

**SỞ GIÁO DỤC VÀ ĐÀO TẠO
LÀO CAI**

ĐỀ CHÍNH THỨC
(Đề thi có 17 trang)

**KÌ THI CHỌN HỌC SINH GIỎI CẤP TỈNH THPT
NĂM HỌC 2023-2024
Môn thi: TIẾNG ANH
Ngày thi: 25/01/2024**
Thời gian làm bài: 180 phút, không kể thời gian phát đề

I. LISTENING (5.0 POINTS)

Part 1: For questions 1-10, listen and complete the notes below. Write NO MORE THAN ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer. (2.0 points)

1. Keogh
2. 15 hours
3. garden
4. music
5. story
6. 470
7. farm
8. toy
9. pillow
10. 0914638520

Part 2: Listen and answer the questions 11-20 below. (2.0 points)

Questions 11–15: Match the creatures to their behaviour. Write the correct letter A, B, C or D next to each description.

11. C
12. D
13. B
14. B
15. A
16. fertilizer
17. soup
18. (working) light/ torch
19. (waterproof) jacket
20. (marked) trails/ path

Part 3: For questions 21–25, you will hear a conversation between two friends who have just attended a workshop for people who want to increase their self-esteem. Choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear. Write your answers in the corresponding boxes provided. (1.0 point)

21. A
22. D
23. A
24. B
25. C

II. LEXICO AND GRAMMAR (3.0 POINTS)

Part 1: Choose the answer A, B, C, or D that best completes each of the following sentences. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes. (2.0 points)

26. B
27. A
28. B
29. B

- 30. A
- 31. C
- 32. C
- 33. C
- 34. C
- 35. D
- 36. A
- 37. B
- 38. A hoặc B
- 39. A
- 40. D
- 41. C
- 42. C
- 43. A
- 44. C
- 45. B

Part 2: Give the correct form of each given word to complete the following text. Write your answers in the numbered boxes. (1.0 point)

- 46. primary
- 47. minimizing
- 48. effectively
- 49. willingness
- 50. uncomfortable
- 51. sympathetic
- 52. indispensable
- 53. qualification
- 54. competition
- 55. familiarity

III. READING (5.0 POINTS)

Part 1: Read the following passage and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes. (1.0 point)

- 56. D
- 57. B
- 58. C
- 59. B
- 60. A
- 61. C
- 62. D
- 63. A
- 64. C
- 65. D

Part 2: Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only ONE word in each space. (1.0 point)

- 66. since
- 67. until
- 68. use/ have
- 69. with

- 70. However
- 71. first
- 72. in
- 73. a
- 74. ate
- 75. number

Part 3: Read the passage and do the tasks that follow. (1.0 point)

Questions 76-81: The reading passage has six paragraphs, A-F. Choose the correct heading for paragraphs A-F from the list of headings below. Write the answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

- 76. vi
- 77. v
- 78. viii
- 79. iii
- 80. iv
- 81. i
- 82. NOT GIVEN
- 83. TRUE
- 84. FALSE
- 85. FALSE

Part 4: Read the passage below and choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) to each of the following questions. (1.0 point)

- 86. A
- 87. A
- 88. A
- 89. C
- 90. D
- 91. B
- 92. B
- 93. D
- 94. D
- 95. A
- 96. A
- 97. D
- 98. B
- 99. D
- 100. B
- 101. A
- 102. C
- 103. B
- 104. C
- 105. D

IV. WRITING (5.0 POINTS)

Part 1: For questions 106-110, complete each of the following sentences in such a way that it means the same as the sentence provided before it. (0.5 point)

- 106. If it **hadn't** been for my father's investment, we couldn't have been successful in our business.
- 107. Not until **John** received the offer of promotion in writing did he celebrate.
- 108. Maradona is believed to have been the best football player in the 20th century.

109. Laura invited **me to come over to her house for a slide show.**

110. I'd rather **you didn't smoke here.**

Part 2: For questions 111-115, complete each of the following sentences by using the words given so that it has the similar meaning with the sentence provided before it. Do not change the word given. (0.5 point)

111. For the time **being**, the girl in blue is in the first place on the list of the candidates.

112. My children are not **in the habit of watching VTV news after dinner.**

113. They'll **have to go with her whether they like the idea or not.**

114. Unfortunately, all her **efforts came to nothing.**

115. She **bears little resemblance to her brother in almost all respects.**

She **hardly bears any resemblance to her brother in almost all respects.**

Part 3: Graph description (1.5 points)

Part 4: Essay writing (2.5 points)

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AUDIOSCRIPTS

Part 1.

WOMAN: Good morning Riverdale Preschool, Sally speaking.

MAN: Hello, my name's Robert. I've got a four-year-old daughter called Susie and I'd like to get some information about your preschool, please.

WOMAN: Sure, Robert. Well, Susie's the right age. We take three and four-year-olds in classes of 20 students.

MAN: Oh, great. And how many teachers do you have?

WOMAN: We have two. The first group is taught by Mrs. Oliver and the second group is taken by Mrs. Keough.

MAN: Just a moment. I'll write that down. Could you spell the last name, please? It's an unusual one, isn't it?

WOMAN: Yes. It's **K-E-O-G-H**.

MAN: Okay, I've got that. Now, I know the children attend for two or three days a week.

WOMAN: That's right. The older ones, like Susie, are here for three days, which means **15 hours** a week. The younger ones, the three-year-olds, attend two days a week. That's a total of 10 hours.

MAN: And what do they do during that time?

WOMAN: Well, half the day is spent outside and the children can run around and play games with their friends or do a karma activity, like painting, for example. We have a great outside play area that we're improving all the time.

MAN: Yes. We were walking past the other day and Susie noticed. You've recently put in a new slide, haven't you?

WOMAN: Yes. We're really pleased with it. It's a big one and the children love it.

MAN: And are you thinking of adding anything else outdoors?

WOMAN: Well, we were hoping to build a playhouse, but that was too expensive. So we're now making plans for a **garden** where the children will be able to grow flowers and vegetables.

MAN: Lovely. And what else do the children do?

WOMAN: Well, the other half of the day is spent indoors. This year, the children seem to be very interested in **music**, so the teachers are doing a lot of activities related to that. Last year, there seemed to be more of an interest in dancing.

MAN: Well, Susie would love either of those.

WOMAN: The teachers may sometimes play quiet games with the children, but we always make time for a **story** each day. It's a very important part of the program here.

MAN: Yes, of course.

MAN: Now, I'd like to ask you about the fees if that's okay.

WOMAN: Sure. We actually had to put them up this term, I'm afraid.

MAN: Yes. I heard from a friend of mine that it used to be \$420 for the term, but it's just gone up to **\$470**. Is that right?

WOMAN: Yes. We had to add the extra \$50 to cover costs. Things got a lot more expensive last year.

MAN: I understand. And I think the fees are still quite reasonable. Another school I've spoken to charges \$500 per term.

WOMAN: Oh, really?

MAN: My friend also told me that his daughter went on a trip to the local zoo and that the cost of that was covered in the fees. Is that right?

WOMAN: Yes. We did that last year, but we'll be going to a **farm** this year instead. We vary it, so for example, we may go to the theatre next year.

MAN: Okay. Sounds like fun.

WOMAN: Also included in the price is membership of a special library. Children can borrow a **toy** and keep it for a week and choose a different one the following week. It's very popular.

MAN: What a great idea. We would certainly make use of that system if we enroll. Now, is there anything else I should know?

WOMAN: Well, the children have a rest here during the day, and we make up a little bed for them with sheets and blankets. But we advise parents to pack a **pillow** in the child's bag as we don't provide one.

MAN: Okay. I'll make a note of that. So, what should I do if I want to come and look around the school during the day and meet the staff?

WOMAN: The best thing is to call the teacher on the classroom mobile and she'll tell you which time is best to visit. Shall I give you the number?

MAN: Yes, please.

WOMAN: Okay. It's **0914 638 520**.

MAN: Thanks for all your help, Sally. And we hope to see you soon.

WOMAN: No problem. Bye for now.

Part 2.

Good morning, everyone. Welcome to our visit to one of the most famous caves in Vietnam. As you know, this cave is famous for its wildlife, and one of the creatures you will observe in here is the small cave cockroach. They live mostly on the bird and bat droppings that are so plentiful in the caves. The guard rails along the trails are covered with these droppings, and this makes a feast for the **cockroaches**. So be careful where you put your hands. They will not harm you, but it can be a shock if you touch them.

Once you are in one of the main caves, look out for the green centipedes. They will not be on the trail, but can often be seen on the wall close by. They feed on other insects and are fascinating to look at because of their colour, and of course, their many legs. Please, please do not try to pick one up though. These **centipedes** have a very nasty poisonous bite.

There are also deep red millipedes. These have a fully rounded shape, and they look like a streamlined elongated train, with 100 or so closely packed legs extending right and left.

When you get to the large, high caves, you should look right up above you for the swifts and bats. The **bats** in this cave are mostly a type of dwarf bat, which are common in this part of the world. They will be clustered high up against the walls, maybe 100 or 200 together. They look like shadows high on the walls of the cave. They are likely to be very quiet right now, but because there are so many of them together, you will have no difficulty identifying them. **They** sleep all day until they all leave the cave in a massive flock on their nightly hunt for flying insects.

The swifts are the creatures you can see flying around during the day, especially if they have young ones to feed. They can navigate in the darkness here, and will fly outside in ones and twos at dusk to catch small winged insects like mosquitoes. However, they tend to return before it's pitch black outside, and they do not hunt at night. The **swifts** make nests usually higher up on the ceiling of the cave.

The paths tend to run around the edges of the large caves. Mostly this is because the centre is a mound of guano, the bird and bat droppings. This is also the source of the strong smell inside the caves. You may not like this smell, but the locals know its economic value. They have harvested the product of these caves for centuries. The guano is very valuable as **fertilizer**, and so it's collected each year, once the young birds have grown and the swifts have abandoned their nests.

The guano is not the only valuable byproduct of the wildlife here. As you travel through the caves, you will notice some bamboo structures. These very flimsy-looking sets of poles that go a full hundred metres right up to the roof are what the locals climb up to gather the swifts' nests. These are even more valuable than the guano, as they are the main ingredient in bird's nest **soup**.

Before you begin, it's time for some safety instructions. As you probably know, this is a huge limestone cave that goes about 1 kilometre back into the hills and in places it's 100 metres in height and 300 metres wide. There's no need to crawl around in here as you do in other caves, but it's dark inside, of course. That's why I insisted you bring **a working light**. Please check that it shines brightly and ensure that you stay together with others who have a good **torch**.

In one of the larger areas of the cave, the roof is pierced so some sunlight will get through. It is best to turn your torches off if you can see well and save your batteries.

It's a good idea to put your **waterproof jacket** on now. The walls may be wet, but that's not the main reason for the jacket. The bats and birds do excrete, and they're above you so just in case. And of course, your hat or hood also keeps you safe from animal droppings.

It's not advisable to use the guard rails as handholds. There are lots of droppings on those rails, and don't forget the cockroaches. You absolutely must follow the **marked trails**. The guard rails on either side are put there so that you cannot mistake them. We take no responsibility for your safety if you go over or under the rails into other cave areas.

Keep your torches shining on the path whenever you are moving, just to be sure of your footing, and don't try to go too fast. You might trip, and you will certainly miss some of the fascinating wildlife in the cave.

Part 3.

WOMAN: That was a really interesting session. I can hardly wait to start putting it all into practice (21). My nearest and dearest will hardly know me with my newfound self-esteem.

MAN: It's a bright new future, and actually, we've already started (21). As she said, the first thing is admitting you need to boost your self-image.

WOMAN: My therapist is always saying you have to want to change. He's been hammering home that change can't happen unless you feel in your heart that your old ways must go. He's spot on there, and today's speaker would back him up on that.

MAN: Yeah, and I liked what she said about accepting new challenges, doing something positive to overcome our fears. For me, that's going to be getting on that plane to Sydney to visit my sister. There are times when it's inevitable that we feel scared, especially in situations where we have no control over our fate, like with flying, I mean. But you can't let that fear spoil your life or get you down (22).

WOMAN: Absolutely. Face your fear and you're sure to go up in your own estimation (22). Personally speaking, though, I've never had any major fears to confront, just nagging doubts. I'm going to take on board the things she said about addressing issues we feel uncomfortable about. There's a lot to be said for apologizing. Then at least you can stop agonizing and it clears the air.

MAN: You're right. But surely the point is not to be constantly saying sorry (23). I mean, obviously we should respect others, not neglect them or we're still put them down. But there's a fine line between being sensitive to the feelings of others and letting them trample all over you (23). You definitely shouldn't shoulder the blame when you've done nothing wrong. Be fair to yourself first and foremost. That's what I say.

WOMAN: Well, you do have a point there.

MAN: Anyway, I think that guarding yourself like that goes a long way towards boosting your self-esteem.

WOMAN: Really? It seems to me that it might be the other way around. You can only act that way if your self-esteem is already pretty high. Be that as it may. I'm sure we all have genuine regrets and it does us good to own up to them.

MAN: What about this business of taking action on our insecurities immediately? Procrastination only builds up stress levels. By taking the bull by the horns, taking control, you alleviate that stress. You don't have whatever it is, preying on your mind anymore.

WOMAN: Very true. Another thing I'm going to try to do is get out of the habit of putting myself down. She said we should rephrase our criticisms more positively.

MAN: That's all very well. But don't overdo it. We've got to be honest with ourselves.

WOMAN: I know. So again, it's a delicate balance, isn't it? You have to be honest, but at the same time, don't be too harsh on yourself. That won't come naturally to me, but I'm sure it will give my confidence a boost if I can do it. You know what I mean. I just need to let some things go. Or instead of muttering about how lazy I've been, I can admit that I've let myself get run down and that I deserve a rest. Otherwise, it's so destructive.

Goodness knows other people can be quick enough to damage our self-esteem. Let's not do it for them (24).

MAN: It was perceptive what she said about our tendency to feel we're underachieving when we look at our clever, talented friends.

WOMAN: Yeah, it can be so insidious. You start to write yourself off as the poor relation. And before long, your relationship with them starts to suffer, which can launch a whole vicious circle that leaves you feeling even more worthless than before.

MAN: I know what you mean, but I thought her way of dealing with it was clever.

WOMAN: Feel good by association.

MAN: Exactly. If our amazing friends seek out our company, we must have something to offer. Otherwise, they wouldn't bother, would they? (25)

WOMAN: It is an interesting way of looking at it, I suppose.