



Reading Practice Tests FOR NEC 1 Revised

Ngoại ngữ 1 (Trường Đại học Ngoại thương)

TEST 1

Part 1. For questions 1-13, read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

Does water have memory?

The practice of homeopathy was first developed by the German physician Samuel Hahnemann. During research in the 1790s, Hahnemann began experimenting with quinine, an alkaloid derived from cinchona bark that was well known at the time to have a positive effect on fever. Hahnemann started dosing himself with quinine while in a state of good health, and reported in his journals that his extremities went cold, he experienced palpitations, an “infinite anxiety”, a trembling and weakening of the limbs, reddening cheeks and thirst – “in short”, he concluded, “all the symptoms of relapsing fever presented themselves successively...” Hahnemann’s main observation was that things which create problems for healthy people cure those problems in sick people, and this became his first principle of homeopathy: *similia similibus* (with help from the same). While diverging from the principle of apothecary practice at the time – which was *contraria contrariis* (with help from the opposite) – the efficacy of *similia similibus* was reaffirmed by subsequent developments in the field of vaccinations.

Hahnemann’s second principle was minimal dosing – treatments should be taken in the most diluted form at which they remain effective. This negated any possible toxic effects of *similia similibus*.

In 1988 the French immunologist Jacques Benveniste took minimal dosing to new extremes when he published a paper in the prestigious scientific journal *Nature* in which he suggested that very high dilutions of the anti-IgE antibody could affect human basophil granulocytes, the least common of the granulocytes that make up about 0.01% to 0.3% of white blood cells. The point of controversy, however, was that the water in Benveniste’s test had been so diluted that any molecular evidence of the antibodies no longer existed. Water molecules, the researcher concluded, had a biologically active component that a journalist later termed “water memory”. A number of efforts from scientists in Britain, France and the Netherlands to duplicate Benveniste’s research were unsuccessful, however, and to this day no peer-reviewed study under broadly accepted conditions has been able to confirm the validity of “water memory”.

The third principle of homeopathy is “the single remedy.” Exponents of this principle believe that it would be too difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain the potential effects of multiple homeopathic remedies delivered simultaneously. If it did work, they suggest, one could not know quite why it worked, turning homeopathy into an ambiguous guessing game. If it did not work, neither patient nor practitioner would know whether the ingredients were all ineffective, or whether they were only ineffective in combination

with one another. Combination remedies are gaining in popularity, but classical homeopaths who rely on the single remedy approach warn these are not more potent, nor do they provide more treatment options. The availability of combination remedies, these homeopaths suggest, has been led by consumers wanting more options, not from homeopathic research indicating their efficacy.

Homeopathy is an extremely contentious form of medicine, with strong assertions coming from both critics and supporters of the practice. “Homeopathy: There’s nothing in it” announces the tagline to 10:23, a major British anti-homeopathy campaign. At 10.23 a.m. on 30 January 2010, over 400 supporters of the 10:23 stood outside Boots pharmacies and swallowed an entire bottle each of homeopathic pills in an attempt to raise awareness about the fact that these remedies are made of sugar and water, with no active components. This, defenders of homeopathy say, is entirely the point. Homeopathic products do not rely on ingredients that become toxic at high doses, because the water retains the “memory” that allows the original treatment to function.

Critics also point out the fact that homeopathic preparations have no systematic design to them, making it hard to monitor whether or not a particular treatment has been efficacious. Homeopaths embrace this. While results may be less certain, they argue, the non-toxic nature of homeopathy means that practitioner and patient can experiment until they find something that works without concern for side effects. Traditional medicine, they argue, assaults the body with a cocktail of drugs that only tackles the symptoms of disease, while homeopathy has its sights aimed on the causes. Homeopaths suggest this approach leads to kinder, gentler, more effective treatment.

Finally, critics allege that when homeopathy has produced good results, these are exceedingly dependent on the placebo effect, and cannot justify the resources, time and expense that the homeopathic tradition absorbs. The placebo effect is a term that describes beneficial outcomes from a treatment that can be attributed to the patient’s expectations concerning the treatment rather than from the treatment itself. Basically, the patient “thinks” himself into feeling better. Defenders suggest that homeopathy can go beyond this psychological level. They point to the successful results of homeopathy on patients who are unconscious at the time of treatment, as well as on animals.

For questions 1-7, decide whether the following statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

1. Samuel Hahnemann developed his principles based on an existent set of rules at his time.
2. The existence of a biologically active part in water has yet to be conclusively proven.

3. The single remedy serves to preclude the unforeseeable outcomes of remedial combinations.
4. It has been suggested that the practice of applying several treatments at the same time becomes more common due to endorsements by scientists.
5. The uncertainty of preparations for homeopathy is perceived by both supporters and opponents of it.
6. Patients' feelings are affected by the outcomes of the treatments they receive.
7. Abortive attempts of homeopathic treatment are used to corroborate its opponents' arguments.

Your answers.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
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For questions 8-13, complete the following paragraph with words taken from the passage (NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS for each blank).

There are three principles behind the practice of homeopathy. The first one, *similia similibus*, was developed by Samuel Hahnemann after experimentation in which he observed that problem-inducing factors could become treatments for suffering people. While marking a departure from that of (8) _____, this principle of homeopathy was substantiated by further advancements. The second principle, minimal dosing, serves to avert (9) _____ that can be caused by *similia similibus*. The attempt for its furtherance was made by Jacques Benveniste, but controversy was sparked as there was a lack of (10) _____ in the used water. Moreover, a result from his experiment termed "water memory" had received (11) _____ to the moment of writing. The third principle named "the single remedy" works on the ground that application of multiple treatments at the same time can make homeopathy become a(n) (12) _____ even when the results are desirable.

Homeopathy is a controversial remedy. While there are arguments in favour of it, critics have suggested weaknesses in the treatment including its components, lack of systemic design and the reliance on (13) _____ of its feasible positive effects.

Part 2. For questions 14-23, read an extract from an article and choose the answer A, B, C or D that fits best according to the text. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

A popular enlightenment

Alternative medicine has never enjoyed such popularity and respect as it does today. Therapies once dubbed ‘pseudoscience’ or ‘quackery’ are now typically referred to as ‘alternative’, ‘complementary’ or ‘holistic’. Practices that used to circulate on the fringes are now accepted as mainstream. But the rise of alternative medicine poses a problem for defenders of science. Many see the fight-back as a lost cause, but I cannot share this view because the factors that allow quackery to prosper can and are being harnessed for a counter-revolution in defence of science itself.

In the past, those exploring alternative lifestyles joined groups of like-minded people and subscribed to counter-cultural magazines. They now participate in online communities and surf the Internet, where they encounter alternative websites and blogs by the dozen, but also come across mainstream scientific viewpoints. In other words, the defence of science is also increasingly being undertaken by members of the public because the web has proved to be a crucial mobilising instrument for pro-science activists. Such defence was once conducted primarily by scholars; today the battle is often fought at an individual level via cut-and-thrust debate in blog postings. This social phenomenon of ‘angry nerds’ and ‘guerrilla bloggers’, dedicated to defending evidence-based medicine and challenging quackery, is important. Rather than relying on scientists to defend the boundaries of science, we are seeing a much more socially embedded struggle - a popular enlightenment project. Can such a project work? Reasserting goals of progress through reason and evidence is one thing, but whether it has any effect remains an open question. How easy is it to persuade people through factual corrections?

The answer seems to depend a great deal on the individual. For example, according to recent research, providing people who are ideologically committed to a particular view with incongruent information can backfire by causing them to dig their heels in and support their original argument even more strongly. This problem is a general one. A substantial body of psychological research suggests that humans tend to seek out and evaluate information that reinforces their existing views. The digital revolution has exacerbated the problem because, as journalist Farhad Manjoo writes, “whenever you want; seek out and discuss, in exhaustive and insular detail, the kind of news that pleases you; and indulge your political, social or scientific theories... among people who feel exactly the same way’.

I believe such pessimism goes too far, though. [A] However, the world has yet to enter what political scientist Michael Barkun of Syracuse University in New York calls ‘complete epistemological pluralism’. [B] Indeed, the fact that quacks keep trying to get the imprimatur of science for their discredited ideas, by trying to publish their work in peer-viewed journals, for examples, speaks to the continued public prestige and power of

science. [C] Furthermore, their support base is far from fixed in stone. Some people are so committed to unorthodox views that they cannot be moved, but they are the exception. [D] In general, people motivated to explore the ‘cultic milieu’ - that fluid countercultural space in which alternative therapies and conspiracy theories flourish - are open to changing their minds.

In his seminal work on the cultic milieu, sociologist Colin Campbell of York University in the UK, stresses that it is not a space where firm opinions are held but rather a ‘society of seekers’ - people who ‘do not necessarily cease seeking when a revealed truth is offered to them’. This creates the space for pro-science activists to compete for attention. When they do so, the Internet becomes a tougher place for people to sequester themselves in a comfortable cocoon of the like-minded. This is good news for the enlightenment project. People may be biased in favour of interpretations that align with their prejudices but this does not mean that they just believe what they like. Faced with information of sufficient quantity or clarity, people do change their minds.

So the challenge for the pro-science movement is to keep an active and credible online presence. The web is an anarchic space where defence of science ranges from ridicule and banter to serious discussion about findings along with links to scientific articles and reports. It looks, in other words, like that space that used to be the preserve of the cultic milieu - but with greater informational depth. The weapons of science and reason are still very much in contention.

14. The writer expresses disapproval of scientists who:

- A. overlook the significance of alternative medicine.
- B. embrace the ideas put forward by proponents of alternative medicine.
- C. use pejorative language to refer to alternative medicine.
- D. abandon attempts to challenge claims made by alternative medicine.

15. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT mentioned?

- A. the transition of alternative medicine from ‘quackery’ to mainstream
- B. the expansion of pro-science groups from academic settings to online platforms
- C. the inclusion of laypersons into supporters of science
- D. the diversification of magazines into counter-culture

16. Which of the following statements best clarifies the sentence “**The answer seems to depend a great deal on the individual**” in the passage?

A. People who have amour propre are narrow-minded and therefore unable to accept contradictory proof, unlike their open-minded counterparts.

B. People with an idée fixe are confined to their personal unconventional viewpoints, while those interested in a counter-cultural space are more willing to modify their opinions.

C. Ideologues are devoid of the ability to change their mind, whereas those eager to explore the ‘cultic milieu’ are more susceptible to changes in opinions.

D. Those with idiocy are resistant to shifts in their opinions, but whoever motivated enough are open to leave their viewpoints changed.

17. The use of the quote by a journalist in the passage suggests that the Internet is a meeting place for:

A. people with very fixed viewpoints to support each other

B. pro-science activists attempting to defame alternative medicine

C. users seeking reinforcement of their ideologies

D. amateurs desiring to corroborate their beliefs with facts

18. Proponents of discredited ideas about complementary medicine:

A. are consistent in the arguments they put forward.

B. feel that they are given a raw deal by the scientific community.

C. are inclined to ignore the evidence to the contrary produced by scientists.

D. are interested in gaining the approval of the scientific community.

19. Which of the following square brackets [A], [B], [C], or [D] best indicates where in the paragraph the sentence “*The boundary between mainstream and alternative knowledge may have become more permeable.*” can be inserted?

A. [A]

B. [B]

C. [C]

D. [D]

20. According to the passage, how the Internet has assisted pro-scientists in their attempts to defend their principles?

A. It has become a place for discussions about complementary medicine held by its supporters.

B. It has caused people to be exposed to viewpoints to the contrary, not just similar opinions as theirs.

C. It has tarnished the fame of alternative medicine and eased criticism levelled at science-based medicine.

D. It has fuelled passion for science in scholars and scientists alike.

21. The writer emphasizes the need for pro-scientists to

A. cite relevant data on any discussions on the Internet.

B. avoid getting engaged in heated discussions with laypersons on the Internet.

C. maintain the integrity and exposure of scientific viewpoints on the Internet.

D. recede from any discussion which is getting more fiery.

22. From the passage, it can be inferred that:

A. Concepts behind alternative medicine have been roundly castigated by people of the public.

B. Attempts to belabor the point that complementary medicine remains ‘quackery’ have been to no avail.

C. The social phenomenon instigated by debates between alternative and science-based medicine has culminated in the victory for the latter.

D. The enlightenment project entails people with prejudices altering their views.

23. It can be deduced from the passage that the author:

A. consents to the action of retreating into a world of like-minded people.

B. yearns to avert the flourishing of science-based medicine .

C. takes a sanguine view of science and reasoned arguments.

D. objects to the use of the Internet for the sake of science.

Your answers

14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
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19.	20.	21.	22.	23.
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Part 3. In the passage below, seven paragraphs have been removed. For questions 24-30, read the passage and choose from the paragraphs A-H the one which fits each gap. There is ONE extra paragraph which you do not need to use. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered box provided.

Mathematical Games

The majority of video games designed to provide mathematics learning fail educationally for one of two reasons. One of these is that the designers know how to design and create video games but know little about mathematics education (in particular, how people learn mathematics) and in many cases don't seem to know what maths really is. The second is that they have a reasonable sense of mathematics and have some familiarity with the basic principles of mathematics education, but do not have sufficient education in video game design.

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To create an engaging game that also supports good mathematics learning requires a great deal more: a complete understanding of what mathematics is, how and why people learn and do mathematics, how to get and keep them engaged in their learning and how to represent the mathematics on the platform on which the game will be played. That too demands much more than just superficial knowledge.

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Following the tradition of textbook publishing, that figure does not include any payment to the authors who essentially create the entire pedagogic framework and content. Nor does it take into account the money required for the fees payable to the project's academic advisory board, without whom the project is unlikely to succeed.

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Though this term is specific to this context, its concept has been well known in maths education circles for over twenty years and is recognised as the biggest obstacle to practical mastery of middle school mathematics. To understand the precise implication of what the term entails and appreciate how pervasive it is, it is necessary to examine the role symbolic expressions play in mathematics.

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But just how essential are those symbols? Perhaps this question can best be answered through a comparison with music. Until the invention of recording devices, symbolic musical notation was the only way to store and distribute music, yet no one ever confuses music with a musical score. In the same way as music is created and enjoyed within the mind, mathematics is created and carried out in the mind. At its heart, mathematics is a mental activity and one that throughout human history has proved to be highly beneficial to life and society.

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So, why is it that many people believe mathematics itself is symbolic manipulation? And if the answer is that it results from our classroom experiences, why is mathematics taught that way? The answer to that second question is that mathematics is taught symbolically because for many centuries symbolic representation has been the most effective way to record mathematics and pass on mathematical knowledge to others.

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While it is true to say that people sometimes scribble down symbols when they do everyday maths in a real-life context, for the most part, what they write down are the facts needed to start with, perhaps the intermediate results along the way and, if they get far enough, the final answer at the end. But the actual mathematical part is primarily a thinking process as even when people are asked to 'show all their work', the collection of symbolic expressions they write down is not necessarily the same as the process that goes on in their minds when they do the maths correctly. In fact, people can become highly skilled at doing mental mathematics and yet be hopeless at its symbolic representations.

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It is simply not the case that ordinary people cannot do everyday maths. Rather, they cannot do symbolic everyday maths. From this observation, it can be concluded that the symbol barrier is huge and pervasive. For the entire history of organised mathematics instruction, where there has been no alternative to using static, symbolic expressions on flat surfaces to store and distribute mathematical knowledge, that barrier has prevented millions of people from becoming proficient in a cognitive skill set on a par in importance with the ability to read and write.

A. So, given the effort and expense to make a maths game, is it worth pursuing? From an educational perspective, it certainly is. That being said, it must be acknowledged that the vast majority of maths video games on the market essentially capitalise on just one educationally important aspect of video games - their power to fully engage players in a single activity for long periods of time. Only a fraction of them take advantage of another educationally powerful feature of the medium - their ability to overcome the 'symbol barrier'.

B. With routine mathematics, the symbolic barrier emerges. In their 1993 book *Street Mathematics and School Mathematics* Terezinha Nunes, David William Carraher and Analucia Dias Schliemann describe research conducted in the street markets of Recife, Brazil. This and other studies have shown that when people are regularly faced with everyday mathematics in their daily lives, they master it to an astonishing 98 per cent accuracy. Yet when faced with the very same problems (from a mathematical perspective) presented in the traditional symbols, their performance drops to a mere 35 to 40 per cent accuracy.

C. In both these subjects, the symbols are merely static representations on a flat surface of dynamic mental processes. Just as the trained musician can look at a musical score and hear the music come alive in his or her head, the trained mathematician can look at a page of symbolic mathematics and have that mathematics come alive in the mind.

D. In other words, designing and building a good mathematics educational video game, whether it is a massively multiplayer online game (MMO) or a single smartphone app, requires a team of experts from several different disciplines. That means it takes a lot of

time and a substantial budget. For a simple-looking, casual game that runs on an iPad, it can take about nine months from start to finish and cost upwards of a quarter of a million.

E. Yet tens of thousands of years of evolution have produced the most adaptive device on the planet: the human brain. Trying to design a computer system to adapt to human cognitive activity is like trying to build a cart that will draw a horse. It can be done, but it will not work nearly as well as building a cart that a horse can pull.

F. To build a successful video game requires an understanding, at a deep level, of what constitutes a game, how and why people play games, what holds their attention, and how they interact with the different platforms on which the game will be played. That is a lot of deep knowledge.

G. By and large, the public identifies doing maths with writing symbols, often obscure symbols. Why do people readily make this identification? A large part of the explanation is that much of the time they spent in the school mathematics classroom was devoted to the development of correct symbolic manipulation skills, and symbol-filled books are the standard way to store and distribute mathematical knowledge. So we have become used to the fact that mathematics is presented by way of symbolic expressions.

H. Still, given the comparison with music, is it possible to break free of that historical legacy? It would appear that it is, as long as a distinction is made between the advanced mathematics used by scientists and engineers and the kind of maths important to ordinary people. Advanced mathematics, on the other hand, is intrinsically symbolic, whereas everyday maths is not and such activities as counting, proportional reasoning and problem solving can be done mentally.

Your answers

24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
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Part 4. The passage below consists of four sections marked A, B, C and D. For questions 31-40, read the passage and do the task that follows. Write your answers (A, B, C or D) in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Is it Art?

A. Corinne

Art is the result of an artist using her or his skill or creative imagination for a creative purpose, to give pleasure to the viewer through its aesthetic qualities, or to get a reaction from the audience to a wider more significant issue outside of the work of art itself. That work of art might be a painting, a sculpture, an installation of some kind or an example from the performing arts like dance or mime. I think we sometimes get bogged down by the notion of 'skill'. For many in the anti modern art camp, there needs to be evidence of the artist's craft on show before the work is taken seriously and can merit the term 'art', be it intricate drawing skills, expert use of form or an artist's eye for colour. I'm not suggesting that an artist need not have these credentials but hand in hand with craft is, as I said earlier, creative imagination, the ability to see the value or beauty of something unremarkable which would often go unnoticed by the untrained eye. Much of modern art I think possesses this second quality which is why I often leave an exhibition of modern art feeling that I've had the chance to reflect on something that I wouldn't normally have given the time of day to. The art has engaged me, has had an impact, made me think about something in a way that I wouldn't have thought about before.

B. Michael

I would certainly call myself an art enthusiast and have been for many years and in my opinion the modern art world is full of second-rate junk which most of us, if we were being totally honest, would agree a 4-year-old child could do. The idea that a slept-in bed such as that 'produced' by Tracy Emin or many of the pieces by Damien Hirst and his ilk are works of art is hard to justify as is the huge price tag that accompanies their work. I find it particularly galling when extremely talented people out there who have spent years honing their skills and learning the craft of drawing or painting are completely ignored. What's more, one of the dangers of this kind of 'art' is that it serves to alienate the mass of the population from the visual arts. The man in the street viewing one of these pieces is left thinking the world of modern art has no value; worse still, that he lacks the intellectual ability to understand the meaning of the piece when in fact there is little to interpret. Thankfully, one or two great artists make it through, but I'm afraid many are lost amongst the deluge of dross the art-world deems 'art'. For me, the first measure of the worth of an artist must be the degree of skill exhibited in the work or at the very least a pedigree of fine art preceding any more abstract pieces produced by the artist such as was the case with Picasso.

C. Robert

The idea that modern art is some kind of mass deception and that all modern artists are talentless fraudsters just doesn't hold water. And I'm not talking here about the painters who for centuries have made a living out of copying works of art and selling them on as originals. I'm talking about abstract art and the idea that the great art collectors such as the Saatchis or Rockefellas and the great museums of art around the world, would somehow allow themselves to be duped into paying a fortune for an abstract painting or sculpture. Are these artists really tricking these people into paying huge sums of money for something worthless? Of course not. Though some of these works may not appear to the layman as having any artistic merit, neither did the great impressionists or the more abstract works of Picasso or Rothko when they were first exhibited. In the same way that great poetry can speak to us in a way that prose never can, abstract art can engage with the audience in more subtle and effective ways than is the case with art of a more realistic nature. So, they may get their fingers burnt now and again but I don't think the Saatchis will be cursing the day they spent huge sums on works of abstract art. Quite the opposite in fact and in the process of making a canny investment they have helped further raise the profile of some of our great modern artists.

D. Janet

Here we go again: the media are once more up in arms about the latest 'is it art' shock-horror editorials following the latest Turner Prize shortlisting. When will they learn? For decades art in many forms has moved away from realism and towards abstraction. Ever since the invention and popularisation of photography, art has had to reinvent itself. Patrons who wanted a perfect representation of themselves no longer needed to turn to the artist. Artists started to struggle with the challenge of catching the essence of the thing depicted rather than simply its external appearance. Abstract artists try to convey a pure idea, not the exact replica of the subject concerned. It's true that some works of art are so obscure that you may need to read up on the theory behind the creation, which is usually helpfully supplied in art galleries. But this isn't always necessary. Take Guernica by Picasso. To get a full understanding of this painting it could be argued the audience needs to appreciate the historical context, the bombing of the Basque city during the Spanish Civil War. It would also probably help to have a good understanding of the techniques of abstraction that Picasso had used to create the effect. However, I think most people viewing this masterpiece would be struck by the horror it depicts even without this background knowledge. And I would argue it is the effect of this abstraction that adds to the impact on us compared to a realistic portrayal of such a scene.

Which person gives each of these opinions about modern art?

FANPAGE TÀI LIỆU TIẾNG ANH NÂNG CAO

31. Defending that long-established artwork has its own cost.
32. Some people may not have an inkling of artwork.
33. Certain aesthetic qualities can be invisible until brought to our attention by the artist.
34. Picasso is an emblem of an artist who proved his craftsmanship.
35. Appreciation of the work itself is not always the artist's aim.
36. Implicit intents of artists on Arts have witnessed some transformation.
37. The works of great artists fail to make a good impression on beholders initially.
38. Abstract art is exorbitant on the whole.
39. Investing money into abstract art may be ill-advised.
40. A masterpiece can move our hearts despite its opaque context.

Your answers

31.	32.	33.	34.	35.
36.	37.	38.	39.	40.

Key and explanations:

1. NG

Ý của câu là Samuel Hahnemann đã phát triển các lý thuyết của ông ấy dựa trên một bộ quy tắc đã có ở thời của ông ấy. Không thể khẳng định được tính đúng/sai của câu này vì trong bài không có đề cập đến mối quan hệ giữa lý thuyết của Samuel Hahnemann và nguyên tắc của thời đó. Dù trong bài đọc có đoạn thông tin sau: “While diverging from the principle of apothecary practice at the time – which was *contraria contrariis* (with help from the opposite) – the efficacy of *similia similibus* was reaffirmed by subsequent developments in the field of vaccinations.”, tuy nhiên thông tin này chỉ cho thấy rằng các nguyên lý được Samuel Hahnemann phát triển khác với một phương thức có ở thời đó.

2. T

Ý của câu là sự tồn tại của một phần có hoạt tính sinh học trong nước vẫn chưa được chứng minh một cách hoàn toàn. Ta có thể tìm thấy thông tin để khẳng định câu này đúng ở phần cuối cùng của đoạn 3: “... however, and to this day no peer-reviewed study under broadly accepted conditions has been able to confirm the validity of “water memory” (chứng minh cho ý has yet to be conclusively proven) và “Water molecules, the researcher concluded, had a biologically active component that a journalist later termed “water memory” (chứng minh cho ý The existence of a biologically active part in water)

3. T

Ý của câu là (nguyên lý) trị liệu đơn giúp tránh những hậu quả không lường trước nổi của việc kết hợp các phương pháp chữa trị. Đây là thông tin đúng dựa vào dữ kiện từ đoạn văn thứ 4: “The third principle of homeopathy is “the single remedy.” Exponents of this principle believe that it would be too difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain the potential effects of multiple homeopathic remedies delivered simultaneously.”

4. F

Ý của câu là có người ngụ ý rằng việc áp dụng một vài phương pháp trị liệu cùng lúc trở nên phổ biến hơn nhờ vào sự ủng hộ công khai đến từ phía các nhà khoa học. Thông tin này không chính xác vì dữ kiện sau ở cuối đoạn 4: “The availability of combination remedies, these homeopaths suggest, has been led by consumers wanting more options, not from homeopathic research indicating their efficacy.” Như vậy, việc áp dụng đồng thời vài phương pháp trị liệu trở nên phổ biến bởi bệnh nhân/người dùng muốn vậy, chứ không phải bởi hiệu quả của nó đã được nghiên cứu khoa học chỉ ra.

5. T

Ý của câu là cả người ủng hộ lẫn phản đối phương pháp vi lượng đồng căn đều cảm thấy được tính không chắc chắn của nó. Đây là thông tin đúng dựa vào dữ kiện ở đoạn văn thứ 6: “Critics also point out the fact that homeopathic preparations have no systematic design to them, making it hard to monitor whether or not a particular treatment has been efficacious. Homeopaths embrace this. Từ thông tin này, ta thấy được rằng những người phê bình vi lượng đồng căn chỉ ra rằng sự chuẩn bị cho phương pháp này không có một kiểu tiếp cận hệ thống và chung nhất nào cả và những người ủng hộ cũng chấp nhận sự thật ấy.

6. NG

Ý của câu là cảm xúc của các bệnh nhân chịu ảnh hưởng của kết quả từ phương pháp trị liệu họ nhận được. Đây là thông tin không được nhắc đến trong bài đọc. Ở đoạn cuối của bài đọc có đề cập đến hiệu ứng giả dược (placebo effect) là một hiệu ứng khiến người bệnh có cảm tưởng như bệnh tình có tiến triển hơn nhưng thật ra đó là do kỳ vọng của họ mà thôi. Điều đó không thể hiện mối quan hệ giữa cảm xúc của bệnh nhân và kết quả của việc trị liệu.

7. NG

Ý của câu là những lần áp dụng phương pháp vi lượng đồng căn thất bại đã được dùng để chứng minh cho luận điểm của những người phản đối nó. Đây là thông tin không có trong bài đọc. Ở đoạn cuối cùng của bài, ta thấy có dữ kiện sau: “Defenders suggest that homeopathy can go beyond this psychological level. They point to the successful results of homeopathy on patients who are unconscious at the time of treatment, as well as on animals”. Tuy nhiên, từ đoạn thông tin này, ta thấy được rằng những người ủng hộ vi lượng đồng căn đã đưa ra ví dụ về những lần thành công, và không có thông tin gì liên quan đến việc phe đối lập (tức những người phản đối vi lượng đồng căn) đưa ra những lần thất bại của phương pháp trị liệu này để chứng minh cho luận điểm của họ.

8. apothecary practice

Thông tin có thể được tìm thấy ở câu sau: “While diverging from the principle of apothecary practice at the time – which was *contraria contrariis* (with help from the opposite)” Từ dữ kiện này, có thể thấy rằng nguyên lý của vi lượng đồng căn khác với nguyên lý của “apothecary practice”, nên đó là cụm từ chính xác để điền vào vị trí trống.

9. (possible) toxic effects

Thông tin có thể được tìm thấy ở câu sau trong đoạn 2: “This negated any possible toxic effects of *similia similibus*.” Từ dữ kiện này, có thể thấy rằng nguyên lý thứ hai có nhiệm vụ ngăn chặn những tác động xấu có thể xảy ra, và vì lẽ đó, “toxic effects” là cụm từ chính xác để điền vào vị trí trống (cũng chấp nhận possible toxic effects, tuy nhiên do

đăng sau chỗ trống đã có cụm “that can be caused by...” thể hiện ý nghĩa của từ possible nên cụm này chưa phải hợp lý nhất).

10. molecular evidence

Thông tin có thể được tìm thấy ở câu sau trong đoạn 3: “The point of controversy, however, was that the water in Benveniste’s test had been so diluted that any molecular evidence of the antibodies no longer existed.” Từ dữ kiện này, có thể thấy rằng điều gây tranh cãi là nước trong thí nghiệm của Benveniste đã bị pha loãng đến mức không còn bằng chứng phân tử nào của các kháng thể. Do đó, “molecular evidence” là cụm từ chính xác để điền vào chỗ trống này.

11. no peer-reviewed study

Thông tin có thể được tìm thấy ở cuối đoạn 3: “... and to this day no peer-reviewed study under broadly accepted conditions has been able to confirm the validity of “water memory”. Từ dữ kiện này, có thể thấy rằng “trí nhớ của nước” chưa nhận được bất cứ một nghiên cứu được bình duyệt nào cả. Do đó, “no peer-reviewed study” là cụm từ chính xác để điền vào chỗ trống này.

12. ambiguous guessing game

Thông tin có thể được tìm thấy ở đoạn 4: “If it did work, they suggest, one could not know quite why it worked, turning homeopathy into an ambiguous guessing game”. Từ dữ kiện này, có thể thấy rằng với việc áp dụng nhiều biện pháp trị liệu cùng lúc thì kể cả khi nó có hiệu quả, người ta cũng không biết được vì sao nó hiệu quả, và điều đó khiến vi lượng đồng căn trở thành một tình huống nhập nhằng gây khó khăn cho người trong cuộc. Do đó, “ambiguous guessing name” là cụm từ chính xác để điền vào chỗ trống này.

13. the placebo effect

Thông tin có thể được tìm thấy ở đoạn cuối cùng của bài đọc: “Finally, critics allege that when homeopathy has produced good results, these are exceedingly dependent on the placebo effect, and cannot justify the resources, time and expense that the homeopathic tradition absorbs.” Từ dữ kiện này, có thể thấy rằng những người phản đối vi lượng đồng căn cho rằng khi phương pháp này có hiệu quả thì đó chủ yếu là do hiệu ứng giả dược. Do đó, “the placebo effect” là cụm từ chính xác để điền vào chỗ trống này.

Part 2.

14. D

Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở câu cuối đoạn 1: “Many see the fight-back as a lost cause, but I cannot share this view because the factors that allow quackery to prosper can and are being harnessed for a counter-revolution in defence of science itself.” Trong

ngữ cảnh này, “the fight-back” nghĩa là bảo vệ quan điểm của khoa học trước sự phát triển của “alternative medicine” và “a lost cause” là một việc/thứ gì đó không thể thành công được. Như vậy, những người cho rằng “the fight-back” là “a lost cause” sẽ không cố gắng để bảo vệ khoa học vì cho rằng đó là việc làm vô ích. Tác giả thể hiện ý kiến đối lập “I cannot share this view” nên ta chọn được phương án D (tác giả không ủng hộ việc từ bỏ cố gắng bảo vệ khoa học). Giải thích các phương án khác: A – không để ý đến sự quan trọng của y học thay thế; B – chấp nhận những ý kiến đưa ra bởi người ủng hộ y học thay thế; C – dùng ngôn từ miệt thị khi nhắc đến y học thay thế.

15. D

Để chọn được phương án D ta cần tìm dẫn chứng chứng minh các phương án còn lại có được đề cập trong bài. Dẫn chứng cho phương án A nằm ở câu 2 đoạn 1: “Therapies once dubbed ‘pseudoscience’ or ‘quackery’ are now typically referred to as ‘alternative’, ‘complementary’ or ‘holistic’.” Dẫn chứng cho phương án B nằm ở câu 4 đoạn 2: “Such defence was once conducted primarily by scholars; today the battle is often fought at an individual level via cut-and-thrust debate in blog postings” => Không chỉ ở môi trường học thuật (scholars) mà bây giờ ở trên các nền tảng trực tuyến (blog postings) cũng có người ủng hộ khoa học (such defence, căn cứ vào ngữ cảnh của đoạn văn để suy ra ở đây là bảo vệ khoa học). Dẫn chứng cho phương án C nằm ở câu 3 đoạn 2: “The defence of science is also increasingly being undertaken by members of the public because the web has proved to be a crucial mobilising instrument for pro-science activists.” => Người thường (members of the public) bây giờ cũng tham gia vào việc bảo vệ khoa học (the defence of science undertaken). Từ việc loại được A, B, và C, ta chọn phương án D.

16. B

Để chọn phương án B, ta cần căn cứ vào 2 câu cuối của đoạn 4 (lưu ý câu cần điền ở câu hỏi số 5 là câu thứ 2 của đoạn 4): “Some people are so committed to unorthodox views that they cannot be moved, but they are the exception. People motivated to explore the ‘cultic milieu’ – that fluid countercultural space in which alternative therapies and conspiracy theories flourish – are open to changing their minds.” Đây là phần thông tin làm sáng tỏ quan điểm của tác giả được in đậm và gạch dưới trong câu hỏi. Từ phần thông tin này, có thể suy ra có 2 kiểu người (individual): quá tận tâm với quan điểm phi truyền thống (so committed to unorthodox views) và những người có động lực để khám phá ‘cultic milieu’ (xã hội hướng tư tưởng). Với nhóm người 1, họ sẽ không bị “lay chuyển”, còn nhóm người 2 thì dễ đón nhận thông tin và thay đổi quan điểm hơn (cannot be moved – open to changing their minds). Từ đó ta chọn được phương án B (từ idée fixe nghĩa là sự ám ảnh với một ý kiến, tư tưởng nào đó, ở trong văn cảnh hiểu là sự trung thành với “unorthodox views”). Các phương án còn lại có nội dung khá giống với phương án B và với thông tin trong bài, tuy nhiên từ ngữ được sử dụng chưa hợp lý để

chọn: A – amour propre nghĩa là respect for one’s own abilities (sự tự hào, quý trọng khả năng của bản thân), C – ideologue nghĩa là người bị chi phối bởi một hệ tư tưởng nhất định, từ susceptible cũng không hợp lí, D – idiocy là sự khờ dại, ngốc nghếch nên cũng không hợp lí.

17. C

Để chọn được phương án C trước tiên ta cần xác định câu quote đó là gì. Câu quote này là của một nhà báo, vì vậy có thể suy ra đó là câu của Farhad Manjoo ở đoạn 3: “... you can now ‘watch, listen to and read what you want, whenever you want; seek out and discuss, in exhaustive and insular detail, the kind of news that pleases you; and indulge your political, social or scientific theories... among people who feel exactly the same way.’” (Câu quote được đặt trong cặp dấu nháy đơn ‘ ’) Từ câu này kết hợp với ngữ cảnh của câu văn đang nói về tác động của công nghệ (“The digital revolution has exacerbated the problem ...”), ta có thể suy ra Internet đã trở thành nơi con người có thể tìm kiếm những người cùng chung quan điểm để nói chuyện, bàn luận, từ đó có thêm niềm tin vào những suy nghĩ, ý kiến, tư tưởng của bản thân. Vậy nên ta chọn được phương án C. Các phương án còn lại không được đề cập nên ta không chọn. Ở câu này, đáp án A dễ gây nhiễu; tuy nhiên, xét trong văn cảnh, ta thấy câu quote đề cập đến những người đi tìm người chung quan điểm để “seek out and discuss”, để “indulge among people ...” và tìm “kind of news that pleases you”, không có ý “support each other” và cũng không hẳn là đối tượng đã có quan điểm vững chãi (fixed viewpoints) nên ta loại câu A.

18. D

Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở câu sau trong đoạn 4: “The fact that quacks keep trying to get the imprimatur of science for their discredited ideas, by trying to publish their work in peer-reviewed journals, for example, speaks to the continued public prestige and power of science.” Từ câu này có thể suy ra được rằng những người ủng hộ y học thay thế (trong bài tác giả dùng từ mang hàm ý mỉa mai là quacks) vẫn mong muốn có được sự ủng hộ của giới khoa học (get the imprimatur of science, với imprimatur ở đây là official approval of something, nghĩa là sự tán thành, ủng hộ). Vì thế ta chọn được phương án D. Các phương án còn lại có nội dung không chính xác hoặc không được đề cập: phương án A – câu “Furthermore, their support base is far from fixed in stone”, phương án B – không được đề cập, phương án C – không được đề cập trực tiếp (có thể phần nào suy ra từ câu cuối đoạn 4).

19. A

Dịch nghĩa câu cần xác định vị trí: “Ranh giới giữa kiến thức/y học chính thống và thay thế có thể đã và đang trở nên mờ nhạt” Để tìm được đúng vị trí cho câu này, ta cần xem xét nghĩa của câu liền trước và sau dấu []. Với phương án A – câu liền trước: Tôi tin rằng

sự bi quan này đã đi quá xa, câu liền sau: Tuy nhiên, thế giới chưa bước vào thứ mà nhà nghiên cứu chính trị Michael Barkun ... => Xét thấy vị trí này là hợp lí vì câu cần điền nói về khả năng mờ dần của lẫn ranh chính thống-thay thế và câu liền sau nói đến một điều mang nghĩa tương phản nhằm thể hiện rằng sự mờ đi của ranh giới chưa đẩy thế giới đến trạng thái được nhắc đến ở câu sau. Với phương án B – câu liền trước giống câu liền sau của phương án A, câu liền sau – Thực tế là, việc những người ủng hộ y học thay thế cố gắng kiếm tìm sự ủng hộ từ giới khoa học ... => Xét thấy vị trí này không hợp vì nếu điền vào đây sẽ phá mạch của câu liền trước. Với phương án C – câu liền trước giống câu liền sau của phương án B, câu liền sau: Hơn nữa, căn cứ của họ cũng không chắc chắn. => Xét thấy vị trí này không hợp vì câu trước đang nói về việc người ủng hộ y học thay thế tìm kiếm sự tán thành của giới khoa học còn câu này nói về việc luận điểm không vững chãi, nếu điền vào đây sẽ phá mạch logic (đồng thời làm mất liên kết their ở câu liền sau). Với phương án D – câu liền trước: Một số người quá tận tâm với quan điểm khác thường nên họ không thể “lay chuyên”, câu liền sau – Nhìn chung thì, những người có động lực tìm hiểu ‘cultic milieu’ ... => Xét thấy vị trí này không hợp vì hai câu nói về hai kiểu người khác nhau, giữa chúng không cần có câu chuyển nào khác nên nếu điền vào đây sẽ phá mạch logic.

20. B

Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở đoạn 5 của bài đọc: “... This creates the space for pro-science activists to compete for attention. When they do so, the Internet becomes a tougher place for people to sequester themselves in a comfortable cocoon of the like-minded.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra, khi những người ủng hộ khoa học cạnh tranh để giành được sự chú ý, người dùng mạng Internet sẽ gặp nhiều khó khăn hơn trong việc “thu mình” vào “vòng tròn thoải mái” với những người cùng chung quan điểm (sequester có nghĩa là tịch thu tạm thời, tuy nhiên ở trong văn cảnh nghĩa là “thu mình vào”, tránh xa (gốc từ từ sequestered chỉ một nơi yên tĩnh), còn từ cocoon là cái kén, cũng có thể hiểu nghĩa bóng là nơi che chở, che chắn, ở đây nên hiểu theo nghĩa thứ hai). Từ đó ta chọn được phương án B vì xác định được rằng Internet đã làm người dùng thấy được những quan điểm trái chiều chứ không đơn thuần là những quan điểm giống bản thân mình. Phương án A có được đề cập trong bài (đoạn 2) nhưng lại không trả lời cho câu hỏi đặt ra. Phương án C và D hầu như không được đề cập trong bài.

21. C

Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở đoạn cuối với các thông tin sau: “... to keep an active and credible online presence”, “... with links to scientific articles and reports”. Từ các thông tin này, ta có thể suy luận rằng tác giả muốn nhấn mạnh những người ủng hộ khoa học cần tham gia tích cực vào các cuộc thảo luận trên mạng và đưa ra đường dẫn đến các bài báo/báo cáo khoa học. Việc này nhằm đảm bảo sự hiện diện/phơi bày của các

quan điểm khoa học trên mạng và tính toàn vẹn của nó (nội dung phương án C). Từ việc tác giả đưa ra quan điểm rằng những người ủng hộ khoa học nên tích cực tham gia tranh luận, ta loại được phương án B và D. Phương án A cũng là một điều tác giả khuyên nên làm, tuy nhiên tác giả không tập trung nhấn mạnh như phương án C.

22. D

Để chọn được phương án D, ta lấy dẫn chứng từ cuối đoạn 5 của bài đọc: “This is good news for the enlightenment project. People may be biased in favour of interpretations that align with their prejudices but this does not mean that they just believe what they like. Faced with information of sufficient quantity or clarity, people do change their minds.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra “kế hoạch khai sáng” nghĩa là những người vốn chỉ tin vào những quan niệm sai lầm, thiên kiến của họ sẽ vì được tiếp xúc với thông tin đủ nhiều và đủ sáng mà thay đổi quan điểm của họ. Từ đó ta chọn được D. Phương án A loại vì cũng có những người ủng hộ (roundly castigate là chỉ trích gay gắt) y học thay thế, phương án B loại vì không được đề cập trong bài, và phương án C loại vì phần thắng (victory) chưa phân định về bên nào, dù khoa học đang ở “chiều trên”.

23. C

Ở trong bài đọc này, tác giả thể hiện một cái nhìn tích cực, lạc quan (sanguine = optimistic) về khoa học và những quan điểm có căn cứ. Điều này có thể thấy rõ ở câu cuối cùng của bài đọc: “The weapons of science and reason are still very much in contention.” (in contention nghĩa là có khả năng chiến thắng). Ngoài ra, có thể thấy điều này từ các thông tin khác rải rác trong bài đọc như khi tác giả nhắc đến việc những người ủng hộ y học thay thế vẫn cần sự ủng hộ của giới khoa học (đoạn 4), hay bày tỏ thái độ không tán đồng việc bỏ cuộc của một số nhà khoa học khi họ không thấy sự cần thiết phải bảo vệ khoa học nữa (đoạn 1, xem lại câu hỏi 1).

Part 3.

24. F

“To build a successful video game requires an understanding, at a deep level, of what constitutes a game, how and why people play games, what holds their attention, and how they interact with the different platforms on which the game will be played.” connects with **“To create an engaging game that also supports good mathematics learning requires a great deal more:** a complete understanding of what mathematics is, how and why people learn and do mathematics, how to get and keep them engaged in their learning and how to represent the mathematics on the platform on which the game will be played.”

25. D

“For a simple-looking, casual game that runs on an iPad, it can take about nine months from start to finish **and cost upwards of a quarter of a million.**” connects with “Following the tradition of textbook publishing, **that figure** does not include any payment to the authors who essentially create the entire pedagogic framework and content.”

26. A

“Only a fraction of them take advantage of another educationally powerful feature of the medium - their ability to overcome the '**symbol barrier**’.” connects with “Though **this term** is specific to this context, its concept has been well known in maths education circles for over twenty years and is recognised as the biggest obstacle to practical mastery of middle school mathematics.”

27. G

“To understand the precise implication of what the term entails and appreciate how pervasive it is, it is necessary to **examine the role symbolic expressions play in mathematics.**” connects with “A large part of the explanation is that **much of the time they spent in the school mathematics classroom was devoted to the development of correct symbolic manipulation skills, and symbol-filled books are the standard way to store and distribute mathematical knowledge.**”

28. C

“Perhaps this question can best be answered through **a comparison with music.**” connects with “**In both these subjects,** the symbols are merely static representations on a flat surface of dynamic mental processes.”

29. H

“The answer to that second question is that mathematics is taught symbolically because **for many centuries symbolic representation has been the most effective way to record mathematics and pass on mathematical knowledge to others.**” connects with “Still, given the comparison with music, is it possible to break free of **that historical legacy?**”

30. B

In fact, **people can become highly skilled at doing mental mathematics and yet be hopeless at its symbolic representations.**” connects with “This and other studies have shown that **when people are regularly faced with everyday mathematics in their daily lives, they master it to an astonishing 98 per cent accuracy. Yet when faced with the very same problems (from a mathematical perspective) presented in the traditional symbols, their performance drops to a mere 35 to 40 per cent accuracy.**”

Part 4.

31. C - the great art collectors such as the Saatchis or Rockefellas and the great museums of art around the world, would somehow allow themselves to be duped into paying a fortune for an abstract painting or sculpture.

32. D - To get a full understanding of this painting it could be argued the audience needs to appreciate the historical context, the bombing of the Basque city during the Spanish Civil War. It would also probably help to have a good understanding of the techniques of abstraction that Picasso had used to create the effect

33. A - I said earlier, creative imagination, the ability to see the value or beauty of something unremarkable which would often go unnoticed by the untrained eye.

34. B - For me, the first measure of the worth of an artist must be the degree of skill exhibited in the work or at the very least a pedigree of fine art preceding any more abstract pieces produced by the artist such as was the case with Picasso.

35. A - Art is the result of an artist using her or his skill or creative imagination for a creative purpose, to give pleasure to the viewer through its aesthetic qualities, or to get a reaction from the audience to a wider more significant issue outside of the work of art itself.

36. D - For decades art in many forms has moved away from realism and towards abstraction. ... Artists started to struggle with the challenge of catching the essence of the thing depicted rather than simply its external appearance.

37. C - Though some of these works may not appear to the layman as having any artistic merit, neither did the great impressionists or the more abstract works of Picasso or Rothko when they were first exhibited

38. B - The idea that a slept-in bed such as that 'produced' by Tracy Emin or many of the pieces by Damien Hirst and his ilk are works of art is hard to justify as is the huge price tag that accompanies their work.

39. C - So, they may get their fingers burnt now and again but I don't think the Saatchis will be cursing the day they spent huge sums on works of abstract art. Quite the opposite in fact and in the process of making a canny investment they have helped further raise the profile of some of our great modern artists.

40. D - I think most people viewing this masterpiece would be struck by the horror it depicts even without this background knowledge.

TEST 2

Part 1. For questions 1-13, read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

Attitudes towards Artificial Intelligence

A. Artificial intelligence (AI) can already predict the future. Police forces are using it to map when and where crime is likely to occur. Doctors can use it to predict when a patient is most likely to have a heart attack or stroke. Researchers are even trying to give AI imagination so it can plan for unexpected consequences.

Many decisions in our lives require a good forecast, and AI is almost always better at forecasting than we are. Yet for all these technological advances, we still seem to deeply lack confidence in AI predictions. Recent cases show that people don't like relying on AI and prefer to trust human experts, even if these experts are wrong.

If we want AI to really benefit people, we need to find a way to get people to trust it. To do that, we need to understand why people are so reluctant to trust AI in the first place.

B. Take the case of Watson for Oncology, one of technology giant IBM's supercomputer programs. Their attempt to promote this program to cancer doctors was a PR disaster. The AI promised to deliver top-quality recommendations on the treatment of 12 cancers that accounted for 80% of the world's cases. But when doctors first interacted with Watson, they found themselves in a rather difficult situation. On the one hand, if Watson provided guidance about a treatment that coincided with their own opinions, physicians did not see much point in Watson's recommendations. The supercomputer was simply telling them what they already knew, and these recommendations did not change the actual treatment.

On the other hand, if Watson generated a recommendation that contradicted the experts' opinion, doctors would typically conclude that Watson wasn't competent. And the machine wouldn't be able to explain why its treatment was plausible because its machine-learning algorithms were simply too complex to be fully understood by humans. Consequently, this has caused even more suspicion and disbelief, leading many doctors to ignore the seemingly outlandish AI recommendations and stick to their own expertise.

C. This is just one example of people's lack of confidence in AI and their reluctance to accept what AI has to offer. Trust in other people is often based on our understanding of how others think and having experience of their reliability. This helps create a psychological feeling of safety. AI, on the other hand, is still fairly new and unfamiliar to most people. Even if it can be technically explained (and that's not always the case), AI's decision-making process is usually too difficult for most people to comprehend. And

interacting with something we don't understand can cause anxiety and give us a sense that we're losing control.

Many people are also simply not familiar with many instances of AI actually working, because it often happens in the background. Instead, they are acutely aware of instances where AI goes wrong. Embarrassing AI failures receive a disproportionate amount of media attention, emphasising the message that we cannot rely on technology. Machine learning is not foolproof, in part because the humans who design it aren't.

D. Feelings about AI run deep. In a recent experiment, people from a range of backgrounds were given various sci-fi films about AI to watch and then asked questions about automation in everyday life. It was found that, regardless of whether the film they watched depicted AI in a positive or negative light, simply watching a cinematic vision of our technological future polarised the participants' attitudes. Optimists became more extreme in their enthusiasm for AI and sceptics became even more guarded.

This suggests people use relevant evidence about AI in a biased manner to support their existing attitudes, a deep-rooted human tendency known as "confirmation bias". As AI is represented more and more in media and entertainment, it could lead to a society split between those who benefit from AI and those who reject it. More pertinently, refusing to accept the advantages offered by AI could place a large group of people at a serious disadvantage.

E. Fortunately, we already have some ideas about how to improve trust in AI. Simply having previous experience with AI can significantly improve people's opinions about the technology, as was found in the study mentioned above. Evidence also suggests the more you use other technologies such as the internet, the more you trust them.

Another solution may be to reveal more about the algorithms which AI uses and the purposes they serve. Several high-profile social media companies and online marketplaces already release transparency reports about government requests and surveillance disclosures. A similar practice for AI could help people have a better understanding of the way algorithmic decisions are made.

F. Research suggests that allowing people some control over AI decision-making could also improve trust and enable AI to learn from human experience. For example, one study showed that when people were allowed the freedom to slightly modify an algorithm, they felt more satisfied with its decisions, more likely to believe it was superior and more likely to use it in the future.

We don't need to understand the intricate inner workings of AI systems, but if people are given a degree of responsibility for how they are implemented, they will be more willing to accept AI into their lives.

Questions 1-6

Reading Passage has six sections, A-F. Choose the correct heading for each section from the list of headings below. Write the correct number, i-viii, in corresponding numbered boxes provided.

List of Headings

- i** An increasing divergence of attitudes towards AI
- ii** Reasons why we have more faith in human judgement than in AI
- iii** The superiority of AI projections over those made by humans
- iv** The process by which AI can help us make good decisions
- v** The advantages of involving users in AI processes
- vi** Widespread distrust of an AI innovation
- vii** Encouraging openness about how AI functions
- viii** A surprisingly successful AI application

- 1.** Section A
- 2.** Section B
- 3.** Section C
- 4.** Section D
- 5.** Section E
- 6.** Section F

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
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Questions 7-13

Do the following statements agree with the claims of the writer in Reading Passage?

In boxes 7-13, write

YES if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer

NO if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer

NOT GIVEN if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

7. Some people are reluctant to accept AI because its complexity makes them feel that they are at a disadvantage.
8. The media gives the impression that AI failures are due to designer error.
9. Subjective depictions of AI in sci-fi films make people change their opinions about automation.
10. Portrayals of AI in media and entertainment are likely to become more positive.
11. Rejection of the possibilities of AI may have a negative effect on many people's lives.
12. Familiarity with AI has very little impact on people's attitudes to the technology.
13. AI applications which users are able to modify are more likely to gain consumer approval.

Your answers

7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
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Part 2. For questions 14-23, read an extract from an article and choose the answer A, B, C or D that fits best according to the text. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided

Mass culture

In recent decades, the development and spread of new information technologies such as satellite television have engendered many debates about the consequences of their use. One of the first writers to see the possibilities of these changes was the American writer Marshall McLuhan, who argued in the 1960's that communications technology would have two effects: first, it would create a global village where everyone and everything were accessible to the television camera and secondly, that it would become the case that 'the medium is the message', that is, how the message is transmitted would outgrow in importance what the message is.

Other theorists have gone further in arguing that the explosion of, and increasing dependence on, information technology have brought about profound changes in the way society is organised. Some, for example, believe that we can now describe a 'post-modern society', characterised partly by an information-based international division of

labour that allows increasing freedom of movement. At the cultural level, distinctions between 'high' and 'low' culture have disappeared as new technology transmits across class boundaries, while stylistically, form has become more important than substance, and the ubiquity of television means that everything is seen in television codes. McLuhan's global television-led culture is now with us.

The accuracy of such a description, however, has been questioned. At one level, many people are reluctant to accept any argument that technology can lead to social and economic changes, arguing instead that the relationship is exactly the other way round. In other words, they are critical of any tendency to technological determinism. Furthermore, evidence can be cited that queries the notion that information technology has spread evenly throughout the world or even throughout Britain. This has been described as the uneven development of the information economy. Many areas of Great Britain, for example, are not yet equipped with the on-line communications systems necessary to receive technologies such as cable and interactive television, and the take-up of these technologies varies according to socio-economic factors. We are still a long way from the full-scale and comprehensive implementation of the information super-highway.

What does seem to be the case, however, is that the stereotypical image of the nuclear family sitting together in the front room cheerfully choosing their evening's viewing from a limited range of television stations is disappearing. This is partly due to the increased number of sets per household as well as the rapid growth in the number of channels, a development mirrored by the niche marketing of magazines to a multiplicity of interest groups. The amount of time spent watching television per head has stabilised in recent years to around 27 hours a week. Women watch on average four more hours of television per week than men and all statistics show a relationship between social class and viewing.

This is not to say that diversity and choice have necessarily been achieved. It remains the case that satellite television caters for mass-appeal interests such as music, sport, news, children's programmes and American films and light entertainment, ignoring many disadvantaged social groups. New media technologies have not empowered people in the sense that there are increased numbers of community-based television networks. In Britain, it is no less valid today to describe a mass culture based on a centrally directed mass media.

Doubts have also been raised about the ability of satellite stations to succeed in creating a global television culture. Rupert Murdoch is widely known to own substantial parts of the global media industry. A few years ago, he added a controlling share of StarTV to his collection, meaning that he gained access to 2.5 billion people in 50 countries or forty percent of the world's television sets, in a region stretching from Jordan to Japan.

Capturing the market in India, however, and American mega-series such as *Baywatch* and *L.A. Law*, has not been as straightforward as first imagined. Cultural differences are complicated in a nation of 18 official languages and further compounded when you consider the staggering figure of 1,700 dialects. Hindi films transmitted by the state broadcasting network still rank a coveted first in the ratings table. Murdoch's response to this realisation was to immediately buy into a local TV station as well. Indian culture, for the present at least, remains resistant to western broadcasting and highlights that the creation of a global mass culture will not be solely induced by technology.

14. Marshall McLuhan envisaged a world where:

- A. everyone would make use of a TV camera for their own sake.
- B. content of less significance would be displayed on TV.
- C. TV would assist the understanding between people regardless of their backgrounds.
- D. the impact of information would be lessened by TV.

15. As described by theorists, in a 'post-modern' society:

- A. artistic creativity is highly appreciated and promoted by critics.
- B. a range of choices available for people is confined to a fixed number of options.
- C. the supremacy of television over other forms of media is challenged.
- D. 'high' and 'low' cultures start to intermingle with the other.

16. Accounts of a TV-led society have been put into question by:

- A. proof underscoring the inverse relationship between technology and cultural changes.
- B. evidence indicating the equilibrium in the distribution of technology across regions.
- C. people expressing resistance to shifts in their mindsets.
- D. the influence of an information-based economy on the ubiquity of television.

17. Which of the following reflects the present-day prevalent situation regarding households?

- A. A household gathers and views TV in a convivial atmosphere.
- B. Family members no longer enjoy spending time watching TV with others.
- C. An extended family congregates and watches TV with no signs of happiness.

D. Nuclear families gradually disintegrate as a result of technology.

18. What is cited as a possible explanation for the changes witnessed at familial level?

A. The media's ability to target specific audiences.

B. The stability of time devoted to watching TV.

C. Less transparent boundaries among social strata.

D. The rise in the number of sets within every household.

19. According to the passage, satellite television has:

A. enabled the incorporation of less serious content into news of more solemn concern.

B. instigated the flourishing of networks within the community.

C. boosted the decentralization of the mass media.

D. been of little benefit to minority groups in the society.

20. The example of Rupert Murdoch aids the author's argumentation because it illustrates the point that:

A. Higher share of a market does not necessarily mean that a person has successfully brought the culture of his country of origin to the region.

B. Uphill challenges need to be overcome should a person yearn to corner the market in western broadcasting.

C. The cultural homogenization across the world is hindered by people's attitudes.

D. The potential for winning attention greatly relies on the ability of a businessman to respond to the demands of the destined market.

21. From the passage, it can be deduced that:

A. Television has been of immeasurable importance to the homogenization of the world's culture.

B. Advanced technologies notwithstanding, a global mass culture has yet to emerge.

C. Headway towards an egalitarian society has been countervailing, as it has widened the gulfs between classes within the society.

D. Television has been a factor in the formation of new cultures, but it should not be considered as the most significant.

22. In general, the writer's view of 'technology' is that it

- A. wields an enviable power to drive social change.
- B. has the ability to emancipate the enslaved peoples.
- C. has intuitively changed our habits.
- D. is not of paramount import in cultural change.

23. In the passage as a whole, the author’s tone seems most likely to be:

- A. indifferent B. critical C. objective D. sarcastic

Your answers

14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.

Part 3. In the passage below, seven paragraphs have been removed. For questions 24-30, read the passage and choose from the paragraphs A-H the one which fits each gap. There is ONE extra paragraph which you do not need to use. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered box provided.

Temptation, temptation

We tend to act impulsively when small imminent rewards triumph over big future benefits. How can we keep our impulsivity in check?

By David Freeman

Walk into any fast-food restaurant, and you can watch a small crowd of ordinary people doing something that is utterly irrational: eating junky, excess-weight-inviting food that is likely to leave them feeling bad about their bodies and open to a host of serious ills. We literally line up to trade our health and self-image for a few minutes of pleasant mouth feel and belly comfort - because the latter is right here, right now, whereas the former is months, years or even decades away.

24.	
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Today this tendency plays out in such undesirable habits as overeating and overspending. Because the rewards for our good behaviour are off in the future where they seem less important, we are almost guaranteed to act against our own interests when we make impulsive decisions.

25.

New insights into the psychological subtleties of temporal discounting have suggested ways to counteract the distorted thinking behind the phenomenon and change short-sighted behaviour. If these strategies work, we will be more likely to eat more healthily, exercise and stay out of debt.

26.

Thoughtful decisions to resist temptation, on the other hand, appear largely rooted in the prefrontal cortex, the seat of executive functions such as working memory, attention and inhibitory control. So, if we can make the sooner, smaller reward seem less compelling or get the larger, later reward to attract more attention, researchers have discovered, activity shifts from the limbic system to the prefrontal cortex - and we make wiser choices.

27.

What is more, that perceived gap between the value of sooner and later rewards grows as the time to the sooner reward approaches. A study published in 2009 showed that students placed much less value on a gift voucher that they had to wait a relatively short time to use than on one they could use immediately. The same study also determined that the students perceived only a minimal difference in the worth of two vouchers when one required waiting a long time and the other even longer.

28.

Certain environmental cues can also trick the brain into judging time in ways that might mitigate temporal discounting. People exposed to a slow audio rhythm are less likely to

overestimate the time to distant events and more likely to opt for later rewards than those who hear sound at a swifter pace. That result suggests faster-paced sensory cues might speed up our internal clocks, making time of the essence. It also implies that a calming environment may temper temporal discounting- that a mellow fast food restaurant might sell more salads and fewer cheeseburgers.

29.	
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Another approach to combating this damaging trait involves collecting detailed data. A range of findings shows that our brains tend to grasp events that are further in the future in vaguer terms than events close at hand. Gathering specific information about more distant rewards, therefore, may help far-off goals effectively compete for attention with more immediate wants.

30.	
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These observations strongly suggest that generic statements about consequences do not work. Instead, it has to be details that are particular to the individual and directly connected to a single decision which are presented to the person concerned. So, if you are tempted to spend more than you can afford on that flashy car you have seen, take a breather and remind yourself out loud that the hefty monthly payments would downgrade your holiday privileges for the next five years.

A. If these kinds of seemingly simple tweaks prove effective and can be adopted by society as a whole, we may be able to reap rich rewards. The world 30 years from now could be one in which obesity epidemics, personal debt crises and other mass ills of poor choice seem like relics of another age.

B. The drive to instant gratification appears to be hardwired in humans. However, that fact does not mean we are destined to grab immediate rewards we will later regret as was previously thought because of the long-held belief that impulsiveness was fixed. Recent research has brought to light evidence that it can be moved, thereby counteracting the urge to make unwise decisions.

C. This concept has been successfully applied to anti-obesity programmes. People on these health-clinic programmes are asked to document exactly how much weight they gain when they slip and then how long it takes them to get back to their previous weight. This ritual causes people to place greater value on the eventual downsides of eating too much. Furthermore, it has been found that if people are given specific information about the consequences of their overeating and they say it so that others can hear, they take their decision with their eyes open.

D. This foolish exchange reflects a glitch in our brains that may wreak more havoc in our lives and in society than any other. Known as temporal discounting, it is our tendency to view small rewards now as more desirable than much bigger payoffs down the road. Scientists think this trait may have been programmed into us by evolution at a time when the environment, with its numerous threats to our survival, favoured those who grabbed whatever they could whenever they could get it.

E. Finding ways to delay the more immediate reward can suppress the time-skewing effect. Research has shown that requiring people to wait just five minutes for a treat cuts the appeal of the treat in half. Thus, if you are about to order a double cheeseburger at the fast-food counter or if you are eyeing an unaffordable new watch, persuade yourself to run a few errands before deciding whether to indulge.

F. Additional research supports the notion that the hustle and bustle of fast-food chains may magnify our desire for a faster pay-off. One 2010 study found that people who were asked to think about their last visit to a fast-food chain tended to opt for immediate rewards to a greater extent than those who were not given the fast-food trigger. Therefore, avoiding fast-food restaurants can have a double bonus: not being plied with less healthy food and easing the pernicious effects of temporal discounting on health and wealth-related decision making.

G. Important clues about how to combat rash behaviour come from studies of how we perceive time when making decisions in which immediate desires conflict with longer-term goals. Some of the same brain systems involved in temporal discounting also contribute to our ability to estimate spans of time. Researchers have shown over the past ten years that these estimates become skewed when comparing the times at which a reward will be received. In short, the later benefit feels further off, diminishing its appeal.

H. Temporal discounting has long been seen as the triumph of feelings or impulses over reason. To go beyond that imprecise insight, several groups of neuroscientists have scanned people's brains using functional MRI while they were tempted to grab immediate

rewards. They found that this urge seems to originate mainly in the brain's limbic system, a set of cerebral regions charged with emotion.

Your answers

24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
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Part 4. The passage below consists of four sections marked A-E. For questions 31-40, read the passage and do the task that follows. Write your answers (A-E) in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

A cultural history of chocolate

- A. Chocolate- that delicious, dark brown, mood-altering delight-for more than 3000 years was consumed primarily as a drink. While our modern conception of chocolate as a solid bar differs from its earliest mode of culinary delivery, the cultural significance has stayed relatively constant across the centuries; it is a currency of pleasure, luxury and ritual. Cacao and its seeds, or cocoa beans, have historical significance with the Olmec, Maya and Aztec people – a significance that depends upon the context each culture provides. An Olmec site has yielded at least one ceramic container that evidences the preparation of cacao as a beverage dating to roughly 1900 BC. The Olmec were the first major civilization in Mesoamerica. Unfortunately, they did not use written language, so we know very little besides what their abandoned sites can tell us, but it is generally agreed that they were the first to domesticate the cacao tree, that the beverages they made from cacao were used for medicinal and ceremonial purposes, and that their cultural lineage extended through the Maya and Aztec Empires.
- B. The Maya, in contrast, left behind a rich record of data regarding their fondness for cacao drinks, which they associated with the gods. Incidentally, Carl Linnaeus, founder of taxonomy, clearly had this legend in mind when he named the plant. *Theobroma cacao*, in the eighteenth century – *Theobroma* from the Greek for ‘food of the gods’ and cacao being a European derivative of the indigenous Mayan kakau. The Maya also had a hieroglyph representing cacao in their art, and left behind depictions of rudimentary recipes for production. For the Maya, cacao beverage was a treasured drink of the ruling class, and a treat for families who cultivated cacao in their home gardens. For the drink, the beans were fermented, dried and roasted, much like today, then ground and mixed with a variety of spices to form a paste that was heated and poured from vessel to vessel to produce a frothy foam.
- C. For the Aztecs, cacao beans were both a valuable commodity and a major form of currency and tribute payment in their empire. The neighboring towns of

Technotitlan and Tlatelolco each had large, well organized markets that were visited by all the surrounding townspeople. Watched over by special government officials who ensured their weights, measures and prices matched the quality of the goods, the Aztec market included both vendors of prepared chocolate and dealers of raw beans. The honest cacao seller would divide the beans into separate piles according to their origins. Dishonest dealers, meanwhile, used various ruses to sell counterfeit beans, artificially coloring inferior lots of cacao, or even disguising worthless avocado seeds with cacao hulls to fool customers. The Aztecs also used cacao ritually, both to be drunk during ceremonies and even symbolically in acts of human sacrifice. In this context, the cacao pod would symbolize the human heart.

- D. There are competing theories on the etymology of the word chocolate, but most have at least some connection to the Aztec language of Nahuatl. Some attribute the word to Nahuatl word xocolatl meaning ‘bitter water’ – and it was indeed bitter, being sweetened with honey for those who preferred it that way. Another theory that suggests the word is a hybrid of a Mayan word chokol, which means hot and the Nahuatl word atl meaning water, thus ‘hot water’. It also be a combination of kakau and atl, simply ‘cacao water’. Any way you look at it, the word ‘chocolate’ itself represents a combination of Maya and Aztec cultures; an appropriate blend considering the historical transmission of knowledge through the cacao trade. When enthusiasm for chocolate spread across Europe, European colonies in Africa and Malaysia began to raise ‘cocoa’, as the cacao bean came to be called in Europe
- E. It was not until 1828 that chocolate changed from a sacred drink to the solid bar we know today, through the addition of cacao butter. Not only did Coenraad Johannes van Houten of the Netherlands create the process of manufacturing cocoa butter, but he also discovered how to treat chocolate alkalisto to remove the bitter taste that had until that point been characteristic of chocolate. While the addition of chilli had long since been dropped from the recipes by Europeans, vanilla was often retained, along with milk and sugar, the latter being unavailable to the Aztecs. Thus, the chocolate as we know it came into existence after several thousands years of being consumed in liquid form with a pungent, bitter taste. These days, producers of chocolate are experimenting even further, by adding not just sugar and milk, but chili, lavender, mint and other flavors, giving us new forms, new uses and new tastes, all continually inspired by its divine origins.

In which section are the following mentioned?

31. The updated categorization system of all living things
32. The utilization of cacao crop for trading
33. The derivation of the word chocolate in different cultures
34. A process that makes chocolate more palatable to other cultures

- 35. Potential effects of chocolate to influence human sensations
- 36. The harvest of beans outside native environment
- 37. The ingredient that met with initial disapproval from European chocolate manufacturers
- 38. Archaeological proof in support of the liquid chocolate consumption
- 39. Instances of fraudulent commercial practices in the cacao trade
- 40. The steps required to prepare raw beans for use as chocolate

Your answers

31.	32.	33.	34.	35.
36.	37.	38.	39.	40.

Key and explanations:

Part 1.

1. iii

Artificial intelligence (AI) can already predict the future. Police forces are using it to map when and where crime is likely to occur. Doctors can use it to predict when a patient is most likely to have a heart attack or stroke. Researchers are even trying to give AI imagination so it can plan for unexpected consequences.

Many decisions in our lives require a good forecast, and AI is almost always better at forecasting than we are.

2. vi

Take the case of Watson for Oncology, one of technology giant IBM's supercomputer programs. Their attempt to promote this program to cancer doctors was a PR disaster.

3. ii

Trust in other people is often based on our understanding of how others think and having experience of their reliability. This helps create a psychological feeling of safety. AI, on the other hand, is still fairly new and unfamiliar to most people. Even if it can be technically explained (and that's not always the case), AI's decision-making process is usually too difficult for most people to comprehend. And interacting with something we don't understand can cause anxiety and give us a sense that we're losing control.

Many people are also simply not familiar with many instances of AI actually working, because it often happens in the background.

4. i

As AI is represented more and more in media and entertainment, it could lead to a society split between those who benefit from AI and those who reject it.

5. vii

Fortunately, we already have some ideas about how to improve trust in AI. Simply having previous experience with AI can significantly improve people's opinions about the technology, as was found in the study mentioned above. Evidence also suggests the more you use other technologies such as the internet, the more you trust them.

Another solution may be to reveal more about the algorithms which AI uses and the purposes they serve.

6. v

Research suggests that allowing people some control over AI decision-making could also improve trust and enable AI to learn from human experience.

7. YES

AI's decision-making process is usually too difficult for most people to comprehend. And interacting with something we don't understand can cause anxiety and give us a sense that we're losing control.

8. NOT GIVEN

Machine learning is not foolproof, in part because the humans who design it aren't. Đây là quan điểm của tác giả, không phải của truyền thông.

9. NO

It was found that, regardless of whether the film they watched depicted AI in a positive or negative light, simply watching a cinematic vision of our technological future polarised the participants' attitudes. Optimists became more extreme in their enthusiasm for AI and sceptics became even more guarded.

10. NOT GIVEN

11. YES

More pertinently, refusing to accept the advantages offered by AI could place a large group of people at a serious disadvantage.

12. NO

Simply having previous experience with AI can significantly improve people's opinions about the technology, as was found in the study mentioned above. Evidence also suggests the more you use other technologies such as the internet, the more you trust them.

13. YES

For example, one study showed that when people were allowed the freedom to slightly modify an algorithm, they felt more satisfied with its decisions, more likely to believe it was superior and more likely to use it in the future.

Part 2.

14. D

Dẫn chứng để chọn được phương án D nằm ở câu cuối của đoạn 1, cụ thể là phần thông tin sau: "... it would become the case that 'the medium is the message', that is, how the message is transmitted would outgrow in importance what the message is." Từ đoạn

thông tin này, có thể suy ra là cách thức truyền tải thông tin (truyền thông, báo chí) quan trọng hơn nội dung thông tin trong thế giới mà Marshall McLuhan tưởng tượng ra. Như vậy, độ ảnh hưởng của thông tin đã bị giảm đi do tác động của tivi nên ta lựa chọn phương án D. Phương án A sai bởi thông tin này không được đề cập, và dù trong bài có đoạn nhắc đến ‘TV camera’: “everyone and everything were accessible to the television camera”, thông tin này có nghĩa là mọi người, mọi thứ đều có thể tiếp cận đến camera của tivi nên phương án A không chính xác. Phương án B cũng không được đề cập, tuy nhiên phương án này có thể gây nhầm lẫn do người đọc không hiểu chính xác cụm ‘the medium is the message’. Phương án C không được đề cập dù thông tin “a global village” có thể được xem là có chút liên quan đến phương án này.

15. D

Dẫn chứng để chọn được phương án D nằm ở câu 3 của đoạn 2, cụ thể là phần thông tin sau: “At the cultural level, distinctions between ‘high’ and ‘low’ culture have disappeared as new technology transmits across class boundaries...” Từ phần thông tin này có thể suy ra được là ở góc độ văn hóa, sự khác biệt giữa văn hóa ‘cao cấp’ và ‘tầm thường’ dần mờ đi, từ đó chúng ta có sự giao thoa (intermingle) giữa hai loại văn hóa này và ta chọn được phương án D. Phương án A không được đề cập trong bài, tuy nhiên người đọc có thể nhầm lẫn dẫn chứng cho phương án này nằm ở phần thông tin sau: “... while stylistically, form has become more important than substance”. Thông tin này có nghĩa là bề ngoài trở nên quan trọng hơn nội dung bên trong, không liên quan đến sự sáng tạo nghệ thuật. Phương án B không được đề cập trong bài. Phương án C mâu thuẫn với thông tin sau trong bài: “... and the ubiquity of television means that everything is seen in television codes”, nghĩa là tivi vẫn chiếm ưu thế và còn trở nên vô cùng phổ biến.

16. C

Dẫn chứng để chọn được phương án C nằm ở câu 2 và 3 của đoạn 3: “At one level, many people are reluctant to accept any argument that the technology can lead to social and economic changes, arguing instead that the relationship is exactly the other way round. In other words, they are critical of any tendency to technological determinism.” Từ thông tin này suy ra là nhiều người tỏ ra không sẵn sàng chấp nhận quan điểm cho rằng công nghệ có thể dẫn đến những thay đổi kinh tế và xã hội nên ta chọn được phương án C. Phương án A không được đề cập trong bài, bởi lẽ “inverse relationship” nghĩa là khi technology trở nên cao cấp (advanced) hơn thì cultural changes sẽ ít đi, bớt phức tạp hơn. Điều này không được thể hiện ở trong bài đọc (ở đoạn 2, technology còn gây ra cultural changes). Phương án B mâu thuẫn với thông tin trong nửa cuối của đoạn 3. Ở nửa cuối đoạn 3, tác giả viết về sự phân bố không đồng đều của công nghệ ở Anh nên phương án B không chính xác. Phương án D không được đề cập trong bài.

17. B

Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở câu 1 đoạn 4: “What does seem to the case, however, is that the stereotypical image of the nuclear family sitting together in the front room cheerfully choosing their evening’s viewing from a limited range of television stations is disappearing.” và kết hợp với thông tin ở câu sau đó: “This is partly due to the increased number of sets per household...” Từ hai thông tin này, ta có thể suy ra được là hình ảnh gia đình ngồi quây quần bên nhau vui vẻ chọn kênh tivi để xem từ gói kênh ít ỏi dần trở nên hiếm hoi, từ đó chọn được phương án B.

18. A

Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án A nằm ở câu 2 đoạn 4, cụ thể là ở đoạn thông tin: “... as well as the rapid growth in the number of channels, a development mirrored by the niche marketing of magazines to a multiplicity of interest groups.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra là giới truyền thông (cụ thể hơn trong văn cảnh này là magazines) có thể hướng đến những nhóm đối tượng cụ thể hơn (interest groups là nhóm đối tượng người đọc/xem có những đặc điểm chung về lứa tuổi, sở thích,...) Do đó ta chọn phương án A. Phương án B có được nhắc đến trong bài ở thông tin: “The amount of time spent watching television has stabilised in recent years to around 27 hours a week”, tuy nhiên thông tin này không giải thích cho sự thay đổi ở cấp độ gia đình. Thông tin C không được đề cập trong bài. Phương án D dễ gây nhầm lẫn từ thông tin: “This is partly due to the increased number of sets per household”, tuy nhiên cần hiểu sets per household là số ti-vi/hộ gia đình tính theo bình quân, nên chưa chắc nhà nào cũng có thêm ti-vi.

19. D

Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở câu 2 đoạn 5, cụ thể là ở đoạn thông tin: “... ignoring many disadvantaged social groups.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra truyền hình vệ tinh (satellite television) vẫn chỉ đáp ứng những sở thích số đông chứ chưa để ý đến những nhóm người thiệt thòi trong xã hội nên ta chọn phương án D. Phương án A không được đề cập trong bài đọc, phương án B dễ gây nhầm lẫn từ thông tin: “... in the sense that there are increased numbers of community-based television networks”. Cần phải chú ý xét đến vế trước của câu: “New media technologies have not empowered people...”, từ đó suy ra là công nghệ truyền thông mới chưa giúp con người kiểm soát tốt hơn xét trên phương diện có nhiều sự kết nối mang tính cộng đồng. Phương án C mâu thuẫn với nội dung trong bài đọc ở cuối đoạn 5: “... a centrally directed mass media.”

20. C

Để chọn được phương án C, cần xem xét mục đích tác giả đưa ví dụ về Rupert Murdoch ở đoạn cuối bài là gì. Có thể suy luận mục đích này từ câu cuối bài: “... highlights that the creation of a global mass culture will not be easily induced by technology.” Trong đoạn văn, tác giả cũng diễn giải tại sao doanh nhân Rupert Murdoch ban đầu chưa thành công

với việc đưa truyền hình trực tiếp của phương Tây về quảng bá rộng ở Ấn Độ và lý do là người dân vẫn quen với phim tiếng Hindi (phim địa phương) hơn. Vì vậy nên ví dụ được đưa vào ở đoạn văn cuối bài chứng minh cho luận điểm rằng sự đồng hóa văn hóa gặp trở ngại do thái độ của mọi người.

21. B

Phương án B hợp lý nhất bởi lẽ bài đọc nêu ra những “advanced technologies” như satellite television, western broadcasting,... nhưng tác giả cũng đưa ra những căn cứ chứng tỏ chưa có một nền “Đại văn hóa” trên thế giới (đoạn 3 đến đoạn 6, thể hiện trực tiếp qua các câu như câu đầu đoạn 3, câu đầu đoạn 6 và câu cuối đoạn 6).

22. D

Để lí giải cho lựa chọn D, có thể xem xét đến câu cuối bài đọc: “... the creation of a global mass culture will not be solely induced by technology” Ngoài ra, trong toàn bộ bài đọc, tác giả cũng chứng tỏ rằng công nghệ chưa tạo ra những thay đổi về văn hóa (như các nhóm thiểu số vẫn bị thiệt thòi trong “độ phủ sóng” của truyền hình vệ tinh (đoạn 5), mối quan hệ giữa tầng lớp xã hội và việc xem tivi chưa thay đổi (cuối đoạn 4), người dân vẫn ưa chuộng phim địa phương (đoạn 6),...)

23. C

Bài viết chủ yếu thể hiện cái nhìn mang tính khách quan, với nhiều dẫn chứng thực tế nên giọng điệu của tác giả nghiêng về giọng điệu khách quan. Phương án A không hợp lý vì indifferent chỉ thái độ thờ ơ không phải là giọng điệu trong bài (vì tác giả của bài viết có quan tâm đến chủ đề và bày tỏ những quan điểm của bản thân và của người khác xung quanh chủ đề nên thái độ thờ ơ là không hợp lý). Phương án B không hợp lý vì tuy tác giả có dẫn ra những chứng cứ chứng minh rằng vai trò của công nghệ không quan trọng đến thế song tác giả không thể hiện quan điểm phê phán hay chỉ trích ý kiến được nêu ra ở hai đoạn đầu của bài đọc. Phương án D không hợp lý vì trong bài đọc, tác giả không sử dụng từ ngữ mỉa mai hay thể hiện thái độ khinh miệt đối với ý kiến đối lập với quan điểm của bản thân.

Part 3.

24. D

“We literally line up to trade our health and self-image for a few minutes of pleasant mouth feel and belly comfort” connects with **“This foolish exchange** reflects a glitch in our brains that may wreak more havoc in our lives and in society than any other.”

25. B

“Recent research has brought to light evidence that it can be moved, thereby **counteracting the urge to make unwise decisions.**” connects with “New insights into the psychological subtleties of temporal discounting have suggested ways to **counteract the distorted thinking behind the phenomenon and change short-sighted behaviour.**”

26. H

“They found that **this urge seems to originate mainly in the brain's limbic system**, a set of cerebral regions charged with emotion.” connects with “**Thoughtful decisions to resist temptation, on the other hand, appear largely rooted in the prefrontal cortex**, the seat of executive functions such as working memory, attention and inhibitory control.”

27. G

“**Important clues about how to combat rash behaviour come from studies of how we perceive time when making decisions in which immediate desires conflict with longer-term goals.** Some of the same brain systems involved in temporal discounting also contribute to our ability to estimate spans of time.” connects with “What is more, **that perceived gap between the value of sooner and later rewards grows as the time to the sooner reward approaches.**”

28. E

“**Finding ways to delay the more immediate reward can suppress the time-skewing effect.**” connects with “**Certain environmental cues can also** trick the brain into judging time in ways that might **mitigate temporal discounting.**”

29. F

“It also implies that a calming environment may temper temporal discounting- that **a mellow fast food restaurant** might sell more salads and fewer cheeseburgers.” connects with “Additional research supports the notion that **the hustle and bustle of fast-food chains** may magnify our desire for a faster pay-off.”

30. C

“**Gathering specific information about more distant rewards**, therefore, may help far-off goals effectively compete for attention with more immediate wants.” connects with “This concept has been successfully applied to anti-obesity programmes. People on these

health-clinic programmes are asked to **document exactly how much weight they gain when they slip and then how long it takes them to get back to their previous weight.**”

Part 4.

31. B (Incidentally, Carl Linnaeus, founder of taxonomy, clearly had this legend in mind when he named the plant)

32. C (For the Aztecs, cacao beans were both a valuable commodity and a major form of currency and tribute payment in their empire)

33. D (There are competing theories on the etymology of the word chocolate, but most have at least some connection to the Aztec language of Nahuatl. Some attribute the word to Nahuatl word xocolatl meaning ‘bitter water’ – and it was indeed bitter, being sweetened with honey for those who preferred it that way. Another theory ... represents a combination of Maya and Aztec cultures)

34. E (These days, producers of chocolate are experimenting even further, by adding not just sugar and milk, but chili, lavender, mint and other flavours, giving us new forms, new uses and new tastes, all continually inspired by its divine origins.)

35. A (Chocolate- that delicious, dark brown, mood-altering delight-for more than 3000 years was consumed primarily as a drink)

36. D (When enthusiasm for chocolate spread across Europe, European colonies in Africa and Malaysia began to raise ‘cocoa’, as the cacao bean came to be called in Europe)

37. E (While the addition of chilli had long since been dropped from the recipes by Europeans, vanilla was often retained, along with milk and sugar, the latter being unavailable to the Aztecs)

38. A (An Olmec site has yielded at least one ceramic container that evidences the preparation of cacao as a beverage dating to roughly 1900 BC)

39. C (Dishonest dealers, meanwhile, used various ruses to sell counterfeit beans, artificially coloring inferior lots of cacao, or even disguising worthless avocado seeds with cacao hulls to fool customers)

40. B (For the drink, the beans were fermented, dried and roasted, much like today, then ground and mixed with a variety of spices to form a paste that was heated and poured from vessel to vessel to produce a frothy foam.)

TEST 3

Part 1. For questions 1-13, read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

How to make wise decisions

Across cultures, wisdom has been considered one of the most revered human qualities. Although the truly wise may seem few and far between, empirical research examining wisdom suggests that it isn't an exceptional trait possessed by a small handful of bearded philosophers after all — in fact, the latest studies suggest that most of us have the ability to make wise decisions, given the right context.

'It appears that experiential, situational, and cultural factors are even more powerful in shaping wisdom than previously imagined,' says Associate Professor Igor Grossmann of the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. 'Recent empirical findings from cognitive, developmental, social, and personality psychology cumulatively suggest that people's ability to reason wisely varies dramatically across experiential and situational contexts. Understanding the role of such contextual factors offers unique insights into understanding wisdom in daily life, as well as how it can be enhanced and taught.'

It seems that it's not so much that some people simply possess wisdom and others lack it, but that our ability to reason wisely depends on a variety of external factors. 'It is impossible to characterize thought processes attributed to wisdom without considering the role of contextual factors,' explains Grossmann. 'In other words, wisdom is not solely an "inner quality" but rather unfolds as a function of situations people happen to be in. Some situations are more likely to promote wisdom than others.'

Coming up with a definition of wisdom is challenging, but Grossmann and his colleagues have identified four key characteristics as part of a framework of wise reasoning. One is intellectual humility or recognition of the limits of our own knowledge, and another is appreciation of perspectives wider than the issue at hand. Sensitivity to the possibility of change in social relations is also key, along with compromise or integration of different attitudes and beliefs.

Grossmann and his colleagues have also found that one of the most reliable ways to support wisdom in our own day-to-day decisions is to look at scenarios from a third-party perspective, as though giving advice to a friend. Research suggests that when adopting a first-person viewpoint we focus on 'the focal features of the environment' and when we adopt a third-person, 'observer' viewpoint we reason more broadly and focus more on interpersonal and moral ideals such as justice and impartiality. Looking at problems from this more expansive viewpoint appears to foster cognitive processes related to wise decisions.

What are we to do, then, when confronted with situations like a disagreement with a spouse or negotiating a contract at work, that require us to take a personal stake? Grossmann argues that even when we aren't able to change the situation, we can still evaluate these experiences from different perspectives.

For example, in one experiment that took place during the peak of a recent economic recession, graduating college seniors were asked to reflect on their job prospects. The students were instructed to imagine their career either 'as if you were a distant observer' or 'before your own eyes as if you were right there'. Participants in the group assigned to the 'distant observer' role displayed more wisdom-related reasoning (intellectual humility and recognition of change) than did participants in the control group.

In another study, couples in long-term romantic relationships were instructed to visualize an unresolved relationship conflict either through the eyes of an outsider or from their own perspective. Participants then discussed the incident with their partner for 10 minutes, after which they wrote down their thoughts about it. Couples in the 'other's eyes' condition were significantly more likely to rely on wise reasoning — recognizing others' perspectives and searching for a compromise — compared to the couples in the egocentric condition.

'Ego-decentering promotes greater focus on others and enables a bigger picture, conceptual view of the experience, affording recognition of intellectual humility and change,' says Grossmann.

We might associate wisdom with intelligence or particular personality traits, but research shows only a small positive relationship between wise thinking and crystallized intelligence and the personality traits of openness and agreeableness. 'It is remarkable how much people can vary in their wisdom from one situation to the next, and how much stronger such contextual effects are for understanding the relationship between wise judgment and its social and affective outcomes as compared to the generalized "traits",' Grossmann explains. 'That is, knowing how wisely a person behaves in a given situation is more informative for understanding their emotions or likelihood to forgive [or] retaliate as compared to knowing whether the person may be wise "in general".'

Questions 1-8

Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage?

In boxes 1-8, write

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information

FALSE if the statement contradicts the information

NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

1. In the first paragraph, the writer points out a loophole in a basic assumption about wisdom.
2. Igor Grossmann suggests the importance of certain influences on the ability to make wise decisions was overestimated.
3. Grossmann claims that the level of wisdom an individual shows can be greater than they assume it is.
4. Students participating in the job prospects experiment could choose one of two perspectives to take.
5. Participants in the couples experiment were aware that they were taking part in a study about wise reasoning.
6. In the couples experiments, the length of the couples' relationships had an impact on the results.
7. In both experiments, the participants who looked at the situation from a more detached viewpoint tended to make wiser decisions.
8. Grossmann believes that a person's wisdom is determined by their intelligence to only a very limited extent.

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
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Questions 9-13

Complete the summary using the list of words, A—J, below. Write the correct letter, A—J, in the boxes provided.

The characteristics of wise reasoning

Igor Grossmann and colleagues have established four characteristics which enable us to make wise decisions. It is important to have a certain degree of 9 _____ regarding the extent of our knowledge, and to take into account 10 _____ which may not be the same as our own. We should also be able to take a broad 11 _____ of any situation. Another key characteristic is being aware of the likelihood of alterations in the way that people relate to each other.

Grossmann also believes that it is better to regard scenarios with 12_____. By avoiding the first-person perspective, we focus more on 13_____ and on other moral ideals, which in turn leads to wiser decision-making.

A opinions	B confidence	C view
D modesty	E problems	F objectivity
G fairness	H experiences	I range
J reasons		

Your answers

9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
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Part 2. For questions 14-23, read an extract from an article and choose the answer A, B, C or D that fits best according to the text. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

New ways of looking at history

Though few modern readers are familiar with LP Hartley’s novel *The Go-Between*, many will know the novel’s often quoted opening line: ‘The past is a foreign country: they do things differently there.’ In Hartley’s novel, published in 1953, the remark indicates the distance that separates an early narrator from the dramatic events of his youth. But the phrase has since been gleefully adopted by historians hoping to dramatise the gulf between present and bygone ages. This remoteness makes the past both alluring and incomprehensible. It is the natural hurdle all historians must overcome to shed lights on earlier times. Since the days of Herodotus, the father of history who lived 2500 years ago, it has had them scrambling for new ways to acquaint today’s audiences with yesterday’s events.

Amid the current mass of works of popular historical non-fiction, the question of how to bring history to life seems more pressing than ever. The historian Ian Mortimer takes a literal approach: if the past is a foreign country, then a foreigner’s guidebook might help. His book *The Time Traveller’s Guide to Medieval England* is exactly that, offering ‘an investigation into the sensations of being alive in different times’. The resulting portrait of the era is as lively and entertaining as it is informative. Yet it is worth considering his claims about his own approach. ‘In traditional history, what we can say about the past is dictated by the selection and interpretation of evidence.’ It would be foolish, however, to

suppose that Mortimer's own text has not relied on precisely this kind of selection. Mortimer presents events as if they were unfolding, putting the facts in the present tense. Yet the illusion of first-hand historical experience is shattered the moment we are thrown 50 years backwards or forwards in order to provide context. Mortimer's refusal to commit to a temporal point of view undermines the immediacy he attempts to convey.

Unlike Mortimer, Philip Matyszak, author of *Ancient Rome on Five Denarii a Day*, does not claim to tread new historiographical ground. His aim is to inform and amuse, and in this he succeeds. The light-hearted approach pays off, though it occasionally descends into juvenile and anachronistic humour: Oedipus is referred to as 'he of the complex'. This raises the question of what readership the book is really aimed at. Also, the problem with time-travellers' guides is that they often say more about the people who wrote them than about the people they describe. Mortimer's avowal that 'climate change is another factor affecting the landscape' in 14th-century England reflects worries more modern than medieval. While Matyszak's assertion that 'it is a common misconception among visitors that the Acropolis is the Parthenon' sounds more like a complaint about the ignorance of today's tourists.

'Understanding the past is a matter of experience as well as knowledge,' Mortimer declares. This may well be the manifesto for those who, not satisfied with virtual tours of history, take history into their own hands. Historical re-enactors - yes, those individuals whose idea of fun is to dress up and stage mock battles - provide the most literal interpretation of history as experience. Humorist Tim Moore set out to explore this world in his book *I Believe in Yesterday*. In Berne, Switzerland, he suffers in the name of 'utter authenticity' during the restaged siege of Grandson, circa 1474. In the US he endures a stint of 'relentless and uncompromising immersion with re-enactment's seasoned elite,' revisiting 1864's battle of Red River during the American Civil War.

Moore's quest for 'my inner ancient' is fuelled by his anxieties about our modern inability to deploy the skills that came naturally to our ancestors. More often, he finds, it is a 'refreshingly simple impulse to get away from it all' that gets people into period attire. Many civil war re-enactors seek redress: 'History is written by the winners but re-enactment gives the losers a belated chance to scribble in the margins.' For others it's 'a simple and truly heart-warming quest for gregarious community'.

Perhaps re-enactment is the closest we can get to Mortimer's ideal of what history should be: 'A striving to make spiritual, emotional poetic, dramatic and inspirational connections with our forebears'. Interestingly, Mortimer quotes the poet WH Auden, who remarked that to understand your own country it helps to have lived in at least two others. Perhaps the same applies to historical eras. The central question, for popular historians and

historical re-enactors alike, is not how to animate the past but how to make it cast light on us today.

14. The quoted opening line of *The Go-Between*:

- A. accounts for the unfamiliarity of readers with the novel
- B. serves as a figurative barrier separating the past and the present
- C. encapsulates attempts made by historians
- D. instills historians with a disrespect for remoteness

15. According to the passage:

- A. All historians have presented carefully selected historical events to laypeople.
- B. The matter of enlivening history has been of more urgency recently.
- C. Historians have adopted traditional methods to introduce bygone events to readers for ages.
- D. Being impenetrable to outsiders renders history somewhat humdrum.

16. The writer suggests that Mortimer's approach is flawed in the sense that:

- A. It heavily relies on the process of comprehending events.
- B. It completely runs counter to his claims, which results in confusion.
- C. It entails events to be illustrated as if they were happening.
- D. It fails to stick to a time-related perspective.

17. Which of the following nouns best reflect the writer's attitudes towards the books by Mortimer and Matyszak?

- A. appreciation and criticism
- B. disregard and hostility
- C. reverence and admiration
- D. acknowledgement and castigation

18. As indicated by the author, a shared characteristic of the books by Mortimer and Matyszak is that:

- A. They include inappropriate use of humour to convey the ideas.
- B. They are written from a viewpoint which remains unchanged throughout.

C. They are clearer manifestations of the authors' concerns than of the topics.

D. Their target audience is left open to question by readers.

19. The writer's choice of words in the fourth paragraph suggests that regarding activities in the field of historical re-enactment, the author harbours feelings of:

A. cynicism

B. skepticism

C. enthusiasm

D. optimism

20. As mentioned in the text, a driving force behind the appeal of historical re-enactment to some people is:

A. the ability to envision themselves as famous historical figures

B. the possibility of corroborating their beliefs

C. the investigation into counterfactuals regarding life in the past

D. the chance to pretend to influence historical outcomes

21. All of the following reasons are given to explain the act of animating the past with the exception of:

A. a sense of inferiority

B. a form of escapism

C. a feeling of dissatisfaction

D. a method of networking

22. What can be said about the historian Ian Mortimer?

A. He attaches little importance to abridging the distance between us and our ancestors.

B. His book lends itself well to educating his readers.

C. He believes that comprehension of the past does not require one to experience it.

D. He leads an expedition into the world of historical re-enactment in his books.

23. The writer comes to the conclusion that history as Mortimer, Matyszak and historical re-enactors see it:

A. shares many characteristics with literary writing.

B. marks another important development which will be a fad.

C. can enrich our understanding of modern society.

D. may well be the way forward for historians in general.

Your answers

14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.

Part 3. In the passage below, seven paragraphs have been removed. For questions 24-30, read the passage and choose from the paragraphs A-H the one which fits each gap. There is ONE extra paragraph which you do not need to use. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered box provided.

LIVE FOR TODAY

When an Australian nurse, called Bronnie Ware, most of whose career has been dedicated to caring for elderly people on their deathbeds, decided to start keeping a record of her patients' dying thoughts, little could she have known the level of interest her blog, Inspiration and Chai, would generate. However, it has proven remarkably popular with readers and has developed quite the following. Pointedly, it was this that prompted her to do the once unthinkable and consider writing a book to share her, or her patients' to be more precise, wisdom with the wider world, which she did by penning the aptly named The Top Five Regrets of the Dying. So what would people do differently if they could live their lives over again? Well, apparently, the most common lamentation is when people feel that they haven't stayed true to themselves and followed their dreams. Nearly all Ware's patients wished that they had paid less heed in life to the expectations and perceptions of others and, instead, had had the courage to live exactly how they themselves had wished.

24.	
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Another common regret amongst males in particular was the extent of time and effort they had expended on work and work-related issues throughout their lives. Although women also echoed this sentiment to an extent, the likely reason why fewer did is simply down to the fact that in past generations women were less inclined to be breadwinners. In

other words, they were employed at home doing the household duties rather than at the coalface, as it were.

25.

What they missed most was not playing a bigger part in their children's lives. However, they also lamented the fact they had somewhat neglected their partners, too, and not afforded them nearly enough attention.

26.

The next most common regret is hardly a revelation either. However, it is certainly one I think we can all readily relate to: not expressing your true feelings often enough. As the saying goes, say it before its too late. This is certainly sage advice can vouch for, as I personally regretted not telling my parents how much I loved and appreciated them before the chance was gone.

27.

Though it was not only positive feelings the patients wished they had been more expressive of. Basically, they just wished they had told the truth more often. It seems that this secrecy and lack of honesty causes more relationship trouble than its worth in the long run, even if it placates people and makes life easier from a very short-term point of view.

28.

Another regret related to close loved ones was the failure to properly keep in touch with them. Patients deeply regretted letting their old friends fall out of the loop and not making a greater effort to stay in contact. Friendships, after all, need constant attention and if you don't devote the appropriate time and effort to grooming them, you inevitably lose touch.

29.

That, perhaps, explains the next regret Ware highlights, which is that people hadn't allowed themselves to be happier in life. We are, it seems, ruled by fear; fear of change from the familiar and routines, and much else besides, and this handicaps our capacity to be happy and grasp our chances when they arrive. We end up stressing too much and not enjoying life or allowing ourselves to partake in the excitement of living. Unsurprisingly, therefore, patients thought they ought to have allowed themselves to let their hair down and enjoy life more often: to simply laugh and be silly and make light of their and the world's problems.

30.	
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So perhaps it was a little premature of me earlier to imply that little in Ware's book came as a revelation, though this was not, in any case, intended as criticism. It certainly gave me food for thought, and the sense I came away with most is how important the urgency of living in the now is, with sincerity and an appetite for fun, for tomorrow it just might be too late. And, then, what was the point of it all anyway?

A. What I find most curious about this, of course, is that, as children, this is precisely what we do. We have fun and we don't take things too seriously. Somewhere along the way, as adults, we, therefore, must forget how to do this. Then, ironically, we go full circle again in old age and realise just how important it is, though not before it's, sadly, too late to act on this compulsion.

B. This, though, begs the question: should we not be asking ourselves is all the effort worth it or for nought? After all, these traditional breadwinners and sloggers that were the men she interviewed, people who toiled day-in-day-out throughout their working lives, although having done so with the best of intentions — wanting to support their families — recognised that what they sacrificed was simply unwarranted; the end did not justify the means.

C. Pointedly, perhaps, this lack of communicative openness and freedom not only resulted in deep regrets, but, in many cases, Ware notes, also contributed to more serious health-related problems. People literally made themselves sick from bitterness and pent-up frustration; from bottling everything up rather than venting their concerns and vexations.

D. At this point, I should add that what struck me most about reading the revelations in Ware's book was how little of the content came as any sort of revelation whatsoever. After all, isn't it oh so obvious that we ought to be devoting more time to our personal lives and our personal satisfaction rather than simply spending hour upon hour grinding out a living every day? Perhaps putting in the overtime will move us slightly ahead and enable us to extract a little more success from our careers; this is not really up for debate. But at what cost?

E. Indeed, to me, this is the most important thing to take away from the book; that sense of urgency; the necessity of telling people you care about exactly how you feel. I would almost suggest that you cease reading on and do so immediately if you have left such sentiments for someone you know unspoken for too long.

F. What I found particularly interesting, though, and contrary to my expectations was that rather than look back on life through rose-tinted glasses, the elderly seem to reflect very honestly on things, focusing on missed opportunities and what they should have done differently.

G. However, it is hard to ignore such problems and one often feels the weight of the world on one's shoulders. The bigger question, therefore, is how to lift that weight and find true happiness.

H. Sadly, it seems, the realisation that life should be guided by personal motives rather than exterior influences comes upon us far too late, though, by which time we lack the health and freedom to realise our neglected personal ambitions. Father Time has already caught up with us then.

Your answers

24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
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Part 4. The passage below consists of four sections marked A, B, C and D. For questions 31-40, read the passage and do the task that follows. Write your answers (A, B, C or D) in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Thinking of studying history?

We asked four graduates to talk about directions they have followed?

A. On graduating, I challenged conventional notions that teaching is the only feasible option open to history graduates and chose to become an art crime investigator with the police. The job involves conscientious research on my part to track down works of art stolen from sites, museums and churches, which are particularly vulnerable and cannot always safeguard their treasures. The loot is smuggled abroad with the sole intent of being sold to the highest bidder. A collection of sculptures, once constituting a single entity, may be shamefully fragmented and just scattered across the world, so art crime squads in different countries constantly exchange information on illicit trafficking. A recent case of mine involved the repatriation of three paintings taken from an Italian church. Seized during a raid on a London hotel where dealers in illicit antiquities were meeting, these paintings were returned to their rightful owners. In my experience, I'd estimate some of the priceless art in museums may have been acquired under dubious circumstances, and some could actually be forgeries!

Retrieving stolen art is a long, drawn-out process. This is painstaking and not always rewarding, so I'm under no illusions about happy endings. In the worst-case scenario, thieves try to destroy the evidence before we can confiscate it, often causing irreversible damage. Sometimes, sadly, pieces are lost forever.

B. Studying for a history degree taught me to gather, assess and collate information — skills which are invaluable in many walks of life. And having been fascinated by programmes on the History Channel, I made what seemed like a natural choice and became a television research assistant. Creating a historical series requires meticulous study, and that's where I come in. Above all, it's essential that I examine and verify the factual background on costumes, furniture and jewellery. I also skim through images to provide inspiration for the scenery and props. Researchers conflict original ideas to expand on the life of a character such as Thomas Cromwell in *WolfHall* or Queen Victoria. I'm not an authority on any particular period, but I do a lot of reading. My work requires a high degree of accuracy and I pay strict attention to detail to avoid glaring errors - like double parking lines in a 19th-century village!

Historians have discredited certain series for "fudging" the facts, yet they do spark an interest in history, even if they stray into the realm of fiction on the odd occasion' Period dramas like *Vikings* are in many respects deemed historically accurate. The Viking hairstyles and clothing are as authentic as possible -- inspired by medieval manuscript.

C. There's an acute shortage of people choosing to study history. I think this is probably the result of the misguided assumptions that it leads nowhere career-wise. Nothing could be further from the truth, though. History develops your competence to research and present information coherently in a range of formats, from brochures and guidebooks to informative films. Such skills can pave the way for many careers, including mine. As a

heritage manager, I am responsible for developing interest in ancient monuments and historic buildings, such as Highclere Castle, which is a prime example of 19th century architectural style. One important task of mine is to market the building with events and tours to increase visitor numbers. All our activities have to be profitable to support the building's conservation. Another aspect of the job is to do research and provide information for a reference book or an official history of the site. It's astounding how misinformed many people are, often having learned their history from highly inaccurate sources like Hollywood films.

D. People often confuse the work of a historian with that of an archaeologist. First and foremost, a historian's work involves investigating and analysing data in written form — from stone engravings to books and letters — in order to validate information alleged to be facts. As an archaeologist, I try to understand the legacy of the ancient world by excavating physical relics, such as coins or statues. Despite what is often assumed, much of my work is done not on site, but in a lab, where we determine the age of artefacts and their place of origin, using scientific techniques like carbon dating. At a dig, we use cameras, 7 tablets and laser scanners to digitally record the site and every find. Another intrinsic part of my work is to catalogue every item carefully in order to comply with local laws. It may sound tedious, but sometimes it is actually a welcome relief from digging.

Archaeology and history have a reciprocal relationship. While I try to make a valid case about the culture of a preceding civilization, I rely on a historian to verify my hypothesis or prove it untenable by using a vast array of written evidence. But conversely, for example, when the lost remains of England's King Richard III were unearthed, it would have been impossible to confirm they were indeed his without the methods we archaeologists utilize, even though his reign was fully documented.

Which person

31. expresses gratitude for aspects of work that nurture their innovative ideas?
32. censures the reckless manner in which antiquities are sometimes handled?
33. clarifies a misconception about the nature of their work?
34. confesses unpleasant aspects they sometimes stumble in their work?
35. explains that finding flaws is a feature of their work?
36. underscores the practical need to appeal to the general public?
37. explains the role of myriad devices in their work?
38. questions the authenticity of certain artefacts?

39. comments on the scarcity of graduates in their field?

40. mentions the need to follow existing regulations?

Your answers

31.	32.	33.	34.	35.
36.	37.	38.	39.	40.

Key and explanations:

Part 1.

1. TRUE

Across cultures, wisdom has been considered one of the most revered human qualities. Although the truly wise may seem few and far between, empirical research examining wisdom suggests that it isn't an exceptional trait possessed by a small handful of bearded philosophers after all.

2. FALSE

It appears that experiential, situational, and cultural factors are even more powerful in shaping wisdom than previously imagined.

Tầm quan trọng của các yếu tố này bị đánh giá quá thấp (underestimated) chứ không phải đánh giá quá cao (overestimated).

3. NOT GIVEN

4. FALSE

Participants in the group assigned to the 'distant observer' role displayed more wisdom-related reasoning (intellectual humility and recognition of change) than did participants in the control group.

Học sinh được chia nhóm chứ không phải tự chọn.

5. NOT GIVEN

6. NOT GIVEN

7. TRUE

Participants in the group assigned to the 'distant observer' role displayed more wisdom-related reasoning (intellectual humility and recognition of change) than did participants in the control group.

Couples in the 'other's eyes' condition were significantly more likely to rely on wise reasoning — recognizing others' perspectives and searching for a compromise — compared to the couples in the egocentric condition.

8. TRUE

We might associate wisdom with intelligence or particular personality traits, but research shows only a small positive relationship between wise thinking and crystallized intelligence and the personality traits of openness and agreeableness.

9. D

One is intellectual **humility** or recognition of the limits of our own knowledge

10. A

along with compromise or integration of different **attitudes and beliefs**

11. C

and another is appreciation of **perspectives** wider than the issue at hand

12. F

Grossmann and his colleagues have also found that one of the most reliable ways to support wisdom in our own day-to-day decisions is to look at **scenarios from a third-party perspective**

13. G

when we adopt a third-person, 'observer' viewpoint we reason more broadly and focus more on interpersonal and moral ideals such as **justice and impartiality**

Part 2.

14. C

Câu dẫn mở đầu cuốn tiểu thuyết này phản ánh/tóm gọn lại những cố gắng của các nhà sử học vì ngụ ý của câu dẫn là quá khứ rất xa xôi, là một thế giới tách biệt, khác lạ với hiện tại. Câu dẫn ấy đã được “gleefully adopted” bởi những các nhà sử học “hoping to dramatise the gulf between present and bygone ages”. Đây là minh chứng đầu tiên cho việc câu dẫn này thể hiện “attempts” của các nhà sử học. Ngoài ra, sự khác biệt giữa quá khứ và hiện tại cũng làm cho các nhà sử học “scrambling for new ways to acquaint today’s audiences with yesterday’s events.” Từ đó ta chọn được phương án C. Phương án A không hợp lí vì bài đọc không chỉ ra mối liên hệ giữa câu dẫn và sự không nổi tiếng của cuốn tiểu thuyết. Phương án B không hợp lí vì điều “separating the past and the present” là “the distance” (the remark indicates the distance that ...). Phương án D không hợp lí vì không có thông tin cho thấy câu dẫn này làm các nhà sử học thiếu tôn trọng khoảng cách giữa quá khứ và hiện tại.

15.

Dẫn chứng để chọn B nằm ở câu đầu của đoạn 2: “Amid the current mass of works of popular historical non-fiction, the question of how to bring history to life seems more pressing than ever.” Từ thông tin này suy ra vấn đề làm cho lịch sử trở nên thú vị đang là vấn đề cần sự giải quyết hơn bao giờ hết nên ta chọn được phương án B. Phương án A và

C không được đề cập trong bài đọc (dù ở đoạn hai có câu ‘In traditional history, what we can say about the past is dictated by the selection and interpretation of evidence’ có thể gây nhầm lẫn và khiến người đọc nghĩ rằng A là phương án chính xác). Với phương án D, trong bài có nêu ra dữ kiện sau: “This remoteness makes the past both alluring and incomprehensible”. Tuy nhiên, từ thông tin này, ta thấy được “being impenetrable to outsiders” làm cho lịch sử trở nên hấp dẫn hơn (alluring) thay vì buồn tẻ (humdrum).

16. D

Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở câu cuối của đoạn 2: “Mortimer’s refusal to commit to a temporal point of view undermines the immediacy he attempts to convey.” Từ thông tin này suy ra trong tác phẩm của mình, nhà sử học Mortimer đã không “gắn” với một điểm nhìn thời gian, làm giảm độ trực tiếp, sự gần gũi mà tác giả muốn truyền tải. Từ đó ta chọn được phương án D. Phương án A không hợp lí vì tuy cách tiếp cận của Mortimer có “relies on the process of comprehending events” (câu 6 và 7 đoạn 2) nhưng đây không phải điều không tốt. Phương án B cũng không hợp lí vì cách tiếp cận của Mortimer có phần đúng và cũng có phần khác so với lời nói của ông (câu 8 đoạn 2). Phương án C có thể tìm thấy ở câu 9 đoạn 2, tuy nhiên việc Mortimer đưa ra các sự kiện như thể chúng đang diễn ra là điều tốt (suy luận từ nội dung câu sau đó: “Yet the illusion of first-hand historical experience is shattered”, và “the illusion of first-hand experience” ở đây được tạo ra bởi việc đặt các sự kiện vào bối cảnh như thể nó đang xảy ra).

17. A

Khi nói về cả hai cuốn sách, tác giả bài viết vừa dành lời khen, lại vừa chỉ ra những khuyết điểm ở chúng. Với cuốn sách của Ian Mortimer, tác giả khen: “The resulting portrait of the era is as lively and entertaining as it is informative.” (câu 4 đoạn 2), và tác giả cũng chỉ ra điểm chưa được (từ câu 5 đoạn 2 đến hết đoạn). Với cuốn sách của Philip Matyszak, tác giả khen: “His aim is to inform and amuse, and in this he succeeds. The light-hearted approach pays off” (câu 2 và 3 đoạn 3), và tác giả cũng chỉ ra điểm chưa tốt ngay sau đó: “... though it occasionally descends into juvenile and anachronistic humour...” Từ những thông tin này, ta có thể suy luận ra được tác giả vừa trân trọng (appreciation), vừa thấy được và chỉ ra khuyết điểm (criticism) của cả hai cuốn sách. Phương án B không hợp lí vì tác giả không bày tỏ thái độ gay gắt, hận thù. Phương án C cũng chưa hợp lí vì tác giả có chê trách, và cũng không thực sự biểu lộ sự ngưỡng mộ với hai tác phẩm. Phương án D có từ acknowledgement sát với thái độ tác giả, tuy nhiên từ castigation nghĩa là chỉ trích nặng nề lại không phù hợp với thái độ tác giả nên đây cũng không phải là phương án hợp lí nhất.

18. C

Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở 5 đoạn 3: “Also, the problem with time-travellers’ guides is that they often say more about the people who wrote them than about the people they describe.” Kết hợp với các thông tin ở câu 6 và 7: “reflects worries more modern than medieval”, “sounds more like a complaint about the ignorance of today’s tourists”, ta có thể suy luận ra rằng hai cuốn sách đều phản ánh mối quan tâm của hai tác giả nhiều hơn là chủ đề của tác phẩm. Phương án A không hợp lí vì đặc điểm “inappropriate use of humour” chỉ được đề cập ở cuốn sách của Matyszak (câu 3 đoạn 3). Phương án B không hợp lí vì điểm nhìn của cuốn viết bởi Matyszak không được đề cập, và điểm nhìn của cuốn viết bởi Mortimer khả năng cao là một điểm nhìn không cố định (câu cuối đoạn 2). Phương án D không hợp lí vì đặc điểm này được đề cập ở cuốn sách của Matyszak (câu 4 đoạn 3).

19. B

Để chọn được phương án này, ta cần chú ý đến cách tác giả sử dụng các từ ngữ mang nghĩa tiêu cực đi cùng với thông tin mang ý nghĩa không tiêu cực: “he suffers in the name of utter authenticity”, “he endures a stint of ‘relentless and uncompromising immersion with re-enactment’s seasoned elite”. Thông tin utter authenticity và immersion with ... là thông tin mang ý nghĩa tích cực, nhưng tác giả lại sử dụng từ suffer và endure a stint of mang ý nghĩa tiêu cực. Đây là cách sử dụng ngôn từ mang hàm ý mỉa mai, châm biếm. Qua đó, ngụ ý của tác giả là Tim Moore phải chịu những điều nghe có vẻ là tốt, từ đó đặt ra nghi ngờ về hành động mà những người “diễn lại lịch sử” đang làm là gì, vì sao một người viết về hành động ấy lại phải chịu những điều tiêu cực như vậy. Phương án A không hợp lí vì cynicism nghĩa là thái độ cho rằng mọi người chỉ biết vì mình và đây không phải thái độ của tác giả. Phương án C dễ gây nhầm lẫn hơn cả, tuy nhiên lựa chọn những từ tiêu cực (đã giải thích ở trên) thì khó mà thể hiện sự nhiệt tình. Phương án D không hợp lí và hoàn toàn không có dẫn chứng thể hiện sự lạc quan của tác giả.

20. D

Để chọn được phương án D, ta cần phân tích thông tin ở đoạn 5: “Many civil war re-enactors seek redress: “History is written by the winners but re-enactment gives the losers a belated chance to scribble in the margins.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra là nhiều người “diễn lại” các cuộc nội chiến với mong muốn “sửa sử, viết lại sử”, bởi họ cho rằng lịch sử được viết nên bởi người chiến thắng, nhưng sự “diễn lại” cho phép kẻ thua cuộc một cơ hội muộn màng để viết chút gì bên lề trang sử, hay nói cách khác là để có thể gây ảnh hưởng đến kết quả của sự kiện lịch sử theo cách nhìn của họ (điều không thể nào xảy ra mà chỉ có thể do họ vẽ như mình có thể). Từ đó ta chọn được phương án D. Từ lời giải thích này, dễ dàng nhận thấy các phương án còn lại đều không hợp lí.

21. A

Ta chọn được phương án A bằng phương pháp loại trừ. Dẫn chứng chứng minh các phương án khác được đề cập trong bài: phương án B – câu 2 đoạn 5 (“a ‘refreshingly simply impulse to get away from it all’”), phương án C – câu 2 đoạn 4 (“... not satisfied with virtual tours of history, take history into their own hands, phương án D – câu cuối đoạn 5 (“ ‘a simple and truly heart-warming quest for gregarious community’”). Phương án A dễ gây nhầm lẫn bởi ở câu 1 đoạn 5, tác giả có viết: “Moore’s quest for ‘my inner ancient’ is fuelled by his anxieties about our modern inability to deploy the skills that came naturally to our ancestors.” Tuy nhiên, động lực thúc đẩy sự “tái hiện lịch sử” là sự lo lắng hơn là cảm giác thấp kém, yếu thế. Tuy tác giả có đề cập đến một đặc điểm mà người hiện đại không làm được dù tổ tiên họ làm được dễ dàng, nhưng thông tin này chưa đủ để nói lên cảm giác thấp kém đã thôi thúc Moore tìm đến sự “tái hiện lịch sử”.

22. B

Dẫn chứng để chọn B nằm ở câu 4 đoạn 2: “The resulting portrait of the era is as lively and entertaining as it is informative.” Từ thông tin này suy ra sách của tác giả Mortimer vừa sống động, mang tính giải trí lại vừa chứa đựng thông tin phong phú, nên hợp với việc edu-tain (vừa giáo dục vừa làm vui, thư giãn) người đọc. Phương án A sai vì ở câu đầu đoạn 6, tác giả viết: “... ideal of what history should be: ‘A striving to make ... connections with our forebears’”, nghĩa là Mortimer rất coi trọng việc rút ngắn khoảng cách giữa chúng ta và tổ tiên với việc tạo ra những kết nối (connections). Phương án C chưa hợp lí vì ở câu đầu đoạn 4 có thông tin: “‘Understanding the past is a matter of experience as well as knowledge,’””, nghĩa là để hiểu được quá khứ cần có kinh nghiệm và kiến thức. Phương án D không hợp lí vì theo như bài đọc, cuốn sách của Mortimer viết về lịch sử nhưng không liên quan đến sự “tái hiện lịch sử”. Cuốn sách của Tim Moore mới là cuốn về hành động “tái hiện lịch sử” (câu 4 đoạn 4).

23. C

Dẫn chứng để chọn D nằm ở câu cuối của bài đọc: “The central question, for popular historians and historical re-enactors alike, is not how to animate the past but how to make it cast light on us today.” Kết hợp thông tin này với cả đoạn 6, ta có thể suy ra rằng tác giả kết luận là lịch sử qua cái nhìn của những người được đề cập có thể giúp chúng ta hiểu rõ hơn (cast light on us) về thế giới và xã hội hiện đại (today). Trước câu cuối này, tác giả có viết rằng Mortimer đã trích một câu của nhà thơ WH Auden rằng muốn hiểu được đất nước của mình, sẽ thật tốt nếu mình từng sống ở ít nhất hai quốc gia khác và điều này có lẽ cũng đúng cho giai đoạn lịch sử. Nghĩa là, muốn hiểu thế giới và xã hội ta đang sống, cũng cần có kiến thức của giai đoạn đã đi qua, hay chính là lịch sử.

Part 3.

24. H

Well, apparently, the most common lamentation is when people feel that **they haven't stayed true to themselves and followed their dreams**. Nearly all Ware's patients **wished that they had paid less heed in life to the expectations and perceptions of others and, instead, had had the courage to live exactly how they themselves had wished...** Sadly, it seems, the realisation that **life should be guided by personal motives rather than exterior influences** comes upon us far too late.

25. B

Another common regret amongst males in particular was the extent of **time and effort they had expended on work and work-related issues** throughout their lives... This, though, begs the question: should we not be asking ourselves is **all the effort worth it or for nought?** After all, these traditional breadwinners and sloggers that were the men she interviewed, people **who toiled day-in day-out throughout their working lives**, although having done so with the best of intentions — wanting to support their families — recognised that **what they sacrificed was simply unwarranted**; the end did not justify the means.

26. D

At this point, I should add that what struck me most about reading the revelations in Ware's book was **how little of the content came as any sort of revelation** whatsoever... The next most common regret is **hardly a revelation either**.

27. E

However, it is certainly one I think we can all readily relate to: **not expressing your true feelings often enough**. As the saying goes, say it before its too late... Indeed, to me, this is the most important thing to take away from the book; that **sense of urgency; the necessity of telling people you care about exactly how you feel**.

28. C

It seems that **this secrecy and lack of honesty** causes more relationship trouble than its worth in the long run... Pointedly, perhaps, **this lack of communicative openness and freedom** not only resulted in deep regrets, but, in many cases, Ware notes, also contributed to more serious health-related problems.

29. F

What I found particularly interesting, though, and contrary to my expectations was that rather than look back on life through rose-tinted glasses, the elderly seem to reflect very honestly on things, focusing on missed opportunities and what they should have done differently... **That**, perhaps, explains the next regret Ware highlights, which is that people hadn't allowed themselves to be happier in life.

30. A

Unsurprisingly, therefore, patients thought they ought to have **allowed themselves to let their hair down and enjoy life more often: to simply laugh and be silly and make light of their and the world's problems...** What I find most curious about this, of course, is that, as children, this is precisely what we do. We **have fun and we don't take things too seriously.**

Part 4.

31. B - I also skim through images to provide inspiration for the scenery and props. Researchers conflict original ideas to expand on the life of a character such as Thomas Cromwell in WolfHall or Queen Victoria.

32. A - A collection of sculptures, once constituting a single entity, may be shamefully fragmented and just scattered across the world, so art crime squads in different countries constantly exchange information on illicit trafficking.....

33. D - Despite what is often assumed, much of my work is done not on site, but in a lab, where we determine the age of artefacts and their place of origin, using scientific techniques like carbon dating.

34. A - The job involves conscientious research on my part to track down works of art stolen from sites, museums and churches, which are particularly vulnerable and cannot always safeguard their treasures.

35. B - Above all, it's essential that I examine and verify the factual background on costumes, furniture and jewellery.... My work requires a high degree of accuracy and I pay strict attention to detail to avoid glaring errors - like double parking lines in a 19th-century village!

36. C - One important task of mine is to market the building with events and tours to increase visitor numbers. All our activities have to be profitable to support the building's conservation. Another aspect of the job is to do research and provide information for a reference book or an official history of the site. It's astounding how misinformed many people are, often having learned their history from highly inaccurate sources like Hollywood films.

37. D - At a dig, we use cameras, 7 tablets and laser scanners to digitally record the site and every find.

38. A - In my experience, I'd estimate some of the priceless art in museums may have been acquired under dubious circumstances, and some could actually be forgeries!

39. C - I think this is probably the result of the misguided assumptions that it leads nowhere career-wise.

40. D - Another intrinsic part of my work is to catalogue every item carefully in order to comply with local laws. It may sound tedious, but sometimes it is actually a welcome relief from digging.

TEST 4

Part 1. For questions 1-13, read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

THE PSYCHOLOGY IN HAPPINESS

- A. In the late 1990s, psychologist Martin Seligman of the University of Pennsylvania urged colleagues to observe optimal moods with the same kind of focus with which they had for so long studied illnesses: we would never learn about the full range of human functions unless we knew as much about mental wellness as we do about mental illness. A new generation of psychologists built up a respectable body of research on positive character traits and happiness-boosting practices. At the same time, developments in neuroscience provided new clues to what makes us happy and what that looks like in the brain. Self-appointed experts took advantage of the trend with guarantees to eliminate worry, stress, dejection and even boredom. This happiness movement has provoked a great deal of opposition among psychologists who observe that the preoccupation with happiness has come at the cost of sadness, an important feeling that people have tried to banish from their emotional repertoire. Allan Horwitz of Rutgers laments that young people who are naturally weepy after breakups are often urged to medicate themselves instead of working through their sadness. Wake Forest University's Eric Wilson fumes that the obsession with happiness amounts to a "craven disregard" for the melancholic perspective that has given rise to the greatest works of art. "The happy man" he writes, "is a hollow man."
- B. After all people are remarkably adaptable. Following a variable period of adjustment, we bounce back to our previous level of happiness, no matter what happens to us. (There are some scientifically proven exceptions, notably suffering the unexpected loss of a job or the loss of a spouse. Both events tend to permanently knock people back a step.) Our adaptability works in two directions. Because we are so adaptable, points out Professor Sonja Lyubomirsky of the University of California, we quickly get used to many of the accomplishments we strive for in life, such as landing the big job or getting married. Soon after we reach a milestone, we start to feel that something is missing. We begin coveting another worldly possession or eyeing a social advancement. But such an approach keeps us tethered to a treadmill where happiness is always just out of reach, one toy or one step away. It's possible to get off the treadmill entirely by focusing on activities that are dynamic surprising, and attention-absorbing, and thus less likely to bore us than, say, acquiring shiny new toys.
- C. Moreover, happiness is not a reward for escaping pain. Russ Harris, the author of *The Happiness Trap*, calls popular conceptions of happiness dangerous because they set people up for a "struggle against reality". They don't acknowledge that real life is full of disappointments, loss, and inconveniences. "If you're going to

live a rich and meaningful life,” Harris says, “you’re going to feel a full range of emotions.” Action toward goals other than happiness makes people happy. It is not crossing the finish line that is most rewarding, it is anticipating achieving the goal. University of Wisconsin neuroscientist Richard Davidson has found that working hard toward a goal, and making progress to the point of expecting a goal to be realised, not only activates positive feelings but also suppresses negative emotions such as fear and depression.

- D. We are constantly making decisions, ranging from what clothes to put on, to whom we should marry, not to mention all those flavors of ice cream. We base many of our decisions on whether we think a particular preference will increase our well-being. Intuitively, we seem convinced that the more choices we have, the better off we will ultimately be. But our world of unlimited opportunity imprisons us more than it makes us happy. In what Swarthmore psychologist Barry Schwartz calls “the paradox of choice,” facing many possibilities leaves us stressed out—and less satisfied with whatever we do decide. Having too many choices keeps us wondering about all the opportunities missed.
- E. Besides, not everyone can put on a happy face. Barbara Held, a professor of psychology at Bowdoin College, rails against “the tyranny of the positive attitude”. “Looking on the bright side isn’t possible for some people and is even counterproductive” she insists. “When you put pressure on people to cope in a way that doesn’t fit them, it not only doesn’t work, it makes them feel like a failure on top of already feeling bad.” The one-size-fits-all approach to managing emotional life is misguided, agrees Professor Julie Norem, author of *The Positive Power of Negative Thinking*. In her research, she has shown that the defensive pessimism that anxious people feel can be harnessed to help them get things done, which in turn makes them happier. A naturally pessimistic architect, for example, can set low expectations for an upcoming presentation and review all of the bad outcomes that she’s imagining, so that she can prepare carefully and increase her chances of success.
- F. By contrast, an individual who is not living according to their values, will not be happy, no matter how much they achieve. Some people, however, are not sure what their values are. In that case Harris has a great question: “Imagine I could wave a magic wand to ensure that you would have the approval and admiration of everyone on the planet, forever. What, in that case, would you choose to do with your life?” Once this has been answered honestly, you can start taking steps toward your ideal vision of yourself. The actual answer is unimportant, as long as you’re living consciously. The state of happiness is not really a state at all. It’s an ongoing personal experiment.

Questions 1-7

*Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage?
Choose*

TRUE *if the statement agrees with the information*

FALSE *if the statement contradicts the information*

NOT GIVEN *if there is no information on this*

Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

1. Martin Seligman suggested that a deeper insight into mental problems than mental wellness would equip humans with a thorough understanding of their entire functions.
2. Eric Wilson demonstrates a disregarding attitude towards happy men.
3. Human adaptability may render the acquisition of happiness an unattainable scenario.
4. Richard Davidson deems the hope of success as a means of overcoming unhappy feelings.
5. People have a distorted understanding that the wide variety of alternatives they are presented with in life would boost their level of happiness.
6. Barbara Held advises against taking a positive stance.
7. The example of an architect shows that pessimism can also become a contributory factor to success.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
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Questions 8-13

*Complete the summary below. Choose **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** from the passage for each answer. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.*

8. With a view to gaining an insight into the working process of people's mind, Martin Seligman held the view that research should consider our most positive _____ as thoroughly as it does our psychological issues.
9. There are some _____ to mankind's ability to recover after tragedies.
10. After arriving at a _____ in their lives, people become acquainted with their attainments and move their goalposts.
11. In a research, pessimism is _____ by people with great anxiety as a stimulus to strive for the target.

12. A _____ is thought to be more likely to deal with a presentation successfully.

13. Happiness is not stationery but an incessant _____ by oneself

8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
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Part 2. For questions 14-23, read an extract from an article and choose the answer A, B, C or D that fits best according to the text. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

A dancer's lot

All across London, they emerge from underground stations and buses; bags slung over their shoulders and taut stomachs beneath thick winter overcoats. Nobody recognises them, as they head for freezing upstairs rooms in tatty gymnasiums or slink into backstage theatre doors, even though they appear regularly in sold-out musicals and favourite television shows. They earn precious little, even those who perform live with famous singers, and have no real prospects, doing what they're doing, despite having hustled and sweated themselves to the heights of one of Britain's most demanding professions. But still they go, every morning, to their grim upstairs rooms in gyms and their backstreet, backstage doors, to dance.

Most have left behind worried parents in faraway towns and villages; made repeated promises to look after themselves and taken trains, in their late teenage years, for London. There's much to despise about the city, where talent and a reptilian grade of resilience, although prerequisites, provide no guarantee of success. Even auditions are becoming rare. Conscious of deadlines and financial constraints, choreographers call in talent from the blessed pool of their own chosen. If you aren't the right height, don't have the right face, hair or sartorial style, then don't expect a look in. Although choreographers occasionally seek out the beautiful, they're mostly instructed to hunt the bland: those least likely to outshine the stars. And, as many dancers will tell you, it's getting to the point where mediocrity is acceptable; there'll be someone over there out of sync, someone over there who can't hold her arm still.

And if they get a part, increasingly dancers are turning up for jobs where the choreographer just stands there and works them endlessly, fingers clicking: 'Again, again, again' As one dancer, Melanie Grace says, **'You dance for the love and the passion, and keep your mouth shut because you don't want to get a reputation.'** It's not always easy, though. You think the television shows provide changing rooms for dancers? Even the big budget ones have them disrobing in a corner of the canteen - and

the pay's lousy. But you have to ignore it, keep your head down. You're in London now. You're one of many, one of nothing. The sooner you accept that, the better you'll get on. Of the fleets of talented dancers who try, only a quarter make it, the rest simply can't process the ruthlessness – to dance in London is hard on the soul.

Yet most of the dancers have agents, who you might think would negotiate a better fee or conditions for their dancers, but no. You'll never meet a dancer who thinks their agent deserves their twenty percent cut of the fee. Mostly you'll just get a text or email notifying you of an audition and a single agent might have as many as two hundred dancers on their books. As Melanie says, 'It's catch-22, because you won't hear about the auditions without one.' Here's the job, take it or leave it, and if you leave it, they'll just hire someone straight out of college and pay them even less.

Oh, the annual churn of the colleges. The dancers hear it constantly, the sound of the machine in the distance, its ceaselessly grinding gears that, with every coming year, push out hundreds of new dancers, each one younger and hungrier and less jaded than you. And with every release of fresh limbs into the stew of the city, things get harder. The worst thing the kids can do is accept a job for no pay. They do it all the time. One website has become notorious for television and pop-video production companies scrounging for trained people to work for nothing but 'exposure' And if the youngsters are fresh out of dance school, despairing of their blank CV and craving the love of those ranks of sparkle-eyed strangers, they'll leap at the chance. It's the reason things are getting harder. How to describe the London dance scene today? The word Melanie chooses is 'savage'.

14. Which of the following adjectives best describe the profession of dancing?

- A. taxing but rewarding
- B. exacting and thankless
- C. soul-destroying and gut-wrenching
- D. unmistakable and strenuous

15. In delineating the job of dancing, the writer:

- A. compares their gains with the efforts dancers have to make
- B. belabours the point that dancers suffer in the name of 'noted artists'
- C. juxtaposes the lives of dancers with those of well-known singers
- D. elucidates the avenues open to dancers regarding their positions within the industry

16. According to the passage, which of the following is true about dancers?
- A. The majority of them hail from deprived backgrounds.
 - B. Fulfilling the requirements is not a bulwark against abortive attempts for them.
 - C. Usually, those who are nice-looking are given preference during recruitments.
 - D. They are expected to meet higher standards by choreographers.
17. It can be implied from the passage that:
- A. Auditions are becoming less popular as a result of worries about stars being overwhelmed.
 - B. The dancers who stand out from the crowd have a high chance of being recruited.
 - C. Financial burden inhibits choreographers to employ talents from their chosen ones.
 - D. A lower level of quality may soon be allowed within the industry of dancing.
18. The statement: **“You dance for the love and the passion, and keep your mouth shut because you don’t want to get a reputation.”** best underscores:
- A. the importance of remaining unrecognisable
 - B. the passion required in the profession
 - C. the need to be obedient
 - D. the destructive power of silence
19. From the passage, we can deduce that it is advisable for dancers to:
- A. accept the harsh realities and get the hang of surviving in the industry
 - B. abandon their expectations and never overlook the demerits of the job
 - C. be self-esteemed and bring the dismal side to light
 - D. insist that they have a specifically designated space to change clothes
20. It is suggested in the passage that agents:
- A. are willing to pay high prices to their dancers.
 - B. devote their time and energy to several dancers at a time.
 - C. are indispensable from their dancers’ perspectives.
 - D. are unconcerned whether dancers accept twenty percent cut of the fee.

21. The author makes use of the sound of the machine in order to underline:

- A. the attitudes of training institutions towards post-graduate dancers.
- B. the constant and abundant supply of new talent.
- C. the hostility of seniors within the profession of dancing.
- D. the exploitation of young talents for the sake of financial gains.

22. A reason given for the increasingly harder industry of dancing is that:

- A. Trained dancers are harnessed by online platforms to work without any gains but experience in the profession.
- B. Chances, although unrewarding, are seized by graduates who are blissfully ignorant of the harsh realities involved in the profession of dancing.
- C. Recent graduates are eager to grab any opportunity offered to them, regardless of how beneficial the chance is.
- D. Inexperience and a craving for attention drive college graduates to join the ranks of sparkle-eyed strangers.

23. In what sense can the word 'savage', used by Melanie to describe the London dance scene today, be understood?

- A. involving fierce criticism
- B. aggressive and violent
- C. mind-boggling and mysterious
- D. destructive and competitive

Your answers

14.		15.	16.	17.	18.
19.		20.	21.	22.	23.

Part 3. You are going to read a magazine article. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the article. Choose from the paragraphs A - H the one which fits each gap (24 - 30). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

SOCIAL CHANGE DOWN IN BLACK AND WHITE

We are increasingly being led to believe that advances in communications technology have brought us to the threshold of the paperless society, one in which the book may be

seen as a museum piece. However, for many of us, our progress down this path may involve much dragging of heels..

24.

As soon as people discovered the secrets of paper-making, the communication of ideas and values really took off in an unprecedented way. Scientific theories could be explained to a wider audience, knowledge could be more readily accumulated by scholars, and literature, which had relied on oral tradition, gained a new lease of life in an ever-expanding role.

25.

Within a thousand years, China well outstripped Europe in wealth. This was not only achieved through paper-making, but also by virtue of other Chinese scientific achievements like gunpowder and developments in astronomy and navigation, which helped the Chinese become the leading military and trading power.

26.

Such was the importance of paper to the wealth and power of the Chinese emperors that they were determined to keep the process of paper-making a closely guarded secret. But, as with other profitable knowledge, it was just a matter of time before the secret became known, and other countries were then empowered to flourish through the spread of knowledge and ideas that paper could facilitate.

27.

The principles of printing had, in fact, been known in China for several hundred years before the European 'invention' of printing. The Chinese had been working with clay, but found that this wore down, so printers constantly had to make new type. From there, they went on to wooden type. In fact, they did proceed to metal type, but were at a

disadvantage, due to the complexity of their language, which required many different types for the characters.

28.	
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It did not take long for this invention to catch on as the modern means to spread knowledge and ideas. By the end of the fifteenth century there were sixty paper mills in Germany to satisfy the demands of the printing presses and printing had been introduced to other European countries.

29.	
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As a result, books and knowledge were more accessible to the less well off and, accordingly, the importance of literacy was more widely recognised. This became the impetus for a virtuous cycle: with the availability of cheaper books, education and literacy grew, and with the increase in the literate population there was a further rise in the demand for books.

30.	
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None of the social or intellectual revolutions of the past few hundred years would have taken place with such rapid success had it not been for paper. Likewise, paper and cheap printed material are responsible for the increasing growth of education and the ascendancy of democratic principles. It is therefore no exaggeration to state that paper has played a major role in shaping the modern world.

A. No sooner did this cultural advantage find its way into western hands than its exploitation began to be realised. The first paper mill in Germany was set up towards the end of the fourteenth century, and it didn't take long for the church to appreciate the potential role of paper in the expansion of its activities and teaching. From producing paper, it didn't take long for Europeans to make the next great leap that would open the floodgates to advances in civilisation.

B. The next consequence was the use of paper and printing to fuel revolution and social upheaval. The availability of cheap printing technology enabled the Protestant

Reformation to take off, with the publication of hundreds of thousands of copies of Martin Luther's writings. Recognising the power of the printed word, the Catholic church resorted to desperate retaliatory action by attacking booksellers and destroying works that they did not approve of.

C. This should come as no surprise. After all, we have had over a thousand years to form a strong emotional attachment to paper, which has, along with writing and printing, comprised the basis for the development and progress of society.

D. It was not long afterwards that William Caxton, an English merchant, retired from his business and went to Germany to learn about printing. He took part in producing the first book to be printed in English, which was printed on a Flemish press, and he went on, in 1477, to publish the first book printed in England.

E. However, such inventions and discoveries can not, in themselves, account for the phenomenal growth of Chinese power and influence. Credit for this progress must go to those tools at the disposal of the Chinese which enabled them to exploit their discoveries and build on them: writing paper and another Chinese invention, block printing.

F. The massive surge in the production of books which followed as a result of the change from writing books by hand to printing them enabled Europe to overtake China as the most advanced civilisation. Knowledge which had previously been in the hands of the church, rulers and a handful of scholars soon became more widely available.

G. At the forefront of this great step towards civilisation were the Chinese. Around 105 AD, they invented paper and, from the time of that crucial achievement, their civilisation developed in leaps and bounds. With the secret of paper-making in their hands, the Chinese soon had the most advanced civilisation and China enjoyed hundreds of years of prosperity.

H. This lost knowledge was not only rediscovered when Johannes Gutenberg invented the type mould in the middle of the fifteenth century, but vastly improved upon. His press used metal type, and was not only a revolutionary invention, but was also one of the earliest precision instruments. The letters were of a uniform shape and size and could be locked together in neat, even lines of text. It was a fairly straightforward matter to set up and print a few pages then rearrange the type and use it again for other pages.

Part 4. The passage below consists of five paragraphs marked A-E. Read the passage and do the task that follows. Write your answers (A-E) in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

A. Manchester

We kick off with Manchester. Despite a severely depleted squad, with much of the first team hit by a mysterious ailment midweek, manager, Noel Harriot, remains upbeat about his team's prospects this weekend and has appealed for his squad players to stand up to and be counted, and to grasp the opportunity by seizing the moment and cementing their first-team place. However, in Doncaster, they will go up against a side undefeated in twenty-eight games, which is a record run for the club, and this will undoubtedly represent their stiffest challenge to date. Harriot, though, is hopeful that new star signing, Gregor Dmitri, can inspire his side to defy the odds and emerge victorious in Sunday's midday kick-off. While the title appears to be out of reach for Manchester now, a string of good results could yet see them finish in the coveted top four spots, but they are clearly up against this.

B. Doncaster

And now to their opponents on Sunday, Doncaster will hope to continue building on the momentum of a string of successive victories, which sees them flying high at the top of the table. Their coach, Yale Edwards, is understandably in confident mood ahead of Sunday's match-up; however, in Manchester, they face a team known for their resilience and battling qualities, as evidenced last year, so a win is not as simple as it may seem on paper. The victory, though, put them nearly out of reach of their rivals and a step closer to the title. Indeed, they are now odds-on to claim the crown for a second successive season with most bookmakers. Their pragmatic style of play may not have won them many fans without the club, but the club faithful remain united and steadfast in their support, and so long as the unprecedented success continues, this is unlikely to change. It is, after all, not how but how many that counts at the end of the day.

C. Liverpool

Liverpool must tear up the formbook if they are to come away from Saturday's clash with Brighton with more than a draw. Considering last year's notoriously leaky defence, their record in that department is incredibly impressive this season. However, their problems now are in front of goal. They are playing the kind of a football that has fans salivating at times, but they simply cannot convert their chances. Indeed, this no doubt explains why manager, Alain Jerome, is coming under increasing pressure. There have long been rumours of boardroom dissatisfaction with the team's results, but as long as Jerome had the backing of supporters, his position was considered safe. There are growing signs, however, that they are losing faith in him and this will only add to the pressure this weekend to get a result. This season has for Jerome, sadly, been a case of style over substance so far. Can their swashbuckling approach finally pay dividends?

D. Brighton

Midseason, Brighton were top of the list of team analysts thought likely to be in the relegation fight, facing demotion. They have defied the odds and their position in the league is already secure with five games to go. This must surely be a weight off manager Landon Grieg's shoulders. The commotion of the early season has died down now and fans are no longer calling for his head. In this fickle game that is football, Grieg has somehow managed to win them over. The secret to Brighton's success doesn't lie in their defensive resilience or attacking prowess, though. They are average at best in all departments. However, Grieg has somehow galvanized his squad of mediocre players and transformed them into something far more than the sum of their parts. Anything less than a draw on Saturday against Liverpool would be a disappointment; that is how far they have come. It has been a turnaround not without trials, tribulations and setbacks, but it has been one, nonetheless, of epic proportions.

E. Leicester

Leicester have had a season beset by misfortune, with the squad ravaged by injury for much of the first half, which stifled any momentum they could have hoped to build. They are now, as a result, in a battle for their lives, where every game or every point won or lost could mean the difference between survival and being cast off into the abyss of the lower leagues. Manager, Thomas Waylander, cut a despondent figure at the press conference earlier today, admitting that the odds are stacked up against them now (which, incidentally, is quite remarkable considering they were many experts' pre-season pick as title favourites and have been serious contenders in each of the last two seasons). However, he did see one dim ray of light at the end of this long and very dark tunnel; suggesting that, with the squad more or less returned to full fitness, if they could claim an unlikely victory on Saturday against Northampton, then that could be the momentum-builder to spur them on to a miraculous escape.

According to the analyst, which team

31. has the performance that exceeds expectations?
32. has already shown great resilience this season?
33. has played exciting football but not got the deserving results?
34. prioritizes victory over stylish playing?
35. manager looks on the bright side regarding formidable obstacles they face for the rest of the season?
36. is in pressing need of decent results to hope for a magical survive?

FANPAGE TÀI LIỆU TIẾNG ANH NÂNG CAO

37. manager has seen a shift to more approving attitude of fans towards him?

38. lacks the presence of some important first-time players?

39. managers wants certain players to utilize their good fortune?

40. does not appeal to neutral fans?

Your answers

31.	32.	33.	34.	35.
36.	37.	38.	39.	40.

Key and explanations:

Part 1.

1. False (In the late 1990s, psychologist Martin Seligman of the University of Pennsylvania urged colleagues to observe optimal moods with the same kind of focus with which they had for so long studied illnesses: we would never learn about the full range of human functions unless we knew as much about mental wellness as we do about mental illness)
 2. Not given (Wake Forest University's Eric Wilson fumes that the obsession with happiness amounts to a "craven disregard" for the melancholic perspective that has given rise to the greatest works of art. "The happy man" he writes, "is a hollow man.")
 3. True (But such an approach keeps us tethered to a treadmill where happiness is always just out of reach, one toy or one step away.)
 4. True (University of Wisconsin neuroscientist Richard Davidson has found that working hard toward a goal, and making progress to the point of expecting a goal to be realised, not only activates positive feelings but also suppresses negative emotions such as fear and depression.)
 5. True (We base many of our decisions on whether we think a particular preference will increase our well-being. Intuitively, we seem convinced that the more choices we have, the better off we will ultimately be. But our world of unlimited opportunity imprisons us more than it makes us happy)
 6. Not given (Barbara Held, a professor of psychology at Bowdoin College, rails against "the tyranny of the positive attitude". "Looking on the bright side isn't possible for some people and is even counterproductive" she insists. "When you put pressure on people to cope in a way that doesn't fit them, it not only doesn't work, it makes them feel like a failure on top of already feeling bad)
- Barbara Held chỉ cho rằng không phải ai cũng có thể nhìn sự việc theo hướng tích cực chứ không đưa ra quan điểm có nên nhìn sự việc theo hướng tích cực hay không.
7. True (A naturally pessimistic architect, for example, can set low expectations for an upcoming presentation and review all of the bad outcomes that she's imagining, so that she can prepare carefully and increase her chances of success.)
 8. moods (In the late 1990s, psychologist Martin Seligman of the University of Pennsylvania urged colleagues to observe optimal moods with the same kind of focus with which they had for so long studied illnesses)

9. (scientifically proven) exceptions (There are some scientifically proven exceptions, notably suffering the unexpected loss of a job or the loss of a spouse. Both events tend to permanently knock people back a step)

10. milestone (Soon after we reach a milestone, we start to feel that something is missing)

11. harnessed (In her research, she has shown that the defensive pessimism that anxious people feel can be harnessed to help them get things done, which in turn makes them happier.)

12. naturally pessimistic architect (A naturally pessimistic architect, for example, can set low expectations for an upcoming presentation and review all of the bad outcomes that she's imagining, so that she can prepare carefully and increase her chances of success.)

13. experiment (The state of happiness is not really a state at all. It's an ongoing personal experiment.)

Part 2.

14. B. Để tìm được những tính từ miêu tả nghề múa một cách tốt nhất, ta có thể đọc từ toàn bài hoặc dựa trên thông tin từ đoạn 1. Từ “exacting” đồng nghĩa với “demanding”, chỉ công việc khó nhọc, đòi hỏi sức lực hoặc/và trí lực tốt. Sự đòi hỏi khắt khe này được bộc lộ trực tiếp ở câu gần cuối đoạn 1, cụ thể là ở phần thông tin: “... and sweated themselves to the heights of one of Britain's most demanding professions.” (vất kiệt sức, một trong những người đòi hỏi nhất). Từ “thankless” chỉ một công việc không mang lại lợi ích, kết quả tốt đẹp cho người thực hiện công việc đó. Đặc điểm này được thể hiện trực tiếp qua phần thông tin ở câu gần cuối đoạn 1: “They earn precious little, even those who perform live with famous singers, and have no real prospects, doing what they're doing,...” (kiếm được ít tiền, không có nhiều triển vọng trong nghề, kể cả những người trình diễn với các ca sĩ nổi tiếng). Qua hai thông tin này, chúng ta có thể chọn được phương án B. Phương án A có từ “taxing” đồng nghĩa với demanding là tính từ phản ánh đúng nghề múa, tuy nhiên từ “rewarding” nghĩa là mang lại lợi ích lại không phản ánh đúng (xem giải thích từ “thankless” ở phương án B). Phương án C có từ “soul-destroying” chỉ một công việc vô cùng nhàm chán vì lặp đi lặp lại, không có tiến triển gì, và từ “gut-wrenching” chỉ một công việc không dễ chịu, gây buồn bực. Hai tính từ này ít nhiều có liên quan đến nghề múa (công việc lặp đi lặp lại, không dễ chịu), tuy nhiên đặc điểm nhàm chán và gây buồn bực không được thể hiện ở trong bài nên phương án này không hợp lí bằng phương án B. Phương án D có từ “unmistakable” chỉ điều gì đó không nhầm lẫn được, tuy nhiên bài đọc không khắc họa đặc điểm này nên phương án D không chính xác.

15. A. Để trả lời được câu hỏi này, chúng ta tập trung tìm thông tin ở đoạn 1. Có thể thấy tác giả đã so sánh giữa những gì diễn viên múa có được và những nỗ lực họ phải bỏ ra

trong công việc ở đoạn 1: “... even though they appear regularly in sold-out musicals and favourite television shows. They earn precious little, even those who perform live with famous singers, and have no real prospects, doing what they’re doing, despite having hustled and sweated themselves to the heights of one of Britain’s most demanding professions...” Những diễn viên múa này phải bỏ thời gian, công sức, năng lượng của họ (sweat themselves ...), nhưng những gì họ nhận được chỉ là thù lao ít ỏi (earn precious little), hiếm có cơ hội được thăng tiến, phát triển (no real prospects), dù họ cũng được xuất hiện trong những buổi biểu diễn ca nhạc “cháy vé” và những chương trình truyền hình được yêu thích. Từ đó ta chọn được phương án A là phương án hợp lí. Phương án B nghĩa là nhắc lại luận điểm rằng diễn viên múa phải chịu đựng danh hiệu “nghệ sĩ nổi tiếng”, mà thông tin này không được đề cập trong bài nên đây không phải phương án chính xác. Phương án C nghĩa là đặt cuộc sống của diễn viên múa trong mối tương quan so sánh với cuộc sống của những ca sĩ nổi tiếng. Thoạt nhìn, dựa vào thông tin “They earn precious little, even those who perform live with famous singers”, phương án C có vẻ là phương án hợp lí. Tuy nhiên, thông tin này chỉ nói đến thù lao ít ỏi của diễn viên múa, không nhắc gì đến cuộc sống của họ hay cuộc sống của những ca sĩ nổi tiếng. Phương án D nghĩa là làm sáng tỏ những lựa chọn mở ra cho diễn viên múa khi nói đến vị trí của họ trong ngành, tuy nhiên thông tin này không có trong bài (thậm chí những lựa chọn đó thật ra khá ít ỏi, vì diễn viên múa “have no real prospects”).

16. B. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở câu 2 đoạn 2: “... where talent and a reptilian grade of resilience, although prerequisites, provide no guarantee of success.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra được rằng những yêu cầu cần thiết (prerequisites) như tài năng (talent) và sức chịu đựng (resilience) không chắc đã mang lại thành công (provide no guarantee of success). Nội dung này khớp với nội dung phương án B: “Đạt đủ những yêu cầu cũng không phải là lá chắn bảo vệ diễn viên múa khỏi những lần thất bại.” (a bulwark against something là lá chắn (người, vật) ngăn chặn điều gì/ai đó, abortive đồng nghĩa với unsuccessful). Từ đó ta chọn được phương án B. Phương án A nghĩa là đa số các diễn viên múa xuất thân từ gia đình khó khăn, tuy nhiên thông tin này không được đề cập trong bài dù ở đầu đoạn 2, tác giả có nhắc đến xuất thân của họ: “Most have left behind worried parents in faraway towns and villages” (chú ý thông tin này chỉ nói rằng các diễn viên múa từ nơi xa đến Luân Đôn, không phản ánh được điều gì về gia cảnh của họ). Phương án C nghĩa là thông thường, những diễn viên múa có ngoại hình ưa nhìn sẽ được ưu ái hơn trong tuyển chọn. Thông tin này không chính xác vì ở đoạn 2, tác giả viết: “Although choreographers occasionally seek out the beautiful...” tức là các biên đạo múa thì thông thường mới tìm người ưa nhìn. Ở đoạn 2 có thông tin “If you aren’t the right height, don’t have the right face, hair or sartorial style, then don’t expect a look in.” có thể gây nhầm lẫn rằng C là phương án đúng. Tuy nhiên ta cần phải chú ý thông tin này cho thấy biên đạo múa tuyển người đáp ứng đúng những gì họ cần tìm kiếm, không phản ánh được họ có ưu ái người có ngoại hình đẹp hay không. Phương án D nghĩa là các diễn viên múa

được kì vọng sẽ đạt được những tiêu chuẩn cao hơn của biên đạo múa, tuy nhiên thông tin này không được đề cập trong bài đọc nên phương án D cũng không chính xác.

17. D. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở câu cuối đoạn 2: “And, as many dancers will tell you, it’s getting to the point where mediocrity is acceptable, there’ll be someone over there out of sync, someone over there who can’t hold her arm still.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra được rằng sự tầm thường, không nổi bật (mediocrity) có lẽ sắp sửa (it’s getting to the point) được chấp nhận (acceptable) trong nghề múa. Từ đó ta chọn được phương án D. Phương án A thoạt nhìn có vẻ đúng vì trong bài có cả hai thông tin auditions are becoming less popular (“Even auditions are becoming rare.”) và worries about stars being overwhelmed (they’re most likely instructed to hunt the bland: those least likely to outshine the stars.) Tuy nhiên hai thông tin này không có mối quan hệ nguyên nhân – kết quả (điều làm cho các buổi diễn thử trở nên hiếm hoi hơn là do các biên đạo múa nhận thức được về hạn chót cũng như cản trở về mặt tài chính) nên phương án A không hợp lí. Phương án B không chính xác vì mâu thuẫn với thông tin: “they’re most instructed to hunt the bland: those least likely to outshine the stars” vì ý của thông tin này là các biên đạo múa thường chọn những người mờ nhạt để họ không tỏa sáng hơn cả các “ngôi sao” trên sân khấu. Phương án C không chính xác vì mâu thuẫn với thông tin: “Conscious of deadlines and financial constraints, choreographers call in talent from the blessed pool of their own chosen.” Thông tin này có ý là các biên đạo múa vì cản trở về tài chính nên họ chọn những người đã được “ngắm”, được họ để ý tới trước đó.

18. C. Để chọn được phương án C cho câu hỏi này, ta cần phải căn cứ vào ngữ cảnh của câu được trích dẫn. Câu này là của Melanie Grace nói, trong mạch văn của tác giả về việc diễn viên múa phải nghe theo biên đạo múa: “turning up for the jobs where the choreographer just stands there and works them endlessly, fingers clicking: ‘Again, again, again.’” Từ thông tin này cho thấy câu nói của Melanie Grace được trích dẫn để minh chứng cho sự quan trọng của việc nghe lời, tuân theo những gì biên đạo múa chỉ dẫn mà không hề oán thán, phàn nàn (vì thế mà đoạn sau có những thông tin như “It’s not always easy, though.” Và các thông tin miêu tả sự khắc nghiệt của nghề múa). Từ đó ta chọn phương án C. Các phương án còn lại không hợp lí vì không hợp ngữ cảnh/mạch văn.

19. A. Để chọn được phương án A, ta có thể lấy thông tin tập trung ở đoạn 3, kết hợp với các dữ kiện khác trong bài. Ở đoạn 3, tác giả viết: “You think the television shows provide changing rooms? For dancers? Even the big budget ones have them disrobing in a corner of the canteen – and the pay’s lousy. But you have to ignore it, keep your head down. You’re in London now. You’re one of many; one of nothing. The sooner you accept that, the better you’ll get on. Of the fleets of talented dancers who try, only a quarter make it, the rest simply can’t process the ruthlessness – to dance in London is hard on the soul.” Từ đoạn thông tin này, có thể thấy lời khuyên được đưa ra là phải

chấp nhận thực tế khắc nghiệt (accept the harsh realities – “the sooner you accept that”) và học cách sinh tồn trong ngành nghề này (get the hang of surviving – “the better you’ll get on”). Những thực tế khắc nghiệt hiện lên rất rõ ràng: “disrobing in a corner of the canteen”, “pay’s lousy”, “one of many; one of nothing”, “the ruthlessness”, “hard on the soul”,... Việc học cách sinh tồn cũng được tác giả thể hiện qua các câu như “you have to ignore it”, “keep your head down”. Từ đó ta suy ra phương án A là phương án chính xác. Phương án B đúng ở về abandon their expectations (tác giả cũng có nêu ra một vài kỳ vọng và chỉ ra những kỳ vọng đó sẽ không được đáp ứng như “television shows provide changing rooms” (đoạn 3) hay “most of the dancers have agents, who you might think would negotiate a better fee or conditions for their dancers” (đoạn 4)), tuy nhiên lại sai ở về never overlook the demerits of the job (dựa vào thông tin “you have to ignore it”). Phương án C không chính xác vì các diễn viên múa không được khuyên là đưa những điều chưa tốt ra ánh sáng (thậm chí được khuyên làm ngược lại trong câu của Melanie Grace: “keep your mouth shut”). Phương án D không chính xác vì các diễn viên múa được khuyên là không nên để tâm chuyện không có nơi dành riêng cho việc thay đổi trang phục (“But you have to ignore it, keep your head down.”)

20. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở hai câu cuối của đoạn 4: “As Melanie says, ‘It’s catch-22, because you won’t hear about the auditions without one.’ Here’s the job, take it or leave it, and if you leave it, they’ll just hire someone straight out of college and pay them even less.” Ở đây ta cần chú ý cụm “catch-22” chỉ một tình huống đặc biệt mà các yếu tố phụ thuộc lẫn nhau dẫn đến sự khó khăn trong hành động, thí dụ như khi đi xin việc, ứng viên được yêu cầu có kinh nghiệm làm việc, nhưng muốn có kinh nghiệm làm việc thì ứng viên phải xin được và làm việc trước đó rồi (giả sử ứng viên chưa tham gia công việc nào trước đó). Trong ngữ cảnh này, tình huống khó khăn đó chính là các diễn viên múa sẽ không biết về buổi diễn thử nếu không có buổi nào cho họ, nhưng muốn có thì phải nghe được về buổi diễn thử (và ứng tuyển chẳng hạn). Từ đó ta suy ra vai trò của những người quản lý các diễn viên múa là tìm và thông báo cho họ về các buổi diễn thử, nên ta thấy được sự quan trọng, không thể thiếu của những người này và chọn được C là phương án đúng. Ta cũng có thể suy ra phương án C bằng phương pháp loại trừ. Phương án A không hợp lí vì ở câu đầu đoạn 4, tác giả viết: “Yet most of the dancers have agents, who you might think would negotiate a better fee or conditions for their dancers, but no.”, tức là những người quản lý này sẽ không thỏa thuận để trả giá cao hơn cho diễn viên múa. Phương án B không hợp lí vì tác giả viết: “... and a single agent might have as many as two hundred dancers on their books.”, nghĩa là một người quản lý có thể có đến hai trăm lịch hẹn, và thông tin devote their time and energy cũng không được đề cập (nếu đi sâu hơn thì từ những dữ kiện trong bài như “never ... deserves their twenty percent cut of the fee”, “... but no”, “... just hire someone straight out of college and pay them even less” có thể thấy những người quản lý thực sự không mặn mà và dành thời gian công sức cho các diễn viên của họ). Phương án D không hợp lí vì không có thông tin

trong bài nói khớp với nội dung phương án này (dù trong bài có đoạn “You’ll never meet a dancer who thinks their agent deserves their twenty cut of the fee” nhưng đoạn này thể hiện thái độ của các diễn viên múa chứ không đề cập hay ngụ ý gì về thái độ của người quản lý).

21. B. Để trả lời được câu hỏi này, ta cần đặt âm thanh của máy móc vào trong ngữ cảnh. Âm thanh đó xuất hiện ở đoạn 5, câu thứ 2: “The dancers hear it constantly, the sound of the machine in the distance, its ceaselessly grinding gears that, with every coming year, push out hundreds of new dancers, each one younger and hungrier and less jaded than you.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra âm thanh tiếng máy móc là cách nói ẩn ý ám chỉ việc các trung tâm giáo dục, trường đại học (liên hệ với the colleges ở câu trước) “cho ra lò” những sinh viên mới tốt nghiệp, trở thành nguồn nhân lực có tài năng bổ sung cho ngành nghề múa. Từ đó ta chọn được phương án B là phương án chính xác. Phương án A và C đều không hợp ngữ cảnh và mạch văn, còn phương án D dễ gây nhầm lẫn hơn (do có những từ như ceaselessly grinding gears) nhưng đặt vào trong văn cảnh, với các dữ kiện ở đằng sau và câu trước, ta có thể suy ra việc bóc lột những tài năng trẻ không phải nội dung phù hợp ở đây.

22. C. Dẫn chứng để trả lời cho câu hỏi này nằm ở đoạn 5: “One website has become notorious for television and pop-video production companies scrounging for trained people to work for nothing but ‘exposure’ And if the youngsters are fresh out of dance school, despairing of their blank CV and craving the love of those ranks of sparkle-eyed strangers, they’ll leap at the chance. It’s the reason things are getting harder.” Từ đoạn thông tin này có thể suy ra rằng những sinh viên mới tốt nghiệp (fresh out of dance school), chán nản, thất vọng vì CV trống trơn (despairing of their blank CV), khao khát sự yêu thương, chú ý từ những người lạ (craving the love of ... strangers) sẽ nắm lấy cơ hội ngay lập tức (leap at the chance). Cơ hội ở đây hiểu là cơ hội được làm việc, và là làm việc không công chỉ để lấy kinh nghiệm (work for nothing but ‘exposure’). Nội dung này khớp với nội dung của phương án C (Sinh viên mới tốt nghiệp hăm hở nắm bắt những cơ hội, không quan tâm lợi ích đến đâu). Phương án A không hợp lí vì thông tin “harness” không được đề cập (và nếu có thì người “harness” là các công ty chứ không phải các nền tảng trực tuyến). Phương án B không hợp lí vì thông tin “blissfully ignorant of the harsh realities” không được đề cập (dù phương án này thoát đầu có vẻ là phương án chính xác). Phương án D không hợp lí vì mong muốn có được sự chú ý và sự thiếu kinh nghiệm thúc đẩy sinh viên tốt nghiệp đi làm, chứ không phải trở thành một “sparkle-eyed stranger”.

23. D. Thông thường, từ savage nghĩa là hung dữ, hung hăng, gay gắt (phê phán, chỉ trích), gây thương tổn lớn. Tuy nhiên trong văn cảnh này, ta không nên hiểu theo nghĩa hung dữ, gay gắt mà nên hiểu theo nghĩa gây thương tổn, gây hại. Qua toàn bộ bài đọc, nghề múa ở Luân Đôn hiện lên ảm đạm với sự tàn phá, vắt kiệt sức lực con người (đoạn 1, xem lại câu hỏi 1) trong khi thù lao hoặc những điều đạt được không nhiều, ít ỏi (đoạn

1, xem lại câu hỏi 1) và ngày càng cạnh tranh khốc liệt hơn (đoạn 4, 5, xem lại câu hỏi 8, 9). Qua đó, ta hiểu “savage” ở đây theo nghĩa có sức tàn phá lên con người (destructive) và cạnh tranh gắt gao (competitive) là hợp lí nhất.

Part 3.

24. C

However, for many of us, **our progress down this path may involve much dragging of heels...** This should come as no surprise.

25. G

With the secret of paper-making in their hands, **the Chinese soon had the most advanced civilisation and China enjoyed hundreds of years of prosperity...** Within a thousand years, **China well outstripped Europe in wealth.**

26. E

This was not only achieved through paper-making, but also by virtue of **other Chinese scientific achievements like gunpowder and developments in astronomy and navigation**, which helped the Chinese become the leading military and trading power... However, **such inventions and discoveries** can not, in themselves, account for the phenomenal growth of Chinese power and influence.

27. A

Such was the importance of paper to the wealth and power of the Chinese emperors that they were determined to **keep the process of paper-making a closely guarded secret.** But, as with other profitable knowledge, **it was just a matter of time before the secret became known**, and **other countries** were then empowered to flourish through the spread of knowledge and ideas that paper could facilitate... No sooner did **this cultural advantage find its way into western hands** than its exploitation began to be realised.

28. H

In fact, **they did proceed to metal type, but were at a disadvantage**, due to the complexity of their language, which required many different types for the characters... **This lost knowledge** was not only rediscovered when Johannes Gutenberg **invented the type mould** in the middle of the fifteenth century, but vastly improved upon. **His press used metal type**, and was not only a revolutionary invention, but was also one of the earliest precision instruments.

29. F

Knowledge which had previously been in the hands of the church, rulers and a handful of scholars soon **became more widely available**... As a result, books and knowledge were more **accessible to the less well off** and, accordingly, the importance of literacy was more widely recognised.

30. B

The next consequence was the use of paper and printing to **fuel revolution and social upheaval**... None of the **social or intellectual revolutions** of the past few hundred years would have taken place with such rapid success had it not been for paper

Part 4.

31. D

... transformed them into something far more than the sum of their parts.

32. D

It has been a turnaround not without trials, tribulations and setbacks, but it has been one, nonetheless, of epic proportions.

33. C

This season has for Jerome, sadly, been a case of style over substance so far.

34. B

Their pragmatic style of play may not have won them many fans without the club, but the club faithful remain united and steadfast in their support, and so long as the unprecedented success continues, this is unlikely to change. It is, after all, not how but how many that counts at the end of the day.

35. E

Manager, Thomas Waylander, cut a despondent figure at the press conference earlier today, admitting that the odds are stacked up against them now.

36. E

However, he did see one dim ray of light at the end of this long and very dark tunnel; suggesting that, with the squad more or less returned to full fitness, if they could claim an unlikely victory on Saturday against Northampton, then that could be the momentum-builder to spur them on to a miraculous escape.

37. D

The commotion of the early season has died down now and fans are no longer calling for his head. In this fickle game that is football, Grieg has somehow managed to win them over.

38. A

Despite a severely depleted squad, with much of the first team hit by a mysterious ailment midweek, manager, Noel Harriot, remains upbeat about his team's prospects this weekend and has appealed for his squad players to stand up to and be counted, and to grasp the opportunity by seizing the moment and cementing their first-team place.

39. A

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TEST 5

Part 1. For questions 1-13, read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

Love stories

“Love stories” are often associated – at least in the popular imagination – with fairy tales, adolescent day dreams, Disney movies and other frivolous pastimes. For psychologists developing taxonomies² of affection and attachment, however, this is an area of rigorous academic pursuit. Beginning in the early 1970s with the groundbreaking contributions of John Alan Lee, researchers have developed classifications that they believe better characterise our romantic predispositions. This involves examining not a single, universal, emotional expression (“love”), but rather a series of divergent behaviours and narratives that each has an individualised purpose, desired outcome and state of mind. Lee’s gritty methodology painstakingly involved participants matching 170 typical romantic encounters (e.g., “The night after I met X...”) with nearly 1500 possible reactions (“I could hardly get to sleep” or “I wrote X a letter”). The patterns unknowingly expressed by respondents culminated in a taxonomy of six distinct love “styles” that continue to inform research in the area forty years later.

The first of these styles – *eros* – is closely tied in with images of romantic love that are promulgated in Western popular culture. Characteristic of this style is a passionate emotional intensity, a strong physical magnetism – as if the two partners were literally being “pulled” together – and a sense of inevitability about the relationship. A related but more frantic style of love called *mania* involves an obsessive, compulsive attitude toward one’s partner. Vast swings in mood from ecstasy to agony – dependent on the level of attention a person is receiving from his or her partner – are typical of manic love.

Two styles were much more subdued, however. *Storge* is a quiet, companionate type of loving – “love by evolution” rather than “love by revolution”, according to some theorists. Relationships built on a foundation of platonic affection and caring are archetypal of *storge*. When care is extended to a sacrificial level of dotting, however, it becomes another style – *agape*. In an *agape* relationship one partner becomes a “caretaker”, exalting the welfare of the other above his or her own needs.

The final two styles of love seem to lack aspects of emotion and reciprocity altogether. The *ludus* style envisions relationships primarily as a game in which it is best to “play the field” or experience a diverse set of partners over time. Mutually-gratifying outcomes in relationships are not considered necessary, and deception of a partner and lack of disclosure about one’s activities are also typical. While Lee found that college students in his study overwhelmingly disagreed with the tenets of this style, substantial numbers of them acted in a typically ludic style while dating, a finding that proves correct the deceit

inherent in *ludus*. *Pragma* lovers also downplayed emotive aspects of relationships but favoured practical, sensible connections. Successful arranged marriages are a great example of *pragma*, in that the couple decides to make the relationship work; but anyone who seeks an ideal partner with a shopping list of necessary attributes (high salary, same religion, etc.) fits the classification.

Robert J. Sternberg's contemporary research on love stories has elaborated on how these narratives determine the shape of our relationships and our lives. Sternberg and others have proposed and tested the theory of love as a story, "whereby the interaction of our personal attributes with the environment – which we in part create – leads to the development of stories about love that we then seek to fulfil, to the extent possible, in our lives." Sternberg's taxonomy of love stories numbers far more, at twenty-six, than Lee's taxonomy of love styles, but as Sternberg himself admits there is plenty of overlap. The seventh story, *Game*, coincides with *ludus*, for example, while the nineteenth story, *Sacrifice*, fits neatly on top of *agape*.

Sternberg's research demonstrates that we may have predilections toward multiple love stories, each represented in a mental hierarchy and varying in weight in terms of their personal significance. This explains the frustration many of us experience when comparing potential partners. One person often fulfils some expected narratives – such as a need for mystery and fantasy – while lacking the ability to meet the demands of others (which may lie in direct contradiction). It is also the case that stories have varying abilities to adapt to a given cultural milieu and its respective demands. Love stories are, therefore, interactive and adaptive phenomena in our lives rather than rigid prescriptions.

Steinberg also explores how our love stories interact with the love stories of our partners. What happens when someone who sees love as art collides with someone who sees love as a business? Can a *Sewing* story (love is what you make it) co-exist with a *Theatre* story (love is a script with predictable acts, scenes and lines)? Certainly, it is clear that we look for partners with love stories that complement and are compatible with our own narratives. But they do not have to be an identical match. Someone who sees love as mystery and art, for example, might locate that mystery better in a partner who views love through a lens of business and humour. Not all love stories, however, are equally well predisposed to relationship longevity; stories that view love as a game, as a kind of surveillance or as addiction are all unlikely to prove durable.

Research on love stories continues apace. Defying the myth that rigorous science and the romantic persuasions of ordinary people are incompatible, this research demonstrates that good psychology can clarify and comment on the way we give affection and form attachments.

Questions 27-34

FANPAGE TÀI LIỆU TIẾNG ANH NÂNG CAO

Look at the following statements and the list of styles in the box below.

Match each statement with the correct term, **A–F**.

Write the correct letter, A–F, in the boxes provided.

NB *You may use any letter more than once.*

1. My most important concern is that my partner is happy.
2. I enjoy having many romantic partners.
3. I feel that my partner and I were always going to end up together.
4. I want to be friends first and then let romance develop later.
5. I always feel either very excited or absolutely miserable about my relationship.
6. I prefer to keep many aspects of my love life to myself.
7. When I am in love, that is all I can think about.
8. I know before I meet someone what qualities I need in a partner.

List of Love Styles

- A Eros
- B Mania
- C Storge
- D Agape
- E Ludus
- F Pragma

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
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Questions 9-13

Do the following statements agree with the claims of the writer in the reading passage ?

In boxes 9-13, write

YES if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer

NO if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer

NOT GIVEN if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

9. Some of our love stories are more important to us than others.
10. Our love stories can change to meet the needs of particular social environments.
11. We look for romantic partners with a love story just like our own.
12. The most successful partners have matching love stories.
13. No love story is more suited to a long relationship than any other.

Part 2. For questions 14-23, read an extract from an article and choose the answer A, B, C or D that fits best according to the text. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Undercover journalism

Journalism is too small or too distant a word to cover it. It is theatre; there are no second takes. It is drama – it is improvisation, infiltration and psychological warfare. It can be destructive in itself before any print has seen the light of day. It is exhilarating, dangerous and stressful. It is the greatest job. It is my job.

I am an undercover reporter. For the past year or so, I have been a football hooligan, a care worker, a bodyguard and a fashion photographer. It is a strange life and difficult one. In the course of a day, I have assumed four different personalities, worn four different wardrobes and spoken four different street dialects, and left a little of me behind in each of those worlds. More important than this, though, are the experiences and emotions I've taken away with me. It's hard to put a label on them. They have seeped in and floated out of my psyche, but somewhere in the backyard of my mind the footprints of this strange work are left behind.

I have as yet no real notion as to what, if any, long-term impact they will have. For the moment, I relish the shooting gallery of challenges that this madness has offered me. In the midst of all these acting roles and journalistic expeditions, I have endeavoured not to sacrifice too much of my real self. I have not gone native and I am still sane. At least for the moment.

In the course of any one investigation, you reveal yourself in conversation and etiquette, mannerism and delivery – of thousands of gesticulations and millions of words – and cover yourself with the embroidery of many different disguises. If one stitch is loose or one word misplaced, then everything could crash, and perhaps violently so.

Certainly, as a covert operator, the journalistic safe line is a difficult one to call. Every word you utter is precious, every phrase, insinuation and gesture has to be measured and

considered in legal and ethical terms. Even the cadence of your voice has to be set to appropriate rhythms according to the assumed role, the landscape and the terrain of your undercover patch.

The golden rule is this: as an undercover reporter you must never be the catalyst for events that would not otherwise have occurred, had you not been there. The strict guidelines within broadcasting organisations about covert filming mean that, every time I go into the field, a BBC committee or compliance officer has to grant permission first. It's a strange but necessary experience for someone like me, who operates on instinct and intuition, but it's a marriage that works well.

The undercover reporter is a strange breed. There is no blueprint that exists. It is your own journalistic ethos and within those parameters you try to tread a safe line, both in terms of your journalism and personal safe-keeping. And of course, there's a high price you pay for this kind work, home is now a BBC safe house. The only visitors to my bunker are work colleagues. It's not a pleasant lifestyle, but I have taken on all the stories in the full knowledge of the risks involved.

Though I embarked upon my journey with enthusiasm and determination, the climate in which we undertake this journalistic and documentary mission is an increasingly hostile one. It is one in which covert filming has come under scrutiny because of concerns about fakery and deception and the featuring of hoax witnesses. Issues concerning privacy, the use of covert filming techniques across the media – from current affairs to the tabloid newspapers – and the way journalists work with these tools have been rigorously appraised. I personally welcome this scrutiny.

Hi-tech surveillance equipment allows me to tell the story as it unfolds, surrounded by its own props, revealing its own scars and naked sinews, and delivered in its own dialect. There is no distortion and only one editorial prism – mine. While the sophisticated technology allows a visual and aural presentation of events, mentally I rely on the traditional method of jotting things down to rationalise my thoughts and gain a coherent picture of all that I was involved in. This is my delivery system – how I narrate.

Inevitably the spotlight has shone on me but those who have worked on either paper trail investigations in newspapers or in television will know that it will fade. I am happy to return to the career of a desk journalist because I recognise that the tools we have used are tools of last resort. I'll be returning to the more usual journalistic methods: telephone and computer notebook rather than secret cameras and hidden microphones. But the aim will be the same: to shed light into the darker corners of society where the vulnerable are most at risk.

14. Which of the following does the writer NOT suggest about his job in general?

- A. Journalism is not truly a word to represent it.
 - B. Those involved hail from various occupations.
 - C. It entails people to act in different roles.
 - D. It has a miscellaneous collection of characteristics.
15. As implied by the author, what distinguishes undercover journalism from regular kinds?
- A. the range of subjects it touches on
 - B. the effects of its destructive power
 - C. the degree of spontaneity in it
 - D. the harm that it can cause
16. What does the writer suggest about his attitude towards his job?
- A. He has a recollection of most emotions triggered by it.
 - B. He attaches much of his own personality to the roles he assumes.
 - C. His interest in the job has been retained.
 - D. He abominates the ordeals involved in it.
17. What does the writer imply about undercover investigators?
- A. They are required to be circumspect so as not to conceal their identities.
 - B. They have to be cautious in order not to cling to a preplanned set of actions.
 - C. They should try not to be factors causing changes in events.
 - D. They need to be observant to the reactions of other people while conducting tasks.
18. The writer suggests that undercover investigators:
- A. have to live with the consequences of exposing themselves.
 - B. resent sticking to rules laid down by their employers.
 - C. tend to be a similar kind of person.
 - D. operate according to a similar code of conduct.
19. As indicated by the writer, tribulations arise within the profession because

- A. the application of cutting-edge technologies is conducive to attempts to falsify information.
- B. covert filming has been put into question following worries about the effects of documentaries.
- C. deceptive testimonies have emerged to degrade the quality of covert filming.
- D. how journalists make use of their equipment has come under scrutiny.
20. Regarding the harsher working environment in his profession, it can be implied that the author:
- A. harbours feelings of repulsion at it.
- B. displays embrace of it.
- C. finds it rather disconcerting.
- D. expresses insouciance towards it.
21. What can be inferred about the method used by the author while working as a reporter?
- A. He embellishes the stories with details not clearly reflecting what happened
- B. He allows technology to cater for every stage of the process.
- C. He uses writing as a way of brainstorming ideas and approaching what he would like to include.
- D. He lets the events speak for themselves with the aid of modern technology.
22. What does the passage suggest about the author's intentions for the future?
- A. He will adopt the more traditional work as a journalist.
- B. He will make attempts to return to normalcy after all events.
- C. He will have recourse to the tools used when there are no alternatives.
- D. He will go to some lengths to direct the limelight away from him.
23. The writer sees the primary aim of journalism as:
- A. combating the corruption within the society.
- B. enlightening people about the disadvantage of the weak.
- C. highlighting causes of present-day issues.

D. unraveling the mystery of criminal cases.

Your answers

14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.

Part 3. You are going to read an extract from an article about mental health. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from paragraphs A—H the one which fits each gap (24-30). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

A Pill For Everything

The world of psychiatry is questioning conventional wisdom regarding mental health and society's reaction to people who suffer from mental health problems. It is not, as you might expect, about the stigma attached to those with impaired mental health, but about definitions, and the treatment of those who seek psychiatric help.

24.	
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Diseases and illnesses are treated by giving the patient medication, but how can the same treatment be meted out to those suffering from anxiety, depression and conflict? The mind is not the brain, and mental functions are not reducible to brain functions. Likewise, mental diseases are not brain diseases; indeed, mental diseases are not diseases at all. In the strictest terms, we cannot speak of the mind as becoming diseased.

25.	
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Regardless of these difficulties, if pundits are to be believed, one in five American children have a 'diagnosable mental illness', whilst more cautious government officials estimate that 9-13% of American children suffer 'serious emotional disturbance with substantial function impairment.' The number of people in the USA being treated for clinical depression rose from 1.7 million in 1987 to 6.3 million a decade later. This number continues to rise.

26.

Unsurprisingly, in the infamous school shootings, those who fired on their fellow pupils were found to have been undergoing treatment, taking mood-altering drugs at the time of their murder sprees. It is hard to say whether the drugs contributed to the violence or whether the violence was committed in spite of the treatment.

27.

Granted, other treatment options are available. Psychosurgery is a possibility in extreme cases, talk therapies have often proved effective, and electric shock treatment has made a somewhat worrying return. But there's no doubt that many of the powerful new psychiatric drugs do appear to alleviate depression, mood swings and a variety of other conditions.

28.

Today, we continue to try to find a way to make everyone 'normal'. Governments, foundations, professional guilds and global pharmaceutical companies are convincing us that normal human emotions can be 'cured' and so should be treated as diseases. Isn't this simply a variation on the zombie-making approach? We continue to try to make everyone equally but artificially happy.

29.

If we believe that normal emotional responses which are not pleasant should be eradicated, we are denying ourselves opportunities for growth, learning and improving both the human and personal conditions. These are the long-term benefits of pain and hardship, and we need not seek to eliminate them.

30.

Of course, some serious mental disturbances have a biological cause and can be controlled by using medication. What is dangerous in today's society is our somewhat surprising eagerness to label a natural urge or function and, having labelled it, add it to the growing list of syndromes which are 'recognised' by the medical establishment as mental illnesses. The number of abnormal mental conditions, as defined by a professional body, has mushroomed from 112 in 1952 to 375 at the beginning of this millennium. These include 'oppositional defiant disorder rebellion against authority), 'caffeine use disorder' (drinking too much coffee) and 'feeding disorder of infancy or early childhood' (fussy eating). Because those with a mental 'illness' can claim diminished responsibility, we hear of people who claim 'the voices in my head made me do it' and professional women who state that mental illness (albeit a temporary aberration) caused them to shoplift designer label products. Surely it is time to stand back and reassess our thinking and beliefs about what defines a mental disorder

A. Equally, there are problems in defining the word diagnosis, which the dictionary defines as: 'the identification of a disease by means of its symptoms; a formal determining description.' In the case of bodily illness, the clinical diagnosis is a hypothesis which can be confirmed or disproved through an autopsy. However, it is not possible to die of a mental 'illness' or to find evidence of it in organs, tissues, cells or body fluids during an autopsy, so how can we ever hope to be sure about a diagnosis?

B. Such incidents raise the question of cause and effect: which came first, the chicken or the egg? Can a chemical in the brain cause a mental condition? Might the mood-altering drugs used to 'cure' the 'disease' cause the release of chemicals in the brain triggering a real mental disorder which could last a lifetime and have damaging physical effects?

C. This, according to the health establishment and the media, proves that psychiatry has become a bona fide science, which has shaken off its early roots in guess-work, shamanism and Inquisitorial cruelty.

D. Some magazine accounts of 'clinical depression' begin, 'My husband died, my son had an accident which left him paralysed...and then my doctor prescribed a new wonder drug.' Or, 'Jim's wife left him, he lost his job and he was diagnosed with depression.' These situations are genuinely misery-inducing and crushing, but they can only be defined as illnesses if we believe that anyone in the midst of such tragedies can be happy.

E. Pharmaceutical companies have a vested interest in fostering our belief that drugs can help us to feel better, but it's time we realised that if we are numb, complacent, compliant zombies then we are not independent, thinking and critical. They like it better when we

are dependent on them and content with our lot. They want us to be happy in the same way that Huxley's Soma-fed, tranquillised, corporate citizens of 'Brave New World' were happy; mere clones, without critical faculties.

F. However, we can gain valuable insight into the implications of drug use if we look back to previous types of 'treatment'. Once, surgeons removed 'the stone of madness' from the heads of lunatics. In more recent times, frontal lobotomies and electroconvulsive therapy (electric shock treatments) became the answers. Even after it was obvious that lobotomy 'cured' people by turning them into zombies, it remained a worldwide tool for controlling unmanageable children and political opponents.

G. The question of identifying and labelling is a serious one as, ultimately, it affects treatment. Is someone suffering from a mental health problem suffering from a mental disorder or a mental illness (where 'disease' and 'illness' are interchangeable)? The dictionary definition of 'disease' is: 'a condition of the body, or some part or organ of the body, in which its functions are disturbed or deranged; a morbid physical condition'. Given this definition, shouldn't the term 'mental illness' be replaced by 'mental disorder'?

H. Such figures mean that psychiatric drugs which have been widely promoted have brought many more sufferers into the medical fold. However, these drugs, touted as 'miracle cures', do little more than dull the senses and inhibit normal brain function. At worst, they can cause crippling conditions like Parkinson's disease, 'helping' victims by giving them real diseases which put them in wheelchairs. Less powerful drugs can cause emotional disorders as bad as those they treat: jangled nerves, hallucinations, lethargy, depression, memory loss and paranoia.

Your answers

24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
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Part 4. The passage below consists of five sections marked A-E. For questions 31-40, read the passage and do the task that follows. Write your answers (A-E) in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Targeting Teens

A. Today, we are surrounded by advertising. We see adverts on TV, on billboards, at sporting events, in magazines and on social media. And although advertising has been around for many years in one form or another, in recent years, we have seen a worrying

trend in the aggressive targeting of younger consumers, who tend to lack media awareness. In fact, advertisers spend more than \$12 billion per year just to reach the youth market alone. Ads aimed at teens are incredibly sophisticated. Clever slogans coupled with striking images are part and parcel of many ads. Many ads also have catchy, upbeat music or memorable jingles. The constant repetition of such ads means that when shopping, teens are drawn to that specific soft drink, hamburger or sports shoe. According to Peter Logan, who works for a watchdog agency committed to protecting the consumer, "There is a whole battery of sales techniques used by companies to get adolescents to purchase their products."

B. Youth advertising is aimed at creating a need. Teens often claim not to be swayed by ads, but the truth is they may not even realize why they think something is cool. As Helen Davis, an adolescent psychologist explains, "This type of advertising works subtly to instil insecurity about your appearance, whether it's body shape, skin condition or weight. You are then told a certain product can go a long way towards correcting the problem. Teens are subjected to a constant barrage of messages suggesting which products will enhance their appearance and help them look cool or feel confident, thereby guaranteeing their popularity." Celebrity endorsement of some of these products by stunning young teen icons or social influencers on the Internet strengthens the message still further. Such ads shamelessly play on adolescent anxieties, with the overall message being that you become the person you want to be by making the right purchase. The fact that teenage girls in the US spend \$9 billion a year on make-up and skin products alone is testament to this.

C. Emphasizing brand names is another technique directed at young people, who are attracted to the prestige that brands confer. According to school counsellor Andrea Haines, "As the average teenager engages in the difficult task of carving out their identity, the issue of fitting into a peer group becomes paramount. Brands have become badges of membership in a social group." Marketing executives are keen to establish brand recognition in teens, and even pre-teens, in order to win their loyalty to a product. In a recent survey, three-year-olds could match logos to brands — McDonalds being the most recognized fast food. Companies are increasingly exploiting digital media in their advertising campaigns to do this. "Manufacturers can reach greater so numbers of adolescent consumers by tapping into peer relationships on social networking sites," explains Peter Logan. "Teens don't grasp that sharing a video or meme of a brand they have 'liked' provides free advertising for the manufacturer."

D. According to Helen Davis, psychologists specializing in teenage behaviour are often consulted by advertising agencies targeting young people. "These experts share their knowledge of teenage anxieties, fantasies and emotional and social needs with the advertising industry," she explains. "It's a practice seen by many of my contemporaries as

morally questionable." With the help of these insights into the teenage psyche, manufacturers are developing ever more sophisticated marketing strategies to reach young people. Apple's iPod ads are a case in point. They don't ask teenagers which iPod they prefer, but instead pose a more thought-provoking question: "Which iPod are you?" Thus they deliberately blur the line between self-image and product.

E. All of this begs the question as to whether teens have their own taste or whether it is being dictated to them. Many parents and educators feel that teens should become more savvy regarding advertising. "Young people have to be made aware of how their preferences are being manipulated," says Andrea Haines. "They could be encouraged to spot product placement, for example, the Benetton shirt on the hero in their favourite TV series or the Nike shoes in an action film, both of which register with them almost without their realizing." Analysing their desire for a certain product could help teens see whether it really reflects their taste or not, and whether they really need it. After all, being a discerning consumer means not being manipulated by clever advertising into buying something you don't really need and which is unlikely to make you any happier.

Which section

- 31. questions the work ethics of company advisors?
- 32. includes a specific figure to underscore the success of one marketing strategy?
- 33. calls for greater media awareness among young consumers?
- 34. provides insights into a typical preoccupation of teens?
- 35. mentions the increase in ads directed at a certain sector of the population?
- 36. gives examples of hidden advertising?
- 37. harshly criticizes advertisers for their lack of conscience?
- 38. describes advertisers' approaches to understanding the adolescent mind?
- 39. elucidates the effectiveness of some common features found in advertisements?
- 40. mentions how young people assist advertisers without realizing it?

Your answers

31.	32.	33.	34.	35.
36.	37.	38.	39.	40.

Key and explanations:

Part 1.

1. D

When care is extended to a sacrificial level of doting, however, it becomes another style – *agape*. In an **agape** relationship one partner becomes a “caretaker”, exalting the welfare of the other above his or her own needs.

2. E

The **ludus** style envisions relationships primarily as a game in which it is best to “play the field” or experience a diverse set of partners over time.

3. A

The first of these styles – **eros** – is closely tied in with images of romantic love that are promulgated in Western popular culture.

4. C

Storge is a quiet, companionate type of loving – “love by evolution” rather than “love by revolution”, according to some theorists. Relationships built on a foundation of platonic affection and caring are archetypal of *storge*.

5. B

A related but more frantic style of love called **mania** involves an obsessive, compulsive attitude toward one’s partner. Vast swings in mood from ecstasy to agony – dependent on the level of attention a person is receiving from his or her partner – are typical of manic love.

6. E

The **ludus** style envisions relationships primarily as a game in which it is best to “play the field” or experience a diverse set of partners over time.

7. B

A related but more frantic style of love called **mania** involves an obsessive, compulsive attitude toward one’s partner.

8. F

Successful arranged marriages are a great example of **pragma**, in that the couple decides to make the relationship work; but anyone who seeks an ideal partner with a shopping list of necessary attributes (high salary, same religion, etc.) fits the classification.

9. YES

Sternberg’s research demonstrates that we may have predilections toward multiple love stories, each represented in a mental hierarchy and varying in weight in terms of their personal significance.

10. YES

It is also the case that stories have varying abilities to adapt to a given cultural milieu and its respective demands. Love stories are, therefore, interactive and adaptive phenomena in our lives rather than rigid prescriptions

11. NO

Certainly, it is clear that we look for partners with love stories that complement and are compatible with our own narratives. But they do not have to be an identical match.

12. NOT GIVEN

13. NO

Not all love stories, however, are equally well predisposed to relationship longevity; stories that view love as a game, as a kind of surveillance or as addiction are all unlikely to prove durable.

Part 2.

14. B. Để làm được câu 1, ta cần xác định xem những thông tin khác có thể suy ra từ dữ kiện nào trong bài đọc. Với thông tin ở phương án A, ta có thể lấy dẫn chứng ở câu đầu tiên của đoạn 1: “Journalism is too small or too distant a word to cover it.” (it ở đây là undercover journalism). Với thông tin ở phương án C, ta có thể lấy dẫn chứng ở đoạn 2 phần đầu tiên: “For the past year or so, I have been a ...” (tác giả liệt kê một vài người tác giả đã hóa thành => nghề yêu cầu người trong nghề phải đảm nhận những vai trò khác nhau trong xã hội). Với thông tin ở phương án D, ta có thể lấy dẫn chứng ở bốn câu từ câu 2 đến câu 5 của đoạn 1: “It is theatre;... It is drama – it is improvisation, infiltration and psychological warfare. ... It is exhilarating, dangerous and stressful.” (tác giả nêu ra một loạt những đặc điểm của nghề). Như vậy phương án B có nội dung không được gợi ý ở trong bài. Người đọc có thể nhầm lẫn thông tin chứng minh cho phương án C cũng là dữ kiện chứng minh nội dung phương án B có được đề cập trong bài, tuy nhiên cần chú ý nội dung phương án B là người làm trong nghề vốn xuất phát từ nhiều ngành nghề khác, trong khi thông tin trong bài đọc là người làm trong nghề phải hóa thân thành nhiều người làm những nghề khác nhau.

15. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn C nằm ở đoạn 1: “Journalism is too small or too distant a word to cover it. It is theatre; there are no second takes. It is drama – it is improvisation, infiltration and psychological warfare. It can be destructive in itself before any print has seen the light of day. It is exhilarating, dangerous and stressful. It is the greatest job. It is my job.” Có thể hiểu regular kinds ở đây chính là journalism được nhắc đến ở câu đầu tiên. Như vậy với các dữ kiện như improvisation, infiltration, ta có thể thấy rằng nghề nghiệp của tác giả khác ở chỗ nó đòi hỏi những hành động tự chủ, tự phát nhiều. Các phương án còn lại không chính xác vì đều không được đề cập trong bài. Phương án A có thể gây nhầm lẫn do có đoạn thông tin: “I have been a football hooligan, a care worker,...” ở đoạn 2, tuy nhiên cần chú ý đây là những “vai diễn” của tác giả, chứ không nói đến những vấn đề mà nghề động đến. Phương án B và D cũng có thể gây nhầm lẫn do

thông tin: “It can be destructive in itself before any print has seen the light of day.” ở đoạn 1, tuy nhiên thông tin này không đề cập đến ảnh hưởng của sự “destructive”, hơn nữa, trong bối cảnh này, có thể hiểu thông tin này nghĩa là nghề “báo chí mật” hoạt động trong bóng tối, ẩn mình.

16. C. Ta có thể thấy dẫn chứng cho phương án C ở câu 2 đoạn 3: “For the moment, I relish the shooting gallery of challenges that this madness has offered me.” Từ thông tin này, ta suy ra được tác giả vẫn còn hứng thú với nghề của mình. Kết hợp với một số dữ kiện khác như câu cuối đoạn 2 và phần thông tin cuối đoạn 3, ta chọn được phương án C là phương án chính xác. Phương án A không chính xác vì nội dung mâu thuẫn với câu cuối đoạn 2: “They have seeped in and floated out of my psyche,...”, nghĩa là đa số những cảm xúc được gọi ra bởi nghề đều đến và đi, tuy có để lại dư âm “the footprints are left behind” như tác giả không giữ ký ức về đa số chúng. Phương án B không hợp lí vì nội dung mâu thuẫn với thông tin ở câu 5 đoạn 2: “... and left a little bit of me behind in each of those worlds.” Phương án D không chính xác vì không có thông tin như vậy trong bài.

17. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở câu đầu tiên của đoạn 6: “The golden rule is this: as an undercover reporter you must never be the catalyst for events that would not otherwise have occurred, had you not been there.” Từ nội dung thông tin này có thể suy ra những nhà điều tra mật cần phải tránh dính líu (làm tác nhân cho) những sự kiện mà sẽ không xảy ra nếu họ không ở đó. Điều này khớp với nội dung của phương án C. Phương án A không hợp lí bởi lẽ nhiệm vụ của những người điều tra mật là giữ kín thân phận nên họ phải cẩn thận tránh để lộ (chứ không phải tránh che giấu) thân thế thật của mình. Phương án B không chính xác vì từ dữ kiện sau trong bài: “If one stitch is loose or one word misplaced, then everything could crash, and perhaps violently so.” (câu cuối đoạn 4) kết hợp với các thông tin khác, có thể thấy những người điều tra mật cần bám sát một kế hoạch định trước, mọi lời lẽ và hành động của họ đều đã được “lập trình” sẵn. Phương án D không hợp lí vì không có thông tin như vậy được đề cập trong bài, tuy dữ kiện sau có thể gây nhầm lẫn: “Even the cadence of your voice has to be set to appropriate rhythms according to the assumed role,...” song cần chú ý rằng đây là cần phải hòa hợp với “vai diễn” của mình chứ không phải thái độ của người khác.

18. A. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án A có thể được tìm thấy ở đoạn 7, cụ thể là phần thông tin: “It is your own journalistic ethos and within those parameters you try to tread a safe line, both in terms of your journalism and personal safe-keeping. And of course, there’s a high price you pay for this kind work, home is now a BBC safe house.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra rằng những người làm công việc điều tra mật phải trả giá, sống với những gì mà họ tạo ra trong lúc tác nghiệp. Từ đó ta chọn được phương án A là phương án chính xác. Phương án B, C và D đều không chính xác vì những người này hoạt động theo cách riêng của họ, không phải tuân thủ theo tiêu chuẩn nào cả, vậy nên họ không phải tuân theo một chuẩn chung (phương án D), cũng không phải là một kiểu

người giống nhau vì mỗi người có cách làm việc riêng (phương án C), hay phải làm việc theo nguyên tắc do cấp trên đưa ra (phương án B).

19. D. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở câu 3 đoạn 8: “Issues concerning privacy, the use of covert filming techniques across the media – from current affairs to the tabloid newspapers – and the way journalists work with these tools have been rigorously appraised.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra được rằng cách những nhà báo sử dụng công cụ trong tay họ đang được kiểm tra/đánh giá kỹ càng, khớp với nội dung phương án D. Phương án A không hợp lý vì không được đề cập trong bài, dù phần thông tin sau có thể gây nhầm lẫn: “because of concerns about fakery and deception and the featuring of hoax witnesses.”, song cần chú ý dữ kiện này chỉ mới nhắc đến việc thông tin bị sai lệch, làm giả, chưa nhắc đến việc công nghệ tân tiến có lợi cho sự làm giả thông tin ra sao. Phương án B không chính xác vì nội dung không đúng như dữ kiện trong bài: “It is one in which covert filming has come under scrutiny because of concerns about fakery and deception and the featuring of hoax witnesses”, tức là sai ở phần “following worries about the effects of documentaries”. Phương án C không hợp lí dù trong bài có đoạn thông tin sau: “It is one in which covert filming has come under scrutiny because of concerns about fakery and deception”. Ở đoạn thông tin này, tác giả chưa nhắc đến việc “covert filming” bị giảm chất lượng (degrade the quality), đồng thời tác giả cũng viết rằng đây mới chỉ là nghi ngờ, nghi vấn (concern), chứ chưa có căn cứ xác thực (evidence) để chứng tỏ rằng đã có sự xuất hiện của “deceptive testimonies”.

20. B. Dẫn chứng cho cả bốn phương án (chứng minh phương án B là đúng và các phương án khác là sai) là ở câu cuối đoạn 8: “I personally welcome this scrutiny.” Từ thông tin này suy ra tác giả có thái độ tích cực, đón chào và chấp nhận những thử thách mới này và từ đó ta chọn được B căn cứ vào nội dung các phương án. Phương án A – giữ cảm giác ghê tởm, phương án B – thể hiện sự chấp nhận (một cách nhiệt tình), phương án C – thấy chúng đáng lo lắng, sợ hãi, phương án D – thể hiện sự thờ ơ, vô cảm trước chúng.

21. D. Dẫn chứng để chọn D nằm ở câu đầu của đoạn 9: “Hi-tech surveillance equipment allows me to tell the story as it unfolds...” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra tác giả để những câu chuyện “tự kể”, như đang mở ra trước mắt người đọc với sự hỗ trợ của thiết bị giám sát công nghệ cao. Đây cũng là nội dung của phương án D nên D là phương án đúng. Phương án A không chính xác vì nội dung không đúng với dữ kiện trong bài: “revealing its own scars and naked sinews, and delivered in its own dialect.”, nghĩa là tác giả không “đánh bóng”, đưa thêm chi tiết để cho câu chuyện thêm mượt mà. Phương án B không hợp lí vì từ dữ kiện trong bài: “... mentally I rely on the traditional method of jotting things down to rationalise my thoughts...” có thể suy ra tác giả vẫn dựa vào việc viết tay để thuận tiện cho suy nghĩ. Phương án C không hợp lí ở phần thông tin “brainstorming ideas” (dữ kiện chứng minh tương tự như phương án B).

22. A. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án A nằm ở câu 2 và 3 đoạn cuối: “I am happy to return to the career of a desk journalist... I’ll be returning to the more usual journalistic methods...” Từ thông tin này suy ra rằng tác giả sẽ trở lại với công việc mang tính truyền thống hơn trong tương lai nên ta chọn được A. Phương án B không hợp lý ở phần thông tin “return to normalcy” vì nó không được đề cập hay có thể suy luận ra từ trong bài. Phương án C không hợp lý và thông tin chứng minh nằm ở câu 2 đoạn cuối: “... I recognise that the tools we have used are tools of last resort.” Phương án D không hợp lý vì tuy câu 1 của đoạn cuối có nói đến sự chú ý của người khác, nhưng ai trong nghề cũng hiểu rằng rồi nó sẽ qua nên có thể suy ra tác giả không cần cố gắng để tránh sự chú ý: “Inevitably the spotlight has shone on me but those who have worked on either paper trail investigations in newspapers or in television will know that it will fade.”

23. B. Ta có thể suy luận ra B là phương án đúng từ thông tin câu cuối của bài đọc: “But the aim will be the same: to shed light into the darker corners of society where the vulnerable are most at risk.” Từ đây ta suy ra được tác giả xem nhiệm vụ hàng đầu của báo chí là “đưa ra ánh sáng” về những góc khuất của xã hội, nơi kẻ yếu đang chịu thiệt thòi, gặp rủi ro. Trong cả bốn phương án chỉ có phương án B khớp với nội dung này nên đây là phương án đúng.

Part 3.

24. G

It is not, as you might expect, about the stigma attached to those with impaired mental health, but about **definitions**, and the treatment of those who seek psychiatric help... **The dictionary definition of 'disease'** is: 'a condition of the body, or some part or organ of the body, in which its functions are disturbed or deranged; a morbid physical condition'. **Given this definition, shouldn't the term 'mental illness' be replaced by 'mental disorder'?**

25. A

The dictionary definition of 'disease' is 'a condition of the body, or some part or organ of the body, in which its functions are disturbed or deranged; a morbid physical condition'. Given this definition, shouldn't the term 'mental illness' be replaced by 'mental disorder'?... **Equally, there are problems in defining the word diagnosis**

26. H

one in five American children have a 'diagnosable mental illness', whilst more cautious government officials estimate that **9-13%** of American children suffer 'serious emotional disturbance with substantial function impairment.' The number of people in the USA

being treated for clinical depression rose from **1.7 million** in 1987 to **6.3 million** a decade later. This number continues to rise... **Such figures** mean that psychiatric drugs which have been widely promoted have brought many more sufferers into the medical fold.

27. B

Unsurprisingly, in the **infamous school shootings**, those who fired on their fellow pupils were found to have been undergoing treatment, **taking mood-altering drugs at the time of their murder sprees...** **Such incidents** raise the question of cause and effect: which came first, the chicken or the egg.

28. F

However, we can gain valuable insight into the implications of drug use if we look back to **previous types of 'treatment'...** **Today, we continue to try to find a way to make everyone 'normal'**

29. D

Governments, foundations, professional guilds and global pharmaceutical companies are **convincing us that normal human emotions can be 'cured'** and so should be treated as diseases ... Some magazine **accounts of 'clinical depression' begin**, 'My husband died, my son had an accident which left him paralysed...and then **my doctor prescribed a new wonder drug.**' Or, 'Jim's wife left him, he lost his job and he was **diagnosed with depression**

30. E

If we believe that normal emotional responses which are not pleasant should be eradicated, we are denying ourselves opportunities for growth, learning and improving both the human and personal conditions. **These are the long-term benefits of pain and hardship, and we need not seek to eliminate them...** Pharmaceutical companies have a vested interest in fostering our belief that drugs can help us to feel better, but **it's time we realised that if we are numb, complacent, compliant zombies then we are not independent, thinking and critical**

Part 4.

31. D

"It's a practice seen by many of my contemporaries as morally questionable

32. B

As Helen Davis, an adolescent psychologist explains, "This type of advertising works subtly to instil insecurity about your appearance, whether it's body shape, skin condition or weight. You are then told a certain product can go a long way towards correcting the problem. Teens are subjected to a constant barrage of messages suggesting which products will enhance their appearance and help them look cool or feel confident, thereby guaranteeing their popularity.

33. E

Many parents and educators feel that teens should become more savvy regarding advertising. "Young people have to be made aware of how their preferences are being manipulated,"

34. C

Emphasizing brand names is another technique directed at young people, who are attracted to the prestige that brands confer. According to school counsellor Andrea Haines, "As the average teenager engages in the difficult task of carving out their identity, the issue of fitting into a peer group becomes paramount. Brands have become badges of membership in a social group."

35. A

And although advertising has been around for many years in one form or another, in recent years, we have seen a worrying trend in the aggressive targeting of younger consumers, who tend to lack media awareness. In fact, advertisers spend more than \$12 billion per year just to reach the youth market alone. Ads aimed at teens are incredibly sophisticated.

36. E

"They could be encouraged to spot product placement, for example, the Benetton shirt on the hero in their favourite TV series or the Nike shoes in an action film, both of which register with them almost without their realizing. "

37. B

Celebrity endorsement of some of these products by stunning young teen icons or social influencers on the Internet strengthens the message still further. Such ads shamelessly

play on adolescent anxieties, with the overall message being that you become the person you want to be by making the right purchase.

38. D

According to Helen Davis, psychologists specializing in teenage behaviour are often consulted by advertising agencies targeting young people. "These experts share their knowledge of teenage anxieties, fantasies and emotional and social needs with the advertising industry," she explains. "It's a practice seen by many of my contemporaries as morally questionable." With the help of these insights into the teenage psyche, manufacturers are developing ever more sophisticated marketing strategies to reach young people.

39. A

Ads aimed at teens are incredibly sophisticated. Clever slogans coupled with striking images are part and parcel of many ads. Many ads also have catchy, upbeat music or memorable jingles. The constant repetition of such ads means that when shopping, teens are drawn to that specific soft drink, hamburger or sports shoe.

40. C

"Teens don't grasp that sharing a video or meme of a brand they have 'liked' provides free advertising for the manufacturer."

TEST 6

Part 1. For questions 1-13, read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

The accidental rainforest

According to ecological theory, rainforests are supposed to develop slowly over millions of years. But now ecologists are being forced to reconsider their ideas.

When Peter Osbeck, a Swedish priest, stopped off at the mid-Atlantic island of Ascension in 1752 on his way home from China, he wrote of ‘a heap of ruinous rocks’ with a bare, white mountain in the middle. All it boasted was a couple of dozen species of plant, most of them ferns and some of them unique to the island.

And so it might have remained. But in 1843 British plant collector Joseph Hooker made a brief call on his return from Antarctica. Surveying the bare earth, he concluded that the island had suffered some natural calamity that had denuded it of vegetation and triggered a decline in rainfall that was turning the place into a desert. The British Navy, which by then maintained a garrison on the island, was keen to improve the place and asked Hooker’s advice. He suggested an ambitious scheme for planting trees and shrubs that would revive rainfall and stimulate a wider ecological recovery. And, perhaps lacking anything else to do, the sailors set to with a will.

In 1845, a naval transport ship from Argentina delivered a batch of seedlings. In the following years, more than 200 species of plant arrived from South Africa. From England came 700 packets of seeds, including those of two species that especially liked the place: bamboo and prickly pear. With sailors planting several thousands trees a year, the bare white mountain was soon cloaked in green and renamed Green Mountain, and by the early twentieth century the mountain’s slopes were covered with a variety of trees and shrubs from all over the world.

Modern ecologists throw up their hands in horror at what they see as Hooker’s environmental anarchy. The exotic species wrecked the indigenous ecosystem, squeezing out the island’s endemic plants. In fact, Hooker knew well enough what might happen. However, he saw greater benefit in improving rainfall and encouraging more prolific vegetation on the island.

But there is a much deeper issue here than the relative benefits of sparse endemic species versus luxuriant imported ones. And as botanist David Wilkinson of Liverpool John Moores University in the UK pointed out after a recent visit to the island, it goes to the heart of some of the most dearly held tenets of ecology. Conservationists’ understandable concern for the fate of Ascension’s handful of unique species has, he says, blinded them

to something quite astonishing – the fact that the introduced species have been a roaring success.

Today's Green Mountain, says Wilkinson, is 'a fully functioning man-made tropical cloud forest' that has grown from scratch from a ragbag of species collected more or less at random from all over the planet. But how could it have happened? Conventional ecological theory says that complex ecosystems such as cloud forests can emerge only through evolutionary processes in which each organism develops in concert with others to fill particular niches. Plants co-evolve with their pollinators and seed dispersers, while microbes in the soil evolve to deal with the leaf litter.

But that's not what happened on Green Mountain. And the experience suggests that perhaps natural rainforests are constructed far more by chance than by evolution. Species, say some ecologists, don't so much evolve to create ecosystems as make the best of what they have. 'The Green Mountain system is a man-made system that has produced a tropical rainforest without any co-evaluation between its constituent species,' says Wilkinson.

Not everyone agrees. Alan Gray, an ecologist at the University of Edinburgh in the UK, argues that the surviving endemic species on Green Mountain, though small in number, may still form the framework of the new ecosystem. The new arrivals may just be an adornment with little structural importance for the system.

But to Wilkinson this sounds like clutching at straws. And the idea of the instant formation of rainforests sounds increasingly plausible as research reveals that supposedly pristine tropical rainforests from the Amazon to south-east Asia may in places be little more than the overgrown gardens of past rainforest civilisations.

The most surprising thing of all is that no ecologists have thought to conduct proper research into this man-made rainforest ecosystem. A survey of the island's flora conducted six years ago by the University of Edinburgh was concerned only with endemic species. They characterised everything else as a threat. And the Ascension authorities are currently turning Green Mountain into a national park where introduced species, at least the invasive ones, are earmarked for culling rather than conservation.

Conservationists have understandable concerns, Wilkinson says. At least four endemic species have gone extinct on Ascension since the exotics started arriving. But in their urgency to protect endemics, ecologists are missing out on the study of a great enigma.

'As you walk through the forest, you see lots of leaves that have had chunks taken out of them by various insects. There are caterpillars and beetles around,' says Wilkinson. 'But where did they come from? Are they endemic or alien? If alien, did they come with the plant on which they feed or discover it on arrival?' Such questions go to the heart of how rainforests happen.

The Green Mountain forest holds many secrets. And the irony is that the most artificial rainforest in the world could tell us more about rainforest ecology than any number of natural forests.

Questions 1-7

**Do the following statements agree with the information given in Reading Passage?
Choose**

TRUE **if the statement agrees with the information**

FALSE **if the statement contradicts the information**

NOT GIVEN **if there is no information on this**

Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

1. When Peter Osbeck arrived at Ascension, barring its flora, there was no other form of life which was existent on the island.
2. The first ecological system on the island was proven to form in the wake of the introduction of alien species into it.
3. There are ecologists who opine that the island bears the brunt of the invasion of non-native species.
4. From the perspective of Hooker, it paid to coat the island with foreign plants, even though there are tradeoffs.
5. The theory that ecosystems can develop without the interconnectivity between their components has been castigated mainly because it challenges the pre-existing idea.
6. Exotic plants brought to the island are given favourable treatments by the powers that be on the island.
7. It is stated that the protection of species peculiar to Ascension has subdued ecologists' ability to explore the mystery.

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
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For questions 8 and 9, answer the following questions using NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS taken from the passage. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

8. According to the passage, what may have been the factor behind the state of Ascension's vegetation before the planting and afforestation program took place?

9. In the reading passage, what phrase best describes the exotic species introduced into the island when seen from the viewpoint of Wilkinson?

Your answers

8.	9.
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For questions 10-13, complete the following paragraph by filling each blank with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS taken from the passage.

As a result of the scheme proposed by Hooker, an artificial forest appeared on the island of Ascension, with exotic species introduced. This outcome has provoked mixed feelings and opposing views. Ecologists dread to think about what they consider (10) _____, while the brain behind has thought highly of the forested island. The matter has also blazed the trails for a different concept which stems from the fact that the Green Mountain prospers with no (11) _____ between the species inside the system. While this theory has been furthered by the finding which suggests the origin of unspoiled forests may well have been (12) _____, it is challenged by the idea of the (13) _____ of exotic plants to the formation and reinforcement of the system.

Part 2. For questions 14-23, read an extract from an article and choose the answer A, B, C or D that fits best according to the text. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

At home with books

In an age when literature is increasingly going digital, books hold a curious role in some people's homes. There are few purchases which, once used, are placed on proud display and carted around as families move from place to place. And yet that's precisely what sometimes happens with books, despite the existence of a digital equivalent. After all, both the music industry and other aspects of the print media have felt the heat of virtual competition – why not books? Part of the explanation for this may lie in the fact that, when it comes to the crunch, nosing around someone's bookshelves is interesting. 'You can tell a lot about someone by their collection of books,' says Doug Jeffers, owner of a London bookstore.

It's not just the quantity of titles on display, however, that speaks volumes; generation, occupation, political leanings, leisure pursuits (even where they go on holiday) – clues to all of these abound, if you care to analyse the contents of someone's bookshelves, and even casual visitors aren't slow to form judgements. Evidence of this manifested itself

when the President of the USA made an informal call on the English Prime minister at home recently, and for some reason the pair posed for photos in the kitchen. One of the snapshots was subsequently released to the press, and widely published. There then ensued much speculation as to how the complete works of Shakespeare had ended up on the shelf in the background rather than a cookery book.

Household stylist Abigail Hall agrees. 'I often style houses for sale and you'd be amazed how important the contents of the bookcase can be.' Apparently, people use such clues to form judgements about the type of person who lives in a property that's up for sale, and this may affect how they feel about going ahead with the purchase. Perhaps we all seek out others whose tastes in such matters match our own, and we can imagine living happily in a space that like-minded people have made homely. And even if we're not thinking of putting our home on the market, instinct tells us that however much they were enjoyed, paperbacks read on the beach might be better put away in a cupboard, whilst the unopened classics are destined for display.

For the interior designer, however, the art of reputation-management-via-bookshelf is not the only issue. Books can also become an interactive display tool. 'They can almost be sculptural in that they offer a physical presence,' explains Abigail Hall. 'It's not just about stacking them on a bookcase, it's how you stack them. I've seen books arranged by colour, stacked on top of each other. Once I saw a load of coffee-table books piled up to become a coffee table in themselves. Books define a space, if you have some books and a comfy chair, you've immediately created an area.' It's a trick of which countless hotels, cafés and waiting rooms for fee-paying clients are only too aware. Placing a few carefully-chosen books atop coffee tables is about creating an ambiance. No one actually engages with the content.

And **this principle** can be transferred to the home 'I've not actually read any of the. I just love the bindings.' So said the actress, Davinia Taylor, earlier this year when she decided to put her house on the market – complete with its carefully-sourced collection of classic books. Rarely removed from their perch on a bookcase in the living room, their primary purpose was to disguise Taylor's walk-in fridge. And so, with the fridge no longer destined to be a feature in her life, the books were deemed redundant.

Perhaps, then, the future of books lies in this. With more and more being bought in the undeniably handier digital format, the first casualties of the tangible variety are likely to be the beach-read paperbacks – the ones that, if you invite Abigail Hall around, would be relegated to the garage anyway. But given the uses to which we put our other tomes – whether they're deployed to show off, look pretty, or create an atmosphere – the odds of them hanging around look good. The kudos of great work is still there, and there's nothing like being, and being seen to be, in possession of the real thing.

14. What is the writer's main aim in the first paragraph?
- A. seeking to account for a seemingly illogical perspective.
 - B. questioning our assumptions about people's behaviour.
 - C. drawing our attention to an ongoing process.
 - D. outlining the reasons for shifts in priorities.
15. It can be implied from the passage that:
- A. The appeal of non-digital books is a sound answer to the important roles of them.
 - B. The number of books displayed on the shelves is a manifestation of the casualness of their owner.
 - C. A person's characteristics may be well reflected in the non-digital books he has.
 - D. What is written in the books one possesses may unveil hidden depths of them.
16. The example of what happened after the release of a photo featuring two political figures serves to illustrate:
- A. the revealing quality of photoshoots
 - B. people's curiosity about private lives of politicians
 - C. the attractiveness of unusual features in a photo
 - D. books' faculty for grabbing people's attention
17. Described in the passage is a tendency for people to:
- A. forge a relationship with people having the same tastes.
 - B. reach their own conclusions based on a person's bookshelf
 - C. showcase their wealth by displaying unused classic books.
 - D. take an interest in reading books with paper cover.
18. As can be deduced from the passage, in hotels or cafés, considerable importance is attached to:
- A. incentivizing visitors to read books on the shelf .
 - B. establishing an atmosphere with the aid of well-placed books.

C. charging customers a considerable sum of money for using books.

D. piling books according to categorization of their colours.

19. The phrase “**this principle**” most probably refers to:

A. the use of books to create a climate without paying much heed to the content of those on show

B. the arrangement of books in order of content to impress visitors right from their arrival at a place

C. the tricks used to magnetize visitors which are usually adopted by hotels and cafés

D. the interactivity of books which can be of assistance to the formation of an ambiance within a house

20. What can be said about books in the case of Davinia Taylor?

A. They were not regarded as reflections of her taste in reading.

B. Their titles were inappropriately selected for display.

C. Their presence was indispensable to the house she intends to sell.

D. They fell into disuse as there was no longer a need for another item.

21. Given the current situation, the writer suggests that:

A. paperbacks are definitely the most vulnerable to redundancy.

B. technology has raised the number of books purchased.

C. there remains a likelihood that non-digital books are put on display.

D. owning a tangible item is a tantalising thing.

22. In the passage as a whole, the writer’s primary aim is most probably to:

A. elucidate the arguments in favour of non-digital books.

B. foreshadow the decline of paperbacks.

C. express a sanguine view regarding the future of non-digital books.

D. avert any attempts by other people to defame books.

23. Which of the following adjectives best describe a characteristic of this passage?

A. well-supported

- B. well-rounded
- C. well-appointed
- D. well-turned

Your answers

14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.

Part 3. You are going to read an article. seven paragraphs have been removed from the article. Choose from the paragraphs (A-H) the one which fits each gap 24-30. There is one extra paragraph that you do not need to use.

Mobile Phone Etiquette

The term 'etiquette' refers to the set of largely unwritten rules and conventions that govern our everyday behaviour. Many of these rules are reasonable and logical, and sticking to them makes life easier for everyone. Other aspects of good etiquette might seem to be somewhat arbitrary, with origins lost in the mists of time; for the most part, though, we abide by the rules because we don't wish to appear bad-mannered or disrespectful.

24.	
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A prime example of this concerns the use of mobile phones. There can be no doubt that these devices have a host of advantages and that, over the last twenty years or so, they have revolutionised the way in which people communicate. On the negative side, though, the fact that mobiles became ubiquitous almost overnight means that there hasn't been time for society as a whole to develop a set of commonly accepted guidelines regarding their use.

25.	
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Journalist, Anne Perkins, was so infuriated by the lack of respect and consideration shown by some mobile phone users that she decided to set up MobileManners.web. This website aims to raise awareness of the issue and to encourage people to follow the Mobile Manners code of conduct when using their mobile.

26.

Their conversation was well underway when it was interrupted by the ringing of the celebrity's phone. Not only did he insist on taking the call, but he then proceeded to carry on a prolonged conversation while Anne was left twiddling her thumbs. The worst part of this was that he wasn't responding to a family emergency or even discussing an important business deal. He was simply recounting his exploits of the previous night at some fashionable nightclub to some sycophantic crony. After hanging up, he didn't even apologise to Anne, so when his phone rang again, two minutes later, she cut the interview short and left.

27.

To begin with, the site points out that mobiles are supposed to make your life easier, not more stressful. You should not feel obliged to answer the phone every time it rings, nor do you have to respond to text messages immediately. You can, and, most of the time, should give priority to the people around you.

28.

These are basic points that most people probably have an opinion on, even if they don't necessarily agree with the Mobile Manners take on things. However, the code goes on to give Anne's views on a wide range of issues which many of us may never have thought about before. The topics that should and shouldn't be discussed on a mobile in public, the types of ringtone that are appropriate for people with certain jobs, and the times of day when it is inappropriate to send a colleague a text message are just some of the things that are covered.

29.

Of course, displaying good manners isn't the only thing that people need to think about in connection to mobiles. Safety is another very important aspect of mobile phone use. In particular, the issue of using mobiles while driving has been in the headlines in recent years. A large number of road accidents are believed to have been caused by drivers who were chatting on the phone or, even worse, texting while on the road.

30.	
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All in all, it is clear that it can take some time for us to fully understand the social and legal ramifications of new technology. This is especially true of a development that changes the culture as quickly and as radically as the mobile phone has.

A. Rude behaviour, like that of the so-called 'star', certainly doesn't adhere to the Mobile Manners code, the first rule of which is 'Show respect to the people affected by your mobile phone use'. The website stresses that its founder truly believes that mobile phones are wonderful devices but that, in a civil society, people should be more thoughtful about their impact on others.

B. Anne says that she had long been annoyed by some impolite people's use of mobiles, but that the final straw came about six months ago when she was interviewing a well-known public figure for an article she was writing for a national newspaper.

C. In a number of countries, it is now illegal to use a mobile while you are behind the wheel. In other places, only hands-free phones are permitted, although this compromise might still endanger road users, since research has shown that drivers are far more distracted by a phone conversation than when chatting with another passenger.

D. Problems arise, however, when people disagree about the correct etiquette, or aren't sure about what the 'done thing' is in a certain situation. This can occur when a significant change in the lifestyle of people in a community happens too rapidly for social norms to become ingrained.

E. Anne points out that the details aren't crucial, and that she doesn't expect people to memorise the whole code. The important thing, she says, is that people start thinking about the issue and modifying their behaviour accordingly. Even if some people start

lowering their voices when talking on their mobiles or switching them to silent mode when in public places, Anne thinks she will have achieved something and made the world a slightly more pleasant place.

F. The Mobile Manners site is just one of many dealing with this issue that have sprung up in recent years. There is also a large number of sites dealing with online etiquette (or 'netiquette) and others covering the correct way (at least in the authors' opinion) to behave in relation to other technological developments. People clearly feel the need for guidance in these matters.

G. Consequently, otherwise polite people can use their phones in ways that irritate those around them. And places such as museums, restaurants, cinemas and theatres have been forced to introduce measures that regulate the use of mobile phones, or in some cases ban them outright, because members of the public could not be relied upon to use their phones in a considerate manner.

H. This means that you shouldn't let a ringing phone interrupt a face-to-face conversation unless you are expecting an important call and, under those circumstances, it is polite to apologise and say something along the lines of 'Do you mind if I get that?' before answering the call. Similarly, you should wait for an appropriate moment to respond to a text, and never try to carry on your conversation and compose a text message at the same time.

Your answers

24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
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Part 4. The passage below consists of five sections marked A-E. For questions 31-40, read the passage and do the task that follows. Write your answers (A-E) in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

A. Throwaway living took off in the second half of the 20th century. Disposable coffee cups, plastic stirrers, and plates that could be tossed in the bin 'improved' our lives. Global plastic production soared from 1.5 million tonnes in 1950 to nearly 200 million tonnes in 2002. Today, it's reached the 300 million tonne mark. Reports of ocean garbage patches suggest that much of that plastic eventually ends up in our seas. Take a boat out far enough and you'll witness bottles, toy figurines, roller balls from underarm deodorants and thousands of plastic sandals all floating around in the sea. A project called The Ocean

Cleanup has been testing floating platforms for collecting bigger bits of plastic, but they cannot deal with microplastics. Microplastics is the technical term for tiny pieces of plastic. They are so finely shredded by ocean currents that they're impossible to spot from a boat and are easily mistaken for food by sea creatures.

B. A recent study by Marcus Eriksen, one of the co-founders of 5 Gyres, the organisation that studies plastic pollution in the seas, suggests that at least five trillion pieces of plastic, altogether weighing in at over 268,000 tonnes, are floating around near the surface of the sea. An incredible 92 per cent of the pieces are microplastics. According to Eriksen, we'll have to live with what's already out there. "It's going to sink, it's going to get buried, it's going to fossilize," he says. "There's no efficient means to clean up 5km down on the ocean floor." No one really knows what damage all that stranded microplastic is doing, but the hope is that once it's mixed up with the sediment, it's doing less of it. Yet the clouds of microplastics swirling in the water column pose a problem. The debris is easy for marine life to swallow, but the gunk that the plastics collect - such as pollution and bacteria - are also a threat.

C. In May 2014, chemist Alexandra Ter Halle joined the Seventh Continent Expedition to the north Atlantic Ocean with the aim of analysing the gunk. She collected samples and is now analysing her data back at Paul Sabatier University in Toulouse, France, to work out why some plastics attract pollution as they age. "The difficulty lies in the fact that there are so many plastics, of different colours, shapes and compositions," she says. "It's difficult to extract a trend from all those pieces." Ter Halle believes the answer is prevention. She says that switching to biodegradable plastics could offer part of that solution. While the first generation of biodegradables just broke down into smaller pieces, the second generation may have some utility. Ter Halle suggests that they could, for instance, be handy for shopping bags.

D. Yet Prof Richard Thompson, a marine biologist at Plymouth University, believes that the very notion of biodegradable plastic is flawed. "The idea that you could build into a plastic a feature that would enable it to fulfil its life in service without deteriorating and then, the minute it becomes an item of litter, it somehow rapidly and harmlessly degrades... it kind of seems like you're aspiring towards the impossible," he says. He recently attended a workshop in Portugal involving over 50 people from around Europe, including scientists, policymakers and industry types eager to offer ideas for solving the problem. But there was a shortage of cutting-edge solutions. "From my perspective, there was nothing new from any of the participants," he says. "A range of solutions are known to us, but it's more about translating that into action."

E. To dramatically reduce the amount of plastic accumulating in the oceans, the 'loop' of producing and recycling plastics would have to become a closed one. This means that any material leaving the system as waste would enter it again as a renewable resource. One option is banning certain types of plastics for particular applications, such as the plastic microbeads used in facial scrubs and toothpastes. These tiny particles - often measuring less than Imm - wash straight down the sink and are too small to be filtered out at the waterworks. All plastic products would need to be designed with an end-of-life care package. In short, solving the plastic problem in the oceans means solving plastic pollution, full stop.

Which section mentions the following?

- 31. The importance of responsible product design
- 32. Potential improvement of an innovation
- 33. Contemporary lifestyles eventuating undesirable consequences
- 34. A popularly held solution to plastic contamination being rejected
- 35. A lack of new and advanced ideas about dealing with pollution problems
- 36. Uncertainty about the extent of the harm caused to ocean ecosystems
- 37. Plastic pollution impinging on aesthetic values
- 38. The necessity of putting ideas into practice
- 39. A consequence of plastic pollution that will remain
- 40. Scientific study of pollution hampered by the variety of plastic

Your answers

31.	32.	33.	34.	35.
36.	37.	38.	39.	40.

Key and explanations:

Part 1.

1. NG

Giải nghĩa từ vựng: barring = except for (ngoại trừ); existent: có mặt, tồn tại.

Giải thích câu hỏi: Khi mà Peter Osbeck đặt chân đến Ascension, ngoại trừ hệ thực vật ở đây, không có dạng thức sự sống nào khác tồn tại trên đảo.

Giải thích đáp án: Đoạn đầu tiên trong bài đọc nhắc đến việc Peter Osbeck đến đảo Ascension và vị mục sư này đã miêu tả trên đảo có đá (“ruinous rocks”), có núi (“a bare, white mountain”) và có thực vật (“a couple of dozen species of plant”). Tuy nhiên, đây chỉ là những gì mà vị mục sư này nhìn thấy và ghi chép lại, nên không đủ căn cứ để khẳng định rằng ở trên đảo lúc đó không có sự sống con người hay các loài động vật.

2. NG

Giải thích câu hỏi: Hệ sinh thái đầu tiên trên đảo đã được chứng minh là hình thành sau khi những loài ngoại lai được du nhập vào đây.

Giải thích đáp án: Trong bài đọc có nhắc đến việc một hệ sinh thái đã được hình thành trên đảo sau khi những cây trồng từ nơi khác được mang đến nơi đây. Tuy nhiên, việc hệ sinh thái này có phải là hệ sinh thái đầu tiên là điều chưa thể khẳng định chắc chắn được. Câu này có thể được cho là sai (F) do thông tin sau ở đoạn 2: “... he concluded that the island had suffered some natural calamity that had denuded it of vegetation...”, tuy nhiên đây mới chỉ là kết luận của Joseph Hooker chứ chưa phản ánh được kết luận này đã được chứng minh hay chưa.

3. T

Giải nghĩa từ vựng: bear the brunt of sth = suffer from sth (chịu tác động xấu, tiêu cực của cái gì)

Giải thích câu hỏi: Có những nhà sinh thái học cho rằng hòn đảo chịu tác động tiêu cực từ sự xâm lấn của những loài ngoại lai.

Giải thích đáp án: Thông tin có thể được tìm thấy ở đoạn 4: “Modern ecologists throw up their hands in horror at what they see as Hooker’s environmental anarchy. The exotic species wrecked the indigenous ecosystem, squeezing out the island’s endemic plants”. Từ đoạn thông tin này, có thể thấy rằng những nhà sinh thái học hiện đại thấy rằng hòn đảo Ascension đã phải chịu tác động tiêu cực do những loài thực vật ngoại lai (hệ sinh thái bản địa bị phá hoại, thực vật bản địa bị lấn chiếm, mất môi trường sống).

4. T

Giải nghĩa từ vựng: it pays to do sth = it is worth doing sth (có giá trị, mang lại ích lợi khi làm việc gì), tradeoff - việc đánh đổi, điều đánh đổi để có thứ gì đó tốt hơn.

Giải thích câu hỏi: Từ góc nhìn của Hooker, việc phủ đảo với những loài cây ngoại lai đã mang lại ích lợi, mặc dù có những thứ phải đánh đổi.

Thông tin có thể được tìm thấy ở đoạn 4 trong nội dung sau: “In fact, Hooker knew well enough what might happen. However, he saw greater benefit in improving rainfall and encouraging more prolific vegetation on the island.” Từ đoạn thông tin này, kết hợp với thông tin trước đó, có thể thấy rằng Hooker nhìn nhận được những nguy cơ đối với việc phủ xanh hòn đảo bằng loài thực vật ngoại lai, nhưng bù lại việc này mang lại lợi ích nhiều hơn vì nó giúp cải thiện lượng mưa và thúc đẩy sự phát triển của thảm thực vật trên hòn đảo Ascension.

5. NG

Giải thích từ vựng: interconnectivity - sự tương tác qua lại, castigate - chỉ trích, phê phán gay gắt, pre-existing - đã có mặt, đã xuất hiện trước đó.

Giải thích câu hỏi: Giả thuyết cho rằng hệ sinh thái có thể phát triển mà không cần sự kết nối, tương tác qua lại giữa các thành tố bên trong nó bị phê phán bởi nguyên do chính là vì nó đi trái lại ý kiến đã có từ trước đó.

Giải thích đáp án: Ở đoạn 7 trong bài đọc, tác giả có nhắc đến một quan điểm phản đối giả thuyết này: “Alan Gray, an ecologist at the University of Edinburgh at the UK, argues that ...” Tuy nhiên, trong bài cũng chỉ nhắc đến quan điểm trái chiều từ một người và quan điểm này không thể hiện sự phê phán, chỉ trích gay gắt (chỉ đơn thuần là một ý kiến khác, một luận điểm khác). Nguyên nhân của quan điểm trái chiều này cũng không xác định rõ có phải xuất phát từ việc giả thuyết đi ngược lại ý kiến đã có từ trước đó hay không.

6. F

Giải thích từ vựng: the powers that be = the authority (chính quyền)

Giải thích câu hỏi: Những thực vật ngoại lai đưa du nhập vào đảo nhận được sự đối đãi đặc biệt, ưu ái từ phía chính quyền trên hòn đảo.

Giải thích đáp án: Dẫn chứng có thể được tìm thấy ở đoạn thứ 4 từ dưới lên trong bài, phần thông tin sau: “And the Ascension authorities are currently turning Green Mountain into a national park where introduced species, at least the invasive ones, are earmarked for culling rather than conservation”. Từ thông tin này, có thể thấy rằng chính quyền ở đây đang muốn loại bỏ những cây trồng ngoại lai thay vì bảo vệ chúng.

7. T

Giải thích từ vựng: subdue - làm giảm sút, suy yếu

Giải thích câu hỏi: Từng có khẳng định rằng việc bảo vệ những loài đặc trưng cho đảo Ascension đã làm giảm khả năng khám phá bí ẩn của những nhà sinh thái học.

Giải thích đáp án: Ở đoạn thứ 3 từ dưới lên, tác giả viết: “But in their emergency to protect endemics, ecologists are missing out on the study of a great enigma.” Từ thông tin này, có thể thấy rằng sự khẩn cấp của việc phải bảo vệ những loài bản địa đã khiến cho những nhà sinh thái học bỏ lỡ cơ hội để khám phá và nghiên cứu một bí ẩn tuyệt vời.

8. (some) natural calamity

Giải thích từ vựng: afforestation - sự trồng rừng, phủ xanh

Giải thích câu hỏi: Theo văn bản, đâu có thể là nhân tố gây ra trạng thái của thảm thực vật ở Ascension trước khi mà chương trình trồng cây, phủ xanh diễn ra?

Giải thích đáp án: Thông tin được lấy ở đoạn 2. Ở đoạn này, tác giả viết: “Surveying the bare earth, he concluded that the island had suffered some natural calamity that had denuded it of vegetation...” Từ phần thông tin này, ta suy ra được rằng thảm họa tự nhiên có thể là nhân tố đằng sau trạng thái hoang mạc, cằn cỗi, ít ỏi của thảm thực vật ở trên đảo trước khi việc trồng cây bắt đầu.

9. a roaring success

Giải thích câu hỏi: Trong bài đọc, cụm từ nào miêu tả rõ nhất những loài ngoại lai trên đảo qua điểm nhìn của Wilkinson?

Giải thích đáp án: Thông tin được tìm thấy ở cuối đoạn 5: “... he says, blinded them to something quite astonishing - the fact that the introduced species have been a roaring success”.

10. (Hooker's) environmental anarchy

Giải thích đáp án: Thông tin được tìm thấy ở câu đầu tiên của đoạn 4: “Modern ecologists throw up their hands in horror at what they see as Hooker's environmental anarchy”.

11. co-evolution

Giải thích đáp án: Thông tin được tìm thấy ở câu cuối của đoạn 7: “The Green Mountain system is a man-made system that has produced a tropical rainforest without any co-evolution between its constituent species, says Wilkinson.”

12. overgrown gardens

Giải thích đáp án: Thông tin được tìm thấy ở đoạn thứ 9: “And the idea of the instant formation of rainforests sounds increasingly plausible as research reveals that supposedly pristine tropical rainforests from the Amazon to south-east Asia may in places be little more than the overgrown gardens of past civilisations.”

13. little structural importance

Giải thích đáp án: Thông tin được tìm thấy ở đoạn thứ 8: “The new arrivals may just be an adornment, with little structural importance for the ecosystem”.

Part 2.

14. A. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án A có thể được tìm thấy ở câu 4 và 5 của đoạn 1: “After all, both the music industry and other aspects of the print media have felt the heat of virtual competition – why not books? Part of the explanation for this may lie in the fact that,...” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra được rằng sách đang không phải “chịu chung số phận” như là ngành âm nhạc hay in ấn – sự cạnh tranh khốc liệt đến từ thế giới ảo. Đó là một điều nghe có vẻ phi lý (seemingly illogical) và tác giả đang đưa ra luận điểm giải thích cho việc này (why not books – part of the explanation for this may lie in ...). Vì vậy nên ta chọn phương án A là phương án chính xác. Phương án B không hợp lí vì trong bài không có thông tin liên quan đến “our assumptions about people’s behaviour”. Phương án C dễ gây nhầm lẫn vì người đọc có thể hiểu “an ongoing process” ở đây là việc các ngành âm nhạc, in ấn đang phải chịu sự cạnh tranh, tuy nhiên cụm này không phản ánh được điều đang xảy ra với books (không được đề cập như là một quá trình), và ngoài ra việc tác giả đi tìm câu trả lời cho câu hỏi tại sao sách không chịu áp lực cạnh tranh chứng tỏ phương án này không hợp lí. Phương án D có thông tin “shifts in priorities” không được đề cập trong đoạn đầu của bài nên đây không phải phương án chính xác.

15. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C có thể được tìm thấy ở câu đầu tiên của đoạn 2: “It’s not just the quantity of titles on display, however, that speaks volumes; generation, occupation, political leanings, leisure pursuits (even where they go on holiday) – clues to all of these abound, if you care to analyse the contents of someone’s bookshelves, and even casual visitors aren’t slow to form judgements.” Từ nội dung câu này có thể suy ra là tính cách, đặc điểm của một người có thể được biểu hiện rõ thông qua sách (speaks volumes, clues abound), vậy nên ta chọn C là phương án chính xác. Phương án A không hợp lí vì tác giả mới chỉ coi “the appeal of non-digital books” là một kiến giải khả dĩ (câu trả lời/lời giải thích có thể là đúng) cho vai trò của chúng: “Part of the explanation for this may lie in the fact that, when it comes to the crunch, nosing around someone’s bookshelves is interesting.” Phương án B không hợp lí vì thông tin “the casualness of their owner” không được đề cập. Phương án D không hợp lí vì thông tin “unveil hidden depths of them” không được đề cập (hidden depths chỉ những tài năng tiềm tàng, ẩn giấu).

16. D. Ta có thể chọn được phương án D dựa vào ví dụ được đưa ra ở đoạn 2 và câu hai của đoạn 2: “Evidence of this manifested itself...” và sau đó là câu chuyện về hai nhà chính trị được dẫn ra. “this” ở đây có thể hiểu là việc sách thu hút người khác, những người quan tâm đến mình. Ngoài ra ta cũng có thể kết hợp thêm câu: “There then ensued much speculation...” để suy ra được ví dụ này chứng minh cho khả năng thu hút người khác của sách nên ta chọn được phương án D. Các phương án còn lại đều có liên quan ít nhiều đến ví dụ, tuy nhiên lại không có sự gắn kết với bài đọc và luận điểm đang được triển khai trong bài đọc nên đều không hợp lí.

17. B. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở hai câu đầu tiên của đoạn 3: “Household stylist Abigail Hall agrees. ‘I often style houses for sale and you’d be amazed how important the contents of the bookcase can be.’ Apparently, people use such clues to form judgements about the type of person who lives in a property that’s up for sale, and this may affect how they feel about going ahead with the purchase.” Từ thông tin này suy ra mọi người có xu hướng đưa ra kết luận về tính cách của người bán của cái dựa trên những gì được trưng bày trên giá sách của họ. Vậy nên ta chọn được B là phương án đúng. Phương án A không hợp lí vì thông tin “forge a relationship” không được đề cập, tuy dữ kiện sau trong bài đọc có thể gây nhầm lẫn: “Perhaps we all seek out others whose tastes in such matters match our own, and we can imagine living happily in a space that like-minded people have made homely.”, nhưng dữ kiện này đề cập đến khung cảnh trong tưởng tượng, suy nghĩ chứ không phải đời thật. Phương án C không hợp lí vì thông tin “showcase their wealth” không được đề cập. Phương án D không chính xác, tuy dữ kiện sau trong bài có thể gây nhầm lẫn: “however much they were enjoyed, paperbacks read on the beach...”, tuy nhiên thông tin này chưa phản ánh được xu hướng chung cho mọi người nên ta loại phương án này.

18. B. Dẫn chứng giúp ta chọn phương án B nằm ở hai câu gần câu cuối của đoạn 4: “It’s a trick of which countless hotels, cafés and waiting rooms for fee-paying clients are only too aware. Placing a few carefully-chosen books atop coffee tables is about creating an ambiance.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra các khách sạn hoặc quán cà phê có ý thức (nhận biết được tầm quan trọng) về việc lựa chọn và đặt sách để tạo không khí. Từ đây ta chọn được B là phương án đúng. Hai phương án A và C có nội dung không được đề cập trong bài đọc nên đều không phải phương án chính xác. Phương án D có thể gây nhầm lẫn do trong bài đọc có dữ kiện: “I’ve seen books arranged by colour”, tuy nhiên ta cần chú ý đây là trải nghiệm cá nhân của tác giả và bài viết không đề cập đến việc sự phân loại theo màu được chú trọng.

19. A. Cụm “this principle” ở đây thay cho nội dung trước đó: “Placing a few carefully-chosen books atop coffee tables is about creating an ambiance. No one actually engages with the content.” Kết hợp với nội dung của đoạn văn và phần sau của câu có chứa cụm từ này: “... I’ve not actually read any of them. I just love the bindings.”, ta có thể suy ra

được rằng cụm từ ám chỉ đến việc để sách ra trưng bày tạo không khí (lưu ý từ climate cũng có nghĩa là không khí, một cảm xúc bao trùm) nhưng ít quan tâm đến nội dung của những cuốn sách đó. Vậy nên ta chọn A là phương án chính xác. Các phương án còn lại đều không hợp lí (phương án B và C không chính xác dù nội dung có phần liên quan và được đề cập trong bài, phương án D có được đề cập tuy nhiên lại không hợp logic khi thay thế cho cụm this principle).

20. D. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở cuối đoạn 5: “Rarely removed from their perch on a bookcase in the living room, their primary purpose was to disguise Taylor’s walk-in fridge. And so, with the fridge no longer destined to be a feature in her life, the books were deemed redundant.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra trong ví dụ về Davinia Taylor, những cuốn sách được sử dụng để “ngụy trang” cho chiếc tủ lạnh trong nhà, và khi nữ diễn viên không cần chiếc tủ lạnh đó nữa thì những cuốn sách cũng trở nên thừa thãi. Từ đó ta chọn được D là phương án chính xác. Các phương án còn lại đều không được đề cập trong bài đọc nên ta loại.

21. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở câu 3 đoạn cuối cùng: “But given the uses to which we put our other tomes – whether they’re deployed to show off, look pretty, or create an atmosphere – the odds of them hanging around look good.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra được rằng vẫn còn khả năng là những cuốn sách giấy truyền thống được đặt lên kệ trưng bày. Phương án A có thể gây nhầm lẫn do dữ kiện sau trong bài: “the first casualties of the tangible variety are likely to be the beach-read newspapers”, tuy nhiên ta cần chú ý tác giả mới đưa ra nhận định rằng khả năng cao là điều này sẽ xảy ra, chứ không xác nhận điều này chắc chắn xảy ra. Phương án B có nội dung không được đề cập đến trong bài nên cũng không phải phương án chính xác. Phương án D không chính xác vì nội dung không được đề cập trong bài (“tantalising thing”).

22. C. Mục đích tác giả viết bài viết này chủ yếu là để bày tỏ một cái nhìn lạc quan về tương lai của những cuốn sách không phải sách điện tử. Điều đó được thể hiện rõ qua câu “But given ... look good” (xem lại giải thích câu 8). Ngoài ra tác giả cũng đưa ra nhiều ví dụ và luận điểm chứng tỏ sức thu hút của sách giấy truyền thống và khả năng cao là sách giấy truyền thống vẫn có chỗ đứng trong xã hội tương lai dù cho sách điện tử đã ra đời. Phương án A chưa hợp lí vì tuy trong bài tác giả có đưa ra những luận điểm về sách giấy truyền thống song chủ yếu là để lí giải vì sao chúng vẫn có thể tồn tại dưới áp lực cạnh tranh của thế giới ảo, không đơn thuần dừng lại ở việc làm sáng tỏ những luận điểm đó (hơn nữa những luận điểm này nghiêng về giải thích cho sự lạc quan nhiều hơn là sự ủng hộ). Phương án B không hợp lí vì việc báo trước sự “tàn lụi” của sách bìa mềm không phải mục đích của tác giả trong bài. Tuy tác giả có nói đến khả năng sách bìa mềm bị “bỏ xó” nhưng đây cũng chưa phải điều chắc chắn và nó cũng chỉ phản ánh một phần nội dung bài đọc. Phương án D không hợp lí vì không có thông tin nào liên quan đến “attempts by other people to defame books.”

23. A. Để trả lời được câu hỏi này, ta cần căn cứ vào nghĩa của các từ cho ở các phương án và đối chiếu với nội dung toàn bài. Phương án A – được hỗ trợ (bởi luận cứ, dẫn chứng) tốt, phương án B – toàn diện, dồi dào kinh nghiệm, trải nghiệm và khả năng, phương án C – đầy đủ thiết bị, tiện nghi, phương án D – được trình bày một cách thông minh. Đối chiếu với bài đọc, ta có thể thấy từ “well-supported” ở phương án A thể hiện đúng nhất vì bài đọc được “support” bởi nhiều luận điểm và ví dụ thực tiễn (photos of two political figures, statements by Abigail Hall, the tricks hotels and cafés have adopted, the case of Davinia Taylor,...) vậy nên có thể nói rằng đây là một bài viết chắc chắn, được hỗ trợ bởi hệ thống luận điểm và ví dụ đa dạng.

Part 3.

24. D

we abide by the rules because we don't wish to appear bad-mannered or disrespectful... Problems arise, however, when people disagree about the correct etiquette...

This can occur when **a significant change in the lifestyle of people in a community happens too rapidly for social norms to become ingrained... A prime example of this concerns the use of mobile phones...** On the negative side, though, the fact that **mobiles became ubiquitous almost overnight means that there hasn't been time for society as a whole to develop a set of commonly accepted guidelines regarding their use.**

25. G

Consequently, otherwise polite people can **use their phones in ways that irritate those around them...** Journalist, Anne Perkins, was so infuriated by **the lack of respect and consideration shown by some mobile phone users**

26. B

that the final straw came about six months ago when **she was interviewing a well-known public figure** for an article she was writing for a national newspaper... **Their conversation** was well underway when it was interrupted by the ringing of the celebrity's phone.

27. A

Not only did he **insist on taking the call**, but he then **proceeded to carry on a prolonged conversation** while Anne was left twiddling her thumbs. The worst part of this was that he **wasn't responding to a family emergency or even discussing an important business deal.** He was **simply recounting his exploits of the previous night**

at some fashionable nightclub to some sycophantic crony. **After hanging up, he didn't even apologise to Anne**, so when his phone rang again, two minutes later, she cut the interview short and left... **Rude behaviour, like that of the so-called 'star'**

28. H

This means that **you shouldn't let a ringing phone interrupt a face-to-face conversation** unless you are expecting an important call and, under those circumstances, **it is polite to apologise and say something along the lines** of 'Do you mind if I get that?' before answering the call. Similarly, you **should wait for an appropriate moment to respond to a text, and never try to carry on your conversation and compose a text message at the same time...** **These are basic points** that most people probably have an opinion on

29. E

Anne points out that the details aren't crucial, and that she doesn't expect people to memorise the whole code. The important thing, she says, is that people start thinking about the issue and **modifying their behaviour accordingly...** Of course, **displaying good manners** isn't the only thing that people need to think about in connection to mobiles.

30. C

Safety is another very important aspect of mobile phone use. In particular, **the issue of using mobiles while driving** has been in the headlines in recent years... In a number of countries, it is now **illegal to use a mobile while you are behind the wheel.**

Part 4.

31. E - All plastic products would need to be designed with an end-of-life care package.

32. C - While the first generation of biodegradables just broke down into smaller pieces, the second generation may have some utility. Ter Halle suggests that they could, for instance, be handy for shopping bags.

33. A - Throwaway living took off in the second half of the 20th century. Disposable coffee cups, plastic stirrers, and plates that could be tossed in the bin 'improved' our lives. Global plastic production soared from 1.5 million tonnes in 1950 to nearly 200 million tonnes in 2002. Today, it's reached the 300 million tonne mark. Reports of ocean garbage patches suggest that much of that plastic eventually ends up in our seas.

34. D - the very notion of biodegradable plastic is flawed.
35. D - But there was a shortage of cutting-edge solutions.
36. B - "It's going to sink, it's going to get buried, it's going to fossilize," ... "No one really knows what damage all that stranded microplastic is doing,"
37. A - Take a boat out far enough and you'll witness bottles, toy figurines, roller balls from underarm deodorants and thousands of plastic sandals all floating around in the sea.
38. D - It's more about translating that into action.
39. B - The debris is easy for marine life to swallow, but the gunk that the plastics collect - such as pollution and bacteria - are also a threat.
40. C - "The difficulty lies in the fact that there are so many plastics, of different colours, shapes and compositions," she says. "It's difficult to extract a trend from all those pieces."

TEST 7

Part 1. For questions 1-13, read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

Nurturing talent within the family

What do we mean by being 'talented' or 'gifted'? The most obvious way is to look at the work someone does and if they are capable of significant success, label them as talented. The purely quantitative route 'percentage definition' — looks not at individuals, but at simple percentages, such as the top five per cent of the population, and labels them — by definition — as gifted. This definition has fallen from favour, eclipsed by the advent of IQ tests, favoured by luminaries such as Professor Hans Eysenck, where a series of written or verbal tests of general intelligence leads to a score of intelligence.

The IQ test has been eclipsed in turn. Most people studying intelligence and creativity in the new millennium now prefer a broader definition, using a multifaceted approach where talents in many areas are recognised rather than purely concentrating on academic achievement. If we are therefore assuming that talented, creative or gifted individuals may need to be assessed across a range of abilities, does this mean intelligence can run in families as a genetic or inherited tendency? Mental dysfunction — such as schizophrenia — can, so is an efficient mental capacity passed on from parent to child?

Animal experiments throw some light on this question, and on the whole area of whether it is genetics, the environment or a combination of the two that allows for intelligence and creative ability. Different strains of rats show great differences in intelligence or 'rat reasoning'. If these are brought up in normal conditions and then run through a maze to reach a food goal, the 'bright' strain make far fewer wrong turns than the 'dull' ones. But if the environment is made dull and boring the number of errors becomes equal. Return the rats to an exciting maze and the discrepancy returns as before — but is much smaller. In other words, a dull rat in a stimulating environment will almost do as well as a bright rat who is bored in a normal one. This principle applies to humans too — someone may be born with innate intelligence, but their environment probably has the final say over whether they become creative or even a genius.

Evidence now exists that most young children, if given enough opportunities and encouragement, are able to achieve significant and sustainable levels of academic or sporting prowess. Bright or creative children are often physically very active at the same time, and so may receive more parental attention as a result — almost by default — in order to ensure their safety. They may also talk earlier, and this, in turn, breeds parental interest. This can sometimes cause problems with other siblings who may feel jealous even though they themselves may be bright. Their creative talents may be undervalued and so never come to fruition. Two themes seem to run through famously creative

families as a result. The first is that the parents were able to identify the talents of each child, and nurture and encourage these accordingly but in an even-handed manner. Individual differences were encouraged, and friendly sibling rivalry was not seen as a particular problem. If the father is, say, a famous actor, there is no undue pressure for his children to follow him onto the boards, but instead their chosen interests are encouraged. There need not even be any obvious talent in such a family since there always needs to be someone who sets the family career in motion, as in the case of the Sheen acting dynasty.

Martin Sheen was the seventh of ten children born to a Spanish immigrant father and an Irish mother. Despite intense parental disapproval he turned his back on entrance exams to university and borrowed cash from a local priest to start a fledgling acting career. His acting successes in films such as *Badlands* and *Apocalypse Now* made him one of the most highly-regarded actors of the 1970s. Three sons — Emilio Estevez, Ramon Estevez and Charlie Sheen — have followed him into the profession as a consequence of being inspired by his motivation and enthusiasm.

A stream seems to run through creative families. Such children are not necessarily smothered with love by their parents. They feel loved and wanted, and are secure in their home, but are often more surrounded by an atmosphere of work and where following a calling appears to be important. They see from their parents that it takes time and dedication to be master of a craft, and so are in less of a hurry to achieve for themselves once they start to work.

The generation of creativity is complex: it is a mixture of genetics, the environment, parental teaching and luck that determines how successful or talented family members are. This last point — luck — is often not mentioned where talent is concerned but plays an undoubted part. Mozart, considered by many to be the finest composer of all time, was lucky to be living in an age that encouraged the writing of music. He was brought up surrounded by it, his father was a musician who encouraged him to the point of giving up his job to promote his child genius, and he learnt musical composition with frightening speed — the speed of a genius. Mozart himself simply wanted to create the finest music ever written but did not necessarily view himself as a genius — he could write sublime music at will, and so often preferred to lead a hedonistic lifestyle that he found more exciting than writing music to order.

Albert Einstein and Bill Gates are two more examples of people whose talents have blossomed by virtue of the times they were living in. Einstein was a solitary, somewhat slow child who had affection at home but whose phenomenal intelligence emerged without any obvious parental input. This may have been partly due to the fact that at the start of the 20th Century a lot of the Newtonian laws of physics were being questioned, leaving a fertile ground for ideas such as his to be developed. Bill Gates may have had the creative vision to develop Microsoft, but without the new computer age dawning at

the same time he may never have achieved the position on the world stage he now occupies.

Questions 1-6

Do the following statements agree with the claims of the writer in the reading passage ?

In boxes 1-6, write

YES if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer

NO if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer

NOT GIVEN if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

1. The approach to the definition of ‘talent’ has witnessed several shifts, with the later idea overshadowing its most recent predecessor.
2. From experimentation, it can be deduced that in some cases, genetics plays the decisive role in determining whether a person might grow up to be creative or not.
3. The nurture of talent can be adversely affected by the uneven distribution of parents’ care for and interest in their children.
4. The fairness of parental treatment is stated to be the sure-fire way to ascertain the success of all children.
5. Children of creative parents are not hasty to become a master of a job solely because they deeply feel the security omnipresent in their families.
6. There exists an irrefutable link between luck and success or talent, though it may not receive much mention.

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
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For questions 7-13, complete the following paragraphs by filling each blank with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS taken from the passage.

The latest approach to talent has raised the question of what factors are behind the creativity or success of people. Experimentation on animals suggests that the setting in which people are nurtured may determine the final outcome regardless of the (7) _____ that a person may have. That is a testament to the importance of how children are brought up within the family.

A notable pattern running through a renownedly creative family includes the (8) _____ in which parents treat their children's personal aptitudes. Another one involves parents blazing the trails and children attaching importance to (9) _____.

It can said that a combination of factors help determine the probability of success in a person, and luck is among them. The author cites three examples to support the role of luck, namely Mozart, Albert Einstein, and Bill Gates. In the first case, the composer's talent was nourished in an encouraging family. Moreover, Mozart himself opted for (10) _____, and he composed (11) _____ of his own accord. The renowned scientist Einstein, despite apparently receiving little (12) _____, probably succeeded partly thanks to the (13) _____ that he had for the development of his ideas. Likewise, Bill Gates acquired his current position thanks to the age in which he developed Microsoft.

Part 2. For questions 14-23, read an extract from an article and choose the answer A, B, C or D that fits best according to the text. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Autobiography

It was true that I read a lot, but by now I had graduated to adult reading. Dickens had my full attention, for surely in those novels he was telling the same story of travail and triumph. The additional benefit, apart from the eccentric characters with their eccentric names, was that many of these travails were undertaken by young men of peerless disposition. This was welcome proof that such life experiences were universal, and, more important, could be, and usually were, brought about while suffering an initial handicap – wicked step-parents, or an indigent family – which the hero (for David Copperfield and Nicholas Nickleby were undoubted heroes) could manage with little more than his own blamelessness to guide him. This struck me as entirely beautiful and convinced me that one must emulate their efforts, that one must never be discouraged by the unhelpfulness of others. Not that I had ever experienced such an obstacle at close quarters; what I took for wickedness was in fact worldliness, as my mother explained to me.

The unapologetic presence of our visitors, their peculiar blend of restlessness and complacency, which was discordant, was essentially harmless, though it occasionally sought relief in imprecations, in disapproval of others, principally of my mother and myself. I saw – in Nancy's hoarse smoker's laugh, in Millicent's delicate hand smoothing her hair – a quality that was alien to our own lives, faintly undesirable. Sometimes my mother's eyes had a look of tiredness, and she was obliged to turn her head away for a

brief moment, as suggestions for improvement, or rather self-improvement, came her way. These visits, which I now see were undertaken for more merciful reasons than mere curiosity, were in essence a form of female solidarity before that condition had been politicised. They were concerned for any woman, living on her own with only a child for company. At the same time, they were fearful that such ivory tower isolation might be catching. They wanted my mother to be reinstated in society for their sakes as much as her own. They genuinely pitied a woman who had no status, but they also translated this lack of status as failure in the world's terms.

What distinguished my mother was a form of guilelessness which they had, regretfully, laid aside. This is what I saw: they had exchanged one position for another, and may not have been entirely compensated. My mother was their crusade; they also usefully saw her as a pupil. When they rose to leave, the frowns disappeared from their faces, the concern evaporated, and their embraces were genuine. They were glad to get back to their own orbit, with its comprehensible distractions, glad to have done their social duty, even if the results were so sadly lacking. My mother, shaking cushions after their departure, would be more silent than usual, and I somehow knew I should not intrude on her thoughts. I reflected that Nancy and Mille were characters, no less and no more, and that any confrontation – but none had taken place nor would take place – would be unequal: my mother was bound to succeed, for she was untainted by the world's corruption and thus qualified for remission. I comforted myself that even David Copperfield had had moments of downheartedness.

On the whole, I was happy. I liked my school, I liked my friends; I liked the shabby charm of my flat from which a light shone out in winter to guide me home. I liked our silent streets, the big windows of the houses in which artists had once lived. I liked its emanations of the nineteenth century. That we were somewhat on the margin of things did not disturb me, although the girls making the way by car from Kensington, complained of this distance as if they had been obliged to cross a frontier, or to go back in time. It is true that our surroundings were a little mournful, perhaps unnaturally so to those habitual shoppers. I, on the other hand, cherished them as a place of safety. The street lamp that shone outside my bedroom window I accepted as a benign gesture on behalf of the town council, the man who swept the leaves in autumn as a guardian of our decency. I was hardly aware of the sound of cars, for fewer people drove then. Even footfalls sounded discreet and distant.

14. What does the writer suggest about novels written by Dickens?

A. The writer has always found them to be riveting.

B. They often featured endeavour and success.

C. Their reputation was unrivalled at that time.

D. The main character was invariably a juvenile.

15. According to the passage, Dickens's novels usually portrayed characters:

A. who were untypical of the society at his time.

B. whose names were unique and not found in other novels.

C. who endured a disadvantage during early years.

D. who pleaded guilty whenever committing wrongdoings.

16. Novels by Dickens, as suggested in the passage, led the writer to feel that:

A. efforts to overcome ordeals by oneself should yield results.

B. demotivation should not spring from the lack of assistance from others.

C. cruelty should be helpfulness in essence.

D. people should experience ordeals first-hand.

17. It can be implied that when conversing with visitors, the writer's mother displayed:

A. fury

B. contempt

C. joy

D. tolerance

18. What does the writer NOT suggest about the visitors?

A. They sometimes used pejorative language.

B. They had a disharmonious combination of attributes.

C. A characteristic of them struck the writer as unusual.

D. The remarks they made were innocuous.

19. The visitors as the author sees them were:

A. unfailingly impolite.

B. utterly abominable.

C. extremely sensible.

D. fundamentally supportive.

20. At the time the visitors left:

- A. they had fulfilled their onus.
- B. the glee had vanished.
- C. the writer’s mother had become nonchalant.
- D. they had managed to beguile the writer’s mother.

21. The author possibly felt that:

- A. She shouldn’t have interrupted her mother’s stream of thoughts.
- B. The visitors bore resemblance to characters in Dickens’s novels.
- C. The presence of sadness at some time was ineluctable.
- D. Rivalry between her mother and the visitors was harmless.

22. Which of the following adjectives best describe the writer’s surroundings?

- A. sequestered B. anonymous C. desolate D. vibrant

23. As described by the author, her neighbourhood is:

- A. a refuge from the world outside.
- B. a go-between for art-lovers and artists.
- C. a region teeming with dreary landscapes.
- D. a place completely isolated from other areas.

Your answers

14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.

Part 3. You are going to read an extract from a newspaper article about camps. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs A — H the one which fits each gap (24 — 30). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

CAMP DOES STAFF A WORLD OF GOOD

Thousands of young adults work in organised camps each year. Often, directors focus on the good that going to camps does kids, but a significant component may also be what the staff get out of it. Although these young people are often idealistic and altruistic, they also expect to gain benefits from these camp jobs. If directors better understand the positive outcomes sought by young people, they may be able to recruit more qualified and committed staff for these work experiences.

24.

The goal of the study was to understand counsellors' perceptions of the camp staff experience as expressed in their own words. Therefore, data for this project were obtained from focus groups. This group technique allowed for group interaction and greater insight into why certain opinions were held. The results can be used to improve the planning and design of new programmes, evaluate existing programmes, and provide insights into the development of marketing strategies.

25.

The general procedure followed in the interview process was to introduce the question and then let the group members discuss their opinions until they had expressed all their views. If points were vague, the interviewer probed further to clarify the statement or to gain further explanations and discussion of related points.

26.

Furthermore, these attachments extended to the campers with whom the staff worked. The staff interviewed often talked about the importance of the interaction with the campers and having an opportunity to observe and influence the positive development of a child. Several staff commented on the challenge of finding a balance between being a friend and being the responsible adult who needed to set and enforce rules and boundaries.

27.

Another theme that was prevalent among the staff members was the value they placed on working with diverse people. Many of the staff viewed the exposure to different backgrounds of campers and staff as an immensely valuable experience.

28.

Many of the staff talked about the sense of responsibility relative to the lives of their campers and their own development of judgement. One staff member said, "It is very important that you are good at what you do because these kids' lives are in your hands. We stand in loco parentis — in other words, in a temporary parental role —which is very demanding."

29.

Apart from this aspect of the job, staff perceived the chance to acquire technical skills, particularly related to their careers, as a benefit. Some staff interested in careers in the outdoors commented on the value of learning these activities and gaining expertise while at camp. For several of the interviewees, the skill development extended to their perceptions of leadership. A counsellor stated, "I think the most important thing is that you learn how to incorporate all of your abilities and talents."

30.

Counsellors in the study emphasised communication and innovative thinking. For example, one staff member talked about communication as it related to parents: "The parents see you when they drop their kids off, and you have half an hour to impress them one way or another. What you say and how you present yourself makes a big difference to how they go home."

A. Based on these findings, a number of recommendations may be offered for camp directors in all types of camps. First, the positive outcomes of being a summer camp staff employee must be reinforced by camp directors in recruiting as well as in supervising

staff. The transfer-ability of personal and professional skills gained at camp should be a part of the debriefing of camp staff.

B. The focus groups for this research were conducted primarily on college campuses. A total of fifty-two individuals were involved in the interview process in ten separate focus groups. No one was older than twenty-seven or younger than eighteen years. The participants had been staff members at day and resident agency camps, religiously affiliated camps, and independent camps located in eight different regions.

C. They commented favourably on having a "large socio-economic draw" among their staff and campers. One staff member said, "I got a chance to work with all these different people that I would have never met outside camp." Working with international staff was also an opportunity that gave some young adults the opportunity "to see a new aspect of different parts of the world".

D. In addition to this self-knowledge, the camp experience also provided a way to enhance recreation skills that staff perceived they could draw on throughout their lives. One staff member said, "It's experiencing things that I have never experienced before, like camp-outs, water rafting, rock climbing. You can be a counsellor and still be learning these things."

E. Since camp staff perceived themselves to be in positions of authority and leadership and were involved in meaningful personal relationships, they were viewed as role models or mentors for the campers or other staff. Many of the staff commented on their perceptions and the value they attached to this role. One counsellor summed it up best when he said, "Every action you take, they see as a model for them."

F. With these issues in mind, the Association of Independent Camps funded systematic research to analyse the perceived benefits associated with summer camp staff experiences. The concept of benefit was not used in an economic sense in this research. Rather, a benefit was defined as, "a change that is viewed to be advantageous — an improvement in condition or gain to an individual." The purpose of this research was to see how camp staff, themselves, perceived their camp experiences.

G. For many staff this relationship raised their awareness of social issues that influenced the lives of their campers. Counsellors commented on the difficult lives led by some of their campers and their desire to make a difference in the children's lives, even if only for a brief time. One staff member said, "If you give them half an hour, they will remember you for the rest of their lives."

H. Interestingly, one of the most prominent themes to emerge from the data collected was the relationships between the individual and other camp staff. Every participant in the study mentioned the importance of the friendships formed at camp. One counsellor summed up these relationships best by saying, "Knowing someone at camp for a week is like knowing them for a lifetime."

Your answers

24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
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Part 4. The passage below consists of five sections marked A-E. For questions 31-40, read the passage and do the task that follows. Write your answers (A-E) in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Back to Basics for fun at sea

Journalist Tess Jordan joins the crew of the Wincutter for some tall ship sailing.

A. I have always been fascinated by tall ships, with their many imposing masts and sails so reminiscent of times past. Thus, on being given the chance to join the crew for a month-long voyage on a tall ship, I grabbed it with both hands. At 42, I was one of the oldest of the thirty new crew members, whose average age was 23. Despite our combined lack of maritime experience, we got off to a pleasant, confidence-inducing start organized by Captain Cox and the bosun, Ben Murray. Obviously, being the crew member in charge of the ship's equipment and the deck hands, the bosun would be a constant reassuring presence in our midst. Having assembled on the deck, we were given a friendly pep talk, in which we were briefed about the training we would receive and given a thorough grounding in everything concerning safety on board.

B. Captain Cox explained that absolutely everything we did would be part of the learning process. Our names were already on lists for working groups known as 'watches'. Each watch would be on duty for a certain part of the day or night and these would rotate during our time on board so that we would get a taste of working each different shift. Clearly, we would be getting to know the other members of our watch really well. We would also be socialising with the other crew members when participating in different lessons. These included plenty of rope work, sail-repairing and carpentry. We spent the first afternoon getting acquainted with each other, finding our way around and learning

the names for everything on the ship, whether it moved or not. We were due to set sail at six in the morning with the high tide. Until then, we hoped the gentle swell in the harbour was helping us to 'find our sea legs'.

C. One thing that seemed certain from the outset was that we would have little time for idleness or boredom. On deck, we would be handling lines and sails, keeping lookout and scrubbing the decks. Sailors have to know a little bit about every aspect of life on board, so we all had turns at taking the helm to steer the ship. One activity that I was rather anxious about was climbing aloft in the rigging to trim sails. Fortunately, the harnesses we were equipped with alleviated my concerns somewhat, and in the end, it wasn't nearly as bad as I had anticipated. In the galley we helped the cook prepare meals, did the washing-up and put everything away in its designated place after meals. Space on any ship is at a premium, hence the need for absolute order.

D. In parallel to our hard physical work, we received lessons in navigation - not just involving the theory, but with plenty of opportunities to put theory into practice, for example by plotting our position and checking the course we were on. Although much of this is a science, learning about wind directions and speeds and the vagaries of different currents in the sea seemed to be more like an art that must be acquired through long experience. We certainly saw some of the different moods of the weather at sea. Fortunately, everyone had been provided with top quality waterproofs for use on deck. Actually the weather conditions gave us ample opportunity to acclimatise ourselves to the motion of a boat at sea, which can induce dizziness and, in one unfortunate case involving Jack, a member of my watch, a bad bout of seasickness. Luckily, with some tips from the seasoned sailors, Jack learnt to overcome his nausea.

E. Ultimately, it turned out to be true that sharing work is a great way of bringing people together as a cohesive unit and of creating friendships. What's more, as we became more adept at our work on the Windcutter, we developed the ability to function efficiently enough without concentrating hard on our tasks, so there was a relaxed atmosphere and a feeling of camaraderie. After all, this was an experience of a lifetime, not a typical nine-to-five job. Of course, we were always aware of the need to do things properly, especially since the experienced crew members weren't going to cut us any slack in terms of the quality of our work. Nevertheless, I was seriously impressed by our teamwork on the Windcutter, and I truly wish my fellow journalists and I could achieve similar standards of work here at the Congress Courier.

In which section does the writer mention

- 31. that tidiness is a necessary consequence of the limited space on board ?
- 32. that the trainees would have to learn some woodworking skills ?
- 33. that there was a high expectation for professional development ?
- 34. that work characteristics require practitioners to maintain a deep mutual understanding?
- 35. that more time is invested in giving an insight into issues related to security on deck instead of providing oceangoing firsthand experience ?
- 36. that the driving position was often assigned randomly to educate about daily life on ships ?
- 37. that the balance between theoretical knowledge and frequent real-life applications provoked a new perspective about an aspect of ship sailing ?
- 38. that teamwork is a prerequisite for creating a tight-knit working environment ?
- 39. that the performance of the novices was judged as severely as usual ?
- 40. that a novice was comforted thanks to the advice of experiencers ?

Your answers

31.	32.	33.	34.	35.
36.	37.	38.	39.	40.

Key and explanations:

Part 1.

1. YES

Giải thích từ vựng: overshadow – vượt trội hơn, làm cái gì bị yếu thế, lép vế; predecessor – cái có trước và bị thay thế bởi cái khác

Giải thích câu hỏi: Cách tiếp cận đối với khái niệm về tài năng đã chứng kiến một vài những thay đổi, và ý niệm sau vượt trội hơn so với ý niệm gần nhất trước đó.

Giải thích đáp án: Ở đoạn 1 tác giả viết: “This definition has fallen from favour, eclipsed by the advent of IQ tests” và ở đoạn 2 tác giả viết: “The IQ test has been eclipsed in turn...” Từ hai đoạn thông tin này, có thể thấy rằng những ý kiến về tài năng chuyển từ “percentage definition” (tạm dịch: định nghĩa dựa trên phần trăm), đến “IQ test” (bài kiểm tra trí thông minh) và cuối cùng là “a multifaceted approach” (hướng tiếp cận đa chiều), và cái ra đời sau luôn vượt trội hơn và làm cái trước nó bị lép vế.

2. NOT GIVEN

Giải thích từ vựng: deduce – kết luận, rút ra kết luận; decisive role – vai trò quan trọng nhất, vai trò quyết định

Giải thích câu hỏi: Từ thí nghiệm, có thể kết luận rằng di truyền đóng vai trò quan trọng nhất trong việc xác định một người có thể sáng tạo khi lớn lên hay không.

Giải thích đáp án: Thí nghiệm với chuột được nhắc đến ở đoạn 3 chủ yếu liên quan đến yếu tố môi trường và sự ảnh hưởng của nó đến sự sáng tạo. Ở câu cuối cùng của đoạn này, tác giả viết rằng “... but their environment probably has the final say over whether they become creative or even a genius.” Điều này thể hiện thông tin rằng yếu tố môi trường có thể là yếu tố quyết định đến tính sáng tạo hay thiên tài của một người. Nó không nhắc gì đến vai trò của di truyền, nên chúng ta không biết được rằng liệu trong một số trường hợp, di truyền có đóng vai trò quyết định hay không.

3. YES

Giải thích câu hỏi: việc nuôi dưỡng tài năng có thể bị ảnh hưởng tiêu cực từ sự phân chia không công bằng trong sự quan tâm, chú ý mà bố mẹ dành cho con cái.

Giải thích đáp án: ở đoạn 4 trong bài đọc, tác giả có viết: “Bright or creative children are often physically very active at the same time, and so may receive more parental attention as a result – almost by default – in order to ensure their safety. They may also talk earlier, and this, in turn, breeds parental interest. This can sometimes cause problems with other siblings who may feel jealous even though they themselves may be bright. Their creative

talents may be undervalued and so never come to fruition.” Từ đoạn thông tin, có thể thấy rằng nếu như đứa trẻ có tài năng mà cha mẹ lại để ý và quan tâm nhiều hơn đến một đứa trẻ khác (anh/chi/em đứa trẻ tài năng kia) thì có khả năng tài năng của đứa trẻ nhận được sự chú ý ít ỏi hơn sẽ không kết quả ngọt.

4. NOT GIVEN

Giải thích câu hỏi: Việc cha mẹ đối xử công bằng được xem là một cách chắc chắn để đảm bảo cho sự thành công của tất cả những đứa trẻ.

Giải thích đáp án: Trong bài viết, tác giả có viết ở đoạn 4 như sau: “Two themes seem to run through famously creative families as a result. The first is that the parents were able to identify the talents of each child, and nurture and encourage these accordingly but in an even-handed manner. Individual differences were encouraged, and friendly sibling rivalry was not seen as a particular problem.” Tuy nhiên, việc đối xử công bằng (even-handed manner) là một trong những đặc điểm thường thấy ở những gia đình nổi tiếng là sáng tạo. Tác giả không đề cập đến việc sự không thiên vị chắc chắn sẽ đảm bảo thành công cho tất cả những đứa trẻ. Ngay cả khi viết về những gia đình này, tác giả cũng không nói rằng mọi đứa trẻ trong đó đều thành công vì cha mẹ của chúng đã không thiên vị ai cả.

5. NO

Giải thích câu hỏi: Con của những bậc cha mẹ sáng tạo không vội vã trong việc trở thành một bậc thầy trong nghề chỉ bởi vì họ cảm nhận sâu sắc được sự an toàn trong gia đình mình.

Giải thích đáp án: Dẫn chứng có thể được tìm thấy ở câu cuối cùng của đoạn 3 từ dưới lên: “They see from their parents that it takes time and dedication to be master of a craft, and so are in less of a hurry to achieve for themselves once they start to work.” Từ thông tin này, có thể thấy rằng lý do mà những đứa trẻ không vội vã là vì chúng hiểu rằng cần thời gian và công sức, nỗ lực để trở thành bậc thầy trong một nghề, hay “dục tốc bất đạt”. Do đó, việc cho rằng sự an toàn là yếu tố duy nhất đưa đến việc những đứa trẻ không vội vàng là không chính xác.

6. YES

Giải thích câu hỏi: Tồn tại một liên kết không thể chối cãi giữa may mắn và thành công, dù cho liên kết ấy có thể không được đề cập nhiều.

Giải thích đáp án: Có thể tìm thấy thông tin ngay ở đoạn thứ 2 từ dưới lên, ở phần thông tin: “This last point – luck – is often not mentioned where talent is concerned but plays an undoubted part.” Từ câu này, ta có thể suy ra được rằng may mắn đóng vai trò khó có thể chối cãi mặc dù đây là một yếu tố không thường được nhắc đến khi mà nói đến tài năng.

7. innate intelligence

Giải thích đáp án: Cuối đoạn 3 tác giả viết: “This principle applies to humans too – someone may be born with innate intelligence, but their environment probably has the final say over whether they become creative or even a genius.” Từ đây có thể thấy rằng môi trường có thể là nhân tố quyết định đến sự thành công hay sáng tạo của một người dù cho người đó có “innate intelligence” (trí thông minh bẩm sinh) hay không.

8. even-handed manner

Giải thích đáp án: Ở đoạn 4 tác giả viết: “Two themes seem to run through famously creative families as a result. The first is that the parents were able to identify the talents of each child, and nurture and encourage these accordingly but in an even-handed manner.” Từ đây, ta thấy được rằng một đặc điểm ở những gia đình nổi tiếng về sự sáng tạo là “even-handed manner” (cách đối xử công bằng, không thiên vị) của cha mẹ.

9. following a calling

Giải thích đáp án: Dẫn chứng có thể được tìm thấy ở đoạn 7: “They feel loved and wanted, and are secure in their home, but are often more surrounded by an atmosphere of work and where following a calling appears to be important.” Từ thông tin này, có thể thấy rằng một trong hai xu hướng ở những gia đình nổi tiếng là sáng tạo là việc những đứa trẻ cảm thấy được sự cần thiết trong việc “following a calling” (nghe theo tiếng gọi, có thể hiểu đây là tiếng gọi nổi đời, tiếp tục sự nghiệp của cha mẹ)

10. a hedonistic lifestyle

Giải thích đáp án: Ở đoạn thứ 2 từ dưới lên, tác giả viết: “... he could write sublime music at will, and so often preferred to lead a hedonistic lifestyle that he found more exciting than writing music to order.” Điều này cho thấy Mozart chọn cho mình lối sống yêu thương bản thân, không yêu cầu bản thân phải sáng tác vì yêu cầu.

11. sublime music

Giải thích đáp án: Ở đoạn thứ 2 từ dưới lên, tác giả viết: “... he could write sublime music at will, and so often preferred to lead a hedonistic lifestyle that he found more exciting than writing music to order.” Điều này cho thấy Mozart sáng tác nhạc vì người nghệ sĩ ấy muốn như vậy.

12. parental input

Giải thích đáp án: Ở đoạn cuối của bài, tác giả viết: “Einstein was a solitary, somewhat slow child who had affection at home but whose phenomenal intelligence emerged without any obvious parental input.” Thông tin này cho thấy có vẻ như là Einstein nhận được ít sự quan tâm, đầu tư từ cha mẹ.

13. fertile ground

Giải thích đáp án: Ở đoạn cuối của bài, tác giả viết: “This may have been partly due to the fact that at the start of the 20th Century a lot of the Newtonian laws of physics were being questioned, leaving a fertile ground for ideas such as his to be developed.” Thông tin này cho thấy Einstein đã có một môi trường thuận lợi, “màu mỡ” cho những ý tưởng của nhà khoa học này.

Part 2.

14. B. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở câu 2 của đoạn 1: “Dickens had my full attention, for surely in those novels he was telling the same story of travail and triumph.” Từ thông tin này, ta có thể suy ra rằng những tiểu thuyết của Dickens có sức lôi cuốn đối với người viết bởi lẽ Dickens thường viết về những nỗ lực vượt qua khó khăn và thành công (travail and triumph). Từ đó ta chọn được phương án B là phương án chính xác. Phương án A dễ gây nhầm lẫn vì thông tin “Dickens had my full attention”, tuy nhiên đây là sự việc đã diễn ra trong quá khứ (so với thời điểm viết) nên không đủ căn cứ để cho rằng tác giả luôn thấy những tiểu thuyết của Dickens hấp dẫn. Phương án C không chính xác vì trong bài không có thông tin nào liên quan đến tiếng tăm của những tiểu thuyết Dickens viết thời điểm đó. Phương án D không chính xác vì tác giả viết “... many of these travails were undertaken by young men of peerless disposition.”, suy ra nhân vật chính không phải lúc nào cũng là những thiếu niên.

15. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở câu 4 đoạn 1: “This was welcome proof that such life experiences were universal, and, more important, could be, and usually were, brought about while suffering an initial handicap – wicked step-parents, or an indigent family – which the hero (for David Copperfield and Nicholas Nickleby were undoubted heroes) could manage with little more than his own blamelessness to guide him.” Từ thông tin “suffer an initial handicap” và các ví dụ (wicked step-parents, or an indigent family), có thể suy ra rằng trong các tiểu thuyết của Dickens, các nhân vật thường phải trải qua một thiệt thòi gì đó thời thơ ấu, từ đó ta chọn được phương án C là phương án chính xác. Phương án A có thể gây nhầm lẫn do dữ kiện “the eccentric characters with their eccentric names”, tuy nhiên thông tin này là chưa đủ để kết luận rằng các nhân vật trong tiểu thuyết của Dickens không tiêu biểu cho xã hội thời ông ấy. Ngoài ra, từ thông tin “such life experiences were universal”, có thể thấy những gì mà các nhân vật trải nghiệm mang tính phổ quát, đúng với mọi thời đại, nên phương án A chưa hợp lí. Phương án B có thể gây nhầm lẫn từ dữ kiện tương tự phương án A, tuy nhiên tên các nhân vật dù được mô tả là kì quặc, lập dị thì vẫn chưa thể nói chắc rằng những cái tên đó là độc nhất vô nhị trong các tiểu thuyết nên phương án B không hợp lí. Phương án D dễ gây nhầm lẫn do dữ kiện “little more than his own blamelessness to

guide him”, tuy nhiên từ blamelessness nghĩa là khả năng, phẩm chất không bao giờ làm điều gì sai trái, không mang nghĩa là phẩm chất có trách nhiệm, luôn nhận lỗi khi làm sai.

16. B. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở câu 5 của đoạn 1: “This struck me as entirely beautiful and convinced me that one must emulate their efforts, that one must never be discouraged by the unhelpfulness of others.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra rằng, tác giả cảm thấy việc không nhận được sự giúp đỡ từ người khác không nên làm cho một người cảm thấy thất vọng và nhụt chí. Từ đó ta chọn được B là phương án chính xác. Phương án A không được đề cập trong bài (tuy có dữ kiện “one must emulate their efforts” nhưng không nhắc đến việc có đạt được thành quả hay không). Phương án C có thể gây nhầm lẫn do dữ kiện “what I took for wickedness was in fact worldliness, as my mother explained to me.”, tuy nhiên cần xác định rằng thông tin này không trả lời cho câu hỏi (không phải điều mà tác giả cảm nhận từ tiểu thuyết của Dickens). Phương án D không được đề cập trong bài đọc nên đây là phương án không chính xác.

17. D. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở câu 3 đoạn 2: Sometimes my mother’s eyes had a look of tiredness, and she was obliged to turn her head away for a brief moment, as suggestions for improvement, or rather self-improvement, came her way.” Từ thông tin này có thể suy ra rằng, khi nói chuyện với những vị khách, người mẹ của tác giả bài viết đã phải chịu đựng nhiều và sự chịu đựng đó thể hiện qua các cụm từ như: “a look of tiredness”, “obliged to turn her head away”.

18. D. Để chọn được phương án D, ta sử dụng phương pháp loại trừ do câu hỏi yêu cầu người đọc tìm ra nội dung không thể suy được từ bài đọc. Dẫn chứng cho phương án A nằm ở câu đầu đoạn 2, cụ thể là phần thông tin: “... it occasionally sought relief in imprecations...”, từ dữ kiện này suy ra những người khách thi thoảng có nói tục, thể hiện sự không đồng tình bằng những lời nguyền rủa. Dẫn chứng cho phương án B nằm ở câu đầu đoạn 2, cụ thể là phần thông tin: “... their peculiar blend of restlessness and complacency, which was discordant,...”, từ dữ kiện này suy ra những người khách sở hữu sự kết hợp, combo tính cách kì lạ, không hòa hợp với nhau. Dẫn chứng cho phương án C nằm ở câu 2 đoạn 2, cụ thể là phần thông tin: “... a quality that was alien to our own lives, faintly undesirable...”, từ dữ kiện này suy ra những người khác có một đặc điểm mà người viết cảm thấy khá xa lạ, kì lạ, không đáng có. Bằng phương pháp loại trừ, ta chọn được phương án D. Người đọc có thể nhầm lẫn cho rằng thông tin cho phương án D nằm ở dữ kiện “... was essentially harmless...”, tuy nhiên đây là đặc điểm của “the unapologetic presence”, nghĩa là sự hiện diện của những vị khách cơ bản là vô hại, không phải là những bình luận, lời lẽ mà họ nói ra.

19. D. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở câu 4 đoạn 2: “These visits, which I now see were undertaken for more merciful reasons than mere curiosity, were in essence a form of female solidarity before that condition had been politicised.” Từ thông tin này có

thể suy ra rằng những lần ghé thăm của những vị khách về bản chất là với ý tốt, mục đích tốt (in essence – về bản chất, solidarity – sự hỗ trợ) nên các vị khách này về cơ bản là đến để hỗ trợ, từ đó ta chọn phương án D. Các phương án còn lại không có đầy đủ thông tin để khẳng định nên ta loại.

20. A. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án A nằm ở câu 4 và 5 đoạn 3: “When they rose to leave, the frowns disappeared from their faces, the concern evaporated, and their embraces were genuine. They were glad to get back to their own orbit, with its comprehensible distractions, glad to have done their social duty, even if the results were so sadly lacking.” Như vậy, vào lúc ra về, những vị khách đã thực hiện xong nhiệm vụ của mình (done their social duty), từ đó ta chọn được phương án A. Phương án B không chính xác vì niềm vui (glee) có thể thấy được ở những vị khách (glad to...). Phương án C không chính xác vì không có thông tin nào trong bài nói về sự thờ ơ, lãnh đạm của người mẹ. Phương án D không chính xác vì dữ kiện “What distinguished my mother was a form of guilelessness which they had, regretfully, laid aside.” cho thấy sự thật thà của người mẹ không được những vị khách để ý, ngó ngàng tới.

21. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn C nằm ở câu cuối đoạn 3: “I comforted myself that even David Copperfield had had moments of downheartedness.” Từ thông tin này suy ra, tác giả cho rằng những khoảnh khắc buồn rầu, ảm đạm là điều không tránh khỏi, từ đó ta chọn được phương án C. Phương án A có thể gây nhầm lẫn do dữ kiện “I should not intrude on her thoughts”, tuy nhiên nội dung phương án A có chút khác biệt vì nó thể hiện sự tiếc nuối, ân hận vì một hành động đã xảy ra, trong khi trong bài đọc tác giả chưa cắt ngang dòng suy nghĩ của người mẹ. Phương án B có thể gây nhầm lẫn do dữ kiện “I reflected that Nancy and Mile were characters”, tuy nhiên thông tin này chưa đủ để khẳng định những người này “bore resemblance to characters in Dickens’s novels”. Phương án D không được đề cập trong bài nên không chính xác.

22. A. Từ sequestered ở phương án A miêu tả một khu vực yên tĩnh và xa những ồn ào phố thị, vắng người lại qua. Đặc điểm này ở vùng tác giả sống được thể hiện qua các chi tiết như “our silent streets”, “we were somewhat on the margin of things”, “I was hardly aware of the sound of cars, for fewer people drove then. Even footfalls sounded discreet and distant.” Từ những chi tiết này, ta chọn được phương án A. Từ anonymous ở phương án B ngoài nghĩa ẩn danh quen thuộc còn miêu tả một nơi không thú vị, không có đặc điểm gì đặc biệt. Từ desolate ở phương án C chỉ một vùng hoang vắng, tạo cảm giác buồn hoặc sợ hãi. Từ vibrant ở phương án D tả một nơi sinh động, nhiều hoạt động. Căn cứ vào nghĩa của các từ này, ta thấy chúng đều không hợp lí bằng phương án A.

23. A. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án A nằm ở câu 4 từ cuối lên của đoạn cuối: “I, on the other hand, cherished them as a place of safety.” Kết hợp với các dữ kiện như “a benign gesture”, “on the margin of things”, ta có thể suy ra rằng trong mắt tác giả, địa điểm đang

được miêu tả là một chốn dung thân, lánh khỏi thế giới bên ngoài, mang lại cảm giác an toàn. Từ đó ta chọn được A là phương án chính xác. Phương án B có thể gây nhầm lẫn do từ ngữ “the big windows of the houses in which artists had once lived”, tuy nhiên thông tin này cho thấy những người nghệ sĩ từng đến đây sinh sống, không có căn cứ khẳng định đây là nơi hội tụ của những nghệ sĩ và người yêu nghệ thuật. Phương án C không chính xác vì trong mắt tác giả, đây là một nơi đẹp, điều đó được thể hiện qua những chi tiết như “the shabby charm of my flat”, “its emanations of the nineteenth century”, nên không thể nói rằng tác giả coi nơi đây là nơi đầy những khung cảnh ảm đạm. Phương án D không chính xác vì từ ngữ “we were somewhat on the margin of things”, có thể thấy nơi tác giả sống không hoàn toàn bị cô lập khỏi thế giới bên ngoài.

Part 3.

24. F

Although these young people are often idealistic and altruistic, they also expect to gain benefits from these camp jobs. If directors better understand the positive outcomes sought by young people, they may be able to recruit more qualified and committed staff for these work experiences...**With these issues in mind**, the Association of Independent Camps funded **systematic research** to analyse the perceived benefits associated with summer camp staff experiences... The goal of **the study** was to understand counsellors' perceptions of the camp staff experience as expressed in their own words.

25. B

Therefore, data for this project were obtained from **focus groups**.. **The focus groups** for this research were conducted primarily on college campuses. A total of fifty-two individuals were involved in the interview process in ten separate focus groups

26. H

Interestingly, one of the most prominent themes to emerge from the data collected was the **relationships between the individual and other camp staff**... Furthermore, **these attachments** extended to the campers with whom the staff worked.

27. G

The staff interviewed often talked about the importance of **the interaction with the campers** and having an opportunity to observe and influence the positive development of a child. Several staff commented on the challenge of finding a balance between **being a friend and being the responsible adult** who needed to set and enforce rules and

boundaries... For many staff **this relationship** raised their awareness of social issues that influenced the lives of their campers.

28. C

Another theme that was prevalent among the staff members was the value they placed on **working with diverse people**... One staff member said, "I got a chance to **work with all these different people** that I would have never met outside camp".

29. E

Many of the staff talked about **the sense of responsibility relative to the lives of their campers and their own development of judgement** ... Since camp staff perceived themselves to be in **positions of authority and leadership** and were involved in meaningful personal relationships, they were viewed as **role models or mentors for the campers** or other staff...

30. D

"I think the most important thing is that you **learn how to incorporate all of your abilities and talents.**"... In addition to **this self-knowledge**

Part 4.

31. C

Space on any ship is at a premium, hence the need for absolute order.

32. B

We would also be socialising with the other crew members when participating in different lessons. These included plenty of rope work, sail-repairing and carpentry.

33. E

Nevertheless, I was seriously impressed by our teamwork on the Windcutter, and I truly wish my fellow journalists and I could achieve similar standards of work here at the Congress Courier.

34. B

Clearly, we would be getting to know the other members of our watch really well.

35. A

Having assembled on the deck, we were given a friendly pep talk, in which we were briefed about the training we would receive and given a thorough grounding in everything concerning safety on board.

36. C

Sailors have to know a little bit about every aspect of life on board, so we all had turns at taking the helm to steer the ship.

37. D

Although much of this is a science, learning about wind directions and speeds and the vagaries of different currents in the sea seemed to be more like an art that must be acquired through long experience.

38. E

“Ultimately, it turned out to be true that sharing work is a great way of bringing people together as a cohesive unit and of creating friendships. What's more, as we became more adept at our work on the Windcutter, we developed the ability to function efficiently enough without concentrating hard on our tasks, so there was a relaxed atmosphere and a feeling of camaraderie”

39. E

“After all, this was an experience of a lifetime, not a typical nine-to-five job. Of course, we were always aware of the need to do things properly, especially since the experienced crew members weren't going to cut us any slack in terms of the quality of our work”

40. D

Actually the weather conditions gave us ample opportunity to acclimatise ourselves to the motion of a boat at sea, which can induce dizziness and, in one unfortunate case involving Jack, a member of my watch, a bad bout of seasickness. Luckily, with some tips from the seasoned sailors, Jack learnt to overcome his nausea.

TEST 8

Part 1. For questions 1-13, read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

What's the best smartphone on the market?

The new HTC 4G is, for now at least, restricted from showing us its true potential since, as Australia's first 4G phone, it is ahead of its time and must wait for the 4G infrastructure to be put in place before it can really be appreciated. As things stand, and limited to use as a 3G handset, the HTC stacks up well against its competitors though. There is a very generous screen size of 4.3 inches, and the graphics and screen resolution are very sharp. This is perhaps both the phone's greatest strength and its greatest weakness because, for all the good of having a large, sharp screen image, this comes at a cost, that being that the HTC is a bulkier, weightier model than most of its peers. Size issues aside however, you cannot help but admire the sheer range of features on this handset. An 8-megapixel camera, and a front-side 1.2 megapixel for voice calls, and high-definition image quality should you switch to recording mode make the need to carry any casual photographic or recording equipment around with you almost redundant. Perhaps no more than a blip, as company engineers and programmers assure us a fix will be issued shortly, but it must be said that the battery life is slightly disappointing; a regular daily charge is simply a necessity as any longer would leave you, well, flat!

The Nexus employs energy-efficient screen technology, making it an instant hit for the many who have been thus far frustrated by the lack of battery longevity smartphones have offered up. Design isn't compromised either and this handset is light and compact (the practicalities are covered then) not to mention sleek and funky. The 5-megapixel rear-facing camera is handy to have in an emergency, but can hardly be relied upon to produce the sort of imagery we have come to expect from such products. Autofocus and an inbuilt flash do help to enhance image quality, but this device falls just a few too many pixels short and so trails behind its rivals in the multimedia department, and not by a neck, but several lengths at least.

The iPhone series have been market leading devices ever since Apple entered the smartphone sector, and seldom is there more excitement in techie circles than when a new iPhone model is released. Cue fierce applause and much gasping then, for Apple's latest offering is now on sale in a store near you! The new iPhone has the sharpest and clearest display of any smartphone on the market, and, quite simply, in almost every aspect of design, it is king. In fact, the quality of kit gone into this phone almost beggars

belief and gives the handset the feel of being indestructible, which, given the quality of manufacture, is not too far wide off the mark. There are, of course, the trademark front- and rear-display cameras on the new iPhone, and, though at 8 megapixels the main camera is, well, hardly earth-shatteringly impressive, don't be too quick to write off the iPhone's multimedia credentials. Remember. To start with that the screen and recording devices operate in High Definition, and let's not overlook the vast number of complementary media apps - Apple is in a league of its own in the apps market, and this is perhaps one of the main reasons it has so many diehard fans. Another factor which is crucial to this device's popularity is the fact that you can leave home confident there will be no need to beg for a charger from someone in the office halfway through the day. Battery life on this handset is not market-leading, but the iPhone certainly outperforms its nearest rivals in that department. A genuine contender for best buy.

The new Motorola should not be thought of so much as a smartphone; as a mini-computer, such is the manner in which this device performs. With massive processing and memory capabilities, Motorola users can download video, image and music files without giving a second thought to whether or not there is enough unused space, and, with 16GB internal memory and scope to add on another 32GB via an external memory card, why would you? The main camera though, given how high-spec everything else about this device seems to be, is somewhat of a disappointment. At only 5 megapixels, you do wonder what the designers were thinking; after all, had they even matched their rivals at HTC in this area, the Motorola would have been a standout handset that left its competitors trailing in its wake. As things stand, the Motorola is a definite player and will appeal to those for whom the smartphone is primarily a work-related device, as its unrivaled processing capability and compatibility with most office software make it the perfect travel companion for every busy businessman and businesswoman out there. However, Motorola have missed a trick or two in failing to target the many smartphone buyers more interested in entertainment features like high-megapixel cameras. Had they combined their download power with a better 'picture snapper', they could have cornered the entire market; this is an opportunity lost, you feel.

Questions 1-7: Do the following statements agree with the information given in the Reading Passage? Choose

TRUE ***if the statement agrees with the information***

FALSE ***if the statement contradicts the information***

NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

Write your answers in the corresponding numbered box provided.

1. HTC 4G's greatest asset is also a liability which makes it more burdensome to carry around.
2. Nexus manufacturers have to trade off design features for battery saving devices.
3. When it comes to certain facets of design, the iPhone is unsurpassable by its challengers.
4. Fans of Apple are loyal solely because it provides unlimited access to a wide range of media apps.
5. The functionality of the Motorola can be likened to that of a small computer, except in the memory and processing stakes where it comes up short.
6. Motorola users do not need to think carefully about the quality when downloading video, images and music files.
7. The Motorola Atrix does not stand the chance of success since smartphone users use their devices for entertainment more than work-related purposes.

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
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Questions 8-13: Fill in each space with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS.

When Apple launches a new iPhone model, (8) _____ are overwhelmed with exhilaration. In fact, iPhone would stand up to a lot of abuse, given the (9) _____ devoted to it. However, iPhone's (10) _____ should not be dismissed simply on grounds of its camera; attention should be given to high quality screen and recording devices. Besides, Apple's apps market possibly attracts a huge number of (11) _____ to iPhone. Another reason accounting for the popularity of iPhone is its acceptable (12) _____ if put in comparison with its competitors. In brief, iPhone is a (13) _____ for investment.

Part 2. For questions 14-23, read an extract from an article and choose the answer A, B, C or D that fits best according to the text. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Welsh stories

It was an American wit who listed one of man's greatest virtues as the art of making the long story short, but he was saying nothing about the short story, which has its own necessary length, neither too long nor too short, and is at its best when it presents a revealing insight into a person in a particular situation. What interests me most is being at the core of another life, seeing new light thrown upon it through the mind and world of the central character. It is a help if I am so involved at the outset that my attention does not wander and that my sympathies are immediately engaged, but ultimately, I must know more at the end than I did at the beginning. Now and again, let it also be stated, I can certainly do with a smile.

These stories have been chosen to fulfil such requirements where they can be met, but they are in addition, of a place and a time. The place is Wales and the time is the twentieth century, since the short story is a comparatively new arrival here. They reflect Wales, not always flatteringly, as it is and has been. English writers, it has been said, are often refugees from society, but almost all the stories in this book written by Welsh men and women show a concern for a particular landscape or community. It is as if Welsh writers cannot escape this involvement, and often there is also a sense of characters off stage, present but unseen at the storyteller's elbow. Perhaps the reason for this awareness of others is that so many of us have lived in crowded places, while it is not always healthy, it is a part of the Welsh experience which is very different from that of our neighbours.

I have not otherwise been able to define a specific characteristic of the Welsh story which makes it immediately identifiable, save for the nationality or place of residence of the writer, but it should be pointed out that some Welsh writers writing in English have faced particular difficulties when they have felt the need to emphasise their difference from English counterparts. Often this need has led to stereotyped patterns of speech, the whimsicality of which often gives a false impression. At the back of it, one suspects the seductive pressures of those who like to see their Welshmen as clowns or 'characters', but it should also be said that many Welshmen have woven myths about themselves and their country with mischievous delight, and one doubts if they needed much more encouragement. Of course, this forced use of language can be detected in other literatures, some of them colonialist, and it is perhaps the inevitable consequence of the dominance of a distant metropolis. Having said that, it is only fair to note that many of the short story writers who write in English received their first encouragement in

England, and indeed some of them, like Alun Lewis, represented here by an almost unknown story of army life, are at their best away from home. In his case, he was probably more searching as an observer with a foreign eye and his stories dealing with English life were perhaps more acutely observed than those dealing with his native South Wales. There is an abundance of riches from which the anthologist may choose and my task has been made easier by the selections of other editors whose choices I have tried not to duplicate where possible.

I have said that these stories were chosen because they please one reader and are of a place and time, but I have also had a number of other considerations in mind and I have tried to represent all Welsh writers, including those whose work belies the concept of Wales as a homogeneous society, some who write in English and others who write exclusively in Welsh and for whom Welsh is the first language. All arguments about degrees of Welshness I find to be fruitless; for me, the story is the thing, although on re-reading so many stories in preparing this volume, I could not help but detect the security of so many writers in the Welsh language, which has freed them from painful attempts to emphasise their nationality, a strain which affected the work of their counterparts writing in English for a time. Ironically, this freedom seems to be in danger of ending and, judging by some of the stories made available in translation, appears to have been replaced by the aim of political conversion, to the detriment, in my view, of the storyteller's art. However, the representation of writers in the Welsh language, translated here, is varied enough to warrant a further anthology comprised solely of stories translated from the original. It is my hope that the Wales of the past and the present is well represented in this volume, together with the world of work and workmen in some of our more ravaged terrains, as an aspect which has tended to be neglected in the past.

14. According to the author, he considers it essential for a short story to:

- A. grab his attention from the start.
- B. evoke emotions of sympathy.
- C. be at the correct length.
- D. enrich his understanding.

15. The stories are implied to:

- A. authentically portray life in Wales.
- B. plot a glamorous picture of Welsh life.
- C. exaggerate the living conditions of Welsh.
- D. delineate certain aspects of Welsh life.

16. Unlike their English counterparts, Welsh writers:

- A. share the same qualities as their own characters.
- B. possess a particular sense of place.
- C. steer clear of their societies and avoid any exposure to them.
- D. abhor writing about their communities

17. It is suggested that Welsh writers writing in English:

- A. may be indistinguishable from novelists writing in Welsh.
- B. may make inept translation of their works from English into Welsh.
- C. may be confronted with hardships in highlighting their distinction.
- D. may misuse common patterns of speech and create false impressions.

18. Alun Lewis is cited as an example illustrating the point that:

- A. the best source of inspiration for a writer may not be their country of origin.
- B. observing life with the eye of a foreigner may bring undesirable outcomes.
- C. forcible use of language is noticeable in many literatures.
- D. stories of life should be told by novelists unfamiliar with the culture.

19. The writer says that his selection of stories has been made easier:

- A. because he ignores some authors in the first place.
- B. since there are a large number of stories to choose.
- C. as options he selected before are to be abandoned.
- D. for he eschews the inclusion of similar stories to his counterparts.

20. According to the passage, writers in Welsh differentiate from those in English in that:

- A. they are more knowledgeable about the Welsh culture.
- B. they shoulder no responsibility for portraying their country.
- C. they feel no burden to accentuate their country of origin.
- D. they fail to perceive the need to highlight their differences.

21. The passage suggests that storytellers' skills suffer when:

- A. writers deviate from their common patterns of speech.
- B. writing a sound story is no longer their main purpose.
- C. writers free themselves of shackles in writing.
- D. the plots of stories are distorted during translation.

22. The writer suggests that the book includes:

- A. many collections of stories amassed by the editor.
- B. description of a subject receiving little notice previously.
- C. colored illustrations of Welsh life in the past and present.
- D. only Welsh writers who see Wales as a multicultural country.

23. In the book, this extract most probably serves as:

- A. a foreword.
- B. a biography.
- C. a preface.
- D. a prologue.

Part 3. You are going to read an extract from a report on men's fashion. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs A - H the one which fits each gap (24 - 30). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

Has Menswear Changed?

In the not-so-distant past, say forty or fifty years ago, menswear — or men's haberdashery as it was regularly, quaintly referred to then — was more easily defined by what it was not: it was not colourful, it was not attention-seeking, nor was it self-conscious.

24.	
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Not surprisingly, the typical male attitude toward their wardrobes used to be one of, if not disinterest, then studied nonchalance. Given the available choices, it wasn't hard for the average man to believe that his wardrobe needn't be a large one, and that his clothing choices ought to be few but well-loved. On the other hand, if a man appeared too interested in clothes, heads would start shaking, eyebrows would start rising, and jokes would start to fly.

25.	
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Since those times, of course, there have been many changes — little events like the women's movement, the 60s and the fights for civil and gay rights — all of which have conspired to shift the way men and women view them-selves, and by extension, what they extend across their bodies. While the changes that have transformed women's fashion have been well documented, there has also been a revolution in menswear and in men. We've lived through periods in which it was not unusual to see men with hair to their waists, or when a man's political beliefs were most nakedly expressed by his decision to wear nothing at all.

26.	
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Even in the 60s, a period characterised as being explosive and more conducive to change, such a mismatch of cloth-ing and venue would have been unacceptable. For participants as well as for those who remained on the sidelines, the period brought on the storms those grey, cloudy skies had been promising so many years before. It hardly mattered that the skies didn't open up evenly on everyone — the atmosphere had changed irrevocably nonetheless.

27.	
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Men couldn't change until the world that men created had changed. And despite those who would want to turn the clock back to an earlier time, when men were above being questioned, when men felt — excuse the expression — as though they were kings of the world, the truth is that men really have got better, albeit some of them kicking and screaming along the way. So has the way they're dressing.

28.	
-----	--

A man's clothing options were still more defined by the sorts of activities he participated in — business, leisure, athletics —than by an ability to express who he was by his choice

of sandals and swimming trunks, if ultimate freedom of dress had for a moment seemed within men's grasp, as the 70s went on it remained elusively at arm's length.

29.

Newly rich, often creative types adopted a style of dress that would come to say as much about being part of the establishment as it would about the power of style. It wasn't long before being stylish became part of the recipe for being powerful.

30.

While none of the issues that has affected men's fashion over the last ten or twenty years has gone away, the last several years have nonetheless seen a flowering of the assorted ideas that have come out of the various passages of our collective history. Smart designers (and there seem suddenly to be many) are listening to both themselves and the people around them.

A. Of course, every generation has produced a few risk-takers willing to push the envelope of fashion and social acceptability. But for the vast majority, less inclined to strike out in their own creative directions but nonetheless yearning to feed their inner clotheshorse, there was little more to choose from than cotton shirts and silk neckties, the fashion equivalent of hay.

B. This has taken longer than we could have logically expected. it would have been reasonable to suppose that out of all the social changes of the 60s, a newer, freer way of dressing would have presented itself to men by the 70s, and while the cut of a man's suit adopted an undeniable flair, while his ties may have grown wider at the ends and his trousers closer to the thigh, it is also true that things didn't really change all that much either.

C. But the question still remains, has menswear changed? And its answer: you bet. We are now in a time of tremendous options and seemingly endless variety, with no hard and fast rules about shape and colour, and with the onus placed snugly on the consumer to choose what's right and most comfortable for him.

D. Back then, in other words, men's clothing presented all the scope of the horizon just before it rains. Maybe a lapel would stretch a little to the right or left, maybe a trouser leg would widen or narrow, maybe a pleat would be added to a waistband or a shirt tapered closer to the rib cage, but men's fashion, as defined by the prevailing attitude of the day, was formulaic, and any changes were nearly imperceptible.

E. That fact was reflected in many ways far weightier than what men were putting on their backs. And in perhaps one of the most admirable — if unintentional — examples of collective male chivalry ever, the 60s and 70s were a time when men finally stood back and the spotlight was allowed to linger on the changes that affected the lives of such groups as women, minorities, and the underprivileged.

F. Of all the trends and cultural movements that have got men to where they are now, one can't ignore the effect of the financial boom in the early 80s, which in turn led to the next chapter in the menswear revolution.

G. At other times a man in women's clothing garnered not just widespread recognition, but a kind of appreciation, too (granted in the way one would feel about a cartoon character), and conversely, clothes an earlier generation would never have considered wearing out of the gym or off the playing field have muscled their way into daily life.

H. Still, whatever stasis may have existed on the sartorial surface of things, changes — in the form of body-clinging cuts and fabrics and high-cut athletic shorts specifically, and a more open acceptance of the idea of male narcissism generally — bubbled just beneath. Think about how many other designers in the 80s were answering men's need for self-expression.

Your answers

24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
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Part 4. The passage below consists of five paragraphs marked A-E. Read the passage and do the task that follows. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

You are going to read extracts from an article about snowflake

A. It is often claimed that no two snowflakes are alike, but what exactly is the veracity of this statement? Well, although you wouldn't think it to glance at them, snow crystals are rather intricate. For that reason, the answer is by no means clear-cut. For instance,

scientists remain unsure as to how temperature and humidity affect growth. Indeed, moving somewhat tangentially for a moment, nor are they yet certain of the wider climactic effect flakes have. For example, they know that clouds of snow crystals reflect sunlight during the day, producing a cooling affect; although at night they sort of blanket the planet, absorbing the heat it gives off, doing the reverse. So whether such clouds contribute to global warming or not is up for debate on account of these competing effects.

B. As for snow crystals themselves, they undergo various stages of formation before they become fully developed snowflakes. In the developmental stages, they are more simple structures, then they later branch out and become complex. To start with, they resemble fairly plain and uniform six-sided prisms that are hard to distinguish from one another. Such underdeveloped crystals do often fall to the ground prematurely as precipitation. In this case, the probability of close likeness amongst different ones is quite high in relative terms. So, hypothetically, it's quite possible to find two more or less the same, but, in practice, this would be like looking for a needle in a haystack – two, actually, so good luck trying to prove it.

C. However, snowfall is typically comprised of crystals at a more advanced stage of development – true snowflakes, if you will – and here the odds change considerably with the likelihood of very close resemblance dramatically reduced. This is because the ways in which fully developed crystals can arrange themselves are almost infinite. Once crystals have branched out to form large flakes, then, the chances of finding identical twins are, therefore, extremely remote.

D. Another problem with this question is how you define 'alike'. After all, to the naked eye, most flakes look more or less indistinguishable, irrespective of size or shape. Indeed, even under a microscope, more simple crystal formations are strikingly similar to one another, though the unique characteristics of fully formed snowflakes will be revealed. However, an understanding of the science of physics confirms the extreme rarity of identical twins even amongst superficially similar flakes. In other words, at a molecular level, likeness is a near impossibility, so the more closely we examine a flake and the more strictly we define the notion of likeness, the less probable it becomes to ever identify two crystals which are truly alike.

E. It is, in a way, somewhat reassuring, though, that something as seemingly simple as a snowflake which is in actuality incredibly complex, can still be uniformly beautiful in another purer, more innocent sense. For, once the flakes have made landfall and begun to amass, snow is, to a degree, just snow, and it takes on that kind of magical, fairy-tale quality that only it can evoke in so many people, but particularly the young, who have less need to worry about the logistical implications of it amassing in ever greater quantities, and, indeed, who usually welcome the closure of facilities, particularly academic ones, that is normally commensurate with such accumulations. For it is the way of the universe as a whole, is it not? Order springs from chaos, beauty is born from the most unlikely, disordered and chance set of circumstances. Indeed, as a self-proclaimed glass-half-full person, I like to think that we, human beings, are not all that dissimilar to

snowflakes, actually. After all, each one of us is, on some level, utterly unique, and yet, remove all the complexities of life and the over-analysis, and, on another, we are all precisely the same; hopeful, flawed, loving, caring, jealous and imperfect; perfectly so. The sooner we understand that, the better for both our species and the wider world we inhabit, snow-covered or otherwise.

In which extract

- 31. is a blazing row amongst scientists over the effects of something underscored?
- 32. does the writer shed light on their personal life views?
- 33. is the vanity of proving something likened to searching for an everyday object?
- 34. does the writer examine the different ways likeness can be interpreted?
- 35. does the writer allude to the disturbances brought about by snowflakes in daily life?
- 36. is the composition of young snow crystals differentiated in some detail?
- 37. are the range of possible forms flakes can take defined as almost never-ending?
- 38. is the slim chance of two developed snowflakes being similar first elucidated?
- 39. does the writer suggest the closer something is inspected, the less likely an outcome is?
- 40. does the writer suggest that simplification can exert a beneficial impact on the world?

Your answers

31.	32.	33.	34.	35.
36.	37.	38.	39.	40.

Key and explanations:

1. True

This is perhaps both the phone's greatest strength and its greatest weakness because, for all the good of having a large, sharp screen image, this comes at a cost, that being that the HTC is a bulkier, weightier model than most of its peers.

2. False

The Nexus employs energy-efficient screen technology, making it an instant hit for the many who have been thus far frustrated by the lack of battery longevity smartphones have offered up. Design isn't compromised either and this handset is light and compact (the practicalities are covered then) not to mention sleek and funky

3. True

The new iPhone has the sharpest and clearest display of any smartphone on the market, and, quite simply, in almost every aspect of design, it is king

4. False

Let's not overlook the vast number of complementary media apps - Apple is in a league of its own in the apps market, and this is perhaps one of the main reasons it has so many diehard fans

5. False

The new Motorola should not be thought of so much as a smartphone; as a mini-computer, such is the manner in which this device performs. With massive processing and memory capabilities...

6. Not given

With massive processing and memory capabilities, Motorola users can download video, image and music files without giving a second thought to whether or not there is enough unused space, and, with 16GB internal memory and scope to add on another 32GB via an external memory card, why would you?

7. Not given

As things stand, the Motorola is a definite player and will appeal to those for whom the smartphone is primarily a work-related device, as its unrivaled processing capability and compatibility with most office software make it the perfect travel companion for every busy businessman and businesswoman out there

8. techie circles

9. quality of kit

10. multimedia credentials

11. diehard fans

12. battery life

13. genuine contender

Part 2.

14. D. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở câu 1 và câu 3 đoạn 1, cụ thể là các phần thông tin sau: "... and is at its best when it presents a revealing insight into a person in a particular situation." và "... but ultimately, I must know more at the end than I did at the beginning." Từ những dữ kiện này, ta có thể suy ra rằng tác giả bài viết coi trọng việc một truyện ngắn có thể làm giàu thêm cho vốn tri thức của ông, giúp ông hiểu biết nhiều hơn so với trước khi đọc truyện. Từ đó ta chọn phương án D. Phương án A không hợp lí vì tuy có dữ kiện "... I am so involved at the outset that my attention does not wander" nhưng tác giả chỉ nói rằng "It is a help", tức là nếu như một truyện ngắn có thể thu hút được sự chú ý của ông trong suốt quá trình đọc thì càng tốt song không nhất thiết phải vậy. Phương án B không hợp lí vì dữ kiện "... my sympathies are immediately engaged" nhưng đó cũng chỉ là "a help" (tương tự phương án A). Phương án C không chính xác vì tuy có dữ kiện "which has its own necessary length, neither too long nor too short", nhưng thông tin này không đề cập đến thái độ của tác giả, và tầm quan trọng của độ dài truyện.

15. A. Các phương án có nội dung chung là miêu tả cuộc sống ở xứ Wales, và chỉ khác nhau về cách miêu tả cũng như đối tượng được miêu tả. Ta chọn được phương án A nhờ thông tin ở câu 3 đoạn 2: "They reflect Wales, not always flatteringly, as it is and has been." Từ những thông tin như: "not always flatteringly" và "as it is and has been", có thể suy ra rằng những câu chuyện ngắn miêu tả xứ Wales một cách chân thực như nó vốn và đang như vậy (không bóng bẩy, tô vẽ cho đẹp thêm). Từ đó ta chọn được phương án A (authentically nghĩa là một cách chân thực). Các phương án còn lại có nội dung không chính xác, không hợp lí nên ta loại.

16. B. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở câu 4 của đoạn 2: “English writers, it has been said, are often refugees from society, but almost all the stories in this book written by Welsh men and women show a concern for a particular landscape or community.” Từ thông tin này, có thể suy ra những cây bút quốc tịch Wales thường thể hiện sự quan tâm của họ đối với một khung cảnh hay một cộng đồng nhất định. Phương án B phản ánh được nội dung này (a sense of place: sự hiểu biết, quan tâm đến nơi chốn, địa điểm) nên đây là phương án chính xác. Phương án A có thể gây nhầm lẫn do dữ kiện: “It is as if Welsh writers cannot escape this involvement, and often there is also a sense of characters off stage, present but unseen at the storyteller’s elbow.”, tuy nhiên cần chú ý thông tin này không phục vụ trả lời câu hỏi, và cũng không đủ để khẳng định những cây bút người Wales mang những đặc điểm tương đồng với nhân vật của họ. Phương án C và D không được đề cập trong bài (phương án C có nét giống với đặc điểm của những cây bút người Anh ở phương diện lánh xa thế giới).

17. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở câu đầu đoạn 3, cụ thể là phần thông tin sau: “... it should be pointed out that some Welsh writers writing in English have faced particular difficulties when they have felt the need to emphasise their difference from English counterparts.” Từ thông tin này, ta suy ra được những nhà văn quốc tịch Wales sáng tác bằng tiếng Anh có thể gặp khó khăn trong việc làm họ trở nên nổi bật, nhấn mạnh vào sự khác biệt của họ so với những cây bút quốc tịch Anh. Từ đó ta chọn phương án C. Các phương án còn lại đều không được đề cập trong bài đọc nên ta loại.

18. A. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án A nằm ở câu 5 đoạn 3, cụ thể là phần thông tin sau: “... many of the short story writers who write in English received their first encouragement in England, and indeed some of them, like Alun Lewis, represented here by an almost unknown story of army life, are at their best away from home.” Từ dữ kiện này, ta có thể suy ra rằng Alun Lewis là một ví dụ cho việc động lực lớn nhất cho sự sáng tạo, sáng tác của các nhà văn có thể không phải là đất nước mà họ sinh ra (nội dung phương án A). Từ thông tin trên, ta loại đi các phương án còn lại vì chúng không phù hợp.

19. D. Để trả lời cho câu hỏi này, ta cần dựa vào thông tin ở câu cuối của đoạn 3: “There is an abundance of riches from which the anthologist may choose and my task has been made easier by the selections of other editors whose choices I have tried not to duplicate where possible.” Từ dữ kiện này, ta suy ra được rằng tác giả không muốn đưa vào cuốn sách những truyện ngắn đã được những người khác chọn rồi. Từ đó ta chọn được D là phương án chính xác. Phương án A không chính xác bởi vì người viết nói rằng ông đã lọc ra những truyện ngắn được những người biên tập khác chọn, chứ không phải là một số tác giả ngay từ đầu. Phương án B có nội dung đúng tuy nhiên không trả lời cho câu hỏi được đưa ra nên ta loại. Phương án C không hợp lí vì người viết lọc ra những truyện ngắn đã được chọn bởi những người biên tập khác, chứ không phải là bởi ông.

20. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở câu 2 đoạn cuối, cụ thể là ở phần thông tin sau: "... I could not help but detect the security of so many writers in the Welsh language, which has freed them from painful attempts to emphasise their nationality, a strain which affected the work of the counterparts writing in English for a time." Từ dữ kiện này, ta suy ra được rằng những nhà văn sáng tác bằng tiếng xứ Wales không phải chịu áp lực về việc phải làm nổi bật, nhấn mạnh vào sự khác biệt của bản thân, từ đó ta chọn C là phương án chính xác. Các phương án còn lại không đủ căn cứ để xác định tính đúng, sai hoặc có nội dung chưa đúng nên ta loại.

21. B. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở câu 3 đoạn cuối: " Ironically, this freedom seems to be in danger of ending and, judging by some of the stories made available in translation, appears to have been replaced by the aim of political conversion, to the detriment, in my view, of the storyteller's art." Từ dữ kiện này, ta suy ra được rằng những người sáng tác truyện ngắn đang chuyển hướng sang một mục đích khác không phải là viết ra một tác phẩm hay, mà mang mục đích chính trị, và điều đó gây ảnh hưởng đến kỹ thuật của người kể chuyện. Từ đó ta chọn được phương án B. Các phương án còn lại không trả lời cho câu hỏi hoặc không được đề cập trong bài nên ta loại.

22. B. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở câu cuối cùng của bài đọc, cụ thể là ở phần thông tin: "... together with the world of work and workmen in some of our more ravaged terrains, an aspect which has tended to be neglected in the past." Từ dữ kiện này, ta suy ra được rằng trong cuốn sách này, sẽ có phần miêu tả về thế giới của những người lao động ở nơi địa hình không thuận lợi, bị tàn phá nặng nề, một chủ đề mà thường bị bỏ qua trong quá khứ. Từ đó ta chọn được phương án B là phương án chính xác. Phương án A không hợp lí vì không có đủ căn cứ để xác định rằng nội dung này đúng. Phương án C không được đề cập trong bài. Phương án D không đúng với nội dung trong bài: "... I have tried to represent all Welsh writers, including those whose work belies the concept of Wales as a homogeneous society..."

23. C. Để làm được câu hỏi này, trước tiên ta cần hiểu các từ trong các phương án là phần nào của một cuốn sách. Từ biography ở phương án B là tiểu sử, mô tả thân thế, sự nghiệp, cuộc sống của tác giả. Ba từ còn lại đều là những phần mang tính giới thiệu về cuốn sách, bổ sung hoặc tạo dựng nền cảnh để câu chuyện được mở ra, tuy nhiên giữa ba từ này có sự khác biệt về nghĩa. Từ foreword chỉ một đoạn giới thiệu (thường ngắn) của một người khác không phải là tác giả cuốn sách (thường là đồng nghiệp, nhà phê bình, một cơ quan báo chí nào đó,...) để tóm tắt nội dung sách. Từ preface chỉ lời nói đầu, là nơi mà tác giả cuốn sách bày tỏ mục đích viết sách, hành trình viết sách, hé mở nội dung sách, nhấn gửi tới người đọc,... Từ prologue chỉ một đoạn thoại, đoạn văn mà một nhân vật trong câu chuyện thể hiện nhằm xây dựng bối cảnh cho truyện để dẫn vào chương đầu tiên của truyện. Từ việc giải nghĩa được các từ, kết hợp với những chi tiết như: "my task has been

made easier”, “I have tried to represent all Welsh writers”, “I have said that these stories were chosen...”, “on re-reading so many stories in preparing this volume”, ta có thể thấy tác giả của bài viết cũng là tác giả của cuốn sách, nên bài đọc là preface.

Part 3.

24. D

In the not-so-distant past, say forty or fifty years ago, menswear — or men's haberdashery as it was regularly, quaintly referred to then — was more easily defined by what it was not: it was not colourful, it was not attention-seeking, nor was it self-conscious... **Back then**, in other words, men's clothing presented all the scope of the horizon just before it rains.

25. A

On the other hand, if a man appeared too interested in clothes, **heads would start shaking, eyebrows would start rising, and jokes would start to fly...** Of course, every generation has produced a few **risk-takers** willing to push the envelope of fashion and social acceptability.

26. G

clothes an earlier generation would never have considered **wearing out of the gym or off the playing field** have muscled their way into daily life... **such a mismatch of clothing and venue** would have been unacceptable

27. E

It hardly mattered that the skies didn't open up evenly on everyone — the atmosphere had changed irrevocably nonetheless... **That fact** was reflected in many ways far weightier than what men were putting on their backs.

28. B

it is also true that **things didn't really change all that much either...** **A man's clothing options were still more defined by the sorts of activities he participated in** — business, leisure, athletics — than by an ability to express who he was by his choice of sandals and swimming trunks

29. F

one can't ignore the effect of the financial boom in the early 80s, which in turn led to **the next chapter in the menswear revolution... Newly rich, often creative types adopted a style of dress that would come to say as much about being part of the establishment as it would about the power of style**

30. C

We are now in a time of tremendous options and seemingly endless variety, with no hard and fast rules about shape and colour, and with **the onus placed snugly on the consumer to choose what's right and most comfortable for him...**

While none of the issues that has affected men's fashion over the last ten or twenty years has gone away, the last several years have nonetheless seen **a flowering of the assorted ideas that have come out of the various passages of our collective history.**

Part 4.

31. A

So whether such clouds contribute to global warming or not is up for debate on account of these competing effects.

32. E

the logistical implications of it amassing in ever greater quantities, and, indeed, who usually welcome the closure of facilities, particularly academic ones, that is normally commensurate with such accumulations.

33. B

This would be like looking for a needle in a haystack

34. D

Another problem with this question is how you define 'alike'

35. E

Indeed, as a self-proclaimed glass-half-full person, I like to think that we, human beings, are not all that dissimilar to snowflakes, actually. After all, each one of us is, on some level, utterly unique, and yet, remove all the complexities of life and the over-analysis, and, on another, we are all precisely the same; hopeful, flawed, loving, caring, jealous

and imperfect; perfectly so. The sooner we understand that, the better for both our species and the wider world we inhabit, snow-covered or otherwise

36. B

As for snow crystals themselves, they undergo various stages of formation before they become fully developed snowflakes. In the developmental stages, they are more simple structures, then they later branch out and become complex.

37. C

This is because the ways in which fully developed crystals can arrange themselves are almost infinite.

38. C

Once crystals have branched out to form large flakes, then, the chances of finding identical twins are, therefore, extremely remote.

39. D

In other words, at a molecular level, likeness is a near impossibility, so the more closely we examine a flake and the more strictly we define the notion of likeness, the less probable it becomes to ever identify two crystals which are truly alike.

40. E

Indeed, as a self-proclaimed glass-half-full person, I like to think that we, human beings, are not all that dissimilar to snowflakes, actually. After all, each one of us is, on some level, utterly unique, and yet, remove all the complexities of life and the over-analysis, and, on another, we are all precisely the same; hopeful, flawed, loving, caring, jealous and imperfect; perfectly so. The sooner we understand that, the better for both our species and the wider world we inhabit, snow-covered or otherwise

TEST 9

Part 1. For questions 1-13, read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

Company innovation

A. In a scruffy office in midtown Manhattan, a team of 30 artificial-intelligence programmers is trying to simulate the brains of an eminent sexologist, a well known dietician, a celebrity fitness trainer and several other experts. Umagic Systems is a young firm, setting up websites that will allow clients to consult the virtual versions of these personalities. Subscribers will feed in details about themselves and their goals; Umagic's software will come up with the advice that the star expert would give. Although few people have lost money betting on the neuroses of the American consumer, Umagic's prospects are hard to gauge (in ten years' time, consulting a computer about your sex life might seem natural, or it might seem absurd). But the company and others like it are beginning to spook large American firms, because they see such half-barmy "innovative" ideas as the key to their own future success.

B. Innovation has become the buzz-word of American management. Firms have found that most of the things that can be outsourced or re-engineered have been (worryingly, by their competitors as well). The stars of American business tend today to be innovators such as Dell, Amazon and Wal-Mart, which have produced ideas or products that changed their industries

C. A new book by two consultants from Arthur D. Little records that, over the past 15 years, the top 20% of firms in an annual innovation poll by Fortune magazine have achieved double the shareholder returns of their peers. Much of today's merger boom is driven by a desperate search for new ideas. So is the fortune now spent on licensing and buying others' intellectual property. According to the Pasadena-based Patent & Licence Exchange, trading in intangible assets in the United States has risen from \$15 billion in 1990 to \$100 billion in 1998, with an increasing proportion of the rewards going to small firms and individuals.

D. And therein lies the terror for big companies: that innovation seems to work best outside them. Several big established "ideas factories", including 3M, Procter & Gamble and Rubbermaid, have had dry spells recently. Gillette spent ten years and \$1 billion developing its new Mach 3 razor; it took a British supermarket only a year or so to produce a reasonable imitation. "In the management of creativity, size is your enemy," argues Peter Chemin, who runs the Fox TV and film empire for News Corporation. One person managing 20 movies is never going to be as involved as one doing five movies.

He has thus tried to break down the studio into smaller units—even at the risk of incurring higher costs.

E. It is easier for ideas to thrive outside big firms these days. In the past, if a clever scientist had an idea he wanted to commercialise, he would take it first to a big company. Now, with plenty of cheap venture capital, he is more likely to set up on his own. Umagic has already raised \$5m and is about to raise \$25m more. Even in capital-intensive businesses such as pharmaceuticals, entrepreneurs can conduct early-stage research, selling out to the big firms when they reach expensive, risky clinical trials. Around a third of drug firms' total revenue now comes from licensed-in technology.

F. Some giants, including General Electric and Cisco, have been remarkably successful at snapping up and integrating scores of small companies. But many others worry about the prices they have to pay and the difficulty in hanging on to the talent that dreamt up the idea. Everybody would like to develop more ideas in-house. Procter & Gamble is now shifting its entire business focus from countries to products; one aim is to get innovations accepted across the company. Elsewhere, the search for innovation has led to a craze for “intrapreneurship”—devolving power and setting up internal ideas-factories and tracking stocks so that talented staff will not leave.

G. Some people think that such restructuring is not enough. In a new book Clayton Christensen argues that many things which established firms do well, such as looking after their current customers, can hinder the sort of innovative behaviour needed to deal with disruptive technologies. Hence the fashion for cannibalisation—setting up businesses that will actually fight your existing ones. Bank One, for instance, has established Wingspan, an Internet bank that competes with its real branches (see article). Jack Welch's Internet initiative at General Electric is called “Destroyyourbusiness.com”.

H. Nobody could doubt that innovation matters. But need large firms be quite so pessimistic? A recent survey of the top 50 innovations in America, by Industry Week, a journal, suggested that ideas are as likely to come from big firms as from small ones. Another skeptical note is sounded by Amar Bhidé, a colleague of Mr Christensen's at the Harvard Business School and the author of another book on entrepreneurship. Rather than having to reinvent themselves, big companies, he believes, should concentrate on projects with high costs and low uncertainty, leaving those with low costs and high uncertainty to small entrepreneurs. As ideas mature and the risks and rewards become more quantifiable, big companies can adopt them.

I. At Kimberly-Clark, Mr Sanders had to discredit the view that jobs working on new products were for “those who couldn't hack it in the real business.” He has tried to change the culture not just by preaching fuzzy concepts but also by introducing hard incentives, such as increasing the rewards for those who come up with successful new

ideas and, particularly, not punishing those whose experiments fail. The genesis of one of the firm's current hits, Depend, a more dignified incontinence garment, lay in a previous miss, Kotex Personals, a form of disposable underwear for menstruating women.

J. Will all this creative destruction, cannibalisation and culture tweaking make big firms more creative? David Post, the founder of Umagic, is sceptical: "The only successful intrapreneurs are ones who leave and become entrepreneurs." He also recalls with glee the looks of total incomprehension when he tried to hawk his "virtual experts" idea three years ago to the idea labs of firms such as IBM though, as he cheerfully adds, "of course, they could have been right." Innovation unlike, apparently, sex, parenting and fitness is one area where a computer cannot tell you what to do.

Questions 1 - 6

Which section contains the following information?

Write the correct number on the given boxes. .

- i The unpredictability of the public's viewpoints about a certain topic in the future
- ii A list of certain institutions that are having fewer business activities
- iii A type of firms that are resorted to compulsive consumption for new ideas
- iv The insatiable thirst for outstanding innovations being an impetus to big impacts on the market.
- v Some moguls which expressed financial concerns when investing in the acquisition of smaller companies.
- vi The reason why American business trends are highlighting the importance of initiatives
- vii A company that is able to going through economic falters itself.
- viii Small firms that can make certain impacts on bigger ones when the former possesses more potential ideas.
- ix Example of three famous American companies' innovation
- x A type of firms that are regarded fly-by-night when investing in entrepreneurship.

1 Section A

2. Section B

3. Section C

4. Section D

5. Section E

6. Section F

Your answer

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
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Questions 7-13

In boxes 7-13, write: Y (Yes), N (No), NG (Not Given)

Yes if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer

No if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer

Not Given if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

7. Peter infers his unwillingness to invest more in restructuring his organization in return for better creativity management.

8. Some small organizations have a craving for ideas that are regarded as an admixture of “innovative” and “strange”.

9. Umagic is head and shoulders above other competitors in such a new field.

10. A new trend that has already superseded “entrepreneurship” in one area may directly impact living organizations.

11. Big giants prioritize innovations with low certainty on the understanding that big risks are parallel to big profits.

12. It takes many years for Mr Sanders to successfully ditch preconceived ideas in his organization.

13. The author expressed a positive attitude towards the development of innovations at the end of the passage.

Your answer

7.	8.	9.	10	11.	12.	13.
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Part 2. For questions 14-23, read an extract from an article and choose the answer A, B, C or D that fits best according to the text. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

The Vanishing Tourist

One day, there will be no more tourists. There will be adventurers, fieldwork assistants, volunteers and, of course, travellers. There might still be those who quietly slip away to foreign lands for nothing more than pure pleasure, but it will be a secretive and frowned upon pursuit. No one will want to own up to being one of those. It might even be illegal.

Already tourists are discouraged from entering certain areas, and new names are being added to the list of territories where we should fear to tread. The charitable organisation Tourism Concern identifies seven countries as having areas that have been adversely affected by tourism. Tourists only wreak havoc. Tourists only destroy the natural environment. Tourists only **emasculate** local cultures. Tourists bring nothing with them but their money. They must be stopped at any price.

Yet less than 40 years ago, tourism was encouraged as an unquestionable good. With the arrival of the package holiday and charter flights, tourism could at last be enjoyed by the masses. By the 1980s, tourism was the largest and fastest-growing industry in the world and, by the end of the decade, 20 million Britons a year went abroad on holiday.

It won't be easy to wipe out this massive, ever growing tribe. Today there are more than 700m 'tourist arrivals' each year. The World Tourism Organisation forecasts that, by 2020, there will be 1.56 billion tourists travelling at any one time. The challenge to forcibly curtail more than a billion tourists from going where they want to go is so immense as to be impossible. You cannot make so many economically empowered people stop doing something they want to do unless you argue that it is of such extreme damage to the welfare of the world that only the truly malicious, utterly selfish and totally irresponsible would ever consider doing it. This is clearly absurd; whatever benefits or otherwise may accrue from tourism, it is not, despite what a tiny minority say, evil. It can cause harm. It can be morally neutral. And it can, occasionally, be a force for great good.

So the tourist is being attacked by more subtle methods: by being re-branded in the hope we won't recognise it as the unattractive entity it once was. The word 'tourist' is being removed from anything that was once called a holiday in the pamphlet that was once called a holiday brochure. Of course, adventurers, fieldwork assistants, volunteers and travellers don't go on holidays. Un-tourists (as I will call them) go on things called 'cultural experiences', 'expeditions', 'projects', 'mini-ventures' and, most tellingly, 'missions'. A Coral Cay Conservation Expedition flyer says: 'The mission of any Coral Cay Conservation Volunteer is to help sustain livelihoods and alleviate poverty.'

The word mission is apposite. While this re-branding is **supposed to present a progressive, modernistic approach** to travel, in fact it is firmly **rooted in the Victorian experience**. Like Victorian travellers, the modern day un-tourist insists that the main motive behind their adventure is to help others. Whereas the mass tourist and the area they visit are condemned as anti-ethical and **at loggerheads**, the ethos of the un-tourist and the needs of the area they wander into are **presumed to be in tune** with each other. Environmental charity *Earthwatch*, which organises holidays for ‘volunteers’, assures that they will provide ‘life-changing’ opportunities for you and the environment ... See the world and give it a future.’

Un-tourists are very concerned about holding the moral high ground. Afraid of being tainted by association, they avoid identifiably tourist structures, such as hotels. They prefer to stay in a tent, a cabin, local-style houses such as yurts, thatched huts or, a typical example, ‘a traditional Malay wooden stilt house’. These, they believe, are somehow more in keeping with something they call local culture. Local culture is very important to the un-tourist, whereas the mass tourist is believed to both shun and obliterate it.

Un-tourism relies upon exclusivity; it is all about preventing other people travelling in order that you might legitimise your own travels. Pretending you are not doing something that you actually are – going on holiday – is at the heart of the un-tourist endeavour. Every aspect of the experience has to be disguised. Gone are the glossy brochures. Instead, the expeditions, projects and adventures are advertised in publications more likely to resemble magazines with a concern in ecological or cultural issues. The price is usually well hidden, as if there is a reluctance to admit that this is, in essence, a commercial transaction. There is something unedifying about having to pay to do good.

14. What does the passage suggest about tourists in the future?

- A. They will try to minimize risks of being recognized as tourists.
- B. They will assume various responsibilities and fulfill them.
- C. They will travel stealthily and follow fixed modes of behaviour.
- D. They will eschew tourism as a way of entertaining themselves.

15. In the second paragraph, what said about tourism is closest to a method of:

- A. self-correcting
- B. fault-finding
- C. castigating
- D. acclaiming

16. The second paragraph is most probably to disprove:

- A. tourists’ disregard for local cultures.
- B. tourism’s benefits to indigenous people.

- B. demotivizing other people with regard to travelling.
- C. masquerading as well-meaning travellers.
- D. promoting local cultures in places they visit.

23. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a method used by un-tourists to achieve their goals?

- A. associating travel with purposes different from pure pleasure.
- B. publicizing their missions in magazines.
- C. concealing the prices involved in their travels.
- D. shunning places recognizable as accommodation for tourists.

Your answers

14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.

Part 3. You are going to read about investigations into the origins of the universe. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs A - H the one which fits each gap (24 - 30). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

THE ORIGINS OF THE UNIVERSE

A powerful conviction for me is the idea that as we converge on the moment of creation, the constituents and laws of the universe become ever simpler. A useful analogy here is life itself, or, more simply, a single human being. Each of us is a vastly complex entity, assembled from many different tissues and capable of countless behaviours and thoughts.

24.	
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Cosmology is showing us that this complexity flowed from a deep simplicity as matter metamorphosed through a series of phase transitions. Travel back in time through those phase transitions, and we see an ever-greater simplicity and symmetry, with the fusion of the fundamental forces of nature and the transformation of particles to ever-more fundamental components.

25.

Go back further still. What was there before the big bang? What was there before time began? Facing this question challenges our faith in the power of science to find explanations of nature. The existence of a singularity — in this case the given, unique state from which the universe emerged — is anathema to science, because it is beyond explanation.

26.

Cosmologists have long struggled to avoid this bad dream by seeking explanations of the universe that avoid the necessity of a beginning. Einstein, remember, refused to believe the implication of his own equations — that the universe is expanding and therefore must have had a beginning — and invented the cosmological constant to avoid it. Only when Einstein saw Hubble's observations of an expanding universe could he bring himself to believe his equations.

27.

Stephen Hawking and J B Hartle tried to resolve the challenge differently, by arguing the singularity out of existence. Flowing from an attempt at a theory of quantum gravity, they agreed that time is finite, but without a beginning. Think of the surface of a sphere. The surface is finite, but it has no beginning or end — you can trace your finger over it continuously, perhaps finishing up where you began. Suppose the universe is a sphere of space time. Travel around the surface, and again you may finish up where you started both in space and time.

28.

We simply do not know yet whether there was a beginning of the universe, and so the origin of space-time remains in terra incognita. No question is more fundamental, whether cast in scientific or theological terms. My conviction is that science will continue to move ever closer to the moment of creation, facilitated by the ever-greater simplicity

we find there. Some physicists argue that matter is ultimately reducible to pointlike objects with certain intrinsic properties.

29.	
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To an engineer, the difference between nothing and practically nothing might be close enough. To a scientist, such a difference, however miniscule, would be everything. We might find ourselves experiencing Jarrow's bad dream, facing a final question: Why? "Why questions are not amenable to scientific inquiry and will always reside within philosophy and theology, which may provide solace if not material explication.

30.	
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The list of cosmic coincidences required for our existence in the universe is long, moving Stephen Hawking to remark that, "the odds against a universe like ours emerging out of something like the big bang are enormous." Princeton physicist Freeman Dyson went further, and said: "The more I examine the universe and the details of its architecture, the more evidence I find that the universe in some sense must have known we were coming." This concatenation of coincidences required for our presence in this universe has been termed the anthropic principle. In fact, it is merely a statement of the, obvious: Had things been different, we would not exist.

A. This, of course, requires time travel, in violation of Mach's principle. But the world of quantum mechanics, with its uncertainty principle, is an alien place in which otherworldly things can happen. It is so foreign a place that it may even be beyond human understanding.

B. But what if the universe we see were the only one possible, the product of a singular initial state shaped by singular laws of nature? It is clear that the minutest variation in the value of a series of fundamental properties of the universe would have resulted in no universe at all, or at least a very alien universe. For instance, if the strong nuclear force had been slightly weaker, the universe would have been composed of hydrogen only. An expansion more rapid by one part in a million would have excluded the formation of stars and planets.

C. Trace that person back through his or her life, back beyond birth to the moment of fertilisation of a single ovum by a single sperm. The individual becomes ever simpler, ultimately encapsulated as information encoded in DNA. The development that gradually transforms a DNA code into a mature individual is an unfolding, a complexification, as the information in the DNA is translated and manifested through many stages of life. So, I believe, it is with the universe. We can see how very complex the universe is now, and we are part of that complexity.

D. Others argue that fundamental particles are extraordinarily tiny strings that vibrate to produce their properties. Either way, it is possible to envisage creation of the universe from almost nothing — not nothing, but practically nothing. Almost creation ex nihilo, but not quite. That would be a great intellectual achievement, but it may still leave us with a limit to how far scientific inquiry can go, finishing with a description of the singularity, but not an explanation of it.

E. For many proponents of the steady state theory, one of its attractions was its provision that the universe had no beginning and no end, and therefore required no explanation of what existed before time = 0. It was known as the perfect cosmological principle.

F. There can be no answer to why such a state existed. Is this, then, where scientific explanation breaks down and God takes over, the artificer of that singularity, that initial simplicity? The astrophysicist Robert Jastrow described such a prospect as the scientist's nightmare: "He has scaled the mountains of ignorance; he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries."

G. Various COBE team members and other cosmologists were on TV, radio talk shows, and in newspapers for several days. The publicity and tremendous public interest provided a unique opportunity to discuss science with a very large audience and to promote the power of human endeavour in pursuing the mysteries of nature.

H. Go back further and we reach a point when the universe was nearly an infinitely tiny, infinitely dense concentration of energy. This increasing simplicity and symmetry of the universe as we near the point of creation gives me hope that we can understand the universe using the powers of reason and philosophy. The universe would then be comprehensible, as Einstein had yearned

Your answers

24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
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Part 4. The passage below consists of four sections marked A, B, C and D. For questions 31-40, read the passage and do the task that follows. Write your answers (A, B, C or D) in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

A Wander through Britain's Woodlands

The president of the Woodland Trust, an organization which encourages people to enjoy the woodlands of Britain, selects his favorite places for an autumn work.

A. Hampstead Heath

Where better for a country walk in autumn than north London? Hampstead Heath is just a few kilometres from the centre of town, but it is one of the capital's best-known beauty spots. And covering very nearly 325 hectares, certainly one of the largest. It is called a heath, although it is in fact a patchwork of not just heath but also parkland and hedgerow, laid out paths, open hillside and overgrown thickets, lakes and ponds - and plenty of woods and trees. The City of London Corporation is now responsible for its upkeep. They fuss about the swimming, designate cycle paths, regulate the fishing, and put up notices about all such dangerous activities. But despite their best efforts, the Heath still feels quite wild. From one popular vantage point there is a panoramic view of central London, where visitors stop to admire the crowded streets and skyscrapers they have come to the Heath to get away from. It's at its best later in the year. When it's warm and sunny it can feel too crowded with casual visitors. But frosts and mist, rain and snow deter the Heath's fair-weather friends.

B. Hainault Forest

This remnant of what was once the vast Forest of Essex is now an attractive stretch of woodland easily reached by the London Underground. The woods around here were a royal forest, but an Act of Parliament of 1851 authorised the cutting down and removal of its trees. And removed they were, grubbed up by all too efficient men and machines - hectare upon hectare laid waste within weeks of the passing of the Act. The devastation stirred the beginnings of the modern conservation movement - local people led by a politician called Edward North Buxton saved and restored Hainault. It is now owned and managed by the Woodland Trust. Hainault is a unique site, which features open heathland, some of which has been recently planted up with native trees by the Woodland Trust, and the dense woodland of the ancient forest.

C. Glen Finglas

Far away from London and the South East, the Trossachs is Scotland. Among the best of the Trossachs is Glen Finglas, the Woodland Trust's 4,000-hectare estate, which can truly take the breath away, particularly during the late autumn when the frosted peaks and still, cold lochs take on an ethereal splendour. For the enthusiastic hill walker, there is a challenging 25-kilometre trail around the hill called The Mell, which takes you on a meander through woodland, alongside a reservoir and into the upper part of the glen, where the remnants of an ancient royal hunting forest give way to the open hillsides of Meall Cala, reaching a height of 600m. It's certainly not a

gentle stroll, but is worth the effort as the views are spectacular. For those after a slightly less arduous journey there are many shorter routes around the site too.

D. Ardkinglas Woodland Gardens

For a slightly different woodland walk in the west of Scotland, head for the Ardkinglas. In addition to native species it features many specimens of firs and pines and other trees from overseas planted in the 19th century, when plant hunting was all the rage. There is plenty of scope for a good walk around its ten hectares. Ardkinglas's sheltered location, high rainfall and warm temperatures all encourage spectacular tree growth, and they claim to have the tallest tree in Britain - a Grand Fir, *Abies grandis* - standing at last time of measuring 64.5 metres high. If you are sceptical of such claims, bring a tape measure and a long ladder. There are many other mighty trees that are impressive all year round but on a clear November day the views towards the loch are fantastic. A couple of miles away on Loch Fyne itself, next to the famous oyster restaurant, Ardkinglas runs a tree shop. So if you want to create your own forest you can buy it and plant it, tree by tree.

Of which place are the following stated?

- 31. The old and the new intermingles.
- 32. Its name isn't strictly accurate.
- 33. This place can take advantage of weather conditions to flourish.
- 34. Official actions have not changed its fundamental character.
- 35. It underwent rapid change over a short period.
- 36. Its cost for preservation is taken charge of by the authority.
- 37. People who are energetic should love this place.
- 38. A special occasion is about to highlight the beauty of the lake there.
- 39. Tourists can reach a destination of beautiful landscapes and lakes through this place.
- 40. A legislation from a governing body directly threw a wrench into the development of this place.

Your answers

31.	32.	33.	34.	35.
36.	37.	38.	39.	40.

Key and explanations:

Part 1.

1. i

“Although few people have lost money betting on the neuroses of the American consumer, Umagic’s prospects are hard to gauge (in ten years’ time, consulting a computer about your sex life might seem natural, or it might seem absurd).”

2. ix

Dell, Amazon and Walmart are three examples included in the paragraph.

3. iv

“...over the past 15 years, the top 20% of firms in an annual innovation poll by Fortune magazine have achieved double the shareholder returns of their peers. Much of today’s merger boom is driven by a desperate search for new ideas. So is the fortune now spent on licensing and buying others’ intellectual property.”

4. ii

“Several big established “ideas factories”, including 3M, Procter & Gamble and Rubbermaid, have had dry spells recently. Gillette spent ten years and \$1 billion developing its new Mach 3 razor; it took a British supermarket only a year or so to produce a reasonable imitation.”

5. vii

“In the past, if a clever scientist had an idea he wanted to commercialise, he would take it first to a big company. Now, with plenty of cheap venture capital, he is more likely to set up on his own. Umagic has already raised \$5m and is about to raise \$25m more”

6. v

“Some giants, including General Electric and Cisco, have been remarkably successful at snapping up and integrating scores of small companies. But many others worry about the prices they have to pay and the difficulty in hanging on to the talent that dreamt up the idea.”

7. Y

“In the management of creativity, size is your enemy,” argues Peter Chemin, who runs the Fox TV and film empire for News Corporation. One person managing 20 movies is never going to be as involved as one doing five movies. He has thus tried to break down the studio into smaller units—even at the risk of incurring higher costs.”

8. Y

“But the company and others like it are beginning to spook large American firms, because they see such half-barmy “innovative” ideas as the key to their own future success.”

9. NG

10. Y

“Hence the fashion for cannibalisation—setting up businesses that will actually fight your existing ones.”

11. Y

“Rather than having to reinvent themselves, big companies, he believes, should concentrate on projects with high costs and low uncertainty, leaving those with low costs and high uncertainty to small entrepreneurs.”

12. NG

13. N

The whole paragraph J is dedicated to the uncertainty of the author.

Part 2.

14. A. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án A nằm ở gần cuối đoạn 1, phần thông tin sau: “No one will want to own up to being one of those.” “those” ở đây là chỉ “tourists”, từ đó ta suy ra được rằng trong tương lai, những người đi du lịch sẽ tránh để không bị phát hiện rằng họ là khách du lịch. Từ đó ta chọn được phương án A. Phương án B có thể gây nhầm lẫn với một loạt các nghề nghiệp được liệt kê ở câu 2 đoạn 1, tuy nhiên không có đủ căn cứ để xác định rằng những người du lịch tương lai có chấp nhận nhiều nhiệm vụ, nhiều trách nhiệm và hoàn thành chúng hay không. Phương án C không hợp lí vì không có thông tin “follow fixed modes of behaviour”. Phương án D không hợp lí vì không đúng với thông tin sau trong bài đọc: “There might still be those who quietly slip away to foreign lands for nothing more than pure pleasure,…”

15. C. Trong đoạn 2, tác giả đã liệt kê ra rất nhiều những tác hại, bất lợi mà du lịch gây ra, với thái độ gay gắt: “Tourists only wreak havoc. Tourists only destroy the natural environment. Tourists only emasculate local cultures. Tourists bring nothing with them but their money. They must be stopped at any price.” Từ những thông tin này, có thể thấy ở đoạn này, tác giả lên án và chỉ trích kịch liệt du lịch, nên ta chọn C (castigate nghĩa là lên án, phê phán gay gắt). Phương án A và D đều không hợp lí (self-correct là tự sửa chữa, tự vận hành theo cách riêng không cần tác động bên ngoài, còn acclaim là khen

ngợi nên đều không hợp lí). Phương án B có nét đúng (fault-finding nghĩa là chỉ trích về điều vụn vặt), tuy nhiên lại chưa thể hiện được thái độ gay gắt của tác giả nên ta không chọn phương án B.

16. C. Dựa vào câu cuối của đoạn 2, kết hợp các dữ kiện khác trong đoạn, ta chọn được phương án C: “They must be stopped at any price.” Đoạn văn chỉ ra những điều không tốt, thậm chí là tác hại của du lịch, để từ đó bác bỏ, phủ nhận giá trị của du lịch, những mặt lợi ích mà du lịch mang lại.

17. B. Từ emasculate nghĩa là làm giảm hiệu quả, giảm đi tầm quan trọng và độ ảnh hưởng của một điều gì đó. Từ gần nghĩa với nó cũng mang nét nghĩa là làm giảm tầm ảnh hưởng là từ vitiate. Các từ còn lại: fortify – gia cố, củng cố (trong chiến trận), cổ vũ, tăng lòng dũng cảm, thổi bùng hoặc tăng sức mạnh, sự mãnh liệt; homogenize – đồng hóa; reverberate – vang vọng, để lại hậu quả lâu dài.

18. B. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở câu 5 của đoạn 4: “You cannot make so many economically empowered people stop doing something they want to do unless you argue that it is of such extreme damage to the welfare of the world that only the truly malicious, utterly selfish and totally irresponsible would ever consider doing it.” Từ thông tin này, ta có thể suy ra rằng một khó khăn trong việc ngăn chặn du lịch là không thể làm cho những người có tiền, dư dả về mặt kinh tế ngưng làm điều họ muốn. Phương án B phản ánh đúng nội dung đó nên ta chọn. Phương án A, C và D đều không có đủ căn cứ để khẳng định rằng những nội dung đó đúng nên ta loại.

19. D. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở một vài đoạn trong bài đọc, tuy nhiên ta có thể thấy rõ dẫn chứng ở cuối đoạn 5: “Of course, adventurers, fieldwork assistants, volunteers and travellers don’t go on holidays. Un-tourists (as I will call them) go on things called ‘cultural experiences’, ‘expeditions’, ‘projects’, ‘mini-ventures’ and, most tellingly, ‘missions’. A Coral Cay Conservation Expedition flyer says: ‘The mission of any Coral Cay Conservation Volunteer is to help sustain livelihoods and alleviate poverty.’” Tác giả đã dẫn ra những vai trò mà người du lịch tự nhận, tự xưng, và đưa ra ví dụ về Coral Cay Conservation Expedition flyer để củng cố cho luận điểm rằng những người đi du lịch nhận rằng mình đảm nhiệm những vai trò khác để che giấu mục đích thật sự của họ là đi du lịch. Phương án A không chính xác vì không đúng với thông tin: “... we won’t recognise it as the unattractive entity it once was.” Phương án B không hợp lí vì người xấu (nefarious people) đi du lịch để thỏa mãn khao khát có thêm tri thức (thirst for knowledge) là điều phi logic, và cũng không có căn cứ trong bài. Phương án C không có đủ dẫn chứng nên cũng không hợp lí.

20. A. Để làm được câu hỏi này, ta cần xét đến vị trí của các cụm này. Cụm “at loggerheads” nằm trong câu “Whereas the mass tourist and the area they visit are condemned as anti-ethical and at loggerheads,...” => câu này thể hiện rằng mối liên kết

giữa khách du lịch và địa điểm du lịch thực chất là trái với đạo đức và không hòa hợp với nhau => A là phương án hợp lí. Cụm “presumed to be in tune” nằm trong câu “the ethos of the un-tourist and the needs of the area they wander into are presumed to be in tune with each other” => thoát nhìn, câu này sát với câu trả lời, tuy nhiên câu hỏi hỏi về bản chất, mà cụm này mới chỉ thể hiện được rằng người không-phải-đi-du-lịch cho rằng họ hòa hợp với môi trường bản địa nhưng thực chất không phải vậy, chưa đúng với đặc điểm của mối quan hệ này, và nếu để phương án B thì nên sửa thành “not be in tune”. 2 cụm còn lại đều nằm trong câu “While this re-branding is supposed to present a progressive, modernistic approach to travel, in fact it is firmly rooted in the Victorian experience.” => không nói đến bản chất mối quan hệ giữa khách-địa điểm du lịch => loại.

21. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở đoạn 6 và 7, cụ thể là ở các thông tin sau: “... the modern day un-tourist insists that the main motive behind their adventure is to help others” (đoạn 6), “These, they believe, are somehow more in keeping with something they call local culture.” (đoạn 7) Từ những thông tin này kết hợp với một vài chi tiết khác, có thể suy ra rằng những người khách không-phải-đi-du-lịch có xu hướng tin rằng điều họ làm là tốt cho người dân và văn hóa bản địa, từ đó ta chọn được phương án C. Phương án A không hợp lí vì bài đọc không nhắc đến sự thu hút về thẩm mỹ (aesthetically attracted). Phương án B không được đề cập trong bài, tuy có dữ kiện “Local culture is very important to the un-tourist”, tuy nhiên chưa đủ căn cứ cho thông tin “adequate”. Phương án D không hợp lí vì tác giả không bày tỏ quan điểm rằng đây là “positive trend” (tuy không biểu lộ trên câu chữ nhưng nếu xét sâu hơn, có thể thấy tác giả không cho rằng đây là một xu hướng tích cực).

22. A. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án A nằm ở câu 2 đoạn cuối: “Pretending you are not doing something that you actually are – going on holiday – is at the heart of the un-tourist endeavour.” Từ thông tin này, ta có thể suy ra rằng những người không-phải-đi-du-lịch tìm nhiều cách nhưng mục đích cơ bản nhất, bản chất vẫn là để che đậy, che giấu mục đích thật sự của họ (nội dung phương án A phản ánh đúng điều này). Các phương án còn lại có được nhắc đến nhưng không phải là mục tiêu cốt lõi, bản chất nên không hợp lí.

23. B. Ta có thể trả lời được câu hỏi này bằng phương pháp loại trừ. Dẫn chứng cho phương án A ở đoạn 1, 5, 6 và 8; phương án C ở cuối đoạn 8; phương án D ở đoạn 7. Ta cũng có thể trả lời bằng cách tìm thông tin chứng minh phương án B chưa đủ căn cứ hoặc có nội dung sai. Thông tin đó nằm ở câu thứ hai từ cuối lên đoạn 8: “Instead, the expeditions, projects and adventures are advertised in publications more likely to resemble magazines with a concern in ecological or cultural issues.” Từ thông tin này, ta có thể suy ra rằng những chuyến đi của những người không-phải-đi-du-lịch được quảng cáo trên các ấn phẩm giống như tạp chí với sự quan tâm nhất định đến vấn đề sinh thái và văn hóa. Điều này không đủ để khẳng định những người kia đã công bố nhiệm vụ của họ trên tạp chí nên ta chọn phương án B.

Part 3.

24 C

Each of us is a vastly complex entity, assembled from many different tissues and capable of countless behaviours and thoughts... **Trace that person back through his or her life**, back beyond birth to the moment of fertilisation of a single ovum by a single sperm. **The individual becomes ever simpler**, ultimately encapsulated as information encoded in DNA.

So, I believe, it is with the universe. **We can see how very complex the universe is now**, and we are part of that complexity... Cosmology is showing us that **this complexity flowed from a deep simplicity** as matter metamorphosed through a series of phase transitions. **Travel back in time through those phase transitions, and we see an ever-greater simplicity** and symmetry

25 H

Travel back in time through those phase transitions, and we see an ever-greater simplicity and symmetry... **Go back further** and we reach a point when the universe was nearly an infinitely tiny, infinitely dense concentration of energy... **Go back further still.**

26 F

The existence of a singularity — in this case the given, unique state from which the universe emerged — is anathema to science, because it is **beyond explanation... There can be no answer to why such a state existed.**

God takes over, the artificer of that singularity, that initial simplicity? The astrophysicist Robert Jastrow described such a prospect as the **scientist's nightmare**... Cosmologists have long struggled to avoid **this bad dream** by seeking explanations of the universe that avoid the necessity of a beginning.

27 E

Only when Einstein saw Hubble's observations of an expanding universe could he bring himself to believe his **equations**... For many proponents of the steady state theory, one of its attractions was its provision that **the universe had no beginning and no end, and therefore required no explanation of what existed before time = 0.**

28 A

Suppose the universe is a sphere of space time. **Travel around the surface**, and again you may finish up where you started both in space and time... **This**, of course, requires time travel, in violation of Mach's principle.

29 D

Some physicists argue that matter is ultimately reducible to pointlike objects with certain intrinsic properties... **Others argue that** fundamental particles are extraordinarily tiny strings that vibrate to produce their properties.

30 B

It is clear that the minutest variation in the value of a series of fundamental properties of the universe would have resulted in no universe at all, or at least a very alien universe. For instance, **if the strong nuclear force had been slightly weaker, the universe would have been composed of hydrogen only. An expansion more rapid by one part in a million would have excluded the formation of stars and planets...** The list of cosmic coincidences required for our existence in the universe is long

Part 4.

31. B

Hainault is a unique site, which features open heathland, some of which has been recently planted up with native trees by the Woodland Trust, and the dense woodland of the ancient forest.

32. A

It is called a heath, although it is in fact a patchwork of not just heath but also parkland and hedgerow, laid out paths, open hillside and overgrown thickets, lakes and ponds - and plenty of woods and trees.

33. D

Ardkinglas's sheltered location, high rainfall and warm temperatures all encourage spectacular tree growth, and they claim to have the tallest tree in Britain - a Grand Fir, *Abies grandis* - standing at last time of measuring 64.5 metres high. If you are sceptical of such claims, bring a tape measure and a long ladder.

34. A

They fuss about the swimming, designate cycle paths, regulate the fishing, and put up notices about all such dangerous activities. But despite their best efforts, the Heath still feels quite wild.

35. B

The main content of paragraph B reflects this idea.

36. A

The City of London Corporation is now responsible for its upkeep.

37. C

For the enthusiastic hill walker, there is a challenging 25-kilometre trail around the hill called The Mell.

38. D

There are many other mighty trees that are impressive all year round but on a clear November day the views towards the loch are fantastic.

39. C

For the enthusiastic hill walker, there is a challenging 25-kilometre trail around the hill called The Mell, which takes you on a meander through woodland, alongside a reservoir and into the upper part of the glen, where the remnants of an ancient royal hunting forest give way to the open hillsides of Meall Cala.

40. B

The woods around here were a royal forest, but an Act of Parliament of 1851 authorised the cutting down and removal of its trees. And removed they were, grubbed up by all too efficient men and machines - hectare upon hectare laid waste within weeks of the passing of the Act.

TEST 10

Part 1. For questions 1-13, read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

Animal Personhood

Aristotle, a 4th-century-BC Greek philosopher, created the Great Chain of Being, in which animals, lacking reason, ranked below humans. The Frenchman, Rene Descartes, in the 17th century AD, considered animals as more complex creatures; however, without souls, they were merely automatons. One hundred years later, the German, Immanuel Kant, proposed animals be treated less cruelly, which might seem an improvement, but Kant believed this principally because he thought acts of cruelty affect their human perpetrators detrimentally. The mid-19th century saw the Englishman, Jeremy Bentham, questioning not their rationality or spirituality, but whether animals could suffer irrespective of the damage done to their victimisers; he concluded they could; and, in 1824, the first large organization for animal welfare, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, was founded in England. In 1977, the Australian, Peter Singer, wrote the highly influential book *Animal Liberation*, in which he debated the ethics of meat-eating and factory farming, and raised awareness about inhumane captivity and experimentation. Singer's title deliberately evoked other liberation movements, like those for women, which had developed in the post-war period.

More recently, an interest in the cognitive abilities of animals has resurfaced. It has been known since the 1960s that chimpanzees have sophisticated tool use and social interactions, but research from the last two decades has revealed they are also capable of empathy and grief, and they possess self-awareness and self-determination. Other primates, dolphins, whales, elephants and African grey parrots are highly intelligent too. It would seem that with each new proof of animals' abilities, questions are being posed as to whether creatures so similar to humans should endure the physical pain or psychological trauma associated with habitat loss, captivity, or experimentation. While there may be more laws protecting animals than 30 years ago, in the eyes of the law, no matter how smart or sentient an animal may be, it still has a lesser status than a human being.

Steven Wise, an American legal academic, has been campaigning to change this. He believes animals, like those listed above, are autonomous - they can control their actions, or rather, their actions are not caused purely by reflex or from inmateness. He wants these animals categorized legally as non-human persons because he believes existing animal-protection laws are weak and poorly enforced. He famously quipped that an aquarium may be fined for cruel treatment of its dolphins but, currently, the dolphins can't sue the aquarium.

While teaching at Vermont Law School in the 1990s, Wise presented his students with a dilemma: should an anencephalic baby be treated as a legal person? (Anencephaly is a condition where a person is born with a partial brain and can breathe and digest, due to reflex, but otherwise is barely alert, and not autonomous.) Overwhelmingly, Wise's students would say 'Yes'. He posed another question: could the same baby be killed and eaten by humans? Overwhelmingly, his students said 'No'. His third question, always harder to answer, was: why is an anencephalic baby legally a person yet not so a fully functioning bonobo chimp?

Wise draws another analogy: between captive animals and slaves. Under slavery in England, a human was a chattel, and if a slave were stolen or injured, the thief or violator could be convicted of a crime, and compensation paid to the slave's owner through not to the slave. It was only in 1772 that the chief justice of the King's Bench, Lord Mansfield, ruled that a slave could apply for habeas corpus, Latin for: 'You must have the body', as free men and women had done since ancient times. Habeas corpus does not establish innocence or guilt; rather, it means a detainee can be represented in court by a proxy. Once slaves had been granted habeas corpus, they existed as more than chattels within the legal system although it was another 61 years before slavery was abolished in England. Aside from slaves, Wise has studied numerous cases in which a writ of habeas corpus had been filed on behalf of those unable to appear in court, like children, patients, prisoners, or the severely intellectually impaired. In addition, Wise notes there are entities that are not living people that have legally become non-human persons, including: ships, corporations, partnerships, states, a Sikh holy book, some Hindu idols and the Wanganui River in New Zealand.

In conjunction with an organization called the Nonhuman Rights Project (NhRP), Wise has been representing captive animals in US courts in an effort to have their legal status reassigned. Thereafter, the NhRP plans to apply, under habeas corpus, to represent the animals in other cases. Wise and the NhRP believe a new status will discourage animal owners or nation states from neglect or abuse, which current laws fail to do.

Richard Epstein, a professor of Law at New York University, is a critic of Wise's. His concern is that if animals are treated as independent holders of rights there would be little left of human society, in particular, in the food and agricultural industries. Epstein agrees some current legislation concerning animal protection may need overhauling, but he sees no underlying problem.

Other detractors say that the push for personhood misses the point: it focuses on animals that are similar to humans without addressing the fundamental issue that all species have an equal right to exist. Thomas Berry, of the Gaia Foundation, declares that rights do not emanate from humans but from the universe itself, and, as such, all species have the right

to existence, habitat and role (be that predator, plant or decomposer). Dramatically changing human behavior towards other species is necessary for their survival - and that doesn't mean declaring animals as non-human persons.

To date, the NhRP has not succeeded in its applications to have the legal status of chimpanzees in New York State changed, but the NhRP considers it some kind of victory that the cases have been heard. Now, the NhRP can proceed to the Court of Appeals, where many emotive cases are decided, and where much common law is formulated.

Despite setbacks, Wise doggedly continues to expose brutality towards animals. Thousands of years of perceptions may have to be changed in the process. He may have lost the battle, but he doesn't believe he's lost the war.

Questions 1 - 7

In boxes 1-7, write:

True if the statement agrees with the information

False if the statement contradicts the information

Not Given if there is no information on this

1. Aristotle placed animals below human beings given the former's lack of rational behaviors.
2. Kant thought humans should not treat animals cruelly because humans' exposure to cruelty was damaging to biodiversity.
3. Jeremy Bentham delved into the shocking brutality of animals.
4. It has been proved that cognitive abilities of chimpanzees are superior to most animals.
5. The infant suffering from the serious birth defect called anencephaly tends to have a short lifespan.
6. A critic of Wise's theory admits the need to reform certain laws protecting animals.
7. It could be called the triumph of the NhRP when they managed to apply for the legal identity of chimpanzees.

Your answer

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
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Questions 8 - 13

Complete the summary below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN FOUR WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 8-13.

A new legal status for animals?	
Arguments for:	Steven Wise is determined to alter the legal status of (8) animals to (9). If the legal status of animals were changed, Wise and the NhRP could file for (10) where a detainee is represented by someone else. Then, they could take more effective action against animal abusers.
Arguments against:	Another legal scholar concurs that animal protection is crucial, but if animals had rights, the cost to (11) would be enormous. Others, like Thomas Berry, believe that rights are bestowed by (12) and not by humans.
Current situation in the US:	Changing two millennia's worth of (13) may be challenging.

Your answer

8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
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Part 2. For questions 14-23, read an extract from an article and choose the answer A, B, C or D that fits best according to the text. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

The new country

The first real sign of the United States was a close-packed archipelago of buoys making lobster pots and fishing traps but this was just a prelude to the throng on the

deck had been waiting for. The exaggerated sense of occasion that this moment was expected to inspire was heightened by the scowling splendour of the city illuminated in the storm, the racing clouds bathing *Libel* in a hideous light. The immigrants, crowding against each other's backs, shoving and straining, must have felt that all the reports and letters home had understated the awful truth about New York. The real thing was even taller and more intimidating than the tallest story. So you looked out, numbed by the gigantism of the city, asking the immigrant's single overriding question: is there really a place there for me?

In New York at last, the promised city, the immigrants found themselves in a cacophonous bazaar. So many *things*! The streets were awash with commodities undreamed of back home — new foods, smart clothes, mechanical novelties, luxuries made cheap by American ingenuity in the ways of mass production. Your own berth in New York might be no more than a patch of floor in a dumb-bell tenement on the Lower East Side, yet no building was so squalid that its tenants were entirely excluded from the bounty of American life. In the midst of rack-rent poverty, in conditions as impoverished as anything they had suffered in the old country, the immigrants would be surrounded by symbols of extravagant wealth. There were ice-cream parlours, candy stores, beef-steaks and fat cigars. In New York ordinary people, wage-earners, dined out in restaurants; they had alarm clocks and Victrola machines on which they played 'jass' music and by the standards of Europe they were dressed like royalty.

You had new names assigned to you at Ellis island by immigration officers too busy to bother with the unpronounceable consonant clusters in your old one (Gold, because that's what the streets were supposed to be paved with, was a favourite stand-by). There were new clothes too. You might be able to call upon only a word or two of English, but you could still parade as a suave, fashion-conscious New Yorker.

Identity in Europe wasn't a matter of individual fancy. Even with the money for the raw materials, you couldn't dress up as an aristocrat simply because you liked the look of the noble's style. If you were Jewish, you couldn't pass yourself off as a gentile without incurring a legal punishment. Every European was the product of a complicated equation involving the factors of lineage, property, education, speech and religion. The terms were subtle and could be juggled: even the most rigid class system has some play in it. But once your personal formula had been worked out by the ruling mathematicians, the result was precise and not open to negotiation. $A \text{ over } B \text{ times } X \text{ over } Y \text{ divided by } Z$ equalled a calico shirt and a pair of clogs.

For anyone brought up in such a system, New York must have induced a dizzying sense of social weightlessness. Here identity was not fixed by society's invisible secret police. The equation had been simplified down to a single factor — dollars.

The windows of department stores were theatres. They showed American lives as yet un-lived in, with vacant possession. When your nose was pressed hard against the glass, it was almost yours, the other life that lay in wait for you with its silverware and brocade. So you were a presser in a shirtwaist factory on Division Street, making a paltry \$12.50 a week — so what? The owner of the factory was your *landsmen*, practically a cousin; he had the start on you by just a few years and already he lived in a brownstone, uptown on 84th. Success in this city was tangible and proximate; it was all around you, and even the poorest could smell it in the wind. The distance between slum and mansion was less than a mile; hard work..., a lucky break... and you could roam through Macy's and Bloomingdale's buying up the life you dreamed of leading... .

Alice's apartment, which I would be sub-renting — courtesy of a brown envelope and the doorman's blind eye, was in a relatively quiet corner, yet even here one could feel New York trembling under one's feet. In place of bird-song there was the continuous angry marble of ambulances, patrol cars, fire-trucks. It was the sound of heart-attacks and heart-break, of car crashes, hold-ups, hit-and-run, fight and pursuit; the sound of the city in a round-the-clock state of emergency. If you were going to learn to live here, you'd have to tune out the sound of New York and set up house in the silent bubble of your own preoccupations. For we, the New York air was full of robbery and murder; for Alice, it would all be inaudible white noise.

14. In the passage as a whole, New York appears to be a city:

- A. where immigrants can hit the jackpot and change their life completely.
- B. where accommodation is a thorny issue for new settlers.
- C. where living conditions are so harsh that settlers may not survive.
- D. where there are losses and gains for immigrants.

15. Which of the following best characterizes the actions of immigrants upon arriving in New York?

- A. They wondered about where they would be in the new destination.
- B. They were fatigued and breathed heavily.
- C. They blamed their relatives for underrating New York.
- D. They got intimidated and immediately yearned to return.

16. What distinguished immigrants' new houses from their old counterparts?

- A. They were on a par with houses for the wealthy.
 - B. They cost the immigrants dearly despite their poverty.
 - C. They were situated in a more affluent neighborhood.
 - D. They were distinguishable in the luxurious city.
17. What does the passage suggest about the city of New York?
- A. It is an opulent city accommodating only cash-rich people.
 - B. Immigrants are marginalized and find nowhere to eat.
 - C. No immigrants are left ostracized in the society.
 - D. It offers no hopes for prospect-seeking people.
18. According to the passage, what was true about ordinary people in New York?
- A. They could afford accommodation for the needy at a cheaper price.
 - B. Their outfits fell within the high class when assessed by a set of parameters.
 - C. They were surrounded by goods churned out by exclusive production.
 - D. Their conditions were much worse compared to people in Europe.
19. The names were given to the immigrants
- A. as a matter of policy.
 - B. in a random fashion.
 - C. for the interest of safety.
 - D. to forgo their old identities.
20. As suggested by the passage:
- A. Europeans were given free rein to follow styles.
 - B. Money was the only factor ruling the choice of identities in Europe.
 - C. Immigrants in New York could showcase their grace and wealth.
 - D. Identity was gauged by an array of criteria in Europe.
21. The writer suggests that the dream of achieving wealth:
- A. was fostered by the unique social circumstances of New York.

- B. was soon abandoned once immigrants were settled.
 - C. was only feasible by exploitation of compatriots.
 - D. was at variance with the realities of the workplaces.
22. The writer suggests that the arrangement for the flat was feasible because
- A. the owner of the flat was a friend of his.
 - B. he had contacted the owner before making the arrangement.
 - C. the landlord had no knowledge of it.
 - D. they beguiled the doorman into accepting the arrangement.
23. According to the writer, people who live in New York:
- A. survive by acquiring ways to ignore what's happening.
 - B. solely cope by allowing themselves no time to think.
 - C. feel threatened and suffocated in the city.
 - D. all get stuck in the rush of activity.

Your answers

14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.

Part 3. You are going to read a magazine article. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the article. Choose from the paragraphs A-H the one which fits each gap (24 - 30). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

THE UNKNOWN AMAZON

The Amazonian Rainforest is one of the most significant and largely intact ecosystems left on Earth. It is often characterised as an essentially untouched natural environment in which the human presence is merely incidental. However, the vast reaches of the rainforest have been lived in and shaped by human hands for thousands of years. The Amazon Basin boasts the largest river system on Earth and harbours an ecosystem of unrivalled complexity.

24.	
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Friar Gaspar de Carvajal, who accompanied him, wrote a memorable account of their adventures, including mention of the great signal drums that sounded from village to village far in advance of their arrival, warning of the incursion by bearded and helmeted strangers.

25.	
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Such reports have intrigued anthropologists ever since, for they describe dense populations and sizeable confederations which, if substantiated, would be entirely at odds with modern stereotypes of hidden, thinly scattered tribes eking out a precarious existence.

26.	
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This population collapse and displacement along the principal watercourses has contributed to a distorted impression of the cultural achievements of tropical forest societies. In the 1950s, North American investigators argued that the sophisticated archaeological styles they were discovering on Marajo Island could not have originated in the Amazon Basin itself, but must have been derived from more advanced cultures in the Andean highlands. They supposed the tropical forest to be a 'counterfeit paradise' incapable of supporting much beyond a simple hunting-and-gathering way of life. This misnomer has exerted a pervasive influence ever since.

27.	
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The Amazon Polychrome Tradition appears to have its origins on Marajo Island, where the Amazon meets the Atlantic, and later spread across much of the Upper Amazon and the coast of Brazil and the Guianas. Even if all the reasons for this surge in cultural complexity are still not well understood, we do know that important changes took place then in the social and political organisation of native Amazonian societies. The style

transcends local and regional cultures and points to the exchange of ideas and technology along the vast riverine network.

28.

More recent archaeological research has focused on a phenomenon barely noticed before: extensive patches of rich black soils found along the banks and bluffs of all major rivers in the Amazon. Some cover an area of many acres and are up to two metres deep. They are thought to have formed over many centuries as the accumulated byproduct of organic remains left by native settlements.

29.

Among the most exciting discoveries are funerary urns dating to AD 1400-1700 in caves and rock shelters along the Maraca River near the mouth of the Amazon. The bones — from men, women and children — were preserved in individually dedicated vessels. It seems that the sites were visited regularly over the years and new urns added. The community of ancestors reflects the kinship ties and lineages of ancient Maraca settlements and their nurturing of links between the living and the dead.

30.

The future of the Amazon Basin is now hotly debated. Knowledge about the past has a vital role to play in planning and decision-making for the future. Archaeology points to successful, sustainable adaptations grounded in practical expertise and born of a familiarity with the limitations and possibilities of this environment. Its wise management is becoming a matter of global concern.

A. Secondly, there is a truly impressive linguistic diversity, with several hundred distinct languages and dialects. This complexity must have evolved over thousands of years and implies an occupation of the Amazon basin for at least 14,000 years, a figure supported by archaeological evidence. The rock art in the Amazon Basin may be as old as human occupation itself. Images are engraved and painted on exposed bedrock near rapids and

waterfalls where fishing is most productive, and in caves and rock shelters close to archaeological sites.

B. From the late seventeenth century a succession of naturalists and explorers recorded and collected many of the everyday objects fashioned from wood and other organic materials that rarely survive the vicissitudes of climate in the tropical lowlands. Among the first to assemble a collection was the Portuguese scholar Alexandre Rodrigues Ferreira. Then, from 1820 to 1834 the Austrian naturalist Johann Natterer amassed an amazing collection of natural history specimens and cultural objects. Such collections housed in European museums preserve a 'window' into cultures that were soon to experience irreversible changes brought about by extraneous diseases and merciless exploitation.

C. There are also, of course, numerous trading links between the different tribes and extended family groups, though the diversity of languages can, at times, impede the smooth settlement of commercial transactions. It should be noted, however, that much of the trading dynamic has been nurtured through the business education opportunities that have been available to riverside Amazonians since the days of the Spanish explorers.

D. Taking into account the wider relevance of these connections, Amazonian indigenous groups can no longer be seen as isolated communities in the depths of the forest or dispersed along rivers. We still have much to learn about their internal dynamics and social formations, but the rainforest should no longer be seen as an untouched 'paradise', leaving the way open to informed discussion.

E. He recounts seeing a multitude of settlements along the river: on one day they passed more than twenty villages in succession, and some of these are said to have stretched for six miles or more.

F. These soils are usually laden with ancient pottery and are now being studied for clues to the rise of tropical forest civilization in the Amazon Basin. Local farmers regard the black soils as a 'gift from the past' because of their natural fertility and ability to support a wide range of crops.

G. Two factors have been instrumental in overturning this paradigm. First is a surprisingly diverse range of pottery styles, not only within the Marajoara Tradition (AD 500-1500) on Marajo Island at the mouth of the Amazon, but also many hundreds of miles upriver. Excavations in the furthest reaches of the Upper Amazon in Peru and Ecuador have demonstrated the existence of a widespread style of painting large urns in

bold black, red and cream designs that has come to be known as the Polychrome Tradition. Together with recent research at the mouth of the Amazon, this seems to confirm that a creative explosion of styles occurred about 2,000 years ago.

H. Early European travellers were awed by their first encounters. In 1531, Francisco Pizarro overthrew the Inca emperor Atahualpa, and a decade later his younger brother Gonzalo ventured east from Quito in the Andean highlands. Forging downriver along the Rio Napo, the expedition soon exhausted its supplies and, at Pizarro's behest, his second-in-command Francisco de Orellana led a group sent ahead to reconnoitre for food. Eight months later Orellana emerged at the mouth of the Amazon, having made what would prove to be the first descent of the length of the river.

Your answers

24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
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Part 4. The passage below consists of five sections marked A-E. For questions 31-40, read the passage and do the task that follows. Write your answers (A-E) in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

A modern health problem

A. There is growing concern about the way we view food, which goes beyond the ‘do we live to eat or eat to live?’ debate. More and more children are leading inactive lifestyles and are suffering from obesity. In the 1990s and early years of this century, tobacco-related diseases were the main problem, but aggressive anti-smoking campaigns caused the focus of concern to shift. In this decade, obesity appears to be the major health concern with far-reaching repercussions. Obese children suffer taunts and bullying from their peers and this, instead of causing them to rethink their eating habits, may perpetuate the vicious circle; in other words, these children turn to ‘comfort thinking’ which adds to their weight problem.

Researchers have noted that some children are doing less than one or two minutes of ‘moderate activity’ in an hour, which is an alarming reduction on the results of previous studies. The problem seems to be worse in teenage girls than in their male counterparts, with older children getting much less exercise than younger ones.

B. Many parents realise that their children are overweight, but do not know enough about nutrition to give their offspring the support they need in order to help them change their lifestyles. Given time pressures from work and family, a growing number of people rely on pre-cooked convenience foods or quick fry-ups, thus exacerbating the problem. In

general there is some recognition of the situation. For example, at 'Weight Loss Camps', obese children, along with their slightly less overweight peers, learn to read food labels and understand the nutritional content of food, or lack of it, eat healthily and exercise. This experience can also increase their confidence in themselves, as they are surrounded by youngsters who are in the same boat. But, by and large, not enough is being done.

C. Schools are partly to blame, as they have marginalised physical education due to time limitations. Also, in many cases, they have bowed to financial pressure and sold off playing fields, often in order to buy more up-to-date computers, which in turn encourage sedentary lifestyles. The food industry must also shoulder some of the responsibility, as their advertising campaigns promote foodstuffs which are high in fat and sugar. Advertisements frequently feature such products as fizzy drinks, king-size chocolate bars and ever larger packets of crisps. These are attractive to families on low incomes because you now get more for the same price as the original, smaller portions. However, children who have large bags of crisps or bars of chocolate in their school lunch-boxes don't save half for the next day; they eat the whole thing. It would appear that fast-food marketing people have seized upon children as being brand-loyal from cradle to grave. They therefore target small children with free toys, a worrying trend which, some believe, warrants government action.

D. Some campaigners want governments to treat the fast-food industry as they do the tobacco industry, insisting that foods with a high fat or sugar content should carry an official health warning. They would also like a ban on vending machines in schools, as it is estimated that one fifth of children get more than 20 percent of their energy from sugar, with 5 percent of that coming from the consumption of fizzy drinks. Of course, children are not the only ones to suffer from obesity. In one survey, only 40 per cent of adults claim to regularly sit down for a meal, which means that the majority are eating on the hoof. Only around 30 per cent say that they cook all their own meals. It becomes reasonably obvious that this is so when you look around you in the street or in an underground station. Walking and talking are interspersed with eating and drinking; people carry a can to swig from, and clutch food to scoff.

E. We live in a culture which actively promotes fast food while simultaneously showing images of the ultimate in 'beauty'. The majority of us could never achieve this perfect look, given our lifestyle and diet. This fact, in turn, gives rise to both overeating and its extreme opposite, anorexia. It is obviously time for us to take a close look at our relationship to food. The recommended daily diet, at least according to some experts, consists of at least five portions of fruit and vegetables, some protein (but not too much) and only a few carbohydrates. No one would deny, however, that the occasional lapse would be acceptable. Remember the old adage: a little of what you fancy does you good!

In which section is each of these views expressed?

31. In the past, other public health issues were seen as more significant than obesity.
32. Mistreatment of youngsters who are overweight can often result in the problem becoming worse.
33. Children may have access to fewer areas where they can play sports than they did in the past.
34. More action from the authorities is being demanded to tackle the problem of obesity.
35. Hasty eating routines while being on the move are common among adults.
36. The world is flourishing two polars of physical care that should not coexist.
37. Irregular self-indulgence should not be dissuaded when it comes to diet.
38. Marketing strategies of some companies are wreaking havoc on children's development to the extent that official intervention is proposed.
39. A lack of information limits the assistance that some people can give to others.
40. The connection of those who have the same health issues has the potential to relieve their inferiority complex.

Your answers

31.	32.	33.	34.	35.
36.	37.	38.	39.	40.

Key and explanations:

Part 1.

1. T

Aristotle, a 4th-century-BC Greek philosopher, created the Great Chain of Being, in which animals, lacking reason, ranked below humans.

2. F

One hundred years later, the German, Immanuel Kant, proposed animals be treated less cruelly, which might seem an improvement, but Kant believed this principally because he thought acts of cruelty affect their human perpetrators detrimentally.

3. F

The mid-19th century saw the Englishman, Jeremy Bentham, questioning not their rationality or spirituality, but whether animals could suffer irrespective of the damage done to their victimisers; he concluded they could; and, in 1824, the first large organization for animal welfare, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, was founded in England

4. T

More recently, an interest in the cognitive abilities of animals has resurfaced. It has been known since the 1960s that chimpanzees have sophisticated tool use and social interactions, but research from the last two decades has revealed they are also capable of empathy and grief, and they possess self-awareness and self-determination. Other primates, dolphins, whales, elephants and African grey parrots are highly intelligent too.

5. NG

6. T

Epstein agrees some current legislation concerning animal protection may need overhauling, but he sees no underlying problem.

7. F

To date, the NhRP has not succeeded in its applications to have the legal status of chimpanzees in New York State changed, but the NhRP considers it some kind of victory that the cases have been heard.

8. autonomous

He believes animals, like those listed above, are autonomous - they can control their actions, or rather, their actions are not caused purely by reflex or from inmateness.

9. non-human persons

He wants these animals categorized legally as non-human persons because he believes existing animal-protection laws are weak and poorly enforced.

10. habeas corpus

Wise has studied numerous cases in which a writ of habeas corpus had been filed on behalf of those unable to appear in court, like children, patients, prisoners, or the severely intellectually impaired.

11. human society

His concern is that if animals are treated as independent holders of rights there would be little left of human society, in particular, in the food and agricultural industries.

12. the universe

Thomas Berry, of the Gaia Foundation, declares that rights do not emanate from humans but from the universe itself.

13. perceptions

Thousands of years of perceptions may have to be changed in the process.

Part 2.

14. D. Ở trong bài đọc, tác giả nhắc đến nhiều cái được và mất của người nhập cư: được hưởng một cuộc sống mới, có cái tên mới, được tự do hơn trong trang phục và phong cách, có cảm giác được tiếp thêm động lực để làm giàu, được tiếp cận với nhiều món đồ “xa xỉ”; nhưng họ cũng vẫn phải chịu hoàn cảnh sống khó khăn, đói khổ, tiền bạc chi phối danh tính và thân phận con người và sự ồn ào vô cùng khó chịu của thành phố New York. Từ đó ta chọn D. Phương án A có thể gây nhầm lẫn do thông tin cuối đoạn 6: “a lucky break... leading”, tuy nhiên chưa đủ căn cứ để nói rằng việc kiếm bộn tiền rất dễ dàng ở New York. Phương án B không hợp lí vì thông tin ở đoạn 2 cho thấy một nơi cư trú có thể tồi tàn nhưng không phải vấn đề nan giải. Phương án C không hợp lí vì trong bài không tập trung miêu tả điều kiện sống ở đây khắc nghiệt như thế nào.

15. A. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án A nằm ở câu cuối đoạn 1: “So you looked out, numbed by the gigantism of the city, asking the immigrant’s single overriding question: is there really a place there for me?” Từ thông tin này, ta suy ra được rằng những người nhập cư hỏi có một câu hỏi lớn, đeo bám trong họ: thực sự ở thành phố này, mình sẽ ở đâu, có nơi nào cho mình không? Từ đó ta chọn A. Phương án B chưa hợp lí vì thông tin

“breathed heavily” không được đề cập, ngoài ra nội dung phương án B nghiêng về trạng thái thay vì hành động của những người nhập cư. Phương án C không được đề cập trong bài. Phương án D không hợp lí vì thông tin “immediately yearned to return” không được đề cập.

16. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở cuối đoạn 2, từ câu 5 trở đi: “... the immigrants would be surrounded by symbols of extravagant wealth. ... royalty” Từ thông tin này, ta suy ra được rằng điểm khác biệt của nơi ở mới cho những người nhập cư là họ ở trong một khu vực bao quanh là sự giàu sang và những biểu tượng của giàu sang. Từ đó ta chọn phương án C. Ba phương án còn lại đều không hợp lí vì không có đủ căn cứ hoặc thông tin không được đề cập trong bài.

17. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở câu 4 đoạn 2, cụ thể là phần thông tin: “... yet no building was so squalid that its tenants were entirely excluded from the bounty of American life.” Từ dữ kiện này, ta suy ra được rằng không người nhập cư nào bị “cho ra rìa” xã hội cả, nên ta chọn C. Phương án A không chính xác vì New York cũng có những người nhập cư nghèo nữa. Phương án B không chính xác vì thông tin “In New York ordinary people, wage-earners, dined out in restaurants”. Phương án D không hợp lí vì ở đoạn 6, tác giả lí giải vì sao New York mang lại cảm giác có động lực để làm giàu.

18. B. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở câu cuối đoạn 2: “... by the standards of Europe they were dressed like royalty.” Từ dữ kiện này, ta suy ra được theo như chuẩn châu Âu, những người nhập cư ăn mặc như thể người trong hoàng gia vậy. Từ đó ta chọn B. Phương án A và D không chính xác vì không có thông tin trong bài để khẳng định nội dung trong phương án là đúng. Phương án C không chính xác vì từ dữ kiện “... luxuries made cheap by American ingenuity in the ways of mass production”, có thể suy ra hàng hóa nhiều, sản phẩm nhiều là do sản xuất đại trà, hàng loạt, chứ không phải sản xuất độc quyền (exclusive production).

19. B. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án B nằm ở đoạn 3 bài đọc. Từ những thông tin “immigration officers too busy to bother with the unpronounceable consonant clusters in your old one”, “gold ... was a favourite stand-by”, ta có thể suy ra rằng những cái tên mới được cấp ra tùy ý, không theo trật tự (sử dụng cái tên gold nếu cần, không quan tâm cách đọc tên cũ). Các phương án còn lại không đủ căn cứ để chứng minh.

20. D. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án D nằm ở đoạn 4 của bài đọc, phần thông tin: “Every European was the product ... a pair of clogs.” Từ đoạn dữ kiện này, có thể suy ra ở châu Âu, danh tính của một người được quyết định bằng nhiều yếu tố, nên ta chọn D. Phương án A không chính xác vì “you couldn’t dress up as an aristocrat simply because you liked the look of the noble’s style.” Phương án B không chính xác (xem giải thích phương án D). Phương án C không hợp lí vì phần thông tin “so-called wealth” không

được đề cập, trong bài chỉ có dữ kiện “... you could still parade as a suave, fashion-conscious New Yorker”.

21. A. Dẫn chứng cho câu 9 nằm ở đoạn 6. Từ các thông tin mang tính gợi ý như “The windows ... brocade”, “Success in this city was tangible and proximate; it was all around you, and even the poorest could smell it in the wind...”, ta có thể suy rằng hoàn cảnh xã hội, bối cảnh ở New York khiến cho người dân cảm nhận được sự hiện diện như hữu hình của thành công, và cố gắng để làm giàu: “hard work... a lucky break... dreamed of leading”. Nhìn chung, đoạn 6 cho thấy New York mang lại cảm giác như thể là với nỗ lực và may mắn, một người có thể sở hữu những gì mình từng ao ước, mong muốn có được nên ta chọn A. Các phương án còn lại không đủ căn cứ để chứng minh.

22. C. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án C nằm ở đầu đoạn cuối của bài đọc: “Alice’s apartment, which I would be sub-renting – courtesy of a brown envelope and the doorman’s blind eye,...” Ở dữ kiện này, chúng ta có thể thấy rằng nhờ “chiếc phong bì màu nâu” như một cách “hôi lộ” cho người canh gác cửa, Alice đã được thuê căn chung cư này mà không thông qua chủ nhân của nó. Người chủ không biết đến sự việc này. Do vậy, phương án C là phương án chính xác. Phương án A và B không được đề cập đến trong bài đọc, còn phương án D không chính xác vì người bảo vệ biết nhưng đã tảng lờ đi (blind eye), nên không thể nói rằng họ đã lừa dối người bảo vệ được.

23. A. Dẫn chứng để chọn phương án A nằm ở câu thứ 2 từ cuối lên của bài đọc: “If you were going to learn to live here, you’d have to tune out the sound of New York and set up house in the silent bubble of your own preoccupations.” Dữ kiện này cho thấy muốn tồn tại được ở New York, phải biết cách “bơ” đi mà sống, không để tâm tới những ồn ào náo nhiệt bên ngoài mà tập trung vào những công việc mình cần giải quyết. Từ đó ta chọn phương án A. Các phương án còn lại không đủ căn cứ hoặc không được đề cập đến.

Part 3.

24 H

at Pizarro's behest, **his second-in-command Francisco de Orellana led a group sent ahead** to reconnoitre for food... **Friar Gaspar de Carvajal, who accompanied him,** wrote a memorable account of their adventures.

25 E

warning of **the incursion by bearded and helmeted strangers...** He recounts seeing a multitude of settlements along the river... **Such reports** have intrigued anthropologists

26 B

Such reports have intrigued **anthropologists**... From the late seventeenth century a **succession of naturalists and explorers** recorded and collected many of the everyday objects

cultures that were soon to experience **irreversible changes brought about by extraneous diseases and merciless exploitation**... **This population collapse and displacement** along the principal watercourses

27 G

They supposed the tropical forest to be a 'counterfeit paradise' incapable of supporting much beyond a simple hunting-and-gathering way of life. **This misnomer** has exerted a pervasive influence ever since... Two factors have been instrumental in overturning **this paradigm**.

28 A

Two factors have been instrumental in overturning this paradigm. **First** is a surprisingly diverse range of pottery styles, not only within the Marajoara Tradition (AD 500-1500) on Marajo Island at the mouth of the Amazon, but also many hundreds of miles upriver... **Secondly**, there is a truly impressive linguistic diversity, with several hundred distinct languages and dialects.

29. F

More recent archaeological research has focused on a phenomenon barely noticed before: extensive patches of **rich black soils** found along the banks and bluffs of all major rivers in the Amazon... **These soils** are usually laden with ancient pottery and are now being studied for clues to the rise of tropical forest civilization in the Amazon Basin.

30. D

The community of ancestors reflects **the kinship ties and lineages** of ancient Maraca settlements and their **nurturing of links** between the living and the dead... Taking into account the wider relevance of **these connections**

Part 4.

31. A

In the 1990s and early years of this century, tobacco-related diseases were the main problem, but aggressive anti-smoking campaigns caused the focus of concern to shift.

32. A

Obese children suffer taunts and bullying from their peers and this, instead of causing them to rethink their eating habits, may perpetuate the vicious circle; in other words, these children turn to 'comfort thinking' which adds to their weight problem.

33. C

Also, in many cases, they have bowed to financial pressure and sold off playing fields, often in order to buy more up-to-date computers, which in turn encourage sedentary lifestyles.

34. D

Some campaigners want governments to treat the fast-food industry as they do the tobacco industry, insisting that foods with a high fat or sugar content should carry an official health warning.

35. D

In one survey, only 40 per cent of adults claim to regularly sit down for a meal, which means that the majority are eating on the hoof

36. E

We live in a culture which actively promotes fast food while simultaneously showing images of the ultimate in 'beauty'.

37. E

No one would deny, however, that the occasional lapse would be acceptable. Remember the old adage: a little of what you fancy does you good!

38. C

It would appear that fast-food marketing people have seized upon children as being brand-loyal from cradle to grave. They therefore target small children with free toys, a worrying trend which, some believe, warrants government action.

39. B

Many parents realise that their children are overweight, but do not know enough about nutrition to give their offspring the support they need in order to help them change their lifestyles.

40. B

For example, at 'Weight Loss Camps', obese children, along with their slightly less overweight peers, learn to read food labels and understand the nutritional content of food, or lack of it, eat healthily and exercise. This experience can also increase their confidence in themselves, as they are surrounded by youngsters who are in the same boat.