
(Đề thi có 8 trang)

Thời gian làm bài: 150 phút
(không kể thời gian phát đề)

Họ và tên:

Số báo danh:

Mã đề 103

SECTION A: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (70 points)

HƯỚNG DẪN PHẦN THI NGHE HIỂU

- Bài nghe gồm 2 phần, mỗi phần được nghe 2 lần.
- Mở đầu và kết thúc bài nghe có tín hiệu nhạc. Thí sinh có 2 phút để hoàn chỉnh bài sau khi kết thúc 2 phần nghe.
- Mọi hướng dẫn cho thí sinh (bằng tiếng Anh) đã có trong bài nghe.

LISTENING PART 1: Nazim has applied to do a college course in Environmental Science. You are going to listen to part of his interview for a place on the course. For questions 1-5 choose the correct answer (A, B, C, or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

Question 1: What initially sparked Nazim's interest in environmental science?

- A. His interest in flora and fauna
- B. A documentary he watched
- C. A project that he took part in
- D. His friend's invitation to Brazil

Question 2: What was the main aim of the charity project that Nazim participated in Brazil?

- A. To promote sustainable tourism in the region
- B. To conduct scientific research on climate change
- C. To help the locals build schools and hospitals
- D. To increase the production of local handicrafts

Question 3: What significant environmental issue did Nazim observe during his trip to Brazil?

- A. The locals' lack of awareness of the rainforest
- B. Rivers being impassable in remote areas
- C. Heavy contamination in the rivers
- D. The destruction of the rainforest and drought

Question 4: Which aspect of the Netherlands' approach to energy conservation does Nazim find most noteworthy?

- A. The government's global expansion of their approach
- B. The development of innovative home insulation materials
- C. The implementation of a comprehensive recycling scheme
- D. The widespread use of energy-efficient light bulbs

Question 5: What concern does Nazim express during the interview?

- A. He is concerned about his knowledge of statistics.
- B. He is not confident in his knowledge of the mountain.
- C. He is worried about the location of the field trip.
- D. He is unsure if he can attend the second-year field trip.

LISTENING PART 2: You will hear an interview between a radio presenter called Paula and her guest, Mike James, who is the presenter of a programme called Pricewise. For questions 6-10 choose the correct answer (A, B, C, or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

Question 6: What was Mike James' original role when he started working on the consumer affairs program?

- A. He was a consumer rights advocate.
- B. He was the creator of the program.
- C. He was a reporter on a news program.

D. He was the host of the program.

Question 7: The stories that Mike's team investigates come mainly from _____.

- A. inspections by the team's lawyers
- B. real people they contact
- C. their own collected database
- D. the public's correspondence

Question 8: When one of the researchers became a lord, _____.

- A. he struggled to find a restaurant willing to give him a reservation
- B. he was treated differently in Harrods but not in other places
- C. he discovered that being a lord didn't provide significant advantages
- D. he received special treatment in all situations because of his title

Question 9: According to Mike, why were people dissatisfied with a well-known brand of trainers?

- A. They made an annoying sound.
- B. They leaked water during use.
- C. They were too expensive for consumers.
- D. They were uncomfortable to wear.

Question 10: After receiving evidence of the faulty trainers, the manufacturer _____.

- A. accepted to avoid bad publicity
- B. wrote a letter of request to the company for help
- C. replaced the trainers at no cost
- D. provided a full refund to the customers

LISTENING PART 3: You will listen to a professor lecturing about Alaska. For questions 11-15 choose the correct answer (A, B, C, or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

Question 11: What is true about Alaska?

- A. It is smaller than California and Texas combined.
- B. It is the second largest state in the USA.
- C. It is bordered by Canada on the East.
- D. It is populous because there are many cities.

Question 12: What is the average number of students in a middle school classroom?

- A. 20
- B. 10
- C. 15
- D. 30

Question 13: Which transportation method is more popular than the Alaska Highway?

- A. Roads connecting small towns across Alaska.
- B. The highways linking Alaska to neighboring states.
- C. Airplanes traveling between cities.
- D. Railways connecting Fairbanks and Seward.

Question 14: Why is most of Alaska not suitable for farming?

- A. The lack of transportation to farming areas.
- B. The high risk of volcanic eruptions.
- C. The cold climate and other unfavorable conditions.
- D. The high cost of farming equipment.

Question 15: What is the professor likely to discuss in the next class?

- A. The types of airplanes used for transportation in Alaska.
- B. The impact of tsunamis that reach inland and devastate communities
- C. The food imported to Alaska to compensate for limited farming.
- D. The eruption of Mount Katmai in the early 20th century.

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word which differs from the other three in the position of the primary stress in each of the following questions.

Question 16: A. theoretical B. hypersensitive C. argumentative D. contributory

Question 17: A. incentive B. recruiter C. decompose D. impromptu

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions from 18 to 24.

Water makes up seventy percent of the Earth's surface, and people rely on it to sustain life. Rainfall nurtures crops and restores water supplies. The amount of water on the Earth is constant, meaning that we can neither create more water, nor get rid of it. We can, however, interfere with the water cycle. Water has several forms - liquid, vapor, and ice - and is constantly changing and being recycled through a process known as the hydrologic cycle. The hydrologic cycle involves inflows, outflows, and storage. When water moves from the ground, for example, into a river, it is called an outflow for the ground and an inflow for the river. Water is stored when it rests somewhere with relatively little movement.

There are six components to the hydrologic cycle: Evapotranspiration, condensation, precipitation, run-off, infiltration, and percolation. Evapotranspiration is the combination of evaporation and transpiration. Evaporation occurs when the sun warms surface water and transforms it into water vapor. Transpiration is the same thing, but involves plants. Plants soak water up from the ground and then return it to the cycle via the pores in their leaves. Once the water has been evaporated, it rises into the atmosphere. As the air gets colder at higher altitudes, the water vapor condenses and clings to particles in the air. This is called condensation and is how clouds are formed. When **they** get too heavy, droplets fall back to the earth through a process called precipitation.

Now that the water has been returned to the earth, it can either be intercepted by a water source, or it can land on the ground. For the water that lands on the ground, one of several things can happen. If there has been a heavy rain, or if it has rained for a long time, a lot of water will return to the streams, lakes and oceans as run-off. Run-off also depends on the slope of the ground. A steep slope will cause more movement of water. Conversely, if water movement is minimized, much of the water will infiltrate the soil. Gravity forces the water lower and lower into the ground through a process called percolation. The permeability of the soil determines the rate at which percolation occurs. If the soil is very dense, it will hold less water. If it is porous, on the other hand, it will store more water. The amount of water that can be held in the soil is called its porosity.

The water will continue to move downward until it reaches saturated soil. This means that there is already so much water in the soil that it can't hold any more. An aquifer is any geologic material that can hold water or allow water to transmit through it. Even solid rock can be an aquifer because water can move through its cracks and pores.

Ground water is returned to the earth via vegetation. Plants soak up water through their roots and, as mentioned, return the water to the atmosphere. Outflows also occur naturally via springs. Humans can extract ground water using wells. Ground-water mining can cause problems for the water table, which is the measure of water in the ground. Taking too much water not only reduces the water supply, but it affects the soil. When water is withdrawn, the pores that hold the water **collapse**, altering the make-up of the soil. Further, contamination from landfills and septic systems cause serious problems for the soil and for the plant that rely on it.

(Adapted from Mastering skills for the TOEFL iBT)

Question 18: Why does the author mention "vegetation" in the last paragraph?

- A. To show how ground water is used in the hydrologic cycle.
- B. To show how crops can be harmed by contamination.
- C. To show how the roots of plants help to hold the soil together.
- D. To show how important water is for yielding a good crop.

Question 19: The phrase "**collapse**" in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. dig up
- B. take out
- C. cave in
- D. tumble to

Question 20: Which of the following is NOT TRUE, according to the first paragraph?

- A. Water exists in three main forms and moves through many processes.
- B. Humans can increase the total amount of water on Earth.
- C. Water can be both an outflow for the ground and an inflow for rivers.
- D. The hydrologic cycle involves constant movement of water.

Question 21: The word "**they**" in paragraph 2 refers to _____.

- A. articles
- B. altitudes
- C. clouds
- D. droplets

Question 22: Which is the most suitable title for the passage?

- A. Human Impact on Water Resources
- B. The Role of Water in Agriculture
- C. Understanding the Hydrologic Cycle

D. The Importance of Rainfall in Ecosystems

Question 23: Which statement is TRUE, according to paragraph 3?

- A. Run-off depends purely on rainfall.
- B. The rate of water infiltration is not affected by soil density.
- C. Porous soil holds more water than dense soil.
- D. A steep slope plays a key role in reducing run-off.

Question 24: What can be inferred from the last paragraph?

- A. Groundwater extraction affects the water supply but not the soil.
- B. Building more wells will secure the quality of the soil.
- C. Human interference can affect the stability of the soil.
- D. Contamination from landfills can cause problems except for plants.

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

Question 25: Incorporating facial recognition technology has significantly transformed the way we safeguard _____ privacy and security across various digital platforms.

- A. an
- B. a
- C. no article
- D. the

Question 26: Coastal and mountainous regions are at heightened risk, with authorities urging residents to _____ their homes and evacuate if needed.

- A. dismantle
- B. specify
- C. rectify
- D. fortify

Question 27: _____ storage containers can do more than extend the shelf life of fruits, vegetables, and leftovers; they can also keep pantry items organized and tasting fresh.

- A. airtight
- B. air-tightened
- C. tight air
- D. tight-aired

Question 28: By the time their research proposal is approved, the senior students hope _____ drafting and reviewing the initial experiments for the project.

- A. to have been finished
- B. having finished
- C. having been finished
- D. to have finished

Question 29: Not until all the data had been thoroughly analyzed _____ the IT technicians realize the extent of the problem.

- A. were
- B. had
- C. did
- D. do

Question 30: Some influencers have been accused of _____ in on the latest viral trends by promoting products they don't actually use or believe in, just to make a quick profit.

- A. laying
- B. following
- C. marketing
- D. cashing

Question 31: She reckons that he's got a very good reason for sticking to the same top, _____?

- A. does he
- B. doesn't he
- C. does she
- D. doesn't she

Question 32: _____ any sudden reaction occur, the scientists will handle the volatile chemicals immediately.

- A. Unless
- B. Otherwise
- C. Despite
- D. Should

Question 33: After the company's annual report showed a steep decline in profits, the CEO was hauled _____ the coals during the board meeting for his mismanagement.

- A. off
- B. out
- C. over
- D. into

Question 34: _____, recent efforts to curb deforestation fail to address the root causes of the issue.

- A. Although a good intention
- B. Although well-intended
- C. Although it is a good intention
- D. Although well-intending

Question 35: The project manager mentioned that he'd like _____ by Friday, assuming there are no further delays.

- A. have submitted the initial draft
- B. submit the initial draft
- C. the initial draft to be submitted
- D. the initial draft submitted

Question 36: By the time Anna Hathaway reached 35, she had already scaled the _____ of her acting career, mastering the complexities of the profession with unparalleled finesse.

- A. heights
- B. levels
- C. spotlights
- D. ladders

Question 37: Given the recent political tensions between their country and various European nations, their leadership has been criticized for adopting a rather _____ approach towards Europe.

Read the following advertisement and mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

ADVERTISEMENT
GLOBAL OFFICE RECRUITMENT SERVICES, LTD

Office Manager

- ✓ £26,000 + good benefits! Challenging role as office manager with varied duties.
- ✓ Responsible person with accounting experience.
- ✓ University (38) _____ preferred.
- ✓ Japanese and English fluency is required.

Personal Assistant

- ✓ £27,500 + top benefits in the business! (39) _____ assistant to the Director.
- ✓ Must be fluent in English. Knowledge of Czech, Polish, or Hungarian is a plus point
- ✓ Arrange the Director's schedule and organize (40) _____ and meetings.

Contact Justina Birchmore at GORS, Ltd.
Russell House 60 Bedford Street London WC2E 9HP
Tel. 0147 372 8167 Fax 0147 372 9193 Email JTB@GORS.co.uk

Question 38: A. graduated

B. graduate

C. graduation

D. graduating

Question 39: A. Laboratory

B. Physician

C. Executive

D. Collaborative

Question 40: A. party

B. appointments

C. happenings

D. commitment

Read the following announcement and mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

ANNOUNCEMENT
ADVENTURE WEEKEND FOR ALL EMPLOYEES

- Embark on a thrilling adventure with activities such as mountain climbing, sailing, hiking, and (41) _____ other exciting options!
- Our packages are comprehensive, covering nearly all costs, ensuring a worry-free experience.
- You (42) _____ to bring suitable clothing and a spirit of adventure!

(43) _____ you give us information regarding your group's age, interests, and fitness level, the Human Resources Department will tailor the perfect adventure weekend to meet your needs.

Question 41:

A. a variety of

B. a uniform selection of

C. a singular option of

D. a coverage of

Question 42: A. required

B. are required

C. are requiring

D. have required

Question 43: A. In case

B. Providing that

C. Even if

D. Following that

Mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 44 to 49.

Without a doubt, Aconcagua must be one of the least technical 6,500-plus-metre summits in the world. Yet, each and every year, there are countless instances of climbers (44) _____. Its popularity with mountaineers derives from the fact that it is one of the seven summits - the highest peaks on each continent. However, the problem is that the lack of technical difficulty lures would-be summiteers into a (45) _____ sense of security. They frequently view the mountain as little more difficult than your average Scottish Highland peak in winter, or perhaps, (46) _____, a stern test of altitudinal endurance and physical conditioning.

(47) _____, and with good cause; any peak can be easily ascended in fair weather - this generally goes without saying - but when Aconcagua bares its teeth and conditions take a turn for the worse, it can quickly become a case of life or death on its upper reaches.

If you do not (48) _____ the bracket of 'wise souls' in the mountaineering community, therefore, you would be well advised to make use of their services on your Aconcagua climb. (49) _____. And,

as for summiting solo, unless you are of the same ilk as Reinhold Messner, or the late, great Ueli Steck, forget it!

Question 44:

- A. getting into trouble on the ascent or descent of this much coveted peak
- B. occasionally reaching this desired peak without any obstacles
- C. considering Aconcagua as an ideal place to take a break during trekking
- D. taking beautiful photos of this magnificent and yenned summit

Question 45: A. wrong B. false C. incorrect D. improper

Question 46: A. at worst B. at last C. at ease D. at best

Question 47:

- A. Wiser souls believe Aconcagua is a safe and simple climb in all conditions
- B. In fact, wiser climbers often skip Aconcagua because it is too easy
- C. However, wiser souls know better than to underestimate Aconcagua
- D. Moreover, Aconcagua is mostly underestimated because of its size

Question 48: A. happen upon B. settle into C. fit within D. fall into

Question 49:

- A. Experienced guides are important for climbers handling altitudes near 6,000 metres
- B. Climbers above 6,000 metres should bring their own equipment to minimize reliance on services
- C. Experienced guides are never more essential than to a party of climbers above 6,000 metres
- D. The services provided by guides focus primarily on preparing equipment for the ascent

Mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 50 to 59.

Colouring books are thought to promote concentration and patience, and allow the artist to safely release any (50) _____ and anxiety. The question seldom asked, though, is: why is such a beneficial activity (51) _____ popular only among young children?

According to several bestseller lists, it no longer is. Although colouring books for adults may (52) _____ a few eyebrows, more and more people are seeking them (53) _____ as a way to relax and de-stress. The principle is that colouring creates the same sense of fulfillment (54) _____ is achieved by any process of deep thought; when the brain is preoccupied with a specific activity, negative feelings, such as anxiety and other generally (55) _____ thoughts, are forced out.

Colouring books have an advantage over other art activities because they remove the 'paradox of choice', or the feeling of being (56) _____ when faced with unlimited options. An empty page can create stress; after all, it (57) _____ the artist to first decide what to create and then create it to an acceptable standard. The outlines provided in colouring books, (58) _____, make the activity accessible to everyone, regardless of (59) _____ artistic ability.

Question 50: A. ignorance B. inadequacy C. frustration D. jealousy

Question 51: A. completely B. terribly C. deeply D. immensely

Question 52: A. raise B. arouse C. arise D. rise

Question 53: A. by B. out C. up D. on

Question 54: A. when B. who C. that D. this

Question 55: A. conflicting B. distressed C. threatening D. pessimistic

Question 56: A. weighed B. overwhelmed C. excessive D. affected

Question 57: A. drains on B. orbits around C. depends on D. resolves around

Question 58: A. notwithstanding B. in fact C. likewise D. however

Question 59: A. inherent B. intangible C. integral D. incompatible

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the word whose underlined part differs from the three in pronunciation in each of the following questions.

Question 60: A. matriarch B. chivalry C. brochure D. crochet

Question 61: A. lightened B. surprised C. increased D. privileged

Question 62: A. ecosystem B. technology C. knowledge D. commodity

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions from 63 to 70.

The idea of using a top ocean predator to entertain people was in 1965, when an orca, tangled in fisherman's net off the coast of Columbia, was sold and shipped 725 kilometers to a Seattle aquarium. The 20 or so members of the captured whale's family - his pod - followed for most of the journey. Having reached his destination, the captive soon learnt that he would be rewarded with food if he performed tricks. To the delight of the park's owners, thousands of visitors queued up to see the spectacle. However, the obliging orca, who could be heard calling out to other whales, survived for less than a year. Soon other whales were being hunted. A pod would be located from the air then trapped with the aid of speed boats, nets and underwater explosives. Usually adolescent females were targeted, being easier to handle and transport. Over the following decade, 51 killer whales were captured off the Pacific coast and sold to marine parks.

When the US government prohibited this practice in waters, the hunters decamped to Iceland, where they caught Tilikum. The then two-year-old calf was taken to a Reykjavik zoo and confined there for almost a year in a concrete tank before transfer to a marine park. No longer able to swim hundreds of miles every day, Tilikum would either circle the pool or lie motionless on the surface. Instead of ocean sounds, all he heard was the monotonous rhythm of the filtration system. Eventually, the orca arrived in a marine park in Canada where he was kept in a 30-by-15-metre performance pool adjacent to a marina, with its cacophony of man-made, underwater noise. Following seven years in these conditions, a horrifying incident occurred - Tilikum and female orcas killed a trainer who had fallen in the water. Shortly afterwards, the now fully grown Tilikum was sold to SeaWorld, Orlando, where more casualties awaited - including the park's top trainer.

To perform with a killer whale requires extensive experience and athleticism. Blond, vivacious Den Brancheau was SeaWorld's **poster girl** and a highly competent professional who adhered strictly to safety regulations. On February 24, 2010, after performing with Tilikum, Brancheau was lying on a ledge, stroking him, when suddenly Tilikum yanked her into the water. The orca ignored all commands to release his victim, who, at a mere 56 kilos, was no match for a six-ton killer whale. By the time his jaws were forced open, his devoted trainer was dead. The incident shocked Americans, for whom SeaWorld's star was a friendly national icon, with his cuddly-toy version a best-seller in the souvenir shops.

A critical question emerged from this tragic incident: Why did an orca kill a human in what appeared to be a deliberate attack, when no record exists of **this** ever happening in the wild? The catalogue of Dawn's injuries included a broken neck and jaw, and a dislocated elbow. Shortly afterwards, a documentary called *Blackfish* attempted to answer this question. It reveals that since the 1960s, there have been numerous documented incidents of killer whale attacks on trainers worldwide - a fact park owners have suppressed.

It also provides a historical overview of whale-watching in general, and of Tilikum's experience specifically, and this supports the suggestion that deviant behaviour in whales stems from their capture and consequent treatment. Experts consulted describe orcas' need for space and stimulation, confirming how ill-suited they are to the constraints of overnight confinement in small pens. As whale researcher Paul Spong explains, "If you pen killer whales in a small steel tank, you are imposing an extreme level of sensory deprivation on them. Humans who are subjected to those same conditions become mentally disturbed."

Through further interviews with whale experts and former trainers, a gap emerges between SeaWorld's animal-loving image and the behind-the-scenes reality. Some footage makes for disturbing viewing such as a bleeding whale attacked by fellow captives, or a trainer dragged repeatedly to the bottom of a pool. In personal testimonies, white hunters recollect the distressing cries of mother whales as their calves were captured.

Not surprisingly, the documentary has unleashed a surge of criticism of SeaWorld, and visitor numbers have taken a nosedive. SeaWorld executives declined to be interviewed for the film, but responded with a fierce publicity campaign. They assert that without their orcas, not only would we know less about the species, but humans would be denied a connection to these magnificent, highly **sentient** mammals. Whether or not captive killer whales are eventually phased out, it seems Tilikum's fate was sealed, despite calls for his release. Marine biologists declared him unfit for life in the wild and his life ended where he had spent most of it - in captivity.

(Adapted from Perspectives on Proficiency)

Question 63: Which of the following would be the best title for this passage?

- A. Human Activity's Impact On A Mass Extinction Of Whales.
- B. The Evolution of Whale-Watching Worldwide
- C. American Debate Over Orca Conservation in Aquariums
- D. The Tragic Fate of Tilikum: Killer Whales in Captivity

Question 64: Which of the following is NOT an example of the disturbing reality of SeaWorld?

- A. A whale bleeding after being attacked by fellow captives.
- B. The cries of mother whales during the capture of their calves.
- C. Trainers being dragged repeatedly to the bottom of a pool.
- D. Mother whales and their calves being constantly kept together.

Question 65: The word "**poster girl**" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. celebrity
- B. spokesperson
- C. representative
- D. figurehead

Question 66: What did Tilikum experience after being transported to a marine park in Canada?

- A. He was confined to a small performance pool equipped with loud, artificial noises
- B. He lived in a large, open ocean area where he could swim freely with his mother.
- C. He was released back into the wild with other orcas after a year in the marine park.
- D. He was given plenty of space and could hear monotonous ocean sounds

Question 67: The word "**this**" in paragraph 4 refers to _____.

- A. The suppression of information about whale attacks
- B. The release of a documentary called *Blackfish*
- C. They record of orca attacks on trainers worldwide
- D. The tragic death of a trainer caused by an orca

Question 68: The word "**sentient**" in the last paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. perceptive
- B. reactive
- C. passive
- D. submissive

Question 69: Why did Tilikum's attack on Dawn Brancheau shock Americans?

- A. Tilikum had been trained not to attack humans.
- B. It was the first time an orca had attacked a trainer.
- C. SeaWorld was known for the best safety regulations.
- D. Tilikum was a beloved national symbol at SeaWorld.

Question 70: According to the first paragraph, adolescent female killer whales were usually targeted because _____.

- A. They could perform more complex tricks than adult whales.
- B. They were less likely to resist capture than males.
- C. They were the most valuable in the marine parks.
- D. They were more manageable compared to the males.

SECTION B: WRITING (30 pts)

PART 1: Letter writing (10 pts)

The tiger is one of the most endangered animals in the world. The Wildlife Magazine is holding a writing competition to raise people's awareness about conserving tigers. Write a letter of recommendation (120-150 words) to suggest some possible solutions. Do not write any postal addresses.

PART 2: Writing an essay (20pts)

In some countries, owning a home rather than renting one is very important for people. Why might this be the case? Do you think this is a positive or negative situation? Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience. Write at least 250 words.

----- THE END -----