is complementary to blue. White and black are not real colors. They are not in the color spectrum. When light passes through a certain object, it forms a series of colors. These are the colors of the rainbow. White and black are not among them. But white and black can make other colors too. Red and white, for example, make pink. Black and white make gray. Mixing all of the colors together gets brown.

Psychologists believe that colors describe people's personality. Red is a very strong color. People who love red are fiery and very passionate. Red is the color of deep love. People who love yellow have a sunny disposition. They are easy-going and friendly. The same is true for orange. Orange is a lively color. Green is connected to nature. People who love green spend a lot of time outdoors. Blue means relaxation and calm.

Small children usually like blue. Psychologists find that children do not need to worry often. They live **serene** and peaceful lives because their parents take care of them. Children also usually love pink. Pink and purple both show immaturity. Adults who like pink or purple often behave childishly. Others around them feel that they need to grow up more. Many artists also favor purple. Purple is more for dreamers. In contrast, brown is for practical people. **People who prefer brown have both feet on the ground.** They are reliable and trustworthy. Gray is a rather dull color. Often, people who choose gray are not very interesting. They like to follow rules and do not have a lot of imagination. White stands for purity. Black stands for opposition or revolt. Teenagers often dress in black.

Painters express themselves through colors. Colors show their feelings and emotions. Other artists also make use of colors to connect with people. Fashion designers are very careful about the colors they use. Choosing the wrong color can be bad for their whole clothing collection. Interior designers also have an eye for color. They know exactly what color to use to make their customers happy. This is why they often go for soft colors in the kitchen or bedroom. These colors brighten up the rooms. They also create a warm feeling, and are very relaxing. In clubs, decorations prefer using strong colors to energize people.

Advertisers made some interesting discoveries. For example, some advertisers packed their cereal in gray and brown boxes. Other packed the same cereal in a different way. They used colorful paper and a lot of decorations. Then customers were asked to taste the cereal. They did not know what was inside the boxes. Yet all customers preferred the cereal inside the colorful boxes.

1. The word '**primary**' in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Popular      B. Complementary      C. Favorite      D. Basic
2. Orange is complementary to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Red      B. Blue      C. Green      D. Orange
3. Which colors are in the color spectrum?  
A. all primary colors  
B. all complementary colors  
C. the colors of the rainbow  
D. black and white
4. Which of the following is NOT true?  
A. Red, blue and purple can make brown.  
B. Orange, green and pink can make brown.  
C. Yellow, black and gray can make brown.  
D. Black and white together makes brown.

5. What does the sentence ‘The same is true for orange’ in paragraph 2 mean?
- A. Orange looks like yellow.
  - B. Orange is easy-going and friendly.
  - C. People who like orange have a sunny disposition.
  - D. Orange is a lively color.
6. Why might children love purple?
- A. Because it shows they do not need to worry often.
  - B. Because it shows that they did not grow up yet.
  - C. Because it is not a color for grown-up.
  - D. Because it is the similar color to pink.
7. The word ‘**serene**’ in paragraph 3 could be best replaced by
- A. Calm
  - B. Happy
  - C. Innocent
  - D. Active
8. Which of the following best states the essential information in the bold sentence in the passage? Incorrect choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.
- A. Those who like brown can stand steadily on the ground.
  - B. Those who like brown have strong feet.
  - C. Those who like brown have practical and sensible mind.
  - D. Those who like brown usually look strong.
9. What can be inferred about people who like brown?
- A. They do not have a lot of imagination.
  - B. They are close to earth and nature.
  - C. They can be very romantic sometimes.
  - D. They make faithful and loyal friends.
10. Why did customers prefer the cereal inside the colorful boxes?
- A. Because the colorful boxes looked more interesting.
  - B. Because the colorful boxes were bigger.
  - C. Because the cereal in the colorful boxes tasted better.
  - D. Because the cereal in the colorful boxes were fresher.

## **PASSAGE 2 - Questions 11 – 20**

The atmosphere that originally surrounded Earth was probably much different from the air we breathe today. Earth's first atmosphere (some 4.6 billion years ago) was most likely hydrogen and helium--the two most abundant gasses found in the universe—as well as hydrogen compounds, such as methane and ammonia. Most scientists feel that this early atmosphere escaped into space from the Earth's hot surface.

A second, denser atmosphere, however, gradually **enveloped** Earth as gasses from molten rocks within its hot interior escaped through volcanoes and steam vents. We assume that volcanoes spewed out the same gasses then as **they** do today: mostly water vapor (about 100 percent), carbon dioxide (about ten percent), and up to a few 10 percent nitrogen. These same gasses probably created Earth's second atmosphere.

As millions of years passed, the constant outpouring of gasses from the hot interior--known as outgassing--provided a rich supply of water vapor, which formed into clouds. Rain fell upon Earth for many thousands of years, forming the rivers, lakes, and oceans of the world. During this time, large amounts of carbon dioxide were dissolved in the oceans. Through chemical and biological processes, much of the carbon dioxide became locked up in carbon sedimentary rocks, such as limestone. With much of the water vapor already condensed into water and the concentration of carbon dioxide dwindling, the atmosphere **gradually** became rich in nitrogen.

It appears that oxygen, the second most abundant gas in today's atmosphere, probably began an extremely slow increase in concentration as energetic rays from the sun split water vapor into hydrogen and oxygen during a process called photo dissociation. The hydrogen, being lighter, probably rose and escaped into space, while the oxygen remained in the atmosphere.

This slow increase in oxygen may have provided enough of this gas for primitive plants to

evolve, perhaps two to three billion years ago. **Or** the plants may have evolved in an almost oxygen-free (anaerobic) environment. **At any rate**, plant growth greatly enriched our atmosphere with oxygen. The reason for this enrichment is that plants, in the presence of sunlight, process carbon dioxide and water to produce oxygen.

11. What is the main idea of the passage?
- A. The original atmosphere on Earth was unstable.
  - B. The atmosphere on Earth has changed over time.
  - C. Hot underground gasses created clouds, which formed the Earth's atmosphere.
  - D. Plant growth depended on oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere.
12. The word '**enveloped**' in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.
- A. Surrounded
  - B. Changed
  - C. Escaped
  - D. Characterized
13. The word '**they**' in paragraph 2 refers to \_\_\_\_.
- A. Gasses
  - B. Volcanoes
  - C. Steam vents
  - D. Rocks
14. According to the passage outgassing eventually led to all of the following EXCEPT \_\_\_\_.
- A. Increases in the carbon dioxide content of sedimentary rocks
  - B. The formation of bodies of water
  - C. Decreases in the level of nitrogen
  - D. The formation of clouds
15. The word '**gradually**' in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.
- A. Accidentally
  - B. Quickly
  - C. In the end
  - D. By degrees
16. The passage suggests that oxygen remained in the atmosphere because \_\_\_\_.
- A. It was caused by outgassing.
  - B. It was heavier than hydrogen.
  - C. Hydrogen became trapped in limestone.
  - D. Rays from the sun created equal amounts of hydrogen and oxygen.
17. The author uses the word '**Or**' in paragraph 5 to \_\_\_\_.
- A. Criticize the previous suggestion

B. Provide unrelated information

C. Propose a similar idea

D. Suggest an alternative

18. The phrase ‘**At any rate**’ in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

A. Regardless

B. In addition

C. Although unlikely

D. Fortunately

19. The author organizes the discussion of the Earth’s atmosphere in terms of the \_\_\_\_\_.

A. Role of volcanoes in its formation

B. Occurrence in which changes occurred

C. Time it took for the Earth’s surface: to cool and nitrogen to appear

D. Chemical and physical features of gasses

20. Which of the following does the passage mention as necessary for both the production of oxygen by photo dissociation and the production of oxygen by plants?

A. Water

B. Hydrogen

C. Carbon dioxide

D. Nitrogen

### **PASSAGE 3 – Question 21 – 30**

Down Syndrome (DS) is a genetic disorder caused by an extra chromosome. Humans normally have 23 pairs of chromosomes, or 46; However, people with DS have 47. These infants typically have a wide face, short neck, slanted eyes and are mentally **retarded**, that is with low intelligence. They are likely to have kidney or heart problems, and adults rarely live beyond 50 years, but they are generally happy people with optimistic personalities.

It is possible for a woman of any age to have a baby with DS, but it occurs more often in older women. For all women, the rate is one baby with DS out of 800 born, but this increases to one out of 80 for women over 35. So doctors suggest that women in this age group get tested

for the condition if they become pregnant. Besides DS, there are several other disabilities that are caused by “mistakes” in our genes.

Years ago, children with disabilities couldn’t attend public schools or get jobs. They usually went to institutions where they were kept for the rest of their lives. However, attitudes have changed in recent decades, thanks to parents with disabled children. In 1975, a law called Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was passed in the United States. This law stated that all children with physical and mental disabilities had right to an education, so schools were required to offer classes to meet their needs. Colleges began offering courses in “special education” to train teachers in new methods.

This change in attitude made it possible for children with disabilities to get an education. Parents formed support group, helping each other find good schools, recreation activities, and sports centers for their children. No longer were these children kept at home or in institutions. They could go to school with normal children and learn-and later be trained to do simple work and earn money. They could then live in group homes and support themselves like other people.

In 1968, the Special Olympics, a competition for children and adults with disabilities, were held for the first time in Chicago, Illinois, with 1,000 participants. Today **they** are held every other year, with 2.25 million athletes participating in 150 countries around the world. People with disabilities are no longer ignored or **institutionalized**; they are part of a lively community of special people who are now able to contribute to society.

21. This passage mainly discusses \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. The characteristics of DS children
- B. The number of DS children in the world
- C. The possible causes of DS
- D. The positive shift of community attitude towards DS children



22. Which of the following is **NOT** mentioned as characteristics of Down Syndrome?
- A. shorter life expectancy
  - B. pessimistic in life
  - C. intellectually retarded
  - D. slanted eyes
23. More babies with DS are born to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. women of any age
  - B. women over 35
  - C. women over 80
  - D. over 800 women
24. IDEA, the law passed in 1975, stated that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. handicapped children were entitled to all educational opportunities
  - B. some schools were required to offer special classes
  - C. colleges had to teach special education
  - D. teachers had to learn new methods
25. Because of special education, children grew up and \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. had to be kept at home
  - B. had to be kept in institutions
  - C. had to learn as much as normal children
  - D. could do things without others' support
26. The Special Olympics \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. is always held in Chicago
  - B. has 1,000 participants
  - C. has millions of participants
  - D. is merely for disabled children
27. The word "**retarded**" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. not developed at all
  - B. less developed than normal

- C. developed well
- D. developed more quickly

28. Which of the following is **NOT** supported by the passage?

- A. Parents with disabled children created links to support each other.
- B. Disabled children were not kept separately any more.
- C. Disabled children almost received no support from the community.
- D. These children could do some basic things like others.

29. The word “**they**” in paragraph 5 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. participants
- B. disabilities
- C. the Special Olympics
- D. children and adults

30. The word “**institutionalized**” in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. trained properly
- B. supported by others
- C. kept in one place
- D. recognized widely

#### **PASSAGE 4 - Questions 31- 40**

No student of a foreign language needs to be told that grammar is complex. By changing word sequences and by adding a range of auxiliary verbs and suffixes, we are able to communicate tiny variations in meaning. We can turn a statement into a question, state whether an action has taken place or is soon to take place, and perform many other word tricks to convey subtle differences in meaning. Nor is this complexity inherent to the English language. All languages, even those of so-called 'primitive' tribes have clever grammatical components. The Cherokee pronoun system, for example, can distinguish between 'you and I', 'several other people and I' and 'you, another person and I'. In English, all these meanings are summed up in the one, crude pronoun 'we'. **Grammar is universal and plays a part in**

**every language, no matter how widespread it is.** So the question which has baffled many linguists is - who created grammar?

At first, it would appear that this question is impossible to answer. To find out how grammar is created, someone needs to be present at the time of a language's creation, documenting its emergence. Many historical linguists are able to trace modern complex languages back to earlier languages, but in order to answer the question of how complex languages are actually *formed*, the researcher needs to observe how languages are started **from scratch**. Amazingly, however, this is possible.

Some of the most recent languages evolved due to the Atlantic slave trade. At that time, slaves from a number of different ethnicities were forced to work together under colonizer's rule. Since they had no opportunity to learn each other's languages, they developed a **make-shift** language called a *pidgin*. Pidgins are strings of words copied from the language of the landowner. They have little in the way of grammar, and in many cases it is difficult for a listener to deduce when an event happened, and who did what to whom. [A] Speakers need to use circumlocution in order to make their meaning understood. [B] Interestingly, however, all it takes for a pidgin to become a complex language is for a group of children to be exposed to it at the time when they learn their mother tongue. [C] Slave children did not simply copy the strings of words uttered by their elders; they adapted their words to create a new, expressive language. [D] Complex grammar systems which emerge from pidgins are termed creoles, and they are invented by children.

Further evidence of this can be seen in studying sign languages for the deaf. Sign languages are not simply a series of gestures; they utilize the same grammatical machinery that is found in spoken languages. Moreover, there are many different languages used worldwide. The creation of one such language was documented quite recently in Nicaragua. Previously, all deaf people were isolated from each other, but in 1979 a new government introduced schools

for the deaf. Although children were taught speech and lip reading in the classroom, in the playgrounds they began to invent their own sign system, using the gestures that they used at home. It was basically a pidgin. Each child used the signs differently, and there was no **consistent** grammar. However, children who joined the school later, when this inventive sign system was already around, developed a quite different sign language. Although it was based on the signs of the older children, the younger children's language was more fluid and compact, and it utilized a large range of grammatical devices to clarify meaning. What is more, all the children used the signs in the same way. A new creole was born.

Some linguists believe that many of the world's most established languages were creoles at first. The English past tense -ed ending may have evolved from the verb 'do'. 'It ended' may once have been 'It end-did'. Therefore it would appear that even the most widespread languages were partly created by children. Children appear to have innate grammatical machinery in their brains, which springs to life when they are first trying to make sense of the world around them. Their minds can serve to create logical, complex structures, even when there is no grammar present for them to copy.

31. In paragraph 1, why does the writer include information about the Cherokee language?
- A. To show how simple, traditional cultures can have complicated grammar structures.
  - B. To show how English grammar differs from Cherokee grammar.
  - C. To prove that complex grammar structures were invented by the Cherokees.
  - D. To demonstrate how difficult it is to learn the Cherokee language.
32. What can be inferred about the slaves' pidgin language?
- A. It contained complex grammar.
  - B. It was based on many different languages.
  - C. It was difficult to understand, even among slaves.
  - D. It was created by the land-owners.

33. All the following sentences about Nicaraguan sign language are true EXCEPT \_\_\_\_.

- A. The language has been created since 1979.
- B. The language is based on speech and lip reading.
- C. The language incorporates signs which children used at home.
- D. The language was perfected by younger children.

34. In paragraph 3, where can the following sentence be placed?

**It included standardized word orders and grammatical markers that existed in neither the pidgin language, nor the language of the colonizers.**

- A. [A]
- B. [B]
- C. [C]
- D. [D]

35. '**From scratch**' in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.

- A. from the very beginning
- B. in simple cultures
- C. by copying something else
- D. by using written information

36. '**Make-shift**' in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.

- A. Complicated and expressive
- B. Simple and temporary
- C. Extensive and diverse
- D. Private and personal

37. Which sentence is closest in meaning to the bolded sentence?

**Grammar is universal and plays a part in every language, no matter how widespread it is.**

- A. All languages, whether they are spoken by a few people or a lot of people, contain grammar.
- B. Some languages include a lot of grammar, whereas other languages contain a little.

- C. Languages which contain a lot of grammar are more common than languages that contain a little.
- D. The grammar of all languages is the same, no matter where the languages evolved.
38. All of the following are features of the new Nicaraguan sign language EXCEPT:
- A. All children used the same gestures to show meaning.
  - B. The meaning was clearer than the previous sign language.
  - C. The hand movements were smoother and smaller.
  - D. New gestures were created for everyday objects and activities.
39. Which idea is presented in the final paragraph?
- A. English was probably once a creole.
  - B. The English past tense system is inaccurate.
  - C. Linguists have proven that English was created by children.
  - D. Children say English past tenses differently from adults.
40. The word '**consistent**' in paragraph 4 could best be replaced by \_\_\_\_.
- A. natural
  - B. predictable
  - C. imaginable
  - D. uniform

**THE END**

## PRACTICE TEST 4

### PASSAGE 1 – Questions 1 -10

Juan Ponce de Leon was the first Spaniard to touch the shores of the present United States. As Columbus had not remotely realized the extent of his momentous discovery, so de Leon never dreamed that his "island" of Florida was a peninsular extension of the vast North American continent. After coming to the New World with Columbus in 1493, he had led the occupation of Puerto Rico in 1508 and governed it from 1509 to 1512. In 1509, de Leon started a colony at Caparra, later abandoned in favor of San Juan. He was one of the first adelantados—men who "**advanced**" the Spanish Empire by conquest, subjugation of the Indians, and establishment of a semi-military government.

In Puerto Rico he heard a legend about an island called Bimini, where there was said to be a spring that restored youth to all who bathed in it. It is said he was seeking this spring when he discovered Florida. He sailed from Puerto Rico in March 1513. On Easter Sunday he sighted the coast. A few days later he landed on Florida's east coast, near what is now St. Augustine. He named the place La Florida after the Spanish term for Easter Sunday—Pascua Florida, or "flowery feast." He then sailed around the peninsula and up the west coast. He returned to Florida in 1521.

1. In what year did de Leon discover Florida?

A. 1508	B. 1513
C. 1521	D. 1492
2. What was the title of the first colony started by Ponce de Leon in Puerto Rico?

A. San Juan	B. La Florida
C. Caparra	D. St. Augustine
3. What was the name of the legendary island where the fabled Fountain of Youth was said to be?

A. Cuba	B. Bimini
C. Atlantis	D. Bermuda

4. Which of the following is implied by the passage?
- A. Ponce de Leon was the true discoverer of the North American continent.
  - B. Ponce de Leon rejected the philosophy of the adelantados.
  - C. Ponce de Leon may have discovered Florida "by accident."
  - D. Ponce de Leon's greatest contribution was his discovery of the Fountain of Youth.
5. Pascua Florida is the Spanish term for which holiday?
- A. Easter Sunday
  - B. Christmas
  - C. Thanksgiving
  - D. Palm Sunday
6. According to the passage, which of the following was NOT a means of advancement of the Spanish Empire in the New World?
- A. Conquest
  - B. Subjugation of Indians
  - C. Establishment of semi-military governments
  - D. Treaties and negotiation
7. From the passage, it can be assumed that a "peninsula" is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. a volcanic island
  - B. an island completely surrounded by water
  - C. an extension of land surrounded almost completely by water
  - D. an island inhabited by Indians
8. The tone of the word "**advanced**" in paragraph 1 suggests that \_\_\_\_\_
- A. adelantados favor progress.
  - B. progress could not have occurred without subjugation.
  - C. progress is related to conquest and subjugation.
  - D. conquest, subjugation, and semi-military government are not progress.
9. According to the passage. Ponce de Leon believed the land he discovered was
- A. part of the .Bahamas
  - B. the new "island" of Florida
  - C. the mainland of the United States
  - D. Puerto Rico



10. Ponce de Leon was classified as an adelantado because he \_\_\_\_\_

- A. was a great explorer.
- B. was the first Spaniard to see the shores of the United States.
- C. conquered and ruled by military force.
- D. claimed Florida for the King of Spain.

### **PASSAGE 2 – Questions 11 - 20**

Large animals that inhabit the desert have evolved a number of adaptations for reducing the effects of extreme heat. One adaptation is to be light in color, and to reflect rather than absorb the Sun's rays. Desert mammals also depart from the normal mammalian practice of **maintaining** a constant body temperature. Instead of trying to keep down the body temperature deep inside the body, which would involve the expenditure of water and energy, desert mammals allow their temperatures to rise to what would normally be fever height, and temperatures as high as 46 degrees Celsius have been measured in Grant's gazelles. The overheated body then cools down during the cold desert night, and indeed the temperature may fall unusually low by dawn, as low as 34 degrees Celsius in the camel. This is an advantage since the heat of the first few hours of daylight is absorbed in warming up the body, and an excessive buildup of heat does not begin until well into the day.

Another strategy of large desert animals is to **tolerate** the loss of body water to a point that would be fatal for non-adapted animals. The camel can lose up to 30 percent of its body weight as water without harm to itself, whereas human beings die after losing only 12 to 13 percent of their body weight. An equally important adaptation is the ability to replenish this water loss at one drink. Desert animals can drink prodigious volumes in a short time, and camels have been known to imbibe over 100 liters in a few minutes. A very dehydrated person, on the other hand, cannot drink enough water to rehydrate at one session, because the human stomach is not sufficiently big and because a too rapid dilution of the body fluids causes death from water intoxication. The tolerance of water loss is of obvious advantage in

the desert, as animals do not have to remain near a water hole but can **obtain** food from grazing sparse and far-flung pastures. Desert-adapted mammals have the further ability to feed normally when extremely dehydrated; it is a common experience in people that appetite is lost even under conditions of moderate thirst.

11. What is the main topic of the passage?
  - A. Weather variations in the desert
  - B. Adaptations of desert animals
  - C. Diseases of desert animals
  - D. Human use of desert animals.
12. According to the passage, why is light coloring an advantage to large desert animals?
  - A. It helps them hide from predators.
  - B. It does not absorb sunlight as much as dark colors.
  - C. It helps them see their young at night
  - D. It keeps them cool at night.
13. The word "**maintaining**" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to
  - A. measuring
  - B. inheriting
  - C. preserving
  - D. delaying
14. The author uses of Grant's gazelle as an example of
  - A. an animal with a low average temperature
  - B. an animal that is not as well adapted as the camel
  - C. a desert animal that can withstand high body temperatures
  - D. a desert animal with a constant body temperature
15. When is the internal temperature of a large desert mammal lower?
  - A. Just before sunrise
  - B. In the middle of the day
  - C. Just after sunset
  - D. Just after drinking

16. The word "**tolerate**" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to
- A. endure
  - B. replace
  - C. compensate
  - D. reduce
17. What causes water intoxication?
- A. Drinking too much water very quickly
  - B. Drinking polluted water
  - C. Bacteria in water
  - D. Lack of water.
18. Why does the author mention humans in the second paragraph?
- A. To show how they use camels.
  - B. To contrast them to desert mammals.
  - C. To give instructions about desert survival.
  - D. To show how they have adapted to desert life.
19. The word "**obtain**" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to
- A. digest
  - B. carry
  - C. save
  - D. get
20. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an adaptation of large desert animals?
- A. Variation in body temperatures
  - B. Eating while dehydrated
  - C. Drinking water quickly
  - D. Being active at night

### **PASSAGE 3 – Questions 21 – 30**

People have been **donating** blood since the early twentieth century to help accident victims and patients undergoing surgical procedures. Usually a pint of whole blood is donated, and **it** is then divided into platelets, white blood cells, and red blood cells. People can donate blood (for red blood cells) about once every two months. ■ [A]

Transfusing the blood from the donor to the recipient is straightforward. It involves taking the blood from a donor's arm vein by means of a hypodermic syringe. ■ [B] The blood flows through a plastic tube to a collection bag or bottle that contains sodium citrate, which prevents the blood from clotting.

When the blood is given to a patient, a plastic tube and hypodermic needle are connected to the recipient's arm. ■ [C] The blood flows down from the container by gravity. This is a slow process and may last as long as 2 hours to complete the infusion of blood into the recipient. The patient is protected from being infected during the transfusion. ■ [D] Only sterile containers, tubing, and needles are used, and this helps ensure that transfused or stored blood is not exposed to disease causing bacteria.

Negative reactions to transfusions are not unusual. The recipient may suffer an allergic reaction or be sensitive to donor leukocytes. Some may suffer from an **undetected** red-cell incompatibility. Unexplained reactions are also fairly common. Although they are rare, other causes of such negative reactions included contaminated blood, air bubbles in the blood, overloading of the circulatory system through administration of excess blood, or sensitivity to donor plasma or platelets.

Today, hospitals and blood banks **go to great lengths to screen** all blood donors and their blood. All donated blood is routinely and rigorously tested for diseases, such as HIV (which causes AIDS), hepatitis B, and syphilis. When the recipient is a newborn or an infant, the blood is usually irradiated to eliminate harmful elements. Donated blood is washed, and the white blood cells and platelets are removed.

Storing the blood sometimes requires a freezing process. To freeze the red blood cells, a glycerol solution is added. To unfreeze, the glycerol is removed. The ability to store blood for long periods has been a boon to human health.

21. The word ‘**donating**’ in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Adorning  
B. Giving  
C. Taking  
D. Distributing
22. The word ‘**it**’ in paragraph 1 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. accident victims  
B. surgical procedures  
C. a pint of whole blood  
D. surgery patients
23. According to the passage, how often can people donate blood for red blood cells?  
A. Every four months  
B. Every three months  
C. Every two months  
D. Every month
24. Where in the passage is the best place for the following sentence?  
**Inserting the needle into the recipient’s arm causes little pain.**  
A. [A] B. [B]  
C. [C] D. [D]
25. Which sentence in paragraph 2 explains how clotting is prevented in the blood container?  
A. The first sentence B. The second sentence  
C. The third sentence D. None of the above
26. All of the following are mentioned as potential negative reactions to transfusions EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. allergies  
B. red cell incompatibility  
C. air bubbles in the blood  
D. sensitivity to donor leukocytes



because some fungi can cause plants to die. ■ [B] However, many plants actually depend on certain types of fungi to help it stay healthy. ■ [C] Fungi are important to plants because they help plants **absorb** more minerals from the soil than they could on their own. ■ [D] The reason for this has to do with how fungi obtain food. Unlike green plants, fungi cannot make their own food. **They must absorb their food. When the fungi absorb minerals from the soil, they draw the nutrients closer to the roots of the plant, so the plant is able to use them as well.** The fungus also benefits from this relationship. Using the minerals from the soil, as well as sunlight, the plant is able to produce sugars and other nutrients. Then the fungus absorbs the nutrients from plant roots and uses them to survive.

Not all relationships are **beneficial** for both organisms; in some interactions, only the fungus benefits. Still, for some fungus species, contact with other organisms is essential. And though the fungi do not provide any benefits for the other organism, they do not harm it either. One example of this is a species called Pilobolus. This fungus relies on other animals to help it reproduce. The pilobolus grows in animal dung. When it becomes mature, it shoots its spores away from the dung pile. The spores land in the grass where cows **graze**. The spores are consumed by the animal but do not grow while inside the stomach. They travel through the body of the animal until they are passed and deposited in another area, where they continue to grow.

31. According to paragraph 1, which of the following is true of fungi?

- A. Many species have yet to be discovered.
- B. Fungi can grow on mushrooms.
- C. They can have green or dull brown colors.
- D. There are 100,000 species left to identify.

32. The word ‘**they**’ in paragraph 1 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| A. mushrooms    | B. scientists |
| C. environments | D. fungi      |





38. The word ‘**beneficial**’ in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. rapid  
B. direct  
C. helpful  
D. valuable
39. According to paragraph 3. Which of the following is true of the *Pilobolus* fungus?  
A. It doesn’t benefit from its relationship with animals.  
B. It needs other organisms in order to reproduce.  
C. It matures inside the stomachs of cows and horses.  
D. It causes horses and cows to become ill.
40. The word ‘**graze**’ in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. eat  
B. live  
C. view  
D. grow

# THE END

## PRACTICE TEST 5

### PASSAGE 1 – Questions 1 – 10

These stories of killer bees in the news in recent years have attracted a lot of attraction as the bees have made their way from South America to North America. Killer bees are reputed to be extremely aggressive in nature, although experts say that their aggression may have been somewhat inflated.

The killer bee is a hybrid – or combination – of the very mild European strain of honey bee and the considerably more aggressive African bee, which was created when the African strain was imported into Brazil in 1955. The African bees were brought into Brazil because their aggression was considered an advantage: they were far more productive than their European counterparts in that they spent a higher percentage of their time working and continued working longer in inclement weather than did the European bees.

These killer bees have been known to attack humans and animals, and some fatalities have occurred. Experts point out, however, that the mixed breed known as the killer bee is actually not at all as aggressive as the pure African bee. They also point out that the attacks have a chemical cause. A killer bee stings only when it has been disturbed; it is not aggressive by nature. However, after a disturbed bee stings and flies away, it leaves its stinger embedded in the victim. In the vicera attached to the embedded stinger is the chemical *isoamyl acetate*, which has an odor that attracts other bees. As other bees approach the victim of the original sting, the victim tends to panic, thus disturbing other bees and causing them to sting. The new stings create more of the chemical *isoamyl acetate* which attracts more bees and increases the panic level of the victim. Killer bees tend to travel in large clusters or swarms and thus respond in large numbers to the production of *isoamylacetate*.

1. The subject of the preceding paragraph was most likely \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. ways of producing honey
  - B. stories in the media about killer bees
  - C. the chemical nature of killer bee attacks
  - D. the creation of the killer bee
2. The main idea of this passage is that killer bees \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. have been in the news a lot of recently
  - B. have been moving unexpectedly rapidly through the Americas
  - C. are not as aggressive as their reputation suggests
  - D. are a hybrid rather than a pure breed
3. The word "inflated" in paragraph 1 could best be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. exaggerated
  - B. blown
  - C. aired
  - D. burst
4. It can be inferred from the passage that the killer bee \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. travelled from Brazil to Africa in 1955
  - B. was a predecessor of the African bee
  - C. was carried from Africa to Brazil in 1955
  - D. did not exist early in the twentieth century.
5. Why were African bees considered beneficial?
  - A. They produced an unusual type of honey
  - B. They spent their time travelling
  - C. They were very aggressive
  - D. They hid from inclement weather
6. A "hybrid" in paragraph 2 is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. a mixture
  - B. a relative
  - C. a predecessor
  - D. an enemy
7. It is stated in the passage that killer bees \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. are more deadly than African bees

- B. are less aggressive than African bees
  - C. never attack animals
  - D. always attack African bees
8. The pronoun “They” in paragraph 3 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Killer bees
  - B. Humans and animals
  - C. Fatalities
  - D. Experts
9. What is NOT mentioned in the passage as a contribution factor in an attack by killer bees?
- A. panic by the victim
  - B. an odorous chemical
  - C. disturbance of the bees
  - D. inclement weather
10. The word ‘odor’ in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.
- A. order
  - B. smell
  - C. call
  - D. taste

### **PASSAGE 2 – Questions 11 – 20**

Long before they can actually speak, babies pay special attention to the speech they hear around them. Within the first month of their lives, babies' responses to the sound of the human voice will be different from their responses to other sorts of auditory stimuli. They will stop crying when they hear a person talking, but not if they hear a bell or the sound of a rattle. At first, the sounds that an infant notices might be only those words that receive the heaviest emphasis and that often occur at the ends of utterances. By the time they are six or seven weeks old, babies can detect the difference between syllables pronounced with rising and falling inflections. Very soon, these differences in adult stress and intonation can influence babies' emotional states and behavior. Long before they develop actual language comprehension, babies can sense when an adult is playful or angry, attempting to initiate or

terminate new behavior, and so on, merely on the basis of cues such as the rate, volume, and melody of adult speech.

Adults make it as easy as they can for babies to pick up a language by exaggerating such cues. One researcher observed babies and their mothers in six diverse cultures and found that, in all six languages, the mothers used simplified syntax, short utterances and nonsense sounds, and transformed certain sounds into baby talk. Other investigators have noted that when mothers talk to babies who are only a few months old, they exaggerate the pitch, loudness, and intensity of their words. They also exaggerate their facial expressions, hold vowels longer, and emphasize certain words.

More significant for language development than their response to general intonation is observation that tiny babies can make relatively fine distinctions between speech sounds. In other words, babies enter the world with the ability to make precisely those perceptual discriminations that are necessary if they are to acquire aural language.

Babies obviously derive pleasure from sound input, too: even as young as nine months they will listen to songs or stories, although the words themselves are beyond their understanding. For babies, language is a sensory-motor delight rather than the route to prosaic meaning that is often for adults.

11. Why does the author mention a bell and a rattle in the first paragraph?
- A. To contrast the reactions of babies to human and nonhuman sounds
  - B. To give examples of sounds that will cause a baby to cry
  - C. To explain how babies distinguish between different nonhuman sounds
  - D. To give examples of typical toys that babies do not like

12. Why does the author mention syllables pronounced with rising and falling inflections in paragraph 1?
- A. To demonstrate how difficult it is for babies to interpret emotions
  - B. To illustrate that a six-week-old baby can already distinguish some language differences
  - C. To provide an example of ways adults speak to babies
  - D. To give a reason for babies' difficulty in distinguishing one adult from another
13. The word "diverse" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.
- A. surrounding
  - B. divided
  - C. different
  - D. stimulating
14. The word "noted" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.
- A. theorized
  - B. requested
  - C. disagreed
  - D. observed
15. The word "They" in paragraph 3 refers to \_\_\_\_.
- A. mothers
  - B. investigators
  - C. babies
  - D. words
16. The passage mentions all of the following as ways adults modify their speech when talking to babies EXCEPT \_\_\_\_.
- A. giving all words equal emphasis
  - B. speaking with shorter sentences
  - C. speaking more loudly than normal
  - D. using meaningless sounds
17. The word "emphasize" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.
- A. stress
  - B. repeat
  - C. explain
  - D. leave out

18. Which of the following can be inferred about the findings described in paragraph 2?
- A. Babies who are exposed to more than one language can speak earlier than babies exposed to a single language.
  - B. Mothers from different cultures speak to their babies in similar ways.
  - C. Babies ignore facial expressions in comprehending aural language.
  - D. The mothers observed by the researchers were consciously teaching their babies to speak.
19. What point does the author make to illustrate that babies are born with the ability to acquire language?
- A. Babies begin to understand words in songs.
  - B. Babies exaggerate their own sounds and expressions.
  - C. Babies are more sensitive to sounds than are adults.
  - D. Babies notice even minor differences between speech sounds.
20. According to the author, why do babies listen to songs and stories, even though they cannot understand them?
- A. They understand the rhythm.
  - B. They enjoy the sound.
  - C. They can remember them easily.
  - D. They focus on the meaning of their parents' words.

### **PASSAGE 3 – Questions 21 – 30**

There is a common expression in the English language referring to a blue moon. When people say that something happens “only once in a blue moon” they mean that it happens only very rarely, once in a great while. This expression has been around for at least a century and a half; there are references to this expression that date from the second half of the nineteenth century.

The expression “a blue moon” has come to refer to the second full moon occurring in any given calendar month. A second full moon is not called a blue moon because it is particularly

blue or is any different in hue from the first full moon of the month. Instead, it is called a blue moon because it is so rare. The moon needs a little more than 29 days to complete the cycle from full moon to full moon. Because every month except February has more than 29 days, every month will have at least one full moon( except February, which will have a full moon unless there is a full moon at the very end of January and another full moon at the very beginning of March). It is on the occasion when a given calendar month has a second full moon that a blue moon occurs. This does not happen very often, only three or four times in a decade.

The blue moons of today are called the blue moons because of their rarity and not because of their color; however, the expression “blue moon” may have come into existence in reference to unusual circumstances in which the moon actually appeared blue. Certain natural phenomena of gigantic proportion can actually change the appearance of the moon from Earth. The eruption of the Krakatao volcano in 1883 left dust particles in the atmosphere, which clouds the sun and gave moon a bluish tint. This particular occurrence of the blue moon may have given rise to the expression that we use today. Another example occurred more than a century later. When Mount Pinatubo erupted in the Philippines in 1991, the moon again took on the blue tint.

21. This passage is about \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. an idiomatic expression
- B. an unusual color
- C. a month on the calendar
- D. a phase of the moon

22. How long has the expression “once in a blue moon” been around?

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| A. for around 50 years     | C. for more than 100 years |
| B. for less than 100 years | D. for 200 years           |



23. A blue moon could best be described as \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. a full moon that is not blue in color  
B. a new moon that is blue color  
C. a full moon that is blue in color  
D. a new moon that is not blue in color
24. The word “hue” in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. shape  
B. date  
C. color  
D. size
25. Which of the following might be the date of a “blue moon”?  
A. January 1  
B. February 28  
C. April 15  
D. December 31
26. How many blue moon would there most likely be in a century?  
A. 4  
B. 35  
C. 70  
D. 100
27. According to the passage, the moon \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. after large volcanic eruptions  
B. when it occurs late in the month  
C. several times a year  
D. during the month of February
28. The expression “given rise to” in paragraph 3 could best be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. created a need for  
B. elevated the level of  
C. spurred the creation of  
D. brightened the color of
29. What does the word “This” in paragraph 2 refer to?  
A. January  
B. calendar month  
C. full moon  
D. blue moon

30. Which of the following best paraphrases the bold sentence in the passage?

- A. The moon changed its color when Mount Pinatubo erupted in the Philippines in 1991
- B. The blue moon appeared when Mount Pinatubo erupted in the Philippines in 1991
- C. In 1991 Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines took on a blue tint when a volcano on that mountain erupted.
- D. In 1991 Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines once again took on a blue tint when a volcano on that mountain erupted.

**PASSAGE 4 – Questions 31 – 40**

**Traditional methods of teaching** no longer suffice in this technological world. Currently there are more than 100,000 computers in schoolrooms in the United States. Students, mediocre and bright alike, from the first grade through high school, not only are not intimidated by computers, but have become avid participants in the computer epoch.

Kids operating computers implement their curriculum with great versatility. A music student can program musical notes so that the computer will play Beethoven or the Beatles. For a biology class, the computer can produce a picture of the intricate actions of the body's organs, thus enabling today's students to envisage human biology in a profound way. A nuclear reactor is no longer an enigma to students who can see its workings in minute detail on a computer. In Wisconsin, the Chippewa Indians are studying their ancient and almost forgotten language with the aid of a computer. More commonly, the computer is used for drilling math and language concepts so that youngsters may learn at their own speed without trying the patience of their human teachers. The simplest computers aid the handicapped, who learn more rapidly from the computer than from humans. Once irksome, remedial drills and exercises now on computer are conducive to learning because the machine responds to correct answers with praise and to incorrect answers with frowns and even an occasional tear.

Adolescents have become so exhilarated by computers that they have developed their own jargon, easily understood by their peers but leaving their disconcerted parents in the dark. They have shown so much fervor for computers that they have formed computer clubs, beguile their leisure hours in computer stores, and even attend computer camps. A Boy Scout can get a computer merit badge. One ingenious young student devised a computer game for Atari that will earn him \$100,000 in royalties.

This is definitely the computer age. It is expected that by 1985 there will be between 300,000 and 650,000 computers in American schools. Manufacturers of computers are presently getting tax write-offs for donating equipment to colleges and universities and are pushing for legislation to obtain further deductions for contributions to elementary and high schools. Furthermore, the price of computers has steadily fallen to the point where a small computer for home or office is being sold for less than \$100. At that price every class in the country will soon have computer kids.

31. The expression '**traditional methods of teaching**' in the first sentence refers to
- A. teachers who punish students for not learning
  - B. technological methods of teaching
  - C. teachers, textbooks, and class drills
  - D. teaching the so-called 'three R's'
32. In order to operate a computer, a student does not have to be
- A. especially bright
  - B. in grade school
  - C. versatile
  - D. musical
33. Today's students with the aid of computers
- A. have more trouble learning
  - B. can understand more complex concepts
  - C. try to confuse their parents
  - D. build nuclear reactors

34. A computer is a robot teacher because it
- A. is human
  - B. enables students to learn through mechanical means
  - C. teaches machines
  - D. shows human emotions
35. Teachers ought to like to have their students use computers because computers
- A. are fun to work with
  - B. take over some of the teachers' tedious jobs
  - C. cost less than teachers' salaries
  - D. are being used all over the United States
36. Students' reactions to computers are
- A. negative
  - B. jargonistic
  - C. fervent
  - D. original
37. Computers are used most for
- A. scientific subjects
  - B. language instruction
  - C. drills and exercises
  - D. Boy Scout merit badges
38. According to the passage, one exceedingly clever student has
- A. learned an Indian language
  - B. overcome a handicap
  - C. invented a video game
  - D. played music on a computer
39. Computer manufacturers donate equipment to schools
- A. in 1985
  - B. to increase their sales
  - C. to get tax deductions
  - D. to teach students how to operate computers

40. The author of this article implies that
- A. computers make learning today easier than it was in the past
  - B. students today have to be smarter than their parents
  - C. computers are difficult to operate
  - D. anyone who can't operate a computer is a dunce

**-THE END-**

# **PAPER 3. WRITING**

## **PAPER 3. WRITING**

**Time allowance: approximately 60 minutes**

**Number of tasks: 02**

**Activity 1: Read the writing test below and answer the following questions:**

1. How many tasks are there in the test?
2. How much time should you spend on each task?
3. How many words should you write for each task?
4. Which criteria will the examiner base on to evaluate your writing?

### **WRITING TEST**

**Time allowance: 60 minutes**

**Number of tasks: 02**

#### **TASK 1**

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

**You received an email from your English friend, Jane. She asked you for some information about one of your friends. Read part of her email below.**

Hi, how are things?

I've just got an email from your friend, An. She said she's going to take a course in London this summer. She asked if she could stay with my family until she could find an apartment near her school. Can you tell me a bit about her (things like her personality, hobbies and interests, and her current work or study if possible)? I want to see if she will fit in with my family before I reply to her email.

(...)

**Write an email responding to Jane.**

You should write at least 120 words. You do not need to include your name or your addresses.

*(Your responses will be evaluated in terms of Task Fulfilment, Organization, Vocabulary and Grammar.)*

## TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

**Read the following text from a book about tourism.**

Tourism has become one of the fastest growing industries in the world. Millions of people today are travelling farther and farther throughout the year. Some people argue that the development of tourism has had negative effects on the different aspects of local communities; others think that its influences are positive.

**Write an essay to an educated reader to discuss the effects of tourism on local communities. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.**

You should write at least 250 words.

*(Your response will be evaluated in terms of Task Fulfilment, Organization, Vocabulary and Grammar.)*

**Activity 2: Read the Task 1 in the writing test carefully and answer the following questions:**

1. Who are you going to write to?
2. Will it be a formal or informal letter? Why?
3. Which information will you write in your letter?
4. How many paragraphs should you write in this letter?

**Activity 3: Brainstorm the ideas for the letter and take notes in the space given below.**

Paragraph 1: Reason for writing

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Body paragraphs:

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Closing paragraph

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**Activity 4: Read the Task 2 in the writing test carefully and choose the best option on what you will write in the essay.**

- A. Tourism has become one of the fastest growing industries in the world.
- B. Millions of people today are travelling farther and farther throughout the year.
- C. Some people argue that the development of tourism has had negative effects on the different aspects of local communities; others think that its influences are positive.
- D. Discuss the effects of tourism on local communities

**Activity 5: Brainstorm the ideas for the essay and take notes in the space given below.**

1. Introduction

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2. Body Paragraph 1: Positive effects

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3. Body Paragraph 2: Negative effects

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#### 4. Conclusion

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**Activity 6: Read the sample letter below and answer the questions that follow.**

Dear Jane,

I'm sorry that I couldn't respond your email sooner because of my recent final exams in Vietnam. I'm surprised that An sent an email to you to ask for your permission for staying at your home. In this letter, I'm glad to tell you a little about her.

An is a nice girl. She is very sociable and can make friend with everybody, especially with foreign friends. We have known each other for 3 years, and I am sure that she is a lovely girl to live with.

She likes sports, especially swimming and jogging. Also, she can play the guitar and the piano. She also enjoys reading and she could spend all day reading a bunch of her favorite books.

As An's friend, I really hope that you will accept her request. We will be very grateful to you.

Thanks and best regards,

Lan

*(147 words)*

1. Is the letter formal or informal?
2. How many words are there in the letter?
3. How many paragraphs are there?

4. What is each paragraph about?
5. Does the writer respond to all the questions that her friend asked?
6. Is there any irrelevant idea?
7. Are there any grammatical or spelling mistakes?

**Activity 7: Read the sample essay below and answer the questions that follow.**

In recent years, there has been a growing tendency for tourists to travel to remote locations and communities. This has both positive and negative impacts on the local communities these tourists travel to.

The financial and socio-cultural benefits for the local communities are evident. First of all, tourists visiting these regions have a high demand for goods and services, and are willing to pay higher than average prices. This helps to boost local economies in remote areas and eventually enhance living standards of the local people. Secondly, regarding the socio-cultural aspects, travelers from different cultures can provide local people with a lot of experiences through their interactions with one another. This can help these local residents to broaden knowledge about a more civilized society.

However, the hordes of tourists to various local communities also leave severe impacts on the environment in these areas. In fact, tourists often litter wherever they go and do not bother to clean after themselves in areas they have visited. This may lead to such conditions as dirty roads or clogged sewage systems in these places, which negatively and directly affects local people's living conditions. In terms of indirect effects, I believe that local people have to sacrifice their natural resources to accommodate tourists' demands. In several mountainous areas of Vietnam, local people cut down vast areas of forest to make handicrafts or furniture for tourists. These acts can contribute to the environmental deterioration in these areas.

In conclusion, though the economy and societies in local communities can benefit tremendously, I think that the negative environmental consequences are far more serious.

1. What is the thesis statement for the essay?
2. What is the topic sentence for each body paragraph?
3. What are the supporting ideas in each body paragraph?
4. Are there any irrelevant ideas?
5. What are the linking words in the essays? What are their functions?
6. Are there any grammatical or spelling mistakes?

**Activity 8: Read the following tasks of letter writing and underline what you need to write in your letter. Then choose one task and write your letter.**

**TOPIC 1:**

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

**You received an email from your English friend, Lesley. She asked you for some information about your hometown. Read part of her email below.**

Hi, how are things?

I'm going to visit your hometown next month. I'm planning my trip, but I don't know what clothes I should bring. What's the weather like in your place? What can I do and where can I visit when I get there?

(...)

**Write an email responding to Lesley.**

You should write at least 120 words. You do not need to include your name or your addresses.

## TOPIC 2:

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

**You are going to host a foreign student in three months. Read part of his email below.**

Dear Nam,

I'm the student in the exchange program at Can Tho University for six months. I'm going to stay at your house, so I would like to know some information about your family. How many people are there? What do you often do together in the free time? What do you expect me to do when I stay with your family? I would like to bring you some gifts. What do your parents like, and what do you like?

Wait for your reply.

Jimmy

**Write an email responding to Jimmy.**

You should write at least 120 words. You do not need to include your name or your addresses.

## TOPIC 3:

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

**You received an email from your Japanese friend, Hiroshi. He asked you for some information about how you learn English. Read part of his email below.**

Hi, there!

I'm starting to learn English. I know you've studied it for some time. Can you give me some advice on how to improve English? Where did you first take the course? What do you do to practice your English skills like listening, speaking, reading and writing every day? Have you got any difficulties when you learn English?

(..)

**Write an email responding to Hiroshi.**

You should write at least 120 words. You do not need to include your name or your addresses.

#### **TOPIC 4:**

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

**You received an email from your English friend, Peggy. She asked you for some information about your study and your institution. Read part of her email below.**

Hi,

How are you? I'm glad to know you thanks to Ms Snow's introduction. I'm now writing to ask you for more information.

Are you still a student at Can Tho Universtiy? What's your major? What do you like about Can Tho University? What are you going to do after you graduate?

(...)

**Write an email responding to Peggy.**

You should write at least 120 words. You do not need to include your name or your addresses.

#### **TOPIC 5:**

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

**You received an email from your foreign friend, Jane. She sent you an email and asked you for advice. Read part of her email below.**

Hi, how are things?

I'm writing to ask for your advice on a personal problem. As you know, my sister's got a ten-year-old boy. He used to be a good boy, but now he's addicted to games and his academic performance has become bad. What can I do to help my nephew get rid of game addiction? What activities should I organize for my nephew to do in his free time?

(...)

**Write an email responding to Jane.**

You should write at least 120 words. You do not need to include your name or your addresses.

### **TOPIC 6:**

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

**You received an email from your foreign friend, Daisy. She asked you for some information about how to stay healthy and relax. Read part of her email below.**

Hi, there!

How's everything? Do you still go jogging in the early morning? What do you do to stay healthy? When you get tired, what should you do to relax?

(...)

**Write an email responding to Daisy.**

You should write at least 120 words. You do not need to include your name or your addresses.

### **TOPIC 7:**

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

**You received an email from a manager at a job center. He asked you for some information about yourself. Read part of her email below.**

Dear applicant,

You have written to apply for a position of a tutor. Please provide me more information about your work experience so that we are able to arrange the part-time job for you. Have you ever been a tutor before? What are you good at?

Why do you want to work part-time as a tutor?

I am looking forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Alex Reade

Manager

**Write an email responding to him.**

You should write at least 120 words. You do not need to include your name or your addresses.

## **TOPIC 8:**

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

**You received an email from a coordinator for volunteer work. She asked you for some information about yourself. Read part of her email below.**

Dear applicant,

You have written to apply for volunteer work in the summer. Please provide me more information about your work experience so that we are able to arrange the job for you. What kind of work do you like? What are you good at? Did you have any experience in doing that work before? Why do you want to do volunteer work?

I am looking forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Alex Reade

Coordinator

**Write an email responding to her.**

You should write at least 120 words. You do not need to include your name or your addresses.



**Activity 9: Read the following tasks of essay writing and underline what you need to write in your essay. Then choose one task and write.**

**1. TOPIC 1**

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

**Read the following text from an article about family issues.**

Nuclear families (two-generation families), or small families have become more popular in the world. Some people believe that living in a nuclear family has many advantages; others think that living in a nuclear family has a lot of disadvantages.

**Write an essay to an educated reader to discuss the benefits and drawbacks of living in a nuclear family. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.**

You should write at least 250 words.

**2. TOPIC 2**

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

**Read the following text from an article about free time activities for students.**

In their free time, students usually surf the Internet and spend time on using social networks like Facebook, or Zalo. Some people believe that using social networks has many negative effects on students. They think that students should spend more time on reading printed materials because reading provides students many benefits.

**Should students spend their free time on using social networks or reading printed materials? Write an essay to an educated reader to discuss your opinion. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.**

You should write at least 250 words.

### 3. TOPIC 3

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

**Read the following text from an article about students having part-time jobs.**

Many of the students now have part-time jobs while they are studying at university. Some people believe that working part-time helps students gain many benefits. In contrast, others argue that having part-time jobs makes students neglect their study and leads to many problems.

**Should students have part-time jobs while they are at university? Write an essay to an educated reader to discuss your view. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.**

You should write at least 250 words.

### 4. TOPIC 4

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

**Read the following text from an article about volunteer work for students in the summer.**

Doing volunteer work has become one of the most popular activities for students in the summer. Some people believe that it should be compulsory for all students. These people argue that volunteer work will benefit students in many ways.

**Write an essay to an educated reader to discuss your opinion on whether doing volunteer work in the summer is compulsory for all students. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.**

You should write at least 250 words.

## 5. TOPIC 5

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

**Read the following text from an article about learning English.**

English has become one of the most popular international languages in the world. Learning English, therefore, is very important for Vietnamese people, especially students. Some people argue that the only way to learn English effectively is taking English courses in an English speaking country, not in Vietnam.

**Do you agree with the opinion? Write an essay to an educated reader to discuss your view. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.**

You should write at least 250 words.

## 6. TOPIC 6

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

**Read the following text from an article about studying abroad.**

Since 2000, more and more Vietnamese students have chosen to study abroad. Many parents argue that studying abroad is the best way for their children to obtain the excellent qualifications. Some say that it is not necessary to study abroad because students may face many difficulties while studying far from home.

**Write an essay to an educated reader to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of studying abroad. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.**

You should write at least 250 words.

## 7. TOPIC 7

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

**Read the following text from an article about using mobile phones.**

Mobile phones or smart phones are common in people's daily lives. Using these devices is popular among students, and many of them use the phones in class while the lesson is in progress.

**Should students be allowed to use mobile (smart) phones in class? Write an essay to an educated reader to discuss your opinion. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.**

You should write at least 250 words.

## 8. TOPIC 8

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

**Read the following text from an article about protecting the environment.**

Environmental pollution is a serious issue nowadays. The government and people have taken actions to foster the protection of the environment such as educational campaign, planting more trees, reducing the use of plastic bags, severe punishment for illegal actions, and many others.

**Should the government organize more educational campaign to raise people's awareness or apply severe punishment for illegal actions? Write an essay to an educated reader to discuss your opinion. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.**

You should write at least 250 words.

# **PAPER 4. SPEAKING**

## PAPER 4. SPEAKING

Time allowance: approximately 12 minutes

Number of parts: 03

### **Part 1: Social Interaction (3')**

*Let's talk about your free time activities.*

- What do you often do in your free time?
- Do you watch TV? If no, why not? If yes, which TV channel do you like best? Why?
- Do you read books? If no, why not? If yes, what kinds of books do you like best? Why?

*Let's talk about your neighborhood.*

- Can you tell me something about your neighborhood?
- What do you like most about it?
- Do you plan to live there for a long time? Why/ why not?

### **Part 2: Solution Discussion (4')**

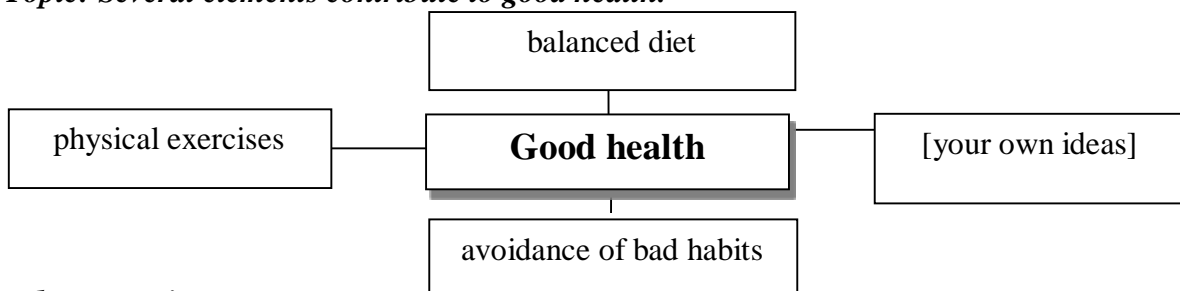
*You've finished Part 1. Now let's move on to Part 2. You're going to have a situation with three choices. Make a talk about your choice. You have 1 minute to prepare for your talk.*

**Situation:** Some foreign friends asked you for advice of the best place to visit in Vietnam. Which destination do you think is the best choice for them: **Nha Trang**, **Da Lat**, and **Can Tho**?

### **Part 3: Topic development (5')**

*In Part 3 of the test, you are given a topic with some suggested ideas. Develop a talk based on the topic. You may use the suggested ideas and/or your own ideas. You have 1 minute to prepare for your talk.*

**Topic:** *Several elements contribute to good health.*



### **Further questions:**

*Now I'd like to ask you some more questions.*

- What habits can negatively affect your health?
- What should people do when they get sick?
- It is said that 'Laughter is the best medicine'. What do you think this means?

## SAMPLE ANSWER

### PART 1: SOCIAL INTERACTIONS

Let's talk about **your neighborhood**.

**Describe the neighborhood where you live.**

My neighborhood is right outside of the city. It has **houses** instead of **apartment buildings**. My neighbors like to garden, so there are a lot of **flowers** and **nice plants**. There are some **small stores** selling foods, newspapers and things like that.

**What do you like about living there?**

I like my neighborhood because it's **close to the city**. It's very **easy to get to work**. Also, it's **not very expensive**. I can afford to live there on my salary.

**What do you dislike about living there?**

My neighborhood is a **boring area**. If I want to do something interesting like going to the movie or shopping at good stores, I have to go to the city. It's **quiet**, so it's a good place to relax, but it's **not a good place to have fun**.

Let's talk about **leisure time activities**.

**What are some activities you enjoy in your leisure time?**

Sometimes I just like to **sit and relax** because I'm so tired after work. I also enjoy **playing games**. On weekends, I often **go to the movie** with my family. We also **spend time at the park** if the weather is nice.

**What do like about these activities?**

I like playing games with children because I **have a chance to know them better and also to teach them**. After we've seen a movie together, we always talk about it. It's interesting to **hear what my children think about and how they understand things**.

**Who do you usually spend your leisure time with?**

I spend my evenings at home **with my family**. I seldom see other people during the week. On weekends, we might get together **with other families that have children the same age as ours** or spend time **with my own friends** without my family.

## **PART 2: SITUATION DISCUSSION**

**Situation:** There are three main ways to go to Hanoi from Da Nang: **going by plane, going by train, or going by coach.** Which means of transport is the best choice?

### **TALK:**

There are three main ways to go to Ha Noi from Da Nang: going by plane, going by train, or going by coach. I think that travelling by plane is the best choice for several reasons.

**Firstly,** going by airplane is **faster than** going by train or going by bus. Flying to Hanoi from Da Nang takes you only one and a half hour while it takes you about 16 hours to go by train. **Therefore,** travelling by plane helps you avoid tiredness and allows you more time to explore your destination. **Secondly,** travelling by plane is **more comfortable than** the other choices. A seat on a plane is definitely **more comfortable than** that in a train or a coach. It is **cleaner** and **less noisy** and you are **better** served on the plane. **Finally,** traveling by airplane is **safer than** the other means of transport. **In fact,** there are **fewer** airplane accidents than train and coach accidents.

**To sum up,** going by airplane can bring you several benefits in terms of safety, comfort and time. **Therefore,** I believe going to Hanoi by plane is the best choice.

## **PART 3: TOPIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Topic:** Reading should be encouraged among teenagers because of its benefits.

### **TALK:**

Today's teenagers are interested in daily activities such as chatting, going to coffee shops, shopping, and so on. It could be true that not many of the teenagers read books whereas reading is a very useful activity for people. **Therefore,** I think teenagers should be encouraged to read because of its advantages.



**Firstly**, reading helps reduce stress. No matter how much stress you have at work or in your personal relationships a well-written novel can transport you to other realms letting tensions drain away and allowing you to relax. **Secondly**, your knowledge is greatly improved by reading. The more knowledge you have, the better- equipped you are to tackle any challenges in life. **Last but not least**, reading is an excellent activity to improve your memory. **In fact**, when you read a book you have to remember its characters, their backgrounds.

**In summary**, just spending some of your time on reading, you gain a number of advantages of this activity such as memory improvement, knowledge, and stress reduction. **Therefore**, I strongly support the idea that young people, especially teenagers should be encouraged to read.

### **Further questions**

#### **Why do people read?**

People read for several different reasons. Some people read to pass the time in a relaxing way. However, most people read for information. They read newspapers, magazines, and websites to learn about what's happening in the world. People also read books, or manuals to learn something they need to know for their jobs or their health problem.

#### **How important do you think reading is?**

I think reading is extremely important because it keeps people uninformed. I think it's also really important to read for information. The process of reading develops the mind, and reading forces you to think. I think that people are generally more analytical about all the information they receive if reading is part of their lives.

#### **How do you think reading will be different in the future?**

In the future, there may not be any books, magazines, or newspapers at all. Probably, everything will be electronic. Most people will read things on the Internet, or they'll have electronic devices like electronic readers. This means that it will be easier for people to have access to various sources of information.

# PRACTICES

## PART 1: SOCIAL INTERACTIONS

### 1. Let's talk about **your major / job**

1. What is your major / job?
2. Why did you choose your current major / job?
3. What are your educational / occupational plans for the future?

### 2. Let's talk about **high school**.

1. Where did you study at high school?
2. What was your favorite subject at high school? Why did you like it?
3. What was your best experience at high school?

### 3. Let's talk about **learning English**.

1. How long have you been learning English?
2. What do you like most about learning English?
3. Do you think it is important to learn English?

### 4. Let's talk about **your family**.

1. Do you have a large or a small family?
2. Who do you like most in your family?
3. What do you like to do with your family?

### 5. Let's talk about **health**.

1. What do you do to stay healthy?
2. What forms of physical exercise do you regularly do?
3. What habits do you think are bad for your health?

6. Let's talk about **foods**.

1. What kinds of food do you often eat?
2. Do you often eat out? Why/Why not?
3. Do you like foods from other countries? Why/Why not?

7. Let's talk about **traveling**.

1. Do you often travel?
2. Who do you like to travel with?
3. What places do you like to visit? Why?

8. Let's talk about **holidays**.

1. What are some popular holidays in Vietnam?
2. What do people often do on holidays?
3. Do you prefer to stay home or to go out on holidays? Why?

9. Let's talk about **Facebook**.

1. How often do you use Facebook?
2. Why is Facebook so popular among young people?
3. What are some benefits of using Facebook?

10. Let's talk about **technology**.

1. Are you good at technology?
2. How often do you use a computer / the Internet?
3. What do you generally use the Internet for?

11. Let's talk about **transportation**.

1. What is your favorite means of transport? Why?
2. What are the advantages of going to school by bicycle?
3. Do you like using public transport in your town or city?

12. Let's talk about **weather**.

1. How many seasons are there in Vietnam?
2. Which season do you enjoy most? Why?
3. What do you like to do when it rains?

## PART 2: SOLUTION DISCUSSION

**1. Situation:** You are considering an activity to do in the summer. There are three options: **doing volunteer work**, **going travelling**, and **working part-time**. Which do you think is the best choice?

**2. Situation:** A group of students want to improve their English fast and effectively. They are considering three options: **studying in groups**, **enrolling in an English course at a language center**, and **taking an online course**. Which do you think is the best choice for them?

**3. Situation:** You are considering the three following occasions to invite your foreign friends to come to Vietnam to learn about Vietnamese culture: **Tet Holiday**, **Hung King Festival**, or **Mid-Autumn Festival**. Which one do you think is the best choice?

**4. Situation:** Your family is planning a good time to go travelling together. There are three options to consider: **a weekend**, **summer**, or **Tet holiday**. Which do you think is the best choice?

**5. Situation:** Your close friend is celebrating her birthday next weekend. There are some possible gifts you may choose to give her: **a book**, **a T-shirt**, or **a bag**. Which do you think is the best choice?

**6. Situation:** You and your friends are going to visit Da Nang for your summer vacation. You plan to choose a means of transport to get around the city while you are there. There are three options: **a motorbike**, **a car** or **taxi**. Which one do you think is the best choice?

**7. Situation:** After your graduation from Can Tho University, where would you like to work: **in a small town, in a big city** or **abroad**? Which do you think is the best choice?

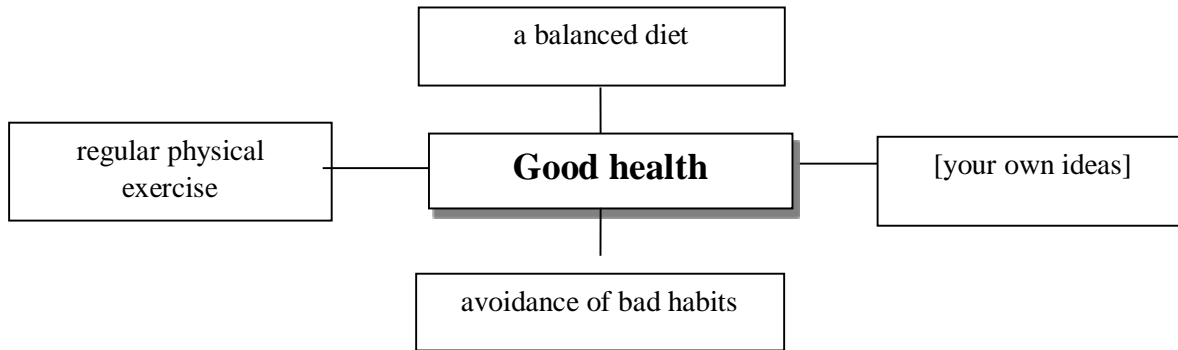
**8. Situation:** You are going to study in a university located in the busy center of a big city. There are three options of accommodation: **staying on campus, renting a house nearby**, and **renting a house in the suburb**. Which one would you choose?

**9. Situation:** You are planning to go travelling. You're considering who to **go with**: **friends, family**, or **travel alone**. Which is your final decision?

**10. Situation:** In case you have problems, who do you ask for advice: **your parents, your friends**, or **your teachers**? Who do you trust most?

## PART 3: TOPIC DEVELOPMENT

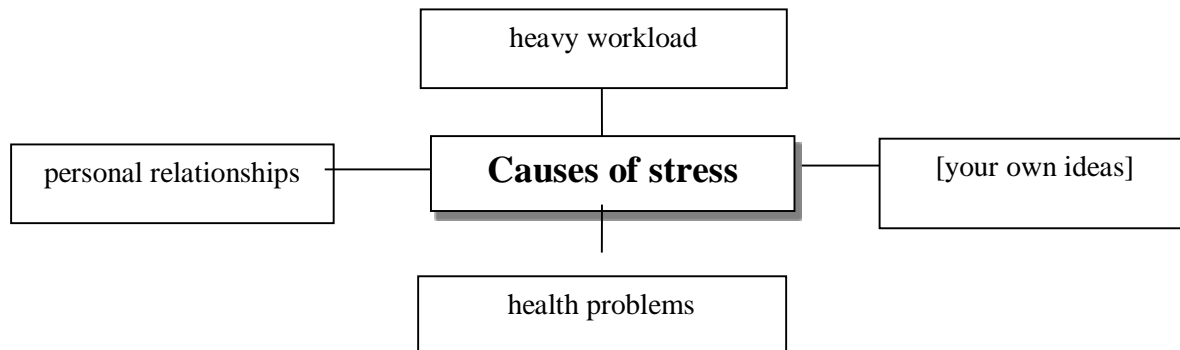
### 1. Topic: Several elements contribute to good health.



#### *Follow-up questions*

1. Why do most people, especially youngsters, avoid doing physical exercise to keep fit?
2. How do you define 'a healthy lifestyle'?

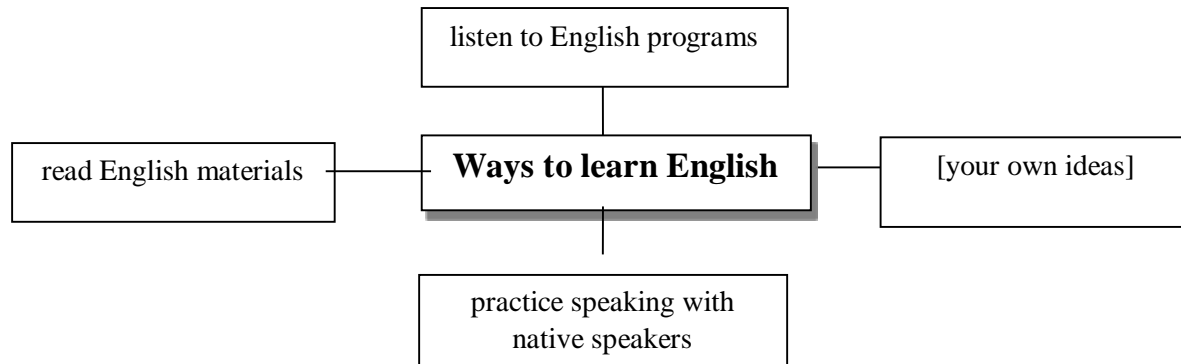
### 2. Topic: There are several causes of stress.



#### *Follow-up questions*

1. What should be done to avoid daily stresses?
2. What does a stress-free working environment look like?

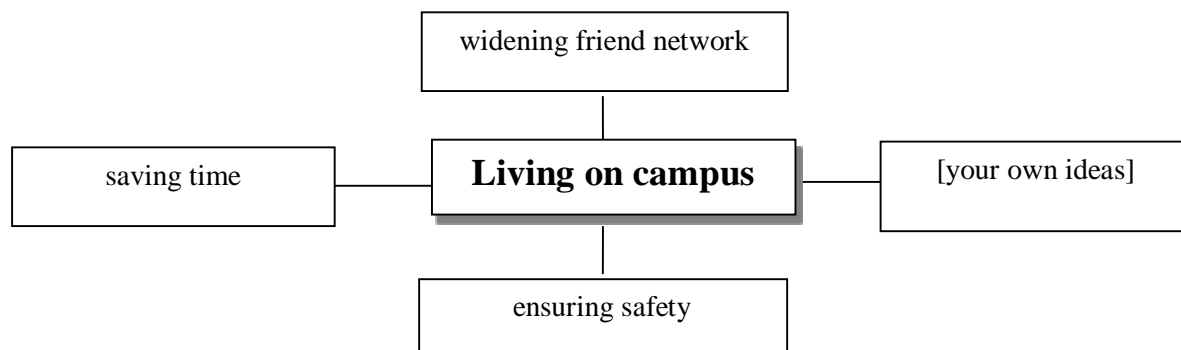
**3. Topic: There are several ways to improve English.**



**Follow-up questions**

1. What can English learners do if they can get in contact with native speakers?
2. How do social networking sites help people to learn English in general?

**4. Topic: There are several benefits of living in the dorm / hall of residence on campus.**

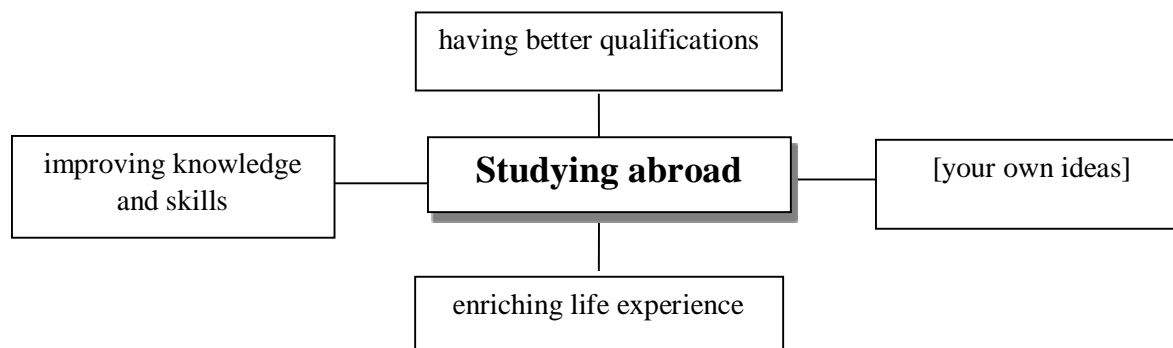


**Follow-up questions**

1. Why do some students prefer living off-campus?
2. What are some disadvantages of living in the university hall of residence for students?



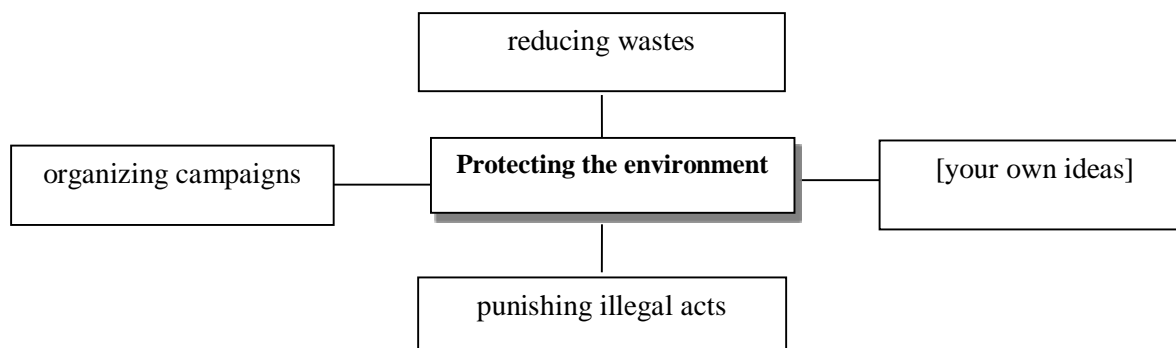
**5. Topic: There are several benefits of studying abroad.**



***Follow-up questions***

1. What are some possible problems students may have to face when studying in another country?
2. In what ways can the returned students contribute to the development of their homeland?

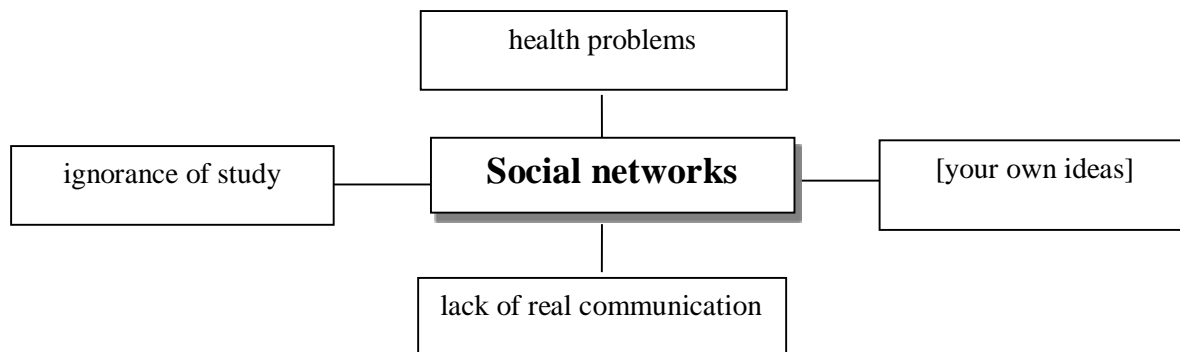
**6. Topic: There are several ways to protect the environment.**



***Follow-up questions***

1. Who plays a more important role in protecting the environment: individuals or the governments?
2. Do you think the people where you live are doing enough to protect the environment?  
Why? / Why not?

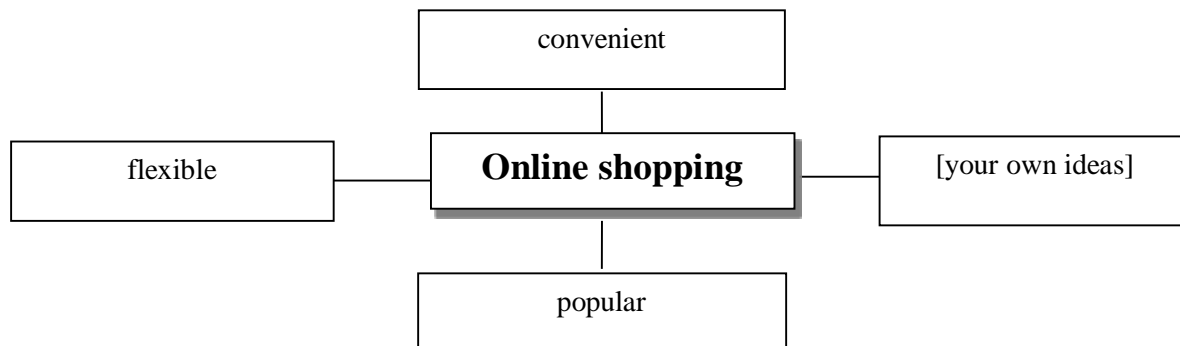
**7. Topic: There are several disadvantages of using social networks.**



***Follow-up questions***

1. In what ways are social networks positively shaping our lives?
2. Is the issue of 'cyber crime' serious where you live?

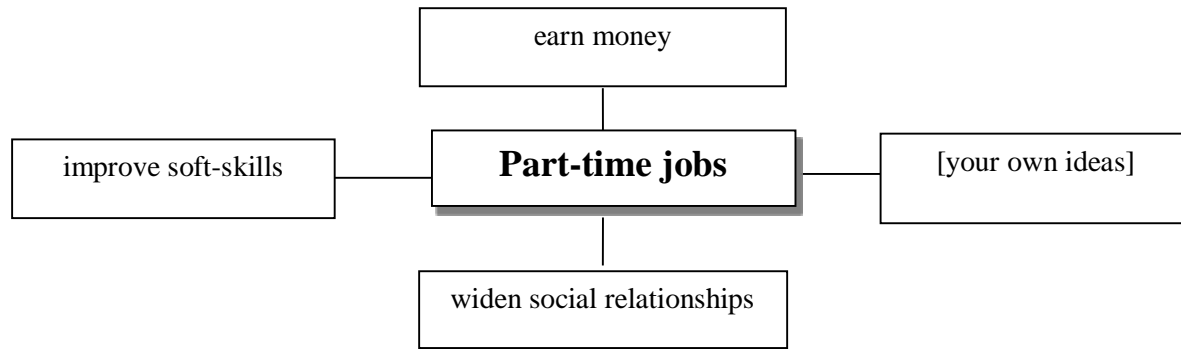
**8. Topic: Shopping online provides customers with several benefits.**



***Follow-up questions***

1. Why do some people just hate online shopping or even never try it?
2. What should online store owners do to enhance the quality of their services?

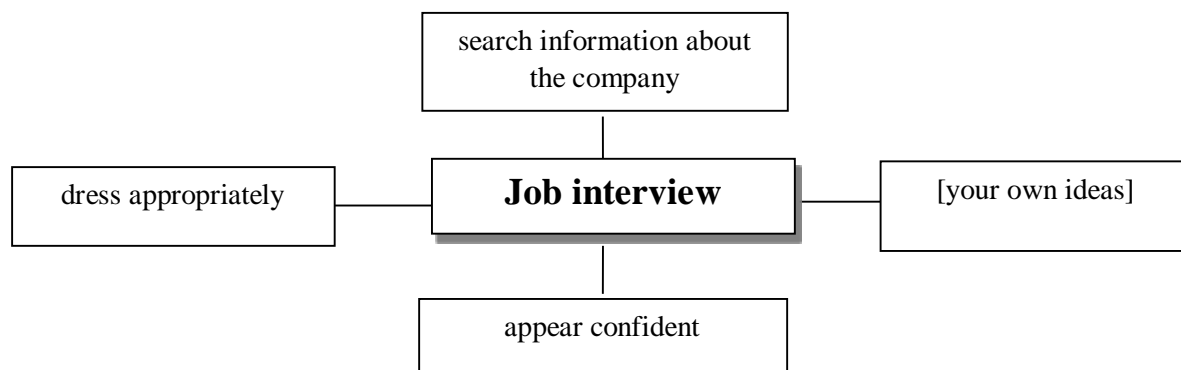
**9. Topic: Working part-time provides students with some benefits.**



***Follow-up questions***

1. For an undergraduate student, which is more critically important: having a part-time job or focusing 100% on his / her studies?
2. Are the part-time job options in your country the same as those in other countries you have visited?

**10. Topic: Candidates should prepare several things to have a successful job interview.**



***Follow-up questions***

1. Should the issue of salary or payment be discussed during a job interview? Why or why not?
2. Should we sometimes tell lies during our job interview? Why or why not?