**READING TEST 1**

**PASSAGE 1 - Questions 1-10**

Education of Gifted Students is area in the field of special education concerned with the instruction of students who have exceptionally high abilities. The United States Department of Education describes “giftedness” as exceptionally advanced performance or the potential for **outstanding** performance in intellectual, creative, leadership, artistic, or specific academic field. Children who demonstrate outstanding talents come from all social, cultural, and economic groups.

Educators believe that gifted students require special education services because their learning needs differ significantly from those of the general population. They learn more rapidly and are able to understand more abstract and complex ideas. They are also able to transform existing knowledge into new and useful forms, and to create new knowledge recognized for its originality, complexity, and elegance. Special education services and facilities for gifted children may enhance these abilities. In addition, some gifted learners may require special counseling services to address social or emotional adjustment issues that are complicated by their exceptional abilities.

Many regular elementary and secondary schools in the United States offer special programs designed specifically to meet the needs of gifted students. Some schools provide specialized education programs to gifted children exclusively. These schools offer advanced education in mathematics, science, technology, the arts, or other academic **disciplines**. Many school districts rely on intelligence tests to identify gifted students. However, most guidelines for determining giftedness recommend the use of a combination of standardized test scores, rating systems developed by individual schools, classroom observational records, and performance assessments.

Gifted children may study a specially modified curriculum or may progress through academic subjects at an accelerated pace. Acceleration involves adapting education programs so that students may progress through particular subject material quicker than usual. These modifications may take place within the regular classroom setting or they may involve changing the child’s placement in school. Some gifted children gain early entrance to kindergarten, skip grades, enter college earlier than usual, or take specific courses with older children. Ideal programs for gifted students consider the individual needs of children and offer multiple options for services. These programs generally involve both advanced course materials and acceleration.

In Vietnam, education for gifted students has received more attention in recent decades. It is rather easy to find secondary and high schools specialized in teaching talented children throughout the country. With ordinary schools, better students are often grouped and more advanced programs are provided to satisfy their learning needs. Though acceleration has not been allowed for students prior to tertiary level, it is hopeful that it will be introduced in the coming years.

1. What does the passage mainly discuss?

A. How to turn a normal student into a gifted one

B. How education of talented students is

C. How gifted students are different from their friends

D. How materials to teach young learners are designed

2. Which is NOT mentioned as a gifted students’ typical characteristic?

A. creativity

B. intelligence

C. leadership

D. enthusiasm

3. The word “**outstanding**” in paragraph 1 can be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.

A. excellent

B. bright

C. practical

D. smart

4. Among the various qualities, gifted children are believed to be able to learn fast and \_\_\_\_\_.

A. apply knowledge creatively

B. create new learning methods

C. perform excellently at physical activities

D. behave themselves well

5. Some gifted learners’ exceptional abilities may \_\_\_\_\_.

A. deprive them of certain opportunities

B. bring them great success

C. cause certain trouble for them

D. help them solve difficult problems

6. According to the passage, what do some schools do in order to help gifted children?

A. Provide them with coaching

B. Give them exclusive programs

C. Isolate them from the rest

D. Provide them with international programs

7. The word “**disciplines**” in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

A. violations

B. tasks

C. rules

D. subjects

8. Giftedness is supposed to be best measured by means of \_\_\_\_\_.

A. class observations

B. specialized assessments

C. psychological tests

D. medical check-up

9. Programs for gifted children are considered perfect when they \_\_\_\_\_.

A. address individual needs and have many options

B. provide enough advanced course materials

C. let students to skip grades and learn with the older

D. modify the normal classroom settings

10. What is **NOT** true about education in Vietnam?

A. Schools for gifted children are now popular in the country.

B. Specialized programs for gifted students are available.

C. People have paid more attention to the education of gifted students.

D. Highchool-students can skip grades and enter university at early ages.

**PASSAGE 2 - Questions 11-20**

**Internet Jobs**

Contrary to popular belief, one does not have to be a trained programmer to work online. Of course there are plenty of jobs available for people with high-tech computer skills, but the growth of new media has opened up a wide range of Internet career opportunities requiring only a minimal level of technical expertise. Probably one of the most well-known online job opportunities is the job of webmaster. However, it is hard to define one basic job description for this position. The qualifications and responsibilities depend on what tasks a particular organization needs a webmaster to perform.

To specify the job description of a webmaster, one needs to **identify** the hardware and software that the website the webmaster will manage is running on. Different types of hardware and software require different skill sets to manage **them**. Another key factor is whether the website will be running internally (at the firm itself) or externally (renting shared space on the company servers). Finally, the responsibilities of a webmaster also depend on whether he or she will be working independently, or whether the firm will provide people to help. All of these factors need to be considered before one can create an accurate webmaster job description.

Webmaster is one type of internet career requiring in-depth knowledge of the latest computer applications. However, there are also online jobs available for which traditional skills remain in high demand. Content jobs require excellent writing skills and a good sense of the web as a "new media."

The term "new media" is difficult to define because it encompasses a constantly growing set of new technologies and skills. Specifically, it includes websites, email, Internet telephony, CD-ROM, DVD, streaming audio and video, interactive multimedia presentations, e-books, digital music, computer illustration, video games, virtual reality, and computer artistry.

Additionally, many of today's Internet careers are becoming paid-by-the-job professions. With many companies having to downsize in tough economic times, the outsourcing and contracting of freelance workers online has become common business practic. The Internet provides an infinite pool of buyers from around the world with whom freelancers can contract their services. An added benefit to such online jobs is that freelancers are able to work on projects with companies outside their own country of residence.

How much can a person make in these kinds of careers? As with many questions related to today's evolving technology, there is no simple answer. There are many companies willing to pay people with technical Internet skills salaries well above $70,000 a year. Generally, webmasters start at about $30,000 per year, but salaries can **vary** greatly. Freelance writers working online have been known to make between $40,000 and $70,000 per year.

11. Which of the following is true about Internet jobs?

A. Most of them require excellent technical expertise.

B. Job opportunities are open to both proficient and non-proficient people.

C. Only trained programmers are suitable for the jobs.

D. It is not possible for people with limited technical expertise to find a job.

12. The word "**identify**" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. name

B. estimate

C. discount

D. encounter

13. According to the passage, what is a feature of webmasters?

A. They never work independently.

B. They require a minimal level of expertise.

C. Their duties depend on the organization they work for.

D. They do not support software products.

14. The word "**them**" in paragraph 2 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. companies

B. new job opportunities

C. hardware and software

D. webmasters

15. In paragraph 3, what is mentioned as one requirement of a webmaster position?

A. Good communication skill

B. Excellent writing skill

C. Ability to work independently

D. Understanding of the latest computer applications

16. Websites can be defined as a kind of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. computer illustration

B. interactive multimedia presentations

C. new media

D. computer artistry

17. The outsourcing and contracting of online freelancers has become popular as a result of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the downsizing of companies in difficult economic times

B. the better quality of online workers

C. the expansion of online business

D. the abundance of online projects

18. The word "**vary**" in paragraph 6 could best be replaced by which of the following?

A. change

B. decrease

C. increase

D. differ

19. It can be inferred from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. freelancers can contract with foreign companies

B. only skilled workers make good money

C. it is easy to become a webmaster

D. workers with limited computer skills cannot work online

20. What is the purpose of this passage?

A. To inform people about the tasks and role of a webmaster

B. To inform people about the computer industry

C. To inform people about employment related to the Internet

D. To explain why webmasters make a lot of money

**PASSAGE 3 – Questions 21-30**

The evidence that humans are causing global warming is strong, but the question of what to do about it remains controversial. Economics, sociology, and politics are all important factors in planning for the future.

Even if we stopped emitting greenhouse gases (GHGs) today, the Earth would still warm by another degree Fahrenheit or so. But what we do from today forward makes a big difference.  Depending on our choices, scientists predict that the Earth could eventually warm by as little as 2.5 degrees or as much as 10 degrees Fahrenheit.

A commonly cited goal is to stabilize GHG concentrations around 450-550 parts per million (ppm), or about twice pre-industrial levels. This is the point at which many believe the most damaging impacts of climate change can be avoided.  Current concentrations are about 380 ppm, which means there isn't much time to lose.  According to the IPCC, we'd have to reduce GHG emissions by 50% to 80% of what they're on track to be in the next century to reach this level.

**Is this possible?**

Many people and governments are already working hard to cut greenhouse gases, and everyone can help.

Researchers Stephen Pacala and Robert Socolow at Princeton University have suggested one **approach** that they call "stabilization wedges." This means reducing GHG emissions from a variety of sources with technologies available in the next few decades, rather than relying on an enormous change in a single area.  They suggest 7 wedges that could each reduce emissions, and all of **them** together could hold emissions at approximately current levels for the next 50 years, putting us on a potential path to stabilize around 500 ppm.

There are many possible wedges, including improvements to energy efficiency and vehicle fuel economy (so less energy has to be produced), and increases in wind and solar power, hydrogen produced from renewable sources, biofuels (produced from crops), natural gas, and nuclear power.  There is also the potential to capture the carbon dioxide emitted from fossil fuels and store it underground—a process called "carbon sequestration."

In addition to reducing the gases we emit to the atmosphere, we can also increase the amount of gases we take out of the atmosphere.  Plants and trees absorb CO2 as they grow, "**sequestering**" carbon naturally.  Increasing forestlands and making changes to the way we farm could increase the amount of carbon we're storing.

Some of these technologies have **drawbacks**, and different communities will make different decisions about how to power their lives, but the good news is that there are a variety of options to put us on a path toward a stable climate.

21. It is mentioned in paragraph 1 that the solutions to global warming \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. have been proposed and unanimously agreed by scientists

B. are being planned by economists, sociologists, and politicians

C. have been a debate of the people involved

D. have been applied for long with limited success

22. How many degrees Fahrenheit would the Earth warm up if greenhouse gases are no longer emitted?

A. 0.5

B. 1.0

C. 2.5

D. 10

23. Why should we stabilize GHG concentrations around 450-550 parts per million?

A. to avoid serious effects of climate change

B. to mitigate the pace of climate change

C. to solve all climate change problems

D. to eliminate the impact of climate change

24. Why does the author mention Stephen Pacala and Robert Socolow in the passage?

A. To introduce two researchers in the field

B. To proves that researchers are working to reduce GHG emission

C. To introduce one way to reduce GHG emission

D. To introduce Princeton University

25. The word “**approach**” in paragraph 5 can be closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. trend

B. procedure

C. process

D. method

26. What is **NOT** mentioned as a stabilization wedge in the passage?

A. creating environment-friendly materials

B. capturing and storing carbon dioxide underground

C. increasing the use of renewable energy

D. growing more trees to absorb CO2

27. What does the word “**them**” in paragraph 5 refer to?

A. The researchers

B. The GHG emissions

C. The GHG concentrations

D. the wedges

28. The word **“sequestering**” in paragphan 7 is closest in meaning to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. absorbing

B. isolating

C. releasing

D. emitting

29. Why does the writer mention “**drawbacks**” in the last paragraph?

A. To introduce the disadvantages of solutions in the following paragraph

B. To emphasize the disadvantages of the solutions in the previous paragraph

C. To recommend readers not to use the solutions

D. To emphasize the advantages of the solutions in different contexts

30. What is the best title for this passage?

A. Arguments over Global Warming

B. Global Warming and its Causes

C. Global Warming Solutions

D. Global Warming’s Effect on Earth