

Đề Tiếng Anh_11 <i>(Đề thi gồm 15 trang)</i>	KỲ THI CHỌN HỌC SINH GIỎI LẦN THỨ XVII, NĂM 2026 ĐỀ THI MÔN: TIẾNG ANH – LỚP 11 Thời gian làm bài: 180 phút (không kể thời gian giao đề)
--	--

I. LISTENING (5.0 points)

Part 1. Listen to a conversation the transformation of social media and do the tasks that follow.

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

- Kyle's survey shows users are repelled by the chaotic nature of current feeds.
- High production value discourages average users from sharing their personal lives.
- The Host easily recalls many recent personal updates from her close friends.
- Kyle claims users' motivations for visiting platforms have changed significantly over time.
- Data proves influencers are the only group with stable engagement rates.

Your answer:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
----	----	----	----	----

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

K for Kyle Chayka

H for the Host

B for Both of the speakers

- Social media now focuses on lifestyle aspirations rather than personal connections.
- A comparison between modern social media and traditional television commercials.
- Tech leaders' strategic intelligence and their use of sophisticated marketing algorithms.
- Social media companies now treat advertisers as their primary clients.
- Concerns about a significant drop in user engagement for social networks.

Your answer:

6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
----	----	----	----	-----

Part 2. Listen to a talk about a reasoning method ONCE and do the tasks that follow.

For questions 11–12, choose TWO letters from A–E to indicate TWO true statements about Bayesian reasoning. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

- Bayesian reasoning assumes beliefs cannot be quantified numerically.
- It involves modifying beliefs when new evidence is available.
- It originated during World War II as part of codebreaking efforts.
- It provides a structured approach to learning from experience.
- It rejects the use of probabilities in analysing uncertainty.

For questions 13–15, choose *THREE* letters from A–G to indicate *THREE* true statements about applications of Bayesian reasoning. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

- A. Bayesian reasoning was used to determine Enigma machine configurations.
- B. Email spam filters operate without updating probabilities dynamically.
- C. Mammograms can produce perfectly correct results in cancer screening with Bayesian analysis.
- D. Bayesian analysis is applied in both technological and medical contexts.
- E. The probability of cancer after a positive test conducted in Bayesian methods is higher than 50%.
- F. Bayesian reasoning incorporates prior probabilities into conclusions.
- G. Bayesian methods are restricted to theoretical mathematics.

Your answer:

11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

For questions 16–20, write the letter A, B, C or D in the corresponding numbered boxes provided to indicate the correct answer.

16. What is the primary purpose of the breast cancer example?
- A. To demonstrate the limitations of medical imaging technology
 - B. To support the applicability of a theory in a medical practice
 - C. To criticise the reliability of diagnostic testing
 - D. To compare different statistical approaches in medicine
17. According to the passage, Bayesian inference in science is contentious because it _____.
 A. eliminates the need for experimental data
 B. depends entirely on subjective opinion
 C. challenges the idea of purely objective analysis
 D. rejects the use of historical evidence
18. What does the term “prior probability” most nearly refer to?
 A. A prospect calculated with obtained results
 B. An assumption from a scientific approach
 C. An initial estimate based on existing knowledge
 D. A fixed value that has already been tested
19. Which of the following best describes the human brain in Bayesian terms?
 A. It processes each new experience independently of past knowledge
 B. It relies exclusively on sensory input without interpretation
 C. It continuously updates expectations based on incoming information
 D. It avoids forming predictions about future events
20. The author’s view towards Bayesian reasoning is that it _____.
 A. is limited in scope to specialised scientific fields
 B. fundamentally reflects how humans interpret uncertainty
 C. undermines traditional methods of scientific inquiry
 D. is too complex to be applied in everyday decision-making

Your answer:

16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Part 3. For questions 21 – 25, listen to part of a talk about Gen Z working culture, TWICE and answer each of the following questions with no more than TWO words taken from the recording. Write your answers in the corresponding spaces provided.

21. What is the specific terminology used to define the way Gen Z is reshaping modern society?

22. What impersonal label do workers reject to avoid being seen as mere numbers?

23. What is the core objective that proponents of the #LazyGirlJob movement try to establish?

24. What index of staff attrition has hit an all-time peak among Gen Z workers?

25. How does the skeptical speaker pejoratively categorize the grievances of younger workers?

Your answer:

21.	22.	23.	24.	25.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Part 4. For questions 26-35, listen to part of a talk about reading TWICE, and complete the following summary with NO MORE THAN ONE WORD and/or A NUMBER taken from the recording for each space. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Language is often assumed to be innate, and reading, as its written counterpart, is therefore mistakenly regarded as natural; yet, in reality, it is an acquired and cognitively demanding construct. While the human brain is equipped with the (26) _____ necessary for vision and speech, it lacks an inherent capacity for reading, having had insufficient evolutionary time to develop specialised mechanisms. Instead, reading emerges through the adaptive integration of regions governing vision, auditory processing, language, attention, and emotion.

Early writing systems such as Sumerian (27) _____ and Egyptian (28) _____ illustrate the gradual evolution of symbolic representation into increasingly sophisticated forms. Neurologically, reading is a whole-brain activity engaging all (29) _____, reshaping both structure and connectivity.

Crucially, different scripts impose distinct cognitive demands: (30) _____ systems like Chinese rely more heavily on visual memory, a notion (31) _____ by scientific evidence showing selective impairment following brain injury. Reading also exerts a visceral impact, activating regions such as the (32) _____ insula associated with gastromotoric responses and empathy.

However, digital environments are shifting our reading habits towards skimming, which fosters susceptibility to misinformation and diminishes deep comprehension. Excessive exposure, particularly among children, may impair attention, rendering the brain increasingly (33) _____ and less capable of sustained focus on any given (34) _____. Despite this, a simple (35) _____ remains: immersive, sustained reading practices to transforms not only individuals and but also the whole society.

Your answer:

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

II. READING (8.0 points)

II.1. LANGUAGE IN USE (3.0 points)

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

THE SHAKESPEAREAN AUTHORSHIP ANOMALY

The debate surrounding William Shakespeare's identity strikes at the heart of how we perceive the intersection of genius and biography. For centuries, traditionalists have maintained the "Stratfordian" view (36) _____. However, skeptics argue that the Bard's lack of documented travel is difficult to reconcile with (37) _____.

Modern scholarship has increasingly turned its gaze toward Emilia Bassano, a gifted poet of Italian-Jewish descent. (38) _____, she possesses a unique status as a feminist immigrant that marks her as a prime suspect. Proponents of this theory suggest that the psychological depth of Shakespeare's heroines is (39) _____. To many vehement Shakespeareans, such a claim remains (40) _____, yet the evidence continues to fuel this fascinating historical revisionism.

36. A. that a man of such modest origins single-handedly created the Western canon
B. which a man of such modest origins is believed to have single-handedly created
C. in which a man of such modest origins having created the Western canon
D. whereby a man of such modest origins must have been created the Western canon
37. A. the settings being far-flung of which he is believed never to have visited
B. the far-flung settings he is widely believed never to have visited in person
C. settings of which are far-flung and he is believed never to visit in person
D. such far-flung settings that he is not believed never to have visited in person
38. A. As a woman who was a published poet and a feminist
B. Her status as a published poet and a feminist notwithstanding
C. Being a published poet and an early feminist in her own right
D. That she was a published poet and an early feminist
39. A. far-reaching beyond what a male writer of that era could ostensibly conceive
B. more far-reaching than that of what a male writer of that era could conceive
C. so far-reaching that a male writer of that era could not conceivably have done
D. such far-reaching as a male writer of that era could not conceivably do
40. A. tantamount to literary heresy, regardless of the plethora of evidence provided
B. tantamount for literary heresy, regardless of how much evidence is provided
C. commensurate to literary heresy, in spite of the plethora of provided evidence
D. commensurate for literary heresy, despite how much evidence being provided

Your answer:

36.	37.	38.	39.	40.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Part 2. For question 41-45, 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 corresponding numbered boxes provided.

There used to be also so-called "Egyptian" fortune-tellers who roamed the country reading palms. These travellers probably did not have African origins. A hostile 1673 work claimed that they were "great pretenders" who sought to dupe "the ignorant" by associating themselves with

Egyptians, “people (41) _____ very famous for astronomy, natural magic and the art of divination”. The authorities did not approve. In 1530, an act passed by Henry VIII’s parliament sought to expel “Egyptians” from the country, complaining that they conned people using “great, subtle, and crafty means” such as fortune-telling.

Underpinning many divinatory methods was the belief that God’s divine plan was encoded in the patterns of the natural world. Palmistry relied on interpreting the marks God had traced on the body. Astrologers, meanwhile, focused on the movements of the planets. Between 1658 and 1664, a woman called Sarah Jinner published almanacks containing astrological readings for the forthcoming year. She ranged from predicting “desperate and (42) _____ wars” to cautioning women that: “We find Mercury in Pisces retrograde in the 6th House, which denotes that servants will generally be cross, irritating and intolerable, especially maidservants.”

The behaviour of animals was also considered (43) _____. A pamphlet from circa 1690 declared that “to meet a swine the first thing in a morning, carrying straw in its mouth, denotes a maid, or widow, shall soon be married, and very fruitful in children”. On the other hand, magpies flying around you signified “much strife and brawling in marriage”. When a great (44) _____ of starlings was spied battling in the air above Cork in 1621, people whispered that it signified divine anger. Eight months later the city was devastated by a fire.

Other divination practices relied on chance. Cheap pamphlets outlined ways of divining with dice, the idea being that God determined the outcome. Another practice was to open a Bible randomly and consult the first passage that caught the eye, from which people try to (45) _____.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 41. A. whereupon | B. thereinfore | C. hereinafter | D. heretofore |
| 42. A. irrevocable | B. irreconcilable | C. unfathomable | D. unassailable |
| 43. A. vexatious | B. tenebrous | C. portentous | D. mendacious |
| 44. A. murmuration | B. tessellation | C. susurration | D. ululation |
| 45. A. cast lost | | B. plumb the depths | |
| | C. read the small print | D. get a steer | |

Your answer:

41.	42.	43.	44.	45.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Part 3. For questions 46 – 50, complete the passage by filling in each space with one of the words given in the box in its correct form. There are FOUR extra words, and the first one, (0), has been done as an example. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

MEDICINE	VIRUS	PALLIATE	GENE	MOUNT
PHARMACY	COLLECT	DOMINATE	DISPOSE	BODY

Developing and selling cold (0) MEDICATION has become big business for (46) _____ companies. Each year, people spend billions of dollars on medicines to alleviate this recurring problem. The irony is that most available medicines are only (47) _____, meaning they may help relieve cold symptoms but cannot cure the illness itself.

The reason that a cold is so hard to vaccinate or cure is because it isn’t caused by any one, single disease. There are actually about two hundred viruses responsible for our cold symptoms. Each cold virus carries specific antigens, substances that trigger immune responses in our bodies. Immune responses cause our bodies to create protective proteins, called (48) _____ to fight off harmful diseases. Another problem is that cold viruses have the ability to change their molecular structure and to adapt.

In the late 1990s, researchers seemed to have some initial success with a(n) (49) _____ molecule called BIRR4. Unfortunately, research and commercialization of the product was dropped in 2000. For now, perhaps the safest way to fight a cold is simply to follow conventional wisdom: get plenty of bed rest, take over-the-counter remedies to combat symptoms, and drink plenty of fluids. While the (50) _____ nature of these viruses often renders our most advanced scientific efforts futile, if you follow these steps, your cold should be gone in seven days. Or, do absolutely nothing, and it will last about a week.

Your answer:

46.	47.	48.	49.	50.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

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

Advertising come in many forms, from blatant neon signs to subtly embedded products in movies. In each case, the goal is to mould our habits, desires and opinions. Our visual system is targeted by an avalanche of information on the Internet, street posters, billboards and in movie theatres. Our auditory system submits to catchy radio jingles and telemarketers. More surreptitious, olfactory system in humans is targeted by variations of vanilla and citrus perfumes aimed at enticing us to linger in a retail outlet. It is difficult to measure how effective these campaigns are, but as in the “A diamond is forever” campaign, it can be so successful that they change the fabric of our culture. In the case of water, we are swayed by advertising into paying for something that we can obtain for free. Most people cannot distinguish bottle from tap water, no less among different brands.

So why is marketing such an effective mind-control technique? It is interesting to consider whether other animals exhibit anything analogous to humans’ susceptibility to advertising. If we provide a lab rat with two types of cereal, it will consume approximately the same amount of each. However, if we put that rat with another rat that spent its day eating just one type, when facing with a choice, our rat will now show a preference for the same type as the other rat was eating. Psychologists call this “socially transmitted food preference”.

Your answer:

51.	52.	53.	54.	55.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

II.2. 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 first ‘modern’ fork is thought to have been used in the eleventh century by the wife of the Venetian Doge. Forks are mentioned again three centuries later, in 1361, in an inventory of the silverware owned by the Florentine Commune. (56) _____, the first real evidence that forks had spread as part of standard table (57) _____ came some two hundred years later, in a 1570 engraving of a knife, fork and spoon. In 1605, King Henri III of France and his companions were satirized for their fork-wielding effeminacy, viewed as too delicate for men. In 1611, on returning home from Italy, the Englishman Thomas Coryat (58) _____ the news that he had seen forks in Italy and had decided to adopt them. The reason for the Italian custom was, he explained, that these extremely fastidious, ultra-modern people considered that any fingering of the meat (59) _____ was being carved at table was a transgression (60) _____ the laws of good manners, ‘seeing all men’s fingers are not alike cleane’. However, even Coryat did not

yet regard forks as being for eating with, but primarily for (61) _____ the meat in place while carving.

Although in the course of the seventeenth century there was some use of individual forks, people would more often share forks with (62) _____, wiping them carefully on their napkins as they would spoons. It was only in the nineteenth century that eating with a fork truly began to proliferate, and at this time there were important (63) _____ to its basic design. Craftsmen had been making forks with three prongs, but these were now shortened, moved closer together. Also, a fourth 'tine' was commonly added, (64) _____ the fork with a dual capacity to scoop and pierce. Consequently, one-handed eating was increasingly in (65) _____: the knife was put down once the food had been cut up and the fork was then used alone to take the food to the mouth.

Your answer:

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. Biologic medicines are proteins produced inside living cells, which are mini factories generating the genetically-engineered protein treatments.

B. In the seed lab, a technician thaws the cells in warm water. He transfers them to a glass flask that contains growth media. The growth media is comprised of hundreds of nutrients, a recipe to help the cells multiply.

C. Finally, this technician takes a sample and conducts a test to ensure the medicine is sterile. Grown in living cells, these biologic medicines are now on their way to potentially making a difference in people lives.

D. A worker then transfers the flask that contains the cells to the production side of the plant. The team injects the mixture into a five-gallon capacity bioreactor. Inside, a propeller agitates the mixture to stimulate growth.

E. He adds the ingredients to purified water in a mixing tank. After separating cellular material from the protein mixture, the team pumps it through steel-and-glass columns. Here, the purification solution works with resin beads to separate the protein from the impurities.

F. Over a three-week period, the number of cells increases exponentially. Each new cell is programmed to produce the target biologic protein.

G. Next, a technician measures salts and other dry ingredients to purify the protein liquid once it's been separated from the cells. He labels the bag and records the information separately, as required by government regulations.

H. To mass produce, scientists use the molecular machinery inside living cells. The genetic material is inserted into Chinese hamster ovarian cells and then kept frozen in liquid nitrogen until the next step.

Your answers:

0. A	66.	67.	68.	69.	70.	71.	72.
------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Part 3. Read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

FOUR INVENTORS WHO DIDN'T GET RICH FROM THEIR CREATIONS

A. Trevor Baylis

Trevor Baylis was inspired to create the wind-up radio after watching a television programme in 1991 about the inexorable spread of diseases. The programme said that a good way to tackle it was through educational radio programmes, but a lot of places lacked access to electricity, and batteries were prohibitively expensive. I had a prototype for the wind-up radio within half an hour,' he said. But his one-of-a-kind invention, which sold in the millions, wasn't lucrative for Baylis, who admitted to being 'totally broke' in 2013. Speaking of his London home, he said: "I'm going to have to sell it or remortgage it. I'm living in poverty here." Despite the success of his wind-up radio and several follow-up products employing similar technology, including a torch, a mobile phone charger and an MP3 player, he claimed to have received almost none of the profits. Due to the quirks of patent law, the company he went into business with to manufacture his radios was able to tweak his original design, which caused him to lose control over the product.

B. Elizabeth Magie

In 1904, Lizzie Magie obtained a patent for a board game she had invented, The Landlord's Game. The game was novel in that players followed a circular path, with no clear finish point. Another innovation was that players could 'own' places on the board - and make other players pay a penalty for landing on them. As a passionate advocate of social justice, Magie sought to highlight the system whereby property owners grew richer by accumulating monopolies to extract higher rents from poor tenants. The game was available in two versions: Monopoly, where players succeeded by selfishly destroying the wealth of other players, and Prosperity, where they worked together for their mutual benefit. As the game grew in popularity, another inventor, Charles Darrow, became aware of it and claimed it as his own invention. He took out his own patent in 1933, and even published it with Parker Brothers (who had rejected Magie's original several times on the grounds of it being too political). Monopoly went on to become one of the greatest boardgames of all time, but while Darrow and Parker Brothers reaped the benefits, Magie received a mere \$500 in exchange for her patent.

C. Daisuke Inoue

Daisuke Inoue, a Japanese businessman and occasional band drummer and keyboardist, invented the karaoke machine after being asked by a client to accompany him on a work trip where Inoue would play the keyboard alongside his vocals. Inoue couldn't attend, however, and instead gave the client a recording of instrumental backing music for him. This sparked an idea to build a machine equipped with a microphone and amplifier that played music recorded on tapes. The machines were well-received at bars and clubs, but Inoue, who had not patented his invention, failed to make any money from it. Years later, a Filipino entrepreneur called Roberto del Rosario took Inoue's idea and made his own karaoke machine system - which was patented.

D. Sir Tim Berners-Lee

English engineer and computer scientist Sir Tim Berners-Lee, who invented the World Wide Web in 1990, could potentially have become as rich and powerful as Microsoft founder Bill Gates. Instead, he determined that his creation should be free for everyone to use and opted against patenting it. In a 2008 interview, he said he tends not to dwell on what he might have done with the billions of pounds he could have earned if people had been prepared to hand over royalties. He said, 'It would be nice to be in Bill Gates's position, where you could donate huge sums to tackling world health problems. We all ask ourselves what we would do if we had loads

and loads of money. I would buy huge tracts of coastline in the UK and donate it to the National Trust. I'd also buy ugly buildings and knock them down.' A reserved and modest man, Berners-Lee has long shunned the limelight, preferring instead to closet himself in academia - lecturing and working with research students.

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

73. The pioneer's penury was primarily precipitated by the commercial failure of his subsequent offerings.
74. A firm rejected the original submission due to its supposedly subversive ideological undertones.
75. The person who eventually patented the device originally intended to collaborate with its first creator.
76. The decision to provide the tool without charge was a deliberate, principle-driven act.
77. The initial creator was remunerated with a sum commensurate with the project's global success.
78. The breakthrough idea was sparked by an inability to fulfill a specific professional engagement.
79. The pioneer expresses deep regret regarding the immense personal fortune he opted to forgo.

Your answer:

73.	74.	75.	76.	77.	78.	79.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

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

Which section mentions _____?

80. a figure who favored an insulated scholarly life over commercial prominence or public recognition
81. an innovation addressing the unaffordability of conventional energy sources for pedagogical purposes
82. a case where minor design modifications by a collaborator resulted in forfeited intellectual sovereignty
83. a project designed to critique the predatory nature of certain socio-economic systems
84. an instance where a pioneer's brainchild was legally appropriated by a subsequent rival
85. a pioneer enduring acute financial distress despite the global ubiquity of their output
86. a revolutionary proposal being repeatedly dismissed by a commercial entity due to its political slant
87. a person who strictly abstains from ruminating on the immense wealth they forfeited

Your answer:

80.	81.	82.	83.	84.	85.	86.	87.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Part 4. Read the following passage do the tasks that follow.

1. It happened one night. It happened, to be precise, at 8:55 p.m. on the night of 25th December 1977, when an estimated 28,835,000 people - more than half of the total population of the United Kingdom - turned their television sets to BBC 1 and spent the next hour and ten minutes in the company of a rather tall man called Eric and a rather short man called Ernie. It was an extraordinary night for British television. It was, at least as far as that catholic and **capacious** category known as "light entertainment" was concerned, as close as British television had ever come, in some forty-one years of trying, to being a genuine mass medium. None of the usual rigid divisions and omissions were apparent in the broad audience of that remarkable night: no stark class bias, no pronounced gender imbalance, no obvious age asymmetry, no generalized demographic slant.

2. It was also, of course, an extraordinary night for the two stars of the show: Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise - by far the most illustrious, and the best-loved, double act that Britain has ever produced. Exceptionally professional yet endearingly personable, they were wonderful together as partners, as friends, as almost a distinct entity: not "Morecambe and Wise" but "Morecambewise". There was Eric and there was Ernie: one of them an idiot, the other a bigger idiot, each of them **half a star**, together a whole star, forever hopeful of that "brand new, bright tomorrow" that they sang about at the end of each show. [I] True, Eric would often slap Ernie smartly on the cheeks, but they clearly thought the world of each other, and the world thought a great deal of them, too.

3. Their show succeeded in attracting such a massive following on that memorable night because it had, over the course of the previous night years or so, established, and then enhanced, an enviable reputation for consistency, inventiveness, unparalleled professional polish and, last but by no means least, a strong and sincere respect for its audience. [II] The Morecambe & Wise Show stood for something greater, something far more precious than **mere first-rate but evanescent entertainment**; it had come to stand – just as persuasively and as proudly as any earnest documentary or any epic drama – for excellence in broadcasting, the result not just of two gifted performers (great talent, alas, does not of itself guarantee that great television) but also of a richly proficient and supremely committed production team.

4. The show, culminating in the record-breaking triumph of that 1977 special, represented an achievement in high-quality popular program-making that is now fast assuming the aura of a fairy tale - destined, one fears, to be passed on with bemused fascination from one doubtful generation to its even more disbelieving successor as the seemingly endless proliferation of new channels and novel forms of distraction continue to divide and disperse the old mass audience in the name of that remorseless quest for "quality demographics" and "niche audiences". The Morecambe & Wise Show appeared at a time before home video, before home satellite dishes and cable technology, before the dawning of digital revolution, a time when it was still considered desirable to make a television program that might – just might – excite most of the people most of the time. [III]

5. Neither Morecambe nor Wise ever looked down on, or up at, anyone (except, of course, each other); both of them looked straight back at their audience on level terms. No celebrated guest was ever allowed to challenge this comic democracy: within the confines of the show, the rich and famous went unrecognized and frequently unpaid (a running gag); venerable actors with grand theatrical reputations were mocked routinely by Eric's sotto voce comments; and two resolutely down-to-earth working-class comedians gleefully reaffirmed the remarkably deep, warm and sure relationship that existed between themselves and the British public.

6. [IV] From the first few seconds of their opening comic routine to the final few notes and motions of their closing song and dance, Morecambe and Wise did their best to draw people together rather than drive them apart. Instead of pandering submissively to the smug exclusivity of the cognoscenti (they were flattered when a well-regarded critic praised the sly “oeillade” that accompanied Eric's sarcastic asides, but they still mocked him mercilessly for his use of the word), and instead of settling – as so many of their supposed successors would do with unseemly haste – for the easy security of a “cult following”, Morecambe and Wise always aimed to entertain the whole nation.

7. When viewers watched that show at the end of 1977, they witnessed a rare and rich compendium of the very best in popular culture: the happy summation of a joint career that had traversed all of the key developments associated with the rise of mass entertainment in Britain, encompassing the faint but still discernible traces of Victorian music-hall, the crowded animation of Edwardian Variety, the wordy populism of the wireless, the spectacular impact of the movies and, finally, the more intimate pervasiveness of television. When that career was all over, it was sorely missed. They were simply irreplaceable.

88. The writer implies in the first paragraph that one reason why the show on 25th December 1977 was extraordinary was that _____.

- A. light entertainment programmes had been the targets of criticism before then
- B. no one had thought that a British television programme could appeal to all classes
- C. its audience included people who might not have been expected to watch it
- D. people tuning into it knew that they were taking part in a phenomenal event

89. In the second paragraph, the writer uses the image “**half a star**” to imply that Morecambe and Wise _____.

- A. would probably not have been successful had they been solo performers
- B. had a different relationship in real life from the one they had on television
- C. were keen for audiences to realize how professional they were
- D. probably did not know how popular they were

90. The writer says in the third paragraph that one reason why The Morecambe & Wise Show remained so popular was that _____.

- A. it adapted to changes in audience attitudes to what constituted good entertainment
- B. it appealed to people who normally preferred other kinds of programme
- C. the people who made it knew that its popularity was guaranteed
- D. the contribution of people other than its stars was a key element in it.

91. The writer suspects that The Morecambe & Wise Show will in the future be regarded as _____.

- A. something which might only catch on with certain audiences.
- B. something which has acquired an exaggerated reputation.
- C. the kind of programme that programme-makers will aspire to
- D. the kind of programme that illustrates the disadvantages of technological advances.

92. The comparison with “**mere first-rate but evanescent entertainment**” in paragraph 3 is presented to _____.

- A. underscore the programme's transcendence beyond transient amusement into enduring cultural significance
- B. diminish the show's artistic merit by equating it with trivial popular entertainment
- C. highlight the fleeting nature of audience preferences within fragmented media landscapes

D. contrast highbrow productions with mass appeal programmes to critique declining broadcasting standards

93. According to the writer, one feature of The Morecambe & Wise Show was _____.

- A. the way in which it reflected developments in British society
- B. its inclusion of jokes that only certain people would understand
- C. the consistent way in which other stars were treated on it
- D. its careful choice of other stars to appear on it.

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

“It was,” reminisced Ernie Wise, “a sort of great big office party for the whole country, a bit of fun people could understand”.

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

Your answer:

88.	89.	90.	91.	92.	93.	94.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

For question 95-100, complete the summary with NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS taken from the passage. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

The Morecambe & Wise Show is a near-mythic achievement whose legacy endures. What was once a unifying national experience is now recalled with (95) _____ as proliferating channels and technologies dissipate collective viewership. Central to its success was an ethos of (96) _____, whereby social hierarchies were dissolved and all participants, whether celebrities or commoners, were treated equally. Through this approach, the performers (97) _____ their deep rapport with the public, resisting both elitist tendencies and the complacency of the (98) _____. Rather than retreating into the safety of a (99) _____, they consistently sought to engage a broad, inclusive audience. The show thus embodied a rare synthesis of accessibility and excellence, reflecting a time when mass entertainment could still unite diverse viewers. Ultimately, it stands as a grand (100) _____ of British popular culture, and its disappearance marked not merely the end of a celebrated double act, but the passing of an era in which shared cultural experiences held a central place in national life.

Your answer:

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

Part 5. In the passage below, five paragraphs have been removed. For questions 101 – 105, read the passage and choose from paragraphs A-G the one which fits each gap. There are TWO extra paragraphs which you do not need to use. Write the letters A-G in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

HELP GUIDE US THROUGH THE UNIVERSE

If you ask scientists what they’re doing, the answer won’t be ‘Finding the origin of the universe’, ‘Seeking the cure for cancer’ or suchlike. It will involve something very specialised, a small piece of the jigsaw that builds up the big picture. But if they have judged right, it won’t be a trivial problem - indeed it will be the most difficult that they are likely to make progress

on. The great zoologist Sir Peter Medawar famously described scientific work as 'the art of the soluble'. 'Scientists,' he wrote, 'get no credit for failing to solve a problem beyond their capacities. They earn at best the kindly contempt reserved for utopian politicians.'

So, unless they are cranks or geniuses, scientists don't shoot directly for a grand goal – they focus on bite-sized problems that seem timely and tractable. But this strategy (though prudent) carries an occupational risk: they may forget they're wearing blinkers and fail to see their own work in its proper perspective.

101.

I would personally derive far less satisfaction from my research if it interested only a few other academics. But presenting one's work to non-specialists isn't easy. We scientists often do it badly, although the experience helps us to see our work in a broader context. Journalists can do it better, and their efforts can put a key discovery in perspective, converting an arcane paper published in an obscure journal into a tale that can inspire others.

102.

On such occasions, people often raise general concerns about the way science is going and the impact it may have; they wonder whether taxpayers get value for money from the research they support. More intellectual audiences wonder about the basic nature of science: how objective can we be? And how creative? Is science genuinely a progressive enterprise? What are its limits and are we anywhere near them? It is hard to explain, in simple language, even a scientific concept that you understand well. My own (not always effective) attempts have deepened my respect for science reporters, who have to assimilate quickly, with a looming deadline, a topic they may be quite unfamiliar with.

103.

It's unusual for science to earn newspaper headlines. Coverage that has to be restricted to crisp newsworthy breakthroughs in any case distorts the way science develops. Scientific advances are usually gradual and cumulative, and better suited to feature articles, or documentaries – or even books, for which the latent demand is surprisingly strong. For example, millions bought *A Brief History of Time*, which caught the public imagination.

104.

Nevertheless, serious books do find a ready market. That's the good news for anyone who wants to enter this competition. But books on pyramidology, visitations by aliens, and suchlike do even better: a symptom of a fascination with the paranormal and 'New Age' concepts. It is depressing that these are often featured uncritically in the media, distracting attention from more genuine advances. This may be because, for non-specialists, it is tricky to demarcate well-based ideas from flaky speculation. But it's crucially important not to blur this distinction when writing articles for a general readership. Otherwise, credulous readers may take too much on trust, whereas hard-nosed sceptics may reject all scientific claims, without appreciating that some have firm empirical support.

Most scientists are quite ordinary, and their lives unremarkable. But occasionally they exemplify the link between genius and madness; these 'eccentrics' are more enticing biographies.

105.

There seems, gratifyingly, to be no single 'formula' for science writing – many themes are still under-exploited. Turning out even 700 words seems a daunting task if you're faced with a clean sheet of paper or a blank screen, but less so if you have done enough reading and

interviewing on a subject to become inspired. For research students who enter the competition, science (and how you do it) is probably more interesting than personal autobiography. But if, in later life, you become both brilliant and crazy, you can hope that someone else writes a best-seller about you.

Missing Paragraphs

A. However, over-sensational claims are a hazard for them. Some researchers themselves ‘hype up’ new discoveries to attract press interest. Maybe it matters little what people believe about Darwinism or cosmology. But we should be more concerned that misleading or over-confident claims on any topic of practical import don't gain wide currency. Hopes of miracle cures can be raised; risks can be either exaggerated, or else glossed over for commercial pressures. Science popularisers – perhaps even those who enter this competition – have to be as sceptical of some scientific claims as journalists routinely are of politicians.

B. Despite this, there's a tendency in recent science writing to be chatty, laced with gossip and biographical detail. But are scientists as interesting as their science? The lives of Albert Einstein and Richard Feynman are of interest, but is that true of the routine practitioner?

C. Two mathematicians have been treated as such in recent books: Paul Erdos, the obsessive itinerant Hungarian (who described himself as ‘a machine for turning coffee into theorems’) and John Nash, a pioneer of game theory, who resurfaced in his sixties, after 30 years of insanity, to receive a Nobel prize.

D. For example, the American physicist Robert Wilson spent months carrying out meticulous measurements with a microwave antenna which eventually revealed the ‘afterglow of creation’ – the ‘echo’ of the Big Bang with which our universe began. Wilson was one of the rare scientists with the luck and talent to make a really great discovery, but afterwards he acknowledged that its importance didn't sink in until he read a ‘popular’ description of it in the *New York Times*.

E. More surprising was the commercial success of Sir Roger Penrose's *The Emperor's New Mind*. This is a fascinating romp through Penrose's eclectic enthusiasms – enjoyable and enlightening. But it was a surprising best seller, as much of it is heavy going. The sales pitch ‘great scientist says mind is more than a mere machine’ was plainly alluring. Many who bought it must have got a nasty surprise when they opened it.

F. Such a possibility is one reason why this competition to encourage young people to take up science writing is so important and why I am helping to launch it today. Another is that popular science writing can address wider issues. When I give talks about astronomy and cosmology, the questions that interest people most are the truly ‘fundamental’ ones that I can't answer: ‘Is there life in space?’, ‘Is the universe infinite?’ or ‘Why didn't the Big Bang happen sooner?’

G. In addition to these professional challenges, the educational system itself often fails to bridge the gap. Science curricula in schools are frequently criticized for being too rigid, focusing on rote memorization rather than the creative inquiry that defines true scientific discovery. For students, this can lead to a view of science as a collection of static facts rather than a dynamic process. While some educators argue that a more narrative-based approach could foster engagement, others fear it might dilute the rigorous analytical standards required for higher academic pursuits.

Your answer:

101.	102.	103.	104.	105.
------	------	------	------	------

III. WRITING (5.0 points)

Part 1: The table provides data on the actual and projected assessed contributions (ACs) from nine lead member states to the World Health Organization (WHO) between 2022 and 2028.

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

Table 1: Estimates* of the expected ACs from the top contributing member states for the proposed Investment Round (2025–2028).

Country	ACs paid		Expected ACs for Investment Round**			
	2022 (22%)	2023 (22%)	2025 (26%)	2026 (36%)	2027 (36%)	2028 (50%)
United States of America	109	109	126	171	171	240
China	57	57	69	93	93	131
Japan	41	41	49	66	66	93
Germany	29	29	35	47	47	66
United Kingdom	22	22	26	35	35	50
France	21	21	25	34	34	48
Italy	16	16	19	26	26	36
Brazil	14	14	17	23	23	32
Canada	13	13	16	21	21	30

* Millions in USD. Calculated based on values from the Bureau proposal, using scaled assessments referenced in WHA74.32; estimates have been rounded.

**Percent of the 2022–2023 base budget that the ACs will make up is listed in brackets

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

The integration of Artificial Intelligence into the workforce is fundamentally altering the psychological contract between employees and their careers. Optimists argue that AI will liberate humanity from menial tasks, allowing workers to focus on high-level skills, and interpersonal connection. Sceptics believe the trend will lead to professional deskilling and identity crisis, as the mastery once required for complex tasks can be easily replaced by tools. Others highlight that the labour market is shifting toward human-centric soft skills that technology cannot yet replicate.

Which view(s) do you agree with? Provide specific reasons and examples to support your answer.,