



I. LISTENING (5.0 points)

- The listening section is in **FOUR** parts. You will hear each part **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 a conversation about natural-resource revenues and poverty ONCE and do the tasks that follow:

For questions 1-5, decide whether the following statements are True (T), False (F), or Not Given (NG) according to what you hear. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

1. According to Sam Williamson, the main beneficiaries of oil and mineral resources in developing countries are usually political and economic elites rather than the general population.
2. The Sierra Leone government completely cancelled its mining agreement with the foreign company after the public criticized the contract.
3. Government officials in Ghana were surprised when the mining company asked for the contract to be made public before it was approved by parliament.
4. Kathleen Smithson believes that transparency alone is sufficient to ensure that communities benefit from natural resource revenues.
5. The negotiations between Rio Tinto and the Indigenous community in Australia resulted in an agreement that has already become the standard approach for mining companies worldwide.

Your answers:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
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For questions 6-10, decide whether the opinions are expressed by only one of the speakers, or whether both speakers agree. In the corresponding numbered box provided,

Write **S** for Sam Williamson,
K for Kathleen Smithson,
 or **B** for Both, when they agree.

6. A situation in which resource-rich countries experience worsening poverty
7. A difficulty communities face when trying to interpret government documents
8. A case in which transparency was required before a contract could be approved
9. A statement that transparency is essential for fair outcomes
10. A negotiation that included environmental concerns as part of the agreement

Your answers:

6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
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Part 2: Listen to an interview about workshop ONCE and do the tasks that follow:

For question 11-12, choose TWO letters from A-E to indicate TWO true statements about organising workshops for executives. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

- A. Workshops encourage executives to express their professional identities through creative activities.
- B. Creative workshops help employees develop their logical thinking skills.
- C. Executives were trained mainly through traditional business seminars.
- D. Participants were asked to create masks representing the image they show at work.
- E. Creative activities are used to analyse financial performance within companies.

For question 13-15, choose THREE letters from A-G to indicate THREE true statements about organising workshops for executives. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

- A. The marketing firm *Play* introduced some of the early creative workplace practices.
- B. Employees at *Play* are given formal job titles to clarify their responsibilities.
- C. Creative workshops are mostly attended by traditional manufacturing companies.
- D. Some modern companies organise unusual activities such as adventure trips to stimulate creativity.
- E. Storytelling workshops can help employees become more confident when speaking publicly.
- F. Maria believes humour has no place in professional training environments.
- G. Creative workshops mainly focus on improving technical job skills.

For questions 16-20, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

16. Corporations appreciate mask-making workshops because
 - A. no one wants negative faces at the office.
 - B. unhappy employees won't come to work.
 - C. they realise how their employees see them.
 - D. their employees change their approach.
17. Companies are turning to creative workshops because they have acknowledged that
 - A. unproductive employees are a financial burden.
 - B. the traditional work environment has its limitations.

- C. there is an increase in absenteeism.
 D. employees are working too hard without enjoying it.
18. The employees at the firm 'Play'
- A. change positions frequently to lessen boredom.
 B. have business cards indicating their jobs.
 C. dress up like comic book characters.
 D. do not have stereotyped ideas about their jobs.
19. The companies that show most interest in creative workshops are surprising because
- A. they usually have creative employees to begin with.
 B. their employees are the ones who have to present regularly.
 C. there are many other exciting workshops they would prefer.
 D. their employees should be used to being funny.
20. Maria mentions the traditional companies that have held workshops in order to
- A. boast about the clients her company has helped.
 B. show that they have a narrow list of clients.
 C. downplay the serious reputations of the firms.
 D. point out the diversity of those trying different approaches.

Your answers:

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

Part 3: You will hear a piece of news called "Bottled air". For questions 1-5, write an answer of NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS for each of the questions below.

21. What kind of news did the man see that made him decide to start his business?
 22. What is the name of the industry the man is in?
 23. How much air can you buy for \$115?
 24. Where does the entrepreneur live now?
 25. What does the man sometimes have to go to the bottom of to get air?

Your answers:

21.	22.	23.	24.	25.
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Part 4. You will hear a talk about the Michelin guide. For questions 26-35, write NO MORE THAN FIVE words taken from the recording for each space to complete the following summary. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes on the answer sheet.

In US politics, red and blue have not always been tied to Republicans and Democrats; that association emerged gradually with televised election coverage and the (26) _____. In 1972, CBS tried to (27) _____ from their competition by debuting the (28) _____ on American TV, colouring Republican Richard Nixon's (29) _____ in blue.

This early (30) _____. pushed other networks to adopt colour-coded maps, even though at the time blue had historical links to the Union Army and red was often connected to leftists and (31) _____ worldwide.

Through the 1980s and 1990s, conventions evolved until ABC and CBS had settled on the modern-day norm: (32) _____ and Republican red states.

By the 2000 election, this visual language had crystallised into the (33) _____.: Red State versus Blue State, and repeated use of these maps on a very tight race between George W. Bush and Al Gore helped make the pattern (34) _____.

Over time, the expression “red state” and “blue state” expanded beyond simple voting patterns to signal deeper cultural connection with (35) _____, a theme later echoed by politicians like Barack Obama and reflected in everything from party branding to business names and popular culture.

Your answers:

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

II. READING (8.0 points)

1. LANGUAGE USE

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

It is not easy to have a rational discussion with people about the nature of their language. They feel that the language belongs to them, and they are therefore entitled to hold (36) _____ about it. And when opinions differ, emotions can run high. Arguments can as easily stem from minor points of usage as from major educational policies. In English, the origin of many popular misconceptions lies in the work of the linguists of the eighteenth century (37) _____. Unfortunately, they worked on the premise that English grammar is derived from Latin grammar and that the rules of the latter necessarily determine the former. It was this fundamental misunderstanding that resulted in the (38) _____ that many people still cling to. These days, many people complain that the internet is the source of much unforgivable distortion of English, and (39) _____. This is probably a short-sighted view: perhaps we should be more broad-minded and view such changes as potential enrichment rather than corruption of the language. Perhaps those who argue it is only the latter are guilty of a stick-in-the-mud mentality which is often not confined to their own language. The American linguist Leonard Bloomfield tells the story of a doctor who was quite firm in his view (40) _____. When Bloomfield attempted to dispute the point, the doctor had no thoughts of backing down. He simply turned away and refused to listen.

(Source: Adapted from The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language by David Crystal)

36. A. cut-and-dried B. well-founded C. black-and-white D. ready-made
37. A. whose influence shaped early English education
B. who were highly respected scholars of their time

- C. who first attempted to codify English grammar
 D. who strongly criticized existing language rules
38. A. misguided but widely accepted ‘never-end-a-sentence-with-a-preposition’ type of rules that many people still follow
 B. unnecessary but long-established ‘never-end-a-sentence-with-a-preposition’ type of rules that many teachers still promote
 C. absurd but time-honored ‘never-end-a-sentence-with-a-preposition’ type of rules that many people still cling to
 D. traditional but strongly defended ‘never-end-a-sentence-with-a-preposition’ type of rules that many writers still observe
39. A. that the ease and speed of email communication engenders a lazy approach to writing
 B. that the convenience and speed of online communication encourages greater efficiency in writing
 C. that the popularity of digital communication reflects the changing nature of written language
 D. that the widespread use of email communication influences the development of modern writing
40. A. when the Amerindian language Chippewa had only a few hundred words in its vocabulary
 B. that the Amerindian language Chippewa had only a few hundred words
 C. which the Amerindian language Chippewa was spoken by only a small community of people
 D. whilst the Amerindian language Chippewa had gradually disappeared from everyday use

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.

Attitudes towards language change are often surprisingly emotional. Many speakers assume that the form of language they learned at school represents the only correct version, and any deviation from it is frequently interpreted as evidence of decline. Linguists, however, tend to adopt a more analytical perspective. They argue that variation and change are inherent features of living languages and that attempts to prevent such developments are rarely successful.

Over time, social and technological shifts can exert a considerable (41) _____ on the ways in which people use language. New communication platforms, for instance, encourage brevity and informality, which may gradually influence patterns of written interaction.

Some commentators interpret these developments as a sign that linguistic standards are deteriorating. Others, by contrast, regard them as an inevitable (42) _____ of language adapting to new communicative environments.

In many cases, expressions that were initially criticised eventually become widely accepted. Words that once appeared unusual may later become (43) _____ in everyday usage.

Nevertheless, debates about language often continue to generate strong opinions. Some critics claim that modern forms of communication are responsible for declining standards, but such arguments may (44) _____ the broader historical pattern of constant linguistic change.

In reality, language has always evolved in response to social pressures, and efforts to control it too rigidly are unlikely to succeed. As a result, attempts to preserve language in a completely fixed form are often little more than (45) _____.

(Source: Adapted from *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language* by David Crystal and *Language Change: Progress or Decay?* by Jean Aitchison.)

41. A. influence B. pressure C. consequence D. tendency
 42. A. result B. factor C. outcome D. condition
 43. A. dominant B. commonplace C. prominent D. extensive
 44. A. emphasize B. reflect C. overlook D. illustrate
 45. A. a storm in a teacup B. a blessing in disguise
 C. a losing battle D. a double-edged sword

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. There are FOUR words that you do not need to use. The first one, (0), has been done as an example.

FRAGILE	CONTROVERSY	TOLERATE	RESIST
CONFORM			
BUREAUCRACY	INNOVATE	RELY	STABLE

In many organizations, innovation is publicly celebrated yet quietly discouraged. Managers often speak enthusiastically about creativity, but in practice they may remain wary of proposals that challenge established procedures. Large institutions, in particular, tend to develop structures that favour continuity over change. As a result, employees sometimes find themselves caught between the expectation to be creative and the implicit demand for strict (0) **conformity**.

One difficulty lies in the inherent (36) _____ of established systems. Processes that have been refined over decades may function efficiently, but they can also become vulnerable to disruption when new ideas are introduced. For this reason, attempts at reform frequently provoke strong internal (37) _____.

Another factor is organizational culture. In environments where mistakes are poorly (38) _____, staff may become reluctant to experiment with unfamiliar approaches. This can gradually produce a climate in which routine solutions are preferred simply because they appear safe.

Paradoxically, institutions that depend heavily on past successes may become excessively (39) _____ on established methods. Over time, this dependence can undermine the very adaptability required for long-term survival.

For innovation to flourish, therefore, organizations must develop structures that combine operational stability with a greater degree of intellectual (40) _____.

(Source: Adapted from research on innovation and organizational culture, particularly the works of Clayton M. Christensen and Edgar H. Schein.)

Your answer

0. conformity	46.	47.
48.	49.	50.

Part 4. The passage below contains SIX grammatical mistakes. The first one has been IDENTIFIED. For questions 51 – 55, UNDERLINE the mistakes and WRITE THEIR CORRECT FORMS in the numbered boxes provided.

Climate change is widely regarded as one of the most urgent challenges facing humanity today. Scientists have accumulated a vast body of evidence (0) **demonstrate** that rising global temperatures are closely linked to human activity. Although the broad scientific consensus is clear, public debates about the issue often remain surprisingly contentious.

Part of the difficulty lies in the complexity of the systems involvement. Climate processes operate across immense spatial and temporal scales, making it difficult for non-specialists to fully grasp the consequences of gradual environmental change. As a result, discussions about climate policy are frequently shaped as much by political considerations as by scientific findings.

Another factor is the language used in public communication. Terms such as “uncertainty” and “risk” carry highly specific meanings among scientific discourse, but they are often interpreted quite differently in everyday contexts. This misunderstanding can sometimes give the misleading impression that climate scientists themselves are divided about the seriousness of the problem.

Despite these challenges, the overall direction of research findings has remained remarkably consistent. Evidence gathering over several decades suggests that the pace of environmental change is accelerating, raising difficult questions about how societies should respond to. Addressing these issues requires not only technological innovation but also a greater will among governments and communities to engage with scientific evidence.

(Source: Adapted from the assessment reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and scholarly works on climate science communication by David Archer and Katharine Hayhoe.)

Your answers:

0. demonstrate → demonstrating	51.	52.	53.	54.	55.
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II. READING COMPREHENSION (5.0 points)

Part 1. For questions 56 – 65, 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.

The Rise of Digital Minimalism

In an age dominated by constant connectivity, an increasing number of people are turning to digital minimalism as a way to regain control of their time and attention. The concept first (56) _____ widespread attention in the late 2010s, when growing concerns about excessive screen time began to enter public debate.

Supporters argue that many modern apps are deliberately designed to keep users engaged for as long as possible. By exploiting human curiosity and the fear of missing out, these platforms often (57) _____ users to spend far more time online than they initially intend. As a result, many individuals find it difficult to break the (58) _____ of constantly checking their devices.

Digital minimalism proposes a more intentional approach to technology use. Rather than abandoning digital tools entirely, followers carefully evaluate which technologies genuinely contribute to their lives and which merely create distraction. Those considered unnecessary are gradually removed, freeing (59) _____ valuable time for more meaningful activities.

Many practitioners report that once digital distractions are reduced, their ability to concentrate improves dramatically. They are better able to devote long periods of uninterrupted attention to demanding tasks, a state sometimes described as deep (60) _____.

This type of focused work not only increases productivity but also leads to a stronger sense of personal satisfaction. People often rediscover hobbies, creative interests, and face-to-face interactions that had previously been pushed (61) _____ by constant online engagement.

Nevertheless, critics argue that the idea may be somewhat unrealistic. In a world where work, communication, and entertainment increasingly depend on digital technology, completely limiting its use may prove easier said (62) _____ done.

Despite these criticisms, the philosophy continues to gain support among individuals who feel overwhelmed by the endless stream of online content. For them, digital minimalism represents a deliberate attempt to take (63) _____ control of their time and attention. Ultimately, the movement encourages people to reconsider their relationship with technology and to ensure that digital tools serve a meaningful (64) _____ in their lives rather than simply filling every spare moment. By doing so, individuals may find themselves living more intentionally and focusing on what truly (65) _____.

(Source: Adapted from Digital Minimalism: Choosing a Focused Life in a Noisy World by Cal Newport and related literature on attention and digital behaviour.)

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. Once these particles enter the atmosphere, they interact with sunlight and clouds, altering the delicate balance of Earth’s climate system.
- B. As a result, scientists have increasingly focused on understanding how even minor changes in atmospheric composition can influence global temperatures.
- C. Volcanic eruptions are among the most powerful natural events on Earth, capable of releasing enormous quantities of ash, gas, and microscopic particles into the atmosphere.
- D. For instance, a single major eruption can temporarily cool the planet by reflecting solar radiation back into space.
- E. The process begins deep beneath the Earth’s surface, where molten rock and trapped gases accumulate under immense pressure.
- F. Eventually, when this pressure becomes too great, the volcano erupts violently, propelling material high above the planet’s surface.
- G. These volcanic particles can remain suspended in the atmosphere for months or even years, continuing to influence weather patterns worldwide.
- H. Consequently, the study of volcanic activity has become an essential part of modern climate science.

Your answers:

0. C	66.	67.	68.	69.	70.	71.	72.
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Part 3. Read following passage and do the tasks that follow.

Reading the Screen

Are the electronic media exacerbating illiteracy and making our children stupid? On the contrary, says Colin McCabe, they have the potential to make us truly literate.

A. The debate surrounding literacy is one of the most charged in education. On the one hand, there is an army of people convinced that traditional skills of reading and writing are declining. On the other, a host of progressive protest that literacy is much more complicated than a simple technical mastery of reading and writing. This second position is supported by most of the relevant academic work over the past 20 years. These studies argue that literacy can only be understood in its social and technical context. In Renaissance England, for example, many more people could read than could write, and within reading there was a distinction between those who could read print and those who could manage the more difficult task of reading manuscript. An understanding of these earlier periods helps us understand today’s ‘crisis in literacy’ debate.

B. There does seem to be evidence that there has been an overall decline in some aspects of reading and writing - you only need to compare the tabloid newspapers of today with those of 50 years ago to see a clear decrease in vocabulary and simplification of syntax. But the picture is not uniform and doesn’t readily demonstrate the simple distinction

between literate and illiterate which had been considered adequate since the middle of the 19th century.

C. While reading a certain amount of writing is as crucial as it has ever been in industrial societies, it is doubtful whether a fully extended grasp of either is as necessary as it was 30 or 40 years ago. While print retains much of its authority as a source of topical information, television has increasingly usurped this role. The ability to write fluent letters has been undermined by the telephone and research suggests that for many people the only use for writing, outside formal education, is the compilation of shopping lists.

D. The decision of some car manufacturers to issue their instructions to mechanics as a video pack rather than as a handbook might be taken to spell the end of any automatic link between industrialisation and literacy. On the other hand, it is also the case that ever-increasing numbers of people make their living out of writing, which is better rewarded than ever before. Schools are generally seen as institutions where the book rules - film, television and recorded sound have almost no place; but it is not clear that this opposition is appropriate. While you may not need to read and write to watch television, you certainly need to be able to read and write in order to make programmes.

E. Those who work in the new media are anything but illiterate. The traditional oppositions between old and new media are inadequate for understanding the world which a young child now encounters. The computer has re-established a central place for the written word on the screen, which used to be entirely devoted to the image. There is even anecdotal evidence that children are mastering reading and writing in order to get on to the Internet. There is no reason why the new and old media cannot be integrated in schools to provide the skills to become economically productive and politically enfranchised.

F. Nevertheless, there is a crisis in literacy and it would be foolish to ignore it. To understand that literacy may be declining because it is less central to some aspects of everyday life is not the same as acquiescing in this state of affairs. The production of school work with the new technologies could be a significant stimulus to literacy. How should these new technologies be introduced into the schools? It isn't enough to call for computers, camcorders and edit suites in every classroom; unless they are properly integrated into the educational culture, they will stand unused. Evidence suggests that this is the fate of most information technology used in the classroom. Similarly, although media studies are now part of the national curriculum, and more and more students are now clamouring to take these course, teachers remain uncertain about both methods and aims in this area.

G. This is not the fault of the teachers. The entertainment and information industries must be drawn into a debate with the educational institutions to determine how best to blend these new technologies into the classroom.

H. Many people in our era are drawn to the pessimistic view that the new media are

destroying old skills and eroding critical judgement. It may be true that past generations were more literate but - taking the pre-19th century meaning of the term - this was true of only a small section of the population. The word literacy is a 19th-century coinage to describe the divorce of reading and writing from a full knowledge of literature. The education reforms of the 19th century produced reading and writing as skills separable from full participation in the cultural heritage.

I. The new media now point not only to a futuristic cyber-economy; they also make our cultural past available to the whole nation. Most children's access to these treasures is initially through television. It is doubtful whether our literary heritage has ever been available to or sought out by more than about 5 per cent of the population; it has certainly not been available to more than 10 per cent. But the new media joined to the old, through the public service tradition of British broadcasting, now makes our literary tradition available to all.

(Source: Colin McCabe, "Are the electronic media exacerbating illiteracy and making our children stupid?", in *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language*, edited by David Crystal.)

For questions 73–79, decide whether the following statements are TRUE, FALSE, or NOT GIVEN according to the information in the passage. Write TRUE, FALSE, or NOT GIVEN in the spaces provided.

73. It is not as easy to analyse literacy levels as it used to be.
74. Our literacy skills need to be as highly developed as they were in the past.
75. Illiteracy is on the increase.
76. Professional writers earn relatively more than they used to.
77. A good literacy level is important for those who work in television.
78. Computers are having a negative impact on literacy in schools.
79. Television is usually the first way in which many children encounter the nation's literary heritage.

Your answers:

73.	74.	75.	76.	77.	78.	79.
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For questions 80–87, choose from the sections (A–I). The sections may be selected more than once.

Write the letter A, B, C, or D in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Which section _____?

80. highlights the continuing economic value of writing despite shifts in media forms
81. recommends cooperation between the media industry and educational institutions
82. provides a historical illustration showing that reading ability did not necessarily imply writing ability
83. warns that technological facilities in schools may fail to achieve their purpose without proper educational integration
84. indicates that certain communication technologies have reduced the practical need for extended writing in daily life
85. argues that modern broadcasting may enable the wider public to access literary culture

86.casts doubt on the usefulness of a traditional binary classification of literacy

87.suggests that computers may encourage young people to develop literacy skills

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

Technology and the Future of Literacy

Over the past two decades, digital technologies have become deeply embedded in the everyday lives of children and adolescents. Smartphones, tablets, and computers now provide instant access to vast amounts of information, fundamentally transforming the way young people read, learn, and communicate. As a result, educators and researchers have increasingly focused on understanding how these technologies influence literacy development. While some critics argue that digital devices undermine traditional reading habits, a growing body of research suggests that technology can also support and enhance literacy when used appropriately.

Traditionally, literacy was defined primarily as the ability to read and write printed text. In the digital era, however, literacy has expanded into a more complex concept often referred to as digital literacy. This broader understanding includes not only reading and writing but also the ability to locate, evaluate, and synthesize information from digital sources. Students must navigate hyperlinks, interpret multimedia elements, and critically assess the reliability of online information. Consequently, literacy in the twenty-first century involves a wider range of cognitive and technical skills than ever before.

Educational technology has played a significant role in reshaping how reading is taught. Digital learning platforms, for example, can adapt to individual learners by adjusting the level of difficulty based on student performance. Such adaptive systems allow students to receive immediate feedback and personalized instruction, which can be particularly beneficial for struggling readers. Several studies have found that technology-based reading interventions improve reading fluency and comprehension, especially when they incorporate interactive features such as audio narration, visual cues, and real-time feedback.

Another advantage of digital technology is its capacity to provide access to a wide variety of reading materials. In the past, access to books was often limited by the resources available in schools or libraries. Today, students can read e-books, online articles, and interactive texts from almost anywhere with an internet connection. This expanded access has the potential to expose learners to a broader range of topics and genres, which may increase their motivation to read. Some educational researchers argue that digital libraries and open educational resources can reduce inequalities in access to knowledge by making high-quality materials available to students regardless of their socioeconomic background. However, the relationship between technology and literacy is not entirely straightforward. Critics often point to the possibility that digital environments may encourage superficial reading. Online texts frequently contain hyperlinks, advertisements, and multimedia elements that can distract readers and interrupt the linear flow of reading. As a result, some scholars suggest that digital reading may promote scanning rather than deep

comprehension. Students accustomed to rapidly browsing online information may struggle with longer, more complex texts that require sustained attention.

Another concern involves the amount of time young people spend on digital devices for entertainment purposes. Activities such as gaming, social media use, and video streaming may compete with traditional reading for leisure time. Some researchers have found that excessive screen use is associated with lower reading engagement among adolescents. Nevertheless, it is important to distinguish between passive screen consumption and educational uses of technology. Digital tools designed specifically for learning can promote reading development, whereas recreational screen activities may not provide the same cognitive benefits.

Teachers play a crucial role in determining whether technology supports or hinders literacy development. Merely providing students with digital devices does not guarantee improved learning outcomes. Instead, effective integration of technology requires thoughtful instructional design. Teachers must guide students in using digital resources critically, helping them evaluate sources, interpret visual information, and synthesize knowledge from multiple media formats. Professional development and teacher training are therefore essential components of successful technology integration in education.

Recent research also suggests that combining traditional and digital reading methods may offer the most effective approach. Printed texts provide a stable reading environment that supports deep concentration, while digital texts offer interactive features and greater accessibility. By integrating both formats, educators can create learning experiences that take advantage of the strengths of each medium. For example, students might read a printed chapter to develop comprehension and then use digital tools to explore related resources, collaborate with classmates, or conduct further research.

Ultimately, technology itself is neither inherently beneficial nor harmful to literacy. Its impact depends largely on how it is used within educational contexts. When digital tools are carefully designed and thoughtfully implemented, they can expand access to knowledge, support individualized learning, and encourage students to engage with texts in new ways. At the same time, educators must remain aware of potential challenges, including distractions, information overload, and unequal access to technology.

As societies continue to embrace digital innovation, literacy education will inevitably evolve alongside technological change. Rather than replacing traditional reading practices, digital technologies may reshape them, creating new opportunities for learners to interact with information. The challenge for educators is to ensure that these tools are used to deepen understanding rather than merely accelerate the consumption of information. If this balance can be achieved, technology may ultimately strengthen literacy in the digital age.

(Source: Adapted from research on digital literacy and educational technology, including works by Neil Selwyn and Julian Sefton-Green.)

For questions 88–94, choose A, B, C, or D in the corresponding numbered boxes provided to indicate the answer which best accords with the information given or implied in the passage.

88. What is the writer’s primary intention in the opening discussion of the literacy debate?

A. To argue that literacy has declined dramatically in modern societies

- B. To show that disagreements about literacy arise from differing definitions of the concept
- C. To demonstrate that historical evidence proves literacy was higher in the past
- D. To suggest that academic research has reached a clear consensus on literacy

89. What point does the reference to Renaissance England mainly illustrate?

- A. Literacy historically involved multiple levels of competence rather than a single ability
- B. Most people in early modern Europe were fully literate
- C. Reading and writing skills developed simultaneously across society
- D. Manuscript reading was more important than printed texts

90. Why does the writer mention modern tabloid newspapers in paragraph B?

- A. To show that journalistic standards have deteriorated for political reasons
- B. To argue that newspapers are responsible for declining literacy
- C. To provide an example suggesting some simplification in language use
- D. To demonstrate that newspapers have replaced books as the main literacy tool

91. What does the discussion of television and the telephone imply about writing in everyday life?

- A. Writing has become more specialised and less central to routine communication
- B. Writing has largely disappeared from modern societies
- C. Technological media have strengthened traditional writing practices
- D. Communication technologies have made writing more complex

92. The example of video instructions for car mechanics is used to suggest that

- A. written manuals remain the most efficient instructional format
- B. industrial work increasingly requires advanced literacy skills
- C. technological change may weaken the traditional connection between literacy and industrial activity
- D. mechanics generally prefer visual learning to written explanations

93. What is suggested about computers and the Internet in relation to literacy?

- A. They are likely to replace written communication entirely
- B. They may encourage the acquisition of reading and writing skills
- C. They reduce the importance of language in digital environments
- D. They mainly benefit individuals who are already highly literate

94. What broader conclusion does the writer reach about the relationship between new media and cultural heritage?

- A. New media risk permanently eroding access to literary traditions
- B. Cultural heritage is becoming less relevant in the digital age
- C. Technological media can extend access to cultural resources previously limited to a minority
- D. Only public broadcasting institutions can preserve literary traditions

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 answer. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Digital technologies have significantly influenced how young people read and learn. Although some critics believe digital devices weaken traditional reading habits, research indicates that technology can support literacy when used effectively. In the modern era, literacy has evolved beyond the simple ability to read and write printed text and now includes a wider set of abilities often described as (95) _____. This concept involves skills such as locating, evaluating, and synthesizing information from online sources.

Educational technologies can also improve reading instruction. Many digital learning systems are (96) _____, meaning they adjust the level of difficulty according to individual student performance and provide immediate feedback. In addition, digital technology expands access to a wide range of reading materials, including e-books and online articles, which can increase students' motivation and reduce inequalities in access to (97) _____.

Despite these advantages, digital reading environments may sometimes encourage more superficial reading practices. Online texts often include elements such as hyperlinks and advertisements that interrupt the (98) _____ of reading. Furthermore, excessive time spent on recreational screen activities, including gaming and social media, may reduce students' (99) _____ in reading.

For technology to benefit literacy development, teachers must integrate digital tools carefully and guide students in evaluating and interpreting information from multiple media formats. Research suggests that combining printed and digital texts may provide the most effective learning experience, allowing students to benefit from both deep concentration and greater (100) _____ to information.

Your answers:

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

Part 5: In the passage below, five paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from paragraphs A–G the one which fits each gap (101–105). There are TWO extra paragraphs which you do not need to use. Write the letters A–G in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Rethinking Learning in the Digital Age

For centuries, education has been closely associated with physical spaces. Classrooms, lecture halls, and libraries were considered the natural environments for intellectual development. However, the rapid expansion of digital technology has begun to reshape these assumptions. Online platforms, virtual classrooms, and artificial intelligence are increasingly being integrated into educational systems around the world. As a result, educators are now reconsidering what it means to learn and teach in the twenty-first century.

Yet the shift toward digital learning has not been universally welcomed. Critics often argue that technology threatens the traditional foundations of education. They worry that constant exposure to screens encourages superficial engagement with knowledge rather than deep understanding. According to this view, the classroom risks becoming little more than a distribution point for information rather than a place where ideas are critically examined.

101

Nevertheless, a growing body of research suggests that technology, when used thoughtfully, may actually strengthen rather than weaken educational outcomes. Digital tools can support collaboration among students, provide immediate feedback, and offer access to a wider range of learning materials than any single library could contain.

102

These developments have particular implications for students who struggle within traditional classroom environments. Some learners benefit from the flexibility that digital systems offer. Instead of moving through a fixed curriculum at the same pace as their classmates, they can revisit difficult concepts or accelerate their progress in areas where they excel.

103

At the same time, the expansion of digital learning raises important questions about the role of teachers. If information can be accessed instantly online, what unique contribution does the teacher make? Many educational researchers argue that the teacher's role becomes even more significant in a digital environment.

104

Another issue concerns the unequal distribution of technological resources. While digital education promises greater access to knowledge, not all students possess the necessary devices or reliable internet connections. This so-called "digital divide" can reinforce existing educational inequalities rather than reduce them.

105

Despite these challenges, few educators believe that schools will simply abandon traditional teaching methods. Instead, the future of education is likely to involve a hybrid approach that combines digital innovation with established pedagogical practices.

Paragraphs A–G

A. One widely discussed development is the rise of adaptive learning systems. These programs analyze students' responses to tasks and automatically adjust the difficulty level of subsequent activities. By doing so, they create a personalized learning pathway that would be extremely difficult for a single teacher to provide in a large classroom.

B. For this reason, many scholars emphasize that teachers are no longer merely transmitters of information. Instead, they act as guides who help students evaluate sources, interpret complex ideas, and connect new knowledge with existing understanding. In a world saturated with information, these interpretative skills may be more valuable than ever.

C. Some observers argue that these concerns overlook the historical relationship between education and technological change. Printing, for example, was once criticized for

encouraging passive reading rather than oral debate. Yet few people today would suggest that books have undermined intellectual culture.

D. Indeed, numerous studies indicate that the effectiveness of educational technology depends less on the tools themselves than on how they are used. When digital resources are integrated into carefully designed lessons, students often demonstrate improved engagement and deeper comprehension.

E. Nevertheless, technological inequality remains a serious concern for policymakers. Students in disadvantaged communities may find themselves excluded from digital opportunities that others take for granted. Addressing this imbalance requires investment not only in equipment but also in training and infrastructure.

F. In practice, this combination can produce learning environments that are both flexible and intellectually demanding. Printed texts encourage sustained attention and reflection, while digital tools allow students to explore ideas interactively and collaborate across geographical boundaries.

G. As a result, some critics warn that technology may ultimately replace teachers altogether. According to this pessimistic perspective, automated systems could one day deliver lessons more efficiently than human instructors.

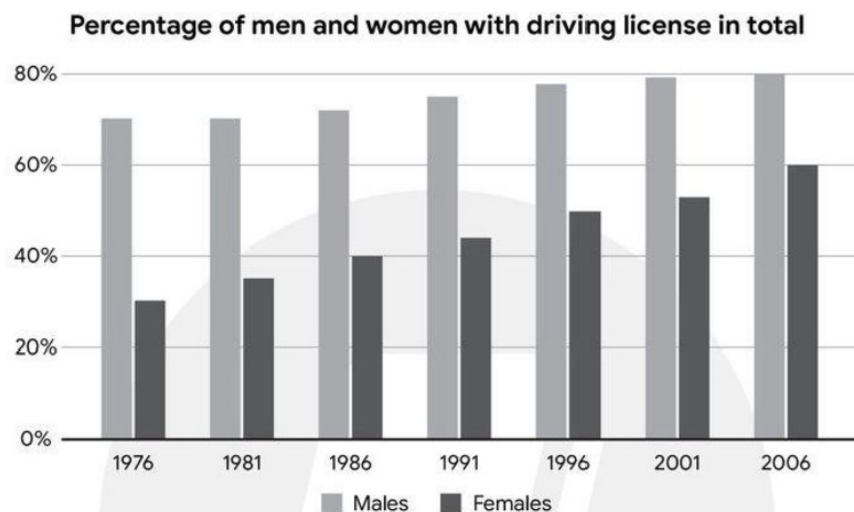
(Source: Adapted from studies on digital learning, educational technology, and multimedia learning, particularly the works of Neil Selwyn, Sugata Mitra, and Richard E. Mayer.)

Your answers:

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

Part 1: The bar chart shows the percentage of men and women in Vietnam who had driving licenses, and another bar chart shows the percentage of men and women who applied for driving licenses at the age of 17-20. Provide an overview of the information by identifying and describing the key details, and include comparisons where appropriate.



A bar chart comparing the percentage of people who have ever been in a romantic relationship in 1996 and 2006, broken down by gender. The Y-axis represents the percentage, ranging from 0% to 50% in 10% increments. The X-axis shows the years 1996 and 2006. For each year, there are two bars: a light gray bar for Males and a dark gray bar for Females. In 1996, the percentage for Males is approximately 50% and for Females is approximately 30%. In 2006, the percentage for Males is approximately 45% and for Females is approximately 20%.

Year	Males (%)	Females (%)
1996	50	30
2006	45	20

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dotted lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

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