**ĐỀ THI ĐỀ XUẤT SỐ 01 TRẠI HÈ PHƯƠNG NAM 2025**

**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. *You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about an art exhibition they went to. For questions 1-5, choose from the list (A-H) the reason each speaker attended the exhibition.***

A a friendship with the artist

B a familial connection

C a recommendation from a friend

D a chance encounter

E the lack of an alternative

F the provision of disabled access

G a company trip

H a positive review

Speaker 1 1 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Speaker 2 2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Speaker 3 3 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Speaker 4 4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Speaker 5 5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Your answers**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1.** | **2.** | **3.** | **4.** | **5.** |

***Part 2. For questions 6-10, listen to a report on education in several countries worldwide. What does the speaker say about these countries in relation to their education? Choose five answers from the box and write the correct letter, A-J, in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.***

|  |
| --- |
| A. A decline in student performance on tests has been recorded.B. Approximately two-thirds of students aged nine and ten fail reading tests. C. Teachers tend to quit their jobs as their proposal to focus on standardized testing is turned down.D. Twenty percent of children complete school without a minimum level of education. E. There is an alarming trend in turnover among teachers, partly due to their perceived lack of support.F. Their GDP has risen nearly 40 times thanks to development goals in education.G. Intense competition is the main cause of a less effective education system.H. Universal basic skill targets have not yet been met. I. The attitudes and beliefs make an important contribution to high levels of academic achievement.J. A significant proportion of students in certain ages fail to meet their expected level in literacy.K. Sex education is going to receive greater attention in the future.  |

 **Countries**

6. The U.S. and Western Countries

7. The U.S. only

8. Finland

9. East Asian countries

10. Ghana

**Your answers**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **6.** | **7.** | **8.** | **9.** | **10.** |

**Part 3.** ***For questions 11 – 15, listen to a talk about sleep deprivation and write the letter A, B, C, or D in the numbered boxes provided to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions according to what you hear.***

**11. According to the script, how many hours without sleep is considered *extreme sleep deprivation*?**

A. 18 hours B. 24 hours C. 48 hours D. 72 hours

**12. What effect does staying awake for 24 hours have on your body, according to the BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) comparison?**

A. You feel normal but sleepy.
B. Your BAC is similar to 0.1%, which is over the legal driving limit.
C. Your BAC equals exactly 0.05%, just under the legal limit.

 D. There's no significant impact on your coordination.

**13. What are *microsleeps* as mentioned in the text?**

A. Full hours of sleep during the night
B. Periods of intense hallucination
C. Very short, unnoticeable moments of sleep
D. Moments of feeling wide awake after caffeine

**14. What unusual shared hallucination is mentioned in the text?**

A. Hearing a baby cry
B. Seeing a bear
C. The “hat phenomenon”
D. Floating out of the body

**15. What is one historical use of sleep deprivation described in the text?**

A. To train soldiers in combat readiness
B. To treat insomnia in ancient medicine
C. As punishment for thieves
D. To extract confessions during witch trials

**Your answers**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **11.** | **12.** | **13.** | **14.** | **15.** |

**Part 4.** ***For questions 16 – 25, listen to part of a discussion about why it is so hard to escape poverty and complete the following summary. Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS taken from the recording for each space. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.***

After months of unemployment, people may rely on government **(16) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to survive. These support programs help cover essential needs like rent, utilities, and food. However, once someone finds a job and earns just a bit more, they often become **(17) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** for benefits. Ironically, this new income may not be enough to cover their total expenses, especially when you factor in added costs like **(18) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and childcare. In many cases, people have **(19) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** than before they were employed. This discouraging situation is known as the **(20) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, where earning more leads to losing essential aid.

This is one of many **(21) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** that keep individuals and families trapped in poverty. Some are personal, like lack of access to healthy food or **(22) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. Others are structural, such as corrupt governments or environmental crises. Welfare traps are especially frustrating because they result from policies meant to **(23) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. In some countries, governments now try to solve this by **(24) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** benefits more gradually or offering **(25) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** like healthcare and education to all citizens.

**Your answers**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **16.** | **17.** | **18.** | **19.** | **20.** |
| **21.** | **22.** | **23.** | **24.** | **25.** |

**II. READING (10 points)**
**II.1. LANGUAGE IN USE (5.0 points)**
**Part 1.** ***For questions 26 – 35, 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.***

The landscape of human communication has undergone a profound **26. \_\_\_\_\_\_** in recent decades. Long gone are the days when handwritten correspondence and fixed-line telephony constituted the primary **27. \_\_\_\_\_\_** for maintaining relationships. In their place, digital platforms such as instant messaging, email, and video conferencing have rendered interaction faster and more **28. \_\_\_\_\_\_** than at any point in history.
 Nevertheless, scholars and psychologists have increasingly voiced concerns regarding the unintended **29. \_\_\_\_\_\_** of this digital evolution. Paradoxically, while individuals are more virtually connected than ever, many report heightened feelings of emotional **30. \_\_\_\_\_\_** and detachment. Social networking sites, in particular, have been repeatedly **31. \_\_\_\_\_\_** for fostering superficial interactions and diminishing the depth of interpersonal engagement.
 That said, the digital age has indisputably introduced substantial **32. \_\_\_\_\_\_** to how we engage with the world. Remote employment, distance education, and cross-cultural dialogue are now more **33. \_\_\_\_\_\_** than previous generations could have envisioned. The challenge, experts argue, lies in establishing a sustainable **34. \_\_\_\_\_\_** between leveraging technology and preserving authentic, face-to-face communication.
Looking ahead, the central task will be to **35. \_\_\_\_\_\_** digital interaction in a way that enriches, rather than replaces, genuine human connection.

**26.** **A.** modification  **B.** transformation   **C.** revision     **D.** fluctuation
**27.** **A.** channels    **B.** strategies      **C.** pathways    **D.** mechanisms
**28.** **A.** seamless    **B.** deliberate    **C.** prevalent  **D.** accessible
**29.** **A.** symptoms   **B.** casualties     **C.** ramifications   **D.** indications
**30.** **A.** detachment   **B.** seclusion      **C.** deficiency   **D.** solitude
**31.** **A.** condemned   **B.** glorified     **C.** circumvented  **D.** applauded
**32.** **A.** advantages   **B.** breakthroughs    **C.** implications   **D.** conveniences
**33.** **A.** tangible    **B.** attainable     **C.** conceivable   **D.** pervasive
**34.** **A.** alignment    **B.** compromise    **C.** synergy     **D.** equilibrium
**35.** **A.** amplify    **B.** regulate      **C.** reinforce    **D.** optimize

**Your answers**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **26.** | **27.** | **28.** | **29.** | **30.** |
| **31.** | **32.** | **33.** | **34.** | **35.** |

**Part 2. *For questions 36 – 40, 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.***

|  |
| --- |
| **theory – predict – create – vary – sceptic – reflect – respond – logic – perceive – innovate** |

The rapid evolution of artificial intelligence (AI) has not only revolutionized computational capacities but has also provoked profound philosophical discourse regarding the nature of cognition and autonomy.

Some scholars contend that the advent of AI systems capable of emulating human deductive processes epitomizes a monumental **(0) theoretical** breakthrough in contemporary science.

These systems exhibit remarkable **(36) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** diversity, adapting their outputs across a myriad of contexts with nuanced precision.

Nonetheless, a cohort of experts remains decidedly **(37) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, questioning whether such systems possess genuine sentience or are merely sophisticated imitations bereft of consciousness.

The intricate architectures underlying these networks necessitate enhanced calls for **(38) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** responsiveness to emerging ethical and technical challenges.

Absent such clarity, it becomes increasingly arduous to verify that AI-generated outcomes are equitable, impartial, and **(39) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** justifiable.

This epistemic ambiguity fuels both technical prudence and metaphysical **(40) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** concerning the ethical implications and ontological status of artificial cognition.

**Your answers**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **36.** | **37.** | **38.** | **39.** | **40.** |

**Part 3. *The passage below contains FIVE grammatical mistakes. For questions 41 – 45, UNDERLINE the mistakes and WRITE THEIR CORRECT FORMS in the numbered boxes provided.***

Rooftop gardens epitomize a sophisticated response to the spatial constraints of urban environments, merging aesthetics with ecological function. Beyond their visual appeal, they provide insulation, reduce noise pollution, and support pollinator populations. One of the most compelling aspect of these gardens is their capacity to transform underutilized rooftops into productive, living systems. Another innovative strategies involve integrating rainwater harvesting mechanisms to enhance sustainability. However, its long-term success depends largely on policy support and public awareness. The vegetation cultivating on such rooftops acts as a buffer against heat and air pollutants, contributing to more livable cities.

**Your answers**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **41.** | **42.** | **43.** | **44.** | **45.** |

**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.***

 **Industrial Zones and Their Global Impact**

For many developing nations, industrial zones have become **(46)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** cornerstone of economic restructuring. They not only attract multinational corporations but also stimulate **(47)** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** sectors such as logistics and services. However, not all industrial zones are created equal. The **(48) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_** successful models are those integrated into national development strategies and aligned with environmental sustainability.

Governments often designate specific regions as industrial hubs and provide incentives to investors. In recent years, **(49) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_** have emerged that are tailored to green technologies or high-tech industries. These specialized zones demand a labour force **(50) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_** is both adaptable and highly trained, without which productivity goals may not be met.

Another critical consideration is infrastructure. Some zones are established with limited foresight, lacking the transport and energy networks required for long-term success. **(51) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_** zones, despite their initial promise, struggle to attract sufficient investment due to such oversights.

Communities living nearby, **(52) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_** livelihoods may be affected, should be consulted during planning. Neglecting their needs can lead to conflict and resistance. The companies **(53) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_** operate within these zones are also expected to meet international standards of corporate responsibility.

The zones **(54) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_** focus on innovation and sustainability tend to show more resilience in volatile markets. Still, not every country is equipped with the institutional capacity to monitor compliance or adapt to emerging global standards.

In essence, industrial zones represent a complex equation—one involving economic ambition, social responsibility, and environmental foresight, all of which must be balanced **(55) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_** long-term success.

**Your answers**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **46.** | **47.** | **48.** | **49.** | **50.** |
| **51.** | **52.** | **53.** | **54.** | **55.** |

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

 **Daylight Saving Time**

Each year in many countries around the world, clocks are set forward in spring and then back again in autumn in an effort to ‘save’ daylight hours. Like many modern practices, Daylight Savings Time (DST) dates back to ancient civilisations. The Romans would adjust their routines to the sun’s schedule by using different scales in their water clocks for different months of the year.

This practice fell out of favour, however, and the concept was renewed only when, in 1784, the American inventor Benjamin Franklin wrote a jocular article for The Journal of Paris exhorting the city’s residents to make more use of daylight hours in order to reduce candle use. In 1895, in a more serious effort, New Zealand entomologist George Vernon Hudson proposed a biannual two-hour shift closely resembling current forms of DST. His cause was not taken up, however, until Germany first pushed their clocks forward in April 1916 as part of a drive to save fuel in World War I.

Over the next several decades, global use of DST was sporadic and inconsistent. Countries such as the UK and USA adopted DST in World Wars I and II, but reverted to standard time after the wars ended. In the USA, the decision to use DST was determined by states and municipalities between 1945 and 1966, causing widespread confusion for transport and broadcasting schedules until Congress implemented the Uniform Time Act in 1966.

Today, DST is used in some form by over 70 countries worldwide, affecting around one sixth of the world’s population. There is still no uniform standard, however. Countries such as Egypt and Russia have adjusted their policies on multiple occasions in recent years, in some instances leading to considerable turmoil. Muslim countries often suspend DST for the month of Ramadan. The European Union finally standardised DST in 2000, while the USA’s most recent adjustments were introduced with the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

In general, the benefits of DST are considerable and well documented. Perhaps the most significant factor in terms of popular support is the chance to make better use of daylight in the evening. With extended daylight hours, office workers coming off a 9 to 5 shift can often take part in outdoor recreational activities for an hour or two. This has other positive effects, such as reducing domestic electricity consumption as more opportunities become available to use sunlight instead of artificial lighting. A further benefit is a reduction in the overall rate of automobile accidents, as DST ensures that streets are well lit at peak hours.

Many industries are supportive of DST due to the opportunities it provides for increased revenue. Extended daylight hours mean people are more likely to stay out later in the evening and spend more money in bars and restaurants, for example, so tourism and hospitality are two sectors that stand to gain a lot from more daylight. In Queensland, Australia, which elected not to implement DST due to complaints from dairy farmers over disruption to milking schedules, the annual drain on the state’s economy is estimated to be as high as $4 billion.

Some research casts doubt on the advantages of DST, however. Although the overall incidence of traffic accidents is lower, for pedestrians the risk of being hit by a car in the evening increases by as much as 186 per cent in the weeks after clocks are set back in autumn, possibly because drivers have not yet adjusted to earlier sunsets. Although this shift does in turn make streets safer in early mornings, the risk to pedestrians is not offset simply because fewer pedestrians use the streets at that time.

A further health concern involves the disruption of our body clock. Setting clocks one hour forward at night can cause many people to lose sleep, resulting in tiredness and all its well-documented effects, such as mood swings, reduced productivity and problems with overall physical well-being. In 2008, a Swedish study found that heart attack rates spike in the few days following the switch to DST for summer. Tiredness may also be a factor behind the increase in road accidents in the week after DST begins.

Finally, safety issues have arisen in parts of Latin America relating to a suspected relationship between DST and higher incidences of street crime. In 2008, Guatemala chose not to use DST because it forced office workers to leave their homes while it was still dark outside in the morning. This natural cover for criminals was thought to increase incidents of crime at this hour.

**For questions 56 – 61, 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.**

**56**    Daylight savings time has been in continual use since ancient times.

**57**    Today, DST is very similar to how George Vernon Hudson suggested it.

**58**    DST was not considered successful during World Wars I and II.

**59**    The USA finalised its DST policy in 1966.

**60**    Around the world, there is now general agreement on how DST should be used.

**61**    Frequent changes to DST over a short time span have caused problems in some countries.

**Your answers**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **56.** | **57.** | **58.** | **59.** | **60.** | **61.** |

**For questions 62 – 69, complete the table below with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS taken from the passage. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.**

 **Advantages and disadvantages of Daylight Saving Time**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Advantages** | **Disadvantages** |
| More opportunities for **62. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** after work. | Dairy farmers find that DST upsets their **66. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| People use less power in their homes because they don’t need as much lighting. | More dangerous for **67. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** following re-setting of clocks in autumn. |
| Better lighting during **63. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** leads to fewer car crashes following the spring change to DST. | Loss of sleep can lead to **68. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, inferior performance at work and poorer general health because of fatigue. |
| Some industries, such as **64. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, earn more money with DST. | Darker mornings may lead to more **69. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| People are likely to spend more money in **65. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. | Higher risk of heart attack after DST change. |

**Your answers**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **62.** | **63.** | **64.** | **65.** |
| **66.** | **67.** | **68.** | **69.** |

**Part 3.** ***In the passage below, six paragraphs have been removed. For questions 70 – 75, read the passage and choose from paragraphs A – G the one which fits each gap. There is ONE extra paragraph which you do not need to use. Write the letters A – G in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.***

 **MERGING ART&SCIENCE: A FALSE PREMISE**

The current vogue is for believing that art and science should be brought together. This obsession for showing that art - particularly the visual arts - is similar to science in content and the creative processes is bemusing. I detect in it an element of social snobbery - artists are envious of scientists and scientists want to be thought of as artists. Science is about understanding how the world works, there being only one right description of any observed phenomenon. Unlike the arts it is a collective endeavour in which the individual is ultimately irrelevant - geniuses merely speed up discovery.

If Watson and Crick had not got the structure of DNA we know that Franklin and Klug would soon have had it. Indeed simultaneous discovery is a common feature of science. If one could rerun the history of science and start again it would have a different history but the end results would be the same: water would be H2O and genes would code for proteins but the names would be different.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **70.** |  |

Whatever the feelings of the scientist these are absent from the final understanding of a process. while art is a personal creation and contains the personal views of the artist. And since science is a communal process a scientist has to be very aware of what is known about the problem being investigated. There are strict criteria about lack of contradiction and, of course, correspondence with reality. Science makes progress, we build on the work of our current and earlier colleagues. To talk about progress in art makes no sense, there is change but not progress.

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| **71.** |  |

Thus, I cannot understand what is being referred to when there is reference to critical thinking in art. In what sense can a painting be right or wrong? Anyone can have views about a painting and engage in art discussions. Non-scientists can thrill to scientific ideas but to make meaningful comments about them, and I exclude their application to technology, one actually has to have detailed knowledge; science needs a much greater, and quite different, intellectual effort.

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| **72.** |  |

It is very rare for referees to recommend acceptance without changes. This can be a complex procedure but in general authors are grateful for the careful reading and criticism of their paper. Even so we reject about half of all papers we receive. Paintings, however, are neither revised nor can be shown to be wrong.

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| **73.** |  |

The idea of creativity makes scientists want to be thought of as artists and vice versa and there may well be something similar in all human creativity, but that it is particularly similar in scientists and artists is without foundation. The similarity between art and science is even less than that between billiards and rugby, both of which at least use a ball.

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| **74.** |  |

It seems just poetic licence to suggest that this picture did much to convince European scientists that the great mystery of life might be explained in terms of electrochemical forces. (Although it may be that Jan Vermeer did indeed discover that more compelling illusions can be achieved through a kind of optical illusion that makes special use of the perceptual system inside our brains, rather than through the details that reach our eyes).

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| **75.** |  |

Art does not explain, but it broadens our experience in ways that are not clearly understood. I value it in its own terms, but it has nothing to do with understanding how the world works. To pretend that it does is to trivialise science and do nothing for art. We should stop pretending that the two disciplines are similar, and instead rejoice in the very different ways that they enrich our culture..

***The missing paragraphs:***

**A.** What are the criteria used by the director of a gallery and his or her advisers when selecting for exhibition? Is he or she like the editor of a science journal? No, for there is nothing in art like the peer review so fundamental to science; there are no art critics, just art writers. As the editor of a scientific journal, it is extremely rare that my personal view determines whether or not a paper gets published. My role is to choose a good editorial board and to know to whom the papers to be reviewed should be sent.

**B.** Bringing visual artists and scientists together merely makes them feel elevated: it is not a scientific experience. Although it must be said that science has had a strong influence on certain artists - in the efforts to imitate nature and thus to develop perspective or in the area of new technologies - art has contributed virtually nothing to science.

**C.** Then of the hundreds of thousands of papers published each year, few have a lifetime of more than a few years. Most disappear with little if any trace. The original papers, with very rare exceptions, like those of Einstein, are never part of scientific culture and they are not for sale. Science, unlike art, is not entertainment.

**D.** What intrigued me at the opening was how the exhibits were chosen. There is less of a problem with well established artists such as Lucian Freud, Francis Bacon or Matisse. It is the very modern works that present the problem.

**E.** How different from this are all the arts. No Shakespeare - no Hamlet; no Picasso - no Guernica. Moreover a work of art is capable of many interpretations and has moral content. There is but one correct scientific explanation for any set of observations and reliable scientific understanding has no moral or ethical content; that is to say that the scientist does not allow his own reactions to come into play.

**F.** The Oxford University art historian Martin Kemp takes a very different view from mine here. He claims that during the 'Scientific Revolution' some artists were able to play an active role in the dialogue between seeing and knowing. He gives the fiery emissions of Joseph Wright's volcanoes painted in the late eighteenth century as an example. Wright's painting of Vesuvius erupting may be dramatic but it owes nothing to geology.

**G.** Art is not constrained by reality. It cannot be shown to be wrong. And of all the arts, painting is the one least related to science as it does not deal with complex ideas or explanations, is the easiest to appreciate, and the response is often an emotional one. Ideas in the visual arts come from art critics and historians, not the works themselves.

**Your answers**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **70.** | **71.** | **72.** | **73.** | **74.** | **75.** |

**Part 4.** ***For questions 76 – 85, read the following passage and write A, B, C, or D in the corresponding numbered boxes provided to indicate the correct answer which fits best according to what is stated or implied in the text.***

Science plays a crucial role in identifying problems related to how natural systems function and deteriorate, particularly when they are affected by an external factor. In turn, scientific findings shape the policies introduced to protect such systems where necessary. Experts are frequently called upon by politicians to provide evidence which can be used to make scientifically sound, or at least scientifically justifiable policy decisions.

Issues arise as there are frequent disagreements between experts over the way data is gathered and interpreted. An example of the former is the first scientific evidence of a hole in the ozone layer by the British Antarctic Survey. (A) The findings were at first greeted by the scientific community with scepticism, as the British Antarctic Survey was not yet an established scientific community. (B) Moreover, it was generally believed that satellites would have picked up such ozone losses if they were indeed occurring. (C) It was not until the methodology of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center was reviewed that it became apparent that data had been overlooked. (D)

With regards to the latter, controversy between scientists may arise where data analysis appears to support one policy over another. In 1991, the World Resource Institute (WRI) published estimates of net emissions and sinks of greenhouse gases for a number of countries, including India. The report provoked criticisms among Indian scientists who argued that the figures had failed to take some significant factors into account, leading to overestimated emission values. The WRI was accused of blaming less economically developed countries for global warming; a stance which, if accepted, could impede industrialisation and sustain, even widen, the wealth gap.

Problems regarding the scientific method are well documented and it is widely accepted by the scientific community that, however consistent scientists are in their procedures, the results born under different circumstances can vary markedly. A number of factors influence research, among them the organisation of a laboratory, the influence of prevailing theories, financial constraints and the peer review process. Consequently, scientists tend to believe they are not in a position to bear universal truths but to reveal tendencies.

However, **this** is countered by two factors. Firstly, certain scientific institutions wish to maintain a degree of status as ‘bearers of truth’. Further, policy makers uphold this understanding by requesting scientific certainties in order to legitimise their policy decisions. According to a number of authors who have documented this process, decision makers do not necessarily try to obtain all the information which is or could be made available regarding an issue. Rather, they select that information which is necessary to fulfil their goals, information termed as ‘half-knowledge’. Attempts to underplay transboundary issues such as water provision and pollution are cases in point. Politicians clearly cannot pretend that certain data do not exist if they are well-known in scientific communities or national borders, but some discretion is evident, especially where there is controversy and uncertainty.

 It is important to note that policies regarding scientific issues are influenced in no small part by societal factors. These include the relative importance of certain environmental issues, the degree of trust in the institutions conducting the research, and not least the social standing of those affected by the issue. In other words, environmental problems are in many ways socially constructed according to the prevailing cultural, economic and political conditions within a society. It has been suggested, for example, that contemporary 'post-materialist' Western societies pay greater attention to 'quality' - including environmental quality – than 'quantity'. This theory does not necessarily assume that people of low-income countries have no interest in environmental protection, as the example of the Chipko movement in India clearly demonstrates, but demonstrates that the way a resource is valued varies widely among different communities.

 Finally, it cannot be denied that the ‘issue of the day’ changes constantly. One issue becomes more or less urgent than another, based on current events. Concurrently, new issues enter the political agenda. It has been noted that it often takes a 'policy entrepreneur', someone who dedicates time, energy and financial resources to a certain issue, to raise its profile. Furthermore, whether an issue is taken up by political, environmental or media groups, depends very much on the degree to which it suits their particular agenda, not to mention budget.

**76. With reference to paragraph 1, which of the following pieces of research would be NOT be relevant to this article?**

A. the effect of climate change on weather patterns in Africa

B. whether or not low level radiation increases the risk of cancer

C. how acid rain impacts species within a lake ecosystem

D. a comparison of the species present in two areas of woodland

**77. What is the purpose of the example of ozone data given in paragraph 2?**

A. to show that NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center used unreliable methods of gathering scientific data

B. to show how data gathering methods and the status of scientists may affect the way data is regarded

C. to prove that it is wrong to dismiss evidence which comes from a non-established source

D. to show how NASA and the British Antarctic Survey disagreed over the correct way to gather ozone data.

**78. Where in paragraph 2 does this sentence best fit?**

This was because of the way their computers had been programmed to discard any readings which appeared anomalous.

A. (A) B. (B) C. (C) D. (D)

**79. Paragraph 3 gives an example of a dispute over…**

A. which country was most responsible for producing greenhouse gases

B. the pollution caused by multinational companies in India.

C. how statistics were interpreted and presented.

D. erroneous data which resulted from a poorly-funded experiment.

**80. In paragraph 5, ‘this’ refers to…**

A. the scientific method and its inherent problems.

B. the belief that scientists cannot reveal universal truths.

C. the variation in scientific results under different circumstances.

D. the list of factors which influence scientific research.

**81. What is meant by this sentence?**

 ***‘Further, policy makers uphold this understanding by requesting scientific certainties in order to legitimise their policy decisions.’***

A. Politicians when seeking evidence for policy-making, do not understand the fact that scientists are unable to act as ‘bearers of truth’.

B. Politicians consider the scientific research that supports their policies as more legitimate than other research.

C. Scientific institutions encourage politicians to use them for policy-making in order to improve their status.

D. Politicians, when seeking evidence for policy-making, encourage the belief that scientists can produce incontestable facts.

**82. Which sentence best sums up the ideas in paragraph 4?**

A. Scientists are aware that their work cannot present incontrovertible facts.

B. If scientists were more consistent, they could create more reliable evidence.

C. Variations in how research is conducted often affect its validity.

D. Scientists spend more time documenting problems than conducting research.

**83. Why are ‘transboundary issues such as water provision and pollution’ referred to in paragraph 5?**

A. to illustrate situations in which politicians pretend that certain data does not exist

B. to illustrate situations in which incorrect information is given by scientific institutions keen to maintain their status.

C. to illustrate situations in which politicians are selectiive with regards to what data they gather

D. to illustrate situations in which policy makers request scientists to present them with scientific certainties, even though none exist.

**84. What can be inferred about the Chipko movement?**

A. It was an example of how people in low-income countries have little interest in environmental protection.

B. It was an example of how different people within a community valued a resource differently.

C. It was an example of how people in a low-income community showed interest in protecting the environment.

D. It was an example of how people in a low-income community valued quantity over quality.

**85. Which of the following arguments is NOT presented in paragraph 7?**

A. An issue only get political or media attention if someone with a high profile is supporting it.

B. Politicians are only interested in environmental issues if it benefits them.

C. Issues don’t get public attention unless a particular person advocates it strongly.

D. Issues may be overlooked if there are other significant events happening at the time.

**Your answers**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **76.** | **77.** | **78.** | **79.** | **80.** |
| **81.** | **82.** | **83.** | **84.** | **85.** |

**Part 5.** ***For questions 86 – 95, read the following passage about four people having written travel books and choose from the sections (A – E). The sections may be selected more than once. Write the letter A, B, C, D, or E in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.***

 **On the road**

1. **Eleanor Young**

Young has written a book about a journey which took seven months. Beginning in Beijing, she headed west out of China and then south to Kashmir. The 20 years of her life until then had been varied – she had been a correspondent for a French weekly, she had sailed in the Olympics and skied internationally, but her main love was travelling. She had made a similar journey in Central Asia and had a minor success with the resulting book. When she writes she thinks of her audience as one family member or one good friend. She writes what was seen and felt, the way it turned up on the road – her descriptions on the camel journey are mixed with discussions about politicians and images of a girl with her hair in a hundred plaits.

**B. Fiona Dalton**

When Dalton visited the bottom tip of Chile and saw the edge of the ice-field, she decided to cross Antarctica. She tried not to be discouraged by others who had done it. ‘The men who had skied across alone didn’t know how to deal with the idea of someone happy to take a plane some of the way, but I wanted to do the trip my own way.’ She spent seven months crossing the continent, pitching tents on the sea ice. Dalton says that as a woman, her reasons for exploration are different from those of men. ‘Men have done it to show they can win. I may go to see what the environment can teach me, or to feel the air and see what it looks like. Or just sit around and appreciate the scenery.’ She is a writer who explores the world in order to write. She says, “It also suits me to get away. I love to free myself from the bills and the bank manager. Antarctica is perfect for that. ‘It was, however, the most testing environment she has ever experienced – it could be ‘a full-time job just surviving’.

**C. Ruth Moore**

On her first trip, aged 24, Moore hitch-hiked through Nigeria, canoed down the Congo and rode horseback across Cameroon. What started as a year-long trip turned into a three-and-a-half-year journey. ‘The emptiness that lay ahead was wonderful – days waiting to be filled.’ She was raised in the African bush and her mother and grandmother had grown up in China. ‘I don’t where I belong. My family thought it was totally normal that I had a large view of the world.’ She dismisses fear. ‘Wild animals will look for an escape route rather than attack,’ she says. Amongst other things, Moore has devised her own cure for homesickness. ‘You can always improvise something. I felt homesick for eggs for breakfast while floating down the river, so I had eggs – crocodile eggs – and felt much better.’ Moore does believe that a woman’s approach is different. She rarely undertakes journeys with an ultimate aim, goal or destination – she decides as she goes along, often with the flip of a coin.

**D. Sally Wade**

Wade is probably more of an ex-explorer – her last journey has put her off. Wade was born in Queensland, Australia. She was sent to boarding school, then just wandered about – studying music, biology and later Japanese. At 25, Wade bought a couple of camels and rode them over 2,000 kilometrers across the Australia outback. Her account became a best-seller. ‘I never intended to write about it – it was a private thing. I wanted to get to know aboriginal culture and the desert. It was a glorious trip. I went by camel because I was broke and couldn’t afford a vehicle.’ Then in 1992 she joined a group of Rabari in India. Wade’s account of that Indian journey with them tells of failure. ‘The two trips were not comparable.’ She tried to live a Rabari existence – except that she could always leave. She remained an outsider.

**On which writer is the following stated?**

**86.** She does not make decisions in advance

**87.** She used to be a journalist

**88.** She has given up travelling

**89.** She writes in an informal way

**90.** She travels with the intention of putting her experiences into print

**Which writer says**

**91**. She took no notice of other people’s opinions when planning one trip?

**92.** On one trip, just staying alive took up most of her time?

**93.** She takes pleasure in her surroundings?

**94.** She chose her method of transport because of lack of funds?

**95.** She is confident of finding solutions to problems?

***Your answers:***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **86.**  | **87.**  | **88.**  | **89.**  | **90.**  |
| **91.**  | **92.**  | **93.**  | **94.**  | **95.**  |

**III. WRITING (5.0 points)**

**Part 1. *Read the following passage and use your own words to summarise it. Your summary should be 120 to 150 words.***

 **The Psychology in Happiness**

In the late 1990s, psychologist Martin Seligman encouraged his colleagues to shift their focus from only mental illness to also studying mental wellness. This marked the beginning of a growing interest in understanding happiness, positive character traits, and well-being. With support from neuroscience and modern research, the "happiness movement" gained popularity, leading to self-help trends promising to eliminate sadness and stress. However, some psychologists criticized this movement for ignoring the importance of negative emotions, like sadness, which they believe are essential parts of the human experience. Critics argue that overemphasizing happiness can devalue feelings that give depth to art and life, with one psychologist even suggesting that a person constantly trying to be happy may end up being emotionally shallow.

One key insight from happiness research is the concept of human adaptability. People often return to a baseline level of happiness after positive or negative events. For example, getting a new job or getting married brings excitement at first, but people quickly adjust and start searching for the next goal. This constant striving can feel like being stuck on a treadmill—always chasing but never reaching lasting happiness. Psychologist Sonja Lyubomirsky suggests that instead of focusing on material gains or status, we should engage in dynamic and meaningful activities that capture our attention and bring long-term satisfaction.

Happiness also doesn’t mean avoiding pain or discomfort. According to Russ Harris, the belief that happiness is the absence of negative experiences is misleading. Life naturally includes loss and setbacks. Instead of trying to eliminate unpleasant emotions, we should focus on meaningful goals. Neuroscientist Richard Davidson found that working toward a goal—and expecting progress—activates positive emotions while reducing negative ones. This means that joy often comes not from achieving success, but from the process of moving toward it.

Another factor affecting happiness is the number of choices we face. While people tend to think that having more options brings more happiness, research suggests the opposite. Barry Schwartz’s idea of the “paradox of choice” explains that too many choices can overwhelm us, making decisions harder and leading to regret. People may keep second-guessing their decisions and wonder if they missed out on something better, which can reduce overall satisfaction.

Lastly, the idea that everyone should always maintain a positive outlook is both unrealistic and harmful. Psychologist Barbara Held warns against pressuring people to “stay positive” when it doesn’t match their emotional reality. Some people cope better using “defensive pessimism,” as shown by Julie Norem’s research. This strategy allows anxious individuals to prepare carefully and avoid failure. Ultimately, true happiness comes from living according to one’s values. When people are unsure of their values, asking what they’d do if they were guaranteed approval can help guide them toward meaningful goals. Happiness, therefore, is not a fixed state—it’s a personal, ongoing journey.

**Part 2. *Write an essay of at least 300 words on the following topic.***

**The ideal school is a place where curiosity is more important than conformity.**

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement? Provide specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

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