**4. Reading practice:**

Read the following passages and choose the best answer to each question given.

Passage 01: Article (Questions 155-156, Test 02, ETS 5 Tests)

**Questions 155-156** refer to the following article.

**Johannesburg (7 July)** – Jaquin Publishers announced on Friday that Aurelia Martino’s new book, *Stars in the Sky,* will be released on 8 September. This is Ms. Martino’s second  
book, and early reviews say that readers are in for a treat. Ms. Martino, an acclaimed actress  
from Johannesburg, decided to give up acting and begin writing books when she had her first child, Matilda, two years ago. She is perhaps best known for her ten-year role as the mother on the popular South African television series *Living with the Monroes.*

**155.** What is the purpose of the article?

(A) To announce a book release date  
 (B) To profile an acclaimed actress  
 (C) To review a new television series

(D) To offer an opinion about a book

**156.** What is suggested about Ms. Martino?

(A) She has been an author for over ten

years.  
 (B) She has two children.  
 (C) She changed careers.  
 (D) She recently moved to South Africa

Passage 02: Article (Questions 174-177, Test 01, ETS 1200)

**Questions 174-177** refer to the following article.

**BAC Welcomes  
*Timothy Kang***

***------------------***

Kowloon, Dec. 16 – BAC, Inc., today announced that it has appointed Timothy Kang as senior vice president of marketing. In his new role, Kang will oversee the marketing department and be responsible for corporate strategy, market analysis, and market evaluation. As a seasoned executive, Kang has more than 20 years of experience and a successful track record in generating new sales partners and developing successful marketing strategies. He is expected to strengthen BAC’s market position as a leading provider of software applications in the education industry.

Prior to joining BAC, Kang was with SAGE Software Company, where he was vice president of corporate sales, and at Tobbler Corporation, where he spent several years as head of the marketing department. At Tobbler, he was credited with earning record-high revenues for the company. After these highly successful endeavors, Kang started his own company, Greenwood Partners, Inc., where he developed and implemented new business strategies for large corporate clients.

**174.** According to the article, what is Kang

best known for?

(A) His experience as an educator  
 (B) His expertise in product marketing  
 (C) The software he has developed  
 (D) The work he has done overseas

**175.** What type of business is BAC, Inc.?

(A) A software provider  
 (B) A computer retailer  
 (C) An advertising agency  
 (D) A marketing consultant firm

**176.** What is stated about Kang’s work at  
 Tobbier Corporation?

(A) He received an award.  
 (B) He left the company after only a

few months.  
 (C) He increased revenues.  
 (D) He created advertisements for

software.

**177**. What company did Kang start?

(A) BAC, Inc.  
 (B) SAGE Software Company  
 (C) Tobbler Corporation  
 (D) Greenwood Partners, Inc.

Passage 03: Excerpt form an article (Questions 166-170, Test 04, ETS 1200)

**Questions 166-170** refer to the following excerpt from an article.

Advances in technology over the last ten years have made working from home almost as common as working in a traditional office. Many companies have found that by allowing employees greater flexibility in their schedules and work environment, workers are more content with their jobs and more loyal to their companies.

World Financial Analyst, a leading business-research firm, recently collected questionnaire data from more than 500 home-based employees working in different fields. The findings of this study showed that 83 percent of respondents ranked the elimination of a daily commute as their number-one motivation for working from home. The second advantage cited was having a flexible schedule.

“I can set my own hours,” said Jessica Harper, a graphic designer for Gallaxia Stern Studios. “I still have a regular schedule, but if I need an hour break or I have an errand to run, I can do it when it is convenient and then I work longer in the evening to make up the time. I have noticed that I am actually more productive and I don’t get tired as quickly.” Although the present study was limited to home-based employees, informal reports confirm that management also benefits from this practice.

One surprising benefit for companies that allow flexible schedules is their capability to hire more workers. Many businesses that allow employees to work from home have grown compared to companies that confine

their workers to the office.

**166.** What does the article suggest?

(A) Companies that offer flexible

working situations are more likely

to retain their employees.  
 (B) Employees who work at home are

less productive than employees who

work in the office.  
 (C) Employees with flexible schedules

need more management than

traditional employees.

(D) Companies that allow employees to

set their own schedules are able to

save money on transportation costs.

**167.** How was information gathered for the

study mentioned in the article?

(A) Researchers conducted tests in a

laboratory.  
 (B) Employees completed surveys

about their work.  
 (C) The author visited employees

working from home.  
 (D) Supervisors provided information

on their employees' productivity.

**168.** The word “set” in paragraph 3, line 1,  
 is closest in meaning to

(A) solidify  
 (B) place  
 (C) collect  
 (D) establish

**169.** According to the article, how do

companies benefit from allowing

employees to work at home?

(A) Companies reduce the amount of

time they spend training employees.  
 (B) Companies are able to increase

their numbers of employees.  
 (C) Companies can afford to expand

their office space.  
 (D) Companies spend less money on

energy costs.

**170.** What advantage of working from home

is NOT mentioned by employees?

(A) Enjoying more flexibility in

scheduling  
 (B) Avoiding long commutes to work  
 (C) Achieving greater productivity  
 (D) Working in a quieter space