TEST 04

Read the following advertisement and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the option that best fits each of the numbered blanks .

Virtual tourism

Virtual tourism offers you the opportunity to explore the world's most picturesque and exhilarating locations from the comfort of your own home, thanks to (1) _____ virtual reality technology. Simply don your headset and explore to your heart's content.

Needless to say, the main benefit is cost: there's obviously no need to (2) _____ out for an overpriced plane ticket or hotel room. Virtual tourism is also (3) _____ less harmful to the environment: not only do you avoid greenhouse gas emissions during your journey, but you also steer clear of delicate landscapes that might otherwise be harmed by your presence.

Of course, unlike real tourism, the novelty of relaxing on a virtual sunny beach will wear (4) _____ quickly, and 3D technology is still far from enabling you to experience the tastes, smells and emotions of being there in person. So the likelihood of virtual tourism replacing the real thing any time soon remains low. In fact, many tourist boards are hoping it may even entice more visitors: (5) _____ experienced the location virtually, you'll have the (6) _____ urge to visit again in real life.

Adapted from Ready for workbook

Question 1. A. immerse   B. immersed   C. immersion   D. immersive

Question 2. A. shell   B. fork   C. cast   D. pour

Question 3. A. unquestionable   B. unquestionably   C. unquestioned   D. questionably

Question 4. A. from   B. beyond   C. off   D. away

Question 5. A. Having   B. After   C. To have   D. Once

Question 6. A. unavoidable   B. compelling   C. irresistible   D. insistent

Read the following advertisement and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the option that best fits each of the numbered blanks .

Smell the coffee

Melbourne's vibrant coffee scene is often cited as a primary reason for its global appeal. This rich culture largely owes (7) _____ existence to the influx of Italian migrants in the 1960s, who brought their sophisticated espresso traditions with them. These traditions quickly (8) _____ in Melbourne's unique laneway system, transforming once-overlooked alleys into bustling hubs of aromatic activity. The city now boasts an impressive (9) _____ of cafes, each offering meticulously crafted brews from diverse regions. (10) _____, coffee is not merely a beverage here; it is an integral part of the daily rhythm, fostering social connections and fueling the city's creative spirit. Visitors often find themselves drawn into this immersive experience, discovering new blends and appreciating the nuanced flavors. This pervasive coffee culture has undoubtedly contributed to Melbourne's reputation as a culinary capital, attracting a considerable (11) _____ of enthusiasts from all walks of life. The sheer (12) _____ of choices ensures that every coffee connoisseur finds their perfect cup.

Adapted from the Guardian

Question 7. A. its   B. one's   C. their   D. whose

Question 8. A. broke down   B. brought up   C. came about D. took root

Question 9. A. array   B. series   C. volume   D. stock

Question 10. A. Despite this B. Consequently   C. Indeed   D. Nevertheless

Question 11. A. level   B. amount   C. degree   D. number

Question 12. A. limitation   B. uniformity C. scarcity   D. diversity

Mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best arrangement of utterances or sentences to make a meaningful exchange or text in each of the following questions.

Question 13

a. Boy: The costumes department impressed me most – the masks looked far more realistic than I'd expected. They must have helped the actors get into character.
b. Girl: I can't say I felt quite the same. After reading the reviews, I had imagined something much more spectacular. Still, there was enough to keep me from getting bored.
c. Boy: So overall, you think it was worth going?
d. Boy: Visiting the studio really brought the story to life for me. It was fascinating to see where everything had happened.
e. Girl: I suppose even those unfamiliar with the film might have enjoyed it.

A. d – b – a – e – c   B. d – b – a – c – e   C. b – d – a – e – c   D. d – a – b – e – c

Question 14

The following sentences form a conversation about an online quiz. Arrange them in the correct order.

a. Girl: Well, it was only meant to be a bit of fun.
b. Sam: I was confident when I first downloaded it, but that feeling disappeared quickly. After everything we'd studied, I'd expected to perform far better.
c. Girl: Did you attempt that online quiz about the moon?
d. Sam: At least I answered the question about the first man on the moon correctly. Some of the other questions, though, were on topics I'd never encountered before – like the length of a lunar day.
e. Girl: Yes, I knew that one.

A. c – b – a – d – e   B. c – a – b – d – e   C. b – c – a – d – e   D. c – b – d – a – e

Question 15

a. Perhaps it's a double-edged sword then. The key lies in critical engagement, discerning genuine inspiration from superficial trends.

b. I've been contemplating how digital connectivity, particularly social media, profoundly shapes individual identity today.

c. Precisely. It requires a conscious effort to navigate this globalized landscape constructively.

d. That's an interesting point. While it certainly broadens perspectives through cultural exchange, I often wonder if it also fosters a less authentic self, driven by external validation.

e. I agree that the 'pursuit of likes' is   a genuine concern, but the exposure to diverse global ideas can also empower individuals to forge unique identities, rather than just conforming to local norms.

A. d-b-e-a-c   B. e-b-d-a-c   C. b-e-d-a-c   D. b-d-e-a-c

Question 16

a. Such exposure often leads to the adoption of novel interests or the re-evaluation of long-held beliefs, fostering a more fluid sense of self.

b. The intricate interplay between individual identity and global currents represents a defining characteristic of contemporary society.

c. Consequently, understanding these dynamic global influences is paramount for comprehending modern identity formation.

d. This phenomenon extends beyond mere exposure, profoundly shaping personal opinions and interests in multifaceted ways.

e. For instance, the pervasive reach of digital connectivity has facilitated an unprecedented cultural exchange, allowing individuals to engage with diverse perspectives previously inaccessible.

 A. e-b-d-a-c   B. b-d-e-a-c   C. d-b-e-a-c   D. b-e-d-a-c

Question 17

a. Given the pronounced divergence in societal norms, pedagogical methods, and daily customs across various nations, this acclimation process can pose an accentuated impediment for even the most resilient student.

b. While the allure of international education is undeniable, it is crucial to address the significant challenges that often accompany the experience, particularly concerning personal well-being.

c. Consequently, institutions and students alike must proactively implement strategies to mitigate these profound psychological and cultural adjustments for a successful overseas tenure.

d. Compounding this emotional distance, students frequently grapple with the complexities of acculturating to an entirely new societal fabric and educational environment.

e. One primary impediment is the acute sense of isolation and homesickness that many young people encounter when separated from their familiar social networks and family support systems.

 A. b-d-e-a-c   B. b-e-a-d-c   C. b-e-d-a-c   D. e-b-d-a-c

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the option that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

Ultra-processed foods

Ultra-processed foods (UPFs) have become a focal point in public health discussions due to their pervasive presence in modern diets and growing evidence of adverse health effects. Their sophisticated industrial design, often involving complex formulations of fats, sugars, and artificial additives, (18) _____. This engineering aims to maximize palatability and extend shelf life, making them incredibly appealing and convenient for consumers. The parallel drawn between UPFs and tobacco products is particularly striking, highlighting concerns beyond mere nutritional deficits. Researchers contend that UPFs are deliberately crafted to exploit the brain's reward pathways, (19) _____. This mechanism, they argue, contributes to overconsumption and may foster addiction-like behaviors, despite ongoing debates regarding their pharmacological addictiveness. (20) _____. This perspective advocates for a re-evaluation of regulatory frameworks, moving away from individual responsibility toward holding the food industry more accountable for its product design and marketing. Furthermore, the marketing strategies employed by UPF manufacturers often mirror those historically used by the tobacco industry. Claims such as "low fat" or "sugar-free" are frequently criticized as "health washing," (21) _____. This strategic misdirection complicates consumer choices and undermines public health initiatives. The long-term health consequences, (22) _____, underscore the urgency of implementing more robust public health interventions and stricter advertising regulations.

Question 18

A. having been engineered for maximum palatability and shelf life

B. that they are designed to be consumed rapidly and in large quantities

C. which has been carefully developed to optimize consumer appeal

D. distinguishing them sharply from traditional culinary preparations

Question 19

A. leading to an almost irresistible desire for continued consumption

B. in order to ensure that consumers will regularly seek them out

C. which is a process that closely mimics the effects of addictive substances

D. where intense pleasure is derived from their unique flavor profiles

Question 20

A. Therefore, the scientific community is now exploring alternative explanations for compulsive eating behaviors.

B. While some experts remain skeptical, the implications for public health are undeniable.

C. It is noteworthy that consumer awareness campaigns have had limited success in altering dietary habits.

D. Consequently, the discourse has increasingly shifted towards addressing the systemic issues embedded within food production and distribution.

Question 21

A. which can mislead consumers about the true nutritional value of the product
B. because they are designed to attract health-conscious buyers
C. although many people believe they are beneficial
D. so that companies can increase their profits

Question 22

A. ranging from increased risks of obesity and type 2 diabetes to various cardiovascular ailments

B. given their significant impact on healthcare systems worldwide

C. the full extent of which is still being evaluated by medical professionals

D. which have been extensively documented in numerous epidemiological studies

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on the sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Most people don't know that the mythic Japanese comic Akira, written and illustrated by Katsuhiro Otomo, wasn't originally published as a book. It ran as a serial for eight whole years in the pages of weekly Young Magazine from 1982 to 1990. Why do I know this? Because I'm obsessed with manga.

You might be wondering how someone from a small town in southern Italy got sucked into the Japanese subculture of manga, but this sort of thing is common nowadays. For me it's manga; for you, it might be sport or fashion or video games. With the internet, we have all found new ways of organising information around ourselves, new ways to develop and define our personal identities. These days our personal identities have become intertwined with our online activities to such a degree that **they** are no longer separable from our 'real'-life selves.

Some see global trends as a negative force. Some see globalisation as a juggernaut, squashing local traditions, **fomenting** social isolation. But, at least for me, that couldn't be further from the truth. I

thoroughly enjoy the rhythms of traditional life in my small town. My interest in manga has not **dulled** my enthusiasm for our local festivities. Our regional delicacies still taste just as good. Although I prefer reading stories that take place in faraway Tokyo, I have no plans to move there. My identity is rooted in the very soil of my hometown and the strong network of family and friends that I belong to here.

And so, if you happen to see me sipping a cappuccino at the local café, sporting my favourite Akira T-shirt, looking slightly out of place among my compatriots, set your worries aside. That's just me being me.

Adapted from Ready for c2 studen book

Question 23. According to paragraph 2, which of the following is **NOT** mentioned as a common interest people get 'sucked into' nowadays?

A. Video games   B. Literature   C. Sport   D. Fashion

Question 24. Which word is **OPPOSITE** in meaning to 'dulled' as used in paragraph 3?

A. softened   B. diminished C. weakened   D. intensified

Question 25. The pronoun **'they'** in the last sentence of paragraph 2 refers to _____.

A. online activities   B. real-life selves

C. personal identities   D. new ways of organising information

Question 26. The word **'fomenting'** in paragraph 3 could best be replaced by which of the following?

A. instigating   B. alleviating C. mitigating   D. preventing

Question 27. Which of the following best restates the idea of the final sentence in paragraph 2?

A. Contemporary online engagement and offline identity now operate as entirely separate and independent domains.

B. Digital participation has gradually replaced traditional identity, making real-world selves increasingly redundant.

C. It has become increasingly difficult to determine where digital expression ends and authentic personal identity begins.

D. Modern identity is so deeply integrated with online behavior that it forms an inseparable extension of one's real-life existence.

Question 28. Which of the following statements is TRUE according to the passage?

A. The author suggests global cultural trends inevitably weaken traditional local practices.

B. The author is considering relocating to Tokyo to pursue a deeper interest in manga.

C. Akira by Katsuhiro Otomo was first issued as a complete standalone graphic novel.

D. The author's passion for manga has not reduced their respect for local traditions.

Question 29. Which paragraph primarily discusses the interplay between global interests and the formation of modern personal identity?

A. Paragraph 2   B. Paragraph 1C. Paragraph 3D. Paragraph 4

Question 30. Which paragraph primarily addresses the author's viewpoint on the impact of globalization on local traditions and personal roots?

A. Paragraph 3   B. Paragraph 4C. Paragraph 1D. Paragraph 2

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on the sheet to indicate the correct

answer to each of the questions.

The escalating debate surrounding the utility of a university degree in the 21st century reflects a significant paradigm shift in societal perceptions of higher education. Once widely regarded as an indisputable **conduit** for social mobility and economic advancement, the value proposition of a bachelor's degree is now subject to intense scrutiny, particularly among younger generations. This re-evaluation stems from a confluence of factors, including spiraling student debt, a competitive and often saturated graduate job market, and the disruptive influence of technological advancements like artificial intelligence. The traditional narrative of higher education as a guaranteed upward trajectory is increasingly being challenged by empirical realities.

Historically, higher education was championed as a cornerstone of national development and individual prosperity. [I] Policies enacted in the late 20th century, such as the UK's ambition to have 50% of young adults enter higher education, underscored a belief that a knowledge-based economy necessitated a highly skilled workforce. [II] This vision posited that increased university participation would not only enhance global competitiveness but also provide a clear pathway for individuals from underrepresented backgrounds to ascend into the middle class, thereby fostering greater equity. [III] The underlying assumption was a direct correlation between obtaining a degree and securing professional employment commensurate with the substantial investment in time and finances. [IV] This era fostered an almost unwavering faith in the transformative power of a university credential.

However, the contemporary landscape presents a stark contrast to these earlier aspirations. While university enrollment rates have indeed risen dramatically, the availability of graduate-level professional opportunities has demonstrably failed to keep pace. ***This disparity*** has led to a pervasive "graduate recruitment crisis," characterized by a surplus of qualified individuals vying for a limited number of suitable positions. Furthermore, the rapid proliferation of AI and automation threatens to displace many entry-level roles traditionally occupied by recent graduates, exacerbating job market uncertainties and diminishing job security. Consequently, many graduates find themselves underemployed, working in fields unrelated to their studies, or burdened by substantial debt, leading to widespread disillusionment and a questioning of the once-*sacrosanct* value of a university education. This critical juncture compels a comprehensive re-examination of educational pathways and vocational alternatives.

Question 31. Look at the four squares [I], [II], [III], and [IV] in paragraph 2. The following sentence can be added to paragraph 2. Where would it best fit?

"This perspective was deeply embedded in policy-making, viewing higher education as a strategic investment."

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

Question 32. The word "**conduit**" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to:

A. channel   B. obstacle   C. impedimentD. barrier

Question 33. The phrase "**This disparity**" in paragraph 3 refers to:

A. the decrease in job security for recent graduates

B. the mismatch between job opportunities and university enrollment

C. the rapid proliferation of AI and automation

D. the surplus of qualified individuals in the job market

Question 34. Which of the following is **NOT** mentioned in the passage as a factor contributing to the re-evaluation of the value of a university degree?

A. the competitive nature of the graduate job market

B. the high cost of university tuition

C. the threat of automation to entry-level jobs

D. the lack of up-to-date curricula in universities

Question 35. Which of the following best summarizes the main idea of paragraph 3?

A. Universities are largely responsible for graduates' difficulties due to insufficient practical preparation.

B. Rising university enrolment has coincided with shrinking career prospects for many graduates.

C. Vocational education is portrayed as the most realistic solution to employment instability.

D. Higher education no longer guarantees social mobility in contemporary society.

Question 36. The word "**sacrosanct**" in paragraph 3 is OPPOSITE in meaning to:

A. hallowed   B. revered   C. inviolable   D. questionable

Question 37. Which of the following statements is TRUE according to the passage?

A. The initial premise behind increasing university participation was to create a globally competitive, knowledge-based workforce.

B. The author believes that student debt is the sole reason for the re-evaluation of higher education's value.

C. Historical policies aimed at increasing university enrollment have been largely abandoned in recent years.

D. The passage claims that AI has already displaced a majority of entry-level graduate jobs.

Question 38. Which of the following best restates the meaning of the final sentence of the passage:

"This critical juncture compels a comprehensive re-examination of educational pathways and vocational alternatives"?

A. The present situation suggests that vocational routes may deserve greater attention than before.

B. Current circumstances require a thorough reconsideration of both academic and vocational options.

C. Universities should substantially reform their teaching approaches to remain competitive.

D. Policymakers need to replace traditional degrees with more employment-oriented training.

Question 39. What can be logically inferred about the author's perspective on higher education from the passage?

A. The author suggests that a more diversified and adaptable approach to post-secondary education is required.

B. The author implies that the problems in higher education are primarily due to insufficient government funding.

C. The author's main concern is the decline in academic standards at universities.

D. The author believes that higher education is no longer relevant in any form for social mobility.

Question 40. Which of the following best summarizes the main points of the entire passage?

A. The text argues that the rise of artificial intelligence is the sole factor diminishing the value of university degrees.

B. The passage primarily discusses the historical development of higher education policies in the UK and their ultimate failure.

C. The author concludes that vocational training is now definitively superior to university education for all students.

D. The passage examines how the traditional perception of higher education as a guaranteed path to success is being challenged by contemporary economic realities and technological shifts, necessitating a re-evaluation of post-secondary options.

KEY TEST 04

Read the following advertisement and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the option that best fits each of the numbered blanks .

Virtual tourism

Virtual tourism offers you the opportunity to explore the world's most picturesque and exhilarating locations from the comfort of your own home, thanks to (1) _____ virtual reality technology. Simply don your headset and explore to your heart's content.

Needless to say, the main benefit is cost: there's obviously no need to (2) _____ out for an overpriced plane ticket or hotel room. Virtual tourism is also (3) _____ less harmful to the environment: not only do you avoid greenhouse gas emissions during your journey, but you also steer clear of delicate landscapes that might otherwise be harmed by your presence.

Of course, unlike real tourism, the novelty of relaxing on a virtual sunny beach will wear (4) _____ quickly, and 3D technology is still far from enabling you to experience the tastes, smells and emotions of being there in person. So the likelihood of virtual tourism replacing the real thing any time soon remains low. In fact, many tourist boards are hoping it may even entice more visitors: (5) _____ experienced the location virtually, you'll have the (6) _____ urge to visit again in real life.

Adapted from Ready for workbook

Question 1. A. immerse   B. immersed   C. immersion   D. immersive

Question 2. A. shell   B. fork   C. cast   D. pour

Question 3. A. unquestionable   B. unquestionably   C. unquestioned   D. questionably

Question 4. A. from   B. beyond   C. off   D. away

Question 5. A. Having   B. After   C. To have   D. Once

Question 6. A. unavoidable   B. compelling   C. irresistible   D. insistent

Read the following advertisement and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the option that best fits each of the numbered blanks .

Smell the coffee

Melbourne's vibrant coffee scene is often cited as a primary reason for its global appeal. This rich culture largely owes (7) _____ existence to the influx of Italian migrants in the 1960s, who brought their sophisticated espresso traditions with them. These traditions quickly (8) _____ in Melbourne's unique laneway system, transforming once-overlooked alleys into bustling hubs of aromatic activity. The city now boasts an impressive (9) _____ of cafes, each offering meticulously crafted brews from diverse regions. (10) _____, coffee is not merely a beverage here; it is an integral part of the daily rhythm, fostering social connections and fueling the city's creative spirit. Visitors often find themselves drawn into this immersive experience, discovering new blends and appreciating the nuanced flavors. This pervasive coffee culture has undoubtedly contributed to Melbourne's reputation as a culinary capital, attracting a considerable (11) _____ of enthusiasts from all walks of life. The sheer (12) _____ of choices ensures that every coffee connoisseur finds their perfect cup.

Adapted from the Guardian

Question 7. A. its   B. one's   C. their   D. whose

Question 8. A. broke down   B. brought up   C. came about   D. took root

Question 9. A. array   B. series   C. volume   D. stock

Question 10. A. Despite this   B. Consequently   C. Indeed   D. Nevertheless

Question 11. A. level   B. amount   C. degree   D. number

Question 12. A. limitation   B. uniformity C. scarcity   <mark>D. diversity</mark>

Mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best arrangement of utterances or sentences to make a meaningful exchange or text in each of the following questions.

Question 13

a. Boy: The costumes department impressed me most – the masks looked far more realistic than I'd expected. They must have helped the actors get into character.
b. Girl: I can't say I felt quite the same. After reading the reviews, I had imagined something much more spectacular. Still, there was enough to keep me from getting bored.
c. Boy: So overall, you think it was worth going?
d. Boy: Visiting the studio really brought the story to life for me. It was fascinating to see where everything had happened.
e. Girl: I suppose even those unfamiliar with the film might have enjoyed it.

<mark>A. d – b – a – e – c</mark>   B. d – b – a – c – e   C. b – d – a – e – c   D. d – a – b – e – c

Question 14

The following sentences form a conversation about an online quiz. Arrange them in the correct order.

a. Girl: Well, it was only meant to be a bit of fun.
b. Sam: I was confident when I first downloaded it, but that feeling disappeared quickly. After everything we'd studied, I'd expected to perform far better.
c. Girl: Did you attempt that online quiz about the moon?
d. Sam: At least I answered the question about the first man on the moon correctly. Some of the other questions, though, were on topics I'd never encountered before – like the length of a lunar day.
e. Girl: Yes, I knew that one.

<mark>A. c – b – a – d – e</mark>   B. c – a – b – d – e   C. b – c – a – d – e   D. c – b – d – a – e

Question 15

a. Perhaps it's a double-edged sword then. The key lies in critical engagement, discerning genuine inspiration from superficial trends.

b. I've been contemplating how digital connectivity, particularly social media, profoundly shapes individual identity today.

c. Precisely. It requires a conscious effort to navigate this globalized landscape constructively.

d. That's an interesting point. While it certainly broadens perspectives through cultural exchange, I often wonder if it also fosters a less authentic self, driven by external validation.

e. I agree that the 'pursuit of likes' is   a genuine concern, but the exposure to diverse global ideas can also empower individuals to forge unique identities, rather than just conforming to local norms.

<mark>A. d-b-e-a-c</mark>   B. e-b-d-a-c   C. b-e-d-a-c   D. b-d-e-a-c

Question 16

a. Such exposure often leads to the adoption of novel interests or the re-evaluation of long-held beliefs, fostering a more fluid sense of self.

b. The intricate interplay between individual identity and global currents represents a defining characteristic of contemporary society.

c. Consequently, understanding these dynamic global influences is paramount for comprehending modern identity formation.

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e. For instance, the pervasive reach of digital connectivity has facilitated an unprecedented cultural exchange, allowing individuals to engage with diverse perspectives previously inaccessible.

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a. Given the pronounced divergence in societal norms, pedagogical methods, and daily customs across various nations, this acclimation process can pose an accentuated impediment for even the most resilient student.

b. While the allure of international education is undeniable, it is crucial to address the significant challenges that often accompany the experience, particularly concerning personal well-being.

c. Consequently, institutions and students alike must proactively implement strategies to mitigate these profound psychological and cultural adjustments for a successful overseas tenure.

d. Compounding this emotional distance, students frequently grapple with the complexities of acculturating to an entirely new societal fabric and educational environment.

e. One primary impediment is the acute sense of isolation and homesickness that many young people encounter when separated from their familiar social networks and family support systems.

 A. b-d-e-a-c   B. b-e-a-d-c   C. b-e-d-a-c   D. e-b-d-a-c

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Ultra-processed foods (UPFs) have become a focal point in public health discussions due to their pervasive presence in modern diets and growing evidence of adverse health effects. Their sophisticated industrial design, often involving complex formulations of fats, sugars, and artificial additives, (18) _____. This engineering aims to maximize palatability and extend shelf life, making them incredibly appealing and convenient for consumers. The parallel drawn between UPFs and tobacco products is particularly striking, highlighting concerns beyond mere nutritional deficits. Researchers contend that UPFs are deliberately crafted to exploit the brain's reward pathways, (19) _____. This mechanism, they argue, contributes to overconsumption and may foster addiction-like behaviors, despite ongoing debates regarding their pharmacological addictiveness. (20) _____. This perspective advocates for a re-evaluation of regulatory frameworks, moving away from individual responsibility toward holding the food industry more accountable for its product design and marketing. Furthermore, the marketing strategies employed by UPF manufacturers often mirror those historically used by the tobacco industry. Claims such as "low fat" or "sugar-free" are frequently criticized as "health washing," (21) _____. This strategic misdirection complicates consumer choices and undermines public health initiatives. The long-term health consequences, (22) _____, underscore the urgency of implementing more robust public health interventions and stricter advertising regulations.

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A. leading to an almost irresistible desire for continued consumption

B. in order to ensure that consumers will regularly seek them out

C. which is a process that closely mimics the effects of addictive substances

D. where intense pleasure is derived from their unique flavor profiles

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A. Therefore, the scientific community is now exploring alternative explanations for compulsive eating behaviors.

B. While some experts remain skeptical, the implications for public health are undeniable.

C. It is noteworthy that consumer awareness campaigns have had limited success in altering dietary habits.

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A. which can mislead consumers about the true nutritional value of the product
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A. ranging from increased risks of obesity and type 2 diabetes to various cardiovascular ailments

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You might be wondering how someone from a small town in southern Italy got sucked into the Japanese subculture of manga, but this sort of thing is common nowadays. For me it's manga; for you, it might be sport or fashion or video games. With the internet, we have all found new ways of organising information around ourselves, new ways to develop and define our personal identities. These days our personal identities have become intertwined with our online activities to such a degree that **they** are no longer separable from our 'real'-life selves.

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thoroughly enjoy the rhythms of traditional life in my small town. My interest in manga has not **dulled** my enthusiasm for our local festivities. Our regional delicacies still taste just as good. Although I prefer reading stories that take place in faraway Tokyo, I have no plans to move there. My identity is rooted in the very soil of my hometown and the strong network of family and friends that I belong to here.

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Adapted from Ready for c2 studen book

Question 23. According to paragraph 2, which of the following is **NOT** mentioned as a common interest people get 'sucked into' nowadays?

A. Video games   B. Literature   C. Sport   D. Fashion

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A. softened   B. diminished C. weakened   D. intensified

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B. The author is considering relocating to Tokyo to pursue a deeper interest in manga.

C. Akira by Katsuhiro Otomo was first issued as a complete standalone graphic novel.

D. The author's passion for manga has not reduced their respect for local traditions.

Question 29. Which paragraph primarily discusses the interplay between global interests and the formation of modern personal identity?

A. Paragraph 2   B. Paragraph 1C. Paragraph 3D. Paragraph 4

Question 30. Which paragraph primarily addresses the author's viewpoint on the impact of globalization on local traditions and personal roots?

A. Paragraph 3   B. Paragraph 4C. Paragraph 1D. Paragraph 2

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on the sheet to indicate the correct

answer to each of the questions.

The escalating debate surrounding the utility of a university degree in the 21st century reflects a significant paradigm shift in societal perceptions of higher education. Once widely regarded as an indisputable **conduit** for social mobility and economic advancement, the value proposition of a bachelor's degree is now subject to intense scrutiny, particularly among younger generations. This re-evaluation stems from a confluence of factors, including spiraling student debt, a competitive and often saturated graduate job market, and the disruptive influence of technological advancements like artificial intelligence. The traditional narrative of higher education as a guaranteed upward trajectory is increasingly being challenged by empirical realities.

Historically, higher education was championed as a cornerstone of national development and individual prosperity. [I] Policies enacted in the late 20th century, such as the UK's ambition to have 50% of young adults enter higher education, underscored a belief that a knowledge-based economy necessitated a highly skilled workforce. [II] This vision posited that increased university participation would not only enhance global competitiveness but also provide a clear pathway for individuals from underrepresented backgrounds to ascend into the middle class, thereby fostering greater equity. [III] The underlying assumption was a direct correlation between obtaining a degree and securing professional employment commensurate with the substantial investment in time and finances. [IV] This era fostered an almost unwavering faith in the transformative power of a university credential.

However, the contemporary landscape presents a stark contrast to these earlier aspirations. While university enrollment rates have indeed risen dramatically, the availability of graduate-level professional opportunities has demonstrably failed to keep pace. ***This disparity*** has led to a pervasive "graduate recruitment crisis," characterized by a surplus of qualified individuals vying for a limited number of suitable positions. Furthermore, the rapid proliferation of AI and automation threatens to displace many entry-level roles traditionally occupied by recent graduates, exacerbating job market uncertainties and diminishing job security. Consequently, many graduates find themselves underemployed, working in fields unrelated to their studies, or burdened by substantial debt, leading to widespread disillusionment and a questioning of the once-***sacrosanct*** value of a university education. This critical juncture compels a comprehensive re-examination of educational pathways and vocational alternatives.

Question 31. Look at the four squares [I], [II], [III], and [IV] in paragraph 2. The following sentence can be added to paragraph 2. Where would it best fit?

"This perspective was deeply embedded in policy-making, viewing higher education as a strategic investment."

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

Question 32. The word "**conduit**" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to:

A. channel   B. obstacle   C. impedimentD. barrier

Question 33. The phrase "**This disparity**" in paragraph 3 refers to:

A. the decrease in job security for recent graduates

B. the mismatch between job opportunities and university enrollment

C. the rapid proliferation of AI and automation

D. the surplus of qualified individuals in the job market

Question 34. Which of the following is **NOT** mentioned in the passage as a factor contributing to the re-evaluation of the value of a university degree?

A. the competitive nature of the graduate job market

B. the high cost of university tuition

C. the threat of automation to entry-level jobs

D. the lack of up-to-date curricula in universities

Question 35. Which of the following best summarizes the main idea of paragraph 3?

A. Universities are largely responsible for graduates' difficulties due to insufficient practical preparation.

B. Rising university enrolment has coincided with shrinking career prospects for many graduates.

C. Vocational education is portrayed as the most realistic solution to employment instability.

D. Higher education no longer guarantees social mobility in contemporary society.

Question 36. The word "**sacrosanct**" in paragraph 3 is OPPOSITE in meaning to:

A. hallowed   B. revered   C. inviolable   D. questionable

Question 37. Which of the following statements is TRUE according to the passage?

A. The initial premise behind increasing university participation was to create a globally competitive, knowledge-based workforce.

B. The author believes that student debt is the sole reason for the re-evaluation of higher education's value.

C. Historical policies aimed at increasing university enrollment have been largely abandoned in recent years.

D. The passage claims that AI has already displaced a majority of entry-level graduate jobs.

Question 38. Which of the following best restates the meaning of the final sentence of the passage:

"This critical juncture compels a comprehensive re-examination of educational pathways and vocational alternatives"?

A. The present situation suggests that vocational routes may deserve greater attention than before.

B. Current circumstances require a thorough reconsideration of both academic and vocational options.

C. Universities should substantially reform their teaching approaches to remain competitive.

D. Policymakers need to replace traditional degrees with more employment-oriented training.

Question 39. What can be logically inferred about the author's perspective on higher education from the passage?

A. The author suggests that a more diversified and adaptable approach to post-secondary education is required.

B. The author implies that the problems in higher education are primarily due to insufficient government funding.

C. The author's main concern is the decline in academic standards at universities.

D. The author believes that higher education is no longer relevant in any form for social mobility.

Question 40. Which of the following best summarizes the main points of the entire passage?

A. The text argues that the rise of artificial intelligence is the sole factor diminishing the value of university degrees.

B. The passage primarily discusses the historical development of higher education policies in the UK and their ultimate failure.

C. The author concludes that vocational training is now definitively superior to university education for all students.

D. The passage examines how the traditional perception of higher education as a guaranteed path to success is being challenged by contemporary economic realities and technological shifts, necessitating a re-evaluation of post-secondary options.