**30 BÀI ĐỌC HIỂU THI THPT QG 2025**

**A - DẠNG BÀI 10 CÂU (15 TESTS)**

**TEST 1**

***Read the following passage about the rise of robots and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

 **[I]**As kids, our grandparents frequently scared us by talking about how difficult life was when they were growing up. **[II]** .They mentioned walking miles to school in the snow or doing hours of manual labour for little pay **[III] .** In fact, **with the help of** robots, we soon might have to do much at all. But is this a good thing? **[IV]**

 By 2030, it’s estimated that robotics will be a $10 billion business worldwide. Companies are already starting to integrate them into the workforce. The electronics manufacturer Foxconn is drawing up plans to launch a factory within the next 10 years that’s completely staffed by robot workers. Meanwhile, an American company Briggo has invented a robot that serves gourmet-quality coffee to customers. With the push of a button, **it** will crush coffee beans, measure exact quantities of water, and even wave a steam wand to ensure customers get the perfect cream on top. Unlike human baristas, it can serve multiple drinks at once and work all day and night without a break.

 Robots are also invading our homes. The Roomba is a mini-robot that vacuums rooms automatically according to a schedule. The Robomow is a device that will cut the grass for you while you sit in the shade. Then there’s the Nanda Clocky, an alarm clock that makes sure that even the deepest sleepers get up on time. The clock is attached to a pair of wheels and will randomly move around the room. Once you finally catch it, you’re probably too awake to hit the snooze button.

 Although these early home robots are somewhat basic, they will likely become more capable as time goes on. Although robots certainly help us to eliminate tedious tasks, many people are concerned about a future filled with robots. Some fear that humanity will start to decline if machines do everything for us. Others have even warned about the robot rebellion, in which robots become so smart that they may decide to turn on their masters. **These ideas may seem a bit far-fetched, but there are certainly lots of questions that need to be answered before everyone opens up to the idea of a robotic future**.

 (Adapted from *Developing skills for the TOEFL Ibt intermediate*)

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
  **Life has changed greatly since then, and it seems to get easier year by year.**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **with the help of** in paragraph 1 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. assisted by B. in spite of C. in addition to D. along with

**Question 3**: What does the word **it** in paragraph 2 refer to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the robot B. the button C. the coffee D. the factory

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT an advantage of robots?

A. they can work without breaks B. they can serve multiple drinks at once
C. they can create jobs for humans D. they can perform tasks efficiently

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarises paragraph 3?

A. Home robots are increasingly capable, providing convenience for daily chores.
B. Early home robots are not yet efficient and require human intervention.
C. Advanced robots are essential for modern life, reducing the need for human effort.
D. The effectiveness of robots in homes varies based on their design and function.

**Question 6**: The word **far-fetched** in paragraph 4 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. believable B. exaggerated C. rational D. creative

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. Robots are expected to eliminate all human jobs by 2030.
B. The concerns about robots mainly revolve around their potential for rebellion.
C. All robots currently in use are highly advanced and efficient.
D. Many people welcome the idea of robots taking over daily tasks.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?

A. While the idea of a robotic future may seem strange, it deserves serious consideration.
B. Although many fears about robots are exaggerated, they raise important questions.
C. The possibility of robots turning against humans is unlikely but worth discussing.
D. It is important to explore concerns regarding the increasing presence of robots in our lives.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. The integration of robots will lead to significant job losses across all sectors.
B. Robots may improve efficiency but could lead to ethical dilemmas in society.
C. Human creativity will thrive in an automated world, as machines handle tasks.
D. People will likely accept robots as essential helpers in the near future.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. As robots take over more tasks, there are both advantages and challenges that society must face in adapting to this change.
B. The rise of robots is inevitable, promising efficiency but also raising significant concerns about human dependency.
C. With the expected growth in robotics, society needs to prepare for the changes in workforce dynamics and daily living.
D. The future of robotics holds great potential for enhancing daily life, but it is essential to consider the possible repercussions on humanity.

**TEST 2**

  **[I]** Go is a game that has been around for 3000 years. It is widely accepted as the most challenging strategy game that exists. **[II]** It takes years of playing for several hours every day to master the game. In other words, even though it has simple rules, it is not a simple game to excel at. Surprise! DeepMind managed to create a machine that could master the game, without being programmed with explicit rules and without being taught by a professional Go player.**[III]**. At its core, it learned like a human learns, by looking at the board, evaluating the options, making moves, and learning from mistakes - it just did it a lot faster than any human can. **[IV]**

 This is extremely exciting because, at its core, what it means is that computer scientists have had all the tools **they** needed to do this for years. Neural networks have been known about and discussed since the middle of the last century. All it really took was simply getting creative with them, applying them in new ways. AlphaGo beating the world's best Go player proves that AI has the potential to do anything. It can learn anything and understand anything, and from that learning and understanding it can accomplish what humans can accomplish in a much shorter period of time.

 You're probably wondering what this all means. We're much closer to the dream of an AI best friend than most of us would have dared to imagine a few years ago. **AlphaGo can learn the most complex, intuition and creativity-based logic game known to man and it didn't do so through a finite database or search trees alone**. It learned from practice and experience, just like we do, and the ability to create amazing new solutions to ancient puzzles suggests a **realm** of digital creativity never before fathomed. AlphaGo is not like other game-playing AIs that have come before it. It is the future of intelligent and intuitive machines, one that we plan to turn toward more than just board games. From practical applications to that friend you've been hoping for, AlphaGo is sure to be the first of a new generation of self-learning intuitive AIs that go above and beyond the limited calculating capacities of its older siblings and contemporaries. The AI winter is over.

 (Adapted from[*https://medium.com*](https://medium.com))

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
  **AlphaGo mainly played against itself and learned from this self-pla**y
A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **explicit** in paragraph 2 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. graphic B. specific C. implicit D. positive

**Question 3**: The word **they** in paragraph 2 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. tools B. ways C. neural networks D. scientists

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT mentioned as a characteristic of AlphaGo?
A. It learned by playing against itself.
B. It was programmed with specific rules.
C. It can accomplish tasks faster than humans.
D. It understands complex logic.

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarises paragraph 3?
A. AlphaGo is a unique AI that learns like a human and can solve complex problems creatively.
B. AlphaGo has limitations that make it less effective than human players.
C. The future of AI lies in games rather than practical applications.
D. AlphaGo has proven that traditional programming methods are sufficient for AI development.

**Question 6**: The word **realm** in paragraph 3 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. chaos B. sphere C. domain D. zone

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
A. AlphaGo’s success was based solely on human training.
B. Neural networks have been utilized for decades in various fields.
C. The potential of AI is limited to gaming applications.
D. AlphaGo is just like previous AI systems used in games.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?
A. AlphaGo's ability to create innovative solutions to old challenges indicates unprecedented digital creativity.
B. AlphaGo can only solve simple puzzles and lacks true creativity.
C. The digital realm is not ready for creative AI solutions.
D. AlphaGo’s success suggests that traditional approaches to problem-solving are outdated.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
A. AI will soon surpass human intelligence in all areas.
B. Future AI will not focus on games but on real-world applications.
C. AlphaGo represents a significant breakthrough in self-learning technology.
D. The complexity of Go makes it unsuitable for AI learning.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarises the passage?
A. AlphaGo’s mastery of Go illustrates the potential of AI to learn and innovate, marking a new era for intelligent machines beyond traditional limitations.
B. The success of AlphaGo shows that AI can only excel in games and has little relevance to other fields.
C. The development of AlphaGo highlights the importance of human instruction in AI learning processes.
D. AI technology remains stagnant due to its inability to surpass human capabilities.

**TEST 3**

***Read the following passage about computer hacking and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

 **[I]** As computer use becomes more common, the need for security is more important than ever. One of the greatest security threats in the online world is computer hacking.**[II].** Hackers are people who illegally enter systems. **They** may alter or delete information, steal private information, or spread viruses that can damage or destroy files. **[III]**. But how exactly can a hacker get into a system to do these things? **[IV]**

 Most hackers use information called **protocols** that are built into computer software. These protocols allow computers to interact with one another. Protocols are sort of like computer police officers. When a computer connects to another system, the protocols check to see if the access is valid. The protocols can also determine how much information can be shared between the two systems. Hackers can **manipulate** the protocols to get unlimited access to a computer system.

 In fact, just the act of entering a computer network is considered hacking. This is commonly called passive hacking. Passive hackers get a rush from just being able to access a challenging system like a bank or military network. Another kind of hacker tries to do damage to a system. After hacking into systems, these hackers release viruses or alter, delete, or take information. Known as active hackers, they are, by far, the more dangerous of the two.

 The easiest way to protect a system is with a good password. **Long and unusual passwords are harder for hackers to guess**. For even greater security, some online services now use “password-plus” systems. In this case, users first put in a password and then put in a second code that changes after the user accesses the site. Users either have special cards or devices that show them the new code to use the next time. Even if a hacker steals the password, they won’t have the code. Or if the hacker somehow gets the code, they still don’t know the password.

 (Adapted from *Reading Challenge 2 by Casey Malarcher and Andrea Janzen*)

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
  **Computer hacking is the unauthorized access to a computer or network of computers**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: What does the word **They** in paragraph 2 refer to before?

A. Network B. Information C. Computer D. Hackers

**Question 3**: What does the word **protocols** in paragraph 2 refer to?

A. security measures B . communication rules C. hacking tools D. software programs

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT a function of protocols?

A. they verify access to systems B. they regulate information sharing

C. they prevent all hacking attempts D. they facilitate communication between systems

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarises paragraph 3?

A. Passive hackers are less harmful than active hackers.

B. Hacking is a risky activity that can lead to serious consequences.

C. There are different types of hackers, each with unique motives.

D. Active hackers are more skilled than passive hackers.

**Question 6**: The word **manipulate** in paragraph 2 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. control B. ignore C. enhance D. assist

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. All hackers are motivated by financial gain.

B. Password-plus systems provide an extra layer of security.

C. Passive hackers cause significant damage to systems.

D. There is no effective way to protect against hacking.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?

A. Users are encouraged to create complex passwords for better protection.

B. A good password alone can ensure total security for all users.

C. Long and complex passwords significantly reduce the risk of being hacked.

D. Hackers are unable to break even the simplest passwords.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. Hacking will become less of a threat in the future as technology improves.

B. Strong passwords and additional security measures can greatly reduce hacking risks.

C. Most hackers are skilled computer programmers with advanced knowledge.

D. The use of computers will decline as hacking becomes more prevalent.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. Understanding hacking and implementing security measures are essential in today’s digital landscape.

B. Computer hacking is a complex issue that requires constant vigilance from users and developers.

C. Hackers pose significant threats to online security, making robust password systems necessary.

D. While hacking is a growing concern, effective strategies exist to mitigate its impact on users.

**TEST 4**

 ***Read the following passage about deepfakes and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

 **[I]** Deepfakes represent a **cutting-edge** yet **[II]**concerning technological advancement in the realm of artificial intelligence.**[III]**. These sophisticated digital manipulations use machine learning algorithms to create convincing and often highly deceptive videos or audio recordings that appear truly authentic but are entirely fabricated. **[IV]**

 On one hand, the technology offers innovative possibilities for entertainment, filmmaking, and even certain beneficial applications in fields like medicine and education. However, the darker side of deepfakes raises substantial ethical and societal concerns. Their misuse can lead to the dissemination of false information, manipulation of public opinion, and the erosion of trust in media and digital content.

 The capacity of deepfakes to convincingly depict individuals saying or doing things **they** never did raises profound implications for privacy, reputation, and security. Malicious actors could weaponize this technology to create damaging scenarios, manipulating public figures or individuals for political sabotage, defamation, or other malicious purposes.

 Moreover, combating deepfakes poses a considerable challenge. As technology advances, distinguishing between authentic and manipulated content becomes increasingly difficult. Efforts to develop detection methods and regulations to curb the misuse of deepfake technology are ongoing but face an uphill battle against its rapid evolution.

 The evolution of deepfake technology prompts a critical need for **vigilance**, digital literacy, and robust mechanisms to authenticate and verify digital content. **Educating individuals about the existence and potential risks of deepfakes becomes imperative to cultivate a society equipped to discern and navigate the complexities of an increasingly manipulated digital landscape.**

 (Adapted from *https://medium.com/*)

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
  **The potential implications of deepfakes are farreaching and multifaceted.**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **cutting-edge** in paragraph 1 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. outdated B. innovative C. traditional D. conventional

**Question 3**: The word **they** in paragraph 3 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. individuals B. things C. deepfakes D. implications

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT a positive application of deepfake technology?

A. enhancing entertainment B. improving educational content
C. creating realistic fake news D. advancing medical training

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarises paragraph 6?

A. Deepfakes can erode public trust and spread misinformation.
B. Ethical concerns about deepfakes are easily addressed.
C. The misuse of deepfakes primarily affects individual reputations.
D. Deepfakes are used mostly for entertainment purposes.

**Question 6**: The word **vigilance** in paragraph 6 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. attentiveness B. negligence C. awareness D. responsibility

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. Deepfakes are primarily used in the medical field.

B. All deepfakes are easily detectable with current technology.

C. Many potential risks of deepfakes remain unaddressed.

D. The use of deepfakes has no ethical implications.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 6?

A. It is essential to educate the public about deepfakes to navigate a complex digital world.
B. Understanding deepfakes is critical for maintaining trust in digital content.
C. Developing technology to combat deepfakes is crucial for the future.
D. Society must prepare for the challenges posed by deepfake technology.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. The rise of deepfakes will lead to increased trust in digital content.
B. The benefits of deepfake technology outweigh its risks.
C. Digital literacy will become increasingly important as deepfake technology evolves.
D. Society will fully embrace deepfakes as a standard practice.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. Deepfake technology offers numerous benefits but poses serious ethical and societal challenges.
B. The evolution of deepfakes is alarming, requiring urgent public awareness and education.
C. While deepfakes can enhance creativity, they also threaten personal privacy and security.
D. Society must adapt to the presence of deepfakes and find effective ways to manage their impact.

**TEST 5**

***Read the following passage about typical breakfasts in different countries and mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

 It is said that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Maybe that's why many people may be open to trying foreign food at lunch or dinner, but they're not adventurous enough to **experiment with** anything new at breakfast. But what about you? Below, we look at typical breakfasts in some different countries. Would you have **them** or are they too spicy, too fattening or just too different?

 The traditional breakfast in South Korea is rice and soup. People then choose extra dishes to go with it such as grilled fish, vegetables and kimchi, which is pickled cabbage with chilies. Kimchi is so popular that the first Korean astronaut took some with him to the international space station! **Of course, these days, many Koreans have such busy lifestyles they don't have enough time to make breakfast and just grab a quick coffee and some cereal or toast.**

 Breakfast in Bulgaria includes tea or strong coffee, sesame bread and butter, cheese made from sheep's milk, honey, olives, boiled eggs and—most importantly—kiselo mlyako, a local yoghurt. Bulgaria has a lot of people aged over 100, and many believe that the secret behind this is their yoghurt, which most Bulgarians eat every day.

  **[I]** . It's lightly spiced and often served with fried plantain (a kind of banana used like a vegetable in a lot of Central American and Caribbean cooking), cream, and fried eggs. **[II]** There's usually some strong local coffee as well—or perhaps some agua dulce ("sweet water"),**[III]** which is made from sugar cane juice. **[IV]**

 (Adapted from *Outcomes, Pre-Intermediate by Kathryn, Aldridge-Morris*)

**Question 1**: Where in the passage does the following sentence best fit?
 **Many Costa Ricans start their day with the national dish, gallo pinto, which is a mixture of fried rice and black beans**

 A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **experiment with** in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_

A. produce B. change C. detect D. test

**Question 3**: What does the word **them** in the first paragraph refer to?

A. dishes B. breakfasts C. people D. countries

**Question 4**: According to the passage, which of the following is NOT mentioned as part of a traditional breakfast in Bulgaria?

A. tea or coffee B. fried eggs C. olives D. sesame bread

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarises the breakfast in South Korea?

A. A simple meal of bread and butter
B. A complex meal with various dishes
C. A quick meal consisting of cereal
D. A meal focused solely on rice

**Question 6**: The word **adventurous** in the first paragraph is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. brave B. cautious C. excited D. spontaneous

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. All South Koreans have the same breakfast every day.
B. Bulgarians attribute their longevity to their yoghurt consumption.
C. Costa Ricans typically skip breakfast due to busy schedules.
D. Kimchi is a common breakfast food in Costa Rica.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in the second paragraph?

A. Many Koreans prefer quick breakfasts instead of traditional meals.
B. Modern lifestyles prevent Koreans from enjoying elaborate breakfasts.
C. Koreans find it easy to prepare traditional breakfasts every day.
D. Busy schedules allow for more time to enjoy breakfast.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. Breakfast choices are largely the same across all cultures.
B. Urban lifestyles have influenced breakfast habits in many countries.
C. Many people eat breakfast on the go due to time constraints.
D. All traditional breakfasts are healthy and low in calories.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. Breakfasts vary widely around the world, with each culture offering unique dishes that reflect local ingredients and traditions.
B. Most countries prioritize quick breakfasts that fit busy lifestyles, neglecting traditional foods.
C. Traditional breakfasts are often unchanging, regardless of the influence of global cuisine.
D. The significance of breakfast varies greatly, with some cultures favoring complex meals while others prefer simplicity

**TEST 6**

***Read the following passage about technology in education and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

 **[I]** Some people strongly support integrating technology in classrooms, while others **highlight** the potential negative effects on students. **[II]** Parents and teachers often express concerns about increased screen time, reduced face-to-face interaction,**[III]** and various distractions associated with technology use. **[IV]**

 Supporters of technology believe **it** brings enthusiasm, motivation, personalized educational experiences, and collaborative opportunities. Technology offers a plethora of resources for students, parents, and teachers. For instance, if a student struggles with math homework, platforms like Khan Academy provide useful sample problems and tutorials. Additionally, YouTube hosts many educational channels that make learning engaging. Google offers virtual reality field trips through its Expeditions program, while websites like Quizlet help students review material. Personalized learning experiences can also be found on sites like Classcraft, ensuring students have resources to support their coursework, both at home and school.

 Technology enhances learning efficiency. Nowadays, attendance records, grades, and behavior referrals are often managed online, allowing for immediate sharing between students, teachers, and parents. Parent-teacher communication has become more streamlined through email. If a student misses class, assignments are typically available on class websites or Google Classroom. By automating routine tasks, teachers can dedicate more time to developing course materials and providing individualized instruction.

 In today’s world, where technology is integral to nearly every aspect of life, students need digital literacy and technological fluency to succeed beyond school. **Learning technology skills goes beyond just creating digital presentations or drafting emails; it fosters valuable soft skills such as communication, collaboration, problem-solving, and adaptability**. These competencies are not only **essential** for college but are also highly sought after by employers, ensuring that students reap significant benefits as they enter the workforce.

 (Adapted from *https://www.classcraft.com*)

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
  **Technology is a hot topic these days in education**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **highlight** in paragraph 1 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. emphasize B. ignore C. discuss D. simplify

**Question 3**: What does the word **it** in paragraph 2 refer to?
A. technology B. education C. a resource D. a website

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT mentioned as a resource provided by technology?
A. virtual reality field trips B. personalized learning experiences
C. in-person tutoring D. educational videos

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarizes paragraph 3?
A. Technology simplifies teachers’ workloads and enhances communication.
B. Online tools are essential for efficient teaching and learning processes.
C. Technology eliminates the need for traditional classroom attendance.
D. Teachers must adapt to using technology for lesson planning.

**Question 6**: The word **essential** in paragraph 4 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. insignificant B. vital C. important D. crucial

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
A. All students benefit equally from technology in education.
B. Technology will eventually replace traditional teaching methods.
C. Digital literacy is essential for future career success.
D. Parents and teachers universally support technology in classrooms.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?
A. Learning technology skills prepares students for the future.
B. Students should focus on mastering basic technology tools.
C. Advanced technology is necessary for effective education today.
D. Technology use in schools is essential for success in the workplace.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
A. Technology will continue to dominate educational practices.
B. Students’ reliance on technology may hinder their interpersonal skills.
C. Education systems must evolve to incorporate more technology.
D. All teachers are trained to use technology effectively in the classroom.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarizes the passage?
A. Technology offers valuable resources and skills that enhance the educational experience and prepare students for future success.
B. The integration of technology in classrooms is controversial but ultimately beneficial for student learning.
C. As technology evolves, students must adapt to new tools to remain competitive in their careers.
D. While technology provides benefits in education, concerns about its effects on students persist.

**TEST 7**

***Read the following passage about the presence of water on Mars and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

 **[I]** Photographic evidence suggests that liquid water once existed in great quantity on the surface of Mars. Two types of flow features are seen: runoff channels and outflow channels.**[II]** Runoff channels are found in the southern highlands. These flow features are extensive systems of interconnecting, twisting channels that seem to merge into larger, wider channels. **[III]**. Runoff channels on Mars speak of a time 4 billion years ago, when the atmosphere was thicker, the surface warmer, and **liquid water** widespread.**[IV]**

 Outflow channels are probably relics of catastrophic flooding on Mars long ago. **They** appear only in equatorial regions and generally do not form extensive interconnected networks. Instead, they are probably the paths taken by huge volumes of water draining from the southern highlands into the northern plains. The onrushing water arising from these flash floods likely also formed the odd teardrop-shaped "islands" that have been found on the plains close to the ends of the outflow channels. Judging from the width and depth of the channels, the flow rates must have been truly **enormous** – perhaps as much as a hundred times greater than the 105 tons per second carried by the great Amazon River. Flooding shaped the outflow channels approximately 3 billion years ago, about the same time as the northern volcanic plains formed.

  **Some scientists speculate that Mars may have enjoyed an extended early period during which rivers, lakes, and perhaps even oceans adorned its surface**. A 2003 Mars Global Surveyor image shows what mission specialists think may be a delta – a fan-shaped network of channels and sediments where a river once flowed into a larger body of water, in this case a lake filling a crater in the southern highlands. Other researchers go even further, suggesting that the data provide evidence for large open expanses of water on the early Martian surface. A computer-generated view of the Martian north polar region shows the extent of what may have been an ancient ocean covering much of the northern lowlands. The Hellas Basin, which measures some 3,000 kilometers across and has a floor that lies nearly 9 kilometers below the basin's rim, is another candidate for an ancient Martian sea.

 (Adapted from *https://www.ets.org/toefl/rpdt/prepare/reading*)

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
**They bear a strong resemblance to river systems on Earth, and geologists think that they are dried-up beds of long-gone rivers that once carried rainfall on Mars from the mountains down into the valleys**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase "**liquid water**" in paragraph 1 could best be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. flowing water B. wet water C. fluid water D. fresh water

**Question 3**: What does the word "**they**" in paragraph 2 refer to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. outflow channels B. flow features C. runoff channels D. geologists

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT a characteristic of runoff channels?

A. They are found in the southern highlands.

B. They resemble river systems on Earth.

C. They are interconnected and twisting.

D. They formed recently in Mars' history.

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarizes paragraph 3?

A. Outflow channels indicate Mars experienced significant flooding events in its past.

B. Mars has a history of river formations that have shaped its landscape.

C. The presence of ancient water bodies on Mars suggests a warmer past.

D. Evidence from Mars' surface features supports theories of ancient lakes and oceans.

**Question 6**: The word "**enormous**" in paragraph 2 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. small B. manageable C. moderate D . insignificant

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. The evidence of water on Mars has been conclusively proven.

B. Mars' channels were likely formed by a variety of geological processes.

C. The existence of ancient oceans on Mars is a widely accepted fact.

D. Many researchers believe that Mars once had extensive bodies of water.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?

A. The idea of Mars having oceans deserves serious exploration.

B. The information about Martian water bodies should be taken seriously.

C. While the presence of ancient water may seem surprising, it is plausible.

D. It is essential to investigate the implications of water on Mars' past.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. The study of Mars' channels is key to understanding its climate history.

B. The presence of water on Mars indicates a possibility of life.

C. Future missions to Mars will confirm the existence of oceans.

D. The Martian environment was more similar to Earth’s in the past.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarizes the passage?

A. Mars' surface features reveal a rich history of water, suggesting potential habitability in its past.

B. The geological evidence on Mars points to significant water presence and climate changes over billions of years.

C. Understanding the presence of water on Mars is crucial for future exploration missions.

D. The exploration of Mars has uncovered signs of ancient water bodies, raising questions about its past.

**TEST 8**

***Read the following passage about memory and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

**[I]** Most people wish they had better memories. They also worry about forgetting things as they get older. But did you know that we have different kinds of memory? **[II]**When one or more of these kinds of memories start to fail, there are a few simple things that everyone can do to improve their memories. What most people think of as memory is, in fact, five different categories of memory.**[III]** Our **capability to remember** things from the past, that is, years or days ago, depends on two categories of memory. They are remote memory and recent memory, respectively. Think back to last year's birthday. **[IV]** On the other hand, if you can't remember what you ate for lunch yesterday, that is a problem with your recent memory.

Remembering past events is only one way to use memories. When taking a test, we need to draw on our semantic memories. That is the sum of our acquired knowledge. Or maybe we want to remember to do or use something in the future, either minutes or days from now. These cases use our immediate and prospective memories, respectively. Have you ever thought to yourself, "I need to remember to turn off the light," but then promptly forgot it? That would be a faulty immediate memory. On the other hand, maybe you can easily remember to meet your friend for lunch next week. That means that at least your prospective memory is in good working order.

Many people think that developing a bad memory is unavoidable as we get older, but this is actually not the case. Of our five kinds of memory, immediate, remote, and prospective (if aided with cues like memos) do not degrade with age. But how can we prevent a diminishing of our semantic and unaided prospective memories? **The secret seems to be activity**. Studies have shown that a little mental activity, like learning new things or even doing crossword puzzles, goes a long way in positively affecting our memories. Regular physical activity appears to be able to make our memories better as well. **This** is possibly due to having a better blood supply to the brain. The one thing to avoid at all costs, though, is stress. When we are stressed, our bodies release a hormone called cortisol, which is harmful to our brain cells and thus our memories. Reducing stress through meditation, exercise, or other activities can help to preserve our mental abilities.

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
**What did you do? If you can't remember that, you are having a problem with your remote memory.**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **capability to remember** in paragraph 1 could best be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. ability to recall B. tendency to forget C. process of memorizing D. effort to learn

**Question 3**: What does the word **this** in paragraph 1 refer to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. memories B. regular phisical activity C. crossword puzzles D. problem

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT a type of memory mentioned?

A. Semantic memory B. Immediate memory C. Prospective memory D. Emotional memory

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarizes paragraph 3?

A. Aging negatively impacts all types of memory.
B. Regular activity can help maintain various types of memory.
C. Semantic memory is the most important for daily functioning.
D. Stress is the leading cause of memory deterioration.

**Question 6**: The word "**diminishing**" in paragraph 3 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. increasing B. decreasing C. limiting D. fading

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. Only older adults experience memory decline.
B. Stress can have harmful effects on memory.
C. Mental activity has no impact on memory improvement.
D. All types of memory decline with age.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?

A. Engaging in mental activities is crucial for maintaining good memory.
B. Mental activities can negatively impact our cognitive abilities.
C. Lack of mental activity is the primary cause of memory loss.
D. Only physical exercise can enhance memory functions.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. People who frequently engage in stress-reducing activities are likely to have better memory.
B. All types of memory decline significantly in older age.
C. Learning new things has no relation to memory improvement.
D. Physical activity is more important than mental activity for memory.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarizes the passage?

A. Memory can be categorized into different types, and maintaining mental and physical activity can help preserve memory as we age.
B. Aging inevitably leads to memory loss, especially in semantic memory.
C. Stress management is the most effective way to enhance memory capabilities.
D. There are many ways to improve memory, but they all require significant effort.

**TEST 9**

***Read the following passage about languages and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

**[I]** Did you know there are about 6,000 to 7,000 languages in the world?**[II]**. What makes language even more unique is that languages can change over time, and some may even become extinct.**[III]**. The language, or languages, that you speak now may be very different in the future.**[IV]**

Language changes depending on what region a speaker lives in, his or her level of education, gender, age, and social status. Because language is dependent on society, social changes can cause languages to change. For example, in the 1950s, people started to use "Ms." to refer to a woman instead of "Miss" or "Mrs." Like "Mr.", the word "Ms." doesn’t show whether or not a woman is married. New inventions and technology are another reason why languages change. The words "television" and "computer" did not exist in the English language until these objects were invented.

Then how can languages become extinct? When the last speaker of a language dies, the language ceases to exist. The Bo language, for example, became extinct in 2010 when its last speaker died. And even more recently, a Scottish dialect called Cromarty became extinct when its last speaker died in 2012. There have been many other languages around the world that have become extinct over time. Language experts estimate that about 50% to 90% of the languages spoken today will become extinct within the next one hundred years.

**That** is why people are working to preserve endangered languages. Google has developed and implemented the Endangered Languages Project website to save more than 3,000 endangered languages from **vanishing**. Through the website, speakers of the same language can connect through social media, audio, and video to try to keep the language alive. People can also use the site to try to learn new languages. With so many languages already extinct, **it is important to preserve the ones that are left for future generations.**

How about the language in your country? Has the language changed over time? Have new words been created? Pay attention to the language around you so that you can observe how it evolves and keep it from becoming extinct.

 (Adapted from *Subject links by Build & Grow*)

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
  **It is hard to grasp that so many unique and distinct languages exist**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase "**unique and distinct**" in paragraph 1 could best be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. rare and special B. common and ordinary C. similar and identical D. valuable and significant

**Question 3**: What does the word "**that**" in paragraph 4 refer to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the preservation of languages B. the development of the website

C. the extinction of languages D. the Endangered Languages Project

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT a factor influencing language change?

A. Age B. Gender C. Education D . Economy

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarizes paragraph 3?

A. Many languages have gone extinct due to the death of their last speakers.
B. The extinction of languages is not a significant issue in modern society.
C. The number of languages will likely increase in the coming years.
D. Extinct languages have little impact on current cultures.

**Question 6**: The word "**vanishing**" in paragraph 4 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. appearing B. disappearing C. declining D. fading

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. All languages are equally likely to become extinct.
B. New technology has no impact on language evolution.
C. Efforts are being made to save endangered languages.
D. No languages have gone extinct in recent years.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?

A. It is crucial to learn and maintain existing languages for future generations.
B. The preservation of languages is not necessary for cultural identity.
C. New technologies can help revive extinct languages.
D. All languages will eventually become extinct.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. Observing language changes can help understand cultural shifts.
B. The number of languages will remain constant in the future.
C. Technology will not change how languages are spoken.
D. Language extinction only affects small communities.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarizes the passage?

A. There are many languages in the world, and while some become extinct, efforts are underway to preserve endangered languages.
B. Language extinction is a natural process that cannot be prevented.
C. New languages will emerge as old ones disappear over time.
D. The preservation of all languages is equally important.

**TEST 10**

  ***Read the following passage about the impact of girls' education and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

**[I]** Improving girls' educational levels **has been demonstrated** to have clear impacts on the health and economic future of young women, which in turn improves the prospects of their entire community.**[II]**. The infant mortality rate of babies whose mothers have received primary education is half that of children whose mothers are illiterate. In the poorest countries of the world, 50% of girls do not attend secondary school. **[III]** Yet, research shows that every extra year of school for girls increases their lifetime income by 15%. Improving female education, and thus the earning potential of women, improves the standard of living for their own children, as women invest more of their income in their families than men do. Yet, many **barriers** to education for girls remain. **[IV]**

Higher attendance rates of high schools and university education among women, particularly in developing countries, have helped them make inroads into professional careers with better-paying salaries and wages. Education increases a woman's (and her partner's and the family's) level of health and health awareness. **Furthering women's levels of education and advanced training also tends to lead to later ages of initiation of sexual activity and first intercourse, later age at first marriage, and later age at first childbirth, as well as an increased likelihood to remain single, have no children or have no formal marriage and alternatively, have increasing levels of long-term partnerships**. **It** can lead to higher rates of barrier and chemical contraceptive use (and a lower level of sexually transmitted infections among women and their partners and children), and can increase the level of resources available to women who divorce or are in a situation of domestic violence. It has been shown, in addition, to increase women's communication with their partners and their employers, and to improve rates of civic participation such as voting or the holding of office.

 (Adapted from *https://journals.aiac.org.au/index.php/JELS/article/view/408*)

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
**In some African countries, such as Burkina Faso, girls are unlikely to attend school for such basic reasons as a lack of private latrine facilities for girls.**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **has been demonstrated** to in paragraph 1 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. has been shown to B. has been ignored by C . has been challenged by D. has been proven wrong by

**Question 3**: What does the word **it** in paragraph 2 refer to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the education B. the family C. the income D. the standard of living

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT a benefit of improving female education?

A. Women can earn higher incomes. B. Women will have fewer children.

C. Women's health awareness increases. D. Women will not face any barriers to education.

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarises paragraph 3?

A. Education empowers women and improves family dynamics.

B. Higher education levels reduce the age of marriage and childbirth.

 C. Education has minimal impact on women's long-term partnerships.

D. Women’s education is linked to improved health and social outcomes.

**Question 6**: The word **barriers** in paragraph 1 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. advantages B. obstacles C. supports D. limitations

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. All barriers to girls' education have been eliminated.

B. Improved education for girls leads to better family health.

C. Women who are educated are less likely to work outside the home.

D. Primary education is sufficient for women’s empowerment.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 2?

A. Education provides women with more control over their lives and futures.

B. Women who are educated tend to marry at a younger age.

C. Increasing educational levels among women leads to more traditional family structures.

D. Women without education are more likely to be single and childless.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. Education for girls will inevitably lead to job creation.

B. Educated women are more likely to advocate for community health.

C. The challenges faced by girls in education are solely financial.

D. Societal attitudes towards women’s education are unchanging.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. Enhancing girls' education significantly benefits individual and community welfare.

B. Education for girls is essential, but challenges still need to be addressed.

C. Girls' education is crucial for economic growth and health improvements.

D. While education offers many benefits, its impact varies by region.

**TEST 11**

***Read the following passage about the Winterthur Museum and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

**[I]** There are many museums devoted to the decorative arts and many house museums, but rarely in the United States is a great collection displayed in a great country house.**[II]** Passing through successive generations of a single family, Winterthur has been a private estate for more than a century. **[III]**Even after the extensive renovations made to it between 1929 and 1931, the house remained a family residence. **This fact is of importance to** the atmosphere and effect of the museum.**[IV]** The impression of a lived-in house is apparent to the visitor: the rooms look as if they were vacated only a short while ago, whether by the original owners of the furniture or the most recent residents of the house can be a matter of personal interpretation. Winterthur remains, then, a house in which a collection of furniture and architectural elements has been assembled. Like an English country house, **it** is an **organic** structure; the house, as well as the collection and manner of displaying it to the visitor, has changed over the years. The changes have coincided with developing concepts of the American arts, increased knowledge on the part of collectors and students, and a progression toward the achievement of a historical effect in period-room displays. The rooms at Winterthur have followed this current, yet still retained the character of a private house.

**The concept of a period room as a display technique has developed gradually over the years in an effort to present works of art in a context that would show them to greater effect and would give them more meaning for the viewer**. Comparable to the habitat group in a natural history museum, the period room represents the decorative arts in a lively and interesting manner and provides an opportunity to assemble objects related by style, date, or place of manufacture.

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
  **The Winterthur Museum is a collection and a house.**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **this fact is of importance to** in paragraph 1 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. this fact enhances B. this fact is irrelevant C. this fact complicates D. this fact undermines

**Question 3**: What does the word **it** in paragraph 1 refer to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the collection B. the house C. the family D. Winterthur

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT a benefit of the period room display technique?

A. It showcases art in a meaningful context. B. It provides a historical perspective.

C. It limits the number of objects displayed. D. It organizes objects by related characteristics.

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarises paragraph 1?

A. Winterthur is a private estate that exhibits a significant collection of decorative arts.

B. The Winterthur Museum is primarily focused on architectural elements.

C. The renovations of Winterthur have altered its historical significance.

D. Winterthur lacks the charm of a lived-in house.

**Question 6**: The word **organic** in paragraph 1 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. artificial B. traditional C. simplistic D. complex

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. Winterthur has always been open to the public.

 B. The concept of a period room is unique to Winterthur.

C. The house has undergone changes over its history.

D. The furniture collection is not well integrated into the house.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 2?

A. The period room display technique is essential for understanding art.

B. Presenting art in period rooms allows for a more impactful experience.

C. The period room technique makes art less accessible to viewers.

D. It is important to keep art separate from its historical context.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. The Winterthur Museum is the only house museum in the United States.

B. The display techniques used in museums are evolving over time.

C. Visitors prefer static displays to period room setups.

D. Private collections have no relevance to public museums.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. The Winterthur Museum uniquely combines the experience of a house with a decorative arts collection. B. The renovations at Winterthur have compromised its historical integrity.

C. Period rooms in museums are outdated and require modernization.

D. The collection at Winterthur is largely disconnected from the house itself.

**TEST 12**

***Read the following passage about text messaging and its effects on writing skills and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

 **[I]** Some teachers think that because of this, young people are not writing correctly at school.**[II]** They fear that once students get used to it,**[III]** they will find it hard to **switch back to** using correct grammar and spelling. How did things begin this way?**[IV]**

 It all began with e-mail, online chat rooms, and games. Then step by step young people made sentences, phrases and words shorter. As text-messaging continued to become popular, people invented more and more words. Today, it is like a real language with its own grammar and vocabulary. The growth of text-messaging has raised an important question: As students become fluent in text messaging, do their writing skills suffer?

 People have different ideas about the effects of text-messaging on students’ writing skills. Some say that students are losing the ability to write long, correct sentences. Others say that text-messaging is having a good effect on the language students use in then schoolwork. It shows that they are creative and good at expressing themselves. And if students can keep the two systems separate - one for text messaging and one for school - this will help students appreciate reading and writing more.

 Some people suggest that one way to reduce the bad effects of text-messaging is to find ways to use technology as a positive learning tool. For example, students can be allowed to type their assignments in a cell phone message and send them to their teachers, but they must type correctly. In this way, students are using the technology that they are familiar with to communicate in a form of language suitable for schoolwork. **It shows students that text-messaging is fine for social communication, but correct grammar and spelling are necessary for communication in school.**

 (Adapted from *Strategic Reading by Richards and Eckstut-Didier*)

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
**Today, text-messaging has probably become young people’s most common form of communication.**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **switch back to** in paragraph 1 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. return to B. adjust to C. give up D. change into

**Question 3**: What does the word **it** in paragraph 2 refer to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. text messaging B. the Internet C. online games D. communication

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 3, which of the following is NOT a claim made by people regarding text messaging?

A. It helps students express themselves creatively.
B. It leads to better grammar in schoolwork.
C. It reduces the ability to write long sentences.
D. It allows students to separate different writing styles.

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarises paragraph 3?

A. The impact of text messaging on writing skills is purely negative.

B. There are mixed opinions on the effects of text messaging on writing.

C. Text messaging enhances students’ ability to write essays.

D. All educators agree on the importance of traditional writing.

**Question 6**: The word **reduce** in paragraph 4 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. increase B. maintain C. harness D. cut down on

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. Text messaging has no positive effects on communication.

B. Teachers believe all students write poorly due to text messaging.

C. Technology can be used effectively in educational contexts.

D. Students prefer using traditional writing methods over texting.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?

A. Text messaging is only suitable for casual conversations.

B. Correct grammar and spelling are essential for academic writing.

C. Students should avoid using technology for schoolwork.

D. Social communication requires less attention to detail than schoolwork.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. Young people will eventually stop using text messaging.

B. Text messaging has permanently damaged students’ writing skills.

C. Students can learn to balance texting and formal writing.

D. All teachers are against the use of text messaging in education.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. Text messaging has transformed communication but poses challenges for writing skills.

B. The use of technology should be discouraged in educational settings.

C. Students are fully capable of separating casual and formal writing styles.

D. Text messaging improves grammar and spelling in students’ writing.

**TEST 13**

***Read the following passage about overseas students in British universities and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

**[I]** Universities love overseas students – they are clever and hardworking, they bring different cultures to seminars and student life and they pay their way.**[II]**. The British Council has published a report predicting that overseas student numbers could **soar** to more than 800,000 by 2018.**[III]** In 2010, figures put the total at over 400,000 international students out of two and a half million students in UK higher education and it is clear that this influx is having an enormous impact on universities and colleges. **[IV]**

These students bring welcome fees, of course, but **they** are also likely to be very intelligent students who inject new cultural influences and bring changes to the old university systems. Their demand for vocational subjects such as business, biotechnology and information technology, rather than traditional academic subjects, is affecting what is taught as well.

The **impressive** expansion of foreign students has already had a significant impact on higher education. Overseas student numbers, including European Union students, have risen from 270,000 in 2002 to 400,000 in 2010. During this time the number from China jumped more than tenfold, and numbers from India have been going up. In contrast, the number of students from other countries has fallen, **reflecting their governments’ efforts to educate more of their young people at home,** as well as competition from Australia and the USA. But as the Asian tiger economies expand their own universities, the good news for places like the London School of Economics is that there are more and more graduates looking to improve their qualifications or to pursue research in their subjects.

 (Adapted from *Gateway by Spencer and Edwards*)

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
  **In Britain, universities are getting ready to enroll more overseas students**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D . [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **soar** in paragraph 1 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. hurt B. decline C. slump D. ascend

Question 3: What does the word **they** in paragraph 2 refer to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. fees B. universities C. students D. subjects

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT mentioned as an influence of overseas students?

A. They increase university revenues.
B. They enrich campus cultural life.
C. They encourage the teaching of traditional subjects.
D. They change the focus of academic programs.

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarises paragraph 3?

A. The increase in overseas students has led to a decline in local enrollment.

B. More students are seeking higher education opportunities abroad.

C. The growth of international students is reshaping higher education dynamics.

D. Students from Europe are significantly outnumbering those from Asia.

**Question 6**: The word **impressive** in paragraph 3 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. striking B. disappointing C. remarkable D. notable

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. The total number of international students in the UK has decreased since 2002.

B. The UK is losing international students to Australia and the USA.

C. China has consistently sent fewer students to the UK than India.

D. More universities in Asia are closing due to lack of students.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?

A. Other countries are now sending more students abroad.

B. Countries are competing to attract international students.

C. Governments are prioritizing domestic education for their youth.

D. International students prefer to study in their home countries.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. The quality of education in the UK is declining due to the influx of overseas students.

B. The demand for vocational courses reflects changes in global job markets.

C. Overseas students are less likely to pursue research compared to local students.

D. The number of graduates looking to study in the UK is decreasing.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. The influx of overseas students is transforming UK universities, both financially and academically.

B. British universities face challenges from other countries in attracting international students.

C. The number of international students in the UK will remain stable in the coming years.

D. Vocational education is becoming less important in UK higher education.

**TEST 14**

***Read the following passage about stress and performance and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

 **[I]** Like many emergency responders, Nicholas Groom is used to stress at work. **[II]** On one hand, the stress can be helpful. “I find that when attending a serious incident, **it** helps me to maintain focus on the situation,” Nicholas Groom said. **[II]**. And Groom is not alone in his complicated relationship with stress.**[IV]**

 Many people believe that that there should be a balanced amount of stress. In other words, not too much stress so you’re not overwhelmed but not too little stress so you don’t feel unmotivated. After all, some anxiety is motivating; think of the adrenaline before a deadline or the excitement before a competition. Sports fans sometimes even talk about a “gene” in some athletes who seem to play best in the decisive final moments of a match. Furthermore, many psychologists claim that performance in many situations increases with stress up to a point. Of course, any stress can cause harm when it’s prolonged. To take just one example, a long-term high heart rate is linked to cardiovascular diseases. And additional stressors, such as financial pressures or psychiatric issues, clearly affect how beneficially someone can respond to stress.

 So is there a way to harness stress to your advantage while being mindful of its detrimental long-term effects? One key factor is to avoid, whenever possible, the point when stress leads to mental and physical collapse. Crystal Wernicke, 30, has always used stress as a motivator. But juggling between parenting, a full-time job, a voluntary role and financial troubles at the same time became too much and eventually led to a two-month period of illness. Another factor is the presence of control. For those who feel powerless over their situation, stress is unlikely to be beneficial. But with some autonomy over stressful tasks, we are better able to convert that pressure into higher performance.
 When it comes to stress and how it affects your performance, it’s helpful to recognise the variations in personality, type of stress and task that affect the level of pressure you are under, as well as understanding tools you can use to control and **harness that stress**. Ultimately, **it’s not helpful to take a one-sided view, either demonising or glorifying stress**. As James C Quick, a management professor at the University of Texas, sums up: “Stress can be the kiss of death as well as the spice of life.”
 (Adapted from *bbc.com*)

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?
**On the other hand, the work can be highly pressurised. “Too much stress can impair your ability to make decisions,” he adds**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **harness stress** in paragraph 4 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. avoid stress B. use stress positively C. ignore stress D. increase stress

**Question 3**: What does the word **it** in paragraph 1 refer to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. stress B . the work C. the situation D. the decision

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT mentioned as a factor in handling stress?

A. The need for balance in stress levels.
B. The presence of financial pressures.
C. The importance of motivation.
D. The link between stress and performance.

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarises paragraph 3?

A. Managing stress effectively can prevent health issues.
B. Individuals respond to stress in various ways.
C. Stress management requires recognizing personal limits.
D. Juggling multiple responsibilities can lead to burnout.

**Question 6**: The word **detrimental** in paragraph 4 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. harmful B. beneficial C. noticeable D. serious

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. Stress is always negative for performance.
B. Control over tasks can enhance performance under stress.
C. High heart rates are beneficial in the long term.
D. All types of stress lead to the same outcomes.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?

A. It is important to view stress from multiple perspectives.
B. Stress should always be viewed as harmful and dangerous.
C. A balanced view of stress can improve workplace performance.
D. Recognizing stress as a motivator can help manage it effectively.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. Stress has no positive effects on performance in any context.
B. Individuals with higher autonomy can manage stress more effectively.
C. People generally prefer high levels of stress in their work.
D. Managing stress is unnecessary for high-performance individuals.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. Stress can be both harmful and beneficial depending on how it is managed.
B. Managing stress is a simple process that requires minimal effort.
C. Stress should be completely avoided to ensure better performance.
D. Performance always declines under high levels of stress.

**TEST 15**

***Read the following passage about ecotourism and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.***

 To quote CREST founder Dr. Martha Honey, we earnestly believe that ecotourism is “simply a better way to travel.” Here’s a look at how this transformational approach to travel benefits conservation, increases cross-cultural understanding, and ultimately turns travelers into environmental advocates:

  **[I]** . Ivory from Elephant tusks is worth $1500 a pound on the black market, which has led to a dramatic increase in poaching. But Elephants are worth 76 times more alive than dead.**[II]** When you consider the revenue from wildlife photography tours, luxury safari camps, and other ecotourism offerings, a single Elephant is worth $1.3 million over the course of its lifetime!**[III]** Ecotourism offers a long-term alternative to exploitation, **generating sustainable revenue** and ensuring better overall health of the ecosystem. **[IV]**

 Nature reserves and national parks help prevent deforestation and pollution, while also protecting the habitat of endemic species. The revenue that ecotourism provides can help replace profits from exploitative practices such as mining or slash burn agriculture. It can also help ensure the long-term financial viability of the area. Naturalist guides also help travelers understand the value of a pristine ecosystem, and teach them about the importance of conservation. This ultimately help to create a more mindful and conscious legion of travelers.

 When managed properly, ecotourism can offer locals alternative revenue streams. In wildlife-rich countries such as Rwanda, former poachers are often employed as guides or trackers, capitalizing on their knowledge of the animals and their habitat. In Costa Rica, unemployment has fallen to less than 10% since the country started building its ecotourism infrastructure in the 1970s. Involving local communities in tourism management empowers them by ensuring that more revenue is reinvested locally. Ecotourism also offers indigenous peoples an opportunity to remain on ancestral land, conserve it, and preserve traditional culture.

 Sure, being a responsible traveler takes a greater level of commitment to being conscious and **mindful** of the impact we have on the destinations we visit. But ecotourism also offers us incredible, transformative experiences, allowing us to develop closer personal relationships to the nature, wildlife, and local people we encounter during our adventures. **Learning about ecotourism can permanently change your understanding of mankind’s role in our planetary ecosystem**. And once you’ve had that sort of travel experience, you’ll never want to travel the traditional way again.

 (Adapted from *https://www.ith.org.za/what-is-eco-tourism/*)

**Question 1**: Where in paragraph 2 does the following sentence best fit?
**To see how ecotourism benefits nature and wildlife, let’s look at endangered species such as African Elephants**

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

**Question 2**: The phrase **generating sustainable revenue** in paragraph 2 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. creating short-term profits B. producing long-lasting income
C. losing financial support D. increasing operating costs

**Question 3**: What does the word **it** in paragraph 3 refer to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the habitat B. the revenue C. ecotourism D. conservation

**Question 4**: According to paragraph 3, which of the following is NOT a benefit of ecotourism?

A. It helps protect local wildlife.
B. It encourages environmental exploitation.
C. It promotes awareness of conservation.
D. It supports local economies.

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarises paragraph 4?

A. Ecotourism creates jobs and empowers local communities.
B. Traditional practices are more beneficial than ecotourism.
C. Ecotourism relies solely on foreign investments.
D. Communities do not benefit from tourism development.

**Question 6**: The word **mindful** in paragraph 5 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. careless B. thoughtful C. aware D. conscious

**Question 7**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. Ecotourism has no impact on local culture.
B. Travelers need to be committed to responsible tourism.
C. All forms of tourism harm the environment.
D. Ecotourism primarily benefits international travelers.

**Question 8**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 5?

A. Engaging in ecotourism requires us to be aware of our impact.
B. Responsible travelers do not need to care about their effects.
C. Traveling without consideration is acceptable in ecotourism.
D. Commitment is necessary for traditional tourism practices.

**Question 9**: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. Traditional tourism has more advantages than ecotourism.
B. Travelers can experience deeper connections through ecotourism.
C. Ecotourism does not significantly alter travel behavior.
D. Ecotourism only benefits wealthy travelers.

**Question 10**: Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. Ecotourism is a sustainable alternative that fosters environmental awareness and supports local economies.
B. Traveling has a minimal impact on the environment if done responsibly.
C. The benefits of ecotourism are outweighed by its challenges.
D. Traditional tourism practices should be completely abandoned.

**B - DẠNG BÀI 8 CÂU (15 TESTS)**

**TEST 1**

***Read the following passage about the adaptation of books into films and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

Since the early days of making movies, writers and directors have attempted to bring popular and classic novels to the big screen. The movie industry seems to believe that if the story made a great book, it should make a great movie as well. However, that rarely seems to be the case. More often than not, a great book turns out to be a **mediocre** movie in the opinion of most viewers.

Over the past century, there have only been a handful of movies that have fulfilled the ambition of turning the great book into a great movie. Lovers of the historical novel, Gone with the Wind, continue to be swept away by the movie adaptation starring Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh. Science fiction readers as well as movie critics both hail Stanley Kubrick’s film, 2001: A Space Odyssey, which was co-written by Kubrick with the novel’s author Arthur C. Clarke, as a masterpiece.

On the other hand, there have been **instances** when not-so-great novels have been **transformed** into great movies. Mario Puzo’s The Godfather was quite popular at the time of its release as a novel, but critics hailed it more for its entertainment value than for its value as literature. The film adaptation of this popular novel, however, continues to be listed among the top ten greatest movies of all time. Likewise, the science fiction short story “Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?” did not set the science fiction genre on fire when it came out. The movie version, though, made a much bigger impact in its medium.

**Are there any books that are simply impossible to film?** Although filmmakers would like to think not, it is a good bet that certain books will never be adapted into successful films. Books written in unique literary styles such as Ulysses by James Joyce and The Sound and the Fury by William Faulkner have resisted film adaptation to rival the greatness of the books.

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a successful movie adaptation?

A. Gone with the Wind B. 2001: A Space Odyssey C. The Godfather D. Moby Dick

**Question 2**: The word **mediocre** in paragraph 1 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. excellent B. average C. poor D. typical

**Question 3**: The word **instance** in paragraph 3 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. a specific example B. a general idea C. a common belief D. a successful story

**Question 4**: The word **transformed** in paragraph 3 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. changed B. rejected C. analyzed D. understood

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?

A. Certain books may never be adapted into films.
B. Filmmakers believe every book can be adapted.
C. Some books are too complex for film adaptation.
D. All books should eventually be made into movies.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. The Godfather was originally a poorly received novel.
B. Gone with the Wind has no movie adaptation.
C. Ulysses has been successfully adapted into a film.
D. Most adaptations of great books are considered mediocre.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the writer mention a common belief in the film industry?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer discuss the challenges of adapting unique literary styles?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 2**

***Read the following passage about climate change and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

Climate change poses major challenges to environmental stability, economic growth, and human development in the East Asia and Pacific region. The region is home to some of the most **vulnerable** countries in the world to climate-related extreme weather events, and impacts such as sea level rise pose an **existential threat** to many small island countries in the region. Without concerted action, between 3.3 million and 7.5 million people could fall into poverty by 2030.

East Asia and the Pacific are also critical to global efforts to combat climate change. The region accounts for 39 percent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions and 60 percent of the world's coal consumption. The good news is that the region is uniquely placed to act. All countries in the region have made pledges as part of the Paris Agreement, and many of the largest economies of the region have recently made ambitious commitments to reduce emissions and achieve **carbon neutrality**.

**To face the existential climate crisis while still actively pursuing their development goals, countries in the region must tackle several urgent priorities**: strengthening resilience to climate impacts; shifting rice cultivation methods to protect food security and reduce emissions; protecting forests and natural areas to act as carbon sinks and shield coastlines; transitioning to renewable energy from fossil fuels; and finding innovative ways to finance that shift, and to create markets for emissions.

The World Bank has been a longstanding partner for the region on climate change—producing knowledge, collecting data, providing finance, and working together with governments for significant actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve climate resilience, and prepare for and respond to natural disasters. In East Asia and the Pacific, 39 percent of new World Bank commitments in fiscal year 2023—$2.9 billion—contributed to climate action.

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a challenge posed by climate change?
A. Environmental stability B. Economic growth

 C. Technological advancement D. Human development

**Question 2**: The phrase **existential threat** in paragraph 1 means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. A minor concern B. A fundamental danger
C. An economic issue D. A temporary problem

**Question 3**: The word **vulnerable** in paragraph 1 refers to countries that are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Strong and powerful B. Unable to adapt
C. Resistant to change D. Wealthy and developed

**Question 4**: The term **carbon neutrality** in paragraph 2 means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Producing more carbon than consumed
B. Balancing carbon emissions with carbon removal
C. Eliminating all carbon emissions
D. Relying solely on fossil fuels

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?
A. Countries must prioritize developing renewable energy.
B. Countries need to address multiple urgent climate issues.
C. Countries should focus only on economic growth.
D. Countries are not allowed to pursue development goals.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
A. Climate change has no impact on the economy.
B. The World Bank has committed $2.9 billion to climate action.
C. All countries in the region are not participating in the Paris Agreement.
D. Small island countries are less affected by sea level rise.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the writer mention the role of international agreements?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer explore the financial aspects of combating climate change?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 3**

***Read the following passage about Willis Carrier and air conditioning, and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

In 1902, just a year after graduating from Cornell University, Willis Carrier pioneered the design of the first air-conditioning unit. Working at a Brooklyn printing plant, Carrier encountered challenges due to fluctuations in heat and moisture, which caused the printing paper to consistently change size, complicating the alignment of different colors. Carrier's innovative invention revolutionized the control of temperature and humidity levels, enabling precise color alignment. This breakthrough not only transformed the printing industry but also facilitated advancements in film, processed food, textiles, and pharmaceuticals by enhancing the quality of their respective products.

The first air-conditioning device was installed in a private residence in 1914. Nonetheless, its **bulky** size, reminiscent of early computer equipment, hindered widespread adoption. Subsequent models, like the Weathermaker introduced by Carrier in the 1920s, remained financially out of reach for the majority due to their high costs. Cooling for human comfort, rather than industrial need, really took off when three air conditioners were installed in a department store in Detroit, Michigan. The shop was packed with people eager to experience the novelty of the invention, and its popularity quickly extended from department stores to cinemas.

**To start with, money-conscious employers regarded air conditioning as a luxury**. They considered that if they were paying people to work, they should not be paying for them to be comfortable as well. In the 1940s and 1950s, the industry started putting out a different message about its product: according to their research, installing air conditioning increased productivity amongst employees. They found that typists increased their output by 24% when transferred from a regular office to a cooled one. Another study into office working conditions, which was carried out in the late 1950s, showed that the majority of companies cited air conditioning as the single most important contributor to efficiency in offices.

However, air conditioning faces criticism from some quarters. Environmentalist Jed Brown argues that air conditioning contributes to global warming. Unfortunately, he adds, because air conditioning leads to higher temperatures, people have to use it even more paradoxically. However, he concedes that it does offer a healthier environment for many individuals during the sweltering summer months.

**Question 1**: Which of the following industries did NOT benefit from Carrier’s invention of air conditioning?

A. Film B. Pharmaceuticals C. Agriculture D. Textiles

**Question 2**: The word **bulky** in paragraph 2 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. large B. lightweight C. expensiv D. complex

**Question 3**: The phrase **money-conscious employers** in paragraph 3 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. employers who are focused on productivity
B. employers concerned about costs
C. employers interested in employee comfort
D. employers who value luxury

**Question 4**: The word **facilitated** in paragraph 1 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. hindered B. delayed C. enabled D. complicated

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?

A. Employers thought air conditioning was not necessary for workers.
B. Employers believed that comfort was essential for productivity.
C. Companies felt they should not pay for workers’ comfort.
D. Employers were willing to invest in employee well-being.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. Air conditioning was initially seen as beneficial for employee productivity.
B. The Weathermaker was the first air-conditioning unit created by Carrier.
C. Carrier’s invention was widely adopted immediately after its creation.
D. Air conditioning is universally accepted without any criticism.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the writer discuss the initial public perception of air conditioning?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer mention a negative environmental impact of air conditioning?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 4**

***Read the following passage about the importance of practice, and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

The old adage 'practice makes perfect' has taken on special **significance** in recent times. Its message is simple: if you do something over and over again, then your performance will improve. Although often applied to music and sports—both of which are areas in which the necessity to practice is self-evident—the value of practice in other areas of life should not be underestimated. In fact, studies seem to indicate that practice (or experience) plays a greater role in success than natural talent, if such a thing exists.

Studies have demonstrated that high achievers are in fact no more gifted or intelligent than their contemporaries; rather, **the difference lies in** the amount of practice they put in. In the 1980s, Benjamin Bloom, a professor of education at the University of Chicago, conducted an investigation into the factors that had led to people excelling in different fields. He concluded that there was nothing in the early childhoods of these high achievers that could have predicted their later success. The subjects of his research did, however, have certain features in common, namely, that they all had dedicated teachers and supportive families, and they had all put in intensive practice.

K. Anders Ericsson, a professor of Psychology at Florida State University, who has carried out research spanning more than two decades into giftedness, expertise, and the benefits of practice, concludes that **experts are invariably made, and not born**. However, Ericsson's research has also indicated that what counts is not just the amount of practice a person puts in, but rather, the way in which they practice. If a person believes that it takes real talent to excel in a certain area, then they are likely to doubt their own ability to improve sufficiently to compete with others, and as a result, may give up trying.

Conversely, the person who can learn from their mistakes and believes that they have the **capacity** to improve is more likely to succeed.In other words, experience really does count. Or as another old adage puts it, 'nothing succeeds like success'. The key to success is motivation and an understanding that practice really does make perfect.

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a factor in achieving success?

A. Natural talent B. Intensive practice C. Supportive families D. Advanced technology

**Question 2**: The word **significance** in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. importance B. simplicity C. frequency D. familiarity

**Question 3**: The phrase **the difference lies in** in paragraph 2 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. practice time B. intelligence C. childhood background D. teaching methods

**Question 4**: The word **capacity** in paragraph 4 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. ability B. effort C. technique D. knowledge

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?

A. Talent is more crucial than practice for success.
B. Experts are created through effective practice.
C. Everyone can achieve excellence without practice.
D. Natural talent guarantees success in any field.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. Practice is less important than motivation.
B. All high achievers were gifted as children.
C. Practice can lead to improvement over time.
D. Ericsson's research emphasizes the role of talent.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the author discuss the characteristics of high achievers?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the author highlight the importance of mindset in practicing?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 5**

 ***Read the following passage about species extinction, and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

Scientists have identified two ways in which species disappear. The first is through ordinary or ‘background’ extinctions, where species that fail to adapt are slowly replaced by more adaptable life forms. The second is when large numbers of species **go to the wall** in relatively short periods of biological time. There have been five such extinctions, each provoked by cataclysmic evolutionary events caused by some geological eruption, climate shift, or space junk slamming into the Earth. Scientists now believe that another mass extinction of species is currently under way – and this time human fingerprints are on the trigger.

How are we doing it? Simply by demanding more and more space for ourselves. In our assault on the ecosystems around us we have used a number of tools, from spear and gun to bulldozer and chainsaw. Certain especially rich ecosystems have proved the most vulnerable. In Hawaii, more than half of the native birds are now gone – some 50 species. Such **carnage** has taken place all across the island communities of the Pacific and Indian oceans. While many species were hunted to extinction, others simply succumbed to the ‘introduced predators’ that humans brought with them: the cat, the dog, the pig, and the rat.

Today the tempo of extinction is picking up speed. Hunting is no longer the major culprit, although rare birds and animals continue to be butchered for their skin, feathers, tusks, and internal organs, or taken as savage pets. **Today the main threat comes from the destruction of the habitat of wild plants, animals, and insects need to survive**. The draining and damming of wetland and river courses threatens the aquatic food chain and our own seafood industry. Overfishing and the destruction of fragile coral reefs destroy ocean biodiversity.

Deforestation is taking a staggering toll, particularly in the tropics where the most global biodiversity is at risk. The shrinking rainforest cover of the Congo and Amazon river basins and such places as Borneo and Madagascar have a wealth of species per hectare existing nowhere else. As those precious hectares are drowned or turned into arid pasture and cropland, such species disappear forever.

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a cause of extinction?

A. Geological eruptions B. Climate shifts C. Overpopulation of humans D. Space debris hitting Earth

**Question 2**: The phrase **go to the wall** in paragraph 1 means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. to succeed B. to survive C. to become extinct D. to adapt

**Question 3**: The word **carnage** in paragraph 2 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. destruction B. survival C. competition D. introduction

**Question 4**: According to the passage, what is the main current threat to species?

A. Hunting of rare species B. Introduction of new predators
C. Habitat destruction D. Climate change

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?

A. Overfishing and coral reef destruction are causing biodiversity loss.
B. Many species have adapted to new habitats successfully.
C. The aquatic food chain is not affected by habitat destruction.
D. Coral reefs are being restored to maintain ocean biodiversity.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. All species have the same risk of extinction.
B. Deforestation is particularly harmful in tropical regions.
C. Species extinction is declining in recent years.
D. Hawaii has seen an increase in native bird species.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the author discuss the role of humans in species extinction?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer highlight the importance of specific ecosystems?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 6**

***Read the following passage about Australian cultural values and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

Australians place a high value on independence and personal choice. This means that a teacher or course tutor will not tell students what to do, but will give them a number of options and suggest they work out which one is the best in their circumstances. It also means that they are expected to take action if something goes wrong and **seek out resources** and support for themselves.

Australians are also prepared to accept a range of opinions rather than believing there is one truth. This means that in an educational setting, students will be expected to form their own opinions and defend the reasons for that point of view and the evidence for it.

Australians are uncomfortable with differences in status and hence **idealise** the idea of treating everyone equally. An **illustration** of this is that most adult Australians call each other by their first names. This concern with equality means that Australians are uncomfortable taking anything too seriously and are even ready to joke about themselves.

Australians believe that life should have a balance between work and leisure time. As a consequence, some students may be critical of others who they perceive as doing nothing but study. Australian notions of privacy mean that areas such as financial matters, appearance and relationships are only discussed with close friends. While people may volunteer such information, they may resent someone actually asking them unless the friendship is firmly established. Even then, it is considered very impolite to ask someone what they earn.

**Question 1**: What is the primary value emphasized in Australian culture according to the passage?
A. Equality B. Independence C. Wealth D. Education

**Question 2**: The phrase “**seek out resources**” in the passage most closely means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. find help B. gather materials C. borrow items D. ignore issues

**Question 3**: According to the passage, Australians expect students to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. accept all opinions as true
B. develop their own viewpoints
C. follow instructions without question
D. avoid discussions

**Question 4**: The word “**idealise**” in paragraph 2 could best be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Criticize B. romanticize C. ignore D. undervalue

**Question 5**: Which of the following best summarizes the view on privacy in Australian culture?
A. Australians freely share personal information with strangers.
B. Privacy is important, and personal matters are kept private.
C. It is common for Australians to discuss finances openly.
D. Australians prefer to keep their thoughts to themselves.

**Question 6**: Which statement is TRUE based on the passage?
A. Australians believe that only one opinion is correct.
B. Most Australians use formal titles when addressing others.
C. Australians value a balance between work and leisure.
D. Discussing finances is encouraged among all Australians.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the writer discuss the expectation of forming personal opinions?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer mention the idea of treating everyone equally?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 7**

***Read the following passage about green building practices, and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

The green building movement, which began in the 1970s to **mitigate** environmental harm, is transforming construction methods. Initially, green builders were a minority, and their goals of reducing the environmental impact of buildings were viewed as impractical. However, **the movement has gained momentum** as builders leverage new technologies.

Green builders utilize recycled materials to minimize waste in landfills. **They also aim to lower the energy needs of buildings by incorporating alternative energy sources, such as solar panels, which harness sunlight for electricity with no pollution or ongoing costs once installed**. Furthermore, energy efficiency can be improved through better natural lighting and low-energy bulbs. Insulation in walls helps maintain comfortable temperatures, reducing heating and cooling fuel needs.

An exemplary model of this sustainable design is the Genzyme Center in Cambridge, recognized as America’s most environmentally responsible office building. Its design prioritizes both employee well-being and environmental impact reduction, achieving a 75% use of recycled materials and a 43% decrease in energy consumption compared to similar buildings.

Globally, numerous large-scale projects are being developed following green building principles. One significant **initiative** is in Vauban, Germany, transforming a former military site into energy-efficient homes that require 30% less energy than traditional housing. In China, a project is underway to build homes for 400 families with solar energy and recycled materials, with plans for expansion to neighborhoods across six cities.

The adoption of green building practices, whether on a small or large scale, is expanding. Stakeholders, including individuals, companies, and governments, are recognizing the benefits of green buildings, which not only enhance living and working conditions but also provide long-term cost savings.

 (Adapted from *Advanced Reading Power" by Beatrice S. Mikulecky and Linda Jeffries*)

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a benefit of green building?

A. Use of recycled materials B. Improved living conditions
C. Decreased environmental impact D. Increased construction costs

**Question 2**: The word **mitigate** in the first paragraph is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. reduce B. increase C. complicate D. ignore

**Question 3**: The phrase **the movement has gained momentum** in paragraph 1 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. increased popularity B. more technology
C. greater environmental damage D. higher construction costs

**Question 4**: The word **initiatives** in paragraph 4 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. buildings B. projects C. technologies D. challenges

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 2?

A. Energy-efficient buildings are the most cost-effective.
B. Non-polluting energy sources are crucial for sustainability.
C. Solar panels are an effective alternative for generating electricity.
D. Reducing energy consumption is impossible for most builders.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. All green buildings are more expensive to build.
B. Solar energy is the only method used by green builders.
C. Green building practices are becoming more widely adopted.
D. The Genzyme Center has the highest energy use among similar buildings.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the author discuss specific examples of green building projects?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the author emphasize the significance of technology in green building?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 8**

***Read the following passage about sibling relationships and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

Everybody feels **irritated** by their siblings from time to time. Maybe your younger brother shows off and behaves in an immature way when you invite your friends to your house. Or perhaps your hardworking older sister gets a lot of praise from your parents, making you feel like you are not trying hard enough. At times, your brother or sister can feel like your worst enemy. But your relationship can improve greatly with a bit of effort and understanding.

Sibling relationships can be especially difficult for teenagers, who are experiencing many changes to their preferences and personality. For example, you may now find some of the activities that you used to enjoy doing with your younger brother childish or a waste of time. At times, the age difference can feel bigger than it really is, and this can have a negative effect on your relationship. One way to solve this problem is to make sure you continue to include your brother or sister in your day-to-day life. This can take some time, so it is important to be patient and enthusiastic.

Of course, it is perfectly normal for brothers and sisters to **fall out** with one another over small things. **But you should not try to let incidents like these have too big an effect on your relationship**. It is important to learn to forgive your siblings for this kind of behavior, just as you would forgive your close friends. In situations like these, it is really important to let your sibling know how you feel. Rather than insulting your sister when she takes your things, tell her that it makes you feel angry, and that you would feel much happier if she asked you first. It’s also crucial that you are sensitive to the feelings of your siblings too.

Finally, it is important to learn how to **compromise**. It is understandable that you may not want to lend your favorite jumper to your unreliable sister, but maybe you could offer her a less valuable alternative item of clothing. Or if your brother likes to spend all his free time watching football and you find it boring, you could suggest a different sport that you follow regularly together. And if you make the effort to make your sibling happy, he or she will do the same for you.

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a challenge in sibling relationships?
A. Age differences B. Personality changes C. Academic pressure D. Parental favoritism

**Question 2**: The word **irritated** in paragraph 1 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Annoyed B. pleased C. frustrated D. angered

**Question 3**: The word **compromise** in paragraph 4 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. making a deal B. refusing to cooperate
C. expressing feelings D. having an argument

**Question 4**: The phrase **fall out** in paragraph 3 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. get along B. argue C. reconcile D. ignore

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?
A. It’s common for siblings to disagree.
B. Small arguments can greatly affect sibling bonds.
C. Sibling relationships are always harmonious.
D. Forgiveness is not necessary among siblings.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
A. Siblings never feel competitive with each other.
B. Communication is important for healthy sibling relationships.
C. It is impossible to improve sibling relationships.
D. Age differences always create conflicts.

**Question 7:** In which paragraph does the writer discuss the importance of including siblings in daily life?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer suggest ways to resolve conflicts?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 9**

***Read the following passage about the impact of sports on children and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

While watching sports on TV, the chances are children will see professional players cheating, having tantrums, fighting, or abusing officials. In addition, it's highly likely that children will be aware of well-known cases of sportspeople being caught using drugs to improve their performance. The danger of all this is that it could give children the idea that winning is all that counts and you should win at all costs. Good behavior and fair play aren't the message that comes across. Instead, it looks as if cheating and bad behavior are reasonable ways of getting what you want. This message is further **bolstered** by the fact that some of these sportspeople acquire enormous fame and wealth, making it seem they are being handsomely rewarded either despite or because of their bad behavior.

What can parents do about this? They can regard sport on television as an opportunity to discuss attitudes and behavior with their children. When watching sports together, if parents see a player swearing at the referee, they can get the child's opinion on that behavior and discuss whether a player's skill is more important than their behavior. Ask what the child thinks the player's contribution to the team is. Point out that no player can win a team game on their own, so it's important for members to work well together.

Another thing to focus on is what the commentators say. Do they frown on bad behavior from players, think it's amusing or even consider it's a good thing? What about the officials? If they let players **get away with** a clear foul, parents can discuss with children whether this is right and what effect it has on the game. Look too at the reactions of coaches and managers. Do they accept losing with good grace or scowl and show a bad attitude? Parents can use this to talk about attitudes to winning and losing and to remind children that both are part of sport.

However, what children learn from watching sports is by no means all negative and **parents should make sure they accentuate the positives too**. They should emphasize to children the high reputation that well-behaved players have, not just with their teammates but also with spectators and the media. They can focus on the contribution made by such players during a game, discussing how valuable they are in the team. In the interviews after a game, point out to a child that the well-behaved sportspeople don't gloat when they win or sulk when they lose. And parents can stress how well these people conduct themselves in their personal lives and the good work they do for others when not playing. In other words, **parents should get their children to focus on the positive role models, rather than the antics of the badly behaved but often more publicized players.**

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a negative influence of sports on children?
A. Cheating by players B. Players using drugs
C. Players being rewarded for bad behavior D. Players having personal struggles

**Question 2**: The word **bolstered** in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Weakened B. supported C. criticized D. ignored

**Question 3**: The word **accentuate** in paragraph 4 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Minimize B. highlight C. dismiss D. confuse

**Question 4**: The phrase **get away with** in paragraph 3 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. escape punishment for B. achieve success through
C. be blamed for D. improve upon

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?
A. Parents should focus on the negatives of sports.
B. Positive role models can have a significant impact.
C. Winning is more important than good behavior.
D. Sportsmanship is not relevant to children.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
A. Cheating is always punished in sports.
B. Children learn both positive and negative lessons from sports.
C. All sports commentators promote bad behavior.
D. Winning is the only aspect of sports that matters.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the writer discuss how parents can use sports to teach values?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer emphasize the importance of positive role models?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 10**

***Read the following passage about the impact of smoking on eyesight and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

Millions of people in the UK are putting their sight at risk by continuing to smoke, warned specialists. Despite the clear connection, only one in five people recognize that smoking can lead to blindness, a poll for the Association of Optometrists (AOP) finds. Smokers are twice as likely to lose their sight compared to non-smokers, as tobacco smoke can cause and worsen a number of eye conditions.

Cigarette smoke contains toxic chemicals that can irritate and harm the eyes. Additionally, smoking can **exacerbate** diabetes-related sight problems by damaging blood vessels at the back of the eye. Smokers are also around three times more likely to get age-related macular degeneration - a condition affecting a person's central vision, meaning that they lose their ability to see fine details. Moreover, **they** are 16 times more likely than non-smokers to develop sudden vision loss caused by optic neuropathy, where the blood supply to the eye becomes blocked.

The AOP states that stopping or avoiding smoking is one of the best steps you can take to protect your vision, along with having regular sight checks. Aishah Fazlanie, Optometrist and Clinical and Regulatory Adviser for the AOP, said: "**People tend to know about the link between smoking and cancer, but many are unaware of the impact smoking can have on the eyes.**”

In the UK, 17% of men and 13% of women - around 7.4 million people - are smokers. More than half (61%) of them say they want to quit. In 2017, around 2.8 million people - 5.5% of the UK - were using e-cigarettes, with the most common reason being to help quit smoking.

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a consequence of smoking on vision?
A. Increased risk of blindness B. Damage to blood vessels
C. Improvement of eyesight D. Higher likelihood of macular degeneration

**Question 2**: The word **exacerbate** in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Improve B. Worsen C. Ignore D. Explain

**Question 3**: The word **they** in paragraph 3 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. non-smokers B. details C. problems D. smokers

**Question 4:** The phrase put at risk in paragraph 1 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Endanger B. Protect C. Improve D. Evaluate

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?
A. Many people are informed about the dangers of smoking.
B. Few people recognize the impact of smoking on eyesight.
C. Smoking is only harmful in relation to cancer.
D. Awareness of smoking's effects is widespread.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
A. Smoking has no impact on vision.
B. Smokers are less likely to experience vision problems.
C. Many smokers are interested in quitting.
D. Non-smokers have the same risks as smokers.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the writer discuss the relationship between smoking and eye conditions?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer highlight the importance of quitting smoking?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 11**

 ***Read the following passage about the importance of exercise and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

Regular physical activity is **essential** for maintaining good health, experts emphasize. Despite its benefits, many individuals remain inactive, leading to various health issues. Studies show that adults who engage in regular exercise are less likely to suffer from **chronic diseases** compared to those who do not exercise.

Exercise helps control weight, improves cardiovascular health, and enhances mental well-being. Additionally, it strengthens muscles and bones, reducing the risk of injury. Even moderate activity, such as walking or gardening, can provide significant health benefits. The World Health Organization recommends at least 150 minutes of moderate aerobic exercise per week for adults.

Unfortunately, many people **underestimate the value** of physical activity. A survey conducted by the Health and Fitness Association revealed that over 50% of respondents believed **they did not have enough time to exercise**, despite evidence suggesting that incorporating short bursts of activity throughout the day can be effective.

Fitness experts encourage individuals to find enjoyable activities to make exercise a part of their daily routine. This could include joining a sports team, taking dance classes, or simply going for a walk with friends.

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a benefit of exercise?

A. Weight control B. Improved sleep C. Enhanced mental well-being D. Stronger muscles

**Question 2**: The word **essential** in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. Unimportant B. Necessary C. Optional D. Detrimental

**Question 3**: The phrase **chronic diseases** in paragraph 1 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. Short-term illnesses B. Long-lasting health conditions C. Common colds D. Injuries

**Question 4**: The phrase **underestimate the value** in paragraph 3 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 A. Overrate the significance B. Misjudge the importance
C. Recognize the worth D. Appreciate the benefits

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?

A. Many people believe they can find time to exercise.
B. A majority of people think exercise is not beneficial.
C. Many individuals think they lack time for physical activity.
D. Most people regularly exercise without difficulty.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. Exercise is harmful to health.
B. Most people are physically active.
C. Many individuals find exercise enjoyable.
D. Regular exercise can lead to chronic diseases.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the writer discuss recommendations for exercise duration?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer suggest ways to incorporate exercise into daily life?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 12**

***Read the following passage about the preservation of natural resources and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

The preservation of natural resources is a critical challenge that requires innovative solutions and technological advancements. As the global population grows and the demand for resources accelerates, the need for smarter, more efficient methods of conservation becomes paramount. Innovation in this field is not just about creating new technologies but also about rethinking our approach to resource management.

Technological advances have the potential to revolutionize the way we use and conserve natural resources. For instance, advancements in renewable energy technologies, such as solar and wind power, are reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and helping to decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Similarly, precision agriculture uses data and technology to optimize crop yields and reduce waste, thereby conserving water and soil quality.

Innovation also plays a role in monitoring and protecting ecosystems. Cutting-edge tools like satellite imagery and drones provide valuable data on deforestation, wildlife populations, and environmental changes. **This information is crucial for making informed decisions about conservation efforts and for tracking the effectiveness of those efforts over time.**

Water resources, essential for all life, are under increasing stress due to pollution and overuse. Innovative water purification and desalination technologies are expanding access to clean water, while smart irrigation systems ensure that crops receive the right amount of water at the right time, minimizing waste.

The role of technology in resource conservation is not limited to large-scale projects. On a smaller scale, apps and devices that monitor energy and water usage can empower individuals to make more sustainable choices in their daily lives. These user-friendly tools make it easier for people to understand their impact on the environment and take steps to reduce it.

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a technological advancement in resource conservation?
A. Renewable energy technologies B. Satellite imagery
C. Genetic modification of crops D. Smart irrigation systems

**Question 2**: The word **paramount** in paragraph 1 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Important B. Trivial C. Necessary D. Crucial

**Question 3**: The word **optimize** in paragraph 2 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Minimize B. Maximize C. Complicate D. Disregard

**Question 4**: The phrase under increasing stress in paragraph 4 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Gaining more attention B. Facing more pressure
C. Receiving more support D. Improving steadily

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?
A. Monitoring ecosystems is not important.
B. Advanced tools help in conservation efforts.
C. Traditional methods are more effective for monitoring.
D. Data collection does not influence decisions.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
A. Technology cannot improve resource conservation.
B. Individual actions have no impact on conservation.
C. Innovative solutions are essential for sustainability.
D. Renewable energy sources are harmful to the environment.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the writer discuss the impact of technological tools on individuals?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 5

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer emphasize the importance of water resources?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**TEST 13**

 ***Read the fRead the following passage about Pete Watson and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

Pete Watson looks like the biggest, sweetest teddy bear you ever saw. It is only when he opens his mouth that you notice the missing front teeth. Watson is a three-time world champion wrestler turned author. He was adored by fans because he was different: while other wrestlers were supreme athletes, he was just a hulk who knew how to take a hit. You could throw as many chairs as you liked at Pete Watson; you could smack him repeatedly, but he wouldn’t go down.

After two autobiographies and a series of children’s stories, he has just written a brilliant first novel: a work of immense power and subtlety, likely to gain a wide readership. At its simplest, it is about a boy and his dad getting together after a lifetime apart, though there is more to it than that. Was he inspired by anyone he knew? **The father, he says, is based on guys he met on the road—wrestlers, friends of his—who appeared to be leading exciting lives but deep down were pretty miserable.**

Watson does not come from traditional wrestling stock. He grew up in Long Island, New York. His father was an athletic director with a PhD, his mother a physical education teacher with two master’s degrees—one in literature and the other in Russian history. He was a big boy, bullied for his size. One day, his neighbor had a go at him, and for the first time, Watson realized he could use his weight and size instead of feeling awkward about it. It was a **turning point**.

At college, he did a degree in communication studies. Meanwhile, he was learning the ropes of professional wrestling. Did his parents try to dissuade him? ‘No. They were just really insistent that I finished college. I am pretty sure they thought I’d get hurt and quit wrestling.’ But he didn’t.

Nowadays, his time is dedicated to family and books—his next novel is about boy wrestlers living on the same block, and he is also writing more children’s stories. He does not think this life is so different from wrestling. ‘Wrestling is all about characters,’ he says. ‘So when my fans hear I’ve written a novel, I don’t get the sense that they feel I’ve abandoned them.’

 (Adapted from *FCE Exam Essentials*)

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a type of writing Watson has done?
A. Autobiographies B. Novels C. Poetry D. Children’s stories

**Question 2**: The word **“adored"** paragraph 1 is OPPOSITE in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Loved B. Rejeced C. Supported D. Praised

**Question 3**: The phrase "**turning point**" in paragraph 3 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. A moment of success B. A significant change
C. A point of conflict D. A minor incident

**Question 4**: The phrase "**deep down**" in paragraph 2 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Superficially B. On the surface C. Internally D. Externally

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 2?
A. Watson was inspired by fictional characters.
B. His father is similar to many people he met in wrestling.
C. All wrestlers lead exciting lives.
D. Friends often lead miserable lives.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
A. Watson's family was against his wrestling career.
B. Watson has written more novels than autobiographies.
C. His wrestling career has no connection to his writing.
D. He values character development in both wrestling and writing.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the writer discuss Watson's childhood?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer highlight Watson's perspective on his fans?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 4 D. Paragraph 5

**TEST 14**

***Read the following passage about electronic waste and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

Modern electronic devices might appear sleek and modern, but they often harbor materials that pose risks to human health. Many nations have opted not to invest in proper waste-handling facilities and instead export their electronic waste, typically to developing countries.

According to the latest report from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), electronic waste is growing at an **alarming rate** of about 40 million tons per year globally. So what steps can we take to address this issue?

The first step is to **acknowledge** the problem. We have begun to understand that modern technology can adversely affect the environment in two main ways. Firstly, the energy consumption associated with electronics is vast, contributing to approximately 2% of global carbon emissions. Secondly, the lifespan of electronic devices is becoming increasingly short.

The European Union has responded to these concerns by implementing a principle of **producer responsibility**, which mandates that manufacturers of electronic products are accountable for their safe disposal when these products reach the end of their usable lives.

**The report also urges all countries to create comprehensive e-waste management systems, which could help mitigate health risks, create jobs, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.** Environmental organizations, such as Greenpeace, have played a crucial role in urging major manufacturers to seek alternatives to the hazardous substances found in their products. Encouragingly, they have made significant strides in pushing for the development of safer, non-toxic materials. This could be a vital step toward a sustainable future.

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a consequence of improper e-waste disposal?
A. Health risks B. Job creation C. Environmental degradation D. Increased product prices

**Question 2**: The word **acknowledge** in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Ignore B. Recognize C. Forget D. Deny

**Question 3**: The phrase **producer responsibility** in paragraph 4 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Consumers taking care of waste
B. Manufacturers being accountable for disposal
C. Government regulations on production
D. Global cooperation on waste management

**Question 4**: The phrase **alarming rate** in paragraph 2 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Unconcerning speed B. Worrying pace C. Steady growth D. Expected increase

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 5?
A. The report highlights the importance of e-waste management systems.
B. All countries should avoid managing their e-waste.
C. E-waste management is not necessary for health.
D. Creating jobs is not related to e-waste management.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
A. The EU has not addressed the e-waste issue.
B. The electronic waste problem is decreasing.
C. Greenpeace has influenced manufacturers positively.
D. Modern electronics have unlimited lifespans.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the writer discuss the environmental impact of electronic devices?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer mention the role of organizations like Greenpeace?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 4 D. Paragraph 5

**TEST 15**

***Read the following passage about "ugly" produce and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 8.***

When shopping for fresh fruits and vegetables, many people instinctively reach for the most visually appealing items. However, a growing movement is challenging this notion. In France, the supermarket chain Intermarché launched a campaign to encourage customers to purchase "ugly" produce—fruits and vegetables that may not meet conventional aesthetic standards but are just as nutritious. British chef Jamie Oliver joined this effort, collaborating with a major UK supermarket to promote these imperfect items at reduced prices.

Traditionally, supermarkets have conditioned consumers to expect flawless produce, leading to a significant amount of waste; it is estimated that 20-40% of food is discarded before it reaches stores. Fortunately, as supermarkets relax their strict standards, consumers are beginning to rethink their purchasing habits. **This shift is crucial as global food shortages loom on the horizon.**

The environmental impact of **rejecting** **imperfect produce** is profound. By embracing these fruits and vegetables, shoppers can help reduce waste and contribute to a more sustainable food system. Reports suggest that these initiatives are not only beneficial for the environment but also profitable for supermarkets, as they attract a **growing number** of conscious consumers.

Next time you’re at the grocery store, consider choosing the oddly shaped carrot or the lumpy potato. After all, it’s the flavor that truly matters.

**Question 1**: Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a reason for the change in consumer behavior?
A. Environmental sustainability B. Economic benefits for supermarkets
C. Aesthetic preferences D. Reducing food waste

**Question 2**: The word "**rejecting**" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Accepting B. Discarding C. Purchasing D. Selecting

**Question 3**: The phrase "**imperfect produce**" in paragraph 3 refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Produce that is not organic
B. Fruits and vegetables that look unusual
C. Fresh produce that is not seasonal
D. Produce that has a short shelf life

**Question 4**: The phrase "**growing number**" in paragraph 3 could be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
A. Increasing quantity B. Decreasing size C. Steady amount D. Unchanging figure

**Question 5**: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 2?
A. Rejecting imperfect produce has negative consequences.
B. Embracing all types of produce is unimportant.
C. There are no benefits to choosing flawed fruits and vegetables.
D. Only perfect produce should be sold in stores.

**Question 6**: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
A. All supermarkets have stopped discarding imperfect produce.
B. Consumers are beginning to appreciate the taste of misshapen produce.
C. The issue of food waste is being ignored by retailers.
D. The appearance of produce is more important than its taste.

**Question 7**: In which paragraph does the writer discuss the environmental impact of food waste?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8**: In which paragraph does the writer mention the role of supermarket campaigns?
A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4