

Họ và tên thí sinh:..... Số báo danh:

- * Từ câu 1 đến câu 60: Thí sinh làm bài trên **Phiếu trả lời trắc nghiệm**.
- * Từ câu 61 đến câu 130: Thí sinh làm bài trên **Phiếu trả lời tự luận**.
- * Chỉ những câu trả lời trên các Phiếu trả lời mới được chấm điểm.
- * Thí sinh **KHÔNG** được sử dụng tài liệu, kể cả từ điển.
- * Thí sinh nộp lại **Đề thi, Phiếu trả lời trắc nghiệm và Phiếu trả lời tự luận** khi kết thúc bài thi.
- * Giám thị **KHÔNG** giải thích gì thêm.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

There are 130 questions on this paper:

answer questions 01-60 on the **MULTIPLE-CHOICE ANSWER SHEET**,

answer questions 61-130 on the **WRITTEN ANSWER SHEET**.

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.

Questions 01-60 carry 0.05 marks each.

Questions 61-80 carry 0.05 marks each.

Questions 81-120 carry 0.10 marks each.

Questions 121-130 carry 0.20 marks each.

At the end of the test, hand in this Question Paper and both the Multiple-Choice and Written Answer Sheets.

21. _____, the movie was panned by critics as formulaic and lacking in substance.
 A. Commercially successful though was the film B. Successfully commercial though the film was
 C. Commercially successful though the film was D. Successfully commercial though was the film
22. Jerry's coach _____ for failing to defend his champion title.
 A. phased him out B. passed him up C. wrote him off D. ruled him out
23. Not until the files were declassified decades later _____ the true extent of the criminal operation.
 A. did the public realize B. were the public realizing
 C. that the public realized D. had the public realized
24. _____, I would have visited you a month ago.
 A. Had it been for my fear of flying B. Should I not be afraid of flying
 C. Had I not been afraid of flying D. Were it not for my fear of flying
25. The journalist refused to disclose her source, even _____ legal action threats.
 A. by virtue of B. in the face of C. for the sake of D. on account of
26. In preparation for a large incoming shipment, warehouse workers were instructed to _____.
 A. bridge the gaps B. clear the decks C. cut corners D. draw lines
27. Sabrina wrote down "*baking soda for mom*" on her shopping list, lest in her hurry she _____ it.
 A. forgets B. will forget C. forgot D. forget
28. The boy denied _____ the answer key, but his perfect score makes it hard to believe.
 A. having been stolen B. stealing C. to steal D. to have stolen
29. The documentary was criticised not so much for what it said _____ for what it left unsaid.
 A. and B. but C. as D. than
30. Surrounded at Dien Bien Phu with their supply lifelines severed, the French forces were _____.
 A. out on a limb B. on a hiding to nothing C. in the doldrums D. digging their own grave
31. Realizing that his matcha-flavored dog food venture had completely failed, the entrepreneur chose to _____.
 A. burn his boats B. bide his time C. cut his losses D. raise his stakes
32. Only after the committee had reviewed the raw data _____ to publish the preliminary results.
 A. it agreed B. did it agree C. it had agreed D. had it agreed
33. Growing up in a middle class suburban family, Alice is _____ from the hardships of inner-city children.
 A. restricted B. stranded C. covered D. insulated
34. Nourished by rich silt, the Mekong Delta is a(n) _____ agricultural terrain.
 A. fecund B. excessive C. abundant D. opulent
35. Lowering interest rates is often an economic _____ to encourage spending and investment.
 A. stimulant B. stimulus C. stimulation D. stimuli
36. Molly: " _____ our meeting to tomorrow afternoon?"
 Holly: " _____ Tomorrow afternoon actually works better for me."
 A. Would you object to rescheduling / Yes, please! B. Do you mind rescheduling / Of course!
 C. Would you mind if I rescheduled / Not at all! D. Would you be objected to reschedule / Never mind!
37. Passed down through generations, 'Quan Ho' singing requires vocal precision that is _____ to the region's identity.
 A. intrinsic B. identical C. systemic D. ingrained
38. The university is offering grants in astrophysics, _____ have to be women currently pursuing a PhD program.
 A. the recipients of which B. the recipients of those
 C. which the recipients for them D. of that the recipients
39. Our dean announced extra funding for the faculty, only _____ it withdrawn two weeks later.
 A. having had B. by having C. having D. to have
40. I would rather you _____ the citations of your essay carefully before submitting it tomorrow.
 A. check B. checked C. would check D. had checked

Questions 41 – 60 (1.00 pt) GUIDED CLOZE TEST

Choose the answer (A, B, C, or D) which fits best.

Guided cloze 1:

What makes people feel nervous about public speaking? Why do their hands shake, their knees quiver, their stomachs ____ 41 ____, and their voices rise?

For questions 61-130, write your answers on the provided **WRITTEN ANSWER SHEET**.

Questions 61 – 80 (1.00 pt) OPEN CLOZE TEST

Complete each blank with ONE most suitable word.

Open cloze 1:

Every museum tells a story, but the most honest ones admit that their story could have been told otherwise. Objects rarely speak for ___61___. They acquire meaning in relation ___62___ the labels, rooms and routes that surround them. A cracked bowl may be presented ___63___ evidence of hardship, ingenuity or trade, ___64___ on the questions curators ask. This does not make museums unreliable; on the ___65___, it makes their responsibility clearer. Visitors need to know not only what is on ___66___ but also what has been left out. In recent years, many museums have begun to invite communities ___67___ histories were once treated as marginal to help decide how collections should be interpreted. Such collaboration is not always easy. There are arguments over ownership, over painful memories, and over ___68___ a national institution can ever speak for those it once ignored. Still, the attempt matters. A museum that refuses to revise its story ___69___ turning heritage into decoration. A museum that listens, by contrast, allows the past to remain alive enough to challenge the present. It asks visitors to see history not as a set of facts over and done with, but as a conversation in which they too have a ___70___.

Open cloze 2:

The latest AI slop to take the internet by ___71___ features anthropomorphic fruit, specifically TikTok-based soap ___72___ videos channeling fruit and their love lives. Created with minimal human input, this low-quality, AI-generated content is as easy to absorb as it is to churn out. While specifics may ___73___, the majority of these clips are telenovela or reality TV-styled, featuring cartoony humanoid fruits with strangely mature ___74___ matter. For instance, viewers might watch a weeping strawberry discover her partner cheating ___75___ her, or two coconuts struggling to feed their children.

While to adults, the propagation of these fruit videos feels ridiculous on the ___76___, there is an insidious underbelly, namely the exploitation of children's media and its subsequent ___77___ on younger audiences. With bright colors and speedy pacing, these videos mimic the style of ___78___ marketed at children, such as by *Cocomelon*, albeit with wildly inappropriate themes. While it is true that children consuming age-inappropriate media is not new, AI has accelerated the output rate, ___79___ multiplies exposure frequency and normalizes such content. Frankly, tech corporations, specifically AI companies, ought to be ___80___ accountable for this rampant, uncontrolled spread of harmful AI slop.

PART 2. READING (2.5 pts) - Questions 81-105

Questions 81 - 88 READING PASSAGE 1 (0.80 pt)

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

A librarian reflects on the value of libraries

Unlike many librarians who always dreamed of standing behind a counter and stamping books, I came to the profession by accident. When I left university with a humanities degree in the 1970s, I had no clue about what I wanted to do with my state-funded higher education. I applied for a job as a gas meter reader which seemed suitable for a working-class lad from a council estate, but at the interview I was told that I was over-qualified and so I became a library assistant instead. I quickly discovered that there wasn't much to the library lark, and if I wanted to get on I would have to become a fully qualified librarian.

Armed with my diploma and a burning social conscience, I set out to change the world of public libraries. Nearly 40 years on I have made the smallest of dents in its battleship armour. But on the way I have met some amazing people. My bosses have mostly been of the keep-your-head-down-and-don't-rock-the-boat variety. Colleagues have ranged from shrinking violets to strident activists who share my passion. And the customers – whom we endearingly call borrowers, like those little people who live under the floor – have come from every walk of life. Public libraries seem to attract more than their fair share of what might be called "characters".

There is never a dull moment in the life of a public library. We open our doors and anyone can come in, so we never know quite what to expect and every day is very different. One of the most extraordinary things that has happened to me at work was when I was asked to search my central London library for bombs during a terror alert. I had contacted the police when I received a bomb threat but, as they pointed out, "you know what the library looks like, so please have a walk around to see if anything is out of place". Fortunately, it was a false alarm and there

Questions 89 – 95 READING PASSAGE 2 (0.70 pt)

Seven paragraphs have been removed from Reading Passage 2. Choose from the texts A – I the one which fits each gap (89 – 95). There are TWO extra paragraphs you do not need.

The True Price of a Tree

By David Suzuki

We were standing in an ancient forest that was threatened with clear-cut logging. He was the CEO of the company that had been allotted the tree farm license that enabled him to drive a road into the valley and begin the industrial extraction of the trees that would destroy what took millennia to evolve. We had engaged in an animated argument about the fate of that forest while standing face to face less than half a meter apart.

89

"Unless, of course, you tree huggers decide you'll pay money to save it so you can enjoy it. Think your cronies can raise enough money to save the entire forest? Logging is what keeps the economy of this province growing and makes it possible for you preservationists to wear clothes, drive cars, and watch TV."

90

But the perspective through which I viewed the forest—of which that tree was a part—was radically different. That one tree was a tiny part of a community of organisms thousands of years in the making. That community is made up of trees ("merchantable timber," or "fiber," in the jargon of the industry) that are a tiny minority of the lifeforms that comprise the forest.

91

This is the community that we recognize as a forest, complex and interlinked beyond comprehension and all held together by the air, water, and sunlight that suffuse them.

92

Consequently, companies require geneticists to breed fast-growing strains of commercially valuable trees, tree planters, herbicides to clear out "weed" (i.e., commercially worthless) species, insecticides to eliminate pests, fertilizers to restore nutrition to the soil, and firefighters. Large clear-cuts and the use of heavy machinery expose soil flora and fauna to sunlight, wind, and air. This alters water retention in the streams and rivers that are the lifeblood of the forest, radically transforming the remaining species mix.

93

The entire forest is like the goose that laid golden eggs in the children's fable; as long as the goose is fat and healthy, it will yield golden eggs indefinitely. In the short-term perspective of global economics, as in the children's story, forestry companies attempt to gather all of the eggs at once by killing the goose.

94

Returning to the CEO's statement that the tree only acquires value when it enters our economy by generating revenue, consider what the tree does before humans define its value. Hundreds of years old, that tree has absorbed carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas) from the air, thereby playing a part in life's climate engine, and releases oxygen as a byproduct of photosynthesis—not a bad byproduct for all animals like us that are completely dependent on that oxygen for survival.

95

All of these natural services performed by that single standing tree affect human health and survival, yet they are entirely ignored by our economy. It's long past time when we started lifting our horizons and values beyond the extremely limited perspective of conventional economics.

List of paragraphs:

A. As I pointed out in the book *Good News for a Change: Hope for a Troubled Planet*, by selective logging at or below the growth rate of the trees in a forest, trees can be profitably "harvested" indefinitely instead of once every hundred years or more. Nor is the diversity that is the key to resilience and regeneration sacrificed when trees are selectively removed.

B. Recent studies on urban forestry indicate that compared to natural wild areas, isolated city parks do not offer the same microclimate stability. There, only invasive species and drought-tolerant shrub species thrive rather than native canopy trees. Because of this, urban planners cannot rely solely on localized tree-planting initiatives to emulate the effects of natural forests.

"I'm fine, thanks." Yet, that same expression would mean "Mind your own business!" to the South Korean. Both North and South Korean use the word "*mije*," but in the North it means "American imperialist," while in the South it means, "Made in the USA."

Within a culture, language can also play an important role in differentiating occupational groups and social status. Many groups have their own "focal vocabulary," that is, a specialized set of terms that are important to them and what they do. On a Hollywood film set, when the gaffer, head electrician, yells to the crew to "Kill the baby!" he is not talking about child murder. He is instructing the electricians to turn off a small light. Moreover, people want to improve their social status will try to adopt the habits, attitudes, and behavioural traits of the group to which they aspire. In terms of language, this includes trying to shift how they speak by taking on the speech patterns and vocabulary associated in their culture with the higher social status.

In any culture, language is more than just a means of conveying information. Significant aspects of a culture are embedded in the structure of its language, in its vocabulary, grammar, and usage. The distinctions a language makes between genders, how it refers to time and space, and the different ways language conveys rank, respect, and love are all related to the culture in which it is used.

Questions 96 – 100: Do the following statements agree with the information given in the passage?

Write **TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

96. Each person is born with specific cultural traits.
97. Certain animals can be referred to with different words in Nuer culture.
98. The Hopi people's expression of time is more limited compared to English speakers.
99. A casual exchange from a North Korean may sound unfriendly to a South Korean.
100. Some Hollywood terms are derived from murder mystery films.

Questions 101 – 105: Complete the summary below. Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

Language and culture

Although humans possess the **101** to learn languages, they cannot effectively do so without belonging to a shared culture. In a similar fashion, cultures can hardly exist without a shared language between its members. This interdependence is demonstrated in multiple aspects. Firstly, vocabulary and grammar reflect the importance and perception of various domains in a culture. For example, cultures that highly regard **102** might have a richer vocabulary to denote relationships. Secondly, the **103** of any language constantly receives new additions as well as alterations to current words, a process which is tied to historical developments of the culture. Finally, within a society, language can be used to signify social group. This is illustrated by the **104** employed only in certain professions with very different meanings from their literal counterparts, while the words and **105** of desirable social groups are often copied by people who wish to be part of those groups.

PART 3. WRITING (3.50 pts) - Questions 106-130

Questions 106 – 115 WORD FORMATION (1.00 pt)

Provide the most suitable form of the given words in the brackets to complete each blank in the passage below. Write no more than ONE word for each space.

Even in today's ecologically aware world, a declaration of vegetarianism is often met with expressions of incredulity, cynical smirks, and suspicion. While such intolerant attitudes might have been understandable in the previous century—when vegetarianism was a novel ideology closely linked to the youth **106** (**CULTURE**) known for challenging social conventions—they are outdated today. Currently, vegetarians span all walks of life, far **107** (**NUMBER**) the old "tree-hugging" stereotypes. As information becomes more accessible, more people are consciously adopting a **108** (**MEAT**) diet for a host of different compelling reasons.

In a health-obsessed society, eliminating meat is increasingly common among those looking to avoid its links to chronic **109** (**AIL**) like heart disease and arthritis. Furthermore, many are **110** (**JUST**) concerned about the accumulation of chemical treatments and steroids used in intensive industrial farming to make it most **111** (**PROFIT**). Calves and lambs grow at prodigious rates thanks to various treatments, administered both orally and intramuscularly. Studies indicate these substances, which travel up the food chain into human consumers, may trigger serious hormonal **112** (**BALANCE**) and behavioral disorders.

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- * Chỉ những câu trả lời trên các Phiếu trả lời mới được chấm điểm.
- * Thí sinh **KHÔNG** được sử dụng tài liệu, kể cả từ điển.
- * Thí sinh nộp lại **Đề thi, Phiếu trả lời trắc nghiệm** và **Phiếu trả lời tự luận** khi kết thúc bài thi.
- * Giám thị **KHÔNG** giải thích gì thêm.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

There are 130 questions on this paper:

answer questions 01-60 on the **MULTIPLE-CHOICE ANSWER SHEET**,

answer questions 61-130 on the **WRITTEN ANSWER SHEET**.

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.

Questions 1-60 carry 0.05 marks each.

Questions 61-80 carry 0.05 marks each.

Questions 81-120 carry 0.10 marks each.

Questions 121-130 carry 0.20 marks each.

At the end of the test, hand in this Question Paper and both the Multiple-Choice and Written Answer Sheets.

21. Sales figures released by the company are suspicious as they do not _____ shipment records.
 A. square away with B. add up to C. check out with D. live up to
22. The executive requires his assistant to run all sorts of _____ for him, including getting his laundry, picking up his children from school, and walking his dog.
 A. errands B. odd jobs C. menial tasks D. gigs
23. _____, I would have visited you a month ago.
 A. Had it been for my fear of flying B. Should I not be afraid of flying
 C. Had I not been afraid of flying D. Were it not for my fear of flying
24. The documentary was criticised not so much for what it said _____ for what it left unsaid.
 A. and B. but C. as D. than
25. In preparation for a large incoming shipment, warehouse workers were instructed to _____.
 A. bridge the gaps B. clear the decks C. draw lines D. cut corners
26. _____ a medic present at the scene of the accident, the victim would not have survived.
 A. Were there not B. Had it been for C. Had there not been D. Were it not for
27. Lowering interest rates is often an economic _____ to encourage spending and investment.
 A. stimulant B. stimulus C. stimulation D. stimuli
28. Not until the files were declassified decades later _____ the true extent of the criminal operation.
 A. were the public realizing B. that the public realized
 C. did the public realize D. had the public realized
29. Sabrina wrote down "baking soda for mom" on her shopping list, lest in her hurry she _____ it.
 A. will forget B. forgot C. forget D. forgets
30. I would rather you _____ the citations of your essay carefully before submitting it tomorrow.
 A. check B. checked C. would check D. had checked
31. Only after the committee had reviewed the raw data _____ to publish the preliminary results.
 A. it agreed B. did it agree C. it had agreed D. had it agreed
32. Since the joke never _____ Ricky, we had to explain it to him, which was lame.
 A. pandered to B. cottoned on to C. squared up to D. muscled in on
33. Nourished by rich silt, the Mekong Delta is a(n) _____ agricultural terrain.
 A. fecund B. excessive C. abundant D. opulent
34. _____ is comfortable with relocating the fragile fresco.
 A. Neither the restoration experts nor the museum curator
 B. Both the restoration experts and the museum curator
 C. Either the museum curator or the restoration experts
 D. The restoration experts as well as the museum curator
35. His explanation was so _____ that even the experts were unconvinced.
 A. far-flung B. far-reaching C. far-fetched D. far-sighted
36. Passed down through generations, 'Quan Ho' singing requires vocal precision that is _____ to the region's identity.
 A. intrinsic B. identical C. systemic D. ingrained
37. The university is offering grants in astrophysics, _____ have to be women currently pursuing a PhD program.
 A. which the recipients for them B. the recipients of those
 C. the recipients of which D. of that the recipients
38. Our dean announced extra funding for the faculty, only _____ it withdrawn two weeks later.
 A. having had B. by having C. having D. to have
39. Harry displays an _____ attitude to religion, often joking about heaven and hell.
 A. incorrigible B. irreverent C. irreconcilable D. irrelevant
40. Refrain from consuming cheese or cream if you are lactose _____.
 A. intolerant B. indigestible C. repellant D. averse

Questions 41 – 60 (1.00 pt) GUIDED CLOZE TEST
Choose the answer (A, B, C, or D) which fits best.

Guided cloze 1:

What makes people feel nervous about public speaking? Why do their hands shake, their knees quiver, their stomachs _____ **41** _____, and their voices rise?

For questions 61-130, write your answers on the provided **WRITTEN ANSWER SHEET**.

Questions 61 – 80 (1.00 pt) OPEN CLOZE TEST

Complete each blank with ONE most suitable word.

Open cloze 1:

Every museum tells a story, but the most honest ones admit that their story could have been told otherwise. Objects rarely speak for ___61___. They acquire meaning in relation ___62___ the labels, rooms and routes that surround them. A cracked bowl may be presented ___63___ evidence of hardship, ingenuity or trade, ___64___ on the questions curators ask. This does not make museums unreliable; on the ___65___, it makes their responsibility clearer. Visitors need to know not only what is on ___66___ but also what has been left out. In recent years, many museums have begun to invite communities ___67___ histories were once treated as marginal to help decide how collections should be interpreted. Such collaboration is not always easy. There are arguments over ownership, over painful memories, and over ___68___ a national institution can ever speak for those it once ignored. Still, the attempt matters. A museum that refuses to revise its story ___69___ turning heritage into decoration. A museum that listens, by contrast, allows the past to remain alive enough to challenge the present. It asks visitors to see history not as a set of facts over and done with, but as a conversation in which they too have a ___70___.

Open cloze 2:

The latest AI slop to take the internet by ___71___ features anthropomorphic fruit, specifically TikTok-based soap ___72___ videos channeling fruit and their love lives. Created with minimal human input, this low-quality, AI-generated content is as easy to absorb as it is to churn out. While specifics may ___73___, the majority of these clips are telenovela or reality TV-styled, featuring cartoony humanoid fruits with strangely mature ___74___ matter. For instance, viewers might watch a weeping strawberry discover her partner cheating ___75___ her, or two coconuts struggling to feed their children.

While to adults, the propagation of these fruit videos feels ridiculous on the ___76___, there is an insidious underbelly, namely the exploitation of children's media and its subsequent ___77___ on younger audiences. With bright colors and speedy pacing, these videos mimic the style of ___78___ marketed at children, such as by *Cocomelon*, albeit with wildly inappropriate themes. While it is true that children consuming age-inappropriate media is not new, AI has accelerated the output rate, ___79___ multiplies exposure frequency and normalizes such content. Frankly, tech corporations, specifically AI companies, ought to be ___80___ accountable for this rampant, uncontrolled spread of harmful AI slop.

PART 2. READING (2.5 pts) - Questions 81-105

Questions 81 - 88 READING PASSAGE 1 (0.80 pt)

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

A librarian reflects on the value of libraries

Unlike many librarians who always dreamed of standing behind a counter and stamping books, I came to the profession by accident. When I left university with a humanities degree in the 1970s, I had no clue about what I wanted to do with my state-funded higher education. I applied for a job as a gas meter reader which seemed suitable for a working-class lad from a council estate, but at the interview I was told that I was over-qualified and so I became a library assistant instead. I quickly discovered that there wasn't much to the library lark, and if I wanted to get on I would have to become a fully qualified librarian.

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Questions 89 – 95 READING PASSAGE 2 (0.70 pt)

Seven paragraphs have been removed from Reading Passage 2. Choose from the texts A – I the one which fits each gap (89 – 95). There are TWO extra paragraphs you do not need.

The True Price of a Tree

By David Suzuki

We were standing in an ancient forest that was threatened with clear-cut logging. He was the CEO of the company that had been allotted the tree farm license that enabled him to drive a road into the valley and begin the industrial extraction of the trees that would destroy what took millennia to evolve. We had engaged in an animated argument about the fate of that forest while standing face to face less than half a meter apart.

89

“Unless, of course, you tree huggers decide you’ll pay money to save it so you can enjoy it. Think your cronies can raise enough money to save the entire forest? Logging is what keeps the economy of this province growing and makes it possible for you preservationists to wear clothes, drive cars, and watch TV.”

90

But the perspective through which I viewed the forest—of which that tree was a part—was radically different. That one tree was a tiny part of a community of organisms thousands of years in the making. That community is made up of trees (“merchantable timber,” or “fiber,” in the jargon of the industry) that are a tiny minority of the lifeforms that comprise the forest.

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This is the community that we recognize as a forest, complex and interlinked beyond comprehension and all held together by the air, water, and sunlight that suffuse them.

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Consequently, companies require geneticists to breed fast-growing strains of commercially valuable trees, tree planters, herbicides to clear out “weed” (i.e., commercially worthless) species, insecticides to eliminate pests, fertilizers to restore nutrition to the soil, and firefighters. Large clear-cuts and the use of heavy machinery expose soil flora and fauna to sunlight, wind, and air. This alters water retention in the streams and rivers that are the lifeblood of the forest, radically transforming the remaining species mix.

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The entire forest is like the goose that laid golden eggs in the children’s fable; as long as the goose is fat and healthy, it will yield golden eggs indefinitely. In the short-term perspective of global economics, as in the children’s story, forestry companies attempt to gather all of the eggs at once by killing the goose.

94

Returning to the CEO’s statement that the tree only acquires value when it enters our economy by generating revenue, consider what the tree does before humans define its value. Hundreds of years old, that tree has absorbed carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas) from the air, thereby playing a part in life’s climate engine, and releases oxygen as a byproduct of photosynthesis—not a bad byproduct for all animals like us that are completely dependent on that oxygen for survival.

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List of paragraphs:

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B. Recent studies on urban forestry indicate that compared to natural wild areas, isolated city parks do not offer the same microclimate stability. There, only invasive species and drought-tolerant shrub species thrive rather than native canopy trees. Because of this, urban planners cannot rely solely on localized tree-planting initiatives to emulate the effects of natural forests.

"I'm fine, thanks." Yet, that same expression would mean "Mind your own business!" to the South Korean. Both North and South Korean use the word "*mije*," but in the North it means "American imperialist," while in the South it means, "Made in the USA."

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Questions 96 – 100: Do the following statements agree with the information given in the passage?

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FALSE if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

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97. Certain animals can be referred to with different words in Nuer culture.
98. The Hopi people's expression of time is more limited compared to English speakers.
99. A casual exchange from a North Korean may sound unfriendly to a South Korean.
100. Some Hollywood terms are derived from murder mystery films.

Questions 101 – 105: Complete the summary below. Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

Language and culture

Although humans possess the **101** to learn languages, they cannot effectively do so without belonging to a shared culture. In a similar fashion, cultures can hardly exist without a shared language between its members. This interdependence is demonstrated in multiple aspects. Firstly, vocabulary and grammar reflect the importance and perception of various domains in a culture. For example, cultures that highly regard **102** might have a richer vocabulary to denote relationships. Secondly, the **103** of any language constantly receives new additions as well as alterations to current words, a process which is tied to historical developments of the culture. Finally, within a society, language can be used to signify social group. This is illustrated by the **104** employed only in certain professions with very different meanings from their literal counterparts, while the words and **105** of desirable social groups are often copied by people who wish to be part of those groups.

PART 3. WRITING (3.50 pts) - Questions 106-130

Questions 106 – 115 WORD FORMATION (1.00 pt)

Provide the most suitable form of the given words in the brackets to complete each blank in the passage below. Write no more than **ONE** word for each space.

Even in today's ecologically aware world, a declaration of vegetarianism is often met with expressions of incredulity, cynical smirks, and suspicion. While such intolerant attitudes might have been understandable in the previous century—when vegetarianism was a novel ideology closely linked to the youth **106** (**CULTURE**) known for challenging social conventions—they are outdated today. Currently, vegetarians span all walks of life, far **107** (**NUMBER**) the old "tree-hugging" stereotypes. As information becomes more accessible, more people are consciously adopting a **108** (**MEAT**) diet for a host of different compelling reasons.

In a health-obsessed society, eliminating meat is increasingly common among those looking to avoid its links to chronic **109** (**AIL**) like heart disease and arthritis. Furthermore, many are **110** (**JUST**) concerned about the accumulation of chemical treatments and steroids used in intensive industrial farming to make it most **111** (**PROFIT**). Calves and lambs grow at prodigious rates thanks to various treatments, administered both orally and intramuscularly. Studies indicate these substances, which travel up the food chain into human consumers, may trigger serious hormonal **112** (**BALANCE**) and behavioral disorders.

Họ và tên thí sinh:..... Số báo danh:

- * Từ câu 1 đến câu 60: Thí sinh làm bài trên **Phiếu trả lời trắc nghiệm**.
- * Từ câu 61 đến câu 130: Thí sinh làm bài trên **Phiếu trả lời tự luận**.
- * Chỉ những câu trả lời trên các Phiếu trả lời mới được chấm điểm.
- * Thí sinh **KHÔNG** được sử dụng tài liệu, kể cả từ điển.
- * Thí sinh nộp lại **Đề thi, Phiếu trả lời trắc nghiệm và Phiếu trả lời tự luận** khi kết thúc bài thi.
- * Giám thị **KHÔNG** giải thích gì thêm.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

There are 130 questions on this paper:

answer questions 01-60 on the **MULTIPLE-CHOICE ANSWER SHEET**,
answer questions 61-130 on the **WRITTEN ANSWER SHEET**.

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.

Questions 1-60 carry 0.05 marks each.

Questions 61-80 carry 0.05 marks each.

Questions 81-120 carry 0.10 marks each.

Questions 121-130 carry 0.20 marks each.

At the end of the test, hand in this Question Paper and both the Multiple-Choice and Written Answer Sheets.

21. It took the panel quite some time to _____ this conclusion.
 A. reach at B. land on C. arrive at D. jump to
22. The university is offering grants in astrophysics, _____ have to be women currently pursuing a PhD program.
 A. which the recipients for them B. of that the recipients
 C. the recipients of which D. the recipients of those
23. Since the joke never _____ Ricky, we had to explain it to him, which was lame.
 A. squared up to B. pandered to C. muscled in on D. cottoned on to
24. _____, the movie was panned by critics as formulaic and lacking in substance.
 A. Successfully commercial though the film was B. Successfully commercial though was the film
 C. Commercially successful though the film was D. Commercially successful though was the film
25. In preparation for a large incoming shipment, warehouse workers were instructed to _____.
 A. clear the decks B. draw lines C. bridge the gaps D. cut corners
26. Lowering interest rates is often an economic _____ to encourage spending and investment.
 A. stimuli B. stimulus C. stimulant D. stimulation
27. Growing up in a middle class suburban family, Alice is _____ from the hardships of inner-city children.
 A. covered B. stranded C. restricted D. insulated
28. *Molly*: " _____ our meeting to tomorrow afternoon?"
Holly: " _____ Tomorrow afternoon actually works better for me."
 A. Would you object to rescheduling / Yes, please! B. Do you mind rescheduling / Of course!
 C. Would you mind if I rescheduled / Not at all! D. Would you be objected to reschedule / Never mind!
29. Surrounded at Dien Bien Phu with their supply lifelines severed, the French forces were _____.
 A. out on a limb B. in the doldrums C. on a hiding to nothing D. digging their own grave
30. Realizing that his matcha-flavored dog food venture had completely failed, the entrepreneur chose to _____.
 A. burn his boats B. cut his losses C. bide his time D. raise his stakes
31. Only after the committee had reviewed the raw data _____ to publish the preliminary results.
 A. it agreed B. did it agree C. it had agreed D. had it agreed
32. Children are often described as _____, easily influenced by their parental and guardian figures.
 A. volatile B. ephemeral C. malleable D. sporadic
33. Nourished by rich silt, the Mekong Delta is a(n) _____ agricultural terrain.
 A. fecund B. excessive C. abundant D. opulent
34. Jerry's coach _____ for failing to defend his champion title.
 A. phased him out B. wrote him off C. ruled him out D. passed him up
35. His explanation was so _____ that even the experts were unconvinced.
 A. far-reaching B. far-fetched C. far-sighted D. far-flung
36. The boy denied _____ the answer key, but his perfect score makes it hard to believe.
 A. stealing B. to have stolen C. having been stolen D. to steal
37. Fans are excited at the prospect of a _____ between two beloved anime franchises.
 A. crossover B. runover C. spillover D. layover
38. The law requires that this factory _____ the machines every week.
 A. has an engineer inspect B. have an engineer to inspect
 C. has an engineer to inspect D. have an engineer inspect
39. Sales figures released by the company are suspicious as they do not _____ shipment records.
 A. square away with B. add up to C. check out with D. live up to
40. Our dean announced extra funding for the faculty, only _____ it withdrawn two weeks later.
 A. having had B. by having C. having D. to have

Questions 41 – 60 (1.00 pt) GUIDED CLOZE TEST

Choose the answer (A, B, C, or D) which fits best.

Guided cloze 1:

What makes people feel nervous about public speaking? Why do their hands shake, their knees quiver, their stomachs _____ **41** _____, and their voices rise?

Researchers find that public-speaking anxiety is both a trait (a general tendency) and a state (anxiety _____ **42** _____ by a specific audience or setting). Causes include fears of humiliation, failure, making mistakes, or being unprepared, alongside perfectionism and performance pressure.

For questions 61-130, write your answers on the provided **WRITTEN ANSWER SHEET**.

Questions 61 – 80 (1.00 pt) OPEN CLOZE TEST

Complete each blank with **ONE** most suitable word.

Open cloze 1:

Every museum tells a story, but the most honest ones admit that their story could have been told otherwise. Objects rarely speak for **61**. They acquire meaning in relation **62** the labels, rooms and routes that surround them. A cracked bowl may be presented **63** evidence of hardship, ingenuity or trade, **64** on the questions curators ask. This does not make museums unreliable; on the **65**, it makes their responsibility clearer. Visitors need to know not only what is on **66** but also what has been left out. In recent years, many museums have begun to invite communities **67** histories were once treated as marginal to help decide how collections should be interpreted. Such collaboration is not always easy. There are arguments over ownership, over painful memories, and over **68** a national institution can ever speak for those it once ignored. Still, the attempt matters. A museum that refuses to revise its story **69** turning heritage into decoration. A museum that listens, by contrast, allows the past to remain alive enough to challenge the present. It asks visitors to see history not as a set of facts over and done with, but as a conversation in which they too have a **70**.

Open cloze 2:

The latest AI slop to take the internet by **71** features anthropomorphic fruit, specifically TikTok-based soap **72** videos channeling fruit and their love lives. Created with minimal human input, this low-quality, AI-generated content is as easy to absorb as it is to churn out. While specifics may **73**, the majority of these clips are telenovela or reality TV-styled, featuring cartoony humanoid fruits with strangely mature **74** matter. For instance, viewers might watch a weeping strawberry discover her partner cheating **75** her, or two coconuts struggling to feed their children.

While to adults, the propagation of these fruit videos feels ridiculous on the **76**, there is an insidious underbelly, namely the exploitation of children's media and its subsequent **77** on younger audiences. With bright colors and speedy pacing, these videos mimic the style of **78** marketed at children, such as by *Cocomelon*, albeit with wildly inappropriate themes. While it is true that children consuming age-inappropriate media is not new, AI has accelerated the output rate, **79** multiplies exposure frequency and normalizes such content. Frankly, tech corporations, specifically AI companies, ought to be **80** accountable for this rampant, uncontrolled spread of harmful AI slop.

PART 2. READING (2.5 pts) - Questions 81-105

Questions 81 - 88 READING PASSAGE 1 (0.80 pt)

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

A librarian reflects on the value of libraries

Unlike many librarians who always dreamed of standing behind a counter and stamping books, I came to the profession by accident. When I left university with a humanities degree in the 1970s, I had no clue about what I wanted to do with my state-funded higher education. I applied for a job as a gas meter reader which seemed suitable for a working-class lad from a council estate, but at the interview I was told that I was over-qualified and so I became a library assistant instead. I quickly discovered that there wasn't much to the library lark, and if I wanted to get on I would have to become a fully qualified librarian.

Armed with my diploma and a burning social conscience, I set out to change the world of public libraries. Nearly 40 years on I have made the smallest of dents in its battleship armour. But on the way I have met some amazing people. My bosses have mostly been of the keep-your-head-down-and-don't-rock-the-boat variety. Colleagues have ranged from shrinking violets to strident activists who share my passion. And the customers – whom we endearingly call borrowers, like those little people who live under the floor – have come from every walk of life. Public libraries seem to attract more than their fair share of what might be called "characters".

There is never a dull moment in the life of a public library. We open our doors and anyone can come in, so we never know quite what to expect and every day is very different. One of the most extraordinary things that has happened to me at work was when I was asked to search my central London library for bombs during a terror alert. I had contacted the police when I received a bomb threat but, as they pointed out, "you know what the library looks like, so please have a walk around to see if anything is out of place". Fortunately, it was a false alarm and there

Questions 89 – 95 READING PASSAGE 2 (0.70 pt)

Seven paragraphs have been removed from Reading Passage 2. Choose from the texts A – I the one which fits each gap (89 – 95). There are TWO extra paragraphs you do not need.

The True Price of a Tree

By David Suzuki

We were standing in an ancient forest that was threatened with clear-cut logging. He was the CEO of the company that had been allotted the tree farm license that enabled him to drive a road into the valley and begin the industrial extraction of the trees that would destroy what took millennia to evolve. We had engaged in an animated argument about the fate of that forest while standing face to face less than half a meter apart.

89

"Unless, of course, you tree huggers decide you'll pay money to save it so you can enjoy it. Think your cronies can raise enough money to save the entire forest? Logging is what keeps the economy of this province growing and makes it possible for you preservationists to wear clothes, drive cars, and watch TV."

90

But the perspective through which I viewed the forest—of which that tree was a part—was radically different. That one tree was a tiny part of a community of organisms thousands of years in the making. That community is made up of trees ("merchantable timber," or "fiber," in the jargon of the industry) that are a tiny minority of the lifeforms that comprise the forest.

91

This is the community that we recognize as a forest, complex and interlinked beyond comprehension and all held together by the air, water, and sunlight that suffuse them.

92

Consequently, companies require geneticists to breed fast-growing strains of commercially valuable trees, tree planters, herbicides to clear out "weed" (i.e., commercially worthless) species, insecticides to eliminate pests, fertilizers to restore nutrition to the soil, and firefighters. Large clear-cuts and the use of heavy machinery expose soil flora and fauna to sunlight, wind, and air. This alters water retention in the streams and rivers that are the lifeblood of the forest, radically transforming the remaining species mix.

93

The entire forest is like the goose that laid golden eggs in the children's fable; as long as the goose is fat and healthy, it will yield golden eggs indefinitely. In the short-term perspective of global economics, as in the children's story, forestry companies attempt to gather all of the eggs at once by killing the goose.

94

Returning to the CEO's statement that the tree only acquires value when it enters our economy by generating revenue, consider what the tree does before humans define its value. Hundreds of years old, that tree has absorbed carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas) from the air, thereby playing a part in life's climate engine, and releases oxygen as a byproduct of photosynthesis—not a bad byproduct for all animals like us that are completely dependent on that oxygen for survival.

95

All of these natural services performed by that single standing tree affect human health and survival, yet they are entirely ignored by our economy. It's long past time when we started lifting our horizons and values beyond the extremely limited perspective of conventional economics.

List of paragraphs:

A. As I pointed out in the book *Good News for a Change: Hope for a Troubled Planet*, by selective logging at or below the growth rate of the trees in a forest, trees can be profitably "harvested" indefinitely instead of once every hundred years or more. Nor is the diversity that is the key to resilience and regeneration sacrificed when trees are selectively removed.

B. Recent studies on urban forestry indicate that compared to natural wild areas, isolated city parks do not offer the same microclimate stability. There, only invasive species and drought-tolerant shrub species thrive rather than native canopy trees. Because of this, urban planners cannot rely solely on localized tree-planting initiatives to emulate the effects of natural forests.

"I'm fine, thanks." Yet, that same expression would mean "Mind your own business!" to the South Korean. Both North and South Korean use the word "*mije*," but in the North it means "American imperialist," while in the South it means, "Made in the USA."

Within a culture, language can also play an important role in differentiating occupational groups and social status. Many groups have their own "focal vocabulary," that is, a specialized set of terms that are important to them and what they do. On a Hollywood film set, when the gaffer, head electrician, yells to the crew to "Kill the baby!" he is not talking about child murder. He is instructing the electricians to turn off a small light. Moreover, people who want to improve their social status will try to adopt the habits, attitudes, and behavioural traits of the group to which they aspire. In terms of language, this includes trying to shift how they speak by taking on the speech patterns and vocabulary associated in their culture with the higher social status.

In any culture, language is more than just a means of conveying information. Significant aspects of a culture are embedded in the structure of its language, in its vocabulary, grammar, and usage. The distinctions a language makes between genders, how it refers to time and space, and the different ways language conveys rank, respect, and love are all related to the culture in which it is used.

Questions 96 – 100: Do the following statements agree with the information given in the passage?

Write **TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

96. Each person is born with specific cultural traits.
97. Certain animals can be referred to with different words in Nuer culture.
98. The Hopi people's expression of time is more limited compared to English speakers.
99. A casual exchange from a North Korean may sound unfriendly to a South Korean.
100. Some Hollywood terms are derived from murder mystery films.

Questions 101 – 105: Complete the summary below. Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

Language and culture

Although humans possess the **101** to learn languages, they cannot effectively do so without belonging to a shared culture. In a similar fashion, cultures can hardly exist without a shared language between its members. This interdependence is demonstrated in multiple aspects. Firstly, vocabulary and grammar reflect the importance and perception of various domains in a culture. For example, cultures that highly regard **102** might have a richer vocabulary to denote relationships. Secondly, the **103** of any language constantly receives new additions as well as alterations to current words, a process which is tied to historical developments of the culture. Finally, within a society, language can be used to signify social group. This is illustrated by the **104** employed only in certain professions with very different meanings from their literal counterparts, while the words and **105** of desirable social groups are often copied by people who wish to be part of those groups.

PART 3. WRITING (3.50 pts) - Questions 106-130

Questions 106 – 115 WORD FORMATION (1.00 pt)

Provide the most suitable form of the given words in the brackets to complete each blank in the passage below. Write no more than **ONE** word for each space.

Even in today's ecologically aware world, a declaration of vegetarianism is often met with expressions of incredulity, cynical smirks, and suspicion. While such intolerant attitudes might have been understandable in the previous century—when vegetarianism was a novel ideology closely linked to the youth **106** (**CULTURE**) known for challenging social conventions—they are outdated today. Currently, vegetarians span all walks of life, far **107** (**NUMBER**) the old "tree-hugging" stereotypes. As information becomes more accessible, more people are consciously adopting a **108** (**MEAT**) diet for a host of different compelling reasons.

In a health-obsessed society, eliminating meat is increasingly common among those looking to avoid its links to chronic **109** (**AIL**) like heart disease and arthritis. Furthermore, many are **110** (**JUST**) concerned about the accumulation of chemical treatments and steroids used in intensive industrial farming to make it most **111** (**PROFIT**). Calves and lambs grow at prodigious rates thanks to various treatments, administered both orally and intramuscularly. Studies indicate these substances, which travel up the food chain into human consumers, may trigger serious hormonal **112** (**BALANCE**) and behavioral disorders.

Họ và tên thí sinh: Số báo danh:

- * Từ câu 1 đến câu 60: Thí sinh làm bài trên **Phiếu trả lời trắc nghiệm**.
- * Từ câu 61 đến câu 130: Thí sinh làm bài trên **Phiếu trả lời tự luận**.
- * Chỉ những câu trả lời trên các Phiếu trả lời mới được chấm điểm.
- * Thí sinh **KHÔNG** được sử dụng tài liệu, kể cả từ điển.
- * Thí sinh nộp lại **Đề thi, Phiếu trả lời trắc nghiệm** và **Phiếu trả lời tự luận** khi kết thúc bài thi.
- * Giám thị **KHÔNG** giải thích gì thêm.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

There are 130 questions on this paper:

- answer questions 01-60 on the **MULTIPLE-CHOICE ANSWER SHEET**,
- answer questions 61-130 on the **WRITTEN ANSWER SHEET**.

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.

- Questions 1-60 carry 0.05 marks each.
- Questions 61-80 carry 0.05 marks each.
- Questions 81-120 carry 0.10 marks each.
- Questions 121-130 carry 0.20 marks each.

At the end of the test, hand in this Question Paper and both the Multiple-Choice and Written Answer Sheets.

21. The boy denied _____ the answer key, but his perfect score makes it hard to believe.
 A. stealing B. to have stolen C. having been stolen D. to steal
22. Not until the files were declassified decades later _____ the true extent of the criminal operation.
 A. had the public realized B. were the public realizing C. that the public realized D. did the public realize
23. His explanation was so _____ that even the experts were unconvinced.
 A. far-reaching B. far-fetched C. far-sighted D. far-flung
24. Since the joke never _____ Ricky, we had to explain it to him, which was lame.
 A. muscled in on B. pandered to C. cottoned on to D. squared up to
25. Lowering interest rates is often an economic _____ to encourage spending and investment.
 A. stimuli B. stimulus C. stimulant D. stimulation
26. _____ a medic present at the scene of the accident, the victim would not have survived.
 A. Had it been for B. Had there not been C. Were there not D. Were it not for
27. Only after the committee had reviewed the raw data _____ to publish the preliminary results.
 A. had it agreed B. it had agreed C. did it agree D. it agreed
28. Jerry's coach _____ for failing to defend his champion title.
 A. wrote him off B. phased him out C. passed him up D. ruled him out
29. Realizing that his matcha-flavored dog food venture had completely failed, the entrepreneur chose to _____.
 A. raise his stakes B. bide his time C. burn his boats D. cut his losses
30. Nourished by rich silt, the Mekong Delta is a(n) _____ agricultural terrain.
 A. fecund B. excessive C. abundant D. opulent
31. It took the panel quite some time to _____ this conclusion.
 A. reach at B. jump to C. arrive at D. land on
32. For basing their argument on _____ evidence rather than verified documentation, the plaintiff's civil lawsuit was dismissed.
 A. hypothetical B. accidental C. incidental D. anecdotal
33. _____, I would have visited you a month ago.
 A. Should I not be afraid of flying B. Had I not been afraid of flying
 C. Had it been for my fear of flying D. Were it not for my fear of flying
34. Alfred: "Her latest album feels completely derivative and uninspired."
 Bruce: "_____ It heavily relies on the out-of-fashion Euro-pop sound."
 A. Agree to disagree. B. My thoughts exactly. C. I beg to differ. D. That's a bit of a stretch.
35. His manuscript is ruined by a highly _____ style with barely coherent digressions.
 A. discursive B. meticulous C. fastidious D. pretentious
36. With no major releases _____, the media company decided to lay off a portion of its staff.
 A. on the back burner B. against the grain C. in the offing D. in the balance
37. The law requires that this factory _____ the machines every week.
 A. has an engineer inspect B. have an engineer to inspect
 C. has an engineer to inspect D. have an engineer inspect
38. Sales figures released by the company are suspicious as they do not _____ shipment records.
 A. square away with B. add up to C. check out with D. live up to
39. Surrounded at Dien Bien Phu with their supply lifelines severed, the French forces were _____.
 A. in the doldrums B. digging their own grave C. out on a limb D. on a hiding to nothing
40. Our dean announced extra funding for the faculty, only _____ it withdrawn two weeks later.
 A. having had B. having C. by having D. to have

Questions 41 – 60 (1.00 pt) GUIDED CLOZE TEST
Choose the answer (A, B, C, or D) which fits best.

Guided cloze 1:

What makes people feel nervous about public speaking? Why do their hands shake, their knees quiver, their stomachs _____ **41** _____, and their voices rise?

Researchers find that public-speaking anxiety is both a trait (a general tendency) and a state (anxiety _____ **42** _____ by a specific audience or setting). Causes include fears of humiliation, failure, making mistakes, or being unprepared, alongside perfectionism and performance pressure.

For questions 61-130, write your answers on the provided **WRITTEN ANSWER SHEET**.

Questions 61 – 80 (1.00 pt) OPEN CLOZE TEST

Complete each blank with **ONE** most suitable word.

Open cloze 1:

Every museum tells a story, but the most honest ones admit that their story could have been told otherwise. Objects rarely speak for **61**. They acquire meaning in relation **62** the labels, rooms and routes that surround them. A cracked bowl may be presented **63** evidence of hardship, ingenuity or trade, **64** on the questions curators ask. This does not make museums unreliable; on the **65**, it makes their responsibility clearer. Visitors need to know not only what is on **66** but also what has been left out. In recent years, many museums have begun to invite communities **67** histories were once treated as marginal to help decide how collections should be interpreted. Such collaboration is not always easy. There are arguments over ownership, over painful memories, and over **68** a national institution can ever speak for those it once ignored. Still, the attempt matters. A museum that refuses to revise its story **69** turning heritage into decoration. A museum that listens, by contrast, allows the past to remain alive enough to challenge the present. It asks visitors to see history not as a set of facts over and done with, but as a conversation in which they too have a **70**.

Open cloze 2:

The latest AI slop to take the internet by **71** features anthropomorphic fruit, specifically TikTok-based soap **72** videos channeling fruit and their love lives. Created with minimal human input, this low-quality, AI-generated content is as easy to absorb as it is to churn out. While specifics may **73**, the majority of these clips are telenovela or reality TV-styled, featuring cartoony humanoid fruits with strangely mature **74** matter. For instance, viewers might watch a weeping strawberry discover her partner cheating **75** her, or two coconuts struggling to feed their children.

While to adults, the propagation of these fruit videos feels ridiculous on the **76**, there is an insidious underbelly, namely the exploitation of children's media and its subsequent **77** on younger audiences. With bright colors and speedy pacing, these videos mimic the style of **78** marketed at children, such as by *Cocomelon*, albeit with wildly inappropriate themes. While it is true that children consuming age-inappropriate media is not new, AI has accelerated the output rate, **79** multiplies exposure frequency and normalizes such content. Frankly, tech corporations, specifically AI companies, ought to be **80** accountable for this rampant, uncontrolled spread of harmful AI slop.

PART 2. READING (2.5 pts) - Questions 81-105

Questions 81 - 88 READING PASSAGE 1 (0.80 pt)

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

A librarian reflects on the value of libraries

Unlike many librarians who always dreamed of standing behind a counter and stamping books, I came to the profession by accident. When I left university with a humanities degree in the 1970s, I had no clue about what I wanted to do with my state-funded higher education. I applied for a job as a gas meter reader which seemed suitable for a working-class lad from a council estate, but at the interview I was told that I was over-qualified and so I became a library assistant instead. I quickly discovered that there wasn't much to the library lark, and if I wanted to get on I would have to become a fully qualified librarian.

Armed with my diploma and a burning social conscience, I set out to change the world of public libraries. Nearly 40 years on I have made the smallest of dents in its battleship armour. But on the way I have met some amazing people. My bosses have mostly been of the keep-your-head-down-and-don't-rock-the-boat variety. Colleagues have ranged from shrinking violets to strident activists who share my passion. And the customers – whom we endearingly call borrowers, like those little people who live under the floor – have come from every walk of life. Public libraries seem to attract more than their fair share of what might be called "characters".

There is never a dull moment in the life of a public library. We open our doors and anyone can come in, so we never know quite what to expect and every day is very different. One of the most extraordinary things that has happened to me at work was when I was asked to search my central London library for bombs during a terror alert. I had contacted the police when I received a bomb threat but, as they pointed out, "you know what the library looks like, so please have a walk around to see if anything is out of place". Fortunately, it was a false alarm and there

Questions 89 – 95 READING PASSAGE 2 (0.70 pt)

Seven paragraphs have been removed from Reading Passage 2. Choose from the texts A – I the one which fits each gap (89 – 95). There are TWO extra paragraphs you do not need.

The True Price of a Tree

By David Suzuki

We were standing in an ancient forest that was threatened with clear-cut logging. He was the CEO of the company that had been allotted the tree farm license that enabled him to drive a road into the valley and begin the industrial extraction of the trees that would destroy what took millennia to evolve. We had engaged in an animated argument about the fate of that forest while standing face to face less than half a meter apart.

89

“Unless, of course, you tree huggers decide you’ll pay money to save it so you can enjoy it. Think your cronies can raise enough money to save the entire forest? Logging is what keeps the economy of this province growing and makes it possible for you preservationists to wear clothes, drive cars, and watch TV.”

90

But the perspective through which I viewed the forest—of which that tree was a part—was radically different. That one tree was a tiny part of a community of organisms thousands of years in the making. That community is made up of trees (“merchantable timber,” or “fiber,” in the jargon of the industry) that are a tiny minority of the lifeforms that comprise the forest.

91

This is the community that we recognize as a forest, complex and interlinked beyond comprehension and all held together by the air, water, and sunlight that suffuse them.

92

Consequently, companies require geneticists to breed fast-growing strains of commercially valuable trees, tree planters, herbicides to clear out “weed” (i.e., commercially worthless) species, insecticides to eliminate pests, fertilizers to restore nutrition to the soil, and firefighters. Large clear-cuts and the use of heavy machinery expose soil flora and fauna to sunlight, wind, and air. This alters water retention in the streams and rivers that are the lifeblood of the forest, radically transforming the remaining species mix.

93

The entire forest is like the goose that laid golden eggs in the children’s fable; as long as the goose is fat and healthy, it will yield golden eggs indefinitely. In the short-term perspective of global economics, as in the children’s story, forestry companies attempt to gather all of the eggs at once by killing the goose.

94

Returning to the CEO’s statement that the tree only acquires value when it enters our economy by generating revenue, consider what the tree does before humans define its value. Hundreds of years old, that tree has absorbed carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas) from the air, thereby playing a part in life’s climate engine, and releases oxygen as a byproduct of photosynthesis—not a bad byproduct for all animals like us that are completely dependent on that oxygen for survival.

95

All of these natural services performed by that single standing tree affect human health and survival, yet they are entirely ignored by our economy. It’s long past time when we started lifting our horizons and values beyond the extremely limited perspective of conventional economics.

List of paragraphs:

A. As I pointed out in the book *Good News for a Change: Hope for a Troubled Planet*, by selective logging at or below the growth rate of the trees in a forest, trees can be profitably “harvested” indefinitely instead of once every hundred years or more. Nor is the diversity that is the key to resilience and regeneration sacrificed when trees are selectively removed.

B. Recent studies on urban forestry indicate that compared to natural wild areas, isolated city parks do not offer the same microclimate stability. There, only invasive species and drought-tolerant shrub species thrive rather than native canopy trees. Because of this, urban planners cannot rely solely on localized tree-planting initiatives to emulate the effects of natural forests.

"I'm fine, thanks." Yet, that same expression would mean "Mind your own business!" to the South Korean. Both North and South Korean use the word "*mije*," but in the North it means "American imperialist," while in the South it means, "Made in the USA."

Within a culture, language can also play an important role in differentiating occupational groups and social status. Many groups have their own "focal vocabulary," that is, a specialized set of terms that are important to them and what they do. On a Hollywood film set, when the gaffer, head electrician, yells to the crew to "Kill the baby!" he is not talking about child murder. He is instructing the electricians to turn off a small light. Moreover, people want to improve their social status will try to adopt the habits, attitudes, and behavioural traits of the group to which they aspire. In terms of language, this includes trying to shift how they speak by taking on the speech patterns and vocabulary associated in their culture with the higher social status.

In any culture, language is more than just a means of conveying information. Significant aspects of a culture are embedded in the structure of its language, in its vocabulary, grammar, and usage. The distinctions a language makes between genders, how it refers to time and space, and the different ways language conveys rank, respect, and love are all related to the culture in which it is used.

Questions 96 – 100: Do the following statements agree with the information given in the passage?

Write **TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

96. Each person is born with specific cultural traits.
97. Certain animals can be referred to with different words in Nuer culture.
98. The Hopi people's expression of time is more limited compared to English speakers.
99. A casual exchange from a North Korean may sound unfriendly to a South Korean.
100. Some Hollywood terms are derived from murder mystery films.

Questions 101 – 105: Complete the summary below. Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

Language and culture

Although humans possess the **101** to learn languages, they cannot effectively do so without belonging to a shared culture. In a similar fashion, cultures can hardly exist without a shared language between its members. This interdependence is demonstrated in multiple aspects. Firstly, vocabulary and grammar reflect the importance and perception of various domains in a culture. For example, cultures that highly regard **102** might have a richer vocabulary to denote relationships. Secondly, the **103** of any language constantly receives new additions as well as alterations to current words, a process which is tied to historical developments of the culture. Finally, within a society, language can be used to signify social group. This is illustrated by the **104** employed only in certain professions with very different meanings from their literal counterparts, while the words and **105** of desirable social groups are often copied by people who wish to be part of those groups.

PART 3. WRITING (3.50 pts) - Questions 106-130

Questions 106 – 115 WORD FORMATION (1.00 pt)

Provide the most suitable form of the given words in the brackets to complete each blank in the passage below. Write no more than **ONE** word for each space.

Even in today's ecologically aware world, a declaration of vegetarianism is often met with expressions of incredulity, cynical smirks, and suspicion. While such intolerant attitudes might have been understandable in the previous century—when vegetarianism was a novel ideology closely linked to the youth **106** (**CULTURE**) known for challenging social conventions—they are outdated today. Currently, vegetarians span all walks of life, far **107** (**NUMBER**) the old "tree-hugging" stereotypes. As information becomes more accessible, more people are consciously adopting a **108** (**MEAT**) diet for a host of different compelling reasons.

In a health-obsessed society, eliminating meat is increasingly common among those looking to avoid its links to chronic **109** (**AIL**) like heart disease and arthritis. Furthermore, many are **110** (**JUST**) concerned about the accumulation of chemical treatments and steroids used in intensive industrial farming to make it most **111** (**PROFIT**). Calves and lambs grow at prodigious rates thanks to various treatments, administered both orally and intramuscularly. Studies indicate these substances, which travel up the food chain into human consumers, may trigger serious hormonal **112** (**BALANCE**) and behavioral disorders.

KỶ THI TUYỂN SINH LỚP 10 NĂM 2026 TRƯỜNG PHỔ THÔNG NĂNG KHIẾU
PHIẾU TRẢ LỜI TỰ LUẬN (WRITTEN ANSWER SHEET)
Môn: TIẾNG ANH (Chuyên) – 150 phút

Họ và tên thí sinh:

Ngày sinh: Nơi sinh:

Họ tên và chữ ký Giám thị 1	Họ tên và chữ ký Giám thị 2	Số phách: (do Hội đồng chấm thi ghi)
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Họ tên và chữ ký Giám khảo 1	Họ tên và chữ ký Giám khảo 2	Điểm kết luận của bài thi		Số phách: (do Hội đồng chấm thi ghi)
		Ghi bằng số	Ghi bằng chữ	

Read the instructions carefully.

Only answers that follow the instructions will be counted for marking.

I. LANGUAGE USE (1.00 pts)				
<i>Open Cloze (1.00 pts)</i>				
61.	62.	63.	64.	65.
66.	67.	68.	69.	70.
71.	72.	73.	74.	75.
76.	77.	78.	79.	80.

II. READING (2.50 pts)					
Reading passage 1 (Q81-88)		Reading passage 2 (Q89-95)		Reading passage 3 (Q96-105)	
81.	86.	89.	94.	96.	101.
82.	87.	90.	95.	97.	102.
83.	88.	91.		98.	103.
84.		92.		99.	104.
85.		93.		100.	105.