



SECTION A: LISTENING (50 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 a representative from an organization called Connection giving a talk about Homestay organization. For questions 1-5, complete the flow-chart below. Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS for each answer. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes on your answer sheet. (10 points)

HOW TO APPLY FOR A HOMESTAY

Visit the website and contact the advisor



Keep in touch with the 2 _____.



Provide two photos, one for the host family, and the other for 2 _____.



Send in some documents to confirm your 3 _____.



Receive 4 _____ within 7 working days



Have an interview in London



Pay the extra fee for a fast-track service



Receive a written 5 _____.

Part 2: You will listen to a piece of news about strikes in Hollywood. For questions 6-10, decide whether the following statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG). Write T, F, or NG in the corresponding numbered boxes on our answer sheet. (10 points)

6. The walkout conducted by screenwriters has endured for a duration exceeding a year.
7. One of the primary focal points of concern for writers and actors in these labor disputes revolves around the involvement of artificial intelligence within the realm of Hollywood.
8. The actors and writers are advocating for the outright banishment of AI from the entertainment industry, rather than seeking better regulations.
9. Background actors have expressed great apprehension regarding the 3D scanning and subsequent manipulation of their physical likenesses by AI which may effectively supplant them in the workforce.
10. As a response to the writers' demands, studios have suggested the inclusion of AI from receiving attribution as authors for literary material featured in television shows or cinematic productions.

Part 3. You will hear an interview with a sociologist and former counsellor called Adrian Mitchell, who has just published a book on family relationships. For questions 11-15, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear. Write your answers (A, B, C or D) in the corresponding numbered boxes on your answer sheet. (10 points)

- 11. Why did Adrian decide to write a book on family relationships?**
 - A. He was persuaded by others in his field.
 - B. He was encouraged by the success of his previous publication.
 - C. He felt it was a natural outcome of his work in sociology.
 - D. He believed it was probably expected of him.
- 12. Adrian says that he gave up his role as a counsellor because**
 - A. he was unable to remain objective.
 - B. he felt overloaded with responsibility.
 - C. it no longer provided sufficient challenge.
 - D. he resented its impact on his own physical health.
- 13. Adrian explains that his children did not feature in his book because**
 - A. academic publications should have an impersonal tone.
 - B. they were unwilling to be exposed in such a way.
 - C. he was reluctant to take advantage of their willingness to please.
 - D. descriptions of family experiences were becoming formulaic.
- 14. Adrian criticizes certain media reports on social issues for**
 - A. their misleading use of statistics.
 - B. the sensational style they are written in.
 - C. the way they overlook areas of progress.
 - D. their focus on superficial subjects.
- 15. What does Adrian say about the institution of marriage?**

- A. It will continue to decline in popularity.
- B. It is undervalued in modern society.
- C. Its purpose is not the same for everyone.
- D. It requires more compromise than many people realize.

Part 4: For questions 16 – 25, listen to a speech about beans and complete the following sentences with NO MORE THAN FOUR WORDS for each answer. (20 points)

16. Mongol Empire was the largest _____ over the course of history, stretching from Korea to Ukraine and from Siberia to southern China.
17. In the 12th century CE, prior to the emergence of the Mongol Empire, the East Asian steppe was inhabited by dispersed communities of Mongol and Turkic _____ under the leadership of Khans.
18. Despite an impoverished childhood and the early death of his father, Temujin quickly rose to power by _____ with other leaders.
19. By 1206, Temujin had united the people of the _____ and became Chinggis Khan.
20. Following Temujin's death in 1227, his descendants, known as the Golden Lineage, inherited the _____.
21. After the Mongols conquered a territory, they allowed its _____ to remain intact and relied on local administrators to govern it.
22. _____ was the most valuable produce in the Empire.
23. Robust trade continued at sea, especially in _____.
24. By the 1260s, Chinggis Khan's grandson were in a full-blown civil war over inheritance and _____ into four separate empires.
25. The Ilkhanate in Iran inaugurated the development of new monumental architecture and Persian _____.

SECTION B: LEXICO-GRAMMAR (40 points)

Part 1. For questions 26-55, choose the best option A, B, C, or D to complete the following sentences. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes on your answer sheet. (20 points)

26. One person was killed and more than 200 others were wounded Tuesday, Iraq's health ministry said, in a mass protest in Baghdad that security forces dispersed with a _____ of gunfire and tear gas.

A. Volley	B. stream	C. act	D. source
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27. Did you pick _____ the fact that she'll never respond in a positive way.

A. Up	B. up on	C. on	D. over
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28. If he doesn't _____ the party _____ then he might not be driving for the team next year.
 A. Toe/line B. stick/policy C. step/rule D. get/strategy
29. You just sigh, and pray that he doesn't grow up to become a _____ like some of his friends, and start _____ in drugs.
 A. Hijacking B. smuggling C. dealing D. spying
30. The old adage "no news is good news" appears to hold true, at least for (9) _____ enterprises eager to bury unfavorable findings
 A. extortionate B. magnanimous C. irascible D. unscrupulous
31. Doppelgangers – people who look _____ similar to others – have long been a source of fascination and terror, as if representing a peek into parallel universes, the big 'What if ...?'
 A eerily B inscrutably C cryptically D notoriously
32. Historically, they were seen as _____ of doom, as if meeting yourself might bring about a terrible catastrophe
 A harbingers B portents C precursors D heralds
33. This approach will help cultivate an _____ of responsible creation, ensuring that technological progress aligns with fundamental human values.
 A. ethos B. apathy C. ego D. anomaly
34. One striking difference is their focus on the tiniest of details in their art, even _____ the wider context
 A. at the expense of B. at the mercy of
 C. at the heart of D. at the crossroads
35. Another key difference is the _____ drive for perfection. Precocious realists are obsessed with the mastery of their skills – not just to capture a realistic likeness of an object, but to express their own emotions in the process.
 A. interminable B. boundless C. incessant D. protracted
36. The police are being given sensitivity training courses, _____ with new approaches in public relations.
 A. concomitant B. concurrent C. conspicuous D. convicted
37. Undercover police officers _____ the gang in an effort to catch a known drug dealer.
 A. infiltrated B. poisoned C. adulterate D. impair
38. "Did Martha share the money with you?" "Well, she gave us _____ ten dollars and kept the rest for herself."
 A. every B. each C. each one D. every one
39. _____, accompanied by their loyal hounds.
 A. On the mist-shrouded moorland was the hunters seen
 B. Thundering across the mist-shrouded moorland were the group of hunters

- C. Thundering across the mist-shrouded moorland was a party of hunters
D. Across the mist-shrouded moorland thundering were a party of hunters
40. His energy and optimism were a tribute, perhaps, to the _____ life he advocated.
A. deleterious B. abstemious C. amorphous D. deciduous
41. The US military has been _____ its presence in the region, amid fears that the escalating Israel-Iran conflict could soon _____ into a full-scale regional war.
A. beefing up / boil over B. ratcheting up / spark off
C. shoring up / spill over D. gearing up / blaze up
42. Experts argue that current encryption standards _____ be rendered obsolete overnight, _____ a stable quantum processor be realized sooner than anticipated.
A. need / would B. will / could C. shall / should D. must / might
43. Incorporating _____ green into urban landscapes is no longer _____ optional luxury but a biological necessity for mental health.
A. ø / an B. the / ø C. the / an D. ø / ø
44. The final and most controversial figure to join the _____, which effectively controlled the nation's financial assets, was the enigmatic billionaire.
A. syndicate B. septuagenarian C. stewardship D. stratification
45. The venture capitalist was known for his ability to _____ of a failing startup, identifying the exact moment when its core technology became obsolete.
A. get the measure B. have the ear
C. keep his finger on the pulse D. put his finger on the jugular

Part 2. For questions 56-65, fill each gap with the correct form of the word in brackets. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes on your answer sheet. (10 points)

46. Its universe was limited to the solar system, and revolved heavily around _____ travel and terraforming. **(PLANET)**
47. They will host a discussion on effective interrogation techniques, _____, and counterterrorism. **(RADICAL)**
48. Most of the errors were corrected at the _____ stage before the copies were finally printed. **(READ)**
49. _____, a process where biological materials are frozen to preserve is an effective way to transport biological samples over long distances. **(PRESERVE)**
50. The meanings of modal words involve an element of _____ that somewhat resembles ambiguity. **(DETERMINE)**
51. I am aware of older people being denied access to _____ or other modern innovations. **(BANK)**
52. Police gave the apartment a thorough _____ but failed to find any evidence. **(GO)**
53. The _____ of the case have not been revealed. **(PARTICULAR)**
54. No selling company will survive with an inferior product, unjustifiably high prices, or

a _____ supply chain. (RESPONSE)

55. He has the outstanding skill of _____ understanding what the music is aiming to express. (SIGHT)

Part 3. The passage below contains FIVE grammatical mistakes. For questions 56-60, UNDERLINE the mistakes and WRITE THEIR CORRECT FORMS in the numbered boxes provided. The first one has been done as an example. (10 points)

Line	
1	The rapid proliferation of generative AI has <u>triggered</u> a polarized debate.
2	On one side, techno-optimists argue that AI will act as a "great leveler,"
3	automating drudgery and freeing humans to engage in highly-level strategic
4	thinking. They envision a world where productivity gains lead to a shorter
5	working week and a renaissance of human creativity. However, a more
6	dystopian narrative is gaining tract. Critics warn of "digital serfdom,"
7	where workers are increasingly monitored with unaccountable algorithms
8	and their wages stagnate as machines outperform them in cognitive tasks
9	once thought to be the exclusive domain of humans. The concern is not just
10	about mass unemployment, but the erosion of job quality and the
11	precariousness of the "gig economy" being charged by AI management has
12	raised alarm bells. Economists at Goldman Sachs estimate that 300 million
13	full-time jobs could be "exposed" to automation. Yet, history suggests that
14	technological shifts tend to be disruptive rather than pure destructive. The
15	real challenge for policymakers lies in mitigating the risks of rising
16	inequality and ensuring that the "AI dividend" is shared equitably across
17	society, rather than being sequestered by a handful of tech giants.

SECTION C: READING (60 points)

Part 1. For questions 66-75, read the following passage and decide which option (A, B, C, or D) best fits each gap. Write your answers in corresponding numbered boxes on your answer sheet. (10 points)

Urban gum crime

The Mayan tribes of South America would chew chicle, a natural form of rubber, while the Ancient Greeks (61) _____ the resin of a mastic shrub. In modern Britain, we like to chew sticks and tablets of manufactured gum – and (62) _____ of the tasteless sticky residue on the ground. However, recent legislation in the UK means that used chewing gum is now (63) _____ as litter and anyone who drops it on the pavement or (64) _____ in any public place is committing a crime and can be fined. Some areas have council litter wardens who can (65) _____ on-the-spot fines. A new government campaign (66) _____ the extent of the problem and aims to (67) _____

awareness about this anti-social habit, for instance with posters in shopping areas. Throughout the UK, councils spend 150 million pounds a year (68) _____ chewing gum from the streets, and 4 million of that is in London alone. Indirectly, this is (69) _____ taxpayers' money. (70) _____ is the main removal method, but use is also made of chemical sprays, freezing, pressurized water and steam.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 61. A. favored | B. approved | C. commended | D. indulged |
| 62. A. discard | B. dispose | C. dispense | D. disperse |
| 63. A. ranked | B. classified | C. systematized | D. codified |
| 64. A. at any rate | B. anyway | C. even so | D. indeed |
| 65. A. fix | B. compel | C. impose | D. prescribe |
| 66. A. features | B. declares | C. focuses | D. highlights |
| 67. A. make | B. provoke | C. grow | D. heighten |
| 68. A. erasing | B. spraying | C. removing | D. washing |
| 69. A. no doubt | B. for sure | C. of course | D. within reason |
| 70. A. Scraping | B. Clawing | C. Scratching | D. rubbing |

Part 2. For questions 76-85, fill each of the blanks with ONE suitable word. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes on your answer sheet. (10 points)

How noisy do you like a car to be? For me, the quieter the better, but evidently not everyone feels as I do. Recent research in the US and Europe has shown that 80% of motorists like to hear some noises – especially from the engine – as they drive.

Approximately 60% welcomed the blinking of indicators which provide audible as well as visible confirmation that (71) _____ are working. Other noise sources – among them the horn and the sound of braking – were rated relatively unimportant, as indeed (72) _____ tyre rumble, which I for (73) _____ find very surprising. Cars have become so quiet mechanically and far less (74) _____ to create wind noise, that the boom and roar made by tyres running on coarsely-textured road surfaces is now firmly at the top of my list of motoring dislikes.

In a recent research, (75) _____ were asked to listen to sound samples obtained from a variety of engines running under different conditions. The researchers wanted to know (76) _____ engine-produced sounds pleased drivers most. The results clearly showed that scientifically measured and (77) _____ perceived sound qualities are not the same thing. The difficulty facing car designers must be in deciding just how such customer tastes vary according to the kinds of cars they have in (78) _____. The buyer of a top-of-the-range sports car would, they conclude, feel cheated if the powerful engine did not sing like an operatic tenor at moderate speeds, and bellow like a wild animal when the (79) _____ neared the red line. Such noises might, I suppose, be anathema to the driver of a luxury saloon car, (80) _____.

Part 3. For questions 81-90, read the following passage and circle the best answer to each of the following questions. Write your answers in corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet. (15 points)

THOMAS YOUNG

The Last True Know-It-All

Thomas Young (1773-1829) contributed 63 articles to the Encyclopedia Britannica, including 46 biographical entries (mostly on scientists and classicists) and substantial essays on “Bridge,” “Chromatics,” “Egypt,” “Languages” and “Tides”. Was someone who could write authoritatively about so many subjects a polymath, a genius or a dilettante? In an ambitious new biography, Andrew Robinson argues that Young is a good contender for the epitaph “the last man who knew everything.” Young has competition, however: The phrase, which Robinson takes for his title, also serves as the subtitle of two other recent biographies: Leonard Warren’s 1998 life of paleontologist Joseph Leidy (1823-1891) and Paula Findlen’s 2004 book on Athanasius Kircher (1602-1680), another polymath.

Young, of course, did more than write encyclopedia entries. He presented his first paper to the Royal Society of London at the age of 20 and was elected a Fellow a week after his 21st birthday. In the paper, Young explained the process of accommodation in the human eye —on how the eye focuses properly on objects at varying distances. Young hypothesised that this was achieved by changes in the shape of the lens. Young also theorised that light traveled in waves and he believed that, to account for the ability to see in color, there must be three receptors in the eye corresponding to the three “principal colors” to which the retina could respond: red, green, violet. All these hypotheses were subsequently proved to be correct.

Later in his life, when he was in his forties, Young was instrumental in cracking the code that unlocked the unknown script on the Rosetta Stone, a tablet that was “found” in Egypt by the Napoleonic army in 1799. The stone contains text in three alphabets: Greek, something unrecognisable and Egyptian hieroglyphs. The unrecognisable script is now known as demotic and, as Young deduced, is related directly to hieroglyphic. His initial work on this appeared in his Britannica entry on Egypt. In another entry, he coined the term Indo-European to describe the family of languages spoken throughout most of Europe and northern India. These are the landmark achievements of a man who was a child prodigy and who, unlike many remarkable children, did not disappear into oblivion as an adult.

Born in 1773 in Somerset in England, Young lived from an early age with his maternal grandfather, eventually leaving to attend boarding school. He had devoured books from the age of two, and through his own initiative he excelled at Latin, Greek, mathematics and natural philosophy. After leaving school, he was greatly encouraged by his mother’s uncle, Richard Brocklesby, a physician and Fellow of the Royal Society.

Following Brocklesby's lead, Young decided to pursue a career in medicine. He studied in London, following the medical circuit, and then moved on to more formal education in Edinburgh, Göttingen and Cambridge. After completing his medical training at the University of Cambridge in 1808, Young set up practice as a physician in London. He soon became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and a few years later was appointed physician at St. George's Hospital.

Young's skill as a physician, however, did not equal his skill as a scholar of natural philosophy or linguistics. Earlier, in 1801, he had been appointed to a professorship of natural philosophy at the Royal Institution, where he delivered as many as 60 lectures in a year. These were published in two volumes in 1807. In 1804 Young had become secretary to the Royal Society, a post he would hold until his death. His opinions were sought on civic and national matters, such as the introduction of gas lighting to London and methods of ship construction. From 1819 he was superintendent of the Nautical Almanac and secretary to the Board of Longitude. From 1824 to 1829 he was physician to and inspector of calculations for the Palladian Insurance Company. Between 1816 and 1825 he contributed his many and various entries to the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, and throughout his career he authored numerous books, essays and papers.

Young is a perfect subject for a biography — perfect, but daunting. Few men contributed so much to so many technical fields. Robinson's aim is to introduce non-scientists to Young's work and life. He succeeds, providing clear expositions of the technical material (especially that on optics and Egyptian hieroglyphs). Some readers of this book will, like Robinson, find Young's accomplishments impressive; others will see him as some historians have — as a dilettante. Yet despite the rich material presented in this book, readers will not end up knowing Young personally. We catch glimpses of a playful Young, doodling Greek and Latin phrases in his notes on medical lectures and translating the verses that a young lady had written on the walls of a summerhouse into Greek elegiacs. Young was introduced into elite society, attended the theatre and learned to dance and play the flute. In addition, he was an accomplished horseman. However, his personal life looks pale next to his vibrant career and studies.

Young married Eliza Maxwell in 1804, and according to Robinson, "their marriage was a happy one and she appreciated his work," Almost all we know about her is that she sustained her husband through some rancorous disputes about optics and that she worried about money when his medical career was slow to take off. Very little evidence survives about the complexities of Young's relationships with his mother and father. Robinson does not credit them, or anyone else, with shaping Young's extraordinary mind. Despite the lack of details concerning Young's relationships, however, anyone interested in what it means to be a genius should read this book.

For questions 81-85, decide whether the following statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes.

81. 'The last man who possessed universal knowledge' has been ascribed to individuals beyond our subject.
82. All of Young's scholarly compositions found a home within the illustrious pages of the Encyclopedia Britannica.
83. Similar to others, Young's brilliance did not fully manifest during his formative years.
84. Those entrusted with the oversight of regional and national affairs actively sought the counsel of Young.
85. In his later years, Young grappled with an affliction that affected his well-being.

For questions 86 - 90, answer the given questions with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER from the passage for each answer.

86. How many narratives did Young contribute to the Encyclopedia Britannica?

87. In his initial scholarly publication, what facet of scientific inquiry did Young principally concentrate on?

88. What appellation did Young coin to denote a category of languages?

89. Who served as the primary muse that ignited Young's pursuit of medical studies?

90. In which educational institution did Young secure a pedagogical role?

Part 4. For questions 91– 100, 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. (15 points)

THE GREEN TRANSITION HAS A SURPRISING NEW HOME

Forget about northern Europeans, with their coalition governments and love of cycling

Picture a country where renewables are being rapidly rolled out and electric-vehicle sales are surging, and you will probably have in mind somewhere smug and northern European; a place with tall people, coalition governments and a yen for **cycling holidays**. [A] Or perhaps the first thing that pops into your head is the sheer scale of China, which manufactures the bulk of such equipment and last year contributed more than half of the global increase in solar and wind installation.

Think again. For a wave of Chinese-made electric vehicles is flooding new markets. In the past year sales of EVs have more than tripled in Turkey, where **Togg**, a local brand, is also popular—they now account for 27% of all cars sold, making the country the fourth-largest European market. Last year more than 70% of cars imported into Nepal were electric. Some 60% of new cars sold in Ethiopia were battery-powered,

after the state banned sales of internal-combustion-engine vehicles altogether. EV sales have doubled in Vietnam over the past year owing, in part, to **VinFast**, a local carmaker. Two- and three-wheelers are surging in popularity, too. [B]

It is a similar story with renewables. In the first six months of the year, Pakistan generated 25% of its electricity from solar power—not far below the 32% managed by California, a clean-energy pioneer. [C] The country’s battery imports are booming as well. Indeed, the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis, a think-tank, estimates that on current trends battery storage will cover 26% of Pakistan’s peak-electricity demand by 2030. Meanwhile, over the past year Morocco has increased its wind generation by 50%, becoming the country with the ninth most. India has seen four months of decline in coal-power generation, aided by an increase of 14% in renewable generation.

Although the principles of international climate diplomacy suggest that poorer countries, being less responsible for climate change, have a green duty to, many face strong economic incentives to do so anyway. Most countries in the global south are energy importers, and therefore must use scarce foreign currency to buy oil and gas. China and India have coal reserves that play an important role in their economies and power generation, but neither has significant oil or gas reserves. For its part, Ethiopia’s ban on internal-combustion engines was not a green measure—it was designed to cut spending on fossil fuels and save foreign currency.

Moreover, across emerging markets, Chinese-made EVs are now **about as cheap as traditional vehicles**. In some places, they are even cheaper. The IEA reckons that last year the average Chinese EV sold for around \$30,000 in Thailand, compared with \$34,000 for the typical petrol-engine car. At the bottom end of the market, old-fashioned vehicles still have an advantage, but only a relatively modest one. Government policies have also made a difference. In Turkey purchasers of EVs typically paid a tax of only 10%, compared with one of between 45% and 220% for petrol-powered vehicles. The recent surge in part reflected car-buyers getting ahead of a reduction in the generosity of the policy.

Clean technology generally requires more upfront investment than fossil-fuel tech, even if it has lower lifetime costs. This has historically held it back in places where the cost of capital is high. [D] The IEA has calculated that the typical cost of capital for a solar project in India, for instance, is 11%, compared with around half that in rich countries. But the Rocky Mountain Institute, an American pressure group, now estimates that, owing to falling prices, many clean technologies have reached “**capex parity**”, where initial costs are the same as fossil fuels on a per-unit basis. As a consequence, they have become more attractive in large parts of the world.

Tariffs have been helpful, too. As America and the EU attempt to shut out Chinese EVs, they are finding their way to other markets—at even cheaper prices. For the most

part, emerging markets lack legacy manufacturers that will lobby their governments to keep out Chinese imports. Yet this relatively free trade is at risk as protectionism begins to spread. Until recently Brazil allowed EVs into its economy tariff-free; now it is gradually raising import taxes to 35% by 2026. India's imports of finished solar panels have stagnated as the country seeks to build its own supply chain. Nigeria is considering banning solar-panel imports altogether in an effort to support domestic manufacturers.

Governments are at least also creating loopholes that allow Chinese imports to continue so long as the companies in question commit to local production. Brazil has carved out an exemption for BYD, a carmaker, while it establishes a factory in the country. Indonesia has reduced value-added tax on EVs from 11% to 1% for vehicles that meet a 40% local-content requirement; foreign manufacturers, meanwhile, can bring in equipment duty-free so long as they promise to increase domestic production by 2026 and provide a guarantee for the forgone tariffs if they do not follow through. Such policies are far from perfect—but they are better than the alternative. **Well-heeled northern Europeans have something to learn.**

91. The phrase cycling holidays primarily suggests that .

- A. Environmental virtue is the main driver behind Europe's renewable energy transition.
- B. Physical recreation is directly linked to technological green innovation.
- C. Environmental responsibility is more universally practiced in European countries than in China.
- D. Northern Europeans are culturally inclined toward eco-friendly leisure activities.

92. Why does the author mention Togg and VinFast in paragraph 2?

- A. To illustrate that the rise of domestic EV brands is one factor behind the surge in sales.
- B. To argue that national identity and consumer loyalty are the decisive forces shaping EV adoption.
- C. To suggest that without homegrown carmakers, countries cannot participate in the EV transition.
- D. To imply that global manufacturers have been displaced almost entirely by local competitors.

93. Why can be inferred from the comparison of Pakistan's solar share with California's?

- A. There are huge differences in population size and energy consumption between two regions.
- B. California's energy transition is stagnating compared to global trends despite modern infrastructure.
- C. Developing nations can sometimes match or exceed wealthy regions in clean-energy performance.
- D. California's reputation for pioneering in clean-energy innovation should be critically reassessed.

94. What does paragraph 4 imply about how developing nations combat climate change?

- A. International agreements to reduce emissions often contradict the economic interests of poorer countries.
- B. Clean-energy measures reflect historical injustices in global emissions rather than domestic fiscal priorities.
- C. Economic self-interest is a major motivator for green policies in many developing countries.
- D. There has been a government's growing commitment to reducing greenhouse emissions.
95. The author's description of Chinese EVs as about as cheap as traditional vehicles suggests that _____.
- A. Traditional vehicles have permanently lost their low-cost advantage.
- B. Price is no longer a barrier for middle-income buyers in emerging markets.
- C. EV prices are expected to surpass petrol cars in the near future.
- D. Buyers in poorer countries value environmental benefits over cost savings.
96. Why does the author include examples of government tax policies in Turkey and Indonesia?
- A. To demonstrate how fiscal incentives can accelerate technology adoption.
- B. To show that subsidies are more effective than infrastructure investment.
- C. To argue that emerging markets impose fewer trade restrictions than Europe.
- D. To illustrate how taxation has limited impact compared to price parity.
97. According to paragraph 6, why has capex parity increased the appeal of clean technology?
- A. Because it guarantees equal lifetime costs between renewable and fossil-fuel technologies.
- B. Because initial investment costs no longer significantly disadvantage renewables.
- C. Because it shifts financial risk entirely onto fossil-fuel producers.
- D. Because government subsidies have eliminated all upfront capital requirements.
98. Which of the following most accurately encapsulates the author's perspective on trade protectionism?
- A. It is framed as an inevitable by-product of economic self-preservation strategies pursued by various states.
- B. It is implied to be a transient complication, unlikely to exert significant influence on the green markets.
- C. It is disproportionately engineered to shield advanced industrial economies rather than emerging markets.
- D. It is characterised as a structural impediment capable of undermining global clean-technology adoption.
99. The tone of the concluding sentence **Well-heeled northern Europeans have something to learn** could be best described as _____.

A. ironic B. critical C. detached D. reverent

100. Which of the following square brackets [A], [B], [C], or [D] best indicates where in the passage the sentence “*The International Energy Agency (IEA), a forecaster, reckons that across developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America EV sales rose by 60% in 2024.*” can be inserted?

A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

Part 5. You are going to read an article about a medical myth. For questions 86 - 95, choose from the sections (A-D). The sections may be chosen more than once. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes on your answer sheet. (10 points)

Which section mentions the following

- 101. a theory as to why people believe the myth?
- 102. a recognition that no one person is responsible for the myth?
- 103. an explanation of why the brain is a drain on our bodily resources?
- 104. an example of how much brain activity there is?
- 105. that the brain is always functioning?
- 106. a reduction in brain cells is normal?
- 107. an opinion that intellectual and bodily performance are underutilized?
- 108. people are already using 10% of their brain?
- 109. the possibility of improving our brains one day?
- 110. a famous scientist is falsely claimed to be responsible for the myth?

DO WE ONLY USE 10% OF OUR BRAINS?

It's an appealing idea that we would be more intelligent or creative if we used all of our brain power. Unfortunately, Martin Dobbie has some bad news.

A. It is incredible just how many medical myths there are, but none more so than about the brain. An enduring myth is that only ten percent of our brain is being used, and that if we could just exploit more of it, we would be that much more intelligent, creative or successful at whatever we applied ourselves to. Regrettably, although it might make people strive to do better, it is inaccurate and untrue. If we ask the most obvious question first - 10% of what? It can be seen that the myth starts to fall apart immediately. Neuroscientists use magnetic resonance imaging when they scan someone, to see which parts of the brain become active when they are asked to do or think about something. They have observed that even simple activities, such as clenching or unclenching the hand or speaking, involves activity in a lot more than ten percent of the brain. Even when a person is relaxed and not focusing on anything in particular, the brain is active. After all, it has to control the normal bodily functions, like breathing, heart rate, send signals to the eyes, and so on. The body is never really at rest, however relaxed a person might be feeling.

B. Even if the myth refers to only using ten percent of brain cells, it still does not stand up to scrutiny. If brain cells are not being used, they either deteriorate and die off or

they are assimilated into other nearby areas of the brain. Brain cells do not just stay in the brain doing nothing, because they are too precious for that. According to cognitive neuroscientist, Sergio Della Sala, our brains are actually a massive burden on our reserves; keeping brain tissue alive devours twenty percent of the oxygen we breathe. He further adds that although nature might sometimes have unusual designs, it would be untenable to develop a brain that is ten times the size we need, when its huge dimensions are so necessary to our survival. And yet despite these facts, millions of people still believe that we only use ten percent of our brain in our daily lives.

C. But it must be asked how a myth with no biological or physiological foundation has become so widely believed. It is difficult to discover the origins of the rumor, although the American psychologist and philosopher, William James, wrote in 1908 in his book, *The Energies of Men*, that we are making use of only a small part of our possible mental and physical resources. Despite being optimistic that people would eventually use more, he did not mention brain size or a precise percentage. He also did not refer to a quantity of brain cells, yet sources cite Albert Einstein as the first to propound the theory. The staff of the Albert Einstein archives has found no record of this, despite extensive searching, so this would appear to be yet another myth.

D. One possible reason for the misapprehension could be that nine out of ten of the cells in the brain are the glial cells. These are what has been termed support cells, the white matter that sustain the remaining cells, the neurons, the grey matter that actually do the thinking. However, these are completely different types of cells that cannot suddenly become neurons, providing additional brain power. Of course, if we are determined to learn new things, then we can do so, and there is mounting evidence in the field of neuroplasticity that demonstrate how this changes our brains. This is not, though, using a new part of the brain. All that happens is that we form new connections between nerve cells or lose old connections that are no longer needed. One amazing thing about this myth is when people are told it is not true, they are truly disappointed. Perhaps the ten percent is so fascinating due to how low a figure it is. It offers the prospect of substantial advancement in the future, as everyone wants to improve. Unfortunately, there is no hibernating part of our brain waiting for us to wake up and start using it.

D. WRITING (50 points)

Part 1. (20 points)

The table gives information about five types of vehicles registered in Australia in 2010, 2012 and 2014.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant. You should write about 150 words.

Types of vehicles	2010	2012	2014	% change (from 2010 to 2014)
Passenger vehicles	11,800,000	12,700,000	13,000,000	+10,2%
Commercial vehicles	2,300,000	2,600,000	2,700,000	+17,4%
Motorcycles	540,000	680,000	709,000	+30,8%
Heavy trucks	384,000	390,000	416,000	+8,3%
Light trucks	106,000	124,000	131,000	+23,5%

Part 2: (30 points)

In an era where artificial intelligence and technological advancements are reshaping industries, it is essential for students to choose university majors that align with current job market trends, rather than their passions and strengths, to remain competitive in the future job market.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Write an essay of about 300 words to answer the above question. Give reasons and include any relevant examples and explanations to support your answer. Write your answer on your answer sheet.

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