

**I. LISTENING (4.0 POINTS)**

**Part 1.** For questions 1-5, listen to a news report on the wildfire and match each number (1-5) in Column I with one letter (A-E) in Column II to make a correct statement according to what is stated or implied by the speaker(s). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Column I	Column II
1. Turkey	A. is on a trajectory to face increasingly severe wildfires in the future.
2. The UK	B. is experiencing temperatures of over 50 degrees Celsius.
3. Canada	C. is experiencing its second worst wildfire season since 2023.
4. Spain	D. is facing a record-breaking wildfire season this year.
5. The world	E. is trying to reduce the risk of wildfires on agricultural land.

**Part 2.** For questions 6-10, listen to part of an interview with two sociologists, Hanya Richardson and Jeffery Walsh, in which they discuss adult friendships. Choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

6. When discussing the aging process, Hanya and Jeffery agree that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. it causes bonds with childhood friends to strengthen  
B. social lives fall victim to life circumstances  
C. people get stuck in established friend groups  
D. adults dedicate too much time to work and too little to leisure
7. When describing how adults meet potential friends, Jeffery reveals \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. his belief that younger people are more open to new friendships  
B. his conviction that genuine friendships start organically  
C. his impression that people have unrealistic expectations  
D. his fear that people are willing to put in sufficient effort
8. What does Hanya say about the use of avoidance strategies?  
A. It stops us from making an emotional investment in people.  
B. It allows us to better grapple with awkward social situations.  
C. It limits opportunities for achieving personal growth.  
D. It refocuses our minds away from distressing thoughts.
9. What advice is given about how to strengthen a new friendship?  
A. Embrace taking the initiative.  
B. Identify activities you could do together.  
C. Avoid neglecting established social protocols.  
D. Fulfil your commitments to the other person.
10. In Hanya's view, friends who behave badly \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. may overstep boundaries but do so unintentionally  
B. can stretch our patience past its breaking point  
C. should be given the benefit of the doubt  
D. will come to regret their actions at a later date

**Part 3. For questions 11-20, listen to a talk about how to write a comedy. Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS taken from the recording for each blank. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.**

(11) \_\_\_\_\_ as it may be, comedy often enhances serious stories by keeping audiences emotionally engaged. When exposed to one emotion for too long, people become desensitized, weakening its impact. (12) \_\_\_\_\_ methods like *Comic Relief* help maintain a dynamic emotional experience. Using characters, situations, or language, the key lies in (13) \_\_\_\_\_. In the *Epic of Gilgamesh*, the king walks into a bar just as the story seems to approach its (14) \_\_\_\_\_ - an unexpected moment that subverted audience expectations and temporarily released tension, allowing it to build more powerfully later. The bartender questions Gilgamesh's quest goal, which sets the scene for a more nuanced (15) \_\_\_\_\_.

Sidekicks also deliver insightful commentary while serving as awkward, hapless (16) \_\_\_\_\_, enhancing both humor and meaning. Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse-Five* alternates between horrific war scenes and absurd science fiction, using comedy to explore the arbitrary (17) \_\_\_\_\_ of suffering. In *The God of Small Things*, the narrative styles explore children's viewpoint to combine tragedy with poignant (18) \_\_\_\_\_. The main character Rahel hides behind a curtain instead of performing expected politeness, and her joke, "The play had gone bad, like pickle in a monsoon.", (19) \_\_\_\_\_ her actual situation. Writers should consider where a moment of contrasting (20) \_\_\_\_\_ can enrich their story and reveal themes or questions that are difficult to express directly.

## II. LANGUAGE IN USE (4.0 POINTS)

**Part 1. For questions 21-30, read the passage below and decide which answer (A, B, C, or D) best fits each space. Write the letter A, B, C, or D in the numbered boxes provided.**

Many artefacts of (21) \_\_\_\_\_ cultural significance from the last century were made from plastic. It was always confidently assumed that this rather mundane material was virtually indestructible. Now that some of these artefacts have become museum (22) \_\_\_\_\_, we have discovered that this belief was sadly (23) \_\_\_\_\_.

The degradation of plastics is worrying both scientists and historians, who are racing (24) \_\_\_\_\_ time to save our plastic heritage before it (25) \_\_\_\_\_ into dust. Our love affair with plastics (26) \_\_\_\_\_ in large part from the fact they can be moulded into just about any shape imaginable. When it comes to longevity, however, they have a serious flaw: their chemical structure (27) \_\_\_\_\_ when they are exposed to air and sunlight.

Many now argue that we must consider the cultural (28) \_\_\_\_\_ we will be leaving future generations. Without urgent (29) \_\_\_\_\_ many artefacts will be lost forever. But developing effective conservation strategies is difficult because (30) \_\_\_\_\_ works to preserve one type of plastic can have a catastrophic effect on the lifespan of another.

- |                     |                 |                 |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 21. A. lingering    | B. enduring     | C. unceasing    | D. perennial    |
| 22. A. items        | B. articles     | C. objects      | D. pieces       |
| 23. A. wronged      | B. counterfeit  | C. mistaken     | D. faulty       |
| 24. A. by           | B. from         | C. against      | D. to           |
| 25. A. crumbles     | B. shatters     | C. erodes       | D. shrivels     |
| 26. A. starts       | B. sparks       | C. stems        | D. sprouts      |
| 27. A. breaks out   | B. breaks in    | C. breaks up    | D. breaks down  |
| 28. A. bequest      | B. legacy       | C. endowment    | D. heirloom     |
| 29. A. intervention | B. interception | C. intermission | D. intercession |
| 30. A. how          | B. when         | C. which        | D. what         |

**Part 2. For question 31-35, read the passage, then fill in each of the numbered spaces with the correct form of the words given in the brackets. Write your answers in the numbered boxes provided. The first one, (0), has been done as an example.**

The courteous smile of an author selling books, signing copies or chatting on television shows can be (0) **deceptive** (DECEIVE). Behind the scenes of the book tour that has become as much a part of the modern bestseller as print and paper, the writer may be a (31. **CONTEND**) \_\_\_\_\_ for a Golden Dartboard Award.

This is the Oscar for authors allegedly behaving badly, an informal award nominated by the weary, sometimes (32. TRAUMA) \_\_\_\_\_ publicists who travel from city to city garnering publicity and sales. They call themselves “babysitters” and “wet nurses” as they tend to the fragile egos and (33. CONVENTION) \_\_\_\_\_ demands of authors freed from their word processors.

Among the most feared assignments for the publicists are the feminist writer who is remembered for yelling at her publicists in public and in (34. COLOUR) \_\_\_\_\_ language, and the thriller writer whose publicists report that they have instructions from his publisher to speak only when spoken to. One (35. SURVIVE) \_\_\_\_\_ of a tour with him, who nominated him for a Golden Dartboard, says: “He treats us all as his inferiors.” However, publicists on his most recent tour say that he was an absolute joy to work with.

**Part 3. For questions 36-40: The passage below contains FIVE mistakes. IDENTIFY the mistakes. WRITE the corrections and the line number in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. The first one has been done as an example.**

*Example: achieve → achieved*

To date, mankind has achieve interplanetary travel (we’ve successfully landed spacecrafts on planets within our solar system) but what are the possibilities for interstellar travel and intergalactic travel? First, let’s consider the latter. Intergalactic travel is space travel between galaxies and which unquestionably lies in the realm of pure fantasy. It would take over 2.5 million years at the speed of light (i.e. 669,600,000 miles per hour) to reach even our closest galactic neighbour, the Andromeda Galaxy. The vast distances and the time needed to cover it make intergalactic travel impossible. What, then, about interstellar travel? Well, that is currently just pure science fiction.

The distances between our solar system and our nearest star neighbours may not be in the scale of intergalactic distances, but they are still colossal. Take Proxima Centauri, our nearest neighbouring star. It is 4.2 light year away. (To get a sense of what this means, consider that the Sun is about 8 light minutes from Earth). The fastest spacecrafts travel at 1/18,000th the speed of light (i.e. 38,030 miles per hour). At this speed, it would still take 72,000 years to reach Proxima Centauri. But do not despair. Many scientists believe mankind will possess the technology to do (unmanned, at least) interstellar travel practically feasible in the next 200 to 500 years. The journeys will still take many decades, if not centuries, but space probes will probably have visited other solar systems by the year 3000AD.

### III. READING COMPREHENSION (7.0 POINTS)

**Part 1. For questions 41-50, read the following passage and fill in each of the numbered spaces with ONE suitable word. Write your answer in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.**

Throughout the ages, disease has stalked (41) \_\_\_\_\_ species. Prehistoric humans must quickly have learnt what could be eaten without danger, and how to avoid plants that could (42) \_\_\_\_\_ about illness. They found leaves, berries and the bark of different trees that could actually heal wounds and cure the sick, and it soon became a special skill to understand natural medicine.

Ever (43) \_\_\_\_\_ the dawn of history, medicine men and wise women have always been experts in treating diseases and have dispensed medicine through ritual and magic. (44) \_\_\_\_\_ trial

and error, they discovered treatments for almost (45) \_\_\_\_\_ affliction prevalent at the time. The precious recipes for preparations which could relieve pain, stop fits, sedate or stimulate were (46) \_\_\_\_\_ down from generation to generation. Although there was (47) \_\_\_\_\_ exact understanding of the way in which the medicines worked. Despite the power of these primitive medicines, generations were still ravaged by disease.

(48) \_\_\_\_\_ the last 150 years, scientists and doctors, (49) \_\_\_\_\_ work has focused on these early medicines, have learnt that their power derived from certain chemicals which were found in herbal remedies or could be synthesised in the laboratory. In just (50) \_\_\_\_\_ a way, advances in modern medicine continue, aided by the discoveries made centuries ago by our ancestors.

**Part 2. For questions 51-60, read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.**

At the time when the smuggling of tablets began to increase seriously, comparatively few confiscations were made. The reason for this was partly that the Customs officers at this time were

not prepared for the fight against illicit drugs, and partly that this kind of smuggling took place under circumstances that made it difficult to locate the hidden products.

By means of intelligence gathered and investigations carried out, drugs were usually transported in private cars and hidden in the chassis, the frames and the tyres, and in other spaces difficult to search. After having investigated various possibilities, two technical methods were taken forward, first the so-called narcotic detector, working on the basis of a number of rays from a radio-active source, secondly, the narcotic dogs.

The first narcotic dogs were selected and trained for the Customs during the latter part of 1966 and were taken into service in the beginning of 1967. Four dogs and their handlers were used at the beginning. Dog training for different purposes in Sweden is centralized and takes place at the Army Dog Training Centre, where police dogs, army dogs, blind-leader dogs, avalanche search dogs, etc. are trained. This school was thus commissioned by the Board of Customs to train four dogs with handlers on a trial basis. The experience available was, in Sweden as well as in other countries, very meagre.

Initially dogs from the German Shepherd breed were trained, simply because the Army already had a suitable stock. By and by it was found out that dogs of the Labrador breed are suited to training for the search for drugs as well. The Labrador dog is normally calm and gentle and makes the search quietly and systematically. It also seems to be more persistent than the German Shepherd which, as a general rule, must be regarded as more aggressive. Many people have, by tradition, awe and fear for the German Shepherd which is often associated with guard and watchdogs. As the narcotic dog has to work among travellers it was regarded as safer and more psychologically appropriate to choose a breed towards which people have no prejudices.

The training of the dog to trace drugs starts when it is twelve to eighteen months old. The first part of the training, the so-called obedience training, has been finished at that time and this includes 4 to 6 months of normal obedience drill. Then the dog handler is sent to the dogs' training center, to take over the dog. The first days are spent on becoming familiar with the dog and, after this, a 6 week long training starts, to teach the dog to trace narcotic drugs. During this training the drugs will be hidden in different objects and in different surroundings. The last week of the "drug training" is spent entirely on so-called environment training. It is important to vary the hiding places within a wide frame as otherwise there is a risk that the dog associates the illicit drugs with a certain milieu or with a certain object.

The dogs are basically taught to search for both cannabis and psychotropic substances. It has proved possible to train the dogs for both these types of drugs simultaneously. The principle is that the training of a dog seems to give the better results the fewer substances and smells he has been trained to search for. An interesting question can be mentioned in this connection. There seems to be little research into what the dog's organ of smell really registers. A dog, which has been trained to search for tablets containing narcotics indicates harmless headache pills as well and even, e.g., talcum powder. Research work in this respect might be necessary.

The environment training mentioned above is conducted in ships, lorries, warehouses and engine-rooms, to accustom the dog to noise, traffic, unknown and disturbing odours, etc. A great deal of importance is laid upon this training and it is, at the same time, a kind of examination for the dog to show how he works in the type of milieu which will later be his working field. Not only is the choice of the dog important, but the selection of dog handlers also matters in achieving a good result. The handler's professional knowledge of methods of smuggling and hiding places is a prerequisite if the dog shall be used rationally and be able to find spaces and hiding places which cannot be discovered by ocular examination or ordinary search techniques. Normally, the handler should choose an object and search area for the dog and this is mainly used for so-called fine-search or point-search.

The dogs may search different articles. They are used for a strict search of all kinds of means of transport (motor cars, trains, ships, aircraft). They are also used in connection with house searches and finally in the examination of goods, such as commercial goods, luggage, postal parcels, letters, etc. If the dog is used monotonously to search for certain objects only, for instance private cars during rather long periods, the dog's interest seems to diminish gradually. This risk is greatest at some small posts where there is only, or mainly, a special kind of traffic. Because of that fact Sweden tries to let

the dog teams operate within larger regions and with regular intervals. They may visit different Customs ports or places of entry in their region.

**For questions 51-53, complete the sentence below with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS taken from the reading passage. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.**

**51.** As drug smuggling became more prevalent it was apparent that Customs were suffering from lack of preparation and inability to find \_\_\_\_\_.

**52.** Narcotic dogs were initially trained on a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ in Sweden.

**53.** Generally speaking, the German Shepherd is viewed by most people as more \_\_\_\_\_ in contrast to the Labrador which is docile.

**For questions 54-57, decide whether the following statements are YES (Y), NO (N) or NOT GIVEN (NG). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.**

**YES** if the statement agrees with the writer

**NO** if the statement contradicts the writer

**NOT GIVEN** if there is no information about this in the passage

**54.** Dogs start training to trace drugs at the Army Dog Training Centre when they are between six and twelve months old.

**55.** Even after training sometimes dogs are unable to distinguish between narcotic and non-narcotic substances.

**56.** Dogs will specialize in areas such as lorries or warehouses to the exclusion of others.

**57.** Dogs handlers are chosen for their professional knowledge of smugglers' habits.

**For questions 58-60, complete the summary below with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS taken from the reading passage. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.**

Dogs are used to search transport, houses and goods of all kinds. They cannot be restricted to **(58)** \_\_\_\_\_ otherwise their effectiveness may **(59)** \_\_\_\_\_ gradually. Thereby Swedish dog teams move within larger regions at **(60)** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Part 3. For questions 61-67: In the passage below, seven paragraphs have been removed. Read the passage and choose from paragraphs A-H the one which fits each gap. There is ONE extra paragraph which you do not need to use. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.**

In recent years, one genre of music has captured the attention of music lovers around the world, breaking language barriers and cultural differences. K-POP, short for Korean Pop, has become a global sensation, captivating audiences with its infectious beats, stunning visuals and jaw-dropping performances. The rise of K-POP has been nothing short of remarkable, and its impact on the global music industry is undeniable.

**61.** \_\_\_\_\_

However, it was in the late 2000s and early 2010s that K-POP truly began to take off on the global stage. This can be attributed to the emergence of talent agencies like SM Entertainment, YG Entertainment and JYP Entertainment, which played a pivotal role in shaping and promoting K-POP acts. These agencies meticulously trained their artists in singing, dancing and stage presence, fostering a level of professionalism

and perfectionism rarely seen in the music industry.

**62.** \_\_\_\_\_

One of the defining characteristics of K-POP is its emphasis on visuals and performances. K-POP groups are known for their impeccably coordinated dance routines, elaborate music videos, and fashion-forward aesthetics. These carefully crafted productions create a visually stunning experience that captivates viewers and sets K-POP apart from other genres. In addition, K-POP artists often engage in fan interactions through social media, live broadcasts and fan meetings, providing a deep sense of connection with their global fanbase.

**63.** \_\_\_\_\_

It has even made a significant impact on the market in the USA. K-POP acts have managed to break into the highly competitive American music scene, gaining recognition and amassing a dedicated fanbase. Artists like BTS, BLACKPINK and EXO have not only charted on the Billboard Hot 100 but have also performed on major American television shows and received mainstream media coverage. Their success in the US market has opened doors for other K-POP acts, leading to increased visibility and opportunities for them.

**64.** \_\_\_\_\_

Despite its undeniable global popularity, K-POP has faced criticism on several fronts. One of the main concerns revolves around the manufactured nature of the genre. K-POP groups are often assembled by talent agencies through rigorous auditions and training processes, prioritising marketability over genuine artistic expression. This has led some critics to argue that K-POP is more about the image and packaging rather than the music itself, raising questions about authenticity and artistic integrity.

**65.** \_\_\_\_\_

In spite of the criticism of the genre, the future of K-POP looks promising, with even greater opportunities for expansion and influence. K-POP is evolving and diversifying, experimenting with new sounds and concepts. The genre's ability to adapt and incorporate global trends ensures its continued relevance in the ever-changing music landscape. Furthermore, collaborations between K-POP artists and international acts have become more frequent and this has fostered a cultural exchange and opened doors to new markets.

**66.** \_\_\_\_\_

While the Brits may have had more main stream recognition in the Western market, K-POP bands have managed to make significant strides and have strong and devoted fanbases that rival those of any Western pop act. The success of K-POP bands demonstrates the global appeal and influence of the genre. Its place in the international music industry now seems to be assured.

**67.** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Missing paragraphs**

**A.** To understand the meteoric rise of K-POP, you need to consider its history. K-POP emerged in South Korea in the 1990s as a fusion of Western pop music, hip hop and traditional Korean music. Influenced by American and European pop acts such as Michael Jackson and Madonna, as well as the local Korean music scene, K-POP artists began crafting a unique sound that blended catchy melodies with energetic choreography. The first wave of K-POP groups, such as H.O.T and Seo Taiji and Boys, laid the foundation for what was to come.

**B.** It has also been claimed that the emphasis on spectacle and choreography can sometimes result in shallow and formulaic music that lacks depth and innovation. This has led to accusations that K-POP is more focused on commercial success and maintaining a polished image rather than pushing boundaries and exploring new artistic territories.

**C.** The success K-POP has achieved amongst music enthusiasts around the world is undeniably impressive, and its appeal is not limited to its homeland of South Korea. It has spread like wildfire across Asia, Europe, the Americas and beyond. International tours by K-POP groups have sold out arenas and stadiums worldwide, breaking attendance records and generating a fervour rarely seen in the music industry. Social media platforms, particularly Twitter and YouTube, have played a significant role in amplifying K-POP's reach.

**D.** When comparing the success of K-POP bands to that of a group like the British group One Direction, it is important to note that both have achieved remarkable levels of popularity in their own right. One Direction enjoyed immense success in the early 2010s, becoming a global sensation and amassing a massive fan following. Similarly, K-POP bands like BTS have gained a dedicated fanbase worldwide, selling out arenas and stadiums during their international tours.

**E.** The question now is: Will it be possible for K-POP artists and bands to sustain their incredible recent success in the future, or will it prove to be just a flash in the pan, as they say? All the indicators are that as long as industry insiders continue to unearth performers that capture the imagination, and

as long as those performers continue to put out records that the public can really connect with, the global community will continue to want to listen to them.

**F.** This has caused some to draw parallels between the impact that K-POP has had in the US and that of British bands in the so-called British Invasion of the 1960s. There, again, music that had its roots in American culture found its way back to that country through the recordings and performances of artists from very different cultural backgrounds. In the 1960s, this embellishment led to the richest and most profound changes in popular music, culture and, eventually, civil rights in the US.

**G.** While K-POP has achieved such a remarkable success, this has not come without its challenges. The intense training regimens and rigorous schedules often take a toll on the mental and physical well-being of K-POP artists. This has sparked discussions about the industry's demanding nature and the need to prioritise the health and welfare of its performers. Additionally, cultural-appropriation controversies and issues of representation have been raised.

**H.** The influence of Western music on K-POP during these formative years cannot be overlooked. K-POP draws inspiration from various genres, including pop, R&B, hip hop, EDM and rock. Collaborations with Western producers and songwriters such as Teddy Riley, will.i.am and Ryan Tedder have helped K-POP artists create songs with an international appeal. This cross-pollination of musical styles has been instrumental in K-POP's success.

**Part 4. For questions 68-75: The passage below consists of six paragraphs marked A, B, C, D, E and F. Read the passage about innovation and do the task that follows. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.**

**A.** Were there far fewer undiscovered ideas out there than in our more primitive past, how would people know? This is not an idle question; decoding the mysteries of nature, from atmospheric pressure to electricity to DNA, allowed people to bend the natural world to their will, and to grow richer in the process. A dwindling stock of discoverable insights in the pipeline would mean correspondingly less scope for progress in the future – a dismal prospect. And some signs suggest that the well of our imagination is about to run dry. Though ever more researchers are digging for insights, according to new research, the flow of new ideas is flagging.

**B.** But is it? A recent paper by Nicholas Bloom, Charles Jones and Michael Webb of Stanford University, and John Van Reenen of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology provides relevant evidence. Though striking an agnostic position as to whether humanity has used up all its eureka moments, they nonetheless conclude that new ideas are getting more expensive to find. The authors consider four different case studies, within which they compare research 'inputs' (such as the money spent on researchers and lab equipment) and outputs. For instance, the number of transistors that can be squeezed onto a microchip has doubled with reassuring regularity for half a century, every two years or so – a phenomenon known as Moore's Law (after Gordon Moore, a founder of Intel). But companies have run up against a vexing problem: to continue achieving this success, they have to pour more and more resources into the effort over time. The research productivity of each scientist participating in the battle to cram in transistors has correspondingly tumbled.

**C.** Analysing the supply side of the innovation equation in isolation can also be misleading. The demand for new ideas, and, correspondingly, the incentive to tackle difficult questions, also matters. In his analysis of the Industrial Revolution, Robert Allen, then an economic historian at Oxford, sought to explain why it started in Britain rather than anywhere else. Supply-side factors, such as improved literacy and stronger property rights, certainly played a part. But it was the demand for labour-saving innovation, prompted by Britain's relatively high wages at the time, which gave inventors a strong motive to develop and hone the steam engine and its applications.

**D.** Researchers are often like the man searching for his keys under the streetlight, because that is where the light is. Until some pressure is applied to encourage him to look elsewhere, the search will often prove fruitless. It is easy to see why firms might take a lackadaisical approach to some research questions. Disappointing wage growth across advanced economies is a deterrent to the invention and use of labour-saving innovations. Persistently high rates of profit give big firms plenty of money to plough into fancy research labs, but also suggest that the competitive pressures which might prompt them to exploit the resulting discoveries are weak.

**E.** Despair is premature, however. The effort to find new, growth-boosting ideas is not necessarily hopeless – just complicated. Whether herding more researchers into the laboratory raises growth

might depend on how intensively the resulting brainstorming ideas are used. Across the global economy, many countries have yet fully to exploit ideas already in use by firms at the cutting edge of scientific knowledge. The problem, in other words, is not that oranges are in short supply or are already squeezed dry, but rather that of the ten workers at the juice bar, only one has learned to do the squeezing. Investments in education and training, to expand the share of workers that can use new ideas, or in the quality of management, to improve how effectively ideas are applied within firms, would do wonders for growth, even if the world's scientists are idly scratching their heads.

F. In some ways, the accumulation of knowledge can hold back progress. The more that is known, the more researchers must absorb before they can add to the stock of human knowledge – or the more they must collaborate with other researchers to combine their areas of expertise. But the incomplete exploitation of currently available knowledge is in some way reassuring. It suggests that people are underperforming relative to their potential: both in how they use available ideas and in how they uncover new ones.

**In which section are the following mentioned? You can use each letter more than once.**

- 68. the potential downsides of strong economic performance
- 69. economic gains resulting from humans altering their environment
- 70. the failure to take full advantage of innovation that already exist
- 71. a lack of enthusiasm for innovation at some companies
- 72. the growing need for experts to work together
- 73. a narrow perspective leading to an incorrect assumption
- 74. the desire to reduce the number of workers needed to do certain jobs
- 75. the beneficial effects of improved administration at companies

#### **IV. WRITING (5.0 POINTS)**

**Part 1. For questions 76-80, complete the second sentence so that it is similar in meaning to the original sentence, beginning with the given word(s).**

76. I love espresso, but the pour-over method creates a smoother, more nuanced taste.  
→ Much \_\_\_\_\_, the pour-over method creates smoother, more nuanced taste.
77. You must not leave this laptop in an unlocked car, no matter what happens.  
→ Under \_\_\_\_\_ this laptop in an unlocked car.
78. He revealed the secret about his manager's affair last night.  
→ He spilled \_\_\_\_\_ his manager's affair last night.
79. It's such a pity that he's not here with us right now.  
→ If only \_\_\_\_\_ with us right now.
80. Teachers shouldn't take full responsibility for students' academic results.  
→ Teachers shouldn't shoulder \_\_\_\_\_ students' academic results.

**Part 2. For questions 81-85, write the second sentence so that it is similar in meaning to the original sentence, using the given word in bold. Do not change the given word in any way.**

81. You shouldn't show up unexpectedly like that. (**BLUE**)  
→ \_\_\_\_\_
82. The jury convicted her because her story didn't seem to be true. (**WATER**)  
→ \_\_\_\_\_
83. Brian's new hair looked so ridiculous that I couldn't help laughing. (**FACE**)  
→ \_\_\_\_\_
84. James changed his bad behavior by giving up smoking. (**LEAF**)  
→ \_\_\_\_\_
85. Life is often similar to a journey. (**LIKENED**)  
→ \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 3. For questions 86-90, choose the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the best arrangement of utterances or sentences to make a meaningful exchange or text in each of the following questions. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.**

86.  
a. My perspective on collaboration in the workplace has shifted considerably over recent years.



- b. Nevertheless, despite these successes, many teams still struggle with communication, as remote work introduces new complexities.
- c. Once seen as a challenge, it is now celebrated for its potential to drive innovation and creativity.
- d. Thus, projects that emphasize collaboration have led to a 25% increase in successful outcomes and client satisfaction.
- e. This change has encouraged teams to embrace diverse perspectives, resulting in more dynamic problem-solving approaches.

A. d - b - c - e - a

B. a - c - e - b - d

C. a - c - e - d - b

D. d - e - b - c - a

**87.**

- a. The community has made significant strides towards sustainable living over the past few years.
- b. Nonetheless, notwithstanding these advancements, many residents still struggle with access to fresh, local produce, as farmers' markets remain limited.
- c. Once dominated by car-centric development, neighborhoods are now incorporating green spaces and bike paths, reflecting a shift towards eco-friendly urban planning.
- d. As a result, the city has seen a 25% increase in participation in green programs, leading to a more engaged and environmentally conscious populace.
- e. This emphasis on sustainability has attracted various initiatives, from community gardens to renewable energy projects, enriching local life and fostering environmental awareness.

A. a - e - c - d - b

B. c - e - a - d - b

C. a - d - e - b - c

D. b - e - a - c - d

**88.**

- a. A more practical alternative is for these people to find a way to improve the quality of life in their own communities.
- b. For residents of these cities, life is generally great.
- c. In addition, approximately half of the world's population lives in cities with a lower quality of life.
- d. However, even the best cities have some issues.
- e. These people may dream of migrating somewhere better, but this may not be possible.

A. b - c - d - a - e

B. e - c - a - d - b

C. a - e - b - c - d

D. b - d - c - e - a

**89.**

- a. By comparison, car drivers without passengers travel an average of 17 miles.
- b. People who share a car travel the greatest distance, on average 23 or 24 miles, while cyclists and pedestrians have the shortest journey - just 4 miles.
- c. The table gives information about different means of transport which people use to reach their work in one city in the US.
- d. Overall, for long distances, the quickest way to travel is to share a car, but for short distances, walking or cycling is the best.
- e. Walkers and cyclists take the least time, because they get to work in about 20 minutes.
- f. Cars tend to be the fastest way of travelling. People going together by car have an average speed of 34 mph and people driving alone have an average of 31 mph.

A. d - f - b - c - e - a

B. f - d - c - a - b - e

C. c - e - f - d - b - a

D. c - b - a - e - f - d

**90.**

- a. People who do not get enough rest at night often suffer from fatigue, which affects their cognitive function and impairs memory.
- b. Furthermore, without proper sleep, the body is unable to restore itself, which further exacerbates the negative effects on overall well-being.
- c. Inadequate sleep and irregular sleep patterns can have severe consequences on both physical and mental health.
- d. This disruption of the natural circadian rhythms increases stress levels and can lead to mood swings, making it harder for individuals to maintain their daily activities effectively.

A. b - c - d - a

B. c - a - d - b

C. d - a - b - c

D. b - a - c - d

**Part 4. For questions 91-100: Read the following letter and use the information in it to complete the numbered gaps in the formal job advertisement. Write the new words in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. Use NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS for each gap. The words you need DO NOT OCCUR in the informal letter. The exercise begins with example (0). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.**

#### **INFORMAL LETTER**

You know I promised to tell you if I heard of any interesting jobs going?

Well, our company is looking for a new Marketing Director – the ad goes in next week.

The new director will be taking over from Jane Fairbrother, who's leaving because she's been offered a new job in Scotland. Since you have a degree in Business Administration you'll stand a good chance. I can just see you as head of the department. You are working in the same area (which is what they want) and you have done so well in your present job that they are bound to be impressed. If you get the job, you'll have more than 30 people under you and you would have to make a number of trips abroad. The holidays you get are very good, and the canteen food is edible and doesn't cost much. As for the money they will pay, you will have to discuss it with them – it depends on your experience. Your application must arrive by 30 November, so get your skates on!

Love,

Margaret

#### **FORMAL JOB ADVERTISEMENT MARKETING DIRECTOR**

An exceptional (0) **individual** is sought to succeed the (91) \_\_\_\_\_ director, Ms. Jane Fairbrother, who will be vacating the post in the new year to take up a new (92) \_\_\_\_\_ in Edinburgh.

The successful applicant will ideally be a university (93) \_\_\_\_\_ in Business Administration and have the ability to take (94) \_\_\_\_\_ the department in a period of rapid change. Experience in a company that manufactures similar products would be a distinct (95) \_\_\_\_\_. Applicants must demonstrate a proven record of (96) \_\_\_\_\_. The Marketing Director is responsible for a department of over 30 (97) \_\_\_\_\_ and the position entails a considerable amount of (98) \_\_\_\_\_.

Benefits include generous leave (42 days p.a.), a subsidised canteen, and a range of sporting and social facilities. Salary is (99) \_\_\_\_\_ according to experience.

Please e-mail your application with full career details to: [phillipa.Robertson@intellect.com.uk](mailto:phillipa.Robertson@intellect.com.uk)

The (100) \_\_\_\_\_ is 30 November.

----- **THE END** -----