

- Thí sinh **KHÔNG** được sử dụng tài liệu, kể cả từ điển.
- Giám thị **KHÔNG** giải thích gì thêm.

I. LISTENING (50 POINTS)

Part 1. You will hear a phone conversation between two people, Cathy and John. For questions 1-7, complete the notes below with ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer. (14 pts)

HILARY LODGE RETIREMENT HOME

The name of the manager is Cathy

Activities programme involving volunteers

Monday evenings: computer training

- Training needed in how to produce (1).....

Tuesday afternoons: singing

- The home has a (2)..... and someone to play it

Thursday mornings: growing (3).....

- The home doesn't have many (4)..... for gardening

Once a month: meeting for volunteers and staff

Interview

- Go in on (5)....., any time
- Interview with assistant called (6).....
- Address of home: 73 (7)..... Road

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.			

Part 2: You will hear a radio news item about a manufacturer of hot-air balloons. For questions 1-8, complete the notes below which summarise what the speaker says.

Douglas Finch award

Douglas Finch is going to be given the Honorary Degree of Doctor of (1)_____

Douglas Finch was born just outside of Glasgow and went to Allan Glen's School before reading (2) _____ at Glasgow University.

The Bristol Belle was the first hot air balloon in (3) _____.

In 1968 he was issued with the first ever (4) _____ for Hot Air Balloons.

The Golden Falcon was designed specifically to fly (5)_____.

In 1973 he was awarded the Royal Aeronautical Club Silver Medal for the first balloon flight (6)_____.

In 1978 he attempted to cross the Atlantic in a balloon called (7)_____.

Bristol is considered the undisputed (8)_____ of the world.

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.
5.	6.	7.	8.

Part 3: You will hear a talk about the benefits of being bilingual. For questions 1-5, decide whether the following statements are True or False. (10 pts)

1. Most bilingual people use both of their languages equally well in all situations.
2. People who acquire a second language in adulthood tend to approach problems in that language more emotionally than in their native tongue.
3. Brain scans have shown that bilingual individuals usually have more gray matter density compared to monolinguals.
4. Bilingualism was once considered a disadvantage for children's mental development.
5. According to the lecture, bilingualism can significantly improve a person's intelligence quotient (IQ).

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
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Part 4: You will hear an interview with a designer of clothing. For questions 1-5, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

1. How does the designer explain her interest in the fashion industry?

- A. Both parents were actively involved in it.
- B. She was encouraged to pursue her passion.
- C. She's always been interested in her own clothing.
- D. Her sewing teacher was very good.

2. The reason the designer changed focus of her college studies was because

- A. she became interested in something different.
- B. she focuses on her employment prospects.
- C. she was a part of a class where a teacher inspired her.
- D. her initial enthusiasm faded.

3. What does the designer say about her apprenticeship experience?

- A. it proved quite useful when running a business of her own.
- B. it was more relevant than whatever she learned at college.
- C. she believes that such apprenticeships should be made mandatory.
- D. she feels fortunate about being given such a good placement.

4. What part of her character does Sam say attracted her to designing clothes?

- A. a desire to be more attractive.
- B her interest in others.
- C social awkwardness.
- D her love for color.

5. What would be the summary of the designer's view on fashion?

- A. Practicality should come before artistry.
- B. You can show different moods using clothing.
- C. Fashion should be used to make people look better.
- D. Fashion helps bring art into our life.

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
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II. LEXICO-GRAMMAR (30 POINTS)

Part 1. Choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) to complete each sentence below. (15 pts)

1. Employing a designer is often perceived as an expensive luxury indulged in by ladies who lunch and those intent on _____.
 A. keeping up with the Joneses
 B. keeping their fingers crossed
 C. keeping a straight face
 D. keeping a low profile
2. They are planning to _____ down their operation in Greece and concentrate on Eastern Europe.
 A. wind
 B. tie
 C. roll
 D. stretch
3. I didn't _____ out to be a millionaire - I just wanted to run a successful business.
 A. set
 B. go
 C. watch
 D. begin
4. Have you considered applying for a job with the _____ service?
 A. civic
 B. civil
 C. governmental
 D. national
5. Most teenagers go through a rebellious _____ for a few years but they soon grow out of it.
 A. stint
 B. span
 C. duration
 D. phase
6. I didn't know my guess was going to be right. It was just _____.
 A. pot luck
 B. odds
 C. draw
 D. gamble
7. The police spent three months barking up the wrong _____ on the murder investigation.
 A. ladder
 B. bush
 C. pole
 D. tree
8. She _____ the company's aims and objectives in her speech.
 A. dawned on
 B. set out
 C. got on
 D. gave in
9. After not speaking to each other for years, the two brothers decided to _____ and meet again.
 A. break new ground
 B. come to an end
 C. come out of their shell
 D. bury the hatchet

10. The communication was seriousy _____ by the storm.
 A. dispelled B. dislocated C. disturbed D. disrupted
11. Why are all your clothes in a _____ on the floor?
 A. bulk B. batch C. heap D. sum
12. The rents in this area are _____ the highest in the city.
 A. far from away B. far and away C. away by far D. far to away
13. His latest novel didn't exactly set the world on _____, but it sold reasonably well.
 A. fire B. light C. blaze D. flame
14. The project has been delayed due to unforeseen problems, but we are now back _____ track.
 A. in B. on C. off D. to
15. Do you think you could pull a few _____ for me and get someone at the office to look at my drawings?
 A. strings B. chords C. ropes D. wires

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.					

Part 2. Find mistakes in the following sentences. (5pts)

- After working all day, I like to go out with some friends just to let off some air.
- When my brother got married, my sister-in-law very quickly became one from the family.
- It's high time the government takes serious action against climate change.
- The teacher found the students' explanation highly suspect, given the lack of evidence they provided.
- That bothers me is why the police took so long to charge them.

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
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Part 3. Use the most suitable form of the words in the brackets (10pts)

- Do you really think your plans are going to come to **(FRUIT)** _____
- I've read that many performers suffered feelings of **(ADEQUATE)** _____ as children.
- We were amazed by her wonderful skill in the **(PEACE)** _____ of crying infants.
- It makes no sense to **(LITTLE)** _____ the enormity of the disaster which has occurred..
- Another 60,000 had been punished for **(DEED)** _____ but retained their party membership, while a further 120,000 were still under investigation.
- We are looking for a new house, **(PREFER)** _____ one near the school.
- Government inspections ensure a high degree of **(UNIFORM)** _____ in the standard of service.
- Place two **(SPOON)** _____ of beans in the bottom of each tin.

9. 90% of people questioned felt (**EASY**) _____ about nuclear power.

10. In order to ensure peace and stability, we must try our best to reduce the (**LIKELY**) _____ of war breaking out in the future.

Your answers

1.	6.
2.	7.
3.	8.
4.	9.
5.	10.

III. READING (60 points)

Part 1. Read the text below and then decide which word best fits each blank. (10pts)

PUBLIC ART

What exactly defines public art? If asked to name a piece, many of us would likely imagine a statue of a stern-looking military leader or a past monarch. However, public art in urban environments shouldn't merely commemorate the past. It ought to (1) _____ something about contemporary society and add (2) _____ to our urban landscape.

Contemporary public art can take various forms, including abstract, realistic, or even performance-based creations; there appears to be no (3) _____ on what artists can produce, so is it any (4) _____ that it often sparks controversy? Some individuals take (5) _____ a piece because they may not comprehend the artist's purpose, while others appreciate the opportunity to engage with something unconventional.

To a (6) _____ degree, every piece of public art represents an interactive (7) _____ between the creator and the community. Located in shared spaces, it invites public engagement and reflection. It can reshape the environment, raise public consciousness, and challenge assumptions. Ideally, it should not simply blend into the (8) _____ and become something people overlook as they go about their routines.

Additionally, many cities now utilize public art to (9) _____ neglected areas and foster a stronger sense of community pride, while also attracting tourism. In some instances, public art can even serve to (10) _____ significant social issues and encourage meaningful discussion.

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1 | A. say | B. inform | C. express | D. describe |
| 2 | A. meaning | B. implication | C. value | D. function |
| 3 | A. boundary | B. restriction | C. condition | D. regulation |

- | | | | | |
|----|-----------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1 | A. say | B. inform | C. express | D. describe |
| 4 | A. surprise | B. wonder | C. concern | D. shock |
| 5 | A. offense | B. after | C. against | D. to |
| 6 | A. considerable | B. great | C. vast | D. large |
| 7 | A. process | B. dialogue | C. method | D. procedure |
| 8 | A. background | B. view | C. horizon | D. distance |
| 9 | A. rejuvenate | B. preserve | C. demolish | D. abandon |
| 10 | A. highlight | B. minimize | C. ignore | D. conceal |

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.

Part 2. Fill each blank in the passage with ONE suitable word. (10 pts)

HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR ‘STAYCATION’?

If you are (1) _____ travelling this summer, you might want to consider a staycation instead: a week or two spent at home (2) _____ no interruptions from work or academic obligations. It might sound dull, but if you follow our suggestions, it'll be far (3) _____ it. You can experience a ‘genuine’ holiday in your own home without spending a penny (4) _____ you wish to. The most essential element of any holiday is securing some quality rest and rejuvenation. You can't fully disconnect when your phone is buzzing every ten seconds, (5) _____ why not unplug and unwind completely? Catch up on those novels that have kept (6) _____ put to one side, or finally start that creative project you've been intending to do but have continuously postponed.

Once recharged, go out and about. Expose (7) _____ to activities or places you've never tried before: explore a new hiking trail or uncover a hidden gem to hang out at. Take a break from individuals who get (8) _____ your nerves and instead surround yourself with those (9) _____ company you truly appreciate. This type of vacation can be (10) _____ as rewarding as a trip abroad, offering you a chance to foster a deeper connection with your local surroundings.

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.

Part 3. Read the following passage carefully then choose the best answer to each question. (10pts)

THE MAN WHO ASPIRES TO EDUCATE THE WORLD

Helena de Bertodano interviews Salman Khan.

What Salman Khan, the visionary behind the non-profit online platform Khan Academy, says to the parent of an eleven-year-old child in the United States is frankly alarming: “If your child isn’t placed in the advanced math track by sixth grade, their prospects of becoming a doctor or an engineer are essentially non-existent. And this decision is made when the child is just eleven.”

This was exactly what occurred with his cousin Nadia. Typically an **exemplary** student, she underperformed in a math streaming test in sixth grade because she hadn’t grasped one concept. According to Khan, this single test could have severely damaged her academic future. Nadia’s distressed mother sought Khan’s assistance. He tutored her remotely by phone, and Nadia subsequently passed her retake with outstanding results. Soon, many more relatives and acquaintances were asking for Khan’s help. Overwhelmed by the volume of requests, and following a friend’s suggestion, he began recording his lessons and uploading them to YouTube. “Initially, I was skeptical,” Khan admits. “I thought YouTube was just for cat videos or people doing silly stunts.”

Now, Khan has produced over 3,000 videos, watched by nearly three million unique users each month, through both YouTube and his own website. His approachable, friendly demeanor, coupled with an exceptional ability to **demystify** challenging concepts, has enabled students—and adults—around the globe to accelerate their learning. His ambition is to create “the world’s first free, top-tier, virtual school where anyone can master anything.” While some educators are wary, fearing he intends to replace them, many others have embraced his approach, adopting a “flipped classroom” model—students watch Khan’s videos at home, then solve problems collaboratively in class.

You might imagine that someone with such widespread influence would operate from an impressive, high-tech headquarters. However, Khan’s workplace is surprisingly modest. Arriving at an unmarked red door, squeezed between a clothing boutique and a Chinese restaurant, I become convinced I’ve come to the wrong place—especially after ringing the bell repeatedly for ten minutes without a response. Eventually, I manage to reach someone by phone, and the door is opened. Once inside, Khan’s assistant shows me through, and Khan himself initially appears somewhat irritated by the interruption. Seated in a leather swivel chair behind a solid oak desk, surrounded by photos of his doctor wife and their two young children, he continues working for several minutes. But once the conversation warms up, it becomes clear that his initial awkwardness stems from shyness, not rudeness. “I’m not great at meeting people,” he confesses. “I tend to feel a little exposed.”

(A). “From age one to four, kids are naturally curious about everything—they love exploring. (B). But suddenly, by age five, you begin to see that curiosity diminish, and by the time they’re nine or ten, it’s almost completely gone. By eighteen, it’s quite rare. (C)Curiosity is effectively stamped out of them. I’m convinced it’s not biological—it’s systematic. Children are herded together, the bell rings, and they’re rewarded for compliance and passivity. (D)That’s how the system keeps them moving forward.”

He argues that private education makes little difference, nor does he believe the student-teacher ratio is truly important. “The notion that smaller class sizes will magically prevent students from falling behind is simply a myth,” he asserts. In his view, if a teacher’s primary role is simply delivering lectures, the size of the classroom becomes irrelevant. What truly matters, Khan says, is the ‘student-to-meaningful-human-interaction-with-teacher’ ratio. His videos, he claims, allow teachers to devote more time to individualized attention.

Khan envisions classrooms that are significantly larger but staffed with more teachers, fostering a dynamic and creative learning environment. In his ideal setup, there would be 75 to 100 students spanning various age groups, guided by three or four teachers. Some students might work independently on computers, others might engage in economics through board games, while others could be designing mobile apps, building robots, or developing art and creative writing projects. His vision is nothing short of transformative.

“In 500 years,” he muses, “I hope people look back and say, ‘Can you believe children once had to study in classroom environments resembling factories, and it was unheard of for an eight-year-old to fully grasp quantum physics? How bizarre.’”

1. Why did Khan initially start to record videos?

- A. It was easier to explain concepts in a video than on the phone.
- B. It enabled him to advertise his services worldwide.
- C. It was impossible for him to respond personally to each request for assistance.
- D. It was a more popular medium for young people to use.

2. One value of the videos is that they can

- A. be used as an additional tool for teachers in class.
- B. be shown to students as a reward for hard work.
- C. act as a substitute for formal learning.
- D. help students prepare for a topic they will study.

3. The word “exemplary” in paragraph 2 most likely describes Nadia’s _____.

- A. consistent high academic performance.
- B. determination to overcome academic failure.
- C. ability to support other students.
- D. enthusiasm for challenging school subjects.

4. When visiting Khan the writer is

- A. annoyed by Khan's lateness.
- B. surprised by Khan's choice of location.
- C. embarrassed by the way Khan addresses him.
- D. impressed by the style of furnishings in Khan's home.

5. The writer mentions different children's ages to illustrate his idea that

- A. it is quite natural for children to grow disillusioned with formal education.
- B. the older a child is, the less able they are to assimilate new information.
- C. a child's growing lack of interest in learning is a result of experience at school.
- D. younger children need more motivation to remain interested in education.

6. The word "demystify" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____

- A. elucidate B. obfuscate C. veil D. exacerbate

7. When Khan compares classrooms to factories in the final paragraph, he is implying that

- A. classrooms produced what industry demanded.
- B. children were part of an inflexible system.
- C. teaching methodology produced student clones.
- D. small numbers of teachers dealt with large numbers of students.

8. Why does the writer mention Khan's office location in the article?

- A. To show that Khan prefers to work in secretive conditions.
- B. To highlight the contrast between Khan's influence and his modest setting.
- C. To emphasize how difficult it is to access Khan's academy physically.
- D. To criticize Khan for not investing in a more prestigious workplace

9. What is implied by the writer about Khan's personality in paragraph 4?

- A. He is highly protective of his personal privacy.
- B. He struggles with social interactions and prefers solitude.
- C. He often ignores people due to his busy schedule.
- D. He tends to be rude to people he does not know.

10. Where would the following sentence best fitted into paragraph 5?

'Khan believes that the traditional school model is outdated and stifles children's innate curiosity.'

- (A) (B) (C) (D)

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.

Part 4. Read the following passage then do the tasks that follow. (20 pts)

PSYCHOSOCIAL VALUE OF SPACE

A

What would a building space look and feel like if it were designed to promote psychological and social well-being? How would it affect the senses, the emotions, and the mind? How would it affect behavioral patterns? For insights, it is useful to look not at buildings, but at zoos. Zoo design has gone through a radical transformation in the past several decades. Cages have been replaced by natural habitats and geographic clustering of animals. In some places, the animals are free-ranging and the visitors are enclosed in buses or trains moving through the habitat. Animals now exist in mixed species exhibits more like their natural landscapes. And, as in nature, the animals have much greater control over their behavior. They can be on view if they want, or out of sight. They forage, play, rest, mate and act like normal animals.

B

What brought about this transformation in philosophy and design? A key factor was concern over the animals' psychological and social well-being. Zoos could keep animals alive, but they couldn't make them flourish. Caged animals often exhibit neurotic behaviors—pacing, repetitive motions, aggression, and withdrawal. In one famous example, an animal psychologist was hired by the Central Park Zoo to study a polar bear that spent the day swimming in endless figure eights in its small pool. This was not normal polar bear behavior and the zoo was concerned about it. After several days of observation, the animal psychologist offered a diagnosis. The bear was bored. To compensate for this unfortunate situation, the zoo added amenities and toys to the bear's enclosure to encourage exploration and play.

C

Are there lessons that we can apply to building design? Some experts believe so: for example, biologist Stephen Boyden (1971) defines the optimum healthy environment as 'the conditions which tend to promote or permit an animal optimal physiological, mental, and social performance in its natural or "evolutionary" environment.' Because humans evolved in a natural landscape, it is reasonable to turn to the natural environment for clues about preference patterns that may be applicable to building design. Drawing on habitat selection theory, ecologist Gordon Orians argues that humans are psychologically adapted to and prefer landscape features that characterized the African plain or savannah, the presumed site of human evolution. Although humans now live in many different habitats, Orians argues that our species' long history as mobile hunters and gatherers on the African savannahs should have left its mark on our psyche. If the 'savannah hypothesis' is true, we would expect to find that humans intrinsically like and find pleasurable environments that contain the key features of the savannah most likely to have aided our ancestors' survival and well-being.

D

Although Boyden distinguishes between survival and well-being needs, they often overlap.

For example, people clearly need food for survival and health. However, food often serves as the basis for bonding and relationship development. The ritual of sitting around a fire on the savannah or in a cave telling stories of the day's events and planning for tomorrow may be an ancient carryover from *Homo sapiens'* hunting and gathering days. According to anthropologist Melvin Konner, the sense of safety and intimacy associated with the campfire may have been a factor in the evolution of intellectual progression as well as social bonds. Today's hearth is the family kitchen at home, and the community places, such as cafes and coffee bars, where people increasingly congregate to eat, talk, read and work.

E

A growing body of research shows that building environments that connect people to nature are more supportive of human emotional well-being and cognitive performance than environments lacking these features. For instance, research by Roger Ulrich consistently shows that passive viewing of nature through windows promotes positive moods. Similarly, research by Rachel Kaplan found that workers with window views of trees had a more positive outlook on life than those doing similar work but whose window looked out onto a parking lot. Connection to nature also provides mini mental breaks that may aid the ability to concentrate, according to research by Stephen Kaplan. Terry Hartig and colleagues report similar results in a field experiment. People in their study who went for a walk in a predominantly natural setting achieved better on several office tasks requiring concentration than those who walked in a predominantly built setting or who quietly read a magazine indoors.

F

Studies of outdoor landscapes are providing evidence that the effects of nature on human health and well-being extend beyond emotional and cognitive functioning to social behavior and crime reduction. For instance, Francis Kuo found that outdoor nature buffers aggression in urban high-rise settings and enhances ability to deal with demanding circumstances. He also reported that planting trees in urban areas increases sociability by providing comfortable places for residents to talk with one another and develop friendships that promote mutual support.

G

A natural perspective also contributes important insights into comfort maintenance. Because people differ from one another in many ways (genetics, cultures, lifestyles) their ambient preferences vary. Furthermore, a given person varies over time depending upon his or her state of health, activities, clothing levels, and so forth. For most of human history, people have actively managed their surroundings as well as their behaviors to achieve comfort. Yet buildings continue to be designed with a "one size fits all" approach. Very few buildings or workstations enable occupants to control lighting, temperature, ventilation rates, or noise conditions. Although the technology is largely available to do this, the personal comfort

systems have not sold well in the market place, even though research by Walter Kroner and colleagues at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute shows that personal control leads to significant increases in comfort and morale.

Questions 1 – 7

The reading passage has 7 sections. Choose the correct heading for each section A-G from the list of headings below. There are three headings you do not need.

List of headings

List of Headings

- i. The influence of the seasons on productivity*
- ii. A natural way to anger management*
- iii. Natural building materials promote health*
- iv. Learning from experience in another field*
- v. Stimulating the brain through internal design features*
- vi. Current effects on the species of ancient experiences*
- vii. Uniformity is not the answer*
- viii. The negative effects of restricted spaces*
- ix. Improving occupational performance*
- x. The modern continuation of ancient customs*

- 1. Paragraph A _____
- 2. Paragraph B _____
- 3. Paragraph C _____
- 4. Paragraph D _____
- 5. Paragraph E _____
- 6. Paragraph F _____
- 7. Paragraph G _____

Questions 8 - 10

Complete the summary below.

Choose NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS from the text for each answer.

Gathering around a campfire has long served not only for safety but also for promoting (8) _____ among individuals. Modern research confirms that exposure to (9) _____ provides emotional and cognitive benefits, such as improved focus. Moreover, evidence suggests that urban green spaces can reduce both aggression and support (10) _____ within communities.

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
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6.	7.	8.	9.	10.

Part 5. You are going to read about items from science fiction that became real. For questions 1-10, choose from the sections of the article (A-D). The sections may be chosen more than once.

Which science fiction work ...

1. had a purpose other than pure entertainment?
2. presented a concept that is familiar today but through a different process?
3. was written by an author who has more famous fictional creations?
4. features machines that threaten to cause the downfall of man?
5. shows us a device that would have enormous significance for us if it really existed?
6. was created by a writer whose name will never be forgotten?
7. was given a title that might be better understood by people today than when it was written?
8. revolves around a character who uses a particular device to escape from the reality of a situation?
9. delighted people over a period of many years?
10. foresaw something that is controversial today?

We've seen it all before!

Just how many of the technological advances we take for granted today were actually predicted in science fiction years ago? Karen Smith checks out four influential works.

A – R.U.R

Originally a word that appeared solely in science fiction, the term ‘robot’ has now become commonplace as developments in technology have allowed scientists to design ever more complex machines that can perform tasks to assist us at work or home. But how did the word originate and when? To answer this, we have to go back nearly 100 years to a play written in 1920 by a Czech playwright, Karel Capek, called R.U.R — Rossum’s Universal Robots. The word is a derivation from the Czech robota, meaning ‘forced labour’, or rab, meaning ‘slave’. Capek’s robots are biological machines which are uncannily similar to what we today refer to as ‘clones’ or ‘androids’ but are assembled from various parts rather than being genetically ‘grown.’ The play eerily predicts problems that concern people today regarding machines that can think independently. Rossum’s robots plan a rebellion against their creator, a man who in his own words, wants to ‘play God’. The famous science fiction writer Isaac Asimov was unimpressed by the literary value of Capek’s play but believed it had enormous significance because it introduced the word robot to the world.

B – Ralph 124C41+

If you're a science fiction aficionado, you'll definitely have heard of Hugo Gernsback. Considered by many to be the founding father of science fiction back in 1926 with the publication of his magazine *Amazing Stories*, his name has been immortalised in the annual science fiction awards, the 'Hugos'. However, the quality of his writing is questionable and his stories are more highly regarded for their content rather than plot or character development. Gernsback was deeply interested in the world of electronics and, believing that science fiction should inspire future scientists, he filled his stories with ideas for numerous new gadgets and electronic devices. An extraordinary number of his predictions have actually come true. Today we have television, televised phone calls, sliding doors and remote controls, to name only a few, and the precursors of many of these can be found in just one novel: *Ralph 124C41+*. The mystifying title is itself a prediction of language used in text talk today: 'one to foresee for all (1+)'. Gernsback's prophetic stories included other predictions which currently remain unfulfilled, such as complete weather control, thought records and aircabs. Watch this space!

C – From the London Town of 1904

Mark Twain is a familiar name to most of us as the author of magnificent books such as *Huckleberry Finn* and *Tom Sawyer*. He is less well-known, however, for his science fiction but to avid readers of that genre, he is considered one of the best writers of all time. It is also quite possible that he predicted one of the most influential scientific inventions the world has ever seen — something that we all use and rely on every day: the Internet! It is in a little-known short story called *From the London Town of 1904* that a character invents a device called a 'telectroscope'. This is a machine that uses telephone line links across the world to enable him to see and hear what is going on in any place on the globe at a given time. How familiar does that sound? The character, while on death row for a murder that he did not commit, uses his machine to 'call up' different places in the world and the narrator of the story comments that although in a prison cell, the man is 'almost as free as the birds.'

D – Star Trek

These days mobile phones have become such an integral part of our daily lives that we would be lost without them but there was a time when we had to communicate using landlines or — horror of horrors — by writing letters! Viewers watching the birth of a new TV science fiction series in the 1960s would have been amazed at the thought that the 'communicator' used by *Star Trek*'s Captain Kirk would one day become an everyday form of communication available to us all. Kirk's 'communicator' was a small device he used to flip open and, in retrospect, it seems surprisingly similar to a mobile phone that became popular in the late 90s. The long-running series also featured several other devices that have since moved from fiction to the real world. However, the famous *Star Trek* 'Transporter', through which people can immediately materialise in different places, still remains the Holy Grail for

many in the world of science. Now, that really would make a difference to our lives. ‘Beam us up, Scottie,’ please.

Your answers

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.

IV. WRITING (60 points)

Part 1. The table below shows data about what people in the UK thought the Government should increase spending.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.

% Gender			% Age group					
	Men	Women	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Health	32%	48%	25%	35%	48%	48%	52%	72%
Education	55%	40%	40%	52%	26%	27%	18%	12%
Other areas	13%	12%	35%	13%	26%	25%	30%	16%

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[illegible]

Part 3. Essay writing

Genetic engineering is an important issue in modern society. Some people think that it will improve people's lives in many ways. Others feel that it may be a threat to life on earth.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Write at least 350 words.

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-THE END -