

Đề thi gồm 18 trang

ĐỀ ĐỀ XUẤT

A

KỲ THI CHỌN HỌC SINH GIỎI
LẦN THỨ XVII, NĂM 2026
ĐỀ THI MÔN: TIẾNG ANH – LỚP 10
Thời gian làm bài: 180 phút
(không kể thời gian giao đề)

SECTION A: LISTENING (50 points)

HƯỚNG DẪN PHẦN THI NGHE HIỂU

- Bài nghe gồm 4 phần; mỗi phần được nghe 2 lần, mỗi lần cách nhau 05 giây; mở đầu và kết thúc mỗi phần nghe có tín hiệu. Thí sinh có 20 giây để đọc câu hỏi ở mỗi phần và 30 giây để kiểm tra phần bài làm của mình sau mỗi phần nghe.
- Hết 4 phần nghe, thí sinh có 02 phút để xem và hoàn chỉnh bài trước khi có tín hiệu kết thúc bài nghe.
- Mọi hướng dẫn cho thí sinh (bằng tiếng Anh) đã có trong bài nghe.

Part 1. For questions 1-5, listen to a report about old racing cars and complete the notes below. Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS for each answer. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. (10 points)

GOODWOOD CAR SHOW

Dueqenberg J-type

Number made: 473

Type of body: 1. _____

Engines contained capsules of mercury to ensure an 2. _____ trip

Top speed: 180 kilometres per hour.

Sold as a frame and engine

Main attraction: 3. _____

Leyat Helica

Number built: 30

Car looks like a 4. _____ without wings

Steering used the 5. _____

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
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Part 2. For questions 6-10, listen to a talk about the compass and decide whether these statements are True (T) or False (F). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. (10 points)

6. The Earth acts like a large magnet because of its spinning iron center.

7. Thanks to compasses, physicists have gained a comprehensive knowledge of magnetism.
8. The first compasses were built specifically to help sailors find north at sea.
9. European inventors created the compass rose to help people identify more specific directions.
10. People nowadays no longer use compasses because modern tools and phones do not have them.

6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
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Part 3. You will hear an interview with a writer about her research for a book on minority languages. For questions 11-15, choose the correct answer (A, B or C) for each of the following questions. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes. (10 points)

11. The main purpose of Helena's journey was to
 - A. establish precisely where Europe's minority languages are spoken.
 - B. investigate the effects of climate and location on language.
 - C. calculate the exact number of minority languages in Europe.
 - D. assess the current condition of Europe's minority languages.
12. What does Helena say about the people she met?
 - A. Not all of them spoke a minority language.
 - B. Some were more willing than others to express their views.
 - C. Intellectuals gave more biased information than other people.
 - D. Older people had a rather unbalanced view of the situation.
13. We learn that people who were punished for speaking Provençal
 - A. did not take their punishment seriously.
 - B. felt they were treated unfairly.
 - C. were made to feel embarrassed.
 - D. regretted what they had done.
14. What point does Helena make about some local people in a tourist area?
 - A. They are not interested in preserving their culture.
 - B. They complain too much about tourists.
 - C. They sell their land in order to make large profits.
 - D. Their actions are not consistent with their opinions.
15. According to Helena, language
 - A. enables people to express their emotions.
 - B. is an expression of one's identity.
 - C. is the key to integration.
 - D. makes everyone different.

Your answers

11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
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Part 4. Listen to a news report about the social media ban for teenagers in Australia. For question 16-25, write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER taken from the recording for each answer in the space provided. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes. (20 points)

Australia is introducing a pioneering social media ban for children under 16. Although the official start date is next week, the changes will begin to happen **16.** _____ from tomorrow, according to Tim Lester. Minister Wells described teenage addiction to social media as not accidental but a design feature. She believed they would experience **17.** _____ once losing access to their favorite apps, even comparing them to **18.** _____. The tech company Meta has already started removing accounts on platforms like Instagram, Facebook, and Threads. Their goal is to delete at least **19.** _____ accounts by the 10th. The Minister warned that if a child still has an account by December 10th, the platform is **20.** _____. However, some political opponents have **21.** _____ in the success of the new law. As a world-first, this ban has escalated into a high stakes test of the **22.** _____. Adding to this, communications minister has already faced a related controversy regarding the high costs of the her planned **23.** _____ to promote the ban. Reports show that flights for the Minister and her staff cost more than **24.** _____. Despite the high spending, the Minister claims these events helped create a **25.** _____ for the new measures around the world.

Your answers

16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.

II. LEXICO-GRAMMAR (40 points)

Part 1. For questions 26-45, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D to each of the following questions and write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. (20 points)

26. Nowhere in the northern section of the United States _____ for growing citrus crops.

- A. is there suitability of the climate B. where the climate is suitable
C. the climate is suitable D. is the climate suitable

27. With over 500 hits from the 60s, 70s, and 80s, this is the _____ hits collection.

- A. exquisite B. optimum C. satisfactory D. ultimate

28. I'll have to go to the funeral of Ms. Jane, a _____ of mine.

- A. heart to heart B. body and soul
C. flesh and blood D. skins and bone

29. You can't tar all politicians with the same _____. While some may be corrupt, there are many who entered public service for honorable reasons.
A. pen B. page C. brush D. mind
30. Despite her initial _____ about speaking in public, Laura overcame her shyness and gave an eloquent speech at the conference.
A. impudence B. reticence C. resilience D. subsistence
31. Writing rhymes for birthday cards is really easy. It's money for old _____.
A. boot B. bread C. cash D. rope
32. They have been working their _____ to the bone so they need to take a vacation this year.
A. fingers B. arms C. brains D. nails
33. It is far too easy to lay the blame _____ on the shoulders of the management.
A. flatly B. willingly C. squarely D. perfectly
34. She is such a _____ of strength that everyone relies on her in a crisis.
A. pillar B. tower C. post D. source
35. I was talking to my friends and _____.
A. did a blue parrot sit on a perch beside me
B. on a perch beside me sat a blue parrot
C. a blue parrot did on a perch beside me sit
D. on a perch beside me did a blue parrot sit
36. Someone is going to have to take responsibility for this disaster. Who is going to _____?
A. foot the bill B. catch the worms C. hatch the chicken D. carry the can
37. Even though we disagreed, I reminded myself to keep a _____ tongue in my head during the debate.
A. gracious B. civil C. culture D. courteous
38. There _____ between 4,000 and 6,000 languages in the world, depending on how you count them.
A. said to be B. are said that C. are said to be D. said being
39. Lack of funding has been a major _____ block in the city's plans to renovate the building.
A. fumbling B. tumbling C. stumbling D. wobbling
40. _____ a language family is a group of languages with a common origin and similar vocabulary, grammar, and sound systems.
A. That linguists call B. To which linguists call
C. What linguists call D. Linguists call it
41. The local authorities need to _____ down on illegal parking, in my opinion.
A. hit B. move C. force D. crack
42. I was on _____ waiting to hear back from the job interview.
A. tooth and nail B. the fence C. pins and needles D. cloud nine

43. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are the _____ rights laid out in the Declaration of Independence.

A. inexorable B. invulnerable C. inalienable D. immutable

44. John is an _____ gambler who spends every weekend at the casino.

A. indiscreet B. indolent C. ingenuous D. inveterate

45. Last weekend, _____ nothing to watch on TV, we decided to play chess.

A. there being B. there having C. having had D. being

Your answers

26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
31.	32.	33.	34.	35.
36.	37.	38.	39.	40.
41.	42.	43.	44.	46.

Part 2. For questions 46–55, write the correct form of each bracketed word in the numbered space provided below. (10 points)

46. Traditionally, the Archbishop of Canterbury will be the main _____ (**CELEBRATE**) for the British royal weddings.

47. You won't persuade him to change his mind. His decision is _____. (**REVOKE**)

48. Your actions are based on some false _____ (**SUPPOSE**) and inaccurate non-facts.

49. Liskeard and Callington are basically _____ (**DISTANCE**) from here, so it'll take about the same time to get to either of them.

50. He was discovered to have been _____ (**PROPRIETY**) company funds.

51. Steroids often help reduce the _____ (**FLAME**) and itching in the skin.

52. The business is _____ (**SOLVE**) as it can no longer meet the repayments on its debt.

53. Months of personal upheaval had me _____ (**MOOR**), leaving me marginally employed and roving between cities.

54. Prospective studies will be needed to _____ (**TANGLE**) the temporal relationship between severe childhood obesity and family overeating.

55. The comics featured stories that dealt _____ with the environment and racism. (**PROVOKE**)

Your answers

46.	47.	48.	49.	50.
51.	52.	53.	54.	55.

Part 3. For questions 56–60, read the following extract and identify 5 errors. Pick out and correct them in the numbered space provided below. (10 points)

Children’s food promotion is dominated by television advertising, and the great majority of these promotes the so-called ‘Big Four’ of pre-sugary breakfast cereals, soft-drinks, confectionery and savory snacks. In the last ten years advertising for fast food outlets rapidly increased. There is some evidence that the dominance of television has recently begun to wane. The importance of strong, global branding reinforces a need for multi-faceted communications combining television to merchandising, ‘tie-ins’, and point of sale activity. The advertised diet contrasts sharply with that recommended by public health advisors, and themes of fun and fantasy or taste, rather than health and nutrition, used to promote it to children. Meanwhile, the recommended diet gets little promotional support.

Your answers

56	 →		57	 →	
58	 →		59	 →	
60	 →				

SECTION C: READING (60 points)

Part 1. For questions 61-70, read the following passage and decide which option (A, B, C, or D) best fits each gap. Write your answers in corresponding numbered boxes on the answer sheet. (10 points)

The texting pigeons

Not everybody recognises the benefits of new developments in communications technology. Indeed, some people fear that text messaging may actually be having a negative (61) _____ on young people's communication and language skills, especially when we hear that primary school children may be at (62) _____ of becoming addicted to the habit. So widespread has texting become, however, that even pigeons have started doing it. (63) _____ in this case, it's difficult to view the results as anything but positive.

Twenty of the birds are about to (64) _____ to the skies with the task of measuring air pollution, each (65) _____ with sensor equipment and a mobile phone. The (66) _____ made by the sensors will be automatically (67) _____ into text messages and beamed to the Internet - where they will appear on a dedicated 'pigeon blog'.

The birds will also each have a GPS receiver and a camera to capture aerial photos, and researchers are building a tiny 'pigeon kit' containing all these (68) _____. Each bird will carry

these in a miniature backpack, (69) _____ that is, from the camera, which will hang around its neck.

The data the pigeons text will be displayed in the (70) _____ of an interactive map, which will provide local residents with up-to-the-minute information on their local air quality.

61. A. result B. outcome C. effect D. conclusion
62. A. danger B. threat C. risk D. peril
63. A. Therefore B. What's more C. Whereas D. That is
64. A. make B. launch C. reach D. take
65. A. armed B. loaded C. granted D. stocked
66. A. studies B. readings C. reviews D. inquiries
67. A. adapted B. converted C. revised D. applied
68. A. gadgets B. utensils C. appliances D. implements
69. A. instead B. except C. apart D. besides
70. A. shape B. way C. form D. size

Your answers:

61.	62.	63.	64.	65.
66.	67.	68.	69.	70.

Part 2. For questions 71-80, fill each of the following numbered blanks with ONE suitable word and write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes on the answer sheet. (10 points)

Spacemen's autographs

Only twelve astronauts actually set foot on the moon during the US Apollo space programme between 1969 and 1972. Some have since (71) _____ household names- like Neil Armstrong, who made the original 'giant (72) _____ for mankind' and Buzz Aldrin, his co-pilot on that mission. The other ten are (73) _____ well-known, even though each made his own contribution to the programme.

But to Paul Prendergast, a postal worker from London, they are all pioneers, (74) _____ o be mentioned in the same breath as the great explorers of earlier eras, such as Christopher Columbus's fascination with the subject began in 2000 when he attended a convention for people (75) _____ hobby is collecting autographs. There he met Alan Bean (fourth man on the moon)

and Ed Mitchell (sixth). As he remembers, ‘There were television stars there, people from Bond movies, and so on, but these men had walked on the moon. I headed straight (76) _____ to meet them and ask for their autographs. ‘For a collector, the challenge of (77) _____ hold of the remaining ten proved (78) _____

Yet Paul’s quest was never going to be entirely straightforward. After all, at that time, only nine of the astronauts were still alive and two had given up signing autographs years before. Paul eventually (79) _____ to achieve his goals, (80) _____, by establishing contacts with other collectors, by buying from reputable dealers and by attending specialist auctions.

Your answers:

71.	72.	73.	74.	75.
76.	77.	78.	79.	80.

Part 3. For questions 81-90, read the following passage and choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) to each question. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. (15 points)

In Gen Alpha vernacular, aura has no color associated with it and is decidedly not a spiritual thing. In fact, the word is really just used as a way to quantify somebody’s “cool factor.” If someone has so much aura, they are effortlessly cool and exude a **coveted** social status without even trying. Conversely, if a quiet kid who usually flies under the radar spills his juice on a popular student in the cafeteria, his ‘aura points’ will take a big hit. It is essentially a measure of how much respect or “coolness” you possess in a social situation at any given moment.

Pushing the strategy of being effortless too far brings us to the concept of aura farming. If you are hunting down aura points, flexing too hard, and inadvertently making a mockery of yourself by flaunting too much cool, you are in the business of aura farming. The terminology comes from the world of video games where “farming” refers to doing the same task over and over again to rack up points or rewards, such as slaying low-level monsters for better armor. Aura farming applies **that concept** to the social sphere, representing the subtle and exhausting art of projecting a curated vibe across your entire identity.

[I] In fact, aura farming can win you actual aura points if you do it successfully on social media and garner a following as a result. [II] The concept originated with a kid who took his dance moves to the front of a boat in Indonesia and became the country’s tourism ambassador. [III] Other examples of admirable aura farming include Michael Jackson, who many dub the

original aura farmer, and Timothée Chalamet. **[IV] Ultimately, the concept is saturated with irony, involving a person trying to be cool while maintaining an air of randomness to their curated content.**

Gen Alpha loves this trend because they like to lean into absurdity, ambiguity, and randomness. It is difficult to say whether aura farming is a compliment or a dig because the impression is that it can go both ways. This trend requires a very delicate touch; do it right and you will go viral and become a really big deal, but do it wrong and you are just the butt of a joke. It is like a social stock market where anyone who goes public must be ready to take some risks and face the irony of their highly calculated yet seemingly random content.

(Adapted from <https://www.purewow.com/>)

81. The word “**coveted**” can be replaced by _____.

A. rather lowly B. quite awful C. strongly desired D. slightly favoured

82. According to paragraph 1, how does Gen Alpha define “aura”?

A. A quantifiable assessment of spiritual depth. B. The level of respect achieved effortlessly.
C. An association between colors and qualities. D. The perceived coolness gained by trying.

83. The phrase “**that concept**” in paragraph 2 refers to _____.

A. the art of projecting a curated vibe B. slaying low-level monsters for armor
C. the terminology of video game farming D. the tasks gamers do to win video games

84. Which of the following best summarizes paragraph 2?

A. The art of aura farming is a sophisticated strategy that allows gaining social status by appearing to make great efforts.
B. Social status points can be acquired by adopting an effortless strategy called aura farming though the results are unpredictable.
C. Aura farming, an expression derived from gaming language, is the conscious effort to project an artificial image of coolness.
D. Aura farming is the process of gaining social recognition by adopting tactics which are commonly used in video games.

85. Where in the passage does the following sentence best fit?

There is an inherent contradiction here, as aura farming is not always a negative thing.

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

86. Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 3?

A. Aura farming requires people to curate content to seem random in an ironic way.
B. Irony comes from presenting coolness alongside randomness.
C. People add irony to their image of coolness by carefully crafting content as random.
D. The irony of aura farming lies in the fact that intentions are presented as accidents.

87. Why is aura farming popular among Gen Alpha?

- A. It allows them to impress others easily. B. It is a great way to get compliments.
C. It offers a great sense of illogicality. D. It demonstrates their sense of humour.

88. Aura farming is compared with the social stock market to emphasize _____.

- A. the significant financial reward gained from social media fame
B. the contradiction Gen Alpha often faces in achieving popularity
C. the unpredictable nature of exposing curated identity to the public
D. the potential loss of respect due to careless creation of content

89. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- A. True aura can be acquired through accidents rather than intentional actions.
B. The goal of aura farming is respect, but the process involves self-mockery.
C. Michael Jackson publicly admitted that he was trying to farm aura points.
D. The perception of whether someone is cool or trying too hard is subjective.

90. Which of the following best summarizes the passage?

- A. Aura is a term for coolness that originated in video games, but it has now become a negative label for people who try too hard on social media.
B. Aura farming, derived from video games, provides a reliable and low-risk method for social media users to achieve massive viral success.
C. Gen Alpha uses the term aura to describe social status, and while trying to manufacture it carries risks, it can also lead to significant social rewards.
D. Gen Alpha's "aura" is a flexible measure of social cool, requiring people to engage in "aura farming" the effortless creation of an ironic online image.

Your answers:

81.	82.	83.	84.	85.
86.	87.	88.	89.	90.

Part 4. For questions 91-100, read the passage and do the following tasks. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes on the answer sheet.(15 POINTS)

WHAT COOKBOOKS REALLY TEACH US

A

Shelves bend under their weight of cookery books. Even a medium-sized bookshop contains many more recipes than one person could hope to cook in a lifetime. Although the recipes in one book are often similar to those in another, their presentation varies wildly, from an array of vegetarian cookbooks to instructions on cooking the food that historical figures might have eaten. The reason for this abundance is that cookbooks promise to bring about a kind of domestic transformation for the user. The daily routine can be put to one side and they liberate the user, if only temporarily. To follow their instructions is to turn a task which has to be performed every day

into an engaging, romantic process. Cookbooks also provide an opportunity to delve into distant cultures without having to turn up at an airport to get there.

B

The first Western cookbook appeared just over 1,600 years ago. *De re coquinara* (it means concerning cookery) is attributed to a Roman gourmet named Apicius. It is probably a compilation of Roman and Greek recipes, some or all of them drawn from manuscripts that were later lost. The editor was sloppy, allowing several duplicated recipes to sneak in. Yet Apicius's book set the tone of cookery advice in Europe for more than a thousand years. As a cookbook, it is unsatisfactory with very basic instructions. Joseph Vehling, a chef who translated Apicius in the 1930s, suggested the author had been obscure on purpose, in case his secrets leaked out.

C

But a more likely reason is that Apicius's recipes were written by and for professional cooks, who could follow their shorthand. This situation continued for hundreds of years. There was no order to cookbooks: a cake recipe might be followed by a mutton one. But then, they were not written for careful study. Before the 19th century, few educated people cooked for themselves.

D

The wealthiest employed literate chefs; others presumably read recipes to their servants. Such cooks would have been capable of creating dishes from the vaguest of instructions. The invention of printing might have been expected to lead to greater clarity but at first, the reverse was true. As words acquired commercial value, plagiarism exploded. Recipes were distorted through reproduction. A recipe for boiled capon in *The Good Huswives Jewell*, printed in 1596, advised the cook to add three or four dates. By 1653, when the recipe was given by a different author in *A Book of Fruits & Flowers*, the cook was told to set the dish aside for three or four days.

E

The dominant theme in 16th and 17th-century cookbooks was order. Books combined recipes and household advice, on the assumption that a well-made dish, a well-ordered larder and well-disciplined children were equally important. Cookbooks thus became a symbol of dependability in chaotic times. They hardly seem to have been affected by the English civil war or the revolutions in America and France.

F

In the 1850s Isabella Beeton published *The Book of Household Management*. Like earlier cookery writers she plagiarized freely, lifting not just recipes but philosophical observations from other books. If Beeton's recipes were not wholly new, though, the way in which she presented them certainly was. She explains when her chief ingredients are most likely to be in season, how long the dish will take to prepare and even how much it is likely to cost. Beeton's recipes were well suited to her times. Two centuries earlier, an understanding of rural ways had been so widespread that one writer could advise cooks to heat water until it was a little hotter than milk that comes

from a cow. By the 1850s Britain was industrialising. The growing urban middle class needed details, and Beeton provided them in full.

G

In France, cookbooks were fast becoming even more systematic. Compared with Britain, France had produced few books written for the ordinary householder by the end of the 19th century. The most celebrated French cookbooks were written by superstar chefs who had a clear sense of codifying a unified approach to sophisticated French cooking. The 5,000 recipes in Auguste Escoffier's *Le Guide Culinaire* (The Culinary Guide), published in 1902, might as well have been written in stone, given the book's reputation among French chefs, many of whom still consider it the definitive reference book.

H

What Escoffier did for French cooking, Fannie Farmer did for American home cooking. She not only synthesised American cuisine; she elevated it to the status of science. 'Progress in civilisation has been accompanied by progress in cookery,' she breezily announced in *The Boston Cooking-School Cook Book*, before launching into a collection of recipes that sometimes resembles a book of chemistry experiments. She was occasionally over-fussy. She explained that currants should be picked between June 28th and July 3rd, but not when it is raining. But in the main, her book is reassuringly authoritative. Its recipes are short, with no unnecessary chat and no unnecessary spices.

I

In 1950 *Mediterranean Food* by Elizabeth David launched a revolution in cooking advice in Britain. In some ways, *Mediterranean Food* recalled even older cookbooks but the smells and noises that filled David's books were not a mere decoration for her recipes. They were the point of her books. When she began to write, many ingredients were not widely available or affordable. She understood this, acknowledging in a letter edition of one of her books that even if people could not very often make the dishes here described, it was stimulating to think about them. David's books were not so much cooking manuals as guides to the kind of food people might well wish to eat.

Questions 91-95: Reading Passage has nine paragraphs, A-I. Which paragraph contains the following information? Write the correct letter, A-I, in boxes 91-95 on your answer sheet.

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

91. cookery books providing a sense of stability during periods of unrest
92. details in recipes being altered as they were passed on
93. knowledge which was in danger of disappearing
94. the negative effect on cookery books of a new development
95. a period when there was no need for cookery books to be precise

Questions 96-100: Look at the following statements and list of books (A-E) below. Match each statement with the correct book. Write the correct letter, A-E, in boxes 96-100 on your answer sheet

96. Its recipes were easy to follow despite the writer's attention to detail.
97. Its writer may have deliberately avoided passing on details.
98. It appealed to ambitious ideas people have about cooking.
99. Its writer used ideas from other books but added additional related information.
100. It put into print ideas which are still respected today.

List of cookery books

- A. De re coquinara
B. The Book of Household Management
C. Le Guide Culinaire
D. The Boston Cooking-School Cook Book
E. Mediterranean Food

Your answers:

91.	92.	93.	94.	95.
96.	97.	98.	99.	100.

Part 5. You are going to read extracts from an introduction to a book about the study of children. For questions 100-110, choose from the sections (A-E). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes on the answer sheet. (10 points)

THE BRAIN GAIN

With New Zealand becoming renowned as a great place to live, it was the first-choice destination for a new generation of talented migrants looking for a better life. Shuron Stephenson talks to four of them.

A Nicky Meiring, Architect

Listen to Nicky Meiring talk about South Africa and it soon becomes evident that she's mourning for a country she once called home. 'The current economic situation has made South Africa quite a hard place to live in,' she says, 'but I do miss it.' Nicky first arrived in Auckland in 1994 and got a job in an architectural practice in Auckland where she soon settled in. She says 'New Zealand often feels like utopia. I just love the trade quality and the fact you can lead a safe and ordinary life.'

She lives and works from a renovated factory where her marketplace is littered with awards for the design of her summer house on Great Barrier Island. ‘Although the design of buildings is fairly universal, houses here are generally constructed of timber as opposed to brick and when it comes to the engineering of buildings, I have to take great heed of earthquakes which isn’t an issue in South Africa,’ she says. But the very fact that my training and experience are different means I have something to offer. And I’m so glad I have the opportunity to leave my stamp on my country.’

B Jenny Orr, Art Director

American Jenny Orr’s southern accent seems more at home in the movies than in New Zealand’s capital, Wellington. ‘I’m from Alabama, but no, we didn’t run around barefoot and my father didn’t play the banjo!’ she jokes, in anticipation of my preconceptions. Having worked in corporate design for ten years in the USA, she was after a change and thought of relocating to New Zealand. It didn’t take long for her to land a job with an Auckland design firm, where she was able to gain experience in an unfamiliar but challenging area of design – packaging – and before long, she was headhunted by a direct marketing agency which recently transferred her to Wellington. While she admits she could have the same salary and level of responsibility at home, ‘it would probably have been harder to break into this kind of field. I’m not saying I couldn’t have done it, but it may have taken longer in the US because they have more people ahead of me.’ Ask Jenny how she’s contributing to this country’s ‘brain gain’ and she laughs. ‘I don’t see myself as being more talented or intelligent, but opposing views are what makes strategies, concepts and designs better and I hope that’s what I bring.’

C Sarah Hodgett, Creative Planner

What happens when all your dreams come true? Just ask Sarah Hodgett. Sarah says that she had always dreamed of a career in advertising. ‘But I was from the wrong class and went to the wrong university. In the UK, if you’re working class you grow up not expecting greatness in your life. You resign yourself to working at the local factory and knowing your place.’ New Zealand, on the other hand, allowed her to break free of those shackles. ‘It’s a land of opportunity. I quickly learned that if you want to do something here, you just go for it, which is an attitude I admire beyond belief.’ Within a month of arriving, she’d landed a job in customer servicing with an advertising agency. Then, when an opening in research came up, she jumped at the chance. ‘My job is to conduct research with New Zealanders,’ she explains. ‘So I get to meet people from across the social spectrum which is incredibly rewarding.’ Being a foreigner certainly works in her favour, says Sarah. ‘Because a lot of my research is quite personal, respondents tend to see me as impartial and open-minded and therefore more willing to share their lives with me.’ She certainly sees New Zealand in a good light. ‘I wish New Zealanders

could see their country as I do. They don't think they're good enough on the global stage – and they definitely are – whether it's to do with sports, politics, the academic world, whatever!'

D Lucy Kramer, School Director

Born in Sydney, Australia, Lucy Kramer left for London when she was 23 to further her career as a stockbroker. 'London certainly lived up to my expectations and I had a very exciting lifestyle,' Lucy explains. But after four years she felt burnt out and was disillusioned with her job. 'People at work were far too competitive for my liking,' she says. It was at this time she made a life-changing decision. 'I signed up for a teacher-training course and shortly after that met my partner, Graeme. He asked me to come back to New Zealand with him and I agreed, on the condition we'd eventually go back to London. It wasn't long before she found work in a large Auckland school and, since then, she has rapidly worked her way up to a management position. 'It's fair to say I'm not earning what I used to but my New Zealand colleagues are much more easy-going. A good atmosphere more than makes up for the drop in salary. Another thing that impresses me is that you can leave your stuff on a seat in a café and it'll still be there half an hour later. People are pretty trustworthy here. Sometimes it bothers me that we're so remote – you can feel a bit cut off from what's going on in the rest of the world, but on the whole, I'd say it's one of the best moves I've ever made. This is home, now.'

Which woman

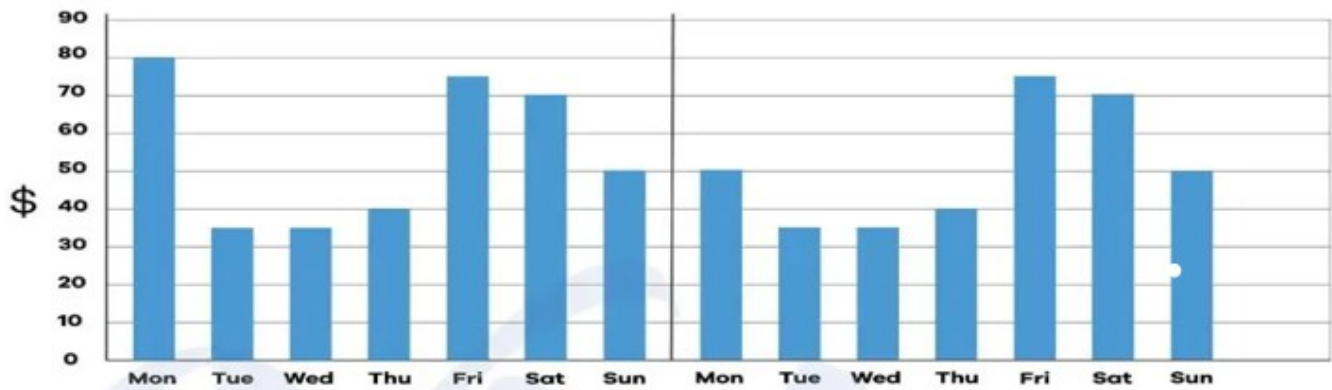
- 101.** Mentions the way in which she was disadvantaged in the country she left?
- 102.** Mentions a negative point about a job she has had?
- 103.** Explains an advantage of choosing to pursue her career in New Zealand?
- 104.** Mentions an aspect of living in New Zealand that she can find difficult?
- 105.** Appreciates the approach to achieving goals in New Zealand?
- 106.** Expresses a sense of regret about leaving her country?
- 107.** Appreciates the honesty she feels exists in New Zealand?
- 108.** Denies conforming to a certain stereotype?
- 109.** Appreciates New Zealand for its sense of calm and normality?
- 110.** Explains how a potential hazard in New Zealand requires special consideration in her work?

IV. WRITING (50 points)

Part 1. The charts below give information about the price of tickets on one airline between Sydney and Melbourne, Australia, over a two-week period in 2013.

Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant.

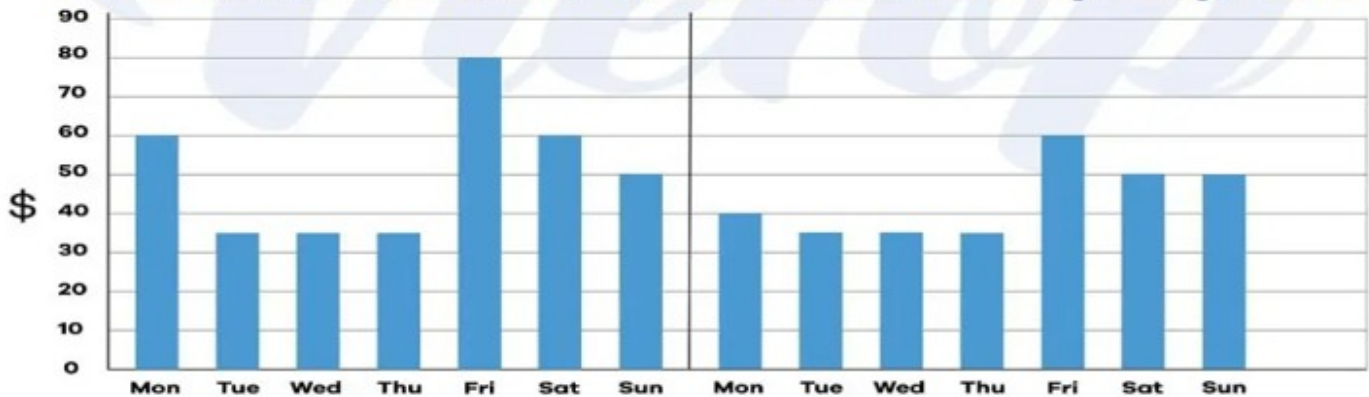
Price of airline ticket (\$): Sydney to Melbourne, 2013



Week 1

Week 2

Price of airline ticket (\$): Melbourne to Sydney, 2013



Week 1

Week 2

Part 2. Write an essay of around 250 words on the topic below.

Some people believe that there should be fixed punishments for each type of crime.

Others, however, argue that the circumstances of an individual crime, and the motivation for committing it, should always be taken into account when deciding on the punishment.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

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