



VIETNAM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY - HO CHI MINH CITY
ENGLISH TESTING CENTER

5 PRACTICE TESTS for the VNU-EPT

HOANG QUOC VIEN UNIVERSITY
HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM
TELEPHONE: +84 8 3825 2000
FAX: +84 8 3825 2001
E-MAIL: VNU-EPT@vnu.edu.vn



VIETNAM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY - HO CHI MINH CITY
PUBLISHING HOUSE



PRACTICE TESTS
for the
VNU-EPT

Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City – English Testing Center (VNU-ETC) reserves the right to publish and distribute this publication. Any form of reproduction (except brief citations with acknowledgements for academic purposes) without the prior permission of VNU-ETC and the authors is a violation of Vietnam's Law on Publishing and Berne Convention for the Protection of Intellectual Property.

This book was written within the scope of the Project
INNOVATING AND ENHANCING
THE TEACHING AND LEARNING OF ENGLISH
FOR UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE PROGRAMS
AT VIETNAM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY – HO CHI MINH CITY, 2010-2015

First published in March, 2015

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	3
INTRODUCTION	4
PRACTICE TEST 1	
Listening	6
Reading	11
Writing	24
Speaking	27
PRACTICE TEST 2	
Listening	29
Reading	35
Writing	48
Speaking	51
PRACTICE TEST 3	
Listening	53
Reading	60
Writing	75
Speaking	78
PRACTICE TEST 4	
Listening	80
Reading	86
Writing	97
Speaking	100

PRACTICE TEST 5

Listening	103
Reading	110
Writing	123
Speaking	126
 ANSWER KEY	 129
 AUDIO SCRIPTS	 144

FOREWORD

Within the scope of Vietnam's National Foreign Language 2020 Initiative regulated by the Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam National University - Ho Chi Minh City (VNU-HCM) has been improving the teaching, learning and assessment of its English programs in the last few years. Regarding assessment, VNU-HCM has developed its English Proficiency Test (VNU-EPT), which aims to assess students' language skills in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR). The VNU-EPT test consists of four sections – Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking – and lasts approximately three hours.

To help test takers prepare for the VNU-EPT test, in December 2013, VNU-HCM issued a test preparation book entitled *A Complete Skill Builder for the VNU-EPT Test*. As its name suggests, the book aims to assist test takers in reviewing their grammar knowledge as a foundation on which they can systematically build up the four macro language skills. With the Skill build-up, Follow-up exercises, and Progress test for each section as well as the summative Actual test, the book has helped test takers build solid language skills and confidence before they take the VNU-EPT test.

At the request of test takers and member universities of VNU-HCM for further practice materials, the English Testing Center of VNU-HCM (VNU-ETC) has developed the second book entitled *Five Practice Tests for the VNU-EPT*. This book aims to provide test takers a thorough preparation with five full-length practice tests containing questions that are similar in form and content to the questions on the actual VNU-EPT test.

Our special thanks go to the Board of Presidents of VNU-HCM, the Steering Board of the Project "Innovating and Enhancing the Teaching and Learning of English for Undergraduate and Graduate Programs at Vietnam National University - Ho Chi Minh City, 2010-2015", the Department of Academic Affairs, the Office of VNU-HCM, and some other departments of VNU-HCM, for their support in the completion of the book.

**VNU-HCM English Testing Center
Director
Truong Quang Duoc, Ph.D.**

INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF THE BOOK

Five Practice Tests for the VNU-EPT is a book/audio package that can be used as:

- a companion to **A Complete Skill Builder for the VNU-EPT Test**;
- the primary or secondary text in a VNU-EPT preparation course;
- a supplemental text in grammar, reading, listening, writing or speaking courses;
- a resource for independent study.

WHAT IS IN THE BOOK?

The book contains a variety of materials that aims to provide a comprehensive preparation for users.

- **Practice Tests 1-5** can be used to evaluate English proficiency, practice essential skills and strategies, and assess readiness to take the real VNU-EPT test.
- **Answer Key** provides the correct answer to each multiple choice question and the sample response to each writing or speaking task.
- **Audio Scripts** include complete scripts of all listening materials in the book. The scripts can be used for correct answer checks, for reading and pronunciation practice, and for learning.
- **Audio CDs** contain all audios for the questions in the Listening sections. The recordings can also be used to practice taking notes, summarizing, pronouncing and learning vocabulary in context.

TO THE TEST TAKER

If you are going to take the VNU-EPT test, use this book in the most effective way by:

- familiarizing yourself with the test structure, the different types of questions and the strategies to answer them;
- completing all sections of Practice Test 1 through Practice Test 5 with a timer to simulate actual test conditions;
- using the Answer Key and Audio Scripts to check your answers.

After you have finished the five practice tests but you are not very confident about taking the actual VNU-EPT test, you should refer to the book *A Complete Skill Builder for the VNU-EPT Test* to have a good consolidation of all the required skills.

VNU-EPT TEST STRUCTURE

The VNU-EPT test structure is designed with increased difficulty (A1 to C2) based on the CEFR. All the tests compiled based on this test structure are consistent in the number of questions, question types, and levels of difficulty.

LISTENING	READING	WRITING	SPEAKING
Part 1: 10 short conversations (10 MCQs*)	Part 1: 1 gap-filling passage (10 lexical and 10 grammatical MCQs)	Part 1: 1 summary paragraph Part 2: 1 essay	Part 1: Speaking about a prompt (pictures, mind maps, forms, etc.) Part 2: Speaking about personal experience/interest
Part 2: 1 conversation or discussion (6 MCQs)	Part 2: 1 passage (6 MCQs)		
Part 3: 1 talk or discussion (8 MCQs)	Part 3: 1 passage (7 MCQs)		Part 3: Making an argumentative presentation (quotes, public opinions, social issues, etc.)
Part 4: 1 long lecture or talk (8 MCQs)	Part 4: 1 passage (7 MCQs)		
Total: 32 questions Time: 40-45 mins Score: 0-100	Total: 40 questions Time 60 mins Score: 0-100	Total: 2 questions Time: 60 mins Score: 0-100	Total: 3 questions Time: 10-12 mins Score: 0-100

* MCQs: Multiple Choice Questions

PRACTICE TEST 1

LISTENING SECTION

The Listening section, consisting of conversations and lectures, tests your English listening skills. There are four passages and thirty-two questions, which are based on either stated or implied information in the passages.

Each passage will be played **twice**. The questions will follow each passage. Each question has four answer choices. Select the best answer to each question and blacken your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes while you are listening and use your notes to answer the questions.

After all the parts have been played, you will have three minutes to transfer your answers to your answer sheet.

PART ONE(20 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part One you will hear ten conversations between two people. After the second listening of each conversation, you will hear a question and there are four possible answers provided. Select the best answer to each question.

1. (A) It is a good place for the man to practice.
(B) It is a place the man has recently visited.
(C) It is near the man's second house.
(D) It is a place the man frequently comes to.
2. (A) Listening to news.
(B) Commuting to work.
(C) Listening to music.
(D) Feeling comfortable.
3. (A) Finding his lost things in the shopping mall.
(B) Buying things near where he is staying.
(C) Catching a bus or cab to the hotel.
(D) Shopping in the mall far from the hotel.
4. (A) She usually hears the news.
(B) She quit her consulting firm.
(C) She started a computer company.
(D) She probably wants to be self-employed.
5. (A) The woman does not want to get out of her room.
(B) The woman does not know about the ice machine on her floor.
(C) The man will go to see what is wrong with the woman.
(D) The man will put more ice on every floor.
6. (A) He's a sales manager.
(B) A customer wants to see him.
(C) He will have some nice things.
(D) He has had a long meeting.
7. (A) A waitress.
(B) A teacher.
(C) A student.
(D) A bookshop keeper.
8. (A) She brought her grandmother's food to the party.
(B) The man always cooks delicious food.
(C) She can make wonderful vegetable pie.
(D) She cooked special pot roast with her grandmother.
9. (A) The woman drove her friend to the airport last night.
(B) The woman does not like Channel 5 on TV.
(C) The man will help the woman watch the missed program.
(D) The man will give the woman a tape of African music instruments.
10. (A) There is an available room for the man.
(B) She is too busy to check for room availability.
(C) Her hotel is busy with a convention now.
(D) Her hotel has special rooms for singles.

PART TWO (20 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Two you will hear a conversation. After the second listening, there are six incomplete sentences and four possible options provided for each gap. Select the best option to complete the sentence.

11. The conversation is mainly about _____.
(A) the study schedule for new university students
(B) the orientation schedule for new university students
(C) where international students study at the university
(D) why international students should attend the coming events
12. The orientation starts at _____.
(A) 9.00 a.m.
(B) 9.30 a.m.
(C) 10.00 a.m.
(D) 10.30 a.m.
13. The students can find the main hall easily because _____.
(A) it is near where they go for food
(B) they went there some days before
(C) it is just outside the lift
(D) their classroom is also on the 3rd floor
14. The Vice Chancellor is going to talk for _____.
(A) 20 minutes
(B) 25 minutes
(C) half an hour
(D) 35 minutes
15. The students will meet the British Council representative in _____.
(A) the main hall
(B) the laboratory
(C) the computer room
(D) a seminar room
16. The last meeting will probably end _____.
(A) at 11.00 a.m.
(B) at 11.15 a.m.
(C) at 11.30 a.m.
(D) before noon

PART THREE (28 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Three you will hear a talk. After the second listening, there are eight questions. Select the best answer to each question.

17. What is the talk mainly about?

- (A) How to be trained as a male nanny.
- (B) Training and working as a male nanny.
- (C) Why male nannies are in higher demand.
- (D) Why male nannies are required in the U.S.

18. What did Bill do before he became a male nanny?

- (A) He quit his Master's course.
- (B) He wrote drama.
- (C) He was a therapist.
- (D) He finished a Master's degree.

19. What is Lauren's opinion about Bill?

- (A) He just played around with her sons.
- (B) He asked her sons to do outrageous things.
- (C) He changed her sons' perspectives.
- (D) He changed the way she thought about her sons.

20. What does the author of the book *Bringing up Boys* probably think about nannies?

- (A) They know how to feel relaxed in their busy jobs.
- (B) They are good teachers of the spirit of adventure and curiosity.
- (C) They make kids feel comfortable in rough-and-tumble games.
- (D) They are less worried when kids play dangerous games.

21. Why are American parents employing young nannies?

- (A) Young nannies require a lower pay.
- (B) Young nannies take good care of babies.
- (C) Young nannies are active role models for kids.
- (D) Young nannies are kids' companions for TV and computer games.

22. Which of the following is TRUE about nannies in the U.S.?

- (A) They are good at making bed.
- (B) Supply of them cannot meet demand.
- (C) They do not get jobs through agencies.
- (D) Only single mothers and busy parents choose them.

23. How did Bill become a male nanny?

- (A) He had to take a course.
- (B) He learnt from 70 other nannies.
- (C) He taught himself the skills.
- (D) He learned from a French nanny.

24. What can be inferred about male childcare workers?

- (A) They are supported more by all politicians.
- (B) They are the most popular in Britain.
- (C) They want to be recognized professionally.
- (D) They do not want to talk about their jobs.

PART FOUR (32 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Four you will hear part of a lecture. After the second listening, there is a summary of the lecture with eight gaps. Select the best option for each gap to complete the summary.

The lecture is about the (25) ____ in Australia, particularly some causes and how to manage the problem.

Australia has the second lowest rainfall in the world, only after (26) _____. In fact, about (27) ____ of this rainfall evaporates due to long hours of hot sunshine and searing winds, higher than in other continents.

In many parts of Australia, standing water dries up very quickly, and rain water barely penetrates the soil because thirsty plants absorb nearly all of it. In some other parts, rain water (28) ____ the sandy soils and gets into the rock below. This kind of water then collects beneath the ground to form underground lakes. Water from these lakes can be, in turn, pumped up and tapped for various uses. Australia has underground water in more than half of its land area, but this source of water is mostly too (29) ____ for human consumption or crop irrigation. Despite this, Australian farmers have to somehow depend on it for watering their animals and for irrigation where possible.

Underground water is stored in huge underground reservoirs and returns to the surface as (30) _____. Continuous use of underground water in many places over the years leads to a (31) _____, making it necessary to pump the water to the surface. Accounting for 18% of total water consumption, this source of water is very important to Australia.

Apart from this, most water consumed in Australia comes from the above-ground sources. Australia has more than 300 dams which store water for crop irrigation, flood regulation, and (32) ____ generation.

25. (A) serious droughts
(B) dryness
(C) acidity
(D) water conservation

26. (A) Antarctica
(B) Africa
(C) the Sahara
(D) the Atacama

27. (A) 60%
(B) 48%
(C) 78%
(D) 87%

28. (A) washes away
(B) overflows
(C) pours
(D) flows into

29. (A) dirty
(B) sour
(C) salty
(D) muddy

30. (A) springs
(B) well water
(C) geysers
(D) ground water

31. (A) near depletion
(B) considerable decline
(C) drastic shortage
(D) dangerous huge structure

32. (A) aquatic ecosystem
(B) man-made lake
(C) hydraulic force
(D) electricity

READING SECTION

The Reading section tests your English reading skills. This section includes four reading passages and forty questions. Each question has four answer choices. Select the best answer choice and blacken your choice on your answer sheet. You have sixty minutes to complete this section of the test.

The first passage tests your grammar and vocabulary.

The last three passages test your comprehension of the passages.

You may take notes and use your notes to answer the questions.

Read the passage carefully.

CLEARING LAND FOR FARMS



- 1 Rainforests are disappearing in tropical areas around the world. They are being cut down, burned, and damaged through a process called "deforestation". This is a serious problem in developing countries within tropical regions. The impact of deforestation, though, also has vast global implications. It is, therefore, very important (33) _____ solutions to these problems. Unfortunately, progress in this area has been very slow.
- 2 According to World Bank statistics, many developing countries, such as Brazil, Ecuador, and Indonesia, had lost almost half of (34) _____ rainforests by 1991. Worldwide, in 1800 there were 7.1 billion acres of tropical forests, while today there are only 3.5 billion acres. Recent statistics suggest that an area of tropical forest larger than North Korea (35) _____ deforested every year.
- 3 Most (36) _____, though, rainforests play an important role in the health of our environment. Trees and other plants act as filters that clean pollutants out of the air and produce clean air. With air pollution increasing as forests decline, the world is facing a potential crisis with regard to air quality.

- 4** Poverty is one of the main forces behind deforestation in tropical countries, (37) ____ many rely on farming as a way of life. The most practical method is "slash and burn" agriculture, in which (38) ____ small area of trees is cut down and then burned to fertilize the soil. For a period of time, the soil can produce good crops, but rain gradually washes away the nutrients, reducing fertility and causing crops to grow at a slower rate. Eventually, the soil can no longer support crops, and farmers are often forced to abandon the land.
- 5** Government policies also contribute to the destruction of rainforests. In countries like Brazil, (39) ____ the rainforest is owned by the state. However, the state does not have enough resources to control access to the forest. Therefore, the government allows people to claim areas of land within the forest. To do this, people must clear the land that they want to claim. Small farmers often clear plots and then sell them. They then move to a new area, clear it, and sell it again. While this is good for the farmers, it is highly (40) ____ to the forest.
- 6** Large companies contribute their own problems. Logging companies can do a great deal of damage on their own, but they also cause secondary damage through their effects on small farmers. Often, road construction companies hired by the government claim land that they clear during their projects, thus pushing small farmers (41) ____ into the forest. In addition, the government might set low tax rates for agricultural production. Corporations and wealthy investors buy up land, and the small farmers are again forced to find plots in unclaimed areas of the forest.
- 7** The problem of deforestation is strongly affected by the poverty in developing countries. Clearly, any long-term solution to deforestation must (42) ____ first on how poverty can be reduced. Any other solution can only be a temporary measure.

Task 1: Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 33. (A) find | (B) finding | (C) to find | (D) to have found |
| 34. (A) its | (B) our | (C) your | (D) their |
| 35. (A) has been | (B) is | (C) was | (D) will be |
| 36. (A) importance | (B) important | (C) importantly | (D) important of all |
| 37. (A) where | (B) when | (C) which | (D) that |
| 38. (A) a | (B) an | (C) the | (D) Ø (no article) |

39. (A) many of . . . (B) much of (C) a lot (D) a great number of

40. (A) destroy (B) destruction (C) destructive (D) destroyed

41. (A) far (B) more far (C) more farther (D) farther

42. (A) focus (B) to focus (C) be focusing (D) have focused

Task 2: Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.

43. The word process in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) stage
(B) series of actions
(C) moment
(D) development

44. The word area in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) deforestation
(B) piece of land
(C) solution-finding
(D) problem-finding

45. The word statistics in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) numerical data
(B) report results
(C) conclusions
(D) quantities

46. The word health in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) improvement
(B) condition
(C) development
(D) feeling

47. The word forces in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) powerful effects
(B) reasons
(C) elements
(D) strengths

48. The word fertilize in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) provide
(B) reform
(C) support
(D) enrich

49. The phrase contribute to in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) supply
(B) worsen
(C) donate to
(D) improve

50. The word claim in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) improve the quality
(B) buy in large amounts
(C) demand the ownership
(D) ask for a discount

51. The word secondary in paragraph 6 is closest in meaning to _____.

- (A) influential
- (B) important
- (C) extreme
- (D) additional / indirect

52. The word temporary in paragraph 7 is closest in meaning to _____.

- (A) short-term
- (B) lasting
- (C) decisive
- (D) limited

PART TWO (14 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

In our study about personalities, we invited three people to an interview.



Maria Stanovich

I have always had a strong relationship with my family. An important influence on my personality was my grandmother, Hannah. She was born in 1930 into a poor family with seven children. Growing up in such difficult conditions had a positive effect on her, teaching her to share everything and be honest, helpful, hard-working, and affectionate. My grandmother taught me all these things, making me realize that family is more important than material possessions.

Katie Dupont

The people around you have the greatest influence on your life. As soon as Rob and I met at a party, we connected. When Rob was young, his father died in a motorcycle accident. As an only child by a single parent, he was independent and ambitious. He left home at 16, and since then he has lived in different places and had various jobs. He has taught me that it is important to find time for friends and family and to do what makes you happy. He always has fun trying new things and keeping his mind and body healthy. He still works hard to achieve his goals. I greatly admire Rob.

Jed Mitchell

I spent many hours as a child listening to my Uncle Will's stories. He was the youngest of the 12 children whose family lived in a fishing town in Maine. Life was hard, and the children began working at an early age. At just 14, my uncle began his first job as a fisherman. That was the beginning of his adventures. He traveled and worked in Alaska, Southeast Asia, India, and Africa. He educated himself and learned to be a chef, an engineer, a farmer, and a photographer. Uncle Will taught me that life is a special gift and that you should take every opportunity that you can to fill it with adventure.

Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

53. What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Strong influence of relatives on people's personalities.
- (B) How family and friends affect people's personalities.
- (C) How difficult childhood helps shape people's personalities.
- (D) The importance of family and friends.

54. Which of the following is TRUE of Maria Stanovich?

- (A) She was born in 1930 into a difficult family.
- (B) She had six brothers and sisters.
- (C) She learnt honesty, hard work and other qualities from her grandmother.
- (D) She taught her family that material possessions are not important.

55. How can Rob find happiness in his life?

- (A) He experiences new things and maintains a healthy mind and body.
- (B) He tries hard to make his family happy.
- (C) He moves to different places and does different jobs.
- (D) He spends more time with his friends than with his family.

56. Who does the word whose in the passage refer to?

- (A) Uncle Will.
- (B) The author's children.
- (C) Uncle's Will's children.
- (D) Uncle Will and his siblings.

57. Why does Jed Mitchell use the word just in the passage?

- (A) To indicate that his uncle had to work at an early age.
- (B) To point out that fourteen is a fair age to work as a fisherman.
- (C) To emphasize that his uncle only wanted to work as a fisherman.
- (D) To make it clear that his uncle was the only in his family to work.

58. What does the word it in the passage refer to?

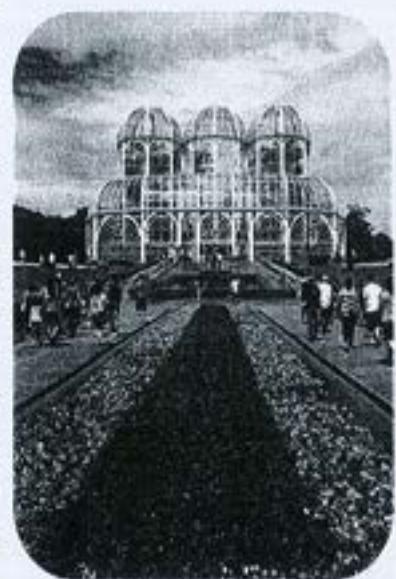
- (A) Job.
- (B) Opportunity.
- (C) Adventure.
- (D) Life.

PART THREE (20 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

1 Curitiba in Brazil is no ordinary city; it has the best public transportation system in the world. Mayor Jaime Lerner, along with the city council, began developing the world's famous system in 1971.

2 Mr. Lerner had grown up in Curitiba and knew that streets were an important part of city life for the residents. As the leader of Curitiba, he made a statement before the city council that the more civilized and modern Curitiba wanted to become, the better planned and constructed streets the city had to develop. He made many of the streets into pedestrian areas, with no access for cars. The city council put in flowers, lights, and kiosks where people could sell food and other products. To encourage shoppers to use the new areas, the mayor gave away free paper so that local children could paint pictures in the streets. Cyclists also benefit from 150 kilometers of bike lanes that follow old river valleys and train tracks around the city.



3 Mr. Lerner realized that the public transportation system also had to improve in order to increase the development and growth of the city in the future. Buses were chosen as the main transportation because they were the cheapest. Curitiba's transportation system now consists of over 300 routes that use around 1,900 buses to carry approximately 1.9 million passengers every day. Approximately 60 kilometers of the roads are for buses only, so traffic jams are unusual. When more and more residents become commuters and buses are modernized, bus travel is faster and more convenient than using private cars.



- 4 The city now uses 30 percent less fuel than other large cities in Brazil, and people spend only about 10 percent of their yearly salary on transportation costs. Some of the buses are able to carry 170–270 passengers. School buses are yellow, and buses for disabled people are blue. They are all designed with three doors (two exits and one entrance) so that people can get on and off quickly. Bus stations provide

free maps and facilities to help parents with young children and people carrying heavy bags to board the buses easily. Passengers buy tickets at the offices in advance and then wait for their buses as they would in subway stations. Because of the success of Curitiba's public transportation system, Jaime Lerner now offers advice to city councils around the world on how they can solve their cities' transportation problems.

Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

59. The passage is mainly about ____.

- (A) Mayor Jaime Lerner, the developer of the best transportation in the world
- (B) why Brazil chose to develop Curitiba with the best transportation in the world
- (C) why and how the best transportation system in the world was developed
- (D) the network of transportation routes in Curitiba and its capacity

60. According to paragraph 2, ____.

- (A) the city council asked Jaime Lerner to plan the transportation system
- (B) many streets in Curitiba are only for walking
- (C) Curitiba was a civilized and modern city when Jaime Lerner became its Mayor
- (D) the city council put flowers and lights in the kiosks to encourage sales of products

61. It can be inferred from paragraph 2 that _____.

- (A) free painting for local people is a promotion launched by the city council
- (B) while children are watching paintings freely in the street, their parents go shopping
- (C) free paper for painting is a successful campaign developed by Jaime Lerner
- (D) free paper for painting can be used as a promotion technique to boost sales in new areas in Curitiba

62. The writer uses the word unusual in paragraph 3 in order to _____.

- (A) describe the special look of the buses in Curitiba
- (B) explain why cars cause serious traffic jams in Curitiba
- (C) emphasize the low frequency of traffic jams as a result of better bus routes
- (D) point out that it is strange not to travel by bus when the bus system is so good

63. In paragraph 3, it is probable that _____.

- (A) on average a bus in Curitiba carries 1,000 passengers every day
- (B) Curitiba residents chose buses because they were the fastest
- (C) Jaime Lerner developed buses because Curitiba residents were very poor
- (D) Curitiba is a small but densely populated area of Brazil

64. The word their in paragraph 4 refers to _____.

- (A) cities
- (B) people
- (C) costs
- (D) buses

65. It is stated in paragraph 4 that in Curitiba, _____.

- (A) buses are different in colors but have the same door design
- (B) buses stop for passengers waiting on the streets
- (C) Jaime Lerner changed his job as a counselor for other city councils
- (D) Jaime Lerner will develop the subway system after the success of Curitiba's bus system

PART FOUR(26 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

- 1 Most people, when they hear the word "physics", think of a course offered at the high school and college level, and think it is extremely difficult. However, this is only true if the person teaching the course makes it difficult, and there is no reason to do so. After all, physics governs everything in the world. If a person relates physics to his or her personal world, it becomes easy to understand the principles of physics, and then if the person has the math background to work the problems, physics becomes an easy, interesting class.
- 2 Why can a person sit in a chair? Isaac Newton provided what have become known as Newton's First, Second, and Third Laws of Motion. Newton's First Law of Motion says that unless an outside force acts upon the person sitting in the chair, the person is going to remain in a steady state of motion, or in other words, the person is going to remain sitting in the chair. Some people might assume that if a person is sitting still in the chair, the person is not in motion; however, these people need to remember humans are made up of many atoms and these atoms are in constant motion, and if their motion stopped, the person would fall apart. In addition, the person, chair, room and building are all sitting on top of the Earth, and the Earth is moving in a path around the sun. When this is considered, the person is in a state of motion.
- 3 Newton's Second Law of Motion says that an object's mass times the object's acceleration equals a force. The Earth's motion around the sun is not in a straight line; by definition, the Earth is always accelerating since acceleration is a change in velocity. Since velocity is speed in a given direction, if the direction is constantly changing, then the object is accelerating. Therefore, as mentioned above, since the person is on the Earth and the Earth is constantly accelerating, the person is also accelerating, so the person has a force, which takes a person to Newton's Third Law of Motion.



4 Newton's Third Law of Motion says for every force there is an equal and opposite force. It has already been established that a person sitting in a chair has a force. The accelerating force of the Earth produces gravity, and this gravity causes a person to exert a downward force on the chair. Now here is the kicker: if the chair does not exert an upward force equal to the force the person is exerting downward on the chair, then the person is going to crash through the chair and land on the floor, which hopefully will exert an equal and opposite force on the person. In addition, if the chair is sitting in something like quicksand or mud and if this substance does not exert an equal upward force on the chair, the person and the chair will sink until an equal upward force is exerted.

Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

66. What is the passage mainly about?

- (A) How the word "physics" is explained by Newton's Laws of Motion.
- (B) Newton's Laws of Motion and their applications.
- (C) Interpretations of Newton's Laws of Motion.
- (D) How Isaac Newton made physics easy to understand.

67. It can be inferred from paragraph 1 that a teacher _____.

- (A) must combine physics and math in his/her lessons
- (B) should teach physics practically rather than theoretically
- (C) cannot be successful if he/she does not relate physics to the world
- (D) has to master all principles if he/she teaches physics

68. The author mentions a chair in paragraph 2 in order to _____.

- (A) indicate what Newton used for his theories
- (B) point out that Newton's Laws of Motions are especially applicable to the use of a chair
- (C) exemplify Newton's First Law of Motion
- (D) confirm that without Newton's First Law of Motion, we could not sit in a chair

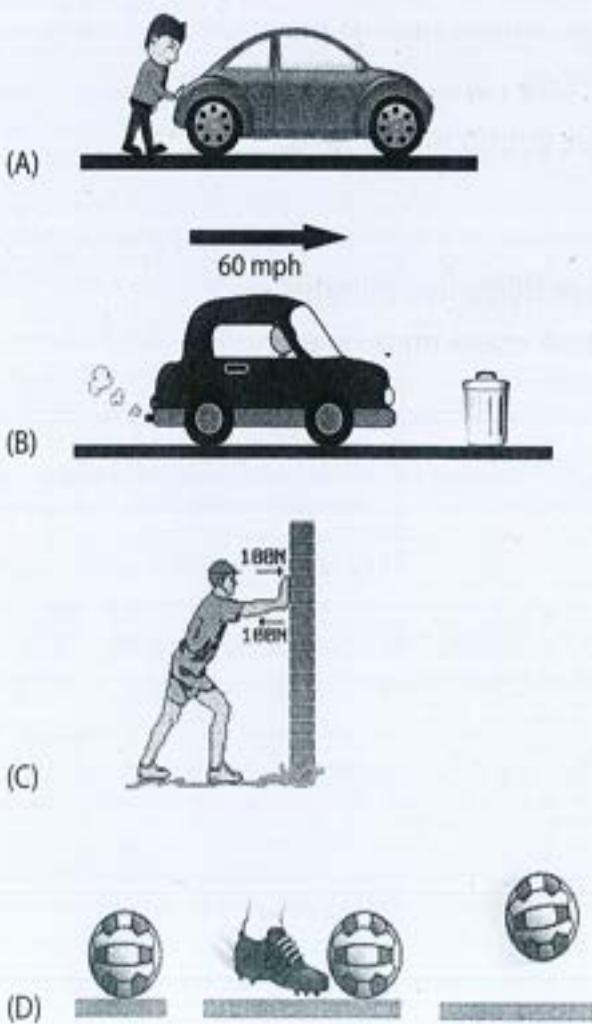
69. The word their in paragraph 2 refers to _____.

- (A) words
- (B) people
- (C) humans
- (D) atoms

70. Which sentence below best expresses the idea of Newton's Second Law of Motion in paragraph 3?

- (A) An object always needs a force to accelerate.
- (B) An object moves many times if a force is exerted.
- (C) The greater the mass of the object being accelerated is, the greater the amount of force is needed to accelerate the object.
- (D) An object's mass decides its movement.

72. According to the passage, which of the following pictures best illustrates Newton's Third Law of Motion?



71. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the examples regarding Newton's Third Law of Motion?

- (A) A person sitting on a chair.
- (B) A chair on the floor.
- (C) A muddy place.
- (D) A man-made substance.

WRITING SECTION

The Writing section tests your English writing skills. There are two parts in this section.

Part One: You have five minutes to read a passage and twenty minutes to write a paragraph summarizing the passage. You may take notes while you are reading and use your notes to write your summary.

Part Two: You have thirty-five minutes to plan and write an essay on a given topic.

PART ONE: SUMMARY WRITING (40 pts)

Read the passage carefully and take notes.

ONLINE DATING ENVIRONMENTS

Online dating environments have become widely known to almost everyone, with some 850 websites currently available. These sites report to have more than 50 million registered users who pay out a sum total of 700 million dollars every year. Although it was once considered as the last solution for the desperate and lonely, online dating is now known as a convenient, safe, and efficient method for meeting future partners while one is enjoying the privacy of one's own home.

First of all, online dating is very convenient because important information such as a person's marital status, religion, and desire to have children is often listed in a user's personality profile. This way, users can save time needed to get to know each other like the usual face-to-face meetings and can make quick decisions regarding whether they share similar lifestyles and values. In addition, some progressive websites offer video dating, in which participants can communicate via webcams and voices. Some websites even go further by offering virtual dating, in which users enter a 3-D virtual world, much like a video game, for a first date in a virtual art museum or on a tropical island.

Secondly, online dating websites are generally safe. Almost all of these websites operate under strict rules that ensure safety and protect users' private information. Screen names and communication methods such as internal email and instant messaging protect participants and guarantee personal privacy. Even photos may be hidden from public view and can only be released when the user wants to. Choosing online dating services, customers are not afraid that their desire to have a partner is announced to the public and thus puts them to shame.

Thirdly, online dating is very efficient. It is considered a miracle helper for those who cannot find their partners in the traditional ways. It is especially meaningful in a modern life where people have to hurry in everything they do and do not have time looking for love by themselves. Working hard and effectively to bridge the lonely hearts, many sites boast a high success rate among their clients. For instance, eHarmony.com claims that their service has been responsible for between 10,000 and 50,000 marriages.

In a word, despite what people argue about the disadvantages of online dating services, the benefits that they bring their customers cannot be denied.

Write a paragraph of about 100-150 words to summarize the passage above.

PART TWO: ESSAY WRITING (60 pts)

Question:

What are the characteristics of a good parent?



Support your position with reasons and examples taken from your reading, experience, or observations.

On your answer sheet, write an essay of about 300 words to develop your point of view.

SPEAKING SECTION

The three-task Speaking section tests your English speaking skills.

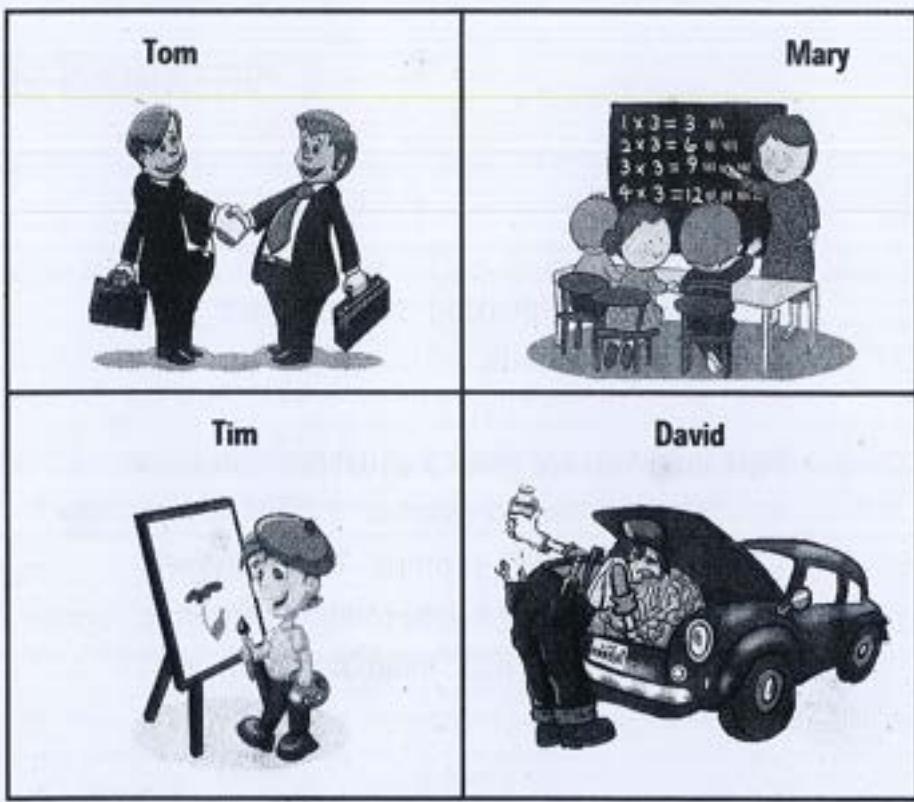
- **Part One:** You are given a visual prompt, such as a picture, a mind map, or a form, and a question about the prompt. You have one minute to prepare a one-minute response. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

- **Part Two:** You are asked to talk about a personal experience or interest. You have one and a half minutes to prepare a one-and-a-half-minute response. Be sure to include reasons and examples to support your answer. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

- **Part Three:** You are asked to give your opinion about a quote, a public opinion, or a social issue. You have two minutes to prepare a three-minute argumentative presentation. Include reasons and examples in your response. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

PART ONE: SPEAKING ABOUT A VISUAL PROMPT (20 pts)

Look at the pictures carefully. (1 minute)



What are the people's jobs and what do they do at work? (1 minute)

PART TWO: SPEAKING ABOUT A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE/INTEREST (30 pts)

Preparation time : 1.5 minutes

Response time : 1.5 minutes

Choose a type of music that you enjoy and explain why you like listening to it. Give reasons and examples to support your answer.

PART THREE: MAKING AN ARGUMENTATIVE PRESENTATION (50 pts)

Preparation time : 2 minutes

Response time : 3 minutes

"It is never too late to learn."

Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Give reasons and examples from your reading, experience or observations to support your point of view.

PRACTICE TEST 2

LISTENING SECTION

The Listening section, consisting of conversations and lectures, tests your English listening skills. There are four passages and thirty-two questions, which are based on either stated or implied information in the passages.

Each passage will be played **twice**. The questions will follow each passage. Each question has four answer choices. Select the best answer to each question and blacken your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes while you are listening and use your notes to answer the questions.

After all the parts have been played, you will have three minutes to transfer your answers to your answer sheet.

PART ONE (20 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part One you will hear ten conversations between two people. After the second listening of each conversation, you will hear a question and there are four possible answers provided. Select the best answer to each question.

1. (A) Ask the woman for the discount coupon.
(B) Try the new restaurant at a half price.
(C) Go to the new restaurant with the woman.
(D) Eat at the new restaurant at the weekend.
2. (A) Their boss's daughter.
(B) A businesswoman.
(C) A doctor.
(D) An employer.
3. (A) He had to cancel his trip.
(B) He did not expect bad weather during the trip.
(C) His daughter fell ill on the trip.
(D) No one helped his sick youngest girl.
4. (A) At a dental clinic.
(B) At a hotel.
(C) At a garage.
(D) At a car shop.
5. (A) He sunbathed on the beach every day.
(B) The ocean was too cold for him to swim.
(C) It was a good chance to get away from the rain.
(D) It was wonderful.
6. (A) She does not like the new work schedule.
(B) She supports the monthly conference call.
(C) She usually wakes up early.
(D) She suggests starting work at 7.30 a.m.
7. (A) Go out in the evening.
(B) Write a report.
(C) Get a rain coat.
(D) Listen to the weather forecast.
8. (A) To an airport.
(B) To a park.
(C) To a night club.
(D) To a meeting.
9. (A) Have lunch at a restaurant together.
(B) Visit an interesting Italian place.
(C) Make some soup and salad for lunch.
(D) Go shopping downtown.
10. (A) It is interesting.
(B) It may cause him trouble.
(C) It is better paid.
(D) It is close to his house.

PART TWO(20 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Two you will hear a conversation. After the second listening, there are six incomplete sentences and four possible options provided for each gap. Select the best option to complete the sentence.

11. The conversation is mainly about _____.
A what the speakers did for a living
B why the speakers should do what they want
C what the speakers have done since they last met
D how the speakers find suitable jobs

12. The speakers - John and Frank - have not met each other for ____ years.
A 8
B 9
C 10
D 11

13. What John does NOT like about the medical school is its _____.
A long study time
B difficult subjects
C hard workload
D high tuition

14. John teaches ____ at school.
A English
B music
C physical education
D science

15. Frank probably lives in _____.
A Europe
B South-east Asia
C Africa
D South America

16. Frank is now working as a _____.
A travel writer
B travel agent
C local journalist
D journal writer

PART THREE (28 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Three you will hear a conversation. After the second listening, there are eight questions. Select the best answer to each question.

17. What is the conversation mainly about?

- (A) How global warming is damaging the world and how humans can deal with this disaster.
- (B) Rising temperatures around the world due to irresponsible human actions.
- (C) Widespread rising heat and arguments about the causes of global warming.
- (D) Droughts and crop failures all over the world as a result of global warming.

18. What has been happening in France?

- (A) Widespread dryness has been causing lost crops and uncontrollable forest fires.
- (B) All trees have been turning yellow and drying up.
- (C) Forest fires have been burning for weeks despite firefighters' great effort to put them out.
- (D) Firefighters have been on TV talking to the public about the damaging forest fires.

19. What does the woman advise the man to do?

- (A) Cut down on the water when he takes a shower.
- (B) Take a shower instead of a bath to save water.
- (C) Go and swim in the river because water is scarce now.
- (D) Read more about the disappearing rivers in Italy.

20. What can be inferred about India?

- (A) It was badly affected by the terrible heat.
- (B) Many people in it have been falling due to the rising heat.
- (C) It has more and more receding glaciers.
- (D) Its terrible droughts seriously affected China, a neighboring country.

21. How many countries experience the melting of glaciers?

- (A) 1.
- (B) 2.
- (C) 3.
- (D) 4.

22. Which of the following is TRUE about the glaciers in Italy?

- (A) Only 20% are left.
- (B) Nearly 80% were gone in 12 years.
- (C) About 20% were gone after a decade.
- (D) Around 80% will disappear soon.

23. According to the woman, what is the main cause of global warming?

- (A) Human activities.
- (B) Forces of nature.
- (C) The change of oceans.
- (D) Changing solar activities.

24. What can be inferred about the man?

- (A) He does not know anything about global warming.
- (B) He agrees with the woman about the causes of global warming.
- (C) He is in doubt of the forces of Mother Nature.
- (D) He is not completely persuaded by the woman's evidence.

PART FOUR (32 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Four you will hear part of a talk. After the second listening, there is a summary of the talk with eight gaps. Select the best option for each gap to complete the summary.

The talk is mainly about the causes of and (25) _____ back pain. The most recent figures show that every day, back pain prevents about (26) _____ of the world population from functioning normally.

Women tend to be the most vulnerable to back pain primarily due to pregnancy and osteoporosis. People normally try to reduce their back pain with bed rest and pain killers or by giving up exercise. There are other effective ways like the relaxation therapy and certain types of exercise, but these may lead to bad effects if (27) _____.

There are three main reasons for back pain development. The first reason is that when back pain occurs, people try to keep their back in place as much as they can, which causes muscle tension. Research reveals that this leads to spasm, causing further twisting of the spine and creating a vicious circle of back pain. The second reason is that people mistakenly take a long bed rest when they are stricken with back pain. It can be seen that a bed rest (28) _____ can weaken back muscles and cause a worse pain. The final reason is that people's heavy weight increases the strain, and back pain will get worse. Therefore, we can see diet is partially responsible for back pain.

There are several ways people can improve their condition. First, people have to (29) _____ if they are overweight. Second, people should choose special orthopaedic chairs, but most importantly they should (30) _____. Third, an orthopaedic mattress or a spring-slatted bed can give people enough support, and it is found that both of them can be helpful to (31) _____. Third, instead of wearing shoes with heels higher than (32) _____, people should choose shock-absorbing shoes to prevent shock waves from travelling up the spine when they walk.

25. (A) symptoms of
(B) solutions to
(C) classification of
(D) medical therapies for
26. (A) one fourth
(B) 250,000
(C) 500,000
(D) 1,000,000
27. (A) mishandled
(B) abused
(C) cancelled
(D) uninstructed
28. (A) up to two days
(B) for more than a day
(C) longer than two days
(D) for weeks
29. (A) sleep less
(B) change their diet
(C) do more exercise
(D) consult doctors
30. (A) sit in the right way
(B) put the chairs right
(C) keep the same posture
(D) keep an upright back
31. (A) all victims of back pain
(B) any heavy back pain
(C) some light back pains
(D) certain types of back pain
32. (A) 1 inch
(B) 1 ½ inches
(C) 2 inches
(D) 2 ½ inches

READING SECTION

The Reading section tests your English reading skills. This section includes four reading passages and forty questions. Each question has four answer choices. Select the best answer choice and blacken your choice on your answer sheet. You have sixty minutes to complete this section of the test.

The first passage tests your grammar and vocabulary.

The last three passages test your comprehension of the passages.

You may take notes and use your notes to answer the questions.

Read the passage carefully.

CORE VALUES OF AMERICANS

While American culture is diverse, there are certain core values, or norms, that unite most Americans.

1. Individualism

One of the first things that you will notice about Americans is that they (33) _____ individualism. Each person is responsible for himself/herself. As a result, there is less of a sense of community and less of a reliance on family members as you find in other nations, particularly in Africa. Each individual wants to (34) _____ as an individual and wants to make it on his/her own. Therefore, each person is assumed to set his/her own destiny. It is also for this reason that many people from other countries perceive Americans as self-focused.

2. Reliance on Oneself

This is closely related (35) _____ the individualism of the USA. Americans are not as community focused as individuals in other parts of the world. Generally, Americans believe that if you are successful, it is because you as an individual made your own way. If you are not succeeding, it is your responsibility to work harder. As a result, it is for this reason that American businesses always stick to deadlines for payments and are very unlikely to extend you grace if you are late in a payment. Another result is that Americans will generally not ask you if you (36) _____ help. You are expected to find a solution to the problem or seek out someone who can help.

3. Competition

Americans believe that competition brings out the best. The American economic system is a "free market" (37) _____ companies are encouraged to compete. Competition lowers prices and increases quality. In school and at work, competition between individuals causes (38) _____ to strive for the best. Schools honor those students who do best, and companies will honor the workers who sell the most or who achieve the greatest goals. As a result, competing against others, even against your close friends, is normal for Americans. This value ties in closely with the belief in relying on yourself and on being an individual.

4. Value of Time

Americans are very time-oriented and believe that time is precious. As a result, promptness is of the utmost (39) ____ to nearly all Americans. If you have an appointment, you should plan on arriving early. Being late, even for good reasons, often minimizes the likelihood of you getting what you desire from the meeting. As some Americans say, "To be early is to be on time. To be on time is to be late. To be late is to be dead." One of the greatest insults is to tell someone he/she has wasted (40) ____ time.

5. Privacy

As they say in the USA, "mind (41) ____ own business." Most Americans do not want your assistance or advice unless they ask. To try to help when it is not requested is to intrude. On a larger scale, Americans demand that businesses respect their privacy and that the government not intrude in their lives. As a result, even a police officer cannot search an American's home unless a court has determined that (42) ____ suspicion of wrong-doing and issues a "warrant" allowing the police to search a home.

Task 1: Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 33. (A) stressed | (B) stressful | (C) stress | (D) are stressed |
| 34. (A) see | (B) be seen | (C) have seen | (D) be able to see |
| 35. (A) with | (B) about | (C) to | (D) for |
| 36. (A) needed | (B) have needed | (C) would need | (D) need |
| 37. (A) where | (B) that | (C) which | (D) when |
| 38. (A) you | (B) them | (C) us | (D) they |
| 39. (A) importance | (B) important | (C) importantly | (D) of importance |
| 40. (A) a | (B) an | (C) the | (D) Ø (no article) |
| 41. (A) their | (B) your | (C) one's | (D) our |
| 42. (A) there is | (B) there are | (C) there was | (D) there were |

Task 2: Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.

- 43.** The word reliance in section 1 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) concentration
(B) trust
(C) dependence
(D) demand
- 44.** The word perceive in section 1 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) claim
(B) consider
(C) assure
(D) evaluate
- 45.** The phrase stick to in section 2 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) look forward to
(B) put a great influence on
(C) make the most use of
(D) refuse to change
- 46.** The word grace in section 2 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) favor
(B) elegance
(C) charm
(D) self-esteem
- 47.** The phrase brings out in section 3 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) enhances
(B) produces
(C) encourages
(D) decides
- 48.** The word strive in section 3 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) give a helping hand
(B) make great efforts
(C) give support
(D) make a little try
- 49.** The word promptness in section 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) willingness
(B) carefulness
(C) readiness
(D) quickness
- 50.** The word likelihood in section 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) certainty
(B) guarantee
(C) possibility
(D) ability
- 51.** The word intrude in section 5 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) act rudely
(B) interfere
(C) withdraw
(D) annoy
- 52.** The word suspicion in section 5 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) report
(B) evidence
(C) news
(D) doubt

NO TEST MATERIAL ON THIS PAGE.

PART TWO (14 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

JIBBITZ



- 1 Every business starts out as an idea. You can go to university to learn about business. Alternatively, you could start a business by doing something that you really enjoy.
- 2 Sheri was a typical stay-at-home mom. She had three daughters. They all loved to do arts and crafts. One day, Sheri put a fake flower in the hole of one of her kids' "Crocs", which are popular rubber shoes. Her kids thought that it looked cute. They persuaded their mom to make more.
- 3 Sheri and her kids decorated their Crocs. They called them "Jibbitz". Then the girls wore them to school. Soon, all of their friends wanted some decorations for their shoes, too. Sheri and her husband, Rich, saw a good business opportunity. Many people already owned Crocs. Decorations would make them more fun. Sheri and Rich were also lucky because no one else was doing it. That means that they had no competitors. They looked at their finances and made a budget. They could see that the starting expenses would be cheap. They just had to buy materials. During that time, all the work was done by hand. They did not need a factory. They did not need to employ any staff. They could do the work themselves.
- 4 Jibbitz became very popular early on. Sheri and Rich could not keep up with demand. Therefore, they bought a factory and employed some staff. In time, the company that makes Crocs bought the business from them. Sheri and Rich still run the business. They understand that Crocs may not always be popular. That is why they come up with new ideas all the time. They are working on other things like hats and belts. That way, when Crocs go out of style, they will still be in business.

Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

53. What is the passage mainly about?

- (A) A creative mother.
- (B) A famous businesswoman.
- (C) An innovative product.
- (D) A smart business manager.

54. According to paragraph 2, what is TRUE about Sheri?

- (A) She was a housewife.
- (B) She taught art and craft making.
- (C) She made and sold cute crocs.
- (D) She made fake flowers for sale.

55. What does the word their in paragraph 3 refer to?

- (A) Sheri and her kids.
- (B) Sheri's kids.
- (C) Sheri's friends.
- (D) Sheri and her husband.

56. Why does the writer use the word Rich in paragraph 3?

- (A) To emphasize that Sheri made a lot of money.
- (B) To predict Sheri would have a successful business.
- (C) To mention the name of Sheri's husband.
- (D) To indicate that Sheri's husband was rich.

57. According to paragraph 3, how did Sheri and her husband start their business?

- (A) They bought a factory.
- (B) They made a big startup investment.
- (C) They had a few employees.
- (D) They did everything on their own.

58. What does the word that in paragraph 4 refer to?

- (A) Factory.
- (B) Demand.
- (C) Company.
- (D) Staff.

PART THREE (20 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

- 1 If an employer wants to dismiss an employee, there is a process to be followed. Instances of minor misconduct and poor performance must first be addressed through some preliminary steps.
- 2 Firstly, you should be given an improvement note. This will explain the problem, outline any necessary changes, and offer some assistance in correcting the situation. Then, if your employer does not think your performance has improved, you may be given a written warning. The last step is called a final written warning which will inform you that you will be dismissed unless there are improvements in performance. If there is no improvement, your employer can begin the dismissal procedure.
- 3 The dismissal procedure begins with a letter from the employer setting out the charges made against the employee. The employee will be invited to a meeting to discuss these accusations. If the employee denies the charges, he/she is given the opportunity to appear at a formal appeal hearing in front of a different manager. After this, a decision is made as to whether the employee will be let go or not.
- 4 Of the various types of dismissal, a fair dismissal is the best kind if an employer wants an employee out of the workplace. A fair dismissal is legally and contractually strong, and it means all the necessary procedures have been correctly followed. In cases where an employee's misconduct has been very serious, however, an employer may not have to follow all of these procedures. If the employer can prove that the employee's behavior was illegal, dangerous or severely wrong, the employee can be dismissed immediately: a procedure known as summary dismissal.
- 5 Sometimes a dismissal is not considered to have taken place fairly. One of these types is wrongful dismissal and involves a breach of contract by the employer. This could involve dismissing an employee without notice or without following proper disciplinary and dismissal procedures. Another type, unfair dismissal, is when an employee is sacked without a good cause.

6 There is another kind of dismissal, known as constructive dismissal, which is slightly peculiar because the employee is not actually openly dismissed by the employer. In this case the employee is forced into resigning by an employer who tries to make significant changes to the original contract. This could mean an employee might have to work night shifts after originally signing on for day work, or he could be made to work in dangerous conditions.



Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

59. The passage is mainly about _____.
_____.

- (A) what an employer and an employee should do in the dismissal process
- (B) the dismissal process and some types of workplace dismissal
- (C) three major types of workplace dismissal
- (D) the reasons for workplace dismissal

60. The word you in paragraph 2 refers to _____.

- (A) the writer's friend
- (B) an employer
- (C) any employee
- (D) a potentially dismissed employee

61. It is indicated in paragraph 2 that an employee officially knows about his/her potential job loss _____.
_____.

- (A) in the first step in the dismissal procedure
- (B) in the second step in the dismissal procedure
- (C) in the third step in the dismissal procedure
- (D) after the dismissal procedure

62. In paragraph 3, the accused employee _____.

- (A) has to accept the charges
- (B) must ask for an appeal hearing
- (C) can disclaim the accusations
- (D) must go after the appeal hearing

63. It can be inferred from paragraph 4 that a fair dismissal _____.

- (A) takes time
- (B) is insisted by an employer
- (C) is also called summary dismissal
- (D) shows an employer's quality

64. The writer uses the word Another in paragraph 5 in order to _____.

- (A) give one more example of dismissals that happen unfairly
- (B) indicate there are many types of unfair dismissal
- (C) clarify one more step in the dismissal procedure
- (D) add the last type of dismissal

65. It can be inferred from paragraph 5 that constructive dismissal _____.

- (A) is a type of fair dismissal
- (B) can be considered as unfair
- (C) helps an employee correct his/her mistake
- (D) always involves work shifts

PART FOUR(26 pts)

Read the passage carefully.



- 1 Population ecology is the science that measures changes in population size and composition and identifies the causes of these fluctuations. Population ecology is not concerned solely with the human population. In ecological terms, a population consists of the individuals of one species that simultaneously occupy the same general area, rely on the same resources, and are affected by similar environmental factors. The characteristics of a population are shaped by its size and by the interactions among individuals and between individuals and their environment.
- 2 Population size is a balance between factors that increase numbers and factors that decrease numbers. Some factors that increase populations are favorable light and temperature, adequate food supply, suitable habitat, ability to compete for resources, and ability to adapt to environmental change. Factors that decrease populations are insufficient or excessive light and temperature, inadequate food supply, unsuitable or destroyed habitat, too many competitors for resources, and inability to adapt to environmental change.
- 3 An important characteristic of any population is its density. Population density is the number of individuals per unit, such as the number of maple trees per square kilometer in a county. Ecologists can rarely determine densities by actually counting all individuals within geographical boundaries. Instead, they often use a variety of sampling techniques to estimate densities and total population sizes. In some cases, they estimate population sizes through indirect indicators, such as the number of nests or burrows, or signs such as tracks or droppings.
- 4 Another important population characteristic, dispersion, is the pattern of spacing among individuals within the population's geographical boundaries. Various species are distributed in their habitats in different ways to take better advantage of food supplies and shelter and to avoid predators or find prey. Within a population's range, densities may vary greatly because not all areas provide equally suitable habitat and also because individuals space themselves in relation to other members of the population.

- 5 Three possible patterns of dispersion are clumped, uniform, and random. A clumped dispersion pattern means that individuals are gathered in patches throughout their habitat. Clumping often results from the irregular distribution of resources needed for survival and reproduction. For example, fallen trees keep the forest floor moist, and many forest insects are clumped under logs where the humidity is to their liking. A uniform or evenly spaced distribution results from direct interactions among individuals in the population. For example, regular spacing of plants may result from shading and competition for water. Random spacing occurs in the absence of strong attraction or repulsion among individuals in a population. Overall, random patterns are rare in nature, with most populations showing a tendency toward either clumped or uniform distribution.
- 6 Populations change in size, structure, and distribution as they respond to changes in environmental conditions. Four main variables - births, deaths, immigration, and emigration - determine the rate of change in the size of the population over time. A change in the birth rate or death rate is the major way that most populations respond to changes in resource availability. Members of some animal species can avoid or reduce the effects of environmental stress by emigrating from one area and immigrating to another with more favorable environmental conditions, thus altering the population's dispersion.

Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

66. The passage is mainly about _____.
(A) population size and population density
(B) major patterns of population dispersion
(C) the characteristics of population ecology
(D) population changes related to environmental change
67. According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT a factor that increases population?
(A) Food sufficiency.
(B) Favorable living places.
(C) Competitiveness for reproduction.
(D) Adaptability to changing habitats.
68. It can be inferred from paragraph 3 that _____.
(A) in most cases, population is not precisely measured
(B) population density is calculated based on representation
(C) the counting technique can never be applied in measuring population size
(D) population density can be identified indirectly
69. The word they in paragraph 3 refers to _____.
(A) ecologists
(B) densities
(C) individuals
(D) boundaries

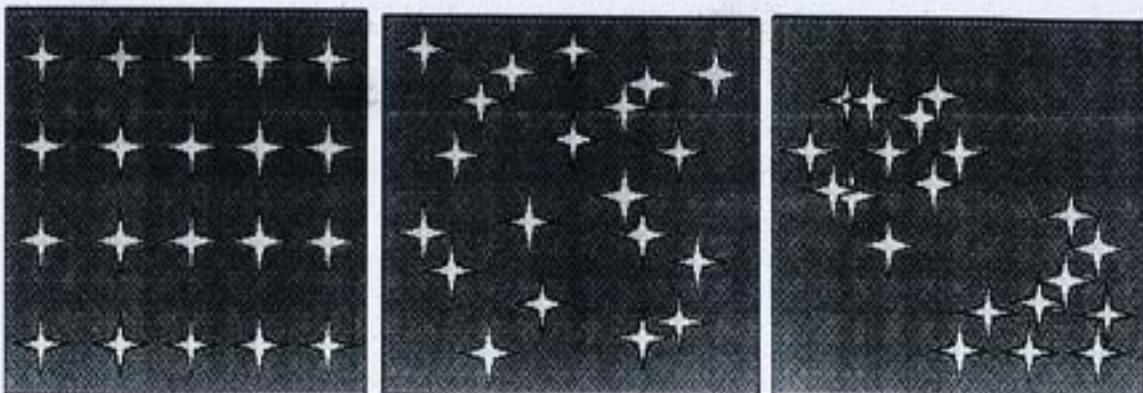
70. Which of the following best rephrases the highlighted sentence in paragraph 5?

- (A) Most populations are distributed in clumped and uniform patterns, so random distribution is ignored.
- (B) In nature, random distribution is generally the least favored of the three distribution patterns.
- (C) Most individuals tend to distribute in clumped and uniform patterns because random distribution is rare.
- (D) Random distribution is seldom seen in most human populations because of the tendency toward clumped and uniform patterns.

71. Why does the author mention A change in the birth rate or death rate in paragraph 6?

- (A) To prove the two most important factors which affect population distribution.
- (B) To compare the importance of these two factors with that of immigration and migration.
- (C) To describe the major influence on the change of population as a result of food unavailability.
- (D) To indicate the decisive factors of changed population due to changed resources.

72. According to paragraph 5, the following picture best illustrates which order (left to right) of population distribution patterns?



- (A) Random, uniform, clumped.
- (B) Uniform, random, clumped.
- (C) Clumped, random, uniform.
- (D) Uniform, clumped, random.

WRITING SECTION

The Writing section tests your English writing skills. There are two parts in this section.

Part One: You have five minutes to read a passage and twenty minutes to write a paragraph summarizing the passage. You may take notes while you are reading and use your notes to write your summary.

Part Two: You have thirty-five minutes to plan and write an essay on a given topic.

PART ONE: SUMMARY WRITING (40 pts)

Read the passage carefully and take notes.

THE COMPUTER REVOLUTION

We live in the age of technology. Every day, new technology appears, ranging from iPods that can store thousands of songs to giant space telescopes that can send photographs of distant stars back to Earth. Of all the new technological wonders, personal computers have probably had the greatest influence on the daily lives of average people.

Perhaps the most important effect of personal computers is to help people to communicate with the outside world. A lonely person in Minnesota can talk with a similar person in Mississippi. A single computer user can send an e-mail message to millions of people all over the world with one keystroke. Computer users can get together in an online chat room to discuss their interests and problems with others who have similar interests and problems. For example, a person who is planning a vacation and wants to know the names of the best beaches in Costa Rica can ask others who have already been there for suggestions.

In addition, personal computers are changing the way we do business. One change is that computers make it easy to take care of a lot of personal business at home. For example, you can buy airline tickets, send a greeting card, pay bills, buy and sell almost anything, and even pay your taxes from your home computer at any time of the day or night. This is a great convenience for people who are busy during the day and for physically disabled people who find it hard to leave their homes.

Another positive effect of personal computers is that they have changed the world of education. Elementary schoolchildren are learning to write, practice math, and create art on the computer. Schoolchildren in Manhattan can talk via computer to schoolchildren in Moscow. High school and college students no longer need to spend hours in the school library researching topics for term papers. A high school student can obtain statistics for a history paper from a library in London by computer.

In short, the computer age has arrived, and it has changed our lives dramatically. We will wait and see what the invention of computers will bring us in the days to come.

Write a paragraph of about 100-150 words to summarize the passage above.

PART TWO: ESSAY WRITING (60 pts)

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Money can bring happiness."?



Support your position with reasons and examples taken from your reading, experience, or observations.

On your answer sheet, write an essay of about 300 words to develop your point of view.

SPEAKING SECTION

The three-task Speaking section tests your English speaking skills.

Part One: You are given a visual prompt, such as a picture, a mind map, or a form, and a question about the prompt. You have one minute to prepare a one-minute response. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

Part Two: You are asked to talk about a personal experience or interest. You have one and a half minutes to prepare a one-and-a-half-minute response. Be sure to include reasons and examples to support your answer. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

Part Three: You are asked to give your opinion about a quote, a public opinion, or a social issue. You have two minutes to prepare a three-minute argumentative presentation. Include reasons and examples in your response. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

PART ONE: SPEAKING ABOUT A VISUAL PROMPT (20 pts)

Look at the picture carefully. (1 minute)



What vacation places is the man thinking about? (1 minute)

PART TWO: SPEAKING ABOUT A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE/INTEREST (30 pts)

Preparation time : 1.5 minutes

Response time : 1.5 minutes

What is your favorite place in your hometown? Why do you like this place? Include specific reasons and details in your explanation.

PART THREE: MAKING AN ARGUMENTATIVE PRESENTATION (50 pts)

Preparation time : 2 minutes

Response time : 3 minutes

"Choose a job you love, and you never work a day in your life." – Confucius

Do you agree or disagree with this quote? Give reasons and examples from your reading, experience or observations to support your point of view.

PRACTICE TEST 3

LISTENING SECTION

The Listening section, consisting of conversations and lectures, tests your English listening skills. There are four passages and thirty-two questions, which are based on either stated or implied information in the passages.

Each passage will be played **twice**. The questions will follow each passage. Each question has four answer choices. Select the best answer to each question and blacken your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes while you are listening and use your notes to answer the questions.

After all the parts have been played, you will have three minutes to transfer your answers to your answer sheet.

PART ONE (20 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part One you will hear ten conversations between two people. After the second listening of each conversation, you will hear a question and there are four possible answers provided. Select the best answer to each question.

1. (A) Take an aspirin for her headache.
(B) Go to the pharmacy on the right of the grocery store.
(C) Buy the drug at another place.
(D) Go to the 24th street to buy the drug.
2. (A) Check the sweater replacement carefully.
(B) Stitch the hole in the returned sweater.
(C) Refund the woman with a double check.
(D) Look for another sweater in good condition.
3. (A) At a hairdresser's.
(B) In a hotel.
(C) At an electric repair shop.
(D) At a beauty salon.
4. (A) He hurt his leg while skiing.
(B) He missed the volleyball match on Friday night.
(C) He could not buy a cheap carpet for his office.
(D) He slipped and fell while at work.
5. (A) He needs an extra parking permit.
(B) He caused a terrible accident last night.
(C) He needs help picking up the form at the library.
(D) The paperwork is not a problem to him.
6. (A) Getting ready for the bus pick-up.
(B) Going on a wildlife watch tour.
(C) Getting dressed and joining the group's meal.
(D) Choosing the menu for the group's dinner.
7. (A) Before they catch the ferry.
(B) By 7.30 p.m.
(C) After the show.
(D) Before the show.
8. (A) Find out why the woman changed her job.
(B) Move to the Software department.
(C) Join a project with the woman.
(D) Handle a project on his own.
9. (A) An airline passenger.
(B) A flight attendant.
(C) A cell phone technician.
(D) A communications official.
10. (A) Some long-lived ornamental plants for her office.
(B) Some posters to hang on the office's wall.
(C) Some seasonal potted plants.
(D) Experience to raise seasonal plants.

PART TWO(20 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Two you will hear a conversation. After the second listening, there are six incomplete sentences and four possible options provided for each gap. Select the best option to complete the sentence.

11. The conversation is mainly about ____.

- (A) how Sweden attracts tourists to the Ice Hotel
- (B) the amazing Ice Hotel for Swedish visitors
- (C) an unusual vacation accommodation in Sweden
- (D) why travelers in Sweden choose the Ice Hotel

12. The Ice Hotel is located in a ____.

- (A) small, crowded place near the Arctic Circle
- (B) small Swedish town within the Arctic Circle
- (C) Swedish lowland outside the Arctic Circle
- (D) small Swedish tower inside the Arctic Circle

13. The temperature inside the Ice Hotel is about ____.

- (A) -5°F
- (B) -23°F
- (C) -5°C
- (D) -40°C

14. People who normally like to stay in the Ice Hotel are ____.

- (A) different artists
- (B) room decorators
- (C) ice sculptors
- (D) adventurous vacationers

15. People can sleep in such a cold hotel because they ____.

- (A) have very tall and warm beds
- (B) keep their ears warm with reindeer furs
- (C) get into very warm sleeping bags
- (D) cover themselves with reindeer furs

16. It can be inferred from the woman's information that the Ice Hotel ____.

- (A) does not have all conveniences
- (B) does not have enough bathrooms
- (C) has freezing water closets
- (D) consists of many ice buildings

PART THREE (28 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Three you will hear a talk. After the second listening, there are eight questions. Select the best answer to each question.

17. What is the talk mainly about?

- (A) A local president's construction decisions.
- (B) Construction developments in Stockholm, Sweden.
- (C) New construction plans in a village.
- (D) The approval of a village's development plans.

18. Which is the main reason for deciding the location of the new residential area?

- (A) It is near an existing residential area.
- (B) It has good existing roads.
- (C) It causes the least impact on local residents.
- (D) It has good potentials for development.

19. What can be inferred about the planned primary school?

- (A) It is more necessary than the recreation center.
- (B) It will replace the recreation center.
- (C) Work on it will be finished by the end of next year.
- (D) It is situated next to the current school at a junction.

20. According to the speaker, what is still being discussed?

- (A) Financial arrangements for a new recreation center.
- (B) The location of a newer and bigger recreation center.
- (C) The applicants' condition for a community restaurant.
- (D) The development of a family-run restaurant.

21. What does the speaker promise the audience?

- (A) Sustainable development plans.
- (B) A much greener environment.
- (C) A well-planned urbanization process.
- (D) A good control of the growing population.

22. What is happening in a number of areas?

- (A) Extended housing for local residents was developed there.
- (B) There are similar development plans there.
- (C) About eighty new homes have been built there.
- (D) The council plans have already been approved there.

23. Which of the following is true of the new houses?

- (A) They will have more than four bedrooms.
- (B) They will be of high quality.
- (C) They will be the properties of Stone Construction.
- (D) They will be exempt from the value added tax.

24. What effect does the talk finally have on some listeners?

- (A) Helping them make a quick decision.
- (B) Removing their existing concern.
- (C) Stopping their protest against the development.
- (D) Persuading them to ease congestion in the area.

PART FOUR (32 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Four you will hear part of a talk. After the second listening, there is a summary of the talk with eight gaps. Select the best option for each gap to complete the summary.

The speaker discusses some (25) ____ of extreme sports before going into a particular sport of this kind: bungee jumping.

Firstly, many extreme sports are not totally new. Actually, they are (26) ____ with technological changes or improvements in equipment. One example is that BMX racing and mountain biking are both developed from cycling.

Secondly, extreme sports mostly involve one individual athlete showing off his or her skills for a group of audience to copy or emulate. These onlookers sometimes "one up", which means (27) _____. For example, a kid's little tricks in skateboarding can be turned into a daredevil's multiple flips high in the air.

Thirdly, extreme sports have been partly absorbed into the mainstream because they have become competitive. (28) ____ was the first extreme sport in the Olympic Games, but its position as the only one could soon be changed. Other extreme sports which are widely recognized include BMX racing, mountain biking and in-line skating.

In many areas, however, some extreme sports like snowboarding, skateboarding, street luge and bungee jumping, called "outlaw sports", are (29) _____. They are also called alternative sports partly because they can replace the more traditional sports and their players have also adopted an alternative lifestyle first known as punk and later as grunge.

25. (A) advantages
(B) disadvantages
(C) characteristics
(D) requirements
26. (A) very old sports
(B) popular sports
(C) traditional sports
(D) modified versions of older sports
27. (A) doing even more dangerous stunts
(B) doing one more dangerous stunt
(C) taking some adventurous stunts
(D) doing tricks like stunt masters
28. (A) Rollerblading
(B) Skateboarding
(C) Snowboarding
(D) Snow surfing
29. (A) blamed because they are too dangerous
(B) banned due to their excessive danger
(C) restricted due to their enormous danger
(D) labeled as too dangerous sports

Bungee jumping is based on a ritual in Pentecost Island in the South Pacific. In spring, villagers make long cords, or ropes, out of vines. Young males climb (30) _____ and jump after having tied the vines around their ankles. Their successful jump shows their courage and promises a plentiful jam harvest.

Today, bungee jumping is popular with young people. Once done only by a small number of (31) _____, now it attracts thousands of bungee adventure club members around the world. One club in California has even had more than 20,000 members. So far, several deaths have been recorded. To bungee jumpers, however, the thrills outweigh the risks. Bungee jumpers jump from bridges, towers, cranes and even hot-air balloons with only the long nylon and rubber bungee cord, which is like a giant rubber band and lets the jumpers fall freely for a few seconds, then stretches to the limit and pulls them skyward. (32) _____ is required in this extreme sport.

30. (A) high wooden towers
(B) rock cliffs
(C) towering trees
(D) high mountains
31. (A) divers, mountain climbers and other daring people
(B) free jumpers, rock climbers and other adventurous people
(C) skydivers, mountain climbers and other daredevils
(D) free riders, mountain trekkers and other daredevils
32. (A) Only some simple physical training
(B) No special physical training or ability
(C) A little psychological training
(D) Special physical training

READING SECTION

The Reading section tests your English reading skills. This section includes four reading passages and forty questions. Each question has four answer choices. Select the best answer choice and blacken your choice on your answer sheet. You have sixty minutes to complete this section of the test.

The first passage tests your grammar and vocabulary.

The last three passages test your comprehension of the passages.

You may take notes and use your notes to answer the questions.

PART ONE(40 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

- 1 If you are asked about World Heritage Sites, it is probable that you (33) _____ of places associated with ancient art and culture, historical buildings and monuments. Below are a few of the more unusual sites on the World Heritage List (WHL) and why it is important to preserve them.

Citadel of Haiti

- 2 These monuments were (34) _____ at the end of the nineteenth century when Haiti became independent and the many thousands of black slaves in Haiti were free for the first time. These ex-slaves built the monuments, (35) _____ the WHL describes as "a universal symbol of liberty."



Robben Island in South Africa

3



This island was used through the centuries as (36) _____ prison, a hospital and a military base. However, it is probably most famous as a maximum-security prison for political prisoners in the twentieth century. Nelson Mandela was one of its most famous residents. The WHL says it represents "the triumph of democracy and freedom over oppression and racism."

The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway in India

- 4 This railway was opened in 1881 and is still operating today. It crosses a difficult area of mountain landscape, and it is a great example of railway engineering. The WHL says that it "is the first, and still the (37) _____, example of a hill passenger railway."



Borders of France and Spain

5



This is an area of great natural beauty, and the mountains have (38) _____ interesting geological formations. It is also an area of small farms. People there still use a type of agriculture that used to be common in mountainous areas of Europe but has almost completely disappeared in modern times. The WHL has listed the site because it shows us about "past European society through (39) _____ landscape of villages, farms, fields, upland pastures and mountain roads."

The city of Brasilia, Brazil

- 6 Brasilia is a capital city that was created from nothing in 1956. The WHL calls it "a landmark in the history of town planning." The different areas of the city and the buildings themselves were all designed at the same time so that they would harmonise with each other. Every part of the city shows the ideas of the planners and architects.



Dorset and East Devon Coast, the United Kingdom

7



This part of the coast (40) _____ the South West of England is famous for its fossils and is popular with both scientists and amateur fossil hunters. The cliffs also show rock formations from millions of years ago. The WHL says that they "(41) _____ to the study of earth sciences for over 300 years."

Alto Douro, Portugal

- 8 This is an area in the North of Portugal where wine has been produced for thousands of years. Nowadays it is world famous for the "port wine" that is produced there. The WHL says that this long tradition of winemaking "has produced a cultural landscape of outstanding beauty that reflects its technological, social and economic evolution."



Rio Platano Reserve, Honduras

9



The WHL says that this site is "one of the few remains of a humid tropical forest in Central America." It is a mountainous area on the Caribbean coast with many (42) _____ species of plants and animals. The people who have always lived there still have the same traditional lifestyle.

Task 1: Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 33. (A) would think | (B) will think | (C) would have thought | (D) have thought |
| 34. (A) building | (B) being built | (C) built | (D) build |
| 35. (A) that | (B) what | (C) who | (D) which |
| 36. (A) a | (B) an | (C) the | (D) Ø (no article) |
| 37. (A) outstanding | (B) more outstanding | (C) most outstanding | (D) best outstanding |
| 38. (A) much | (B) many | (C) lots | (D) a lot |
| 39. (A) its | (B) their | (C) our | (D) it's |
| 40. (A) on | (B) in | (C) into | (D) at |
| 41. (A) had contributed | (B) contributed | (C) have contributed | (D) contribute |
| 42. (A) of difference | (B) differently | (C) difference | (D) different |

Task 2: Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 43. The word preserve in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____. | 44. The word free in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____. |
| (A) improve | (A) independent |
| (B) advertise | (B) unpaid |
| (C) maintain | (C) accessible |
| (D) introduce | (D) well-treated |

- 45.** The word universal in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) from the universe
(B) widely known
(C) related to a university
(D) one and only
- 46.** The word residents in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) people kept in prison
(B) people living in a neighborhood
(C) top national leaders
(D) political leaders
- 47.** The word landscape in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) land for escaped people
(B) a large piece of land
(C) land characteristic
(D) environment
- 48.** The word formations in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) specified arrangements
(B) natural shapes
(C) huge constructions
(D) impressive monuments
- 49.** The word harmonise in paragraph 6 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) appear the same
(B) increase in value
(C) combine well
(D) connect
- 50.** The word amateur in paragraph 7 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) experienced
(B) passionate
(C) attentive
(D) unprofessional
- 51.** The word evolution in paragraph 8 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) gradual development
(B) drastic change
(C) sudden reform
(D) unexpected boom
- 52.** The word species in paragraph 9 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) food seasonings
(B) special items
(C) varieties
(D) particular things

NO TEST MATERIAL ON THIS PAGE.

PART TWO(14 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

Looking for Love is an agency that finds partners for single people of any age. Read about Lisa.

- 1 My name is Lisa. I'm 25 years old, and I'm from Seattle. I'm single, and I'm looking for love. The main reason that I have to ask *Looking for Love* to help me find a partner is that I don't have enough free time for hanging out, meeting people and getting in a serious relationship. This is not only my problem; I think more and more people are like me in this modern life.
- 2 I'm a journalist, and I work for a local newspaper, which means I write stories about local issues, and sometimes I interview politicians. I like my job, but I'd like to work for a national newspaper someday because I want to have the opportunity to work abroad.
- 3 I have a small group of friends whom I've known for years. I even went to elementary school with some of them! I'm not really outgoing, but I like going out with my friends and having fun. We usually go out to parties, clubs, and restaurants. I also like cooking, and I make great pasta!
- 4 My ideal night at home is a good dinner and a DVD. I like thrillers much more than (I like) romantic comedies! I'm not really interested in sports, but I like to stay in shape. I stopped smoking last year, and now I go running twice a week. Sometimes I go to the gym on weekends. I eat lots of fruits and vegetables, and I try not to have red meat or too much coffee. At work, I drink water or tea.
- 5 I prefer men who are interested in serious issues because I like talking about politics and what's happening in the world. However, I also like men with a good sense of humor. These characteristics are more important to me than physical appearance.

Please contact *Looking for Love* if you think you are the kind of person I'm looking for!



Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

53. What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Lisa's life and work.
- (B) Lisa's personality.
- (C) Lisa's self-introduction.
- (D) Lisa's job and hobbies.

54. What does the word This in paragraph 1 refer to?

- (A) The lack of time for friends and relationships.
- (B) The lack of relationships.
- (C) The inability to have a serious relationship.
- (D) The limited free time for hanging out with partners.

55. According to paragraph 2, which of the following is TRUE of a national newspaper journalist?

- (A) He/She interviews national politicians.
- (B) He/She writes about local issues.
- (C) He/She can work in foreign countries.
- (D) He/She has more job opportunities.

56. According to paragraph 3, what does Lisa like doing with her friends?

- (A) Having fun outside.
- (B) Organizing parties.
- (C) Cooking for restaurants.
- (D) Making great pasta.

57. Why does the writer mention thrillers and romantic comedies in paragraph 4?

- (A) To indicate Lisa's movie preference.
- (B) To describe Lisa's taste for romantic comedies.
- (C) To list what makes Lisa's ideal night.
- (D) To advise people to watch thrillers, not romantic comedies.

58. What does the word you in the last sentence of the passage refer to?

- (A) Men who want a friendship with Lisa.
- (B) Men with concern about social issues and humor.
- (C) Men with good physical appearance.
- (D) People looking for love.

PART THREE (20 pts)

Read the passage carefully.



- 1 Since the middle of the twentieth century, women around the world have been seeking greater independence and recognition. No longer content with their traditional roles as housewives and mothers, women have joined together to create the so-called "women's liberation movement." While the forces behind this international movement vary from culture to culture and from individual to individual, the basic causes in the United States can be traced to three events: the development of effective birth-control methods, the invention of labor-saving devices for the home, and the advent of World War II.
- 2 The first cause of the liberation of women was the development of effective birth-control methods, freeing women from the endless cycle of childbearing and rearing. As a result of having a choice as to if and when to bear children, women acquired the freedom and the time to pursue interests outside the home. Because of the development of birth control, women could delay having children or avoid having them altogether; consequently, women had the opportunity to acquire an education and/or pursue a career.
- 3 The second event was the development mechanized labor-saving devices for the home, resulting in more leisure time and freedom for women. For example, fifty years ago, a housewife spent an average of fifteen hours per day doing the housework. Due to the invention of machines such as vacuum cleaners and dishwashers, a housewife can now take care of her daily housework in about five hours.

- 4 The third event that, at least in the United States, gave impetus to the liberation of women was World War II. During the war, most men were serving in the military. Consequently, women had to fill the vacancies in the labor force. Women by the thousands went to work in factories and even took over businesses for their absent husbands. This was a great change for the majority of American women, for they discovered that they could weld airplanes and manage a business as well as change diapers and bake cookies.
- 5 While men can be not very happy with women's changes, they should always remember that it was they, the men, who created the conditions leading to the liberation of women. Men made war. Male scientists developed birth control, and businessmen earned a lot of money selling vacuum cleaners and dishwashers. However, women are thankful to these men as it was because of these men that women finally realized that their rights may not be ignored or suppressed by law, local custom, and behavior in a particular society.

Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

59. The passage is mainly about _____.

- (A) some main reasons for the women's liberation movement in the U.S.
- (B) why women wanted to liberate themselves in the early 20th century
- (C) how technology development led to the women's liberation movement
- (D) how World War II influenced the women's liberation movement

60. The writer uses the word While in paragraph 1 in order to _____.

- (A) show different causes of the women's liberation movement in all countries
- (B) deny that the causes of the women's liberation movement in the United States are completely different from those in other countries
- (C) contrast various causes of the women's liberation movement in other countries and the ones in the United States
- (D) indicate that the causes of the women's liberation movement in the United States are different from what people in other countries thought

61. It can be inferred from paragraph 2 that before the invention of effective birth-control methods, _____.

- (A) all families had had many children
- (B) most women had been busy mothers at home
- (C) nearly all women had been uneducated
- (D) women had not been allowed to go out to work

62. In paragraph 3, an effect of the labor-saving devices like vacuum cleaners and dishwashers is _____.

- (A) the considerable reduction of housework hours
- (B) the saving of five hours of housework
- (C) women being freed from doing the housework
- (D) housewives' going out for their leisure activities

63. The word This in paragraph 4 refers to the _____.

- (A) service of men in the military
- (B) absence of husbands
- (C) advent of World War II
- (D) presence of women in the work force

64. It can be inferred from paragraph 4 that during World War II, _____.

- (A) American women felt happy when their husbands were absent from home
- (B) American women had to double their workload
- (C) thousands of American men became soldiers
- (D) American women preferred the outside work to housework

65. According to paragraph 5, the liberation of women _____.

- (A) might bring men uncomfortable feelings
- (B) led to arguments between both sexes
- (C) caused men to ignore women's rights
- (D) was achieved by women's great efforts

Read the passage carefully.

- 1 The biology of human sleep timing, like that of other mammals, changes as we age. This has been shown in many studies. As puberty begins, bedtimes and waking times get later. This trend continues until 19.5 years of age in women and 21 in men. Then it reverses. At 55, we wake around the time we woke prior to puberty. On average this is two hours earlier than adolescents. This means that for a teenager, a 7 a.m. alarm call is the equivalent of a 5 a.m. start for a person in their 50s.
- 2 Precisely why this is so is unclear, but the shifts correlate with hormonal changes at puberty and the decline in those hormones as we age. However, biology is only part of the problem. Additional factors include a more relaxed attitude to bedtimes by parents, a general disregard for the importance of sleep, and access to TVs, DVDs, PCs, gaming devices, cellphones and so on, all of which promote alertness and eat into time available for sleep.
- 3 The amount of sleep teenagers get varies among countries, geographic regions and social classes, but all studies show they are going to bed later and not getting as much sleep as they need because of early school starts. Mary Carskadon at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, who is a pioneer in the area of adolescent-sleep, has shown that teenagers need about 9 hours a night to maintain full alertness and academic performance.
- 4 Evidence that sleep is important is overwhelming. Elegant research has demonstrated its critical role in memory consolidation and our ability to generate innovative solutions to complex problems. Sleep disruption increases the level of the stress hormone cortisol. Impulsive behaviours, lack of empathy, sense of humour and mood are similarly affected. All in all, a tired adolescent is a grumpy, moody, insensitive, angry and stressed one. Perhaps less obviously, sleep loss is associated with metabolic changes. Research has shown that blood-glucose regulation was greatly impaired in young men who slept only 4 hours on six consecutive nights, with their insulin levels comparable to the early stages of diabetes.



5 Society in general and teenagers in particular must start to take sleep seriously. Sleep is not a luxury or an indulgence but a fundamental biological need, enhancing creativity, productivity, mood and the ability to interact with others. If you are dependent upon an alarm clock or parents to get you out of bed, if you take a long time to wake up, if you feel sleepy and irritable during the day, if your behaviour is overly impulsive, it means you are probably not getting enough sleep. Take control. Ensure the bedroom is a place that promotes sleep – dark and not too warm – do not text, use a computer or watch TV for at least half an hour before trying to sleep and avoid bright lights. Try not to nap during the day, and seek out natural light in the morning to adjust the body clock and sleep patterns to an earlier time. Avoid caffeinated drinks after lunch.

Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

66. What is the passage mainly about?

- (A) The causes and effects of insufficient sleep in adults.
- (B) Why teenagers and adults differ in their sleeping time.
- (C) Why people, especially teenagers, need to care more about their sleeping habit.
- (D) How teenagers can improve their sleep quality.

67. Which sentence below best expresses the idea of the highlighted sentence in paragraph 2?

- (A) No one can explain why adolescents and people in their 50s wake at different times, but it is clear that they have different hormones.
- (B) The difference in teenagers' and people in their 50s' waking time has not yet been well understood though the correlation between waking time shifts and their hormones has been identified.
- (C) It is difficult to give a precise explanation for adolescents' and old people's different sleeping habits based on their different hormones.
- (D) Why adolescents and older people differ in their sleeping habits is not clear though it is presumably because of their hormones.

68. It can be inferred from paragraph 3 that _____.

- (A) children in different places and different social classes sleep differently
- (B) most studies agree that adolescents with less than 9 hours of sleep a night cannot stay fully alert and study well
- (C) Mary Carskadon is the first researcher to discover why teenagers do not sleep about 9 hours a night
- (D) all researchers have agreed on the cause of teenagers' late bedtime and lack of required sleep

69. Why does the author use the word Perhaps in paragraph 4?

- (A) To show the lower certainty of the relationship between sleep loss and adolescents' metabolic changes.
- (B) To indicate that he/she is not certain of the relationship between sleeplessness and people's metabolic changes.
- (C) To explain why there is possibly not an obvious link between sleep loss and metabolic changes.
- (D) To describe the confusing relationship between sleep loss and adolescents' metabolic changes.

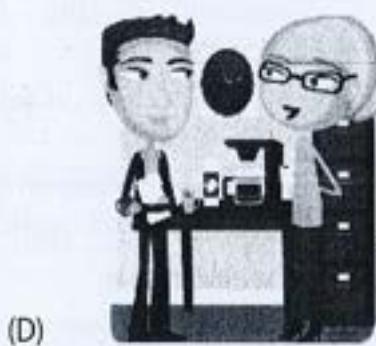
70. According to paragraph 5, which of the following is NOT true?

- (A) Sleep is a required biological need.
- (B) You are surely sleeping insufficiently if you have bad behaviour or bad mood.
- (C) Bedrooms should be taken good care of to ensure good sleep.
- (D) It is necessary to relax your mind before bedtime.

71. The word you in paragraph 5 specifically refers to _____.

- (A) parents of sleepless children
- (B) adults sleeping too late
- (C) alarm clock users and teenagers
- (D) people suffering from sleep loss

72. According to paragraph 5, which of the following people may not suffer from sleep loss?



WRITING SECTION

The Writing section tests your English writing skills. There are two parts in this section.

Part One: You have five minutes to read a passage and twenty minutes to write a paragraph summarizing the passage. You may take notes while you are reading and use your notes to write your summary.

Part Two: You have thirty-five minutes to plan and write an essay on a given topic.

PART ONE: SUMMARY WRITING (40 pts)

Read the passage carefully and take notes.



MODERN MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

The recording industry is facing difficulties when its albums and CDs are not selling as much as they were several years ago. What has caused this decline for the music industry? The answer is the personal computer.

Because of the popularity of sharing computer sound files, consumers no longer feel that they need to purchase music. Many people think it is morally acceptable – not to mention convenient – to download music files for free via file-sharing services. A couple of mouse button clicks, and you can do it! Now you "own" on your own computer with all the rhymes and songs of your favorite. Then it is just a couple of more clicks until it is burned on a CD for you. With this level of convenience, it is easy to see why record companies cannot maintain their business.

In addition, computers allow musicians to market and sell their own music. Musicians can record and create their own CDs at an acceptable cost these days. Before the development of the personal computer, most musicians could not afford to record their own music, but now the costs are much more reasonable. For this reason, it makes less sense for musicians to give away a part of their profits to a record company for activities that they can accomplish themselves.

Furthermore, the recording industry bears some of the blame for its own problems simply because of its way of selling its products. It is annoying that record companies usually sell whole albums when only one of the songs is interesting to customers, who do not like to waste their money on the whole album and then find out that the album has just one good song on it. The recording industry should sell music in a way that consumers can choose what they want.

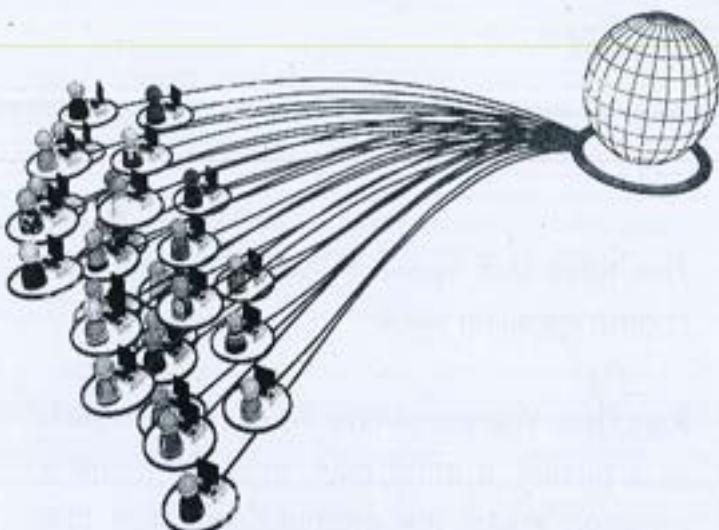
It is quite possible that the recording industry will die over time if it becomes no longer profitable to market and sell music. The computer has brought about tremendous changes to the recording industry, and the industry will have to move quickly to maintain its business in today's economy.

Write a paragraph of about 100-150 words to summarize the passage above.

PART TWO: ESSAY WRITING (60 pts)

Question:

Why does social networking attract so many people, especially young Internet users?



Support your position with reasons and examples taken from your reading, experience, or observations.

On your answer sheet, write an essay of about 300 words to develop your point of view.

SPEAKING SECTION

The three-task Speaking section tests your English speaking skills.

Part One: You are given a visual prompt, such as a picture, a mind map, or a form, and a question about the prompt. You have one minute to prepare a one-minute response. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

Part Two: You are asked to talk about a personal experience or interest. You have one and a half minutes to prepare a one-and-a-half-minute response. Be sure to include reasons and examples to support your answer. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

Part Three: You are asked to give your opinion about a quote, a public opinion, or a social issue. You have two minutes to prepare a three-minute argumentative presentation. Include reasons and examples in your response. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

PART ONE: SPEAKING ABOUT A VISUAL PROMPT (20 pts)

Look at the pictures carefully. (1 minute)



Who are Tina's family members and what are they doing? (1 minute)

PART TWO: SPEAKING ABOUT A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE/INTEREST (30 pts)

Preparation time : 1.5 minutes

Response time : 1.5 minutes

What do you most like doing on weekends? Explain why it is your favorite weekend activity. Include specific reasons and details in your explanation.

PART THREE: MAKING AN ARGUMENTATIVE PRESENTATION (50 pts)

Preparation time : 2 minutes

Response time : 3 minutes

"Schools should force their students to spend some hours a week doing community services like raising money for AIDS or planting trees in the neighborhood."

Do you agree or disagree with this suggestion? Give reasons and examples from your reading, experience or observations to support your point of view.

PRACTICE TEST 4

LISTENING SECTION

The Listening section, consisting of conversations and lectures, tests your English listening skills. There are four passages and thirty-two questions, which are based on either stated or implied information in the passages.

Each passage will be played **twice**. The questions will follow each passage. Each question has four answer choices. Select the best answer to each question and blacken your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes while you are listening and use your notes to answer the questions.

After all the parts have been played, you will have three minutes to transfer your answers to your answer sheet.

PART ONE (20 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part One you will hear ten conversations between two people. After the second listening of each conversation, you will hear a question and there are four possible answers provided. Select the best answer to each question.

1. (A) Build a large front porch.
(B) Purchase a house.
(C) Repair the garage and basement.
(D) Commute to work more often.
2. (A) Discussing the way to the movie theater.
(B) Buying the first morning newspaper.
(C) Visiting the Second and Third Avenues.
(D) Choosing a movie to watch.
3. (A) Ford.
(B) Renault.
(C) Toyota.
(D) Peugeot.
4. (A) She is going to meet her parents.
(B) She is going to visit a relative.
(C) She is going to be out of town on business.
(D) She is not going to drive back in time from Chicago.
5. (A) He is having problems.
(B) He is hated by all his colleagues.
(C) He does not follow any rules.
(D) He is not an easy-going boss.
6. (A) A manager.
(B) A secretary.
(C) A photocopier.
(D) A post office clerk.
7. (A) Move the desk in his office.
(B) Look for his briefcase in the car.
(C) Look for his glasses in the office.
(D) Wait for the woman in his car.
8. (A) A soccer team.
(B) A regularly late teammate.
(C) A team leader.
(D) A good teammate.
9. (A) The company has not dealt with the man's problem.
(B) The man made a lot of international calls.
(C) The man pays \$120 for his bill every month.
(D) The man often loses his things.
10. (A) Book some smoking rooms on the 20th or the 22nd floor.
(B) Book a cheaper non-smoking room.
(C) Move to an expensive non-smoking room.
(D) Change from the 20th floor to the 22nd floor.

PART TWO (20 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Two you will hear a conversation. After the second listening, there are six incomplete sentences and four possible options provided for each gap. Select the best option to complete the sentence.

11. The conversation is mainly about _____.

- (A) items provided in rented rooms
- (B) information on campus housing
- (C) requirements for twin rooms
- (D) safety rules for campus housing

12. To apply for housing, the male student has to _____.

- (A) fill out an application form
- (B) request the guidelines from the office
- (C) pay the tuition fee
- (D) pay the first month's fee in advance

13. The student wants to apply for a _____.

- (A) twin room
- (B) double room
- (C) single room
- (D) modern room

14. The student has to bring his own _____.

- (A) clothes box
- (B) storage drawers
- (C) pillow and blanket
- (D) bed sheets

15. The student has to pay ____ per semester for Internet connection.

- (A) \$30
- (B) \$35
- (C) \$40
- (D) \$45

16. It can be inferred from the conversation that the student _____.

- (A) cannot cook in his room
- (B) has to watch TV in the residence hall
- (C) has to pay an extra fee for laundry
- (D) should use his mobile phone, not the telephone

PART THREE (28 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Three you will hear a conversation. After the second listening, there are eight questions. Select the best answer to each question.

17. What is the conversation mainly about?

- (A) Activities that students often do after exams are over.
- (B) Advice on a student's selling things before leaving for his home country.
- (C) Effective ways to advertise things to be sold.
- (D) Reasons students should sell their things before leaving for their home countries.

18. Where is the man going?

- (A) Finland.
- (B) Australia.
- (C) Iceland.
- (D) England.

19. Why does the man NOT give his things away?

- (A) No one wants his things.
- (B) His friends already have the same things.
- (C) He needs the money from selling them.
- (D) The previous tenant advised him not to do so.

20. Why does the man want to sell his clothes?

- (A) He cannot pack them all in his luggage.
- (B) They are old and do not fit him anymore.
- (C) He has no suitcase to pack his clothes.
- (D) He wants to replace them all with new items.

21. What textbooks does the man probably want to sell?

- (A) Literature textbooks.
- (B) Textbooks for freshmen.
- (C) New textbooks.
- (D) Economics textbooks.

22. Which of the following is a suggestion for selling furniture?

- (A) Phoning friends and giving them a discount.
- (B) Contacting a used-product store.
- (C) Choosing a suitable sale time during summer.
- (D) Putting an advert in the university's newspaper.

23. What is the *Trading Post* that the woman mentions?

- (A) It is a newspaper.
- (B) It is a second-hand shop.
- (C) It is an advertising agency for sold items.
- (D) It is a marketplace of cheap, used items.

24. What does the woman want to do?

- (A) Buy all the furniture that the man wants to sell.
- (B) Help the man write the advert.
- (C) Buy two items at a good price.
- (D) Buy the microwave and get the fridge for free.

PART FOUR (32 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Four you will hear part of a talk. After the second listening, there is a summary of the talk with eight gaps. Select the best option for each gap to complete the summary.

The talk is about a project on (25) _____ in Britain.

The speaker begins by giving a statistic that less than 10% of British people try to recycle their household waste, a smaller number than in most other European countries. However, the UK has agreed on the targets of reducing CO₂ emission by (26) _____ through recycling, which helps to save energy from glass and paper production and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfill sites and incineration plants.

The speaker continues with two difficulties involving recycling. First, there are not enough "drop-off" sites where the public are supposed to take their waste. Second, people (27) _____ the recycling containers, and things like plastic bags, broken umbrellas, glass for cooking, etc. have to be removed by hand.

The speaker emphasizes that glass is easy to recycle because it remains strong after being recycled many times. Every year, 2 million tons of glass is disposed of, but only (28) _____ is collected and recycled. However, a big part of the collected glass is green or imported glass, leading to new uses of recycled glass, especially green glass; some examples are fiberglass manufacture, water filtration and road products.

Britain recycles 40% of its used paper, coming second after Germany with 70%. Initially, the (29) _____ of the recycled paper was not high enough for office printers. However, this problem has been solved by Martin's, a South London-based office stationery producer, but at a cost of the second waste of over 30% of the recycled paper. This unused recycled paper is currently sold to farmers as a soil conditioner, but this will soon be prohibited due to (30) _____. Alternative uses of unused recycled paper are being examined.

25. (A) why household waste recycling is required
(B) what household waste should be recycled
(C) when household waste recycling was started
(D) how household waste is recycled

26. (A) 12.55%
(B) 12.5%
(C) 12.8%
(D) 12.9%

27. (A) do not care a bit about
(B) litter carelessly near
(C) do not put their household waste properly in
(D) are not guided how to use

28. (A) a half
(B) one third
(C) one fourth
(D) one fifth

29. (A) quality
(B) cost
(C) quantity
(D) appreciation

30. (A) packaging costs and the smell
(B) transport time
(C) transport costs and the smell
(D) transport facilities

Plastic recycling is difficult due to a wide variety of plastic types in use and different processing methods. One of the products from recycled plastic (31) _____ is containers used to collect waste all over the country. In addition, each year about 500 million out of 3,5 billion polystyrene cups are collected, processed and sold on to other businesses in the forms of (32) _____, for example.

31. (A) baskets
(B) bottles
(C) bags
(D) boxes

32. (A) pencils and business cards
(B) pens and shampoos
(C) shampoos and business cards
(D) pens and business cards

READING SECTION

The Reading section tests your English reading skills. This section includes four reading passages and forty questions. Each question has four answer choices. Select the best answer choice and blacken your choice on your answer sheet. You have sixty minutes to complete this section of the test.

The first passage tests your grammar and vocabulary.

The last three passages test your comprehension of the passages.

You may take notes and use your notes to answer the questions.

PART ONE (40 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

TIPPING

- 1 Tipping is very much a part of American culture and one which creates a problem for most foreign travelers who are not familiar with the custom when they arrive for a holiday. They are at a loss as to (33) _____ to tip and to whom. Often they tip too much and to the wrong person. Or else, they do not tip at all. In general, we give a tip in appreciation for a service rendered. Tipping is a courtesy, and not an obligation. One reason for tipping also lies in the reality that (34) _____ who work at these jobs usually have a base pay well below the average. They need to supplement their income in order to meet their (35) _____ expenses.
- 2 The history of (36) _____ practice dates back to England in the mid-seventeenth century. At that time there were coffee houses which were frequented by men to discuss politics and literary affairs. Customers of the coffee houses were expected to drop coins into a box (37) _____ the phrase "to insure promptness" was written. "T.I.P.", the initials of that phrase, are said to be the origin of the modern word "tipping."
- 3 The questions, of course, are who we tip and how much is considered a fair amount. Usually waiters and taxi cab drivers expect to get a tip. In a hotel, bellhops and chambermaids also expect some gratuity. The amount, of course, depends upon the nature of the service (38) _____ and the quality level of the hotel. Hairdressers and barbers can also merit a small tip. Even sky-cap porters at airports who may carry your suitcases to the checkout counter (39) _____ a dollar tip per bag.
- 4 Although the amount may vary according to the kind of service and the quality of the restaurant and hotel, generally, a ten percent tip is considered adequate. In New York and larger metropolitan cities as much as fifteen or twenty percent may be expected. In restaurants, the tip is left on the table, and the bill is paid (40) _____. The tip should never be given directly to the waiter, but it can be added onto a check if one is paying by credit card.

5 Tipping, of course, is not mandatory in any situation, and one should not feel (41) _____ any obligation to give one. If a waiter is not prompt, inattentive and noticeably lacking in courtesy and manners, it would be perfectly acceptable not to leave a tip. It would also not be out of order to register a complaint with the management. Likewise, if a cab driver does not take a passenger to his destination by the shortest route, he does not also deserve a tip. In addition, if the hotel room is not well-cleaned, and the room service is lackluster and slow, a guest should not feel obliged to leave a gratuity. Most Americans dislike tipping and find it a nuisance. If a poll were taken, the consensus (42) _____ just adding the tip to the total of the bill as is the custom in Japan and other Asian countries.

Task 1: Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 33. (A) how many | (B) how much | (C) how big | (D) how large |
| 34. (A) this | (B) that | (C) these | (D) those |
| 35. (A) live's | (B) lives' | (C) life's | (D) lifes' |
| 36. (A) a | (B) an | (C) the | (D) Ø (no article) |
| 37. (A) on which | (B) in which | (C) on that | (D) in that |
| 38. (A) to request | (B) requested | (C) requesting | (D) request |
| 39. (A) expect | (B) expects | (C) expected | (D) will expect |
| 40. (A) separation | (B) separate | (C) separated | (D) separately |
| 41. (A) in | (B) under | (C) with | (D) of |
| 42. (A) would favor | (B) will favor | (C) would have favored | (D) has favored |

Task 2: Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.

43. The phrase at a loss in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) fooled
(B) tricked
(C) uncertain
(D) misled
44. The word rendered in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) provided
(B) returned
(C) requested
(D) improved
45. The word frequented in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) randomly occupied
(B) strongly recommended
(C) exceptionally reserved
(D) regularly visited
46. The word initials in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) abbreviations
(B) first letters
(C) synonyms
(D) capital letters
47. The word fair in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) equal
(B) sizable
(C) acceptable
(D) neutral
48. The word gratuity in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) money
(B) award
(C) compliment
(D) donation
49. The word vary in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) increase
(B) charge
(C) differ
(D) reduce
50. The word check in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) banknote
(B) written order
(C) bill
(D) examination
51. The word courtesy in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) support
(B) helpfulness
(C) respect
(D) politeness
52. The word lackluster in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) responsive
(B) unimpressive
(C) below standard
(D) unprepared

PART TWO (14 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

- 1 Of course it is natural for people to want to change the way they look: have a new haircut, buy something nice to wear to a party or make a good first impression at an interview. However, the real problem starts when people feel that there is something they cannot change and makes them feel unattractive. It may be a too long chin or a big, red nose. In serious cases, this small thing can often affect their lives seriously, making them feel anxious about going out in public and making them depressed. In 2006, we did a Body Image Survey to learn more about how people gain confidence in themselves. Below are a few suggestions on how to feel good about yourself.
- 2 – Think about your skills and talents. For example, focus on success at work, participate in sports and have friendships. When you realize that you can do what you want and have a happy full life, appearance will seem less important. If you have negative feelings about your appearance, try to do something positive like buying some new clothes or taking up a new hobby.
- 3 – Learn to accept that you are unique. There is no one else in the world like you, and that makes you very special. Love the unusual things about yourself. If you hate your red hair because it is so different, teach yourself to think about it as beautiful and special!
- 4 – Forget about what you cannot control. There is one simple rule: work on improving what you can change and do not spend time worrying about anything else.
- 5 – Stop buying fashion magazines and comparing yourself to the models. Remember that they do not look that good without a personal hairstylist, makeup artist, or computer generated photography!
- 6 – Finally, if you still feel depressed about the way you look, consider getting professional advice.



Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

53. What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) What makes a good appearance.
- (B) How to feel good if you do not look good.
- (C) Advice on how to change your appearance.
- (D) The importance of appearance.

54. What does the word It in paragraph 1 refer to?

- (A) Problem.
- (B) Something.
- (C) Chin.
- (D) Nose.

55. Why does the author mention the Body Image Survey in paragraph 1?

- (A) To make the given suggestions more reliable.
- (B) To give some examples of popular unattractive traits.
- (C) To conclude that people's assumptions about their appearance are right.
- (D) To explain what people should do to change their unwanted look.

56. According to paragraph 2, what should people do if they are not confident about their appearance?

- (A) Focus on sports to gain success.
- (B) Make more and more new friends.
- (C) Purchase new clothing.
- (D) Take up some academic courses.

57. What does the word that in paragraph 3 refer to?

- (A) The fact that no one likes you.
- (B) The fact that people think you are special.
- (C) The fact that there is no one else in the world like you.
- (D) The fact that you have to accept people's uniqueness.

58. Why does the author advise us not to buy fashion magazines in paragraph 5?

- (A) These magazines are too good to be real.
- (B) Good-looking models will make us feel less confident about our look.
- (C) Artists and technology make these magazines more expensive.
- (D) They are just about hair stylists, makeup artists and computerized photography.

PART THREE (20 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

- 1 Footballs and Big Macs are certainly part of life for a lot of people; but Coca-Cola is now a permanent part of world culture. People know and drink Coca-Cola all over the world. It is said that the Coca-Cola bottle is the most recognized object in the world. Hundreds of millions of people can recognize a Coke bottle by its shape even if they cannot see it! Also, the famous Coca-Cola logo is the most famous logo in the world. Unlike any other famous commercial logo, it has not changed for 100 years.
- 2 However, the story of Coca-Cola is even older than that. It was in 1886 that John Pemberton, a druggist in Atlanta, Georgia, invented a new type of syrup, using coca leaves, sugar and cola nuts, plus a few other secret ingredients. Pemberton sold it as a medicine; and with its coca (the source of cocaine), it must have made people feel good.
- 3 Nevertheless, Pemberton's medicine was not very successful, so he sold his secret formula to another druggist, Asa Candler. Candler was interested because he had another idea; he thought that Pemberton's "medicine" would be much better if it was mixed with soda. Candler was thus the man who really invented the drink Coca-Cola. At first he sold it in his drugstore; then he began selling the syrup to other drugstores, which used it with their soda fountains. Candler also advertised his new drink, and soon people were going to drugstores just to get a drink of Coca-Cola.
- 4 Soon, other people became interested in the product, including a couple of businessmen who wanted to sell it in bottles. Candler sold them a licence to bottle the drink, and very quickly the men became millionaires. The famous bottle, with its very distinctive shape, was designed in 1916.
- 5 During the First World War, American soldiers in Europe began asking for Coca-Cola, so the Coca-Cola company began to export to Europe. It was so popular with soldiers that they then had to start bottling the drink in Europe. Today, Coca-Cola is made in countries all over the world, including Russia and China; it is the world's most popular drink.
- 6 As for the famous formula, it is probably the world's most valuable secret. The exact ingredients for making Coca-Cola are only known to a handful of people. The "coca" that was in the original drink was eliminated in 1903. Today's Coca-Cola contains caffeine, but not cocaine!



Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

59. The passage is mainly about _____.
(A) how Coca-Cola was invented
(B) why Coca-Cola became popular
(C) the formula of Coca-Cola
(D) the history of Coca-Cola

60. The writer mentions 100 years in paragraph 1 in order to _____.
(A) indicate when the Coca-Cola logo was first designed
(B) compare the Coca-Cola logo with other long-lasting logos
(C) emphasize the age of the Coca-Cola logo
(D) suggest a change for the Coca-Cola logo

61. It can be inferred from paragraph 2 that John Pemberton's syrup _____.
(A) was not an addictive beverage
(B) is still unknown about its effects
(C) was only made from natural ingredients
(D) was a bitter medicine

62. In paragraph 3, the word it refers to _____.
(A) formula
(B) idea
(C) medicine
(D) soda

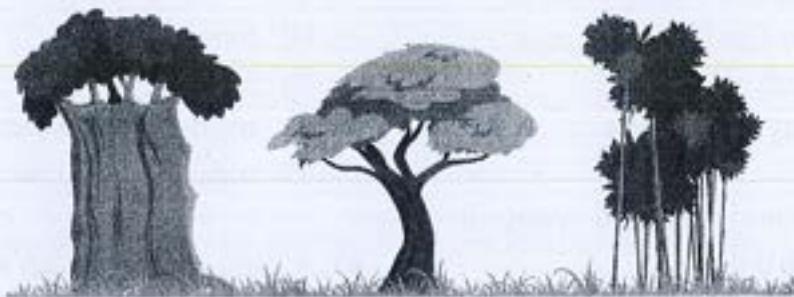
63. According to paragraph 4, the distinctive Coca-Cola bottle _____.
(A) was designed by Asa Candler
(B) was first used in the early 20th century
(C) was bought by two millionaires
(D) made Coca-Cola famous world-wide

64. It can be inferred from paragraph 5 that _____.
(A) Coca-Cola bottles were made by American soldiers in Europe
(B) American soldiers persuaded Europeans to drink Coca-Cola
(C) American soldiers were served free Coca-Cola in Europe
(D) American soldiers in Europe contributed to the introduction of Coca-Cola to the world

65. According to paragraph 6, the exact ingredients of Coca-Cola _____.
(A) are still secretly kept by a few people
(B) are highly addictive to consumers
(C) are now totally different from the original ones
(D) make a handful of people become rich

PART FOUR(26 pts)

Read the passage carefully.



- 1 Trees are not always as strong as they appear. In fact, many different things can damage trees. However, like humans, trees have defensive strategies against bacterial and fungal invasions that occur when they are wounded. Here is a brief overview of defense strategies that trees use.
- 2 Trees have a series of defense strategies against infection. Each one is better than others at stopping the progress of disease organisms. First, when a tree is injured, the tracheids and vessel elements of xylem immediately plug up with the chemicals that block them off above and below the site of the injury. In the trees that fail to effectively close off vessel elements, long columns of decay run up and down the trunk and into branches, which eventually become hollow.
- 3 The second defense strategy is a result of the tree structure. As is well known, a tree trunk has annual rings that tell its age. A dark region at the edge of an annual ring in the cross section of a trunk tells people that this tree was injured and that the disease organisms could not advance inward on their way to the pith. It appears, therefore, that disease organisms have a harder time moving across a trunk due to annual ring construction than they do moving through the trunk in vessel elements. A ring acts as a wall or barrier to halt invasion by disease-causing organisms.
- 4 The third defense strategy involves rays. Rays take their name from the fact that they project radially from vascular cambium. Here, trees use a defense strategy similar to the ring method just mentioned. Just like the slices of a pie, rays divide the trunk of a tree. Disease organisms cannot cross rays either, and this keeps them in a pie piece of the trunk and prevents them from moving completely around the trunk.

- 5 The fourth defense strategy is a so-called reaction zone that develops in the region of the injury along the inner portion of the cambium next to the youngest annual ring. The reaction zone can extend from a few inches to a few feet above and below the injury, and partway or all the way around the trunk. The reaction zone does not wall off any annual rings that develop after the injury, but it does wall off any annual rings that were present before the injury occurred.
- 6 Although the fourth defense strategy more effectively retards disease, it has a severe disadvantage. Cracks can develop along the reaction zone, and radial cracks also occur from the reaction zone to and through the bark. Cracks can severely weaken a tree and make it more susceptible to breaking. A closure crack is one that occurs at the site of the wound. Some trees are better defenders against disease than others. Trees that effectively carry out the first three strategies never need to employ the last one, which can lead to cracking.

Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

66. What is the passage mainly about?

- (A) How trees protect themselves against disease organisms.
- (B) Strategies that trees use for their defense.
- (C) Defense strategies for diseases using trees
- (D) What trees do to protect themselves against humans

67. The word others in paragraph 2 refers to _____.

- (A) trees
- (B) series
- (C) strategies
- (D) organisms

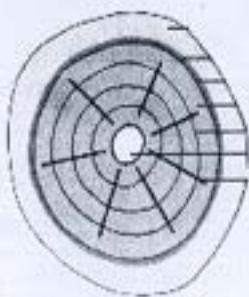
68. Which sentence below best expresses the idea of the highlighted sentence in paragraph 3?

- (A) Trees are well known because humans can tell their age by looking at their trunk.
- (B) It is widely known that humans can identify a tree's age by counting the annual rings on its trunk.
- (C) All people know how to tell a tree's age because the tree adds up rings every year.
- (D) The rings on a tree trunk accumulate annually, which makes trees well known.

69. The author mentions slices of a pie in paragraph 4 in order to _____.
A) visualize the rays that divide a tree trunk
B) describe the disease organisms
C) compare the rings and the rays of a tree trunk
D) show the similarities between a pie and a trunk

70. It can be inferred from paragraph 5 that the annual rings developing before the injury _____.
A) can protect the ones developing later
B) are the disease organisms
C) are less vulnerable to infection
D) can wall off themselves

72. According to the passage, which of the following is mentioned in the third defense strategy of trees?



(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)

71. In paragraph 6, which of the following is NOT mentioned as a disadvantageous aspect of the fourth defense strategy?
A) It can develop vertical cracks.
B) Cracks can also develop radially.
C) It causes the tree to break more easily.
D) It causes side wounds for the tree.

WRITING SECTION

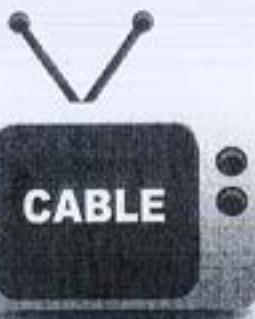
The Writing section tests your English writing skills. There are two parts in this section.

Part One: You have five minutes to read a passage and twenty minutes to write a paragraph summarizing the passage. You may take notes while you are reading and use your notes to write your summary.

Part Two: You have thirty-five minutes to plan and write an essay on a given topic.

PART ONE: SUMMARY WRITING (40 pts)

Read the passage carefully and take notes.

**GETTING FREE****CABLE**

Everyone likes to watch TV. In fact, today almost all homes are connected to some form of cable. However, cable service is overpriced. There is a cheaper alternative called digital satellite TV. Unfortunately, it is not available in every building. Because viewers have limited options and because cable companies are overcharging for their services, these people should not be penalized if they use free unauthorized cable service.

First, cable companies charge a huge amount of money for their services. For example, the family package starts at about \$50 per month, has a separate installation fee, and does not even include the movie channels. Once this discount period is over, the price for the same service increases to more than \$60 per month. To add different movie channels, you have to buy a package for \$15 extra. These packages consist of nine to eleven channels. However, only two of the nine are usually worth watching. Most of the movies shown are old and constantly repeated. Consequently, customers are encouraged to get other packages to obtain the channels they want. The service is simply not worth paying for.

Second, satellite service is not a good option for viewers. Although it is cheaper, the quality is inferior. For example, images on TV may be disturbed by the weather. In addition, many buildings do not allow residents to use satellite dishes because strong wind, snow or rainstorms can knock down the dish and cause an accident. An individual cannot order satellite unless a majority of the residents agree. Therefore, I see no other option than to use the cable signals illegally.

Third, it is not illegal if we try to get back what others take from us. Cable companies complain that they are losing money and that obtaining free cable is unlawful. However, these companies are "legally stealing" from customers with their unusually high fees. This is because in most cases, there is only one cable company in each area, and with no competition, the company can charge what it wants. That is not fair.

In conclusion, people should be allowed to use unauthorized cable service unless they have reasonable options.

Write a paragraph of about 100-150 words to summarize the passage above.

PART TWO: ESSAY WRITING (60 pts)

Question:

Some people prefer to eat at food stands or restaurants. Other people prefer to prepare and eat food at home. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answers.



or



On your answer sheet, write an essay of about 300 words to develop your point of view.

SPEAKING SECTION

The three-task Speaking section tests your English speaking skills.

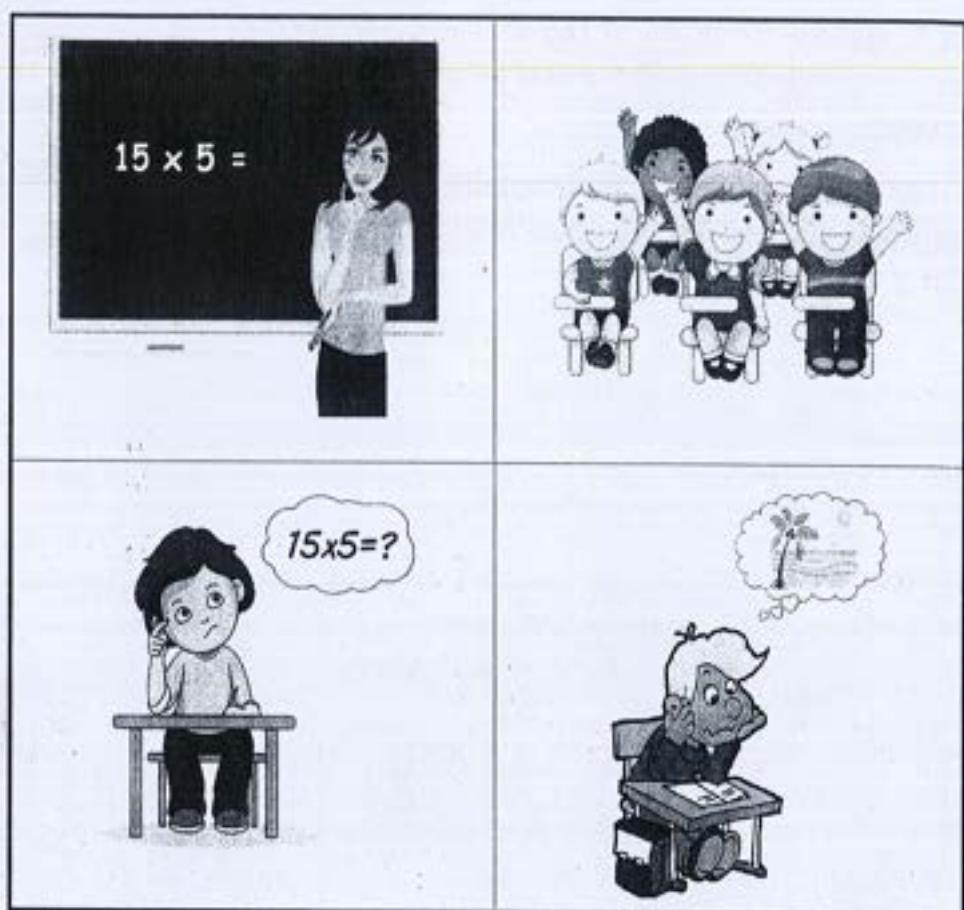
Part One: You are given a visual prompt, such as a picture, a mind map, or a form, and a question about the prompt. You have one minute to prepare a one-minute response. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

Part Two: You are asked to talk about a personal experience or interest. You have one and a half minutes to prepare a one-and-a-half-minute response. Be sure to include reasons and examples to support your answer. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

Part Three: You are asked to give your opinion about a quote, a public opinion, or a social issue. You have two minutes to prepare a three-minute argumentative presentation. Include reasons and examples in your response. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

PART ONE: SPEAKING ABOUT A VISUAL PROMPT (20 pts)

Look at the pictures carefully. (1 minute)



Where are these people and what are they doing? (1 minute)

PART TWO: SPEAKING ABOUT A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE/INTEREST (30 pts)

Preparation time : 1.5 minutes

Response time : 1.5 minutes

What was the subject you most enjoyed studying during your high school years? Explain why it was your most enjoyable subject. Include specific reasons and details in your explanation.

PART THREE: MAKING AN ARGUMENTATIVE PRESENTATION (50 pts)

Preparation time : 2 minutes

Response time : 3 minutes

"In order to improve the quality of English teaching in Vietnam, it is strongly recommended that English should be taught by native English teachers only."

Do you agree or disagree with this suggestion? Give reasons and examples from your reading, experience or observations to support your point of view.



PRACTICE TEST 5

LISTENING SECTION

The Listening section, consisting of conversations and lectures, tests your English listening skills. There are four passages and thirty-two questions, which are based on either stated or implied information in the passages.

Each passage will be played **twice**. The questions will follow each passage. Each question has four answer choices. Select the best answer to each question and blacken your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes while you are listening and use your notes to answer the questions.

After all the parts have been played, you will have three minutes to transfer your answers to your answer sheet.

PART ONE (20 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part One you will hear ten conversations between two people. After the second listening of each conversation, you will hear a question and there are four possible answers provided. Select the best answer to each question.

1. (A) Find work in the city.
(B) Take a bus to work.
(C) Make a public speech.
(D) Drive his car home.
2. (A) Book a hotel room for the woman.
(B) Check the reservations for the next few weeks.
(C) Find a job in Crystal View Hotel.
(D) Remind the woman of her work schedule.
3. (A) They will probably ask Kathy to make a few cherry pies.
(B) They will probably be busy working two jobs.
(C) They are planning dessert for an event.
(D) They are probably going to make some oatmeal cookies.
4. (A) She is probably going to the concert on Saturday.
(B) She does not like the cellist.
(C) She does not like listening to music.
(D) She is not interested in classical music concerts.
5. (A) Give him a lift in bad weather.
(B) Visit his house on her way home from work.
(C) Walk with him to do exercise.
(D) Go to work by bus when it rains.
6. (A) He likes the Wednesday comedy show on TV.
(B) He wants the woman to stay home and watch TV.
(C) He watches several funny programs on TV.
(D) He usually likes what everybody likes.
7. (A) Uncomfortable facilities.
(B) Unfriendly staff.
(C) Poor service.
(D) Inconvenient location.
8. (A) Art.
(B) Literature.
(C) Life science.
(D) Technology.
9. (A) A hot vacation place.
(B) What to pack for a summer vacation.
(C) The weather in the fall.
(D) Suitable clothes for the man's trip.
10. (A) Visit a museum.
(B) Go shopping.
(C) Buy some art pieces.
(D) Buy tickets for an art show.

PART TWO (20 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Two you will hear about a show. After the second listening, there are six incomplete sentences and four possible options provided for each gap. Select the best option to complete the sentence.

11. The show is mainly about ____.

- (A) some sugary foods and drinks to avoid
- (B) advice on healthy eating
- (C) the importance of fruits and vegetables
- (D) diseases caused by unhealthy eating

12. According to the woman, eating fruits and vegetables can help us ____.

- (A) lose weight
- (B) get more water
- (C) avoid cancer
- (D) burn calories

13. The woman advises eating a(n) ____ for a snack.

- (A) banana
- (B) carrot
- (C) potato
- (D) apple

14. The woman's second advice is that we should ____.

- (A) cut down on sugar in our diet
- (B) take medicine to stop weight gain
- (C) visit the dentist regularly
- (D) cure diabetes carefully

15. The speakers probably agree that we should not eat ____ to cut down on fat in our diet.

- (A) beef
- (B) fast food
- (C) dairy products
- (D) peanut butter

16. In his fourth suggestion, the man says that we should eat ____.

- (A) white rice
- (B) brown rice
- (C) white bread
- (D) home grown grains

Directions: In Part Three you will hear a conversation. After the second listening, there are eight questions. Select the best answer to each question.

17. What is the conversation mainly about?

- (A) The pros and cons of traditional and online classes.
- (B) Advantages of traditional classes over online ones.
- (C) Requirements and activities for online classes.
- (D) Reasons to switch from traditional classes to online ones.

18. Why does James have difficulty in signing up for classes?

- (A) He cannot decide on the classes.
- (B) His full-time work interferes his study time.
- (C) He has to work hard to earn his tuition first.
- (D) The classes that he wants are not available.

19. What major is James's friend probably doing online?

- (A) Business.
- (B) Law.
- (C) Politics.
- (D) Sociology.

20. How can online students take part in their professors' lectures?

- (A) They make conference calls.
- (B) They post their opinions.
- (C) They mail their comments.
- (D) They set up teams.

21. How long does an online class usually last?

- (A) A full semester.
- (B) More than a month.
- (C) A month.
- (D) Forty days.

22. How are assignments and tests done in online classes?

- (A) Assignments are done online, but tests are done in classrooms.
- (B) They are all done online or at home and sent to the professors over the Internet.
- (C) They are strictly administered by the professors' assistants.
- (D) They are done under the professors' distant supervision.

23. What advice is given on the textbook in online classes?

- (A) It should be read prior to each lesson.
- (B) It should be available in case of need.
- (C) It should be kept in the electronic version.
- (D) It should be read before a class begins.

24. What can be inferred about online classes?

- (A) They have the same basic components as traditional classes.
- (B) They are much more effective than traditional classes.
- (C) They will certainly attract more students than traditional classes.
- (D) They will replace traditional classes due to their huge advantages.

PART FOUR (32 pts) ♀

Directions: In Part Four you will hear part of a talk. After the second listening, there is a summary of the talk with eight gaps. Select the best option for each gap to complete the summary.

The talk is about possible job interview types and tips on how to handle them and possible (25) _____.

The speaker first introduces three basic types of interviews which are termed *traditional*, *behavioral* and *case-study*. In a traditional interview, the interviewer tries to get factual information from an interviewee and assess if the interviewee fits the job description. A typical question of this interview type is (26) _____. In a behavioral interview, the employer wants to know about the (27) _____ that a candidate has. Some possible questions may be about the candidate's teamwork experience or challenge encounters. A suggested framework to deal with this question type is STAR, which stands for Situation, Task, Action, and Result. The case-study interview type requires a candidate to analyze a problem or a situation and suggest a solution to it. A possible example question is how to deal with (28) _____.

The speaker continues with the basic structure of an interview. A typical interview has a three-phase structure: warm-up, information exchange, and conclusion. In the warm-up phase, a candidate will be asked common-ground questions about himself/herself so that he/she can feel at ease. This is a good opportunity for the candidate to briefly describe his/her background, skills, and interest in the position.

25. (A) interviewer's techniques
(B) interview problems
(C) interview questions
(D) questioning tricks

26. (A) "Name the common weaknesses."
(B) "What are your weaknesses, if any?"
(C) "What degree subject do people like the most?"
(D) "What positions are people interested in?"

27. (A) knowledge
(B) perspective
(C) skills
(D) characteristics

28. (A) a customer's complaint about bad service
(B) bad service
(C) bad customers
(D) bad service for customers

In the information exchange phase, which is the main part of the interview, the candidate should try to persuade the employer that he/she has the skills, background, and (29) ____ to do the job and the adaptability to the employer's organization. Some general advice for the candidate on how to do his/her best in the information exchange part of the interview includes the following: (a) show (30) ____ in his/her responses to the employer's questions; (b) be positive with non-verbal and verbal language; (c) ask the interviewer to (31) ____ a question if he/she is not sure of how to answer it to have more time to think of the answer; (d) make sure to answer all questions asked (e) avoid filling up every second of the conversation and using colloquial language; (f) answer questions honestly and (g) show a positive attitude.

In the final phase of the interview, the candidate should always ask questions to show his/her (32) ____ and interest in the job. It is also advisable for the candidate to use this opportunity to thank the employer for the interview, summarize his/her qualifications and restate his/her interest in the job.

29. (A) creativity

(B) ability

(C) reliability

(D) morality

30. (A) excitement

(B) consideration

(C) elaboration

(D) enthusiasm

31. (A) repeat

(B) clarify

(C) explain

(D) illustrate

32. (A) concern

(B) research

(C) queries

(D) request

READING SECTION

The Reading section tests your English reading skills. This section includes four reading passages and forty questions. Each question has four answer choices. Select the best answer choice and blacken your choice on your answer sheet. You have sixty minutes to complete this section of the test.

The first passage tests your grammar and vocabulary.

The last three passages test your comprehension of the passages.

You may take notes and use your notes to answer the questions.

Read the passage carefully.

INDIAN MARRIAGES



1 Marriage is one of the (33) _____ human institutions, and this is as true in Indian culture as anywhere else. In India, marriage, called "Kanyadana" or "donating a virgin", is thought of as the greatest sacrifice that a father can make and for the groom as an obligation to perpetuate his bloodline. Many people believe that a marriage is still binding after death.

2 In early times, girls were thought to be ready for marriage after puberty and later, even (34) _____ children could be married. Divorce and remarriage were not always possible.

By the Medieval times, marriage was compulsory for girls, (35) _____ very often married between the ages of eight and nine. Among those able to afford it, polygamy was common, and rulers would often have one wife from their own region and other minor wives from other areas. Now, divorce and remarriage are possible, and non-Muslim Indian men can only have one wife.

3 Although there (36) _____ many regional variations, some features of the Indian wedding ceremony are similar throughout the country. In (37) _____, weddings are very complicated events and involve long negotiations about dowry payments prior to the event. After this has been decided, the two families choose a suitable time by asking an astrologer to find a lucky day. Preparations begin early because a marriage is not only one of the highlights in a person's life but also a large and complex social gathering to organize.

4 The night before, the bride, her friends and female relatives gather together for a party called a "mehendi", where they paint each other's hands and feet with Henna, then they dance and listen to music. Her guests often give the bride advice (38) _____ married life and tease her about her future husband. Weddings are traditionally held at the bride's home or in a temple, but parks, hotels and marriage halls are becoming increasingly popular. On the wedding day, a wedding altar or "mandapa" is built and covered in flowers. All of the wedding ceremonies will be held in the altar.

- 5 The ceremony begins with a mixture of turmeric, sandalwood paste and oils (39) ____ to the couples' faces and arms. In the past, this was done to the whole body, but now it is only symbolic, with only a little being rubbed on. Then they are showered in flowers. After that, they (40) ____ the rituals that will make them husband and wife. First, they garland each other and then take seven symbolic steps together representing seven gifts and seven promises.
- 6 Finally they say the vows, and then they are legally married. The bride's father or guardian takes her hands and puts them in her husband's, giving her to him. Now she is no longer a member of her father's family but a member of her (41) _____. They then touch the feet of their elders for luck.
- 7 After the wedding ceremony, the couple go to the groom's house. The bride should (42) ____ careful to enter the house with her right foot first for luck. In the evening and late into the night, the families and their guests celebrate with dancing, music and food.

Task 1: Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 33. (A) old | (B) older | (C) most oldest | (D) oldest |
| 34. (A) a | (B) an | (C) the | (D) Ø (no article) |
| 35. (A) who | (B) that | (C) which | (D) whom |
| 36. (A) is | (B) was | (C) are | (D) were |
| 37. (A) generally | (B) general | (C) the general | (D) generality |
| 38. (A) about | (B) with | (C) for | (D) upon |
| 39. (A) is applied | (B) are applied | (C) applied | (D) have been applied |
| 40. (A) performs | (B) perform | (C) performed | (D) have performed |
| 41. (A) husband's | (B) husbands' | (C) husband | (D) husbands's |
| 42. (A) is | (B) have been | (C) are | (D) be |

Task 2: Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.

43. The word perpetuate in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) maintain
(B) improve
(C) enrich
(D) cure
44. The word binding in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) alive
(B) valid
(C) happy
(D) connected
45. The word Divorce in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) temporary separation
(B) strong conflict
(C) ending of a marriage
(D) short-term breakup
46. The word polygamy in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) exchanging wives
(B) living as wives and husbands in a group
(C) remarrying many times
(D) having more than one wife at the same time
47. The word variations in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) changes
(B) differences
(C) factors
(D) patterns
48. The phrase prior to in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) before
(B) near
(C) around
(D) after
49. The word highlights in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) great efforts
(B) successes
(C) important events
(D) rewards
50. The word tease in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) make fun of
(B) fool
(C) tell funny stories to
(D) give information to
51. The word ceremonies in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) celebrations
(B) rituals
(C) parties
(D) informal activities
52. The word symbolic in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) less important
(B) special
(C) partly appreciated
(D) representative

PART TWO(14 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

- 1 On November 18, 1997, there were about 3,400 people in Carlisle, Iowa. The next day, that number increased to **3,407**. It was a historic day.



- 2 Kenny and Bobbi McCaughey had one daughter, Mikayla, but they wanted her to have siblings. Unfortunately, Bobbi was having trouble getting pregnant. Bobbi's doctor suggested that Bobbi try fertility drugs. There are some risks of fertility drugs: the baby might not be healthy, or Bobbi might have a multiple birth. Kenny and Bobbi talked to each other. Then they decided to take the risk.
- 3 After one month, they went to the hospital to see their doctor again. He told Bobbi, "You are going to have seven babies." The couple and all the people there were surprised. The doctor explained, "This is very dangerous." Kenny and Bobbi talked again. Then they said, "OK. They are all our children. We want them." On November 19th Bobbi had the babies – two months early. Forty doctors and nurses helped. In six minutes, Bobbi had four boys and three girls. They were the first living septuplets.
- 4 When the septuplets were little, the McCaugheys got a lot of support from their family and their church. Seventy volunteers – eight or nine every day – helped to cook, clean and take care of the kids. Companies and other generous people also helped with food, clothes and the state of Iowa donated a new house with five bedrooms and bathrooms.
- 5 The McCaugheys are famous, but they also have a normal life. After the septuplets were born, Bobbi and Kenny did many interviews. They recorded a CD of bedtime music called *Sweet dreams*. They wrote a book called *Seven from Heaven*. In 2006, the children recorded a CD of Christmas music. Every December *Ladies' Home Journal*, a magazine, has a story about the McCaugheys. Kenny and Bobbi want their family to be happy and strong. They do their best for their family.

Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

53. What is the passage mainly about?

- (A) A family with septuplets.
- (B) How septuplets are born.
- (C) Life of the first septuplets.
- (D) Support for a family with septuplets.

54. Why does the writer mention 3,407 in paragraph 1?

- (A) To emphasize the special event of the septuplets' birth.
- (B) To compare the population of Carlisle and that of Iowa.
- (C) To explain Carlisle is a small area.
- (D) To highlight Carlisle's overpopulation.

55. According to paragraphs 2 and 3, how many children do Kenny and Bobbi McCaughey have?

- (A) Three.
- (B) Four.
- (C) Seven.
- (D) Eight.

56. What does the word they in paragraph 3 refer to?

- (A) Kenny and Bobbi.
- (B) Seven babies.
- (C) Couple.
- (D) People.

57. According to paragraph 4, how could Kenny and Bobbi McCaughey raise their kids?

- (A) They hired eight or nine people to work for them every day.
- (B) They worked for many companies to make enough money.
- (C) They got help from their relatives and community.
- (D) They asked for support from generous people.

58. What does the word they in paragraph 5 refer to?

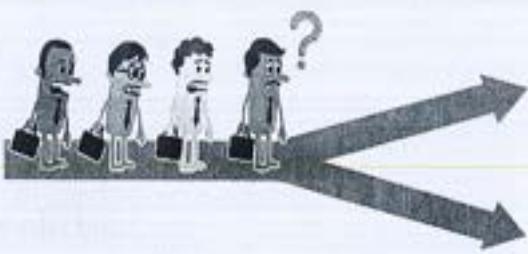
- (A) The McCaugheys.
- (B) Bobbi and Kenny.
- (C) Septuplets.
- (D) Interviews.

PART THREE (20 pts)

Read the passage carefully.

- 1 Choosing a career may be one of the hardest jobs you ever have, and it must be done with care. View a career as an opportunity to do something you love, not simply as a way to earn a living. Investing the time and effort to thoroughly explore your options can mean the difference between finding a stimulating and rewarding career and moving from job to job in an attempt to find the right one. Work influences virtually every aspect of your life, from your choice of friends to where you live. Here are just a few of the factors to consider.
- 2 Deciding what matters most to you is the most essential to making the right decision. You may want to begin by assessing your likes, dislikes, strengths, and weaknesses. Think about the classes, hobbies, and surroundings that you find most appealing. Ask yourself questions such as "Would I like to travel? Do I want to work with children? Am I more suited to solitary or cooperative work?" There are no right or wrong answers; only you know what is important to you. Determine which job features you require, which ones you would prefer, and which ones you cannot accept. Then rank them in order of importance to you.
- 3 The setting of the job is one factor to take into account. You may not want to sit at a desk all day. If not, there are diverse occupations – building inspector, surveyor, or real estate agent – that involve a great deal of time away from the office. Geographic location may be a concern, and employment in some fields is concentrated in certain regions. For example, aerospace jobs in the U.S. are the most plentiful in California, Texas, and Washington. Advertising jobs can generally be found only in large cities. On the other hand, many industries such as hospitality, law, education, and retail sales are found in all regions of the country.
- 4 If a high salary is important to you, do not judge a career by its starting wages. Many jobs, such as insurance sales, offer relatively low starting salaries; however, pay substantially increases along with your experience, additional training, promotions, and commission. Remember that many jobs are not what they appear to be at first and may have merits or demerits that are less obvious. Flight attendants must work long, grueling hours without sleep, whereas plumbers can be as highly paid as some doctors. Another point to consider is that as you mature, you will likely develop new interests and skills that may pave the way to new opportunities. The choice you make today need not be your final one.

Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.



59. The passage is mainly about _____. _____

- (A) how to win in competitive careers
- (B) various job settings for applicants to consider
- (C) some considerations for choosing a career
- (D) salaries as the first job consideration

60. In paragraph 1, the author advises readers to _____. _____

- (A) be careful when choosing the hardest job they have ever done
- (B) consider a job as an opportunity rather than a source of income
- (C) invest time and effort in their jobs to make them rewarding
- (D) move from job to job in order to find a suitable and satisfactory one

61. It can be inferred from paragraph 2 that _____

- (A) each person is the best self-assessor of his or her job needs and preference
- (B) people should question their hobbies, abilities and limitations when considering a job offer
- (C) what is considered right by some people may be considered wrong by their opponents
- (D) some job features required by a person may be turned down by others

62. The word them in paragraph 2 refers to _____

- (A) questions
- (B) answers
- (C) job features
- (D) children

63. The author mentions building inspector, surveyor, or real estate agent in paragraph 3 in order to _____. _____

- (A) prove that occupations are diverse
- (B) suggest the jobs with the longest time outside
- (C) contrast office and out-of-office jobs
- (D) exemplify some out-of-office jobs

64. It is stated in paragraph 3 that big cities are places where only _____ jobs can be found.

- (A) education
- (B) hospitality
- (C) sales
- (D) advertising

65. It can be inferred from paragraph 4 that the author _____.

- (A) wants readers not to be disappointed if their initial pay is low because rewards and opportunities will come with time and efforts
- (B) asks readers to remember the difference in the appearance and the nature of jobs
- (C) advises readers to take the jobs that promise them good salaries, promotions and commissions
- (D) urges readers to look for new opportunities when they have new interests and skills

PART FOUR (26 pts)

Read the passage carefully.



- 1 The majority of successful senior managers do not closely follow the classical rational model of first clarifying goals, assessing the problem, formulating options, estimating likelihood of success, making a decision, and only then taking action to implement the decision. Rather, in their day-by-day tactical maneuvers, these senior executives rely on what is vaguely termed "intuition" to manage a network of interrelated problems that require them to deal with ambiguity, inconsistency, novelty, and surprise and to integrate action into the process of thinking.
- 2 As our life becomes more dynamic and less structured, intuition gains more and more recognition as an essential decision-making tool. You have probably heard of experienced managers who are able to directly recognize the best option or course of action in many tricky situations. The solution just comes to them from somewhere in their subconscious mind, instead of being a result a lengthy chain of logical derivations. However, generations of writers on management have recognized that some practicing managers rely too heavily on intuition in their decision making. In general, such writers display a poor grasp of what intuition is. Some see it as the opposite of rationality; others view it as an excuse for capriciousness.

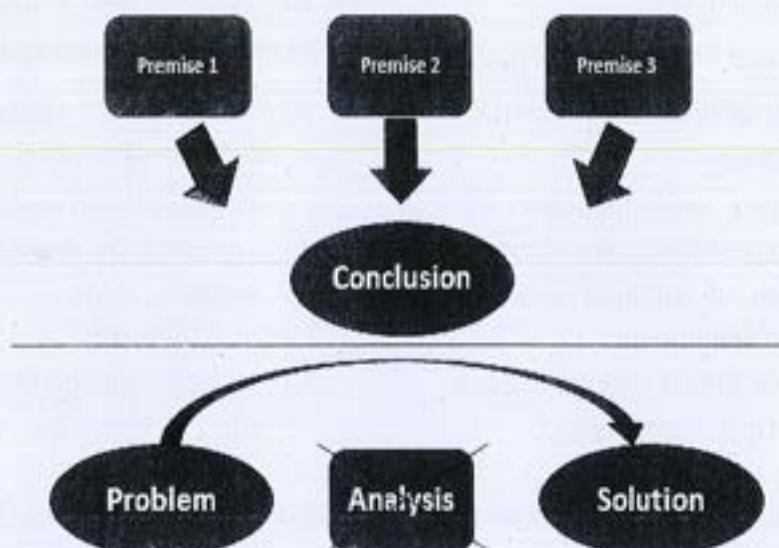
- 3 Isenberg's recent research on the cognitive processes of senior managers reveals that senior managers' intuition is neither of these. Rather, senior managers use intuition in at least five distinct ways. First, they intuitively sense when a problem exists. Second, senior managers rely on intuition to perform well-learned behavior patterns rapidly. This intuition is not arbitrary or irrational, but is based on years of painstaking practice and hands-on experience that build skills. A third function of intuition is to synthesize isolated bits of data and practice into an integrated picture, often in an "Aha!" experience. Fourth, some senior managers use intuition as a check on the results of more rational analysis. Most senior executives are familiar with the formal decision analysis models and tools, and those who use such systematic methods for reaching decisions are occasionally leery of solutions suggested by these methods which run counter to their sense of the correct course of action. Finally, senior managers can use intuition to bypass in-depth analysis and move rapidly to engender a plausible solution. Used in this way, intuition is an almost instantaneous cognitive process in which a senior manager recognizes familiar patterns.
- 4 One of the implications of the intuitive style of executive management is that "thinking" is inseparable from acting. Since senior managers often "know" what is right before they can analyze and explain it, they frequently act first and explain later. Analysis is inextricably tied to action in thinking/acting cycles, in which senior managers develop thoughts about their companies and organizations not by analyzing a problematic situation and then acting, but by acting and analyzing in close concert. Given the great uncertainty of many of the management issues that they face, senior managers often instigate a course of action simply to learn more about an issue. They then use the results of the action to develop a more complete understanding of the issue. One implication of thinking/acting cycles is that action is often part of defining the problem, not just of implementing the solution.



Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

- 66.** The passage is mainly about _____.
(A) why senior managers prefer intuition to rational thinking in their problem solving
(B) how and why senior managers use intuition in their decision making
(C) a definition of intuition used by executive management
(D) how various writers criticize the use of intuition in management
- 67.** The word them in paragraph 1 refers to _____.
(A) options
(B) maneuvers
(C) executives
(D) problems
- 68.** Which of the following best rephrases the highlighted sentence in paragraph 2?
(A) Managers who lack an ability to think logically often use their intuition to make decisions.
(B) Experienced managers' subconscious mind assists them more in finding good solutions.
(C) Some senior managers only rely on their instinct, not rational analysis, to make decisions.
(D) Although senior executives do not know exactly where their solutions come from, they dislike using a logical thinking process.
- 69.** Why does the author mention Isenberg's recent research in paragraph 3?
(A) To cite a refutation of the arguments made by the writers on intuition-based management.
(B) To exemplify the viewpoints of the writers on intuition-based management.
(C) To acknowledge the viewpoints of the writers on intuition-based management.
(D) To point out new findings about how senior managers used intuition to gain success.
- 70.** According to paragraph 3, which of the following is NOT a way senior managers use their intuition for their management?
(A) They come up with solutions without thorough analysis.
(B) They proceed quickly and professionally in their problem solving.
(C) They anticipate the risks and opportunities going along with their solutions.
(D) They instinctively evaluate the solutions as a result of logical thinking.
- 71.** From paragraph 4, the best label on intuition-based managers is probably _____.
(A) thinkers
(B) doers
(C) analysts
(D) evaluators

72. According to paragraph 3, the picture below best illustrates which two distinct ways senior managers use intuition in their management?



- (A) The first and the fourth.
- (B) The second and the third.
- (C) The second and the fourth.
- (D) The third and the fifth.

WRITING SECTION

The Writing section tests your English writing skills. There are two parts in this section.

Part One: You have five minutes to read a passage and twenty minutes to write a paragraph summarizing the passage. You may take notes while you are reading and use your notes to write your summary.

Part Two: You have thirty-five minutes to plan and write an essay on a given topic.

PART ONE: SUMMARY WRITING (40 pts)

Read the passage carefully and take notes.

A NEW WORKING TREND

Nowadays, an increasing number of people are leaving their jobs in companies to start their own businesses. This trend is increasing rapidly. Some companies are now having trouble keeping their employees, particularly their best and brightest ones. This is not surprising as the negative aspects of working for a company have become more obvious.

Large companies have multiple levels of power, which often makes it almost impossible for young, new employees to have any contact with people in the upper levels. Getting to the top of the company's ladder might not be one's goal, but all employees are interested in having their ideas listened to and considered. This is often not possible in a corporation because senior managers often make decisions while their staff does most of the hard work. Starting his or her own business is often the only way for an employee to make sure that his or her ideas are appreciated.

In addition, in a constantly changing economy, job security is a thing of the past. Corporations which appear secure have faced numerous difficulties, and downsizing is sometimes the only way for many of them to survive the crisis. Tens of thousands of working people have been fired in the past few years, so job seeking now is not as attractive as job creation. Having one's own business gives a person a greater sense of financial security. These people are merely trying to protect themselves from the nightmare being called by their employers some day and seeing themselves helplessly dismissed.

People also change the way they work to prepare for their old age. It is a tendency that people depend upon insurance, pension plans, and retirement investments to protect themselves in their old age. However, insurance costs are rising, pension funds are in trouble, and many retirement investments become worthless when a company goes bankrupt. Being a private business owner, therefore, guarantees a promising future for its owner, of course only if the business goes well.

All these elements combine to make a private business a great attraction to more and more people, and job offers are now just a thing of the past.



Write a paragraph of about 100-150 words to summarize the passage above.

PART TWO: ESSAY WRITING (60 pts)

Question:

What is your view on the following statement: "Computer games are more harmful than beneficial."

Support your position with reasons and examples taken from your reading, experience, or observations.

On your answer sheet, write an essay of about 300 words to develop your point of view.



SPEAKING SECTION

The three-task Speaking section tests your English speaking skills.

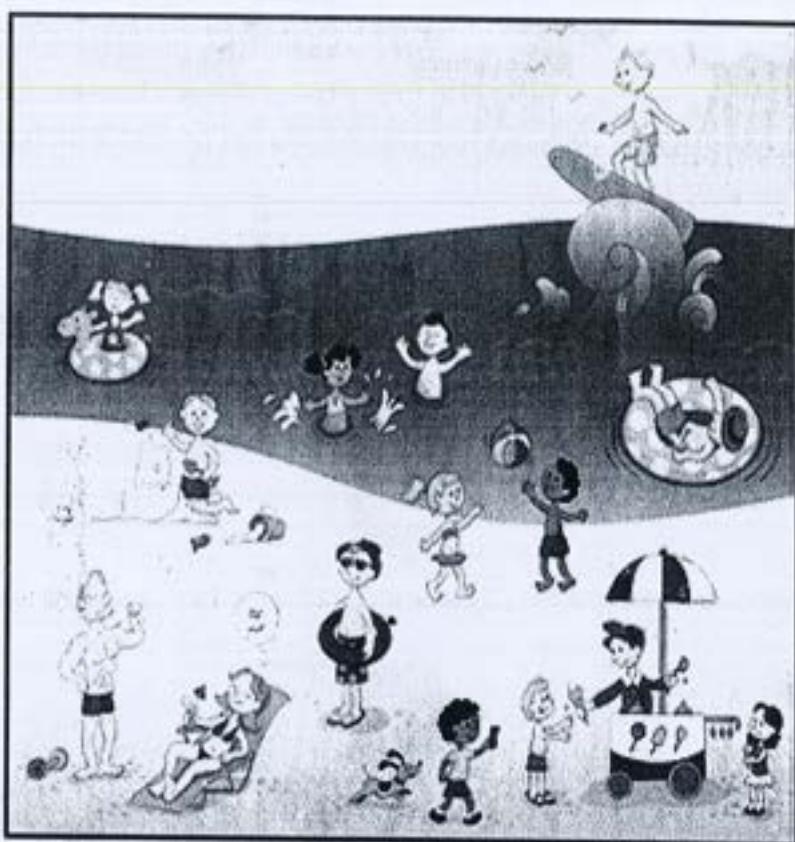
Part One: You are given a visual prompt, such as a picture, a mind map, or a form, and a question about the prompt. You have one minute to prepare a one-minute response. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

Part Two: You are asked to talk about a personal experience or interest. You have one and a half minutes to prepare a one-and-a-half-minute response. Be sure to include reasons and examples to support your answer. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

Part Three: You are asked to give your opinion about a quote, a public opinion, or a social issue. You have two minutes to prepare a three-minute argumentative presentation. Include reasons and examples in your response. Include at least THREE main points in your response.

PART ONE: SPEAKING ABOUT A VISUAL PROMPT (20 pts)

Look at the picture carefully. (1 minute)



What is the picture about? Give at least THREE details. (1 minute)

PART TWO: SPEAKING ABOUT A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE/INTEREST (30 pts)

Preparation time : 1.5 minutes

Response time : 1.5 minutes

Talk about the most difficult decision you have made. Say why it was difficult and how you finally made it. Include specific reasons and details in your answer.

PART THREE: MAKING AN ARGUMENTATIVE PRESENTATION (50 pts)

Preparation time : 2 minutes

Response time : 3 minutes

"In the 21st century, almost all females are career women. They spend more time at work than at home, and most of them earn enough to have a babysitter or a housemaid and to eat out. It is therefore suggested that children, especially girls, do not need to learn how to cook, or to do the housework anymore."

Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Give reasons and examples from your reading, experience or observations to support your point of view.



ANSWER KEY

PRACTICE TEST 1

LISTENING SECTION

- | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. D | 8. A | 15. D | 22. B | 29. C |
| 2. B | 9. C | 16. D | 23. A | 30. A |
| 3. B | 10. A | 17. B | 24. C | 31. B |
| 4. D | 11. B | 18. A | 25. B | 32. D |
| 5. A | 12. C | 19. D | 26. A | |
| 6. B | 13. A | 20. B | 27. D | |
| 7. C | 14. C | 21. C | 28. D | |

READING SECTION

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 33. C | 41. D | 49. B | 57. A | 65. A |
| 34. D | 42. A | 50. C | 58. D | 66. C |
| 35. B | 43. B | 51. D | 59. C | 67. B |
| 36. C | 44. C | 52. A | 60. B | 68. C |
| 37. A | 45. A | 53. B | 61. D | 69. D |
| 38. A | 46. B | 54. C | 62. C | 70. C |
| 39. B | 47. A | 55. A | 63. A | 71. D |
| 40. C | 48. D | 56. D | 64. B | 72. C |

WRITING SECTION

Suggested answers

PART ONE

Online dating is becoming more and more popular nowadays as it has three following advantages. First, it is convenient because users can save time by browsing through other users' profiles, which is a good way to get a truthful assessment of an individual. Webcams and virtual dates also add to the convenience of online dating. Second, online dating sites are very safe because they make use of features such as screen names and internal email to ensure their customers' confidentiality. Third, it is very efficient in terms of marriage rates.

PART TWO

Parents have an incredibly important role. They are raising tomorrow's leaders and tomorrow's contributors. In order to do such a superior job, they need to have specific qualities or

personal attributes. In my view, two of the most important qualities are warmth and responsibility.

First, parents need to openly display their affection for their children and view them with unconditional and positive regard. These things will make their children feel loved and accepted, which in turn will yield adults with healthy self-esteem. Adults who feel good about themselves complete with families of their own, will be better able to make positive contributions to the world and enjoy fulfilling personal lives.

Second, mothers and fathers need to be responsible on a number of levels. For instance, they need to take care of their children's basic needs, including food, clothing, shelter, health care, and education. Furthermore, they need to attend to the emotional well-being of their children by listening to their children and making sure their children's concerns are heard and validated. Responsible parents will also provide a good example for their children by leading a balanced life where family, work, and community involvement receive equal emphasis. Moreover, they will set limits for their children so that their children can learn right from wrong and grow up to be responsible and law-abiding citizens like them. Ultimately, these children will learn to respect their fellow human beings, for this is how they have been treated themselves.

To sum up, ideal parents should possess a caring and responsible attitude. They need to love their children unconditionally and take the time to demonstrate their feelings. Along with this fundamental requirement, parents need to model a responsible lifestyle for their children and set limits so that their children learn how to function successfully in society at large.

SPEAKING SECTION

Suggested answers

PART ONE

In the picture, there are four people and they do different jobs. Tom is a businessman and he meets people at work. Mary is a teacher. She teaches math to children. Tim is an artist. He paints pictures. David is a mechanic. He repairs/fixes cars.

PART TWO

One type of music that I really enjoy listening to is jazz. I like jazz for a number of reasons. First of all, it helps me relax. For instance, during the exam week, I'm really tense and stressed out. However, when I listen to jazz on my way home from the tests, I can actually feel my body and my mind relaxing! Additionally, jazz helps me bond with other people. Last month, I went to see a jazz live show with my friends who also love jazz. It was a great show, and I had a great time with my friends. Finally, according to some recent scientific research, listening to and playing jazz bring us new feelings and improve our creativity because jazz is often played with little or no preparation. For those reasons, jazz is always my favorite music.

PART THREE

Some people think that learning should be a continuous process rather a stage in a person's life. Others claim that learning only takes place in a particular place and at a particular period of time. I whole-heartedly agree with the statement "It is never too late to learn." for three reasons: knowledge is boundless, new things keep coming up, and there is no age limit for any learners.

Firstly, no one can claim to know all about life. The world around us is too big and there are so many things for us to learn. No amount of time spent at school can assure a complete knowledge, so people need to learn even after they leave school. For example, through his or her university education, a student accumulates a lot of knowledge of business, but later he or she may work in a different field. Therefore, he or she has to learn more and more each day, from books, from other people, or from his or her own experience, to better his or her work.

Secondly, with the rapid development of technology, if we do not keep learning, we will be left behind. Every day, there are a number of new inventions and new concepts born into this word, so only with learning can help us keep up with new trends. Just take a look at the world of smartphones and we will see the point. New functions keep being added and there are newer and newer versions. If we do not learn, how can we know how to use them?

Thirdly, with life-long learning, there is no age limit for anyone who wants to fill up their knowledge gap or gain new things/more qualifications. For some reasons, people may leave their education unfinished, and at a suitable time, they may want to get back to school to fulfill it. Bill Gates, who was a billionaire born in 1955, got his university degree in 2007. Learning for knowledge and/or for recognition is a human right and anyone can do it if he or she wants to.

In conclusion, we should consider learning a life-long process because no amount of knowledge is adequate; changes require constant learning, and learners can pursue their education at any time. If everyone takes learning this way, the world will keep moving forwards with more and more advances.

PRACTICE TEST 2

LISTENING SECTION

- | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. B | 8. A | 15. A | 22. C | 29. B |
| 2. A | 9. A | 16. C | 23. A | 30. A |
| 3. C | 10. C | 17. C | 24. D | 31. D |
| 4. C | 11. C | 18. A | 25. B | 32. B |
| 5. D | 12. B | 19. B | 26. B | |
| 6. A | 13. A | 20. A | 27. A | |
| 7. D | 14. D | 21. C | 28. C | |

READING SECTION

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 33. C | 41. B | 49. D | 57. D | 65. B |
| 34. B | 42. A | 50. C | 58. C | 66. C |
| 35. C | 43. C | 51. B | 59. B | 67. C |
| 36. D | 44. B | 52. D | 60. D | 68. A |
| 37. A | 45. D | 53. C | 61. C | 69. A |
| 38. B | 46. A | 54. A | 62. C | 70. B |
| 39. A | 47. B | 55. B | 63. A | 71. D |
| 40. D | 48. B | 56. C | 64. A | 72. B |

WRITING SECTION

Suggested answers

PART ONE

Computers have affected human life in several positive ways. First, they help people communicate more easily: people can talk from a long distance, send emails to numerous recipients, and share ideas or feelings online. Second, doing business is more convenient with the assistance of computers. People can buy and sell anything at any time right from home, which is great for busy and especially disabled people. Third, the way children learn is also influenced by computers. Nowadays children can learn everything and get information quickly thanks to computers. In a word, computers have brought and will bring mankind wonderful opportunities.

PART TWO

Happiness is a topic of constant discussion ever because it is what humans care in their lives. There are many factors which can bring happiness, and money is said to be an important factor. Personally, I think though we cannot use money to buy happiness, having money

allows us a great chance to live happily since it helps us fulfill our dreams, assures us a decent life and improves our morality.

Firstly, money can make dreams come true. We may have lots of dreams in our lives and a lack of money can be a big obstacle. With abundant money, many ambitious dreams may come true, bringing a sense of fulfillment and success. For example, most of us like traveling, and a trip around Europe may be a dream for a lot of people. Without money, how can we realize what we desire?

Secondly, money can assure people a decent living. Money satisfies more than "needs". It can satisfy "wants" and bring well-being to people. The more civilized society is, the more wants we have. We no longer need just a place to live but a good place to live comfortably. We no longer need just some food to fill our stomach but delicious food to satisfy our senses. How can we do that without money?

Lastly, money can help us become more humane. It cannot be denied that anyone of us has to live first for ourselves. If we do not have enough food for our family to survive, can we think about giving our food to others? I guess the answer is "no", as a saying goes, "charity begins at home". Thus, when we have more money than we need for our own family, we can share it with others who are in need around us.

In conclusion, money can turn our dreams into reality, provide us with a satisfactory life and give us a chance to give a helping hand to needy people. Therefore, we should control the way we use money to feel happy.

SPEAKING SECTION

Sample responses

PART ONE

The man in the picture is thinking about four vacation spots/ destinations. He is thinking about a tropical island where he can sleep under a coconut tree. He is also thinking about a sandy and sunny desert. At the same time, he is thinking about a wonderful ship cruise in the blue sea and the sunshine, and about a ski vacation in the mountain.

PART TWO

My favorite place in my hometown is the **City Park**. I like it for three reasons. First, it is a beautiful place to visit. I can see many trees, plants and flowers, which make the park colorful and beautiful. Second, it is a quiet place, so I never get disturbed. I can go there to read books, study and relax when I'm stressed. Third, it is a wonderful place to exercise. There are many people, old and young, so it is easy to join a suitable group and get support from groupmates. For these reasons, I love to visit the City Park the most.

PART THREE

All those who want an independent life have to work to earn a living. To encourage people to have a positive attitude in their work, Confucius had a piece of advice, "Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life." I totally agree with the statement because if you love your job, you will be willing to invest your time and effort in it, enjoy the time you're working, and see your work rewarding rather than hopelessly challenging.

I think you agree with me people who love their jobs will voluntarily devote themselves to work. Work in this sense is not hardship, or thorny labor that they must do to earn a living. Instead, it is a passion, an inspiration that these person wish to achieve. You may see a scientist working day and night to discover something useful for mankind. He/She never feels he/she works under force because he/she volunteers to pursue his cause.

In addition, when people love their jobs, they enjoy every minute at work. Work in this sense also means fun, because happiness is not only at the end of the road, and people can rejoice along the way they are traveling. Let's observe a sociable person who chooses to work as a salesperson. He/She can meet and socialize with a lot of customers. To him/her, work is not hard labor but may be happy moments of chit chat, so he/she will actually enjoy his/her working time.

Furthermore, to people who love their jobs, work is seen as a reward rather than a challenge. If they fail, they just take failure as an opportunity to hold on and move on, so they never mind starting all over again. These people will consider their work a source of inspiration and creativity rather than a long struggle to survive financially. Take an example of people deciding to set up their own business. They will accept all hardship to get ahead, because they do not work for anyone. They are their own boss!

In a word, when people love the jobs they are doing, they will work whole-heartedly and have enjoyable moments at work as well as a sense of fulfillment. Let's hope that all working people take work this way, so that they can make their time and effort more effective.

PRACTICE TEST 3

LISTENING SECTION

- | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 8. A | 15. C | 22. B | 29. B |
| 2. A | 9. B | 16. A | 23. B | 30. A |
| 3. B | 10. A | 17. C | 24. B | 31. C |
| 4. D | 11. C | 18. C | 25. C | 32. B |
| 5. D | 12. B | 19. B | 26. D | |
| 6. C | 13. C | 20. D | 27. A | |
| 7. D | 14. D | 21. A | 28. C | |

READING SECTION

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 33. B | 41. C | 49. C | 57. A | 65. A |
| 34. C | 42. D | 50. D | 58. B | 66. C |
| 35. D | 43. C | 51. A | 59. A | 67. B |
| 36. A | 44. A | 52. C | 60. C | 68. D |
| 37. C | 45. B | 53. C | 61. B | 69. A |
| 38. B | 46. A | 54. A | 62. A | 70. B |
| 39. A | 47. C | 55. C | 63. D | 71. C |
| 40. B | 48. B | 56. A | 64. C | 72. C |

WRITING SECTION

Suggested answers

PART ONE

The recording industry is on the decline with the personal computer as the main cause of this downward trend. There are three main reasons. First, consumers feel that it is not necessary to buy music because sharing sound files via file-sharing services has become convenient and popular. Second, with the help of the personal computer, musicians can record and make their own CDs at a rather low cost, so they do not need to give away their profits to recording companies anymore. Last, the recording industry must take its responsibility when making unsatisfactory music CDs. Who would spend money on buying an album in which there is only one song of their interest? To sum up, computers have had a great effect on the recording industry, and the industry has to move fast to gain back its place in the current economy.

PART TWO

With the advent of the Internet, more and more people have been living in a virtual world, and with the birth of social networks, more and more Internet users have found the meaning of their lives in the cyberspace. In my opinion, social networking is of great attraction due to its

ability to connect people widely, provide them chances to express themselves, and help businesses get known or sell well.

First, thanks to social networking, people have opportunities to have new relationships, strengthen the existing ones and even retrieve the lost ones. When we network someone, we can also assess his/her contacts, request to add him/her as our friends, and if accepted, we have a new friend! In addition, when we are on social networks, we can read the comments posted by our friends, and we can discuss with them quite easily and become closer to one another. More interestingly, we can find our long lost friends just by typing their names in the search box, and if we are lucky, our friends are there in the list of the people sharing part of the typed names!

Second, social networks provide personal accounts where their owners can post their opinions, photos and any stuff they like. It may be their humorous, sympathetic, or critical remarks about a hot issue which has just emerged, or it may be the latest photo that they have just taken and thought it is too special to be kept only to themselves! With social networks, what we want to share is shared widely and instantly.

Last, social networks are a good place for businesses to advertise themselves. With a large number of users and their frequent visits, these websites become a useful tool for advertisers to get their products known to potential customers. When we enter any account on social networks, it is easy to see the pop-up ads or the links to other advertising pages. Advertisers also open their own pages and add people as friends with the hope that these people will visit their pages and become their customers.

In conclusion, social networking appeals to more and more people around the world with its huge potential in bringing people closer together, giving social network users a forum to have their voice listened to, and promoting sales of products. It can be seen that in the era of digital technology, social networking is apparently popular due to the benefits that it brings.

SPEAKING SECTION

Sample responses

PART ONE

This picture is about Tina's family in an evening. It's 6 o'clock now. In the kitchen, Tina's mother is cooking dinner. She is looking at a cookbook. Maybe she is learning to cook a new dish. Near her mother, her father is washing the dishes. In the living room, her brother is playing a computer game. Tina is playing with her cell phone and her cat is sleeping on the blue pillow next to her.

PART TWO

The thing I like doing the most on weekends is cooking. I love cooking for three reasons. First, cooking teaches me many things about history and culture through many dishes that I cook such as Vietnamese, Chinese, Italian, Thai dishes, etc. Second, I love food presentation. Looking at a bowl of salad beautifully garnished with green lettuce and slices of red tomatoes and white onions, for example, is my pleasure. Last, I love to see people's different expressions when they are tasting my dishes. They always make me happy when giving comments or opinions about my dishes with their expressive faces. For all these reasons, I always look forward to the weekends so that I can relax with my cooking after a week of hard work.

PART THREE

It's true that very few people are willing to participate in community services, and educators worry that if we do nothing, our children will grow up caring very little about their community. I agree that children need to learn about volunteering, but I don't think forcing children to spend time doing community services is a good policy.

First, in order to educate children to become good citizens, teachers should observe law. Volunteering is a personal choice. If students are forced to volunteer, that is not volunteering any more. Schools can encourage students to volunteer, but can't force them to spend their time doing community services. If schools do not recognize that they violate the rights of students, parents, lawyers, and the media will soon tell them.

Second, reluctant students will have very bad volunteering experience, and as soon as they leave school, they will never do community services. Teaching students to care about their community is good, but making them do community services will just cause them to turn their back to volunteering. I believe no educators want this.

Third, almost all students are overwhelmed with their classwork and homework. Asking them to take care of the community at the cost of their time and their health is inconsiderate. When I was in grade 12, I had only 6 hours of sleep a day due to my heavy workload. If students have some free time, it's better for them to spend time sleeping to regain their energy, helping their mom cook, or helping their younger sisters/ brothers with their homework. Doing so, I believe, they are helping their little community as well.

In conclusion, participating in community services must be a personal choice to students and forcing them to do that just makes them turn their back to volunteering. And if they are responsible for their small community, they will grow up being responsible for their bigger community.

PRACTICE TEST 4

LISTENING SECTION

- | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. B | 8. B | 15. C | 22. B | 29. A |
| 2. A | 9. A | 16. A | 23. A | 30. C |
| 3. C | 10. B | 17. B | 24. C | 31. B |
| 4. B | 11. B | 18. D | 25. D | 32. A |
| 5. D | 12. A | 19. C | 26. B | |
| 6. B | 13. C | 20. A | 27. C | |
| 7. C | 14. D | 21. D | 28. C | |

READING SECTION

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 33. B | 41. B | 49. C | 57. C | 65. A |
| 34. D | 42. A | 50. C | 58. B | 66. A |
| 35. C | 43. C | 51. D | 59. D | 67. C |
| 36. C | 44. A | 52. B | 60. C | 68. B |
| 37. A | 45. D | 53. B | 61. B | 69. A |
| 38. B | 46. B | 54. B | 62. C | 70. C |
| 39. A | 47. C | 55. A | 63. B | 71. D |
| 40. D | 48. A | 56. C | 64. D | 72. A |

WRITING SECTION

Suggested answers

PART ONE

Viewers should not be punished if they use cable service without paying money for it. There are three main reasons for that. The first reason comes from the unreasonable charge by the companies which provide cable service. The price is added up after the first few months of discount, and customers have to pay more if they want to watch more/new movies. The second reason is that customers who want a cheaper service can only turn to satellite TV, but not everyone can get access to it, especially those who live in a building. This is because satellite dishes are not safe for residents, so installing them requires a lot of agreement. The final reason is that it is fair for people to get back what they are stolen since cable providers with no competition often charge them too high fees for their services.

PART TWO

The higher living standards get or the busier people become, the more options of having meals there are. Some people choose to eat at food stands or restaurants while others prefer to cook food and enjoy family meals. Personally, I like eating out better because it is more interesting, time-saving and economical.

For one thing, going out for meals can give us some exciting moments. There is a good variety of foods out there, so we can choose what we want to suit our taste or to have new experience. Furthermore, there are a lot of eaters at restaurants or food stalls, so we can have a chat with them in some cases. The last time I ate at a family restaurant, I had a long discussion with several people about a new dish on the menu, and we ended up being friends.

In addition, if we eat out, we can save time spent on cooking at home otherwise. It obviously takes us a great amount of time choosing the ingredients at the supermarkets, then cooking, serving the food and finally washing the dishes. In contrast, we just bring ourselves to the restaurants or food stalls, and other people are waiting to serve us there.

Finally, though it sounds strange, we can save money if we eat out. In this time of high competition, many food stands and some small casual restaurants or cafés provide lots of food at a low cost. The more food is cooked, the cheaper it is because ingredients can be bought at a wholesale price. In the meanwhile, if we are a bad cook at home, our food is not worth eating, and bad food means a waste of money and effort.

In a word, though health-conscious people may oppose eating out, I personally prefer this way of eating. Excitement, less time and money spent on meals make eating out a wise choice in a busy life.

SPEAKING SECTION

Sample responses

PART ONE

The pictures are about a teacher and some students in a class. The young teacher is giving a math problem. While most of students are raising their hands to give the answer, a girl is still thinking to find the answer. Besides, a boy is not concentrating on the lesson. Instead, he is dreaming about a vacation on a beach.

PART TWO

The subject I most enjoyed learning during my high school years was Geography. I liked it for some reasons. First, I love travelling. At my time, a trip away was too expensive. A geography lesson was like a journey that took me to places I could only dream of. Besides, geography helped me understand my history or literature lessons better. In grade 12, I got the first prize in a talk about Ngo Quyen's Victory at the Bach Dang River because I could describe the location of the river and the special characteristics of its tides in detail. The last reason why I

especially liked geography is that our wonderful teacher knew how to turn every lesson into a journey from the past through the present and with predictions of the future. For example, when learning about global warming, we are led from the first very few affected places on Earth, the many more locations which are now suffering, and the possibly touched areas in the future. In a word, Geography used to be my favorite subject at high school.

PART THREE

Many Vietnamese students study English for years, but not many of them can use English to communicate. Although it is suggested that Vietnamese students should study English language with only native English teachers, I can see that this suggestion is impractical. Let me take the learning of English in Ho Chi Minh City as an example.

First, there will be a serious lack of qualified native teachers of English. Do you know how many English language schools offer classes taught by native English teachers only? I know only a few, namely British Councils, IDP, and ILA. If learning English with native English teachers was a requirement, students would have to study English with native backpackers who may speak the language perfectly, but may not know how to teach it to their students. Students would have to pay high school fees, but would not receive the quality they expect.

Second, tuition fees for classes with native language teachers in charge will be considerably higher. I do not know exactly how much a 3-month course in those language schools costs, but I am sure that only about 20% of wealthy families can afford such courses in at least 3 to 5 years for their children to be able to use the language. If learning English with native English teachers was a requirement, average-income or low-income families would never have a chance to send their children to class, and this is a discrimination.

Finally, mere English instructions will be a barrier for low level students. Taught by only native English teachers, students will have difficulty understanding their teachers in the first few months or even in the first few years until they are more familiar with the English-speaking only environment. For some students, this can be so stressful that they feel too discouraged to continue their English learning.

In conclusion, I understand learning a language with native teachers may bring students many benefits, but this should be an option rather than a requirement.

PRACTICE TEST 5

LISTENING SECTION

- | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. B | 8. A | 15. B | 22. B | 29. B |
| 2. A | 9. D | 16. B | 23. D | 30. D |
| 3. C | 10. B | 17. C | 24. A | 31. A |
| 4. D | 11. B | 18. B | 25. C | 32. B |
| 5. A | 12. C | 19. A | 26. B | |
| 6. A | 13. B | 20. B | 27. C | |
| 7. D | 14. A | 21. C | 28. A | |

READING SECTION

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 33. D | 41. A | 49. C | 57. C | 65. A |
| 34. D | 42. D | 50. A | 58. B | 66. B |
| 35. A | 43. A | 51. B | 59. C | 67. C |
| 36. C | 44. B | 52. D | 60. B | 68. C |
| 37. B | 45. C | 53. A | 61. A | 69. A |
| 38. A | 46. D | 54. A | 62. C | 70. C |
| 39. C | 47. B | 55. D | 63. D | 71. B |
| 40. B | 48. A | 56. B | 64. D | 72. D |

WRITING SECTION

Suggested answers

PART ONE

Today, people, especially the ones with good abilities, tend to leave their jobs in companies and corporations to develop their own businesses. There are three reasons for their choice. First, companies do not give young employees many opportunities to give their ideas or make decisions and then feel appreciated. They, therefore, have to find a way out to "shine" by themselves. Second, in the times of economic crisis, jobs cannot be secure and people may live with an obsession that they may become jobless at any time. Self-employment helps them end their depression. Last, if companies and corporations declare bankruptcy, insurance and pensions will vanish. This is why people prefer to become private business owners to secure their old age.

PART TWO

With the development of technology, traditional games of the old days have lost their attraction in the lives of many people, giving way to a new type of entertainment: computer games. There are some critiques that computer games do more harm than good. I disagree with this opinion because computer games also provide job opportunities, boost brain performance, and develop life skills.

In the first place, computer games promise good careers for professional gamers. Computer games are now becoming more and more popular, so the gaming industry is looking for qualified game developers to meet the demand. In the U.S.A, for example, there are game development programs at university and a growing number of students can have good careers. In 2014, Robert Morris University in Chicago, U.S.A began to grant scholarships for candidates who scored well in the game *League of Legends*.

In the second place, computer games help players develop their mental power. Many computer games help develop players' ability to adapt and switch between tasks, and have multiple ideas at a given time to solve problems. Take *StarCraft* as an example. It is a fast-paced game where players have to construct and organize armies to battle an enemy. Players, therefore, have to think really hard to move ahead.

In the last place, computer games can prepare players for some essential tasks in their daily life. Some serious games are designed to equip players with necessary skills that they can use in particular situations. For people who care about the skills they should build up to manage their family life, there are many useful games for them and *The Sims* is a good choice. This game develops the cooking skills so that players can cook good meals for their family.

In summary, computer games are not as harmful as skeptics think about them. They are beneficial in many ways because they can create jobs, improve cognitive abilities and build life skills for players.

SPEAKING SECTION

Sample responses

PART ONE

The picture describes some activities on the beach. In the picture, we can see a man is doing exercise beside a woman taking a nap. A boy is playing with the sand while another boy and a girl are playing with the ball. Nearby, some kids with a dog are standing around an ice cream stand. They are waiting to buy their ice cream. In the sea, some kids are swimming and a boy is surfing.

PART TWO

Well, the toughest decision I have made was when I had to choose a major for my study. I was qualified for 3 good universities, so I had to face great difficulties choosing one. The first difficulty came from my parents. I myself wanted to become a tour guide, but my parents, who are both doctors, wanted me to go to the medical school. The second difficulty came from my girlfriend. She said as a tour guide, I would not have much time for my family. The third difficulty came from myself. I didn't want to hurt anyone, so I really had a hard time making my mind up. However, I wanted to live my own life and have my dream job. It took me some time to persuade them to let me make my own decision. Finally, my parents said OK, but my girlfriend and I broke up. I have been a tour guide for 5 years, and I have not regretted my decision.

PART THREE

Compared to women a century ago, most women nowadays are career women, and therefore they are indeed often too busy to cook, to do the housework, or to look after their children. However, I strongly disagree that children, especially girls, do not need to learn to cook or to do the housework.

First, no one can replace a child's parents. I accept that women can have a babysitter or a housemaid to reduce their workload. Without a babysitter or a housemaid, a busy father or mother will see his/her life unbearable. However, who gives children better care, their babysitters or their parents? We have read a lot about parents leaving their children to bad babysitters who mistreat their children.

Second, even if their babysitters are good, no parents want their children to be influenced by babysitters. No one can deny that children are the assets and happiness of parents. And it will be a disaster if parents leave their children in the hand of bad babysitters. The kids will grow up speaking bad words and doing bad things that they learn from their caretakers.

Last, eating out or eating convenience food can bring you lots of problems. Cost, food poisoning, food preservatives, food additives and obesity are only some. What I am more worried here is that in the long run, there will be no family meals and no national dishes. We will end up eating whatever available on a restaurant menu, and our children will grow up knowing nothing about Vietnamese cuisine, part of our cultural heritage.

In conclusion, children need to learn to do the household chores so that they can take care of themselves and their future families. They have to remember that no one can replace parents in the heart of children and family meals are always better and safer than restaurant or home delivery meals.

AUDIO SCRIPTS

PRACTICE TEST 1

PART ONE

1. W: I haven't seen you on the tennis court recently. That was practically your second home.
M: Well, with all my new responsibilities at the admissions office – you know, campus tours, stuff like that – well, I haven't had time to do anything else.

Question: What does the woman probably think about the tennis court?

2. W: I could never stand commuting an hour to work.
M: I don't mind it at all. I'm comfortable in my car. I listen to news and music on the radio.
W: I prefer to watch the news in the comfort of my living room.

Question: What does the man NOT care about?

3. M: The airline sent my luggage to New York by mistake and it doesn't look like they'll be able to deliver it to me in time for this evening's dinner. Where can I go to buy a few things?
W: There's a shopping mall not far from here. You can get there by bus or cab from the hotel.
M: Oh, that's right. I was there the last time I was in San Francisco.

Question: What does the woman suggest to the man?

4. W: Did you hear the news about Jane Winston?
M: You mean her quitting her computer job and starting a consulting firm?
W: That's right. I guess she wanted to be her own boss.

Question: What does the woman say about Jane Winston?

5. W: Front desk, could you ask someone to send a bucket of ice to my room?
M: There's an ice machine on every floor of the hotel.
W: I know that. But I am not really in a good condition to get it myself. So could you have someone deliver it to my room, please?
M: Alright. It will be sent up to your room in a minute.

Question: What can be inferred from the conversation?

6. M1: Have you seen Jeff?
M2: He just went into the showroom with the sales manager, why?
M1: There is a client waiting for him in the lobby. I think he wants to scout Jeff. What a nice thing for Jeff!
M2: Oh, I see. He says it's going to take a long time though. Should I let him know?
Question: Why do the men talk about Jeff?

7. W: Excuse me, I think I left my book on the table when I was here this afternoon. Has anyone found them?

M: No, I'm sorry. It isn't here.

W: Could you do me a favor and call me if you find it? I have an exam next Monday, and I have to study with that book this weekend.

M: I'll take a good look around the restaurant and call you if I find it.

Question: Who is the woman likely to be?

8. W: Where did you learn to make such wonderful vegetable pie, Francois? It looks delicious.

M: Thank you, Lauren. It's a recipe a friend gave me. What did you bring?

W: Well, I brought my grandmother's special pot roast.

M: Great! This is going to be a great office party!

Question: What does the woman say?

9. M: Did you see that documentary about traditional African music on channel 5 last night?

W: No, I missed it! I was planning to watch it, but I had to pick up a friend at the airport at the last minute. Was it good?

M: I found it very interesting. I taped it, and I'd be happy to let you borrow the tape sometime.

Question: What can be inferred from the conversation?

10. M: Hi, I'd like to make a reservation for a single room. I'm flying into Chicago on Wednesday August 9 and will be staying three nights.

W: Let me check for availability. We're busy next week since there's a convention in town, but we do have one single available.

M: Great.

Question: What does the woman say?

PART TWO

H: Helen, A: Ansgar, M: Magali

H: Hello, welcome to the university. Let me introduce myself, my name's Helen Brown. I'm the International Office administrator and I'm responsible for looking after students here on scholarships, in particular Chevening scholars. Perhaps you could introduce yourselves to me.

A: Hi, I'm Ansgar, from Graz, in southern Austria.

M: And my name's Magali. I'm from a town near Montpellier, France.

H: It's a pleasure to meet you.

M: Pleased to meet you, too.

- A: Nice to meet you.
- H: So, let's get started. I'm going to tell you about the schedule for today. Today is your orientation day at the university and it's going to begin in half an hour at 10 o'clock with a speech from the Vice Chancellor welcoming you to the university.
- M: That's very nice. Where is it?
- H: It's in the main hall on floor 3.
- A: OK, but how do we get there?
- H: From here, the International Office, go down the corridor, past the lecture theatre and student common room. Then you'll be at the main entrance and you'll see the lift to your left. Take the lift to floor 3 and the main hall entrance is after the buffet.
- M: OK, floor 3 after the buffet. I can always find my way to food, so we'll be able to find the main hall, no problem.
- H: So after the Vice Chancellor greets the new students, then 30 minutes later, the Mayor will welcome you to the city. Together it should be about an hour so it's not too much of a drag.
- A: And what happens then?
- H: After that you'll have a meeting with a representative of the British Council and she will brief you on life in Britain and what your sponsor expects and of course doesn't expect from you.
- M: It will be nice to meet them. Is that in the main hall too?
- H: No, but it is on floor 3 again. With your back to the main hall, go down the corridor, past the labs.
- A: Sorry?
- H: The laboratories, on your right and the computer cluster rooms on your left and at the end of the corridor are seminar rooms 1 and 2. Your meeting is in seminar room 2.
- M: Did you mention what time that is?
- H: No, I didn't - it's at 11.15, and it should last about half an hour. You'll meet her a number of times during your studies, so it's important to go to that meeting.
- A: OK, I'll make sure Magali is on time ...

PART THREE

A: Abby, L: Lauren, B: Bill

Presenter: Hello and welcome to *You and Your Life*. Now, wouldn't it be wonderful to have our own helper around the house - a nanny? Traditionally, this is a job done by women, but in today's report we meet Bill, a male nanny or manny.

A: For eight-year-old Jake, going to school is always fun with his 29-year-old manny. Back home, there's homework to do for Jake and his older brother, Justin. Bill is helping them

with it. He was studying for a Masters degree in drama therapy, but gave it up to become one of Manhattan's first male nannies. Mum Lauren is home, but working in her study. Dad is still in the office. With two energetic boys, Lauren says Bill is the ideal nanny.

- L: He grew up as a little boy. I'm a woman, I was never a little boy. Any other female nanny was never a little boy, and some things that I think are just outrageous, he says, *Hey, I did it too, and I look at him and I think, Well, he's a good guy, so I guess they'll be OK.* And so that gives me a really different perspective on my children.
- A: According to Tim Kahn, author of *Bringing up Boys*, men are more likely to feel comfortable with rough-and-tumble play, which is great for girls and pretty essential for boys. He says that a man's boundaries around danger tend to be more relaxed: a man's more likely to let a child walk on top of a wall. He told me that if a child played in this way at three, four years old the spirit of adventure and curiosity stayed with him for life. Being a male nanny doesn't worry Bill either. He's always worked with children.
- B: I can provide the same things that a female nanny could provide. I mean, I don't think there are any differences in the care that's given. Besides this, I think the other thing I can provide is a male figure in the home.
- A: In the United States, parents are employing young nannies, sometimes to care for babies, but more often as active role models to get junior away from the TV and computer. From rollerblading to summer surf nannies, these are the big brothers who are always willing to play largely because they're paid for it.
- But it's not all play. Bill has domestic duties too, like making the beds. The agency that placed Bill with his family told me that they are now actively recruiting male nannies. They said that here in New York they couldn't keep up with demand. They told me that many families wanted a male figure in the home because there were a lot of single mothers and busy families with parents who were working long hours and had very busy careers and didn't have enough time to be with their young children. Jake's dad works long hours too, and he told me how he felt about Bill playing a fatherly role when he's away. He said that he had a good relationship with his children. He said they loved him very much and that he didn't think that he would be replaced by anyone else as their father figure. In fact Bill, he says, has made their lives better. Still, dad always tries to be home for a bedtime story. I asked Bill how he became a male nanny.
- B: You have to go on a course. Friends laughed when I started studying. They said that they had been sure that I wouldn't complete the course. But I did it, even though I was the only man among 70 women on my course.
- A: And what does Bill think? He feels that more men would be attracted if childcare was recognised as a career. Finally, I asked him whether he really liked his job.
- B: I really enjoy it. It's much freer than a structured office job, and you can see children develop and grow. It's very rewarding.

PART FOUR

Good morning. This morning we are continuing our look at Australia and its natural problems. Actually dryness, or aridity, as it is generally called by geographers, is probably the most challenging of Australia's natural problems and so it is very important in this course for you to have a good understanding of the subject. For Australia, water is a precious resource and its wise management is of the greatest importance.

As I have said, Australia is a dry continent, second only to Antarctica in its lack of rainfall. Long hours of hot sunshine and searing winds give Australia an extremely high rate of evaporation, far more than in most other countries. It is estimated that approximately 87% of Australia's rainfall is lost through evaporation, compared with just over 60% in Europe and Africa and 48% in North America. You generally think of Africa as being a very hot and dry place, but it is not in comparison with Australia. In many parts of Australia standing water, that is dams, puddles and so forth, dry up rapidly and some rainfall barely penetrates the soil. The reason for this is that the moisture is absorbed by thirsty plants.

Some parts of Australia are dry because rainwater seeps quickly through sandy soils and into the rock below. In parts of Australia this water which seeps through the sandy soil collects underground to form underground lakes. Water from these subterranean lakes can be pumped to the surface and tapped and so used for various purposes above the ground. In fact, extensive underground water resources are available over more than half of Australia's land area, but most of the water is too salty to be used for human consumption or for the irrigation of crops. However, most inland farmers do rely on this water for watering their animals and, where possible, to a lesser extent for irrigation.

Underground water can flow very large distances and can be kept in underground reservoirs for a very long time. Water from these underground reservoirs bubbles to the surface as springs in some parts of the country, and these rare sources of permanent water were vital to early explorers of inland Australia, and to other pioneers last century, who used the springs for survival. But in many places levels have fallen drastically through continuous use over the years. This has necessitated the pumping of the water to the surface. Remarkably, underground water sources in Australia supply about 18% of total water consumption. So you can see it is quite an important source of water in this dry land.

So most of the consumption of water in Australia comes from water which is kept above ground. More than 300 dams regulate riverflows around the country. The dams store water for a variety of functions, the rural irrigation of crops, without which many productive areas of the country would not be able to be farmed; the regulation of flooding, a serious problem which will be dealt with later in the course; and last but not least, the harnessing of the force of gravity for the generation of electricity.

That is all we have time for this morning, but you will be able to do further study on this important area in the library. I have a handout here with references on the subject, so if you are interested, please come up to the desk and take a copy.

Next week's lecture is a case study of an outback farm and ...

PRACTICE TEST 2

PART ONE

1. W: I've got a coupon for half off dinner at that new restaurant down the street. I think I'll use it when my cousin comes for a visit this weekend.
M: Where did you get it? I wouldn't mind trying that place out too.
Question: What does the man probably want to do?

2. W: That new employee in the mail room is very helpful.
M: Didn't you know? That's the owner's daughter. She's here to learn the business.
W: I guess the owner believes in starting at the bottom.
Question: Who are the speakers talking about?

3. W: Hello, Yuri. I didn't think you would be back from your trip so soon.
M: Well, we didn't expect to be back now, but Anna, our youngest girl, got sick while we were away.
W: I'm sorry to hear that. I hope she's feeling better now.
Question: What problem did the man have?

4. M1: Do you think you can make the repairs right away? I have an eleven o'clock dental appointment.
M2: I doubt it, Mr. Atmore. We have a few cars before yours. You probably should call a taxi.
M1: Do you know the telephone number?
Question: Where are probably the speakers?

5. W: Did you have a good vacation, Ben?
M: It was great! We went to the beach every day. The ocean was a little cold for swimming though.
W: Well, it must have been nice to get away from this rain for a while. We had so much rain while you were gone that we all thought we'd be drowned.
Question: What does the man say about his vacation?

6. W: Why is our monthly conference call moved up to 7:30 a.m.? It's so early in the morning!
Don't they sleep?
M: It's early, so people from the German office can join in to discuss the September results.
W: Oh, alright.
Question: What can be inferred about the woman?

7. W: It's rather warm today, isn't it? I wish it would rain!
M: Well, the weather report said there could be light rain in the evening. We'll get an update on it sometime this afternoon.

Question: What are the speakers probably going to do?

8. W: I hope I don't miss the flight. It's already 9:30. We're really running late.
M: I know. I didn't expect traffic to be so heavy at this time of the night.
W: We should have started earlier but I couldn't miss that evening meeting.

Question: Where are the speakers probably going?

9. M: Where should we go to lunch today, Jane?
W: How about the Italian place on 11th Street? I always enjoy their soup and salad lunch special.
M: Me too, but I'm not sure if we have time to go all the way downtown today.

Question: What do the speakers want to do?

10. W: Congratulations on your two job offers, Colin. Have you decided which one to accept?
M: No, I'm having trouble. The film studio offers the better salary, but the job with the publishing firm seems more interesting and is closer to my house.

Question: What does the man say about the film studio job?

PART TWO

J: John, F: Frank

J: Hello Frank. How are you?

F: Wow John. Yeah I'm fine. How are you?

J: I'm great thanks. I haven't seen you since we left school. How long ago is that now? It must be 10 years, or is it 11?

F: No. It's 9 years now. What are you doing with yourself? You were going to be a doctor, weren't you, or something medical, like a chiropractor?

J: Well, I was going to be but that's not what I did. I started medical school but I didn't really enjoy it and the idea of doing it for 5 or 6 years and then continuing to study for years after that didn't really appeal. So I left medical school and went into teacher training college to be a science teacher.

F: And I thought for all these years that you were earning mega bucks as a doctor or working in a pharmaceutical company!

J: No. Just a teacher! I love it though. I'm so glad I did it instead of medicine. And what are you doing Frank?

- F: After school I didn't really know what I wanted to do so I travelled for a couple of years round the world.
- J: Great. Where did you go?
- F: Lots of places but nowhere in Europe. I wanted to travel long distance! First of all I travelled through India and Nepal. Then I moved into south east Asia for a few months. Then I went through Australia and New Zealand. After that I went to Africa and went around various countries there. After that, it was South America, central America and north America.
- J: How on earth did you afford all that?
- F: I just settled down and worked for a few months in places where I could get a job and save money. Then, when I had enough, I moved on. I wasn't exactly staying in luxurious places though!
- J: And now what? You always wanted to work with computers, didn't you?
- F: Yes. I remember that. However, when I finished all the travelling I thought of going into travel writing but it's so competitive. I always fancied journalism as well so I got into that and right now I'm working for the local paper.
- J: Did you have to study for that?
- F: Well some people don't, but ...

PART THREE

M: Monica, K: Karl

- M: Hi, Karl, are you OK? You don't look very well.
- K: Oh, it's just the weather. This heat is really getting to me. My head feels very heavy. There's just no air outside.
- M: Oh, I know what you mean. It's almost too much, isn't it? Actually, it may turn out to be the third hottest summer on record so far, you know.
- K: Really?
- M: Apparently, yes. But it's been just as hot as this all over the world. Have you not heard about it?
- K: No, I haven't. What's been happening then?
- M: Well, fields have been turning yellow and drying up all over France. And, forest fires have been burning out of control there, too. It was so dry that it just all went up in flames - just like that! Did you not see those French firefighters on television the other evening? They've been trying to put all those fires out for a week.
- K: No, I didn't know. I must have been having a cold bath at the time trying to cool down!
- M: Well, try to cut down on that water if you can! Have a shower next time! Baths use up much more water and water's a pretty scarce resource these days. Rivers have actually been

disappearing. This has been happening in Italy, in fact. Can you imagine? They have actually been drying up altogether! And lots of people have been falling ill and even dying because of the heat all over the world.

K: Yes, I remember now. There was that terrible heat wave in India where many people died. And droughts have hit parts of China, too. Many people have been going without water there. Some of their glaciers have been receding, too.

M: Yes, I know. The same thing's been happening in Switzerland. This summer they've been melting ten times faster than they usually do. And apparently glaciers in Italy are around 20% smaller than they were ten years ago! Just think about that!

K: Well, frankly, I'm not surprised. Just look at the weather out there. It's absolutely boiling. I can't stand it.

M: Yes, it's a real scorcher. In fact, they say it's going to go up even more before it comes down! But, you do know why it's all happening, don't you? Basically, it's all due to global warming. And that's caused by the build-up of greenhouse gases by human activities. So, our planet is hotting up because of you and me. That means it's your fault that you've got a headache!

K: Oh, I'm not so sure about that.

M: You don't mean it could all be down to the forces of nature and absolutely nothing to do with us humans whatsoever? Get real!

K: Well, it's possible that global warming could be the result of natural phenomena. Perhaps changes in solar activity or volcanic eruptions. You know, volcanoes - that kind of thing. And of course it could just be caused by long term cyclical changes in our climate.

M: Come on! The world's oceans have been warming up over the last 40 years! And everyone knows that climate models based on ocean temperature are much more reliable than models based on air temperatures. All the evidence is there in our oceans. They are warming up and there's just no way that can be put down to Mother Nature!

K: Well, I'm not so sure about that. I think it's possible. But anyhow, we just don't know enough about it, do we?

M: Well, interestingly enough, we can find out more if we want ...

PART FOUR

Do you know what Prince Charles, Seve Ballesteros and Elizabeth Taylor have in common? They all suffer from chronic back pain. In fact, bad backs are one of the most common health problems today, affecting people in all walks of life. The most recent available figures show that about a quarter of a million people are incapacitated with back pain every day.

And many sufferers don't know the cause or the solution to their problem.

The majority of our patients at the clinic tend to be women. They are especially vulnerable because of pregnancy but also because of osteoporosis, which I personally believe to be the

major cause of problems for women. I have many women patients who say they have completely given up exercise because the pain makes them so miserable.

But of course that starts up a vicious circle: Bed rest, giving up exercise and pain killers are traditional responses to back pain but, although there are many excellent drugs on the market, at our clinic we are beginning to realise the unique benefits of relaxation therapy. Other specialists in the field make a strong case for certain types of exercise, but in our experience they are easily mishandled and can lead to more harm than good.

Now, let's look at some of the reasons why back pain is developing into such a unique menace. In general, the body is pretty good at self-repair. A strain or a blow to a limb, though painful at the time, generally resolves itself. But the body's response to back injury can be very counter-productive. When pain strikes, we attempt to keep the back as immobile as possible, which makes the muscles tense up. Research shows that they often go into spasm, which causes further twisting of the spine. A vicious circle is underway.

The second mistake we often make when stricken with extreme back pain is to go to bed and stay there. Although at the clinic we recognise that a short rest in bed can be helpful ... up to two days ... any longer makes our back muscles become weaker and unable to hold up our spine. The pain therefore becomes worse.

Another problem is being overweight. Anyone a stone or more overweight who already has back pain is not doing himself any favours: though it won't actually set it off in the first place, the weight will increase the strain and make things worse. The British diet could be partially to blame for the increase in back pain: over the last ten years the average weight of men has risen by 11 lbs and of women by 9 lbs. So much for the causes and aggravations of pain. But what can WE do to help?

There are many ways in which simple day-to-day care can make all the difference. The first point to watch of course is weight. If you are overweight, a diet will make all the difference.

Also, studies have shown that just one hour sitting in a slouched position can strain ligaments in the back which can take months to heal.

At the clinic we have come to the conclusion that the major cause of the problem is not with the design of chairs, as some have suggested, but in the way WE sit in them. It can be useful to get special orthopaedic chairs, but remember the most important improvement should be in OUR posture.

Another enemy of your back is, of course, your beds. If your bed doesn't give enough support, back muscles and ligaments work all night trying to correct spinal alignment, so you wake up with a tired aching back. Try out an orthopaedic mattress or a spring slatted bed. Research shows that both can be beneficial for certain types of back pain.

Another hazard for your back are the shock waves which travel up your spine when you walk, known as heel strike. A real find for our patients has been the shock-absorbing shoe insert. A

cheap but very effective solution. And you might be better off avoiding shoes with heels higher than 1½ inches. Though absolutely flat shoes can be a solution for some, others find their posture suffers.

Finally, a word about the state-of-the-art relief – the TENS machine – a small battery-powered gadget which delivers subliminal electrical pulses to the skin. Our experience indicates that your money is better spent on the more old-fashioned remedies.

PRACTICE TEST 3

PART ONE

1. W: Oh, this headache – do you have any aspirin? On the way back from the grocery store, I went right past a pharmacy. But I forgot to pick some up.

M: Sorry, I don't. But there's another one just down the street that's open twenty-four hours.

Question: What does the man suggest the woman do?

2. M: I'm very shy that this sweater has a hole in it. We can replace the sweater, or give you a refund.

W: I really like this sweater. I'll take another if it's in good condition.

M: Here's one. I'll double check the stitching for you.

Question: What is the man going to do?

3. W: Hello. I'm in room five-twelve (512). I just plugged in my hair dryer and all the lights went out.

M: I'm sorry. I'll send someone to take care of it right away.

W: Thanks. I have to go out at six o'clock, so I'm really in a hurry!

Question: Where does the conversation take place?

4. W: Paul, don't tell me you hurt your leg skiing!

M: Actually, I tripped on the carpet in my office yesterday.

W: I hope you'll recover in time to play on the volleyball team Friday night.

Question: What happened to Paul?

5. W: Good morning, City of Osborne permits department.

M: How long does it take to get another parking permit? I got into an accident last night and I think I lost it at the accident site.

W: Oh, I am sorry to hear that. You can pick up a form at any library and just mail it back to us.

M: That's not too bad. Thank you so much for your help.

Question: What can be inferred about the man?

6. W: The bus is going to pick us up at around 5 o'clock after the guided tour.

M: Where are we going after that? We're supposed to go look at some wildlife along the river, right?

W: Actually, we'll be back at the hotel by 6 to dress for dinner and after we'll meet the group for dinner.

M: Oh, I forgot about dinner! I wonder what the dinner menu is. I'm hungry already!

Question: What are the people doing around 6 o'clock?

7. M: We can catch the 7 o'clock ferry in order to get to the city center by 7:30 p.m.
W: OK. That'll give us plenty of time to eat dinner before the show starts.
M: Oh, you wanted to have dinner before the show? I was thinking after the show.
W: Yes, we're going to Moose's Tooth, and that place will be packed by the time we're done with the show.

Question: What time will the couple probably have dinner?

8. M: I see you moved to our Software department recently. Mind telling me why?
W: Well, I was doing routine work in Accounting and was bored. Besides, I like this field.
M: That's interesting. Do you think you'll be able to handle this project on your own?
W: Of course. I should be able to complete it in a month.

Question: What does the man want to do?

9. M: Excuse me, ma'am. You're not allowed to use your cell phone on board. Could you please turn it off?
W: I'm waiting for a really important call. I'll turn it off in a minute.
M: Sorry, ma'am, but airline regulations forbid the use of cell phones during flights. If you don't turn your phone off now, it might interfere with our communications equipment.
W: Sorry, I didn't realize it was such a big deal. I'll switch it off now then.

Question: Who is the man likely to be?

10. M: Are you looking for a gift or something for your home?
W: Actually, my company wants to liven up the office with some potted plants. The waiting area is especially plain with nothing but a few posters on the walls.
M: Were you thinking of seasonal plants which you can rotate every three months, or more permanent ones?
W: Good question. Probably something permanent that's not too difficult to care for. I don't think any of us are experienced at raising plants.

Question: What does the woman want?

PART TWO

- W: Hello. May I help you?
M: Yes. Could you tell me more about the special hotel in Sweden?
W: Sure. That's the Ice Hotel. It's located in a small town in Swedish Lapland, inside the Arctic Circle. So, when would you like to go?
M: Well, I'm looking for a winter vacation.
W: Perfect! In fact, the Ice Hotel is only open in the winter because it's made of ice and snow.
M: Ice and snow?

W: That's right. It's built out of ice and snow every November when the weather's cold. Then in the spring, it melts – it turns into water when the weather gets warm.

M: Sounds cold!

W: Well, you're right, it is cold. Outside, the temperature is sometimes 40 degrees below freezing. It's warmer inside the hotel though – about five degrees below freezing Celsius.

M: Wait a minute. Did you say five below freezing? ... What is that in Fahrenheit?

W: Well, that's about 23 degrees Fahrenheit.

M: Is it that cold in the rooms?

W: Yes, but ...

M: Oh! ... So people really stay there?!

W: Sure. The Ice Hotel is really popular with travelers from all over the world. Every year, different artists create the rooms and furniture, and it's decorated with beautiful ice sculptures. Adventurous travelers like to stay there because it's beautiful and it's unusual. It's really an exciting experience!

M: Oh my ... I see. It does sound interesting ... So what are the rooms like?

W: Well, the guest rooms all have tall beds that are made of ice and snow and covered with reindeer furs. To stay warm at night, you sleep in a very warm sleeping bag. And you'll need to wear your hat to keep your ears warm! There are a few things the rooms don't have though – for one thing, they don't have bathrooms. You have to go to another building to use the bathroom. There also aren't any closets for your clothes. Your clothes would freeze!

M: Oh ... So how much does it cost to stay ...

PART THREE

Thank you to all the local residents who have taken the time to attend this evening's meeting. As you know this is an information session arranged with the purpose of keeping you informed of council plans for development of certain areas of Stockton village.

Now, if we look at the map of the area here on the projector screen we can see that the areas planned for development have been marked. First, I'll start by talking about the planned location for a new housing estate. The area chosen for this is to the right of the main road at the A53 junction. This part of Stockton is currently underdeveloped and has been chosen, as it is the least likely to cause disruption to existing residents and has existing road links in place. Other locations, including the area near Wilfield Lane were originally considered, but rejected as they would cause too much disruption to local residents.

In order that the area will be able to sustain an increase in population, there are associated plans to build a new primary school. The current school, as you know, is situated in the neighbouring village; however, a second and more convenient school will be located where

Edgefield Lane meets Moss Hill. The site is currently used as a recreation centre, but development of the primary school is scheduled for the end of the year.

A newer and larger recreation centre will be built between Bunts Lane and the waterway. Its development is being funded by both council subsidiaries and funding from local investors; all financial arrangements are already in place. There has also been an application to build a new family restaurant, but the location and application itself are still under discussion.

I would like to assure you that the Stockton area will retain its greenery and countryside feel; the Woodland Park area which begins at the top of Edgefield Lane and extends down to the river will remain a green-belted conservation area and will not be affected at all by the development plan.

While it is necessary for us to accommodate the growing population of the district, I would like to assure you that conservation and preservation of our resident's quality of life has been considered throughout the planning process.

I'll now move on to specific details related to the housing development. As you know, it is necessary for extended provision of housing throughout the county and similar developments are planned in a number of areas. In Stockton, the council plans to allow building of 80 new homes. These houses have been designed to be in-keeping with properties already in existence in the village. They will be 4-bedroomed properties and will be developed by Stone Construction. They are intended to be high quality homes which will add value to the local area.

Building is planned to commence in two months time and the estimated completed date is July of next year. Taking into account new arrivals, Stockton's projected population will be approximately 1,400.

Now as you know, the area is classified as semi-rural and has green-belt protection against over development. I know that some of you are concerned that the plans will cause congestion and will affect nature; however, I hope that the information given in this meeting has helped to put your minds at rest and has clarified the situation.

I believe I have covered the main points and I'd now like to invite any questions you may have about the development plan that were not clarified completely in the presentation.

PART FOUR

For the most part, extreme sports originated as recreational activities for individuals, but often in a group context. Individual athletes would show off skills for the rest of the group members to imitate or emulate – or even to "one up" – by doing even more-dangerous stunts. Skateboarding is the prime example here. The little tricks that kids used to show off to their friends as they skateboarded down the street have grown into daredevil stunts involving multiple flips high in the air or riding down the edge of stair railings to a magnificent trick landing at the bottom of the stairs.

As they have become competitive, the extreme sports have been at least partly absorbed into the mainstream. Snowboarding was the first (and is still the only) extreme sport to become an Olympic event, but this could soon change. BMX racing and mountain biking have been adopted as cycling disciplines, and in-line skating falls under the jurisdiction of the international and national governing bodies for roller skating.

Several extreme sports, such as snowboarding, skateboarding, street luge, and bungee jumping have also been called "outlaw sports" because they have been banned in many areas for being too dangerous. These sports have also been called "alternative sports," in part because they are seen as alternatives to older, more traditional sports, but also because many of the athletes who engage in these sports have also adopted an alternative lifestyle. This lifestyle was known at first as punk and later as grunge. It was characterized by a somewhat grungy or used and tom style of dress.

Bungee jumping is one of the earliest of the extreme sports and also one of the most dangerous. Bungee jumping is based on a ritual practiced by the villagers of Pentecost Island in the South Pacific. Every spring, the villagers collect vines and wind them into long cords or ropes. Then young men climb high wooden towers, tie the vines around their ankles, and jump. A successful jump is considered to be a demonstration of courage and a sign that there will be a plentiful yam harvest.

Bungee jumping is a popular sport among the young, particularly in California, New Zealand, and France. Bungee jumping was once done only by a handful of sky divers, mountain climbers, and other daredevils. Recently, however, thousands of bungee adventure clubs have opened around the world. One club, Bungee Adventures in California, has already sent more than 20,000 thrill seekers over the edge. There have been no fatal accidents so far in the United States, but two French jumpers fell to their deaths when their bungee cords severed. The cords just snapped apart as they were stretched to the limit. A third jumper died when he bounced off the jump tower.

Bungee jumpers claim, however, that the thrills are greater than the risks. Jumpers leap head-first from bridges, towers, cranes, and even hot-air balloons. They leap from 90 to 300 feet above the ground, with only the long nylon and rubber bungee cord to break their fall. The bungee cord is a lot like a giant rubber band. Tied around the ankles or the body, the cord is only long enough to allow a few seconds of free fall before it stretches to the limit, stopping the jumper just a few feet short of the land or water below. The jumper is then thrown skyward as the cord snaps back to its original length.

Unlike other extreme sports, bungee jumping does not require any special physical training or ability. The only strength that is required is psychological. And that, my friends, seems to be the big draw for both participants and spectators in this particular extreme sport. That, and the thrill of seeing someone who has chosen to risk life and limb have a really close call.

PRACTICE TEST 4

PART ONE

1. M: We're thinking of buying a house.

W: Is it the brick one with the large front porch that you liked so much?

M: No, the entry was nice, but we found out the garage and basement needed a lot of work.
And commuting would have been too much.

Question: *What does the man want to do?*

2. M: Is the theater on Second or Third Avenue?

W: Neither, the newspaper said "First".

M: Well, let's leave now. The movie starts at four and we may need a little time to find the place.

Question: *What are the speakers probably doing?*

3. M: I need to rent a car. I'd like a fairly small car as I'll be driving a lot around town and a smaller car will be easier to get around and to park.

W: Yes, that's true. Well, I've got small sizes in the following types of car: a Ford, A Renault and a Toyota. They're pretty much the same though the Toyota is in a cheaper price category.

M: I'll take the cheapest one please.

Question: *Which type of car does the man rent?*

4. A: Hey, Jennifer. You're planning to go to Steven's party this weekend, aren't you?

B: No. I really want to go, but I can't.

A: Oh no! Why not?

B: I have to go out of town with my parents. We're going to visit my aunt in Chicago. And we're driving the whole way!

Question: *Why is Jennifer not going to go to Steven's party?*

5. A: I've been having problems with my boss lately.

B: Why is that?

A: Well, he has a lot of rules. He gets really angry if I come to work two minutes late, or if I let the office phone ring more than twice before I answer it. And if I make a tiny mistake, he yells at me.

Question: *What can be inferred about the woman's boss?*

6. W: I'd be happy to type your letter for you, but can it wait until after lunch? I'm in the middle of something right now.

M: Of course it can wait, just as long as it's mailed this evening.

W: That won't be any problem. I have to finish copying this report, then I'll grab a bite to eat, then I'll do it. It'll be done by early afternoon.

Question: Who is the woman likely to be?

7. M: Oh, no. I don't have my glasses. I think I must have left them on the desk in your office.

W: I'll wait for you here while you go back and look for them.

M: OK. Hold onto my briefcase for me, and don't wait here. I'll catch up with you at the car. It will only take me a minute.

W: All right. I'm parked right across the street, in front of the post office.

Question: What is the man going to do?

8. S: Soccer practice is at 6:30 this Saturday morning because another team has the field at 8:30.

T: Steve, Karl told me he couldn't come to soccer practice until eight.

S: What a drag. He's always late. He thinks he's coming at eight, does he? Well, I think he's off the team, then. He can't come and go as he pleases and still be on the team.

Question: Who are the speakers talking about?

9. W: Thank you for calling GAT Telecom. I'm Jenny. How may I help you?

M: Hi, I think there's a mistake on my bill. There's a fee of \$120 for international calls.

W: I'll need some details to check this. Do you have the bill with you now, sir?

M: No, I've lost it. I already reported this two weeks ago.

Question: What can be inferred from the conversation?

10. M: Do you have a cheaper room available either on the 20th or the 22nd?

W: Well, would you like a smoking or a non-smoking room?

M: Non-smoking, please.

W: Okay, we do have a few rooms available on the 20th; we're full on the 22nd, unless you want a smoking room.

Question: What does the man want to do?

PART TWO

W: Hello. Can I help you?

M: Um, yeah. I'm interested in information on housing.

W: You've come to the right place. What would you like to know?

M: Well, first of all how do I apply for housing?

W: Oh, you should have received a set of guidelines and application forms in the admissions packet you got when you were accepted to the university. Did you not get that yet?

M: Oh yeah, I got it ... but I guess I didn't look through it carefully.

W: Okay, well that's no problem. If you have time, you can fill out the application, and pay the registration fee now.

M: There's no rush, is there?

W: Well you've got another couple months before the deadline, but housing on campus is at a premium right now. So if there's no reason to wait, I wouldn't.

M: Oh well, maybe I better do it today then. I do have a few questions, though.

W: Sure, what do you want to know?

M: I'd really like to have a single room. Is that possible?

W: Unfortunately there's a waiting list, and it's extremely rare for freshmen to get a single room, but there's no harm in putting your name on the list.

M: Oh really ... Well, can you tell me about the rooms? Like what they come with and what I should bring.

W: Well every room comes with an extra long twin bed, but you need to bring your own sheets. You'll get a desk and a chair, a clothes closet and storage drawers, of course.

M: Do the rooms have Internet?

W: Yes, you can connect either by Wi-Fi or Ethernet, but unfortunately, there's a \$40 charge per semester. Each room does have a telephone, though, and local calls are free ... and so is the cable TV. The residence halls are pretty well-equipped too. There's a free laundry room, kitchenette, lots of vending machines, and each floor has a couple of nice lounges and common areas.

M: Cool. Can I bring a microwave?

W: No, sorry. That's not permitted for safety reasons, but you can bring other electronic gear like a small TV, your laptop, etc.

PART THREE

H: Hi, Andrea, how are you feeling now that exams are over?

A: It's fantastic to have finished, isn't it, and to sleep in every morning! What about you?

H: Well, I've been catching up on sleep, too. But I've got a lot to do before I leave for England. Perhaps you could give me some advice? I've got a lot of things I can't possibly take back with me but I don't know what to do with them.

A: Well, it depends on what sort of things they are and whether you're thinking of giving them away or selling them.

H: Well, almost everything – furniture, the fridge and other kitchen stuff that I bought from the previous tenant, but the new people have already got what they need so they're not

interested in buying stuff from me. I can't afford to give it away but I'm not sure how to sell it all. Oh, and there are some clothes and books as well.

A: Why can't you take them?

H: The books are really heavy – it's so expensive if you exceed the airline baggage allowance. And the clothes just won't all fit in my suitcase, it's amazing how much stuff I've accumulated since I've been here. Anyway, I don't think I'll need as many summer clothes in England as I have here in Australia!

A: I see. Well, there are several alternatives. First of all, you could put up notices around the university about the books – you know on the notice-boards in the student union building, and in the economics department, anywhere second and third year students will see them. People are always keen to buy cheap text books.

H: OK. What should I say on the notices?

A: Just put the titles, authors and price you want ... your name of course, and maybe put your phone number on those little tear-off tags.

H: That's a good idea. And what about the furniture?

A: You could try doing the same thing, but usually students are away all summer, so they don't want to buy furniture now. Another place to try might be a second-hand shop. Someone from the shop will usually come around and give you a free quote, and then you can decide. But you don't usually get much money for that sort of stuff.

Another alternative is to put an advertisement in the Trading Post. Do you know that paper? It comes out every week, advertising things people want to sell. You have to pay to put the advert in and then hope people phone. Give them as much information as possible and if they're interested, invite them to come and have a look. The hard part is agreeing on a price.

H: No, I haven't seen the Trading Post, but I should have a look at it, and I could advertise the fridge, the microwave, and the furniture. Let's go and buy a Trading Post and you can help me write the advert.

A: Well, ... actually I'm interested in buying the fridge and the microwave, depending on the price of course.

H: OK. Let's see how good you are at bargaining!

PART FOUR

Well, my group has been doing a project on how household waste is recycled in Britain.

We were quite shocked to discover that only 9% of people here in the UK make an effort to recycle their household waste. This is a lower figure than in most other European countries, and needs to increase dramatically in the next few years if the government is going to meet its recycling targets.

The agreed targets for the UK mean that we must reduce our carbon dioxide emissions by 12.5%. And recycling can help to achieve that goal in two main ways: the production of recycled glass and paper uses much less energy than producing them from virgin materials, and also recycling reduces greenhouse gas emissions from landfill sites and incineration plants.

As part of our project, we carried out a survey of people in the street, and the thing that came up over and over again is that people don't think it's easy enough to recycle their waste. One problem is that there aren't enough 'drop-off' sites, that is, the places where the public are supposed to take their waste.

We also discovered that waste that's collected from householders is taken to places called 'bring banks', for sorting and baling into loads. One problem here is taking out everything that shouldn't have been placed in the recycling containers: people put all sorts of things into bottle banks, like plastic bags and even broken umbrellas. All this has to be removed by hand. Another difficulty is that toughened glass used for cooking doesn't fully melt at the temperature required for other glass, and so that also has to be picked out by hand.

Glass is easy to recycle because it can be reused over and over again without becoming weaker. Two million tons of glass is thrown away each year, that is, seven billion bottles and jars; but only 500,000 tons of that is collected and recycled.

Oddly enough, half the glass that's collected is green, and a lot of that is imported, so more green glass is recycled than the UK needs. As a result, new uses are being developed for recycled glass, particularly green glass, for example in fibreglass manufacture and water filtration. A company called *CLF Aggregates* makes a product for roads, and 30% of the material is crushed glass.

For recycling paper, Britain comes second in Europe with 40%, behind Germany's amazing 70%.

When recycling started, there were quality problems, so it was difficult to use recycled paper in office printers. But these problems have now been solved, and *Martin's*, based in South London, produces a range of office stationery which is 100% recycled, costs the same as normal paper and is of equally high quality.

But this high quality comes at a cost in terms of the waste produced during the process. Over a third of the waste paper that comes in can't be used in the recycled paper, leaving the question of what to do with it. One firm, *Papersave*, currently sells this to farmers as a soil conditioner, though this practice will soon be banned because of transport costs and the smell, and the company is looking into the possibility of alternative uses.

Plastic causes problems because there are so many different types of plastic in use today, and each one has to be dealt with differently. *Pacrite* recycles all sorts of things, from bottles to car bumpers, and one of its most successful activities is recycling plastic bottles to make containers which are used all over the country to collect waste.

The Save-a-Cup scheme was set up by the vending and plastics industries to recycle as many as possible of the three-and-a-half billion polystyrene cups used each year. At the moment 500 million polycups are collected, processed and sold on to other businesses, such as *Waterford*, which turns the cups into pencils, and *Johnson & Jones*, a Welsh-based firm, which has developed a wide variety of items, including business cards.

Well, to sum up, there seems to be plenty of research going on into how to re-use materials, but the biggest problem is getting people to think about recycling instead of throwing things away. At least doing the research made us much more careful.

PRACTICE TEST 5

PART ONE

1. M: The city has really worked on its public transportation.
W: Yes, the train cars are much cleaner and the buses are running right on schedule.
M: I'm even thinking of taking the bus to work and leaving my car at home.
Question: *What does the man plan to do?*

2. M: I'm sorry, Mrs. Blair, but your favorite hotel won't be taking any more reservations for the next few weeks. They've got no space.
W: Oh, that's all right. There's probably a conference on and they're full up.
M: Let me try the Crystal View. Remember how much you enjoyed your last stay there?
Question: *What is the man trying to do?*

3. M1: Okay. And what about dessert?
M2: Well, maybe we could ask Kathy to make a few cherry pies like she did last time.
M1: Well, I wouldn't mind that, but you know, she's been very busy working two jobs, so I'd hate to ask her, and uh . . . Hey, why don't you whip up some of your oatmeal cookies?
Question: *What can be inferred about the two speakers?*

4. M: Hey, want to go to the concert with me on Saturday? There's an amazing cellist who has been playing since she was three years old!
W: Oh, no . . . I hate that kind of music.
M: Oh, well, I thought you might like it.
W: No, I don't have time for that sort of thing.
Question: *What can be inferred about the woman?*

5. W: Your house is that small yellow one on the corner, isn't it? The one with the spectacular garden. I pass it every day on my drive to work.
M: You do? Then maybe you can give me a lift sometime when the weather's bad. Normally I walk to work, and I really enjoy getting the exercise, but I'd rather not do it when it rains.
W: I'm sorry. I thought you took the bus. Look, it's supposed to rain tomorrow. I'll pick you up at 7:30, OK?
Question: *What does the man ask the woman to do?*

6. M: Were you home last night? Did you watch TV?

W: No, I was out having dinner with some friends. Did I miss a good program?

M: Yes, there's a great comedy on every Wednesday at six. You know, the one that everyone is always talking about. It's really fun.

W: I know the one you mean, but I've never had the chance to see it. I usually don't get home until seven.

Question: What can be inferred about the man?

7. W1: So how was the hotel in Honolulu?

W2: It was pretty good. The staff was really nice – very friendly and helpful. There was one problem with it, though.

W1: What was that?

W2: The location. It was too far from the restaurants and clubs. Next time, I think I'll stay much closer to the downtown.

Question: What is one disadvantage of the hotel in Honolulu?

8. M: How's it going, Amy?

W: Oh, all right. I'm writing a research paper on Leonardo da Vinci, so I've been spending a lot of time in the library.

M: Isn't he the one who painted the Mona Lisa?

W: Yeah. He also did a lot of other great paintings. And he was a scientist and an inventor, too!

Question: What may the woman's research paper be about?

9. W: Well, what's the weather like where you're going?

M: Well, uh, it's really hot in the summer, so I'm going to buy some shorts, sandals, and a few t-shirts.

W: What about the rest of the year?

M: People say that the fall can still be warm until November, so I'm going to buy some jeans and a few casual shirts.

Question: What are the two speakers talking about?

10. W: Here we are, the Chicago Art and Music Museum!

M: Oh my god, I'd hate to disappoint you that it is closed on Sundays. Now, what can we do? Would you like to go shopping instead?

W: Yea, I'm really sorry, let's go shopping. I really wanted to see the art pieces they have. I guess we are going to have to look for another time.

M: Then maybe we can come next Saturday. Would you like to?

Question: What are the speakers going to do?

PART TWO

M: Hi everyone, I'm Bob.

W: And I'm Pam, and this show is all about "Eating Right!"

M: You know, Pam, with people so busy today, they don't have a lot of time to shop or plan what to eat.

W: That's true, but healthy eating might just give you a longer and happier life! So here are some things we all should think about regarding our diet.

M: First, eat lots of fruits and vegetables. Why? Well, they're a good source of vitamins, and minerals

...

W: Right, and they're a good source of fiber, too. Also, they're almost all low in calories and fat, and eating them may help protect you against cancer. So, put an apple or a banana in your lunchbox, or have a carrot for a snack – skip those potato chips.

M: That's right. Fruits make a great dessert – you don't need all those sugary sweets and drinks, cookies, cakes, candies, sodas.

W: You bet you don't. So a second point to remember: too much sugar in your diet can lead to health problems like weight gain, tooth decay – that's trips to your dentist ...

M: Owww! Or even diabetes, and that's serious!

W: Now the third thing we want you to think about is reducing the fat you eat.

M: Uh huh. Cutting down on the fat in our diets would be good for many of us.

W: So true. It can help us lose weight.

M: Or not gain weight in the first place.

W: And it can lower our chance of getting heart disease, and cancer, too.

M: So cut back on all those hamburgers, cheeseburgers, French fries ...

W: And chips – they're full of fat ...

M: And salt. Oh, I don't want to forget our fourth suggestion: Eat more whole grains. You'll get plenty of fiber, vitamins, and minerals from them.

W: You mean, like, brown rice and whole wheat?

M: That's it. They're much healthier than white bread, white rice, and things like that.

W: Finally, you don't want to drink too much coffee. Coffee can make you nervous, and keep you awake at night. Or even affect your heart – but we'll talk about coffee on another show ...

PART THREE

- A: Hey, James . . . what are you reading?
- B: Oh . . . it's the course catalog for the community college.
- A: Are you signing up for classes?
- B: I'm trying to sign up. It's really difficult trying to work full-time here and complete my degree. I find it really frustrating. Most of the classes necessary to complete my B.A. meet during the day – during work hours. Or, if they meet in the evening, I end up missing too many classes because of last-minute sales trips or something keeps me late at work. I mean, I need this degree to get ahead here at the company, but it seems nearly impossible!
- A: Why not take the classes over the Internet? I've started taking classes online, and I completed six hours over the past couple of months. So far I've taken Beginning Accounting, Business Law, and Economics.
- B: Online? I've thought about that, but . . . I don't know . . . Don't you miss the real relationships and contacts with your professor and other students?
- A: I'll admit, it's not quite the same as sitting next to other people who share the same interests . . . but there are many advantages. Take scheduling, for example.
- B: How does it work? I mean, how do you attend class?
- A: It's pretty simple, really. Have you ever used an online discussion board?
- B: Sure, who hasn't?
- A: Well, attending class is basically like that. You are required to post four messages a day to a message board which is monitored by your professor.
- B: What about lectures? Does the professor give lectures?
- A: Those are posted online, too. Then you need to post your comments. I participate – share my opinions – much more than I ever did in a traditional class.
- B: Really?
- A: Yes . . . and the best part is that I can do it any time. In fact, I usually participate in a discussion during my morning coffee break . . . and then again at lunch. That fulfills my required participation for one day. You could say I've attended class that day.
- B: Do you do this for a full semester?
- A: Each three unit class I've taken so far lasts for a single month.
- B: That's great! Can you really finish a class in only thirty days?
- A: Yes. But it can get pretty intense . . . you really have to keep up with the work. You can't fall behind because there is no time to catch up.
- B: What about the assignments? Are they similar to traditional class assignments? Do you write reviews and papers and turn them in over the Internet? Do you take tests online?

- A: Yes, all that is done online ... or completed at home and then sent to the professor over the Internet.
- B: What about the reading? You don't read entire textbooks on the computer, do you? I don't think I'd like that.
- A: Reading is a little different. Some materials, like journal articles and class lectures, are available online. The university has an online library.
- B: What about the textbook? There is a textbook, isn't there?
- A: Yes, it's a traditional text – you have to get it ahead of time. A buddy told me to get it in advance and start reading, because after the class begins, it is really hard to keep up on the reading. I found that to be true.
- B: I'd like to talk to you more about this later.
- A: Of course, but right now ...

PART FOUR

Today I'm going to talk you through the types of interview you may have, how to prepare for these, the kinds of questions interviewers may have and how to deal with them. There are at least three basic types of interview which I'll term traditional, behavioral and case-study. To begin with, I'll go over the interview type we're probably all most familiar with: the traditional interview.

In a traditional interview the aim is to get factual information from a candidate and evaluate how well they fit the job description. Typical questions include, *Why did you choose your degree subject? Do you have any weaknesses and what are they?* The second type of interview is the behavioral interview where the employer requires you to offer concrete specific examples to show what skills you have. They may ask questions like, *Can you tell me about a time when you worked in a team?* When answering this kind of question, use the STAR framework: talk about the situation; say what your task was; state the action you took and finally say what the result was. The final kind of interview is the case-study interview. In this kind of interview the employer requires you to analyze a problem or situation and present a solution to it. An example question might be, *What would you do in a situation where a customer complained about bad service?* This is the kind of interview we often give at our company as a second interview at the company building. Let's look now at the basic structure of an interview.

Interviews follow a pattern of warm-up, information exchange, and conclusion. During the first few minutes of the interview in the warm-up phase, an employer will be getting a first, and perhaps lasting, impression of you. To help you feel at ease, a practiced interviewer might ask common-ground questions about your interests or where you live or your journey to the interview. This is simply an opening for you to briefly describe your background, skills, and interest in the position, but it's a question you need to prepare for. So on to the information exchange.

This is the main part of the interview. During this stage it is important to remember that a job interview is a strategic conversation with a purpose. Your goal is to persuade the employer that you have the skills, background, and ability to do the job and that you can comfortably fit into his or her organization.

Here is some general advice on how to do your best in the information exchange part of the interview. Show enthusiasm in your responses to the employer's questions. Think about your tone of voice and body language. Look the interviewer in the eye, sit up straight, control nervous habits and smile when you enter the room. If you are unsure how to respond to a question, ask the questioner to repeat it. This will buy you time and ensure that you answer the question asked. Don't be afraid of short pauses. You may need a few seconds to think of an answer or the interviewer may need time to formulate an appropriate question. It is not necessary to fill up every second with conversation. Try to give examples to illustrate your answers. Avoid colloquial language and repeating phrases like *you know*, *know what I mean*. Answer questions honestly and if you really don't know what response you should give, say so. Remember that whatever questions you are asked, however probing they may be, there is always a way of expressing yourself in a positive way.

Eventually, the employer will probably say, "Do you have any questions?" This means that the interview is moving to the conclusion stage. Always ask questions because this gives you the opportunity to demonstrate your research and interest in the job. The employer may also ask you if you have anything else you would like to add or say. Again, it's best to have a response. You can use this opportunity to thank the employer for the interview, summarize your qualifications and restate your interest in the position. This last impression is almost as important as the first impression and will add to the points discussed during the information exchange.

Finally, there is no magic to interviewing: it is a skill that can be learned and improved upon with practice. So practice with friends and family before the interview – the more practice you get, the better prepared you will be on the day.

REFERENCES



American English File
Open Forum
Oxford Practice Tests for the TOEIC Test
Tactics for Listening Expanding (3rd edition)



Cambridge IELTS



Achieve IELTS

Language Australia
The National Languages and Li

IELTS on Track – Test Practice
Building Skills for the TOEIC Test
Longman New Real TOEIC – Full Actual Tests
Longman Prep Series for the New TOEIC – More Practice Tests
NorthStar – Listening and Speaking



Mosaic Listening & Speaking – Silver Edition
Interactions Listening & Speaking – Silver Edition



Big Step TOEIC 2
Tomato TOEIC Compact Listening



www.ieltshelpnow.com
www.canadavisa.com
www.esl-lab.com