



ĐỀ ĐỀ XUẤT

LISTENING (50 pts)

Part 1: You will hear an interview with a woman called Amy Martles, who works as a choreographer, creating dance performances for live shows. For questions 1-5, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

1. Amy traces her decision to become a choreographer back to
 - A. the advice of her first dance teacher.
 - B. her need to express herself through movement.
 - C. the emphasis placed on dance in her primary school.
 - D. her failure to reach a high level of sporting achievement.
2. Amy feels that, above all, a good choreographer is one who
 - A. remains in touch with the everyday feelings of dancers.
 - B. keeps dancers motivated during long tiring sessions.
 - C. has experience of appearing on stage as a dancer.
 - D. is able to join in with the dancing itself if necessary.
3. When she's creating a new dance, Amy
 - A. finds it easier to work directly with a composer.
 - B. prefers to be given clear constraints to work within.
 - C. keeps an open mind about how a piece might develop.
 - D. accepts that some of her ideas will prove to be unpopular.
4. In her work as a choreographer, Amy aims to
 - A. challenge the audience's ideas about what dance is.
 - B. feel that she is conveying a message to the audience.
 - C. thrill the audience with some cutting-edge dance techniques.
 - D. draw the audience's attention away from other elements in the show.
5. When she's working on a new production of a well-known piece, Amy
 - A. tries to build on the work of those who have gone before.
 - B. is aware of the need to update the ideas in a play.
 - C. is annoyed if people make unfair comparisons.
 - D. remains faithful to her usual guiding principles.

Your answer:

1	2	3	4	5
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Part 2: For questions 1-5, you will listen to part of a news report and decide whether the following statements are True (T), False (F) according to what you hear. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. (10pts)

1. A few people are worried about the boom in biofuels.
2. Biofuel producers might not know about the possible problems.
3. Environmentalists believe that increased production of corn and soya will lead to the destruction of rain forests.
4. Biofuels might have little or no impact on food prices.
5. The author of the report says that biofuels should be part of a group of measures to fight global warming.

Your answers:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
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Part 3: Listen to a talk about memory and answer the questions with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS for each answer. Write your answers in the space provided. (10 pts)

1. What can be done to lower inflation?
.....
2. How many years ago was the inflation rate been so high?
.....
3. Which app does Pat Ryan use?
.....
4. What lead to the shortage in new car supply?
.....
5. Apart from consumer prices and old cars, what are three other things that also increase in price?
.....

Part 4: Listen to the recording. Fill in each blank with NO MORE THAN 3 WORDS/ NUMBERS (20 pts)

At least (1) lost their lives in a fire bursting out on Sunday in an old block of flats which was built in 1972. The fire is thought to have been started because of a faulty (2). The building is (3) high. To make the matter worse, the building has no (4 -). Although it was a (5.....) one, the doors of the building which lead to the apartment and (6) were open, allowing smoke to spread out. Many people died of (7.....) smoke.

Most of the residents here are low- to moderate-income renters who come from (8.....). Some people have dwelled in this building for (9) 40 years. An exhaustive investigation is being carried out to find out whether the building strictly obey (10)

Your answer:

1	6
2	7

3	8
4	9
5	10

B. LEXICO AND GRAMMAR (30 pts)

Part 1: Choose the answer A, B, C, or D that best completes each of the following sentences.

Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes. (20 pt)

- Unfortunately, Jamie's plans to tour around Australia didn't _____ due to a lack of finances.
A. pan out B. pull off C. knuckle down D. waltz through
- The film doesn't start for another two hours. We've got _____ of time.
A. period B. dead C. stacks D. fit
- Insurance companies had to _____ £ 10 million in storm damage claims.
A. dip in B. rip off C. bail out D. cough up
- It was a _____ cheerless northern industrial town, full of factories and terraced houses.
A. seedy B. plush C. pokey D. godforsaken
- Their _____ religious beliefs were of great comfort in troubled times.
A. age-long B. long-gone C. strongly-held D. time-honored
- They are a real _____ organization; they are only interested in making a profit.
A. devil-may-care B. fly-by-night C. open-handed D. down-to-earth
- At first, her father was against her study abroad, but later on he had a change of _____ and let her go to Paris.
A. thought B. feeling C. mind D. heart
- She was _____ at the suggestion that she was lying.
A. crotchety B. indignant C. livid D. irate
- Lawrence suggested _____ ourselves at the beginning of the long project in order to avoid exhaustion.
A. pacing B. rushing C. plodding D. racing
- All three siblings agreed to _____ their resources in order to start their new business venture.
A. fuse B. blend C. mingle D. pool
- Although citizen-centered schemes involve residents in debates, full political _____ is kept by local councilors and MPs.
A. autonomy B. autarchy C. autocracy D. authority
- Please stop _____ all the guests. You are embarrassing me.
A. fawning over B. mulling over C. Plodding along D. Beefing up
- Mr. Jones is _____, unfortunately, so you'll have to call again tomorrow.
A. indifferent B. inimitable C. indisposed D. incongruous
- The only room available was, to say the least, _____. There was no carpet, no curtains, and the only furniture was a bed and a small beside table.
A. snug B. dreary C. stark D. cushy
- He entered a dark, gloomy room, full of _____ furniture.
A. fraying B. rickety C. chipped D. grimy
- I would _____ eat out in an expensive restaurant than have dinner and do the washing at home.
A. sooner B. likelier C. better D. prefer

17. _____, we missed our plane.
 A. The train is late B. The train was late C. To be late D. The train being late
18. However good Schoenberg _____ have been, I still find his modern music very difficult to appreciate.
 A. could B. may C. should D. would
19. It's difficult to emerge from such a scandal _____.
 A. with your reputation still intact B. with your reputation still being intact
 C. when your reputation still intact D. without keeping your reputation intact
20. In a money-oriented society, the average individual cares little about solving _____ problem.
 A. any other B. any other's C. anyone else's D. anyone's else

Your answer

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

Part 2: Use the correct form of the given words (10pts)

1. In this case, disposal in red plastic bags with the international symbol printed on the bag or container is required. **(HAZARD)**
2. We avoid alcohol, tobacco, and other things. **(WHOLE)**
3. He thus constructed a position that allowed him to condemn extremes in terms, but it was a stance that has confused later commentators. **(APOCALYPSE)**
4. Paltrow gives a rather moving performance as the inclined Sylvia Plath. **(SUICIDE)**
5. If he had been here tonight, we would have heard some of his devastatingly comments and interventions. **(HUMOUR)**

Your answer

1	2	3	4	5
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III. READING (5 points)

Part 1. For questions 1 - 10, read the passage and fill each of the following numbered blanks with ONE suitable word. Write your answers in the corresponding boxes provided.

Both women and men, it seems, have always had a fascination for changing their (1) _____ with the aid of paints, powders, dyes and other artificial devices. The use of cosmetics, (2) _____ from being a product of civilisation, originates from an inherent human desire for self-decoration. As far (3) _____ as 100,000 years ago, man is believed to have painted his body, and at a later period the people of the Stone Age probably decorated (4) _____ in a similar fashion. However, the original motivation for prehistoric man's use of paint was (5) _____ from that which inspired civilised cultures to adopt cosmetics (6) _____ a way of enhancing or creating beauty. Prehistoric man must have been conscious that he was a weak animal struggling (7) _____ a hostile environment. He had to develop his own tools for hunting because Nature had not provided him with sharp teeth or claws or the overwhelming (8) _____ strength of the wild beasts which roamed the ancient world. He decorated his skin with the markings of the most powerful animals because he believed that by representing their physical characteristics on his own body he acquired some of their power. But his fear of wild beasts (9) _____ as a constantly disturbing and inexplicable phenomenon, and inspired in primitive man the belief that mysterious (10) _____ which he was able neither to understand nor control were at work around him.

Your answers:

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

Part 2: Read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

Mechanisms of Linguistic Change

A. The changes that have caused the most disagreement are those in pronunciation. We have various sources of evidence for the pronunciations of earlier times, such as the spellings, the treatment of words borrowed from other languages or borrowed by them, the descriptions of contemporary grammarians and spelling-reformers, and the modern pronunciations in all the languages and dialects concerned. From the middle of the sixteenth century, there are in England writers who attempt to describe the position of the speech-organs for the production of English phonemes, and who invent what are in effect systems of phonetic symbols. These various kinds of evidence, combined with a knowledge of the mechanisms of speech-production, can often give us a very good idea of the pronunciation of an earlier age, though absolute certainty is never possible.

B. When we study the pronunciation of a language over any period of a few generations or more, we find there are always large-scale regularities in the changes: for example, over a certain period of time, just about all the long [a:] vowels in a language may change into long [e:] vowels, or all the [b] consonants in a certain position (for example at the end of a word) may change into [p] consonants. Such regular changes are often called sound laws. There are no universal sound laws (even though sound laws often reflect universal tendencies), but simply particular sound laws for one given language (or dialect) at one given period.

C. It is also possible that fashion plays a part in the process of change. It certainly plays a part in the spread of change: one person imitates another, and people with the most prestige are most likely to be imitated, so that a change that takes place in one social group may be imitated (more or less accurately) by speakers in another group. When a social group goes up or down in the world, its pronunciation of Russian, which had formerly been considered desirable, became on the contrary an undesirable kind of accent to have, so that people tried to disguise it. Some of the changes in accepted English pronunciation in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries have been shown to consist in the replacement of one style of pronunciation by another style already existing, and it is likely that such substitutions were a result of the great social changes of the period: the increased power and wealth of the middle classes, and their steady infiltration upwards into the ranks of the landed gentry, probably carried elements of middle-class pronunciation into upper-class speech.

D. A less specific variant of the argument is that the imitation of children is imperfect: they copy their parents' speech, but never reproduce it exactly. This is true, but it is also true that such deviations from adult speech are usually corrected in later childhood. Perhaps it is more significant that even adults show a certain amount of random variation in their pronunciation of a given phoneme, even if the phonetic context is kept unchanged. This, however, cannot explain changes in pronunciation unless it can be shown that there is some systematic trend in the failures of imitation: if they are merely random deviations they will cancel one another out and there will be no net change in the language.

E. One such force which is often invoked is the principle of ease, or minimization of effort. The change from fussy to fuzzy would be an example of assimilation, which is a very common kind of

change. Assimilation is the changing of a sound under the influence of a neighbouring one. For example, the word scant was once skamt, but the /m/ has been changed to /n/ under the influence of the following /t/. Greater efficiency has hereby been achieved, because /n/ and /t/ are articulated in the same place (with the tip of the tongue against the teeth-ridge), whereas /m/ is articulated elsewhere (with the two lips). So the place of articulation of the nasal consonant has been changed to conform with that of the following plosive. A more recent example of the same kind of thing is the common pronunciation of football as football.

F. Assimilation is not the only way in which we change our pronunciation in order to increase efficiency. It is very common for consonants to be lost at the end of a word: in Middle English, word-final [-n] was often lost in unstressed syllables, so that baken 'to bake' changed from ['ba:kan] to ['ba:kʃ], and later to [ba:k]. Consonant-clusters are often simplified. At one time there was a [t] in words like castle and Christmas, and an initial [k] in words like knight and know. Sometimes a whole syllable is dropped out when two successive syllables begin with the same consonant (haplology): a recent example is temporary, which in Britain is often pronounced as if it were tempory.

For question 11-14, read the summary and fill in each blank with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS taken from the passage. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided

The pronunciation of living language undergo changes throughout thousands of years. Large scale regular changes are usually called (11) _____. There are three reasons for these changes. Firstly, the influence of one language on another; when one person imitates another pronunciation (the most prestige's), the imitation always partly involving factor of (12) _____. Secondly, the imitations of children from adults' language sometimes are 13_____, and may also contribute to this change if there are insignificant deviations though later they may be corrected. Finally, for those random variations in pronunciation, the deeper evidence lies in the (14) _____ or minimization of effort.

Your answers:

11.	12.	13.	14.
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For question 15-20, decide whether the following statements are True (T), False (F), or Not Given (NG). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided

15. It is impossible for modern people to find pronunciation of words in an earlier age.
16. All the children learn speeches from adults while they assume that certain language is difficult to imitate exactly.
17. Pronunciation with causal inaccuracy will not exert big influence on language changes.
18. The link of 'mt' can be influenced being pronounced as 'nt'
19. The [g] in gnat not being pronounced will not be spelt out in the future.
20. The sound of 'temporary' cannot wholly present its spelling.

Your answers:

15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
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For question 21-23, read the following sentences and the list of statements below. Match each statement with the correct sentence A-D. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided

21. As a consequence, 'b' will be pronounced as 'p'
22. The pronunciation of [mt] changed to [nt]
23. The omit of 't' in the sound of Christmas
- A. since the speakers can pronounce it with less effort
- B. assimilation of a sound under the influence of a neighbouring one
- C. it is a trend for changes in pronunciation in a large scale in a given period
- D. because the speaker can pronounce [n] and [t] both in the same time

Your answers:

21.	22.	23.
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Part 3. For questions 24 - 30, read an extract from a magazine article. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs A-H the one which fits each gap. There is one extra paragraph which isn't needed to use. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

The Frozen Past

It takes over 200 years to find irrefutable evidence of Ice Ages

John Galvin reports

For hundreds of years, European were aware of large lumps of rock, some as big as a house, lying around in places where they didn't belong, far from the strata where such material originated. They became known as "erratics" and until the late 18th century the accepted story was that they had been dumped by a great flood.

24.	
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At the young age, he wanted to study natural history, but to please his parents and obtain financial support, he qualified as a doctor (though he never practiced medicine) and also worked for a doctorate. He went on to become an expert on fossilized fish and a professor at a college in Neuchatel. It was there that he encountered the idea of an Ice Age.

25.	
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The upshot was that two years later, they went on a trip into the mountains to study the evidence at first hand. Agassiz fully intended to dispel the ludicrous notion of what was called "ice rating", but came away converted. Like many converts, he became more enthusiastic about the idea than the original enthusiasts. Indeed, he proposed there had once been a great ice sheet engulfing Europe all the way from the North Pole to the Mediterranean Sea.

26.	
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The talk produced a mixture of anger and disbelief. Even when Agassiz organized a field trip to show the members scars and grooves cut into the rock by the action of boulders dragged along by glaciers, they dismissed them as damage caused by the wheels of passing carriages. This only stirred him into more proselytizing.

27.	
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Such language attracted attention, but in scientific terms a much more important event also occurred in the same year when Agassiz presented his ideas to a meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, held in Glasgow in September. The great geologist Charles Lyell, who was a big influence on Charles Darwin, was in the audience, and like many who heard the Ice Age theory for the first time, was unconvinced. But as a good scientist, soon after the meeting, he headed into the Highlands, to look for evidence in the form of “terminal moraine” left behind by long-melted glaciers and found them.

28.	
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The seeds of the modern theory of Ice Ages were sown in a book published just two years after the Ice Age theory came in from the cold. The author was Joseph Adhemar, a mathematician who worked in Paris and his book was called *Revolutions De La Mare*. Although it was essentially a confused jumble of ideas, it did contain one little jewel. This was the idea that climate is modulated by the slightly elliptical nature of the Earth’s orbit.

29.	
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Because the Earth travels more swiftly when it is nearer to the sun, it spends seven fewer days traversing in the (Northern Hemisphere) winter half of its orbit than it does traversing the summer half. In the south, winters are longer than summers. Thus, he argued that over thousands of years this extra length of winter had allowed the vast Antarctic ice sheet to grow. But he also knew that because of a wobble of the spinning Earth, the pattern of the seasons slowly shifts around the orbit of the earth as the millennia go by. Some 11,000 years ago, Northern winter was seven days longer than summer. And 11,00 years before that, the pattern was the same as it is today.

30.	
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Enter James Croll who came from a poor family and was largely self-taught, reading voraciously about science while supporting himself with a succession of dead-end jobs. When he was in Glasgow working for a newspaper, he got his big break – a job as caretaker at the Andersonian College and Museum. The college had a first-class scientific library, which he raided while his brother unofficially helped him out with his job.

A. Before the year was out, the Ice Age theory had been presented to the Geological Society in London and established as fact. The geologists were convinced that the Earth (or at least Europe) had once been covered by great ice sheet. But this led to the questions of when and why the Ice Age had occurred.

B. In 1840, Agassiz presented the evidence in a book, *Etude Sur les Glaciers*, written in a way that could not be ignored: “Europe, previously covered with tropical vegetation and inhabited by herds of great elephants, enormous hippopotami, and gigantic carnivores became suddenly buried under a vast expanse of ice. Silence followed... spring dried up, streams ceased to flow, and sunrays rising that frozen shore ... were met only by the whistling of northern winds and the rumbling of the crevasses as they opened across the surface of that huge ocean of ice.”

C. Agassiz picked up the notion from a friend, a geologist called Jean de Charpentier, who gave a talk on the topic in Lucerne at a meeting of the Swiss Society of Natural Sciences. He reported

how heaps of rocky debris known as moraines, are left behind by glaciers, and speculated that the Swiss glaciers had been part of a huge single ice sheet. Agassiz thought the idea was ridiculous and told his friend so.

D. And there it was - an explanation of not one but many Ice Ages. The only snag is that it was wrong. The actual amount of heat 'lost' during the prolonged winter is nowhere near enough to make the great ice sheets grow. But it did set people thinking about the influence of planetary motion on climate.

E. As geologists developed techniques for dating the scars left behind by ice, and other evidence for Ice Ages in the form of past changes in flora and fauna, his idea could be tested because it is possible to calculate when the orbital parameters made for cold winters. By the end of the century, they showed he was wrong on a way that should have grabbed attention.

F. By the time the next annual meeting of the Society came around, Agassiz was its president despite being only thirty years old. The audience settled into their seats expecting a dull presidential address on fossil fishes, and were astonished when he delivered an impassioned lecture on the Ice Age in which that very term was introduced.

G. At present, closest approach to the Sun occurs in early January while the most distant occurs in July. So, Northern Hemisphere summers are a tiny bit cooler than they would otherwise be, and Northern Hemisphere winters are a tiny bit warmer. But the cycle of the seasons is explained by the tilt of the Earth, which brings short, cold winter days and long, hot summer days, completely overwhelming this small orbital effect. This knowledge was applied to long-term effects.

H. The first alternative explanation came from Bernhard Kuhn, a Swiss who suggested that these boulders had been carried to their new locations by ice. It was natural that this idea should originate in Switzerland, where the power of glaciers is clearly visible. The Scottish pioneer of geology, James Hutton, reached the same conclusion after a visit to the Jura Mountains. But the idea languished until it was vigorously promoted by another Swiss, Louis Agassiz.

Part 4. You are going to read an article about sharks. For questions 31-40, choose from the sections (A-E). The sections may be chosen more than once. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Prey for the Shark?

A. The shark is probably the most terrifying of all ocean creatures, mainly due to its size, speed and power, but also because of the stories of ferocious attacks on innocent bathers. It is, in many ways, a predator which is highly adapted to its environment, and the proof is its age; its ancestors swam the seas 100 million years ago in the Cretaceous period - the same time as the dinosaurs. Since then, sharks, especially the larger varieties, have developed into deadly hunters with finely-tuned senses that enable them to locate their prey deep in the ocean. They can smell blood in the water at a distance of several miles. Their eyes are not too good, but they have an inbuilt 'radar' system enabling them to pick up vibrations in the water (including sound) from up to a quarter of a mile away.

B. Though all sharks are, to some extent, carnivorous, very few of the many species are a danger to people. Sizes range from the gigantic whale shark, which, despite its sixty-foot length, only feeds on plankton and other small organisms, all the way down to the cigar shark, which, as its name suggests, is small enough to be held in one hand. In between lie about 340 other species, of

which three are mostly responsible for attacks on humans. First, there is the great hammerhead, an odd-looking shark whose hammer-shaped head allows it to make very fast turns in the water. The second is the tiger shark, with highly aggressive instincts, whose dark stripes along its sides give it its tiger-like appearance. Number one on the list is the great white shark - the sight of its distinctive silvery skin is often the last thing its prey sees. It grows up to twenty feet in length and is the largest predatory fish in the world. It is the ultimate hunter and the lion of the oceans.

C. However, sharks are not the indiscriminate killers they are often portrayed as. They will usually avoid humans, just as a lion will in the bush, since humans are quite large and often travel in groups. Research into attacks shows a large incidence of attacks on surfers; lying on their boards, silhouetted against the sky; it is thought that this shape resembles seals, a favourite meal of the shark. In addition, colour seems to play a part and, for some reason, bright yellow has the same effect on sharks as a red rag to a bull. This is perhaps because of sharks' generally poor eyesight, and swimmers wearing darker-coloured swimwear appear to be less interesting to the shark as prey.

D. The fact of the matter is that the odds of being killed by a shark lie at about 300 million to one. If we look at it from another angle, it soon becomes apparent that it is the sharks that should be avoiding humans, for we are killing them in great numbers. Sharks of all species are dropping in number and many of them, including the great white, are now perilously near being added to the endangered species list. One major cause of this is the sport of deep-sea fishing, where boats loaded with enthusiasts and equipment head into the open sea to lure the big fish onto their hooks. Sharks are prized, but have been fished so heavily that boat captains can no longer give their former guarantee that their customers will see sharks in great numbers on every trip.

E. Commercial fishing is also on the increase. A taste for shark meat has developed as other more popular fish have become rare and expensive. In China, shark fin soup is a delicacy that fetches high prices. Sharks also fall victim to the same trap as dolphins; the drift net. These huge nets are spread by fishermen who take in large hauls of fish in one fell swoop, but inedible species often get caught up too, only to be thrown back into the sea dead. The question we need to ask is, do we really want to save the shark? A ferocious predator, it feeds on everything up to and including humans and has been doing so for millions of years. It is not known to be friendship-loving; a loner, it forms no close attachments. So why not just let it go the way of the dinosaurs?

F. Conservationists have put forward several reasons for protecting it. First of all, sharks actually clean the ocean. A large part of the shark's diet consists of sick and old fish or carrion. In this way, sharks play a vital role in the life of the sea. Generally, it is a bad idea to remove animals from the food chain since it is impossible to know what the knock-on effects might be. For example, sharks keep down octopus populations on America's west coast, which might otherwise wipe out the crab population there. They feed on stingrays, which cause pain to swimmers much more often than sharks in Florida.

G. Sharks are also rather unique in the sense that they are one of the least likely of all animals to develop cancer. It is not known why this is the case, but research is being carried out to investigate the phenomenon. If sharks hold the key to beating cancer, then perhaps they deserve to have a bit of respect shown to them in return. Taking all these arguments into consideration, we should be cautious before condemning yet another animal to extinction. Their beauty is sometimes hard to see, for it is in their ability to kill, but what would the oceans be without this silent hunter roaming the submerged plains of its aquamarine savannah?

In which section are the following mentioned?

31. highlighting a misconception

32. the role of sharks in maintaining the ecological balance
33. the refinement of abilities allowing an impressive detection range
34. asserting that there should be a reversal in perceived roles
35. the naming of various shark breeds due to their physical features
36. sharks being in increasing demand as a delicacy
37. sharks may provide the key to an unprecedented medical breakthrough
38. the shark's endurance over the millennia
39. the difficulty in admiring the shark due to its inherent deadliness
40. the comparison of a shark's instinctive reaction to that of a land mammal

Your answers:

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

Part 5. For questions 41 - 50, read the passage and choose the correct answer A, B, C or D. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

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

Other theorists have gone further in arguing that the explosion of, and increasing dependence on, information technology have brought about profound changes in the way society is organised. Some, for example, believe that we can now describe a "post-modern society", characterised partly by an information-based international division of labour that allows increasing freedom of movement. At the cultural level, distinctions between "high" and "low" culture have disappeared as new technology transmits across class boundaries, while stylistically, form has become more important than substance, and the ubiquity of television means that everything is seen in television codes. McLuhan's global television-led culture is now with us.

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

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

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

Doubts have also been raised about the ability of satellite stations to succeed in creating a global television culture. Rupert Murdoch is widely known to own substantial parts of the global media industry. A few years ago, he added a controlling share of StarTV to his collection, meaning that he gained access to 2.5 billion people in 50 countries or forty percent of the world's television sets, in a region stretching from Jordan to Japan. Capturing the market in India, however, and American mega-series such as *Baywatch* and *LA Law*, has not been as straightforward as first imagined. Cultural differences are complicated in a nation of 18 official languages and further compounded when you consider the staggering figure of 1,700 dialects. Hindi films transmitted by the state broadcasting network still rank a coveted first in the ratings table. Murdoch's response to this realisation was to immediately buy into a local TV station as well. Indian culture, for the present at least, remains resistant to western broadcasting and highlights that the creation of a global mass culture will not be solely induced by technology.

41. Marshall McLuhan envisaged a world where _____

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

42. As described by theorists, in a "post-modern" society _____

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

43. Accounts of a TV-led society have been put into question by _____

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

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

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

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

- A. The media's ability to target specific audiences.
- B. The stability of time devoted to watching TV.
- C. Less transparent boundaries among social strata.
- D. The rise in the number of sets within every household.

46. According to the passage, satellite television has _____

- A. enabled the incorporation of less serious content into news of more solemn concern.
- B. instigated the flourishing of networks within the community.
- C. boosted the decentralization of the mass media.
- D. been of little benefit to minority groups in the society.

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

- A. Higher share of a market does not necessarily mean that a person has successfully brought the culture of his country of origin to the region.
- B. Uphill challenges need to be overcome should a person yearn to corner the market in western broadcasting.
- C. The cultural homogenization across the world is hindered by people's attitudes.
- D. The potential for winning attention greatly relies on the ability of a businessman to respond to the demands of the destined market.

48. From the passage, it can be deduced that _____

- A. Television has been of immeasurable importance to the homogenization of the world's culture.
- B. Advanced technologies notwithstanding, a global mass culture has yet to emerge.
- C. Headway towards an egalitarian society has been countervailing, as it has widened the gulfs between classes within the society.
- D. Television has been a factor in the formation of new cultures, but it should not be considered as the most significant.

49. In general, the writer's view of "technology" is that it _____

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

50. In the passage as a whole, the author's tone seems most likely to be _____.

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

IV. WRITING (6.0pts)

Part 1. Read the following extract and summarize it. Don't copy the original words. The summary should be between 100 and 120 words. (1.5 points)

“It was one of the oddest experiments in the history of dentistry. In the early 1950s a researcher called Benjamin Kamrin was looking into the causes of tooth decay. To do so, he turned to that scientific stalwart, the lab rat. Specifically, he cut small patches of skin from pairs of rats and then sutured the animals together at the site of the wound. After about a week of being joined in this way, the animals’ blood vessels began to merge. The result was two rats whose hearts pumped blood around a shared circulatory system. This state of affairs is called parabiosis.

Parabiosis works best on animals that are closely related genetically. By getting his rats to share blood, as well as genes, and then feeding the animals a variety of diets, Kamrin hoped to prove (which he did) that it was sugar in food, and not some inherent deficiency in individuals, that was responsible for rotting their teeth. Other people, though, have used the technique to find more striking results. For example, mammalian bone density usually drops with age. Three years after Kamrin’s work, however, a gerontologist called

Clive McCay showed that linking an old rat to a young one boosted the density of the oldster’s bones. In 1972 another paper reported, even more spectacularly, that elderly rats which shared blood with young ones lived four to five months longer than similarly old rats which did not.

The rats themselves, unsurprisingly, were not always keen on the procedure. Early papers describe the dangers of “parabiotic disease”, in which one animal’s immune system rebels against the foreign blood, and also explain how rats must be socialised carefully before being joined, to stop them biting each other to death.

“The technique itself is kind of gross and crude,” admits Michael Conboy, a biologist and parabiosis researcher at the University of California, Berkeley. Perhaps for that reason, research had more or less died out by the late 1970s. These days, though, it is back in the news—for a string of recent discoveries have suggested that previous generations of researchers were on to something. The blood of young animals, it seems, may indeed be able to ameliorate at least some of the effects of ageing. And the technique is promising enough to have spawned human clinical trials.”

Your summary:

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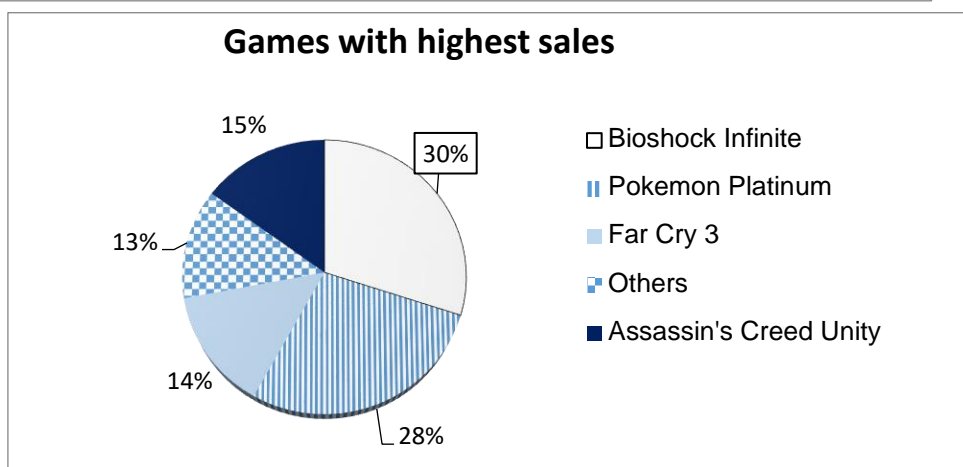
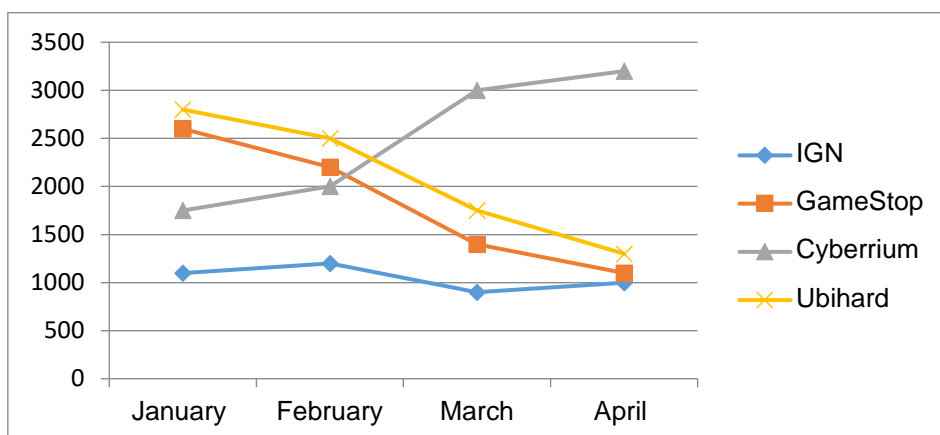
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Part 2. (1.5pts) The line graph shows the number of video game discs that were bought in four months in 2014 from four different game stores, and the pie chart shows the percentage of games that had highest sales over this time.

Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant. Write about 150 words



[illegible]

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with ten horizontal dashed lines, typical of primary-ruled notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

(You may write overleaf if you need more space.)

– THE END –

Người ra đề

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