

I. LISTENING (7.0 points)

- The listening section is in FOUR parts. The recordings of Part 1 and Part 2 will be played ONCE only, and the recordings of Part 3 and Part 4 will be played TWICE. At the beginning of each part, you will hear a sound.*
- There will be a piece of music at the beginning and at the end of the listening section. You will have TWO minutes to check your answers at the end of the listening section.*
- All the other instructions are included in the recording.*

PART 1: Listen to an interview with two historians about a historical TV drama ONCE and do the tasks that follow.

For questions 1–5, decide whether each statement is True (T), False (F), or Not Given (NG). Write T, F, or NG in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

- Claire had prior experience in television production.
- Their professor's unavailability led to their being selected.
- Claire had considered pursuing a career in costume design before joining the production.
- Minor details can reshape historical understanding.
- The production schedule gave the historians sufficient time to investigate matters in depth.

For questions 6–10, decide whether the following are mentioned by only one of the speakers, or by both. In the corresponding numbered boxes provided, write:

C for Claire

E for Eric

B for Both speakers

- A sense of uncertainty about what the role would entail at the outset.
- The challenge of maintaining historical accuracy across everyday details.
- The value of seemingly insignificant details in historical interpretation.
- The pressure created by tight production schedules.
- The role of non-literary sources in reconstructing the past.

Your answers

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

PART 2. Listen to a talk about the controversies surrounding Elon Musk's management of Twitter ONCE and do the tasks that follow.

For questions 11–12, choose TWO letters from A–E to indicate TWO true statements about the suspension of journalists' accounts on Twitter. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

- A. Twitter suspended some journalists after posts about Elon Musk.
- B. Twitter provided clear explanations for every suspension.
- C. Twitter faced criticism from international organisations.
- D. Twitter mainly targeted accounts spreading misinformation.
- E. Twitter followed clear and consistent rules in all cases.

For questions 13–15, choose THREE letters from A–G to indicate THREE true statements about Elon Musk's management of Twitter. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

- A. Elon Musk has made decisions that contradict his earlier statements.
- B. All of Musk's policies have been guided by long-term strategic planning.
- C. Musk has sometimes acted based on personal feelings rather than clear principles.
- D. A formal moderation council consistently makes decisions on Twitter.
- E. Musk has been accused of spreading misleading information despite earlier promises.
- F. All decisions on Twitter are made collectively by a professional management team.
- G. Elon Musk carefully follows expert advice when making decisions about Twitter.

For questions 16–20, write the letter A, B, C or D in the corresponding numbered boxes provided to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions according to what is stated or implied by the speaker.

16. According to the speaker, one concern about recent changes on Twitter is

- A. a decline in the number of users worldwide
- B. an increase in harmful and hateful content
- C. a reduction in political discussions
- D. stricter control of online speech

17. Why does the speaker say Twitter is “not a very big platform”?

- A. It has lost most of its financial investors
- B. It is no longer used by politicians
- C. Its influence is limited despite media attention
- D. It has been replaced by other social media platforms

18. What is suggested about Twitter's impact on public discourse?

- A. It has little influence on discussions in society

- B. It only affects entertainment industries
- C. It can shape conversations despite limited size
- D. It is mainly used by ordinary people

19. Why is regulating Twitter in the United States considered difficult?

- A. The company operates outside US law
- B. There are strong legal protections for free speech
- C. The government lacks interest in regulation
- D. Twitter refuses to cooperate with authorities

20. What is implied about Elon Musk's control over Twitter?

- A. He must follow strict government regulations
- B. He shares decision-making with a large team
- C. He has significant freedom to run the platform as he wishes
- D. He is guided by international organisations

Your answers

11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

PART 3: For questions 21–25, listen to part of a talk about the use of maggots in medicine TWICE and answer each of the following questions with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS taken from the recording. Write your answers in the corresponding spaces provided.

21. What body parts are absent in the larval stage described in the talk?

22. How are some maggots described in a positive way?

23. What is the name of the treatment mentioned that uses larvae to clean wounds?

24. What do the maggots feed on instead of living tissue?

25. What development marked the decline of maggot-based treatments?

PART 4: For questions 26–35, listen to part of a talk about the origin of gold TWICE, and complete the following summary with NO MORE THAN THREE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER taken from the recording for each space.

In medieval times, alchemists tried to do the impossible by turning lead into gold. Later, history portrayed them as (26) _____.

Gold does not originate from the Earth's crust but was formed in space and later reached our planet due to (27) _____.

Inside stars, intense gravitational pressure causes (28) _____ to occur in the core, releasing energy and producing light.

Once energy production in the core becomes insufficient, the internal pressure gradually (29) _____, causing the star to collapse inward.

During the collapse of a star, intense pressure forces together (30) _____ particles such as protons and electrons, leading to the formation of neutrons.

Neutrons are easily absorbed by other elements because they carry no (31) _____, allowing heavier elements to be formed.

After the explosion, the supernova shockwave spreads (32) _____ through space, contributing to the formation of new stars and planets.

Gold is extracted through mining, which is a costly process further intensified by (33) _____.

Scientists can recreate the nuclear processes that form gold in stars by using (34) _____, although this method is extremely slow and costly.

The oceans are believed to contain large quantities of (35) _____, but the concentration is too low for it to be extracted economically.

Your answers

26.	31.
27.	32.
28.	33.
29.	34.
30.	35.

II. READING (8.0 points)

II.1. LANGUAGE IN USE (3.0 points)

Part 1: For questions 36–40, read the passage below and decide which answer (A, B, C, or D) best fits each space.

Now though, things are reversing in a remarkable way. The eye-wateringly rapid rise of artificial intelligence has forced many British universities to (36)_____. For if coursework can be written, in its totality, by AI, and if the AI detection tools (37)_____, what can give any confidence that students' work is their own? What employer — and indeed what university — would value a degree certificate which may (38)_____? As a result, many universities have sought to (39)_____ by returning to invigilated, closed-book – and, to the bemusement of many students, handwritten – exams. The University of Glasgow restored in-person exams for Life Sciences in 2024, so that it could assure all students,

together with the quality bodies that accredit degrees, as well as future employers, that the Life Sciences exams are reliable and the grades awarded are too. Similar moves have happened across the country, including at both Oxford and Cambridge – (40)_____. Exactly so: exam satisfaction should vary by degree.

(Adapted from “*Final Analysis: The Real Measure of a Degree,*” *The Critic*, April 2026)

36.
- A. retreat to more traditional methods of assessment

B. roll back the decades in tactical retreat

C. reverse their long-standing commitment to progressive reform

D. reconsider decades of pedagogical innovation in haste
37.
- A. cannot reliably distinguish AI-generated from human work

B. have yet to achieve any meaningful degree of accuracy

C. are always several steps behind the technology

D. remain largely discredited in genuine academic settings
38.
- A. offer no meaningful guarantee of the abilities of its bearer

B. reflect rather poorly on the academic standing of its owner

C. convey scant indication of the competencies of its recipient

D. bear very little relation to the talents of its holder
39.
- A. reinstate rigorous standards across their assessment frameworks

B. reassert the primacy of academic merit in their curricula

C. restore integrity and trust to their degree system

D. reclaim public confidence in the value of their qualifications
40.
- A. to the satisfaction of traditionalists yet the alarm of reformers

B. though not without significant controversy and institutional resistance

C. to the delight of some and the dismay of others

D. to the consternation of students and the relief of employers

Your answers

36.	37.	38.	39.	40.
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Part 2. For questions 41–45, read the passage below and decide which answer (A, B, C, or D) best fits each space.

No politician can defy political gravity like Donald Trump, yet his ill-judged war against Iran may alter the (41)_____ of his second term. Despite widespread destruction of infrastructure and the assassinations of senior leaders, Iran’s regime has survived — and its near-bomb-ready uranium remains at large. Meanwhile, Iran is waging its own parallel war against the global energy industry, striking shipping in the Strait of Hormuz and attacking a Qatari gas hub. With Brent crude (42)_____ to more than \$110 a barrel, the damage to the world economy continues to mount. Time, if anything, is on Iran’s side: America and Israel will gradually run out of useful targets, while Iran still has plenty of drones to (43)_____

at its disposal. Trump's allies have also proven reluctant to fall in line. When he called on NATO members to help open the strait, they turned him down, and he quickly reversed course, (44)_____ he had never needed their help. Domestically, Republican support is softening. Many elected Republicans are privately seething over the president's contempt for strategy and his hubris in thinking he knows better than seasoned advisers. With fuel prices soaring and midterm elections looming, Trump's war threatens to make him a lame duck – and a weakened president could become a far more (45)_____ one.

(Adapted from "Operation Blind Fury," The Economist, March 21st 2026)

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 41. A. trajectory | B. itinerary | C. direction | D. progression |
| 42. A. surging | B. soaring | C. spiking | D. escalating |
| 43. A. deploy | B. dispatch | C. discharge | D. dispense |
| 44. A. feigning | B. purporting | C. pretending | D. professing |
| 45. A. perilous | B. precarious | C. dangerous | D. hazardous |

Your answers

41.	42.	43.	44.	45.
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Part 3. For questions 46–50, read the passage, then fill in each of the numbered spaces with the correct form of the words given in the box. Write your answers in the numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet. There are **FOUR** words that you do not need to use. The first one, (0), has been done as an example.

ATMOSPHERE	COLONY	DISMISS	DOMINATE	EXPLORE
GRAVITY	MEASURE	PHILANTHROPY	PRECEDE	SUSTAIN

The (0) exploration of space has long captured humanity's imagination, but two billionaire entrepreneurs now hold fundamentally divergent visions for our future beyond Earth. Elon Musk, founder of SpaceX, champions the (46) _____ of Mars, envisioning enclosed, self-sustaining settlements where inhabitants would contend with lethal radiation exposure and the complete absence of breathable air. Jeff Bezos, by contrast, has (47) _____ labelled such planetary ambitions "chauvinism," preferring instead the construction of gargantuan orbital habitats stationed near Earth, each purportedly capable of housing up to one million residents. Both billionaires have billed their pursuits as (48) _____, claiming that off-Earth settlements represent a form of life insurance for the species. Critics, however, caution that the (49) _____ concentration of wealth and political influence these ventures may generate poses an (50) _____ threat to equitable governance worldwide. Moreover, the ecological consequences of dramatically scaling up rocket launches remain deeply contentious, with scientists warning that unchecked expansion of hydrocarbon-fuelled spaceflight could severely deplete the ozone layer and exacerbate climate instability.

Example: 0. exploration

Your answers

46.	47.	48.
49.	50.	

Part 4. The passage below contains FIVE grammatical mistakes. The first one, (0), has been identified. For questions 51 - 55, UNDERLINE the remaining FIVE mistakes and WRITE THEIR CORRECT FORMS in the numbered boxes provided as the example (0).

The ongoing conflict in Iran (0) have caused significant disruption to global energy markets, prompting the United Nations climate chief to call for a faster transition away from fossil fuels. Simon Stiell, who serves as the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, argued that the crisis demonstrates the danger of heavy dependence on imported oil and gas. He described the situation as a clearly lesson on the vulnerabilities that fossil fuel reliance creates for national economies. The European Union, which imports more than ninety percent of their oil, has been drafting emergency measures to protect consumers from rising energy costs. In a longer term, the European Commission's strategy aims to replace fossil fuels with locally produced renewable and nuclear energy, that would secure energy independence and free countries from volatile fuel prices. However, some European governments are urging Brussels to weaken its climate policies for short-term industrial relief, make the shift to clean energy even harder.

Your answers

0. <i>have</i> → <i>has</i>	51.	52.
53.	54.	55.

II.2. READING COMPREHENSION (5.0 points)

Part 1. For questions 46–55, read the following passage and fill in each of the numbered spaces with ONE suitable word. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet.

We often speak of trust as a fixed attribute, as if a system were always (56) _____ trustworthy or not. In everyday life, however, trust rarely operates in such a manner. Rather, it evolves through interaction. It is strengthened when responses are relevant, measured, and cautious; conversely, it diminishes when certainty outweighs reliability. It becomes more selective when humans take it (57) _____ themselves to rigorously evaluate the answers

they receive. Thus, trust is not merely a user’s assessment of a machine, but a relationship that gradually forms between them and the system over the (58) _____ of time.

This dynamic is particularly crucial concerning AI, because fluency of expression can be highly deceptive. A system may appear exceptionally persuasive even when providing erroneous information. It might deliver an elegantly phrased but factually incorrect response, or generate a captivating summary that entirely (59) _____ sight of the crux of the matter. The danger does not simply lie in the errors themselves—humanity is already well-accustomed (60) _____ fallibility. Rather, the true peril lies in misplaced confidence: the illusion of (61) _____ understood a complex issue, when in reality, we have received a gross oversimplification.

Consequently, categorizing AI strictly as a mere tool or a rival is fundamentally flawed. In practice, AI is emerging as a cognitive partner. Students can request alternative explanations, shedding new (62) _____ on concepts that textbooks fail to clarify. Doctors might utilize artificial intelligence to narrow (63) _____ possible diagnoses, relying on their own professional judgment. Small businesses can employ AI to automate repetitive writing tasks, freeing (64) _____ valuable time. Ultimately, in all these scenarios, the true value lies not solely in the final output, but in the quality of the exchange (65) _____.

Adapted from <https://tiasang.com.vn/gs-john-rust-luc-nao-nen-tin-ai-va-vi-sao-5054021.html>

Your answers

56.	57.	58.	59.	60.
61.	62.	63.	64.	65.

Part 2. For questions 66-72, rearrange the following sentences from A-H in order to make a complete and meaningful passage. Write your answers (A-H) in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. The first one, (0), has been done as an example.

- A. Sushi is one of the most iconic foods of modern cuisine, revered in all corners of the globe, but becoming a sushi chef is no mean feat.
- B. It may take trainees up to two years to learn how to prepare flawless rice, as any miscalculation in the balance of rice and vinegar could render it unpalatable.
- C. These delicate morsels of rice and fish exemplify the meticulous attention to detail required of sushi chefs and this is reflected in their training.
- D. Once this fundamental skill has been mastered, chefs focus on the composition of the other ingredients to ensure the ideal balance of flavour and texture.
- E. Expectations are high insofar as they must produce consistently high-quality dishes and, as such, being a perfectionist is somewhat of a prerequisite.

F. Rising to the status of master sushi chef is, therefore, akin to becoming an artist whose technical skills must be exceptional.

G. It is this harmonious combination of seasoned grains and fresh protein which makes sushi so irresistible and defines the practitioner's art.

H. Additionally, they should bring a creative flair to their work to be truly categorised as master practitioners of this ancient culinary tradition.

Your answers:

0. A	66.	67.	68.	69.	70.	71.	72.
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PART 3: Read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

COPY THAT: THE TANGLED HISTORY OF PLAGIARISM

A. Among the thorniest dilemmas in the rapidly expanding discourse on intellectual dishonesty is the nexus between artificial intelligence and plagiarism. A compelling case can be made that the two phenomena are virtually indistinguishable, inasmuch as AI systems harvest staggering quantities of digital content, much as deep-sea trawlers dredge the ocean floor indiscriminately. A chatbot, lacking personhood and therefore moral agency, cannot be held accountable for its output; yet anyone who claims that output as original work might reasonably be accused of trafficking in purloined goods. This, at least, is the stance adopted by a number of rigorous American universities, with San José State University's library policy encapsulating the position in unequivocal terms: any use of AI software to generate academic papers constitutes plagiarism. Roger Kreuz, in his lively new study *Strikingly Similar*, tackles both the history and the evolving definition of the offence. He characterises plagiarism as the wilful appropriation of another person's language and ideas without due credit or recompense — a capacious definition that immediately raises subsidiary questions about where words end and ideas begin, and how many borrowed notes suffice to make a melody stolen.

B. The book's chronological sweep is considerable, running from Chaucer to contemporary chatbots, though the weight falls squarely on the modern era. There is a rich narrative thread linking music, literature, and the visual arts. The 1963 Chiffons hit and its melodic echo in George Harrison's 1970 recording illustrate how plagiarism disputes can simmer for decades before judicial resolution, and how even unconscious borrowing — what a judge termed Harrison's "subconscious" recall — carries a punishing financial cost. Before the Romantic period's fetishisation of originality, imitation was not merely tolerated but celebrated: aspiring artists studied their predecessors' models, copied them faithfully, and only gradually ventured into independent creation. Raphael's early masterpiece, for instance, was essentially a refined reworking of his teacher Perugino's compositions, yet successive viewings reveal how the pupil subtly transformed pose, expression, and spatial depth until the older work appeared inert by comparison. The question of whether Perugino

felt supplanted or flattered remains unanswerable, but the episode underscores a persistent tension: the boundary between homage and theft has always been culturally contingent.

C. In legal terms, plagiarism occupies a curiously nebulous space. Intellectual-property statutes address counterfeiting and copyright infringement, yet plagiarism itself has no dedicated body of law. Richard Posner, the distinguished jurist and legal theorist, navigates this confusion with characteristic acuity in *The Little Book of Plagiarism*, observing that judicial acknowledgement of ghostwriting is vanishingly rare and that courts occasionally label copyright infringers “plagiarists” despite the conceptual gap between the two transgressions. Posner proposes treating plagiarism as a species of “nonconsensual fraudulent copying,” a formulation that, while somewhat ungainly, captures the element of deception that differentiates it from licensed imitation. He further notes that the punishments meted out to plagiarists beyond the academy — public disgrace, professional ostracism, and corrosive shame — often dwarf any legal sanction, precisely because no formal plagiarism statute exists. The absence of codified prohibitions, Lane suggests, paradoxically intensifies the social opprobrium: without legal guardrails, communal outrage rushes in to fill the void.

D. In the digital age, this communal enforcement has assumed institutional form. Kreuz devotes an illuminating chapter to the plagiarism-detection industry, a burgeoning field whose practitioners — part scholars, part digital sleuths — scour texts with forensic zeal. Cases range from a West Virginia high-school principal whose commencement address closely echoed a celebrity’s acceptance speech to the crowdsourced German platform VroniPlag Wiki, established to expose fraudulent doctoral dissertations. Yet the book’s most provocative contention may be its treatment of self-plagiarism, which Kreuz identifies as the offence’s safest and most pervasive variant. Recycling one’s own earlier work, he concedes, is habitual among writers, composers, and visual artists alike; the practice shades imperceptibly from legitimate self-reference into rote repetition. The closing pages cast a wary eye toward a future in which freely available AI tools normalise the consumption of intellectual property without payment, potentially serving as what Kreuz calls “a gateway drug that normalises the act of appropriation.” If that forecast proves accurate, the very concept of originality — so fiercely guarded since the Romantics — may require yet another reinvention.

(Adapted from “Copy That” by Anthony Lane, The New Yorker)

For questions 73-79, decide whether each of the following statements is True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG). Write T, F, or NG in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

73. San José State University’s library policy distinguishes between different types of AI software when determining whether their use constitutes plagiarism.

74. Kreuz’s definition of plagiarism encompasses both verbal expression and the underlying concepts that such expression conveys.

75. The legal proceedings arising from the similarity between a 1963 pop recording and George Harrison's subsequent track were resolved within a decade of the lawsuit's filing.
76. Prior to the Romantic era's insistence on originality, the act of imitating established masters was regarded as a legitimate and even essential stage of artistic development.
77. Raphael publicly acknowledged that his early work was derivative of Perugino's compositions.
78. Posner argues that the social consequences of plagiarism outside educational institutions are frequently more severe than any legal penalty.
79. The VroniPlag Wiki platform was originally created to detect plagiarism in undergraduate dissertations.

Your answers:

73.	74.	75.	76.	77.	78.	79.
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For questions 80 - 87, choose from the sections (A-D). The sections may be selected more than once. Write the letter A, B, C, or D in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Which section _____?

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- 80.** illustrates how a pupil's creative reworking of a mentor's art exposes the ambiguity between reverent imitation and outright appropriation
- 81.** warns that the widespread availability of AI-generated content could fundamentally erode established norms of intellectual ownership
- 82.** notes that an institution of higher education has adopted a blanket prohibition against AI-assisted academic writing
- 83.** presents a legal scholar's argument that the shame and reputational damage suffered by plagiarists typically exceed any judicial punishment
- 84.** highlights the paradox that the lack of formal legislation against plagiarism amplifies, rather than diminishes, the severity of public condemnation
- 85.** draws an analogy between AI data collection and an extractive industrial process to underscore the scale of digital content acquisition
- 86.** discusses how a prolonged copyright dispute demonstrated that even unintentional musical borrowing can incur substantial financial liability
- 87.** mentions organised efforts that use digital technology to systematically identify and publicise instances of academic fraud

Your answers

80.	81.	82.	83.	84.	85.	86.	87.
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Part 4. Read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

THE PARADOX OF PROGRESS

1. In Greg Egan's novel *Permutation City*, the character Peer achieves immortality within a virtual reality where he has total control. Yet, despite his godlike abilities, Peer finds himself consumed by boredom. To combat this, he engineers himself to develop new passions. One moment, he is exploring the complexities of higher mathematics; the next, he is composing operas. Eventually, his interests dwindle to such a degree that he muses on the design of table legs. This fictional scenario underscores a profound question: when technology solves humanity's deepest problems, what purpose will remain?
2. Nick Bostrom's latest publication, *Deep Utopia*, explores this central theme. Bostrom, a philosopher at the University of Oxford, is well known for his previous work, which warned of a one-in-six chance that humanity could face extinction within the next century. In his new book, however, Bostrom takes a more optimistic perspective, contemplating a future where AI surpasses expectations and solves many of humanity's challenges. What happens, he asks, if AI not only improves our lives but achieves near-perfect efficiency? Under such a scenario, AI could perform all economically valuable work at almost no cost. In an even more radical vision, AI might surpass humans in tasks traditionally considered innately human, such as parenting. [I] Although this vision could seem dystopian, Bostrom argues otherwise.
3. Consider the first scenario, which Bostrom terms a "post-scarcity" utopia. In this world, the necessity for human labour would be drastically reduced. Nearly a century ago, the economist John Maynard Keynes predicted in his essay *Economic Possibilities for Our Grandchildren* that his wealthy descendants might only need to work 15 hours a week. While this has not fully materialised, working hours in wealthy nations have significantly decreased. In the late 19th century, the average workweek exceeded 60 hours, whereas today, it is less than 40. Many people already spend a significant portion of their time on leisure activities, and future advances in AI could expand the possibilities for recreation and self-fulfilment far beyond anything currently imaginable.
4. However, the term "post-scarcity" may be misleading. Even if AI ushers in an economic explosion, physical resources would remain finite, particularly land. Although space exploration might increase the availability of building space, it cannot render resources infinite. [II]
5. Moreover, "positional goods," which derive value from their exclusivity, would likely persist. These goods, such as tickets to the hottest events, inherently remain scarce. Even if AI surpasses human capabilities in art, music, and sports, people would still find value in competing against one another. Fred Hirsch's 1977 book, *The Social Limits to Growth*, observed that as wealth grows, an increasing share of human desires is directed toward

positional goods. This dynamic could continue in an AI-driven utopia, where competition for exclusivity and status remains central human preoccupation.

6. Bostrom points out that not all competition is negative. Some forms, such as sports, have intrinsic value and are worth preserving. Indeed, human fascination with competition has grown when with confronted technological advancements. For example, interest in chess surged after IBM's *Deep Blue* defeated world champion Garry Kasparov in 1997. Similarly, e-sports-a domain where computers often outperform humans - have become a multibillion-dollar industry. In this sense, the pursuit of excellence, even in the shadow of superintelligent AI, could remain a source of fulfilment.

7. But what about deeply personal tasks, such as parenting? Bostrom envisions a "post-instrumental" world where AI might surpass humans in even these intimate roles. [III] This possibility raises profound questions about purpose and identity. Keynes himself expressed scepticism about humanity's ability to embrace a life of leisure. In his words, "There is no country and no people, I think, who can look forward to the age of leisure and of abundance without dread. For we have been trained too long to strive and not to enjoy."

8. Religious traditions echo this concern, with proverbs like "Idle hands are the devil's workshop" warning of the dangers of purposelessness. These dynamics give rise to what might be called the "paradox of progress." While technological advancement aims to improve life by giving us more leisure time, it could inadvertently take away its meaning. [IV] Bostrom suggests that humans would still find joy in activities with intrinsic value, such as enjoying delicious food or artistic expression. However, some might seek challenges to reinstate a sense of purpose, perhaps by colonising distant planets or rebuilding societies from square one. Yet even these ambitious projects could lose their allure over time. As Peer's story in *Permutation City* illustrates, the cycle of pursuing new passions may eventually feel hollow.

9. Economists have long argued that human desires are infinite, implying that there will always be new frontiers to explore and new luxuries to seek. An AI-powered utopia would test this assumption, pushing humanity to its existential limits. Would we remain endlessly adaptable, finding fulfilment in ever-evolving pursuits? Or would the absence of struggle leave life feeling insipid? The answer to these questions could determine not only the nature of an AI utopia but also the essence of humanity itself.

(Adapted from *Activate Proficiency Pass C2*)

For questions 88 – 94, write A, B, C, or D in the corresponding numbered boxes provided to indicate the answer which fits best according to what is stated or implied in the passage.

88. What is the writer's primary purpose in recounting the story of Peer in paragraph 1?

- A. To illustrate the limitless creative potential of virtual reality environments.
- B. To provide a cautionary tale about the psychological toll of total autonomy.
- C. To argue that mathematics and music are the ultimate pursuits of human intelligence.
- D. To introduce the existential dilemma of finding meaning in a world without struggle.

89. The reference to Nick Bostrom's earlier work in paragraph 2 serves to _____.

- A. discredit his new optimistic outlook as a sudden shift in philosophical rigour
- B. contrast his current exploration of utopia with his previous focus on existential risks
- C. emphasize that AI's threat to humanity is now considered a settled scientific matter
- D. suggest that the extinction of humanity is a more likely outcome than a post-scarcity world

90. In paragraph 3, the mention of John Maynard Keynes's prediction is used to _____.

- A. prove that economic theories regarding leisure are historically inaccurate
- B. provide a historical benchmark for the gradual reduction of human labour
- C. highlight the failure of wealthy nations to achieve a 15-hour workweek
- D. advocate for a return to the 60-hour workweek of the late 19th century

91. According to paragraph 5, "positional goods" are likely to persist because _____.

- A. AI is currently incapable of producing high-quality art, music, or sports equipment
- B. they are essential for the survival of the human species in a post-scarcity economy
- C. their value is fundamentally rooted in social status and restricted access
- D. physical resources like land will become increasingly abundant through space exploration

92. What can be inferred from the discussion of chess and e-sports in paragraph 6?

- A. Technological superiority does not necessarily diminish human interest in competition.
- B. Human champions lose their relevance once AI achieves a higher level of performance.
- C. The financial success of e-sports is a direct result of AI's involvement in coaching.
- D. Professional sports will eventually be replaced by multibillion-dollar AI simulations.

93. The "paradox of progress" mentioned in paragraph 8 refers to the idea that _____.

- A. the more leisure time humanity gains, the more it strives to work longer hours
- B. technological efforts to improve life may simultaneously deplete it of its purpose
- C. religious traditions are the only barrier preventing AI from achieving total efficiency
- D. humans are biologically incapable of enjoying food or art without the presence of AI

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

Such a shift would require a fundamental re-evaluation of what it means to be a provider and a protector.

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

Your answers

88.	89.	90.	91.	92.	93.	94.
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For questions 95 – 100, complete the summary with no more than TWO words taken from the passage for each space. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

The prospect of an AI-driven future presents a radical shift toward what Nick Bostrom calls a (95) _____ utopia, where the necessity for manual labour is largely eliminated. While historical trends show a significant decline in (96) _____, there are concerns that a life of total (97) _____ may lead to a sense of "dread" or purposelessness. Furthermore, even in an age of abundance, (98) _____ will remain finite, ensuring that competition for (99) _____ and exclusivity continues to drive human behavior. Ultimately, the transition to a (100) _____ world — where even intimate roles are automated — will test the limits of human adaptability and the very essence of our identity.

Your answers

95.	96.
97.	98.
99.	100.

Part 5: Gapped Text

Read the following passage. Five paragraphs have been removed. For questions 101 – 105, choose from paragraphs A – G the one which fits each gap. There are TWO extra paragraphs which you do not need to use.

The Probability of Sentience

You notice an ant struggling in a puddle of water. Its legs thrash as it fights to stay afloat. You could walk past, or you could take a moment to tip a leaf into the puddle, giving it a chance to climb out. The choice may feel trivial. And yet this small encounter raises big questions. Are ants sentient – able to experience pleasure and pain? Do they deserve moral concern?

101.

Exclusionary views – dominant in much of 20th-century Western science – err on the side of denying animals sentience and moral status. On this view, only mammals, birds and other animals with strong similarities to humans merit moral concern. By contrast, inclusive views – present in various Eastern and Indigenous cultures – err on the side of affirming

sentience. Traditions like Jain philosophy teach reverence for all life, extending concern even to ants.

102.

This is why we support a middle-ground approach: a *probabilistic approach*. This combines higher or lower probabilities of sentience with proportionally stronger or weaker forms of protection. This is how we approach high-stakes decisions in other policy domains: by assessing the evidence, estimating the probability of harm, and selecting a proportionate response.

103.

Queries like ‘Do individual ants deserve moral concern?’ risk conflating the scientific question of whether ants are sentient, the ethical question of whether only sentient beings deserve moral concern, and the practical question of whether a policy is sustainable. Making sound decisions requires teasing apart these questions while seeing how they interact.

104.

This first step is challenging, since the only mind any of us can directly access is our own, making it hard to know what it feels like to be anyone else. This ‘problem of other minds’ becomes particularly stark when we consider octopuses with decentralised neural systems, or AI systems with silicon-based architectures that deviate substantially from the human paradigm.

105.

For example, insects possess nociceptors and display complex behaviours like wound-tending and stress responses. While we might not be able to give much weight to the language outputs of current AI, we can still examine their underlying architectures for features analogous to conscious processing. We may not be able to treat these markers as proof, but they are evidence. And the stronger our evidence becomes, the higher our degree of confidence should be.

Adapted from <https://aeon.co/essays/an-ant-is-drowning-heres-how-to-decide-if-you-should-save-it>

Missing Paragraphs

A. However, each of these historical perspectives is one-sided, addressing one risk but not the other. Inclusion risks misallocating scarce resources, whereas exclusion risks neglecting vulnerable beings. Is there a way to address both risks at the same time, especially when decisions affect quadrillions of invertebrates or, potentially, future AI systems?

B. Fortunately, we have tools for achieving this goal. Scientifically, we can assess how likely particular beings are to possess capacities like sentience. Ethically, we can assess how likely these capacities are to matter morally. Practically, we can then put it all together to assess how likely these beings are to matter – and how to factor this into our lives.

C. Historically, people have had very different views about such questions, often falling into two opposing camps. These perspectives determine whether we see the ant as a biological machine or a fellow traveler in the web of life.

D. Moreover, the ethical dimension requires us to ask whether sentience is the only valid criterion for moral status. Some argue that life itself, or the ability to pursue goals, is sufficient, regardless of whether the entity "feels" anything in a subjective sense.

E. However, questions about sentience are not beyond the reach of science. Even if we can never know for sure what it feels like to be an octopus or a robot, we can still improve our understanding by examining non-humans for behavioural, computational or anatomical 'markers' – features that correspond to subjective feelings in our own species.

F. Clarity in this approach begins with recognising that three distinct questions are in play: the scientific (can they be sentient?), the ethical (do only sentient beings matter?), and the practical (what policies can we sustain?). These often get blurred in public debate.

G. It is a common misconception that science has already proven the existence of a "global workspace" in the brain of all insects. While some researchers claim this is the case, others remain skeptical, citing the lack of a centralized cortex.

Your answers

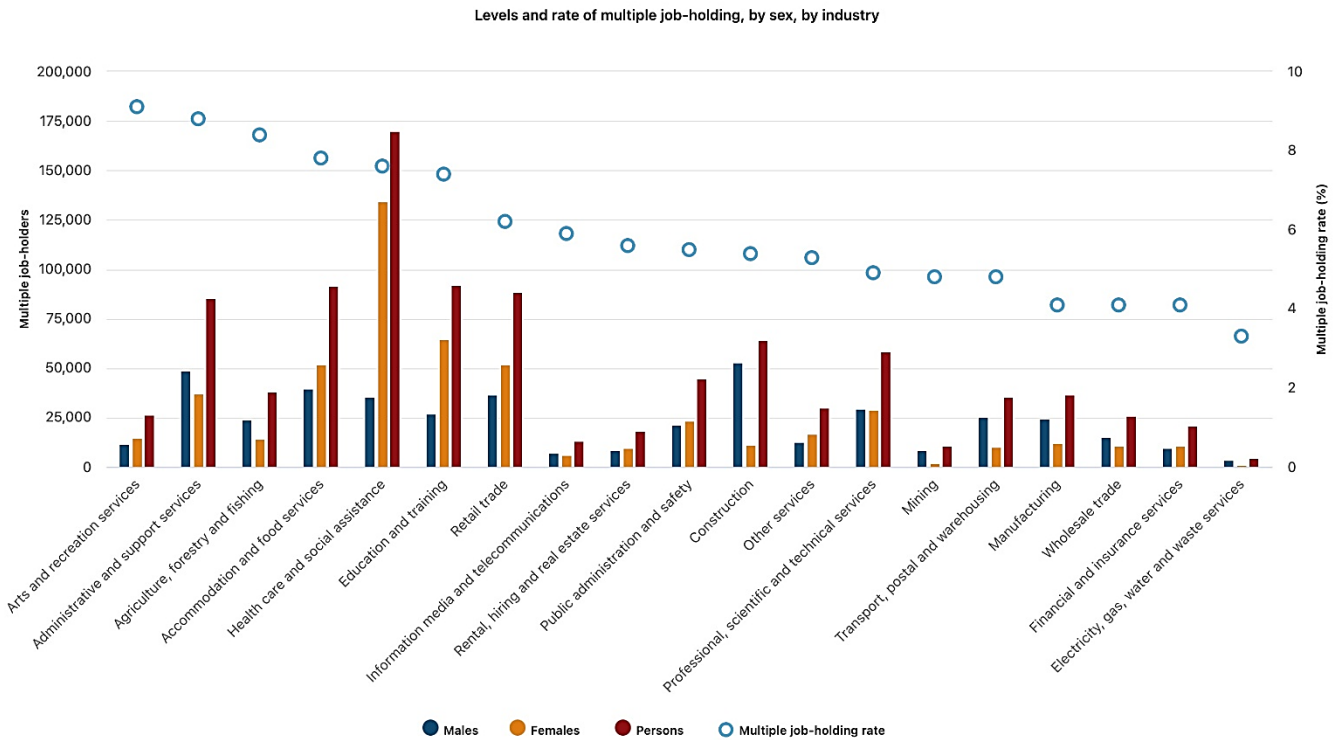
101.	102.	103.	104.	105.
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III. WRITING (5.0 points)

Part 1: The chart below shows the number and rate of people holding multiple jobs, broken down by sex and industry in September 2023.

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

Write at least 150 words.



Adapted from <https://www.smartcompany.com.au/finance/opinion-poly-employment-gen-z-work-trend/>

Part 2: Write an essay of about 350 words on the following topic:

In a world where connectivity is often equated with opportunity and success, choosing to embrace the Joy of Missing Out (JOMO) may represent not liberation but a retreat from meaningful engagement.

Discuss the statement and give your opinion.