

ĐỀ CHÍNH THỨC

- Họ và tên thí sinh:SBD:

Ghi chú:

- Thí sinh nộp lại **Đề thi** và **Phiếu trả lời** khi hết giờ làm bài thi.
- Đề thi có 10 trang.
- Thí sinh ghi câu trả lời của mình trên **Phiếu trả lời**.
- Mở đầu và kết thúc phần thi nghe có tín hiệu nhạc.
- Phần thi nghe kéo dài 25 phút, bao gồm 03 phần; mỗi phần nghe 02 lần.
- Thí sinh không sử dụng tài liệu và từ điển.
- Giám thị không giải thích gì thêm.

1. LISTENING (50 points)

Part 1: Listen to five conversations and choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) to each question.

1. What is the girl going to do this morning?

- A. Take a rest B. Rest at home C. See the doctor D. Stay in hospital

2. What is the woman going to buy today?

- A. Milk B. Cake C. Bread D. Butter

3. What was the weather like in the afternoon?

- A. Sunny B. Windy C. Rainy D. Stormy

4. What happened yesterday?

- A. The kitchens were on fire B. The kitchens were flooded
C. The science lab was on fire D. The science lab was flooded

5. How did the man book his holiday?

- A. On the internet B. Via post C. Over the phone D. At a travel agent's

Part 2: Listen to a radio programme and write ONE word in each blank.

6. More _____ say it is difficult to get a good night's sleep.

7. Arlene Rentas gets up every two hours, and she has trouble falling back _____

8. Dr. Gary LeRoy is the president of the American Academy of Family _____

9. Dr. Gary LeRoy says people have trouble sleeping when losing their job and not knowing how to make _____ meet

10. According Dr. Douglas Kirsch, constant _____ of anxiety-provoking news has led to anxiety during the day and also at nighttime, which leads to less good sleep.

11. When you wake up in the middle of the night with your mind _____, psychologist Sonia Ancoli-Israel says there are some things you can do to feel sleepy again.

12. If your mind is going to _____ again, you have to bring your mind back to thinking about your breathing and start counting from one again.

13. After _____ stops and starts, people are likely to fall asleep while counting.

14. According to Sonia Ancoli-Israel, you should find 10 minutes during the day, not close to _____, when you can sit and concentrate on all the things that you are worried.

15. Dr. Douglas Kirsch advises us to arrange future _____ to ensure at least seven to eight hours of sleep a night.

Part 3: Listen to a talk and write ONE word in each blank.

16. A female firefly from a different species _____ the male firefly's pulsing patterns and turns him into an easy meal.

17. Three characteristics of animal deception: misleading the receiver, benefiting the _____, and not a coincidence.

18. _____ is a common example of animal trickery.

19. The leaf-tailed gecko and the octopus _____ into the surfaces on which they rest.

20. Animals use _____ protect themselves.

21. Harmless scarlet kingsnakes have the patterns similar to those of the _____ eastern coral snake to benefit from the protective warnings of these markings.
22. Orchids look and smell like female wasps to attract the males so that they will _____ the plant.
23. Dwarf chameleons color-match their environments when they see a bird _____.
24. When the drongo sounds a false alarm, the meetkats and babblers _____, and the drongo swoops down to steal their food.
25. By watching behavior and its outcomes, we learn that animals _____ predators, prey, and rivals.

II. VOCABULARY AND GRAMMAR (50 points)

Choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) to each of the following questions.

26. _____ he delivers the report, it will be sent to the headquarters.
 A. On the point B. At once C. Immediately D. Soon enough
27. A young tourist has been declared _____ after he got lost in the mountains last Monday.
 A. absent B. deserter C. missing D. vanished
28. After a lengthy debate, the spokesman announced the board had _____ a unanimous conclusion.
 A. committed B. solved C. compromised D. reached
29. All the inhabitants in the area have been asked to _____ at home if the storm returns.
 A. settle B. dwell C. occupy D. remain
30. Due to the computer malfunction all our data was lost. So unhappily, we had to begin all the calculations from _____.
 A. onset B. source C. original D. scratch
31. He _____ his joy at winning the prize by inviting his friends to a first-class restaurant for dinner.
 we'll have to spend this evening
 A. appeared B. envisioned C. displayed D. exposed
32. He ate his break fast in great _____ so as not to miss the bus to Liverpool.
 A. speed B. pace C. rush D. haste
33. He did his best to fix the faulty oven, but his _____ at repairing electrical devices wasn't good enough to succeed.
 A. service B. skill C. technique D. craft
34. He had always boasted about being a good fighter, but when I _____ him he simply got cold
 A. challenged B. struggled C. ventured D. appealed
35. He has forgotten to buy tickets for the performance and _____ we'll have to spend this evening in front of the TV set.
 A. whereas B. thereafter C. whereupon D. therefore
36. He is going to have his old family mansion _____. The building lust its glamour after his ancestors died several years ago.
 A. recovered B. resumed C. restored D. revived
37. He is too _____ a gambler to resist placing a bet on the final game.
 A. instant B. spontaneous C. compulsive D. continuous
38. He was _____ with anger when he saw his car had been scratched.
 A. stored B. fixed C. loaded D. filled
39. He was a terrible _____. He was even afraid to stay at home alone.
 A. culprit B. coward C. fiancé D. boaster
40. His _____ of the safety regulations really can't be ignored any longer
 A. disregard B. unfamiliarity C. carelessness D. inattention
41. His rude behaviour was an _____ to the host and his wife. I don't think they will ever invite him to their home again.
 A. abuse B. msult C. injury D. effect
42. I cannot think of the correct answer. Could you drop me a small _____ please?
 A. tip B. idea C. hint D. word
43. I don't like him. He secms to take too much _____ in criticizing evocoyone.
 A. joy B. fascination C. entertainment D. pleasure

44. I know it works in theory, but try putting it into _____ and you will find out it's a failure
 A. operation B. exercise C. performane D. procedure
45. If I had known that she had fallen so seriously _____, I'd certainly have vistied her in hospital
 A. ill B. unhealthy C. invalid. D. unwell
46. In the _____ of cold weather, remember to put on some warm clothes.
 A. possibility B. fear C. event D. risk
47. It is not a great achievement to me if you make money by _____ of an illegal business.
 A. sorts B. means C. process D. works
48. It was Kevin who _____ us how to deal with this complicated situation.
 A. noted B. explained C. interpreted D. instructed
49. It's _____ of this kind of work to take a lot of time
 A. usual B. average C. characteristic D. regular
50. It's interesting how the rumour about my promotion began to _____
 A. progress B. spread C. publicize D. emit
51. Last time, we were within a hair's _____ of defeating the Auckland team. I'm sure we'll beat them in the approaching season.
 A. breadth B. depth C. length D. width
52. Let me __ my luck at cards. If I win, I promise to invite you to a posh restaurant.
 A. have B. try C. put D. view
53. Let me _____ my memory before I get down to answering the questions.
 A. resume B. case C. awake D. refresh
54. Let's _____ the place. It looks so gloomy and unpleasant.
 A. miss B. abandon C. depart D. disappear
55. Mind that the baby shouldn't touch the knife, it's as sharp as a _____
 A. blade B. sword C. cut D. razor
56. Mr Hehr's bitter comments on the management's mistakes gave _____ to the conflict which has already lasted for four months.
 A. cause B. ground C. goal D. rise
57. My older brother is extremely fond of astronomy, he seems to _____ a lot of pleasure from observing the stars.
 A. perive B. possess C. seize D. reach
58. No matter how loudly you shout to him he won't hear you. He is as deaf as a _____
 A. bat B. stump C. tomb D. post
59. Now that the 9:30 train has been cancelled, we have got plenty of time to _____ before the next one arrives.
 A. expire B. spare C. abound D. exhaust
60. Several hundred people have signed the petition to put a _____ to the nuclear tests in the region.
 A. stop B. finish C. break D. cease
61. She has been on a diet, but she can't resist her _____ for sweets now and then.
 A. inclination B. craving C. attraction D. tendency
62. She said that this hat cost her £100. I'm sure she paid through the _____ for it.
 A. eye B. nose C. ear D. lips
63. She was in deep _____ after her husband's unexpected death.
 A. regret B. grief C. lament D. disturbance
64. The first thing for all of you to remember is that _____ your duties may result in an instant dismissal.
 A. escaping B. neglecting C. resisting D. missing
65. The handwriting is completely _____. This note must have been written a long time ago.
 A. inedible B. indelible C. illegible D. unfeasible
66. The jury _____ her compliments on her excellent knowledge of the subject.
 A. paid B. gave C. made D. said
67. The loan that we had received from our parents _____ us to buy a flat downtown.

- A. enabled B. assisted C. fulfilled D. granted
68. The schoolboy's excuse wasn't _____ at all. Nobody in the classroom believed in the story he told.
- A. unlikely B. credible C. admirable D. naive
69. The student was _____ of understanding the theory even after the professor's profound explanation.
- A. incompetent B. incapable C. helpless D. unsuccessful
70. This cheese isn't fit for eating. It's _____ all over after lying in the bin for so long.
- A. rusty B. spoiled C. mouldy D. sour
71. We can't admit a person who hasn't _____ the required number of points at the entrance examination.
- A. scored B. assessed C. settled D. qualified
72. We couldn't stay long. so we only wished Mark many happy _____ of his birthday and hurried to the airport.
- A. days B. moments C. returns D. regards
73. We realized our visit in their house was unwelcome by the _____ smile on the woman's face.
- A. artificial B. fictional C. imaginary D. copycat
74. What we saw was absolutely unusual. Crowds of people from all four _____ of the world were cheering the arrival of the astronauts.
- A. corners B. edges C. spots D. places
75. Why not ask the tailor to shorten the jacket a little? Unless you don't want it to _____ perfectly with the trousers.
- A. go B. do C. make D. suit

III. READING (60 points)

Part 1: Read the text and think of a word which best fits each gap. Use ONE word for each gap.

A star is made

If you examined the (76) _____ certificates of every soccer player in a World Cup tournament, you would find an unusual tendency: elite soccer players are more likely to have been born earlier in the year (77) _____ later. If you then examined the European national youth teams that supply many World Cup players, this tendency would be (78) _____, more noticeable. In recent English teams, for instance, half the elite teenage soccer players were born in January, February or March. In Germany, fifty-two were born in the first three (79) _____, born in the last three. What might account (80) _____ with just four players this?

The insights of the researchers can explain the riddle of (81) _____ so many elite soccer players are born early in the year. Since youth sports are organised by age group, teams have a cut-off birth date. In the European youth soccer leagues, the cut-off date is (82) _____ 31. So when coach is assessing two players in the (83) _____, age group, one born in January and the other in December, the player born in January is likely to be bigger, stronger, more mature. Guess who the (84) _____ will pick. He may be mistaking maturity for ability but once chosen, those January-born players are the one who, year after year, receive the training, the deliberate practice, the feedback - and have the accompanying self-esteem - that will (85) _____ them into elite players.

Part 2: Read the text. Use the word given in each bracket to form a word that fits in the space.

What it feels like to survive a skydive without a parachute?

I've always had a fear of (86. high) _____ What it feels like to survive a skydive without a parachute - so one day I volunteered for a jump course. I took part in two jumps that went well. I'd heard that the chances of having a parachute (87. function) _____ are about one in 750,000 but on my third jump, I hit the side of the plane. Next thing I knew, I was falling fast, turning over and over.

When you open your parachute, you need to be in a good (88. pose) _____ so it comes straight out and opens up, but instead the strings attached to the canopy got tangled around my legs. I tried to (89. tie) _____ them but they were too tight. If you can't open your main parachute, you open the (90. service) _____ parachute but that didn't work either.

Finally, when I realised that there was nothing more I could do, I thought, "Right, I'm dead." Up till then, this whole process had only taken eight seconds and I was still 900 metres up. I remember feeling incredibly lonely. All the time I was falling and turning, with no control. I briefly saw the ground and a little shack. Then I hit the roof of the shack. I bounced off it, hit a wall and then the ground. I never lost (91. conscience) _____

For the first few minutes, I couldn't feel anything, but then the pain started. I lay there just thinking. "I can't believe I'm alive, this is so bizarre yet amazing." I'd (92. locate) _____ finger and slightly (93. fraction) _____ three bones in my back. I could have walked away. I haven't jumped since then, but I'm building towards it. I still can't believe how lucky I am.

Part 3: Read the text and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

According to Bamardo's children's charity, the cost-of-living crisis has (94) _____ in "bed poverty" where children in the UK (95) _____ up sleeping on old mattresses on the floor. As many as 6 per cent of children (96) _____ said they were sleeping on the floor because of not having a bed of their own in the past 12 months. Bamardo's children's charity said this meant there could be around 700,000 children sharing beds and more than 400,000 children sleeping on the floor across the UK.

Bed poverty is just one (97) _____ of child poverty, yet it clearly illustrates the challenges faced by families that do not have enough money to afford the essentials needed to (98) _____ happy and healthy children. Families in crisis have to (99) _____ essentials such as food, heating and electricity over things like replacing (100) _____ bedding or fixing a rotten or broken bed. Children are sharing beds and sleeping on the floor, all of which (101) _____ their development, attendance at school and their mental health. The government must (102) _____ urgent action to (103) _____ these deep-rooted issues.

(Adopted from independent.co.uk)

- | | | | | |
|------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 94. | A. developed | B. resulted | C. led | D. created |
| 95. | A. bring | B. wake | C. stay | D. end |
| 96. | A. surveyed | B. experimented | C. questioned | D. scrutinized |
| 97. | A. conclusion | B. challenge | C. aspect | D. failure |
| 98. | A. raise | B. upgrade | C. elevate | D. educate |
| 99. | A. provide | B. accommodate | C. handle | D. prioritise |
| 100. | A. comfy | B. shadowy | C. bulky | D. mouldy |
| 101. | A. results | B. effects | C. impacts | D. consequences |
| 102. | A. do | B. take | C. make | D. get |
| 103. | A. address | B. make | C. debate | D. publish |

Part 4: Read the passage and choose the correct the correct answer to each of the questions.

¹ Since the official advice to wear masks to help prevent the spread of Covid-19 was lifted, many Japanese have admitted to struggling to adjust to life without face coverings, with some confessing they have forgotten how to smile

² "With mask wearing having become the norm, people have had fewer opportunities to smile, and more and more people have developed a **complex** about it. Moving and relaxing the facial muscles is the key to making a good smile. I want people to spend time consciously smiling for their physical and mental well-being." Keiko Kawano, a coach with the "smile education" company Egaoiku told the Asahi Shimbun.

³ Kawano, a familiar face on TV and social media, has coached more than 4,000 people in the art of smiling over the past six years, the newspaper said, as well as helping hundreds of others become certified "smile specialists". She now oversees 20 trainers who run classes all over Japan.

⁴ The classes, which are particularly popular among women, typically begin with stretches to **relieve** facial tension before participants raise their handheld mirrors to eye level and flex parts of their face in line with Kawano's instructions.

⁵ "A smile is only a smile if it's conveyed." she told her students at a recent session in Yokohama, according to the Japan Times. "Even if you're thinking about smiling or that you're happy, if you have no expression, it won't reach your audience."

⁶ One of the participants, 79-year-old Akiko Takizawa, said she was excited about going back to her pre-mask life, with a little help from her smile coach. "I didn't have opportunities to see people during the coronavirus crisis and didn't smile in public." **she** told the Mainichi Shimbun newspaper. "This has reminded me of how important smiling is."

(Adapted from theguardian.com)

104. Which serves as the main idea of the passage?

- A. Learning to distinguish between a genuine smile and a fake smile
- B. How to improve our physical and mental well-being after Covid-19
- C. What Japanese people did to prevent the spread of Covid-19
- D. Turning to specialist smile tutors to relearn the art of grinning

105. The word "**complex**" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to
 A. a related group of buildings
 B. a complete solution
 C. a complicated relationship
 D. a set of anxiety or fear
106. According to Keiko Kawano, a smile is only a smile when
 A. you are happy
 B. you fully express it
 C. you think about it
 D. you look at the audience
107. The word "**relieve**" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____
 A. reduce
 B. suffer
 C. enjoy
 D. create
108. The word "**she**" in paragraph 6 refers to
 A. Akiko Takizawa
 B. Asahi Shimbun
 C. Keiko Kawano
 D. Mainichi Shimbun
109. According to the passage, who would most likely sign up for Keiko Kawano's classes?
 A. Children
 B. Actors
 C. Women
 D. Men

Part 5: Read the text about three members of the cat family, then choose the best answer for each question. Only write the letters (A, B or C) when you answer.

110. Which cat is an extremely good climber?
 111. Which cat is not the stereotypical independent lone creature?
 112. Which cat has a healthy population?
 113. Which cat is well regarded in most cultures?
 114. Which cat can sometimes be seen in city areas?
 115. Which cat looks very similar to another big cat?
 116. Which cat physically marks its territory?
 117. Which cat cannot live in un-managed wild areas?
 118. Which cat used to live over a large percentage of the planet?
 119. Which cat a very good at silent, unscen hunting?

A. The Leopard

The leopard is a member of the Felidae family with a wide range in some parts of Africa and special Asia, from Siberia, South and West Asia to across most of sub-Saharan Africa. It is listed as Near Threatened because it is declining in large parts of its range due to habitat loss and fragmentation, and hunting for trade and pest control.

Compared to other members of the large cat family, the leopard has relatively short legs and a long body with a large skull. It is similar in appearance to the jaguar, but is smaller and more slightly. Its fur is marked with rosettes similar to those of the jaguar, but the leopard's rosettes are smaller and more densely packed, and do not usually have central spots as the jaguars do.

The species' success in the wild is in part due to its opportunistic hunting-behavior, its adaptability to habitats, its ability to run at speeds approaching 58 kilometres per hour, its notorious ability to climb trees even when carrying a heavy carcass, and its notorious ability for stealth. The leopard consumes virtually any animal that it can hunt down and catch. Its habitat ranges from rainforest to desert terrains.

Most leopards avoid people, but humans may occasionally be targeted as prey. Most healthy leopards prefer wild prey to humans, but injured, sickly, or struggling cats or those with a shortage of regular human food, an adult leopard is much more powerful and easily capable of killing them.

B. The Lion

With some males exceeding 250 kg in weight, it is the second-largest living cat after the tiger. Wild lions currently exist in sub-Saharan Africa and in Asia while other types of lions have disappeared from North Africa and Southwest Asia in historic times. Until the late Pleistocene, about 10,000 years ago, the lion was the most widespread large land animal after humans. They were found in most of Africa, across Eurasia from western Europe to India, and in the Americas from the Yukon to Peru.

The lion is a vulnerable species. Lion populations are untenable outside designated reserves and national parks. Although the cause of the decline is not fully understood, habitat loss and conflicts with humans are currently the greatest causes of concern. Within Africa, the West African lion population is particularly endangered.

Lions live for 10-14 years in the wild, while in captivity they can live longer than 20 years. They typically inhabit savanna and grassland, although they may take to the forest. Lions are unusually social

compared to other cats. A pride of lions consists of related females and offspring and a small number of adult males. While lions do not typically hunt humans, some have been known to do so. Sleeping mainly during the day, lions are primarily nocturnal.

The lion has been an icon for humanity for thousands of years, appearing in cultures across Europe, Asia, and Africa. Despite incidents of attacks on humans, lions have enjoyed a positive depiction in culture as strong but noble. A common depiction is their representation as "king of the jungle" or "king of beasts"; hence, the lion has been a popular symbol of royalty and stateliness, as well as a symbol of bravery.

C. The Bobcat

The bobcat is a North American wild cat, appearing around 1.8 million years ago. With 12 recognized subspecies, it ranges from southern Canada to northern Mexico. The bobcat is an adaptable predator that inhabits wooded areas, as well as semi-desert, urban edge, forest edges, and swampland environments. It persists in much of its original range, and populations are healthy.

With a gray to brown coat, whiskered face, and black-tufted ears, the bobcat resembles the other species of the Lynx genus. It is about twice as large as the domestic cat. It has distinctive black ears on its forelegs and a black-tipped, stubby tail, from which it derives its name.

Though the bobcat prefers rabbits and hares, it will hunt anything from insects, chickens, and small rodents to deer. Prey selection depends on location and habitat, season, and abundance. Like most cats, the bobcat is territorial and largely solitary, although with some overlap in home ranges. It uses several methods to mark its territorial boundaries, including claw marks and deposits of urine. The bobcat breeds from winter into spring and has a gestation period of about two months.

Although bobcats have been hunted extensively by humans, both for sport and fur, their population has proven resilient. The elusive predator features in Native American mythology and the folklore of European settlers,

Part 6: Read the passage and choose the correct answer to each of the questions. *The Violin*

Of all modern instruments, the violin is apparently one of the simplest. It consists in essence of a hollow, varnished wooden sound box, or **resonator**, and a long neck, covered with a fingerboard, along which four strings are stretched at high tension. The beauty of design, shape, and decoration is no accident: the proportions of the instrument are determined almost entirely by acoustical considerations. Its simplicity of appearance is deceptive. About 70 parts are involved in the construction of a violin. Its tone and its outstanding range of expressiveness make it an ideal solo instrument. No less important, however, is its role as an orchestral and chamber instrument. In combination with the larger and deeper-sounding members of the same family, the violins form the nucleus of the modern symphony orchestra.

The violin has been in existence since about 1550. Its importance as an instrument in its own right dates from the early 1600's, when it first became standard in Italian opera orchestras. Its stature as an orchestral instrument was raised further when in 1626 Louis XIII of France established at his court the orchestra known as Les vingt-quatre violons du Roy (**The King's 24 Violins**), which was to become widely famous later in the century.

In its early history, the violin had a dull and rather quiet tone resulting from the fact that the strings were thick and were attached to the body of the instrument very loosely. During the eighteenth and nineteenth century, exciting technical changes were inspired by such composer-violinists as **Vivaldi and Tartini**. Their instrumental compositions demanded a fuller, clearer, and more brilliant tone that was produced by using thinner strings and a far higher string tension. Small changes had to be made to the violin's internal structure and to the fingerboard so that they could withstand the extra strain.

Accordingly, a higher standard of performance was achieved, in terms of both facility and interpretation. **Left-hand technique**, was considerably elaborated, and new **fingering patterns** on the fingerboard were developed for very high notes.

120. "**The King's 24 Violins**" is mentioned in paragraph 2 to illustrate

- A. how the violin became a renowned instrument
- B. the competition in the 1600's between French and Italian orchestras
- C. the superiority of French violins
- D. why the violin was considered the only instrument suitable to be played by royalty

121. What is the main idea presented in paragraph 3?

- A. The violin has been modified to fit its evolving musical functions.

- B. The violin is probably the best known and most widely distributed musical instrument in the world.
 C. The violin had reached the height of its popularity by the middle of the eighteenth century.
 D. The technique of playing the violin has remained essentially the same since the 1600's.

122. The author mentions Vivaldi and Tartini in paragraph 3 as examples of composers whose music

- _____.
- A. inspired more people to play the violin
 B. had to be adapted to the violin
 C. demanded more sophisticated violins
 D. could be played only by their students

123. The word "**strain**" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.

A. struggle
 B. strength
 C. strategy
 D. stress

124. The word "**Accordingly**" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.

A. However
 B. Consequently
 C. Nevertheless
 D. Ultimately

125. According to the passage, early violins were different from modern violins in that early violins

A. were heavier
 B. broke down more easily
 C. produced softer tones
 D. were easier to play

126. According to the passage, which of the following contributes to a dull sound being produced

A. A long fingerboard
 B. A small body
 C. High string tension
 D. Thick strings

127. Which of the following terms is defined in the passage?

A. resonator (paragraph 1)
 B. solo (paragraph 1)
 C. left-hand technique (paragraph 4)
 D. fingering patterns (paragraph 4)

128. All of the following are mentioned in the passage as contributing to the ability to play modern violin music EXCEPT _____

- A. more complicated techniques for the left hand
 B. different ways to use the fingers to play very high notes
 C. use of rare wood for the fingerboard and neck
 D. minor alterations to the structure of the instrument

Part 7: Seven sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences (4-11) the one which fits each gap (129-135). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

- A. Major changes in public opinion and behavior can certainly occur
 B. On land they are everywhere, too.
 C. These range from cheap 'bags for life' offers to bag-free check-outs.
 D. Worse still, billions get into the environment, especially the ocean environment, where they become a terrible threat to wildlife.
 E. But there was a very different pattern of household shopping then: the purchase of a much smaller number of items, on a daily basis, after a walk to small, local shops.
 F. She realised then that it was too late to do anything about this man-made disaster.
 G. This quickly brought about a quite amazing reduction of 90 per cent, from 1.2 billion bags a year to fewer than 200,000 and an enormous increase in the use of cloth bags.
 H. As a result she started a movement to turn her home town into the first community in the country to be free of plastic bags.

Getting Rid of Plastic Bags

By Michael McCarthy

Plastic bags are one of the greatest problems of the consumer society - or to be more precise, of the throwaway society. First introduced in the United States in 1957, and into the rest of the world by the late 1960s, they have been found so convenient that they have come to be used in massive numbers. In the world as a whole, the annual total manufactured now probably exceeds a trillion - that is, one million billion, or 1,000,000,000,000,000.

According to a recent study, whereas plastic bags were rarely seen at sea in the late eighties and early nineties, they are now being found almost everywhere across the planet, from Spitsbergen in the Arctic to the South Atlantic close to Antarctica. They are among the 12 items of rubbish most often found in coastal clean-ups. (129)_____. Windblown plastic bags are so common in Africa that a small industry has appeared: harvesting bags and using them to make hats and other items, with one group of people collecting

30,000 per month. In some developing countries they are a major nuisance in blocking the drainage systems of towns and villages.

What matters is what happens to them after use. Enormous numbers end up being buried or burnt, which is an enormous waste of the oil products which have gone into their manufacture. (130) _____, Turtles mistake them for their jellyfish food and choke on them; birds mistake them for fish with similar consequences; dolphins have been found with plastic bags preventing them breathing properly.

The wildlife film-maker Rebecca Hosking was shocked by the effects of the bags on birds on the Pacific island of Midway. She found that two-fifths of the 500,000 albatross chicks born each year die, the vast majority from swallowing plastic that their parents have mistakenly brought back as food.

(131) _____ Many local residents and shopkeepers joined in, and the idea of getting rid of them completely soon spread to 10 other towns and villages.

Although some people remain unconvinced, it does seem possible that the entire country could eventually become plastic-bag free. Who could have imagined half-a-century ago that our public places would one day all become cigarette-smoke free? Or that we would all be using lead-free petrol? Who would have thought even a decade ago, come to that, that about two-thirds of us would by now be actively involved in recycling? (132) _____

What is needed is a general change in consumer attitudes, towards the habit of using re-usable shopping bags. Older people will remember how this used to be entirely normal as every household had a "shopping bag", a strong bag which was used to carry items bought in the daily trip to the shops. (133) _____ Today, many of us tend to drive to the supermarket once a week and fill up the car with seven days' worth of supplies, for which plastic bags, of course, are fantastically useful. It's a hard habit to break.

However, there has already been a big drop in plastic bag use, partly because the leading supermarkets and other shopkeepers are making a major effort to help us give up the habit, with a whole variety of new ideas. (134) _____. It is clear that habits are starting to change; reusable bags are more visible than they were even two years ago.

Many believe there should be a tax on plastic bags, and the governments of a number of countries are considering the idea. What people have in mind is the example of Ireland, where a tax of €0.22 was introduced on all plastic bags, the first of its kind in the world. (135) _____. In addition, all the money from the new tax is used for environmental clean-up projects.

IV. WRITING (40 points)

Part 1:

Your name is Swift. Taylor, a friend of yours, has recently lost her beloved cat. Write to her (100-150 words) to console her. Begin your mail with "Dear Taylor".

Part 2:

Some people believe that it is more important to teach children the literature of their own country than that of other countries.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement? Give your own opinion, including specific reasons and relevant examples to support your answer. You should write an essay of between 200-250 words.

THIS IS THE END OF THE TEST.

26. C. immediately

"immediately he delivers the report" fits the context of urgency and timing. Other options like "on the point" or "soon enough" do not logically fit.

27. C. missing "missing" is the correct term for someone who cannot be located, especially in situations like being lost in the mountains.

28. D. reached "reached a unanimous conclusion" is the correct collocation. Other options like "committed" or "solved" do not fit.

29. D. remain "remain at home" is appropriate when giving a safety instruction. The other verbs do not make sense in this context.

30. D. scratch "from scratch" means starting something anew from the beginning, often due to a setback.

31. C. displayed "displayed his joy" means showing happiness openly. Other options like "appeared" or "exposed" do not fit the context.

32. D. haste "in great haste" is a common phrase indicating doing something quickly, often in a rushed manner.

33. B. skill "his skill at repairing electrical devices" matches the context of ability or expertise.

34. A. challenged "challenged him" fits the situation where someone is confronted or tested.

35. D. therefore "therefore" indicates a cause-and-effect relationship, explaining why they had to stay home.

36. C. restored "restored" means bringing something back to its original condition, which fits the context of fixing a mansion.

37. C. compulsive "compulsive gambler" describes someone who has an uncontrollable urge to gamble.

38. D. filled "filled with anger" is a correct phrase indicating someone is overwhelmed by anger.

39. B. coward A "coward" is someone who is excessively afraid, which fits the description.

40. A. disregard "disregard of safety regulations" refers to ignoring or not following rules.

41. B. insult "an insult to the host" means a behavior that is offensive or disrespectful.

42. C. hint "drop a hint" means to give a small clue or suggestion.

43. D. pleasure "take pleasure in" is the correct phrase for enjoying something, even if it's negative like criticism.

44. A. operation "put it into operation" means implementing something practically.

45. A. ill "fallen ill" is the correct phrase for someone becoming seriously unwell.

46. C. event "in the event of cold weather" means "if cold weather happens," which is correct for preparation advice.

47. B. means "by means of an illegal business" indicates using an illegal method or way.

48. D. instructed "instructed us how" is appropriate when someone teaches or gives guidance.

49. C. characteristic "characteristic of this kind of work" describes something typical or expected in that context.

50. B. spread "spread" is used to describe the dissemination of rumors.

51. A. breadth "within a hair's breadth" is an idiom meaning a very small distance or margin.

52. B. try "try my luck" is a common expression when attempting something with an uncertain outcome.

53. D. refresh "refresh my memory" means recalling or remembering something forgotten.

54. B. abandon "abandon the place" means leaving it permanently, which fits the context.

55. D. razor "sharp as a razor" is a common simile for something very sharp.

56. D. rise "gave rise to the conflict" means caused or contributed to the conflict.

57. A. derive "derive pleasure from" is a common phrase meaning to get enjoyment from something.

58. D. post "deaf as a post" is a common idiom describing someone who cannot hear well.

59. B. spare "plenty of time to spare" means having extra time.

60. A. Stop

Explanation: "Put a stop to" is the correct phrase for ending something.

61. B. craving "craving for sweets" describes a strong desire or urge.

62. B. nose "paid through the nose" is an idiom meaning to pay too much for something.

63. B. grief "in deep grief" describes extreme sorrow or sadness.

64. B. neglecting "neglecting your duties" means failing to fulfill responsibilities.

65. C. illegible "illegible handwriting" refers to writing that cannot be read.

66. A. paid "paid her compliments" is the correct collocation.

67. A. enabled "enabled us to buy" means gave us the ability or opportunity to purchase.

68. B. credible: "credible" means believable, and the excuse wasn't credible.

69. B. incapable "incapable of understanding" describes lacking the ability to grasp something.

70. C. mouldy "mouldy" describes food that has developed mold due to spoilage.

71. A. scored "scored the required number of points" refers to achieving a score in an examination.

72. C. returns "happy returns" is a traditional phrase used in birthday greetings.

73. A. artificial "artificial smile" refers to a fake or insincere expression.

74. A. corners "four corners of the world" is a common idiom meaning all parts of the world.

75. A. go "go perfectly with" means matching well with something else.

76. birth: The sentence discusses certificates, so "birth" fits the context of soccer players' dates of birth.

77. than: The comparison of "earlier" and "later" requires "than" for grammatical accuracy.

78. even: The phrase suggests a stronger tendency, hence "even" is appropriate.

79. months: The reference to "the first three" implies "months."

80. for: The question "What might account for this?" is the correct preposition in this case.

81. why: This explains the riddle, making "why" a fitting choice.

82. December: The cut-off date in European youth leagues is December 31.

83. same: The players being compared are in the "same" age group.

84. coach: The coach is the one assessing players.

85. turn: The training and feedback "turn" players into elites.

86. heights: The noun "heights" relates to the fear mentioned.

87. malfunction: The malfunctioning of the parachute is referenced.

88. position: A proper position is necessary for the parachute to open correctly.

89. untie: "Untie" fits the attempt to free tangled strings.

90. reserve: The "reserve" parachute serves as a backup.

91. consciousness: Retaining "consciousness" is noted after the accident.

92. dislocated: "Dislocated" describes the injury to the finger.

93. fractured: "Fractured" refers to the bones in the back.

94. B. resulted: "Resulted" connects cause and effect appropriately.

95. B. wake: "Wake up" is idiomatic for children sleeping on the floor.

96. A. surveyed: "Surveyed" refers to collecting responses from children.

97. C. aspect: "Aspect" fits as part of the broader concept of child poverty.

98. A. raise: "Raise" children refers to their upbringing.

99. D. prioritise: Families must prioritize essentials over other needs.

100. D. mouldy: "Mouldy" refers to old, decayed bedding.

101. C. impacts: "Impacts" aligns with developmental and mental health issues.

102. B. take: "Take action" is the correct collocation.

103. A. address: The government must "address" the issues at hand.

104. D. Turning to specialist smile tutors to relearn the art of grinning: The passage centers on Japanese people relearning smiling post-pandemic.

105. D. a set of anxiety or fear: The word "complex" here refers to people's concerns about smiling.

106. B. you fully express it: A smile must be conveyed fully, as per Kawano's teaching.

107. A. reduce: "Relieve" refers to reducing facial tension.

108. C. Keiko Kawano: The word "she" refers to the coach giving instructions.

109. C. Women: The passage highlights the classes' popularity among women.

110. A. The leopard is described as having the "notorious ability to climb trees even when carrying a heavy carcass,"

making it the extremely good climber.

111. B. The lion is described as "unusually social compared to other cats" and lives in a pride, making it not the stereotypical independent lone creature.

112. C. The bobcat "persists in much of its original range, and populations are healthy."

113. B. The lion is described as an "icon for humanity," with a "positive depiction in culture" and symbolic representations of bravery and royalty.

114. C. The bobcat is an adaptable predator that inhabits urban edges, making it the one that can sometimes be seen in city areas.

115. A. The leopard is "similar in appearance to the jaguar," making it the one that looks very similar to another big cat.

116. C. The bobcat "uses several methods to mark its territorial boundaries, including claw marks and deposits of urine."

117. B. The lion populations are described as "untenable outside designated reserves and national parks," meaning it cannot live in un-managed wild areas.

118. B. The lion was once "found in most of Africa, across Eurasia, and in the Americas," making it the cat that used to live over a large percentage of the planet.

119. A. The leopard is described as having a "notorious ability for stealth," making it very good at silent, unseen hunting.

120. A. "The King's 24 Violins" is mentioned to illustrate the

growing recognition of the violin as a renowned orchestral instrument during the 1600s.

121. A. Paragraph 3 explains how modifications to the violin were inspired by evolving musical demands, supporting the idea that the instrument was modified for its evolving functions.

122. C. Vivaldi and Tartini composed music that demanded violins with a "fuller, clearer, and more brilliant tone," necessitating more sophisticated instruments.

123. D. The word "strain" refers to the "extra strain" caused by higher string tension, meaning stress on the violin.

124. B. "Accordingly" indicates that what follows is a consequence, so it means "Consequently."

125. C. Early violins had "thick strings" and were "attached to the body of the instrument very loosely," resulting in "a dull and rather quiet tone."

126. D. Thick strings are specifically mentioned as a contributing factor to the dull sound of early violins.

127. A. The term "resonator" is defined in paragraph 1 as the "hollow, varnished wooden sound box."

128. C. The passage does not mention "rare wood for the fingerboard and neck" as a contributing factor to playing modern violin music. All other options are mentioned.

129. B. "On land they are everywhere, too." The paragraph mentions plastic bags

being found "almost everywhere" at sea and continues by discussing their prevalence on land, particularly in Africa, making this the most logical choice.

130. D. *"Worse still, billions get into the environment, especially the ocean environment, where they become a terrible threat to wildlife."* This sentence fits the paragraph discussing the disposal of plastic bags and their harmful impact on wildlife, including choking hazards for turtles and birds.

131. H. *"As a result she started a movement to turn her home town into the first community in the country to be free of plastic bags."* The text describes Rebecca Hosking being shocked by the effects of plastic bags and then initiating change, making this sentence a natural continuation.

132. A. *"Major changes in public opinion and behavior can certainly occur."* This fits the discussion about societal changes such as banning cigarette smoke in public places and adopting recycling, highlighting the potential for shifts in public habits.

133. E. *"But there was a very different pattern of household shopping then: the purchase of a much smaller number of items, on a daily basis, after a walk to small, local shops."* This explains the transition from the past practice of daily shopping trips with reusable bags to the modern tendency to shop weekly using plastic bags.

134. C. *"These range from cheap 'bags for life' offers to bag-free check-outs."* The paragraph discusses supermarkets' efforts to reduce plastic bag use, listing

innovations like reusable bag promotions and bag-free check-outs.

135. G. *"This quickly brought about a quite amazing reduction of 90 per cent, from 1.2 billion bags a year to fewer than 200,000 and an enormous increase in the use of cloth bags."* The paragraph describes Ireland's tax on plastic bags and its success in reducing their use, making this sentence the best fit.

Unused Sentence

F. *"She realised then that it was too late to do anything about this man-made disaster."* This sentence is more pessimistic and does not align with the article's overall tone of promoting solutions and positive change.

Suggested Models for Writing

Part 1: Consolation Letter

Dear Taylor,

I was heartbroken to hear about the loss of your beloved cat. Losing such a dear companion is never easy, and I know how much love and joy your furry friend brought into your life.

Please remember that you gave your cat a life filled with warmth, care, and happiness. The memories of those cuddles, playful moments, and quiet times together will always be with you. Your cat was so lucky to have someone as kind and loving as you.

Take all the time you need to grieve. If you ever feel like sharing stories or just talking, I'm here for you. Your bond was truly special, and it's okay to feel sad, but also remember the comfort of all those cherished moments.

Sending you strength and a big hug,
Swift

Part 2: Essay on Teaching Literature

To What Extent Should Children Learn Literature from Their Own Country vs. Other Countries?

The debate over whether children should focus more on their own country's literature than on that of other countries is thought-provoking. While both have their merits, I believe that a balanced approach is ideal, with a slight emphasis on one's national literature for cultural grounding.

Firstly, studying one's national literature fosters a deep understanding of cultural identity and heritage. For example, children who read classics from their own country, such as works by renowned authors or poets, can connect with the values, traditions, and historical experiences of their society. This helps build a sense of pride and belonging, which is crucial for developing a strong identity.

However, learning literature from other countries is equally valuable, as it broadens perspectives and promotes global understanding. Exposure to international authors introduces children to diverse ideas, cultures, and ways of life. For instance, reading works by authors like Shakespeare, Tolstoy, or Gabriel García Márquez can inspire empathy and critical thinking about universal human experiences.

That said, emphasizing only foreign literature risks alienating children from their roots, while an exclusive focus on national works might limit their

worldview. Therefore, schools should aim for a curriculum that includes both local and international literature in equal measure.

In conclusion, while it is essential to prioritize national literature to maintain cultural identity, studying global literature enriches students' understanding of the world. A thoughtful blend of both will best prepare children to appreciate their heritage and engage meaningfully with a globalized world.