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**READING – 40 POINTS****READING TEXT 1**

One theory that integrates diverse findings on hunger, eating, and weight argues that body weight is governed by a set-point, a homeostatic mechanism that keeps people at roughly the weight they are genetically designed to be. Set-point theorists claim that everyone has a genetically programmed basal metabolism rate, the rate at which the body burns calories for energy, and a fixed number of fat cells, which are cells that store fat for energy. These cells may change in size (the amount of fat they contain), but never in number. After weight loss, they just lurk around the body, waiting for the chance to puff up again. According to set-point theory, there is no single area in the brain that keeps track of weight. Rather, an interaction of metabolism, fat cells, and hormones keeps people at the weight their bodies are designed to be. When a heavy person diets, the body slows down to conserve energy (and its fat reserves). When a thin person overeats, the body speeds up to burn energy.

**Read the text below and answer the questions. (4 x 2 =8pts)**

1. The passage would most likely be found in a textbook on which of the following subjects?
  - A. Psychology
  - B. Social studies
  - C. Chemistry
  - D. Biology
  
2. It can be concluded from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. a genetically thin person can easily gain weight
  - B. it is impossible for genetically predisposed overweight people to lose weight
  - C. people don't have as much control over their body weight as they might think
  - D. humans are genetically designed to be overweight
  
3. The author's attitude toward the subject of weight could best be described as \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. emotional
  - B. disbelieving
  - C. depressing
  - D. scientific
  
4. The writer's purpose in writing this passage is to \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. inform
  - B. illustrate
  - C. criticize
  - D. compare

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## READING TEXT 2

## CITY MEDIA INTERNSHIPS

We are a proudly Canadian organization offering six annual internships, valued at \$10,000 each, to deserving persons from minority groups. We offer career assistance, and an opportunity for these individuals to demonstrate the talent they have and get hands-on experience in broadcasting. We hope that our commitment to these groups becomes an industry-wide model of acceptance. Our goal is to have the City Media family mirror the diversity that makes our nation strong.

The internship winners will work at one of our two speciality TV stations. The Connect station provides programming on regional events, while the emphasis at Transview is on instructional shows. Each intern will work in an entry-level position within an area that meets the requirements of the company and be paid at the opening rate set by the company for that position. If the assignment makes relocation necessary, a maximum \$1,500 grant is provided to assist with these expenses.

Interested broadcasting applicants should provide evidence of full-time enrolment in the field of broadcasting at an accredited post-secondary institution. An official transcript from the educational institution is also required. Mature students may replace this transcript with a one-page typewritten statement of their goals. References from three teachers or employers will be necessary if the application proceeds.

Once your application is accepted, you will receive a confirmation letter by mail from Personnel. The application is then referred to a Canada-wide panel of City Media employees. These individuals are familiar with the positions that would be considered a complementary fit with your stated career path. They will put together a shortlist of promising candidates and conduct an in-person or telephone interview. The type of interview will vary with the distance of each candidate. The hiring decisions of the panel are final.

If a candidate is not eligible, the application will be removed from the competition, as will those whose applications and accompanying documents are received later than the deadline for submission. No exceptions can be made for delayed, lost or misdirected mail.

**Choose ONE WORD ONLY from the text for each gap to complete the notes. (6 x 3 =18)**

## ❖ internships:

- allow minorities to gain 5. \_\_\_\_\_ and show their talents
- further City Media's aim to reflect the 6. \_\_\_\_\_ of people in Canada

## ❖ internship at Transview focuses on educational broadcasting

## ❖ an additional amount of money is given if 7. \_\_\_\_\_ is required

## ❖ support application with:

- proof of present 8. \_\_\_\_\_ in broadcasting studies
- a 9. \_\_\_\_\_ issued by your school

## ❖ a panel decides which jobs are a good fit for each intern

## ❖ interview method depends on 10. \_\_\_\_\_

## ❖ company strict about the deadline stated for applications

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## READING TEXT 3

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 17 languages, including Chinese, and was made into a movie in 1993.

**Read the text below and answer the questions. (7x 2 =14pts)**

**11. What is the author's main purpose in this passage?**

- A. To present biographical information about Amy Tan
- B. To analyze Amy Tan's literary works
- C. To support Amy Tan's decision to become a fiction writer
- D. To criticize Amy Tan's rebellion against her parents

**12. According to the passage, Amy Tan's visit to China \_\_\_\_\_ .**

- A. was disappointing
- B. had a profound effect on her
- C. was not surprising In the least
- D. was a trip she had always dreamed of taking

**13. The word "the work" in the text refers to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. stories
- B. writing
- C. Commonwealth Club Gold Award
- D. Joy Luck Club

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**14. Before becoming a fiction writer, Amy Tan was a business writer who \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. had accomplishments
- B. had great expectations in business sector
- C. got a degree on Literature
- D. enjoyed great satisfaction in her life

**15. 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

**16. It can be inferred from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. Tan's parents understood her dilemma but wanted the best for her
- B. It took Tan a while to summon the courage to pursue her dreams
- C. Tan started writing fiction in order to make more money
- D. Tan had always wanted to return to China

**17. 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

**WRITING – 20 POINTS****Write a well-organized essay on ONE of the topics below.****1. What may be the common causes of “burnout”?**

*The term “burnout” was coined in the 1970s by the American psychologist Herbert Freudenberger. He used it to describe the consequences of severe stress and high ideals in “helping” professions. Doctors and nurses, for example, who sacrifice themselves for others, often end up being “burned out” – exhausted, and unable to cope. Nowadays, the term is not only used for these helping professions like doctors or nurses. It can affect anyone, from stressed-out career-driven people or overworking employees (job/workplace burnout) to students (academic burnout).*

*burnout (n)**burned out (adj) – I feel burned out!***2. What may be the effects/consequences of overcrowding in cities?**