

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.

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#### 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.

**PART 1. LANGUAGE USE (4.00 pts)**

For questions 1-60, mark your answers on the provided **MULTIPLE-CHOICE ANSWER SHEET.**

**Questions 1 – 40 (2.00 pts) GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY**

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

1. 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. menial tasks                      C. odd jobs                      D. gigs
2. Alfred: "Her latest album feels completely derivative and uninspired."  
Bruce: "\_\_\_\_\_ It heavily relies on the out-of-fashion Euro-pop sound."  
A. My thoughts exactly.      B. I beg to differ.                      C. That's a bit of a stretch.      D. Agree to disagree.
3. The law requires that this factory \_\_\_\_\_ the machines every week.  
A. have an engineer to inspect                      B. has an engineer to inspect  
C. has an engineer inspect                      D. have an engineer inspect
4. \_\_\_\_\_ a medic present at the scene of the accident, the victim would not have survived.  
A. Had it been for                      B. Were there not                      C. Were it not for                      D. Had there not been
5. Sales figures released by the company are suspicious as they do not \_\_\_\_\_ shipment records.  
A. add up to                      B. square away with                      C. live up to                      D. check out with
6. His manuscript is ruined by a highly \_\_\_\_\_ style with barely coherent digressions.  
A. discursive                      B. pretentious                      C. fastidious                      D. meticulous
7. The famous movie star looks surprisingly casual today; his only \_\_\_\_\_ is a plain necklace.  
A. decoration                      B. adornment                      C. embellishment                      D. upkeep
8. His explanation was so \_\_\_\_\_ that even the experts were unconvinced.  
A. far-fetched                      B. far-flung                      C. far-sighted                      D. far-reaching
9. Children are often described as \_\_\_\_\_, easily influenced by their parental and guardian figures.  
A. ephemeral                      B. sporadic                      C. volatile                      D. malleable
10. Grace was praised for her \_\_\_\_\_ judgement when she reported the scammer pretending to be a police officer on the phone.  
A. sound                      B. fair                      C. firm                      D. snap
11. Fans are excited at the prospect of a \_\_\_\_\_ between two beloved anime franchises.  
A. layover                      B. crossover                      C. runover                      D. spillover
12. \_\_\_\_\_ a short self-paced online course, one can receive a certificate.  
A. By completing                      B. With the completion                      C. Having completed                      D. On being completed
13. Refrain from consuming cheese or cream if you are lactose \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. intolerant                      B. indigestible                      C. repellant                      D. averse
14. For basing their argument on \_\_\_\_\_ evidence rather than verified documentation, the plaintiff's civil lawsuit was dismissed.  
A. incidental                      B. hypothetical                      C. anecdotal                      D. accidental
15. If you \_\_\_\_\_ with the shares that you have, it might be your ticket to early retirement.  
A. stick to your guns                      B. play your cards right                      C. follow your nose                      D. throw your hat in the ring
16. Since the joke never \_\_\_\_\_ Ricky, we had to explain it to him, which was lame.  
A. squared up to                      B. cottoned on to                      C. muscled in on                      D. pandered to
17. It took the panel quite some time to \_\_\_\_\_ this conclusion.  
A. land on                      B. reach at                      C. jump to                      D. arrive at
18. \_\_\_\_\_ is comfortable with relocating the fragile fresco.  
A. Both the restoration experts and the museum curator  
B. The restoration experts as well as the museum curator  
C. Either the museum curator or the restoration experts  
D. Neither the restoration experts nor the museum curator
19. Harry displays an \_\_\_\_\_ attitude to religion, often joking about heaven and hell.  
A. incorrigible                      B. irreverent                      C. irreconcilable                      D. irrelevant
20. With no major releases \_\_\_\_\_, the media company decided to lay off a portion of its staff.  
A. in the offing                      B. in the balance                      C. on the back burner                      D. against the grain

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?

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.

Communication apprehension may have a biological basis; some individuals inherit a tendency to feel anxious. However, speakers can manage this by focusing on changeable behaviors, like enhancing speaking skills, rather than on their \_\_\_\_\_43\_\_\_\_\_ makeup. Conversely, psychology affects biology. A speaker's perception of the assignment, skills, and self-esteem interact to create anxiety. \_\_\_\_\_44\_\_\_\_\_ with conflict, the brain triggers a "fight-or-flight" \_\_\_\_\_45\_\_\_\_\_, increasing breathing rates, adrenaline, and blood \_\_\_\_\_46\_\_\_\_\_. These physiological changes cause a rapid heartbeat, shaking, quivering voice, or stomach "butterflies". \_\_\_\_\_47\_\_\_\_\_, speakers may minimize eye contact, use vocalized pauses ("um," "ah"), or speak too rapidly. \_\_\_\_\_48\_\_\_\_\_ uncomfortable, the body is simply attempting to assist with the task.

Regardless, apprehension seems to follow a predictable \_\_\_\_\_49\_\_\_\_\_, with people generally feeling most nervous right before presenting, when uncertainty is highest. The second highest anxiety level occurs when the instructor explains the assignment, while the least anxiety is felt during preparation. Understanding this helps speakers manage anxiety when it \_\_\_\_\_50\_\_\_\_\_. Because anxiety decreases once speaking begins and diminishes through positive preparation, starting early ensures both a better speech and greater confidence.

- |     |               |                  |                 |               |
|-----|---------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 41. | A. flutter    | B. vibrate       | C. shiver       | D. murmur     |
| 42. | A. advanced   | B. evoked        | C. sustained    | D. triggered  |
| 43. | A. organic    | B. cultural      | C. natural      | D. genetic    |
| 44. | A. Caught     | B. Bound         | C. Dealt        | D. Faced      |
| 45. | A. reflection | B. response      | C. reaction     | D. reply      |
| 46. | A. surge      | B. stream        | C. flow         | D. pulse      |
| 47. | A. Finally    | B. Interestingly | C. Consequently | D. Ironically |
| 48. | A. Despite    | B. Unless        | C. Though       | D. Since      |
| 49. | A. trend      | B. pattern       | C. schedule     | D. rhythm     |
| 50. | A. arouses    | B. rears         | C. arises       | D. raises     |

Guided cloze 2:

In many schools, handwriting has begun to make a modest comeback. For years, it was \_\_\_\_\_51\_\_\_\_\_ dismissed as a nostalgic skill, likely to be eclipsed by keyboards. Yet recent classroom experiments suggest that putting pen to paper can \_\_\_\_\_52\_\_\_\_\_ memory in ways typing often cannot. The point is not to \_\_\_\_\_53\_\_\_\_\_ one tool against the other, but to ask which tool best suits a particular task. When pupils take handwritten notes, they are \_\_\_\_\_54\_\_\_\_\_ to compress ideas, deciding what matters before it reaches the page. That act of selection can \_\_\_\_\_55\_\_\_\_\_ understanding. By contrast, laptops make it easy to transcribe a lesson word \_\_\_\_\_56\_\_\_\_\_ word, a habit that can create the illusion of learning without much processing.

None of this means schools should turn their backs on digital literacy. A child who cannot search responsibly or revise a shared document is at a \_\_\_\_\_57\_\_\_\_\_. But a curriculum that treats handwriting as obsolete may be throwing away a simple \_\_\_\_\_58\_\_\_\_\_ for thought. The best classrooms are not those that \_\_\_\_\_59\_\_\_\_\_ to old methods or chase every new device; they teach students to choose deliberately. In that sense, the revival of handwriting is less a reactionary move than a reminder that learning is not always \_\_\_\_\_60\_\_\_\_\_ by speed.

- |     |               |                |                 |                  |
|-----|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 51. | A. totally    | B. utterly     | C. summarily    | D. superficially |
| 52. | A. restore    | B. retrieve    | C. reinforce    | D. recollect     |
| 53. | A. pit        | B. position    | C. plant        | D. place         |
| 54. | A. prompted   | B. permitted   | C. prohibited   | D. forced        |
| 55. | A. extend     | B. inflate     | C. deepen       | D. enlarge       |
| 56. | A. by         | B. over        | C. for          | D. in            |
| 57. | A. drawback   | B. deficit     | C. disadvantage | D. downfall      |
| 58. | A. substitute | B. shortcut    | C. shelter      | D. scaffold      |
| 59. | A. commit     | B. cling       | C. affix        | D. abide         |
| 60. | A. exceeded   | B. exacerbated | C. enriched     | D. accelerated   |

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

were no incendiary devices hidden in the card catalogue. Some of the funniest things that have happened to me at work include the discovery of a piece of streaky bacon stuck between the pages of a detective novel. I pictured the borrower, reading his book at the breakfast table before rushing off to work, and reaching out for whatever was at hand to mark his page.

I love my job so much that work-life balance has never been an issue. Plus, I am very happy to take my work home with me because I never leave the library without a big stack of books, CDs and DVDs. The only regret I have about my long career in public libraries is that I have not been able to convince more librarians that they should be less book-focused and more people-focused; that they should look outward to the community rather than inward to the library; that they should get rid of desks and counters and do more active roving inside the library and outside in the community; that they should put less emphasis on the excellence of the collection and more on providing books that people actually want to read; and, most important of all, that libraries should be community-led and based on the needs of the public they serve.

What I dislike most about the profession is its insistence on standards of excellence and a rule-bound culture which tends to exclude those for whom public libraries were founded in the first place – the deserving poor and, indeed, the undeserving poor as well. For it is a fact that libraries are used most by those who need them the least (the middle class) and used the least by those who need them the most (the working class).

The job has, regrettably, not changed much from when I started out. Libraries have been modernised through technology but their underlying strategies, structures, systems and culture remain the same. We have a plethora of rules and regulations, and the part of my job I dread the most is having to ban someone from the library, because usually they come from the section of society that needs libraries the most. But this is more than balanced out by the many pleasures of the job, which include helping borrowers to improve the quality of their lives and meet their needs – whether that is for books and information, or helping them to find a job or a roof over their head.

Librarians are **chronically** underpaid but we don't do the job just for the money. [I] More money is always good, but what we really want is recognition from politicians that we are the fourth emergency service. [II] Proving this is difficult, but we are already starting to see what happens when public libraries are closed down. [III] Library closures are low-hanging fruit but the tiny amounts that this saves from the public purse is more than outweighed by the costs of increased crime, and worsening health and education outcomes. [IV] While we cannot demonstrate a direct link, every librarian knows that we are an important ingredient of the glue that sticks communities together.

81. What was the main reason the writer decided to become a qualified librarian?
- A. He had no career plans after graduation.                      B. He was dissatisfied with being an assistant.  
C. He was over-qualified as an assistant.                        D. He was not suitable for other career paths.
82. What does the writer say about his experiences as a librarian in the second paragraph?
- A. He did not respect his bosses' opinions.                      B. He mostly encountered eccentric people.  
C. He was not very successful with his cause.                    D. He was surprised by the diversity of visitors.
83. What is the tone of the writer in the third paragraph?
- A. ironic                      B. nostalgic                      C. amused                      D. excited
84. What criticism does the writer have of some librarians in the fourth paragraph?
- A. They are not friendly enough to visitors.  
B. They fail to maintain the excellence of book collections.  
C. They adopt a passive attitude to work.  
D. They are negligent of the community.
85. What is the writer's attitude to the fact that his job has changed very little?
- A. indifferent                      B. relieved                      C. surprised                      D. disappointed
86. Which can best replace the word 'chronically' in the final paragraph?
- A. incurably                      B. sickeningly                      C. constantly                      D. severely
87. What does the writer suggest about library closures?
- A. Their impact is not immediately noticeable.                      B. They represent a short-sighted approach.  
C. They can have adverse financial effects.                      D. They threaten the well-being of poor people.
88. Where does the following sentence best fit in the final paragraph?  
*'It brings a great deal of satisfaction helping others who are significantly less fortunate than ourselves.'*
- A. [I]                      B. [II]                      C. [III]                      D. [IV]

**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.

- C. The soil is a living organism made up of tens of thousands of species of microorganisms—viruses, bacteria, fungi, protozoa—and larger nematodes, worms, insects, and mites. Plants and animals blanket the forest floor, lichens and mosses coat rocks and decaying wood, snags and fallen logs provide nutrition and protection for countless organisms.
- D. “You see that tree over there?” he shouted, pointing to a giant that was probably many centuries old. Without waiting for my response, he continued, “It doesn’t have any value until it’s cut down.” I was dumbstruck by the statement, giving him the opening to carry on.
- E. Foresters rationalize these practices as “proper silvicultural management,” as if they know what it is that creates the original forest that was cut down. Of course, they have no idea. They lack both a proper inventory of all the constituent species that make up the forest and a blueprint that explains how all of the components are interconnected.
- F. What had made me speechless was the realization that he was right. In the value system inherent in the form of economics our society has embraced, only when money is exchanged for goods and services is the transaction recognized as having economic worth.
- G. Likewise, the roots of the tree cling to soil even under the hardest of rains, thereby inhibiting erosion while siphoning vast quantities of water up into the canopy, where it is released through transpiration, hence ameliorating weather. From roots to tips of branches, the tree offers a habitat for countless forms of life, from lichens and fungi to insects, birds, and mammals.
- H. What foresters refer to as a “second-growth forest” is not a forest at all but a tree plantation—an attempt to grow trees like a crop of tomato or corn plants. But of course, such a “managed forest,” or “fiber farm,” no longer has the resilience, regenerative capacity, or self-protective devices of a natural forest.
- I. Consequently, while carbon offset credits offer a lucrative alternative for developing nations to preserve forest areas, local enforcement often fails to prevent illegal logging operations along unmarked borders. This instability makes it difficult for conservation groups to project the long-term financial viability of these corporate partnerships.

**Questions 96 – 105 READING PASSAGE 3 (1.00 pt)**

**Read the passage below and answer the questions which follow.**

British anthropologist Sir Edward Burnett Tylor espoused the classic definition of culture in 1871, describing it as that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, arts, morals, law, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society.” Culture is learned; it is not something that is biologically determined. This is in contrast to our innate ability to acquire language. Regardless, the particular language an individual first learns – their “mother tongue” – can “only be acquired by man as a member of society.” Language, therefore, is a part of one’s culture, but at the same time, language is used to transmit that culture, to teach that culture. In fact, culture and language are interdependent. No type of human society can be maintained if its members do not share a common language. Moreover, language, the most common way people communicate, could not have developed outside a social setting.

Language both expresses culture and reflects culture. Some linguists and anthropologists argue that different languages produce different ways of thinking. Cultures organize and view the world in diverse ways, and their languages support these differences through grammar and vocabulary. By studying lexical classification in various languages, scientists have been able to show that speakers of different languages perceive and distinguish things differently. The Nuer people of Sudan, for instance, traditionally were cattle herders, and their entire lifestyle centered on cattle, so their language has dozens of words for cattle. Another cultural-dependent concept is time. English speakers divide time into past, present and future, and English grammar has tenses to reflect this view of time. On the other hand, the Hopi, a Native American tribe of the Southwest United States, only make a distinction between events that have existed or exist (English past and present) and those that do not exist or do not yet exist (English future, including the subjunctive case used for possibility). Their language does not differentiate between present and past. Similarly, the complexity of vocabulary in a language to describe family relationships varies depending on the role of kinship in that culture. Color terminology also varies widely by language. Those that involved in areas with a history of using dyes and artificial coloring have the broadest range of color vocabulary.

Living languages, of course, undergo constant but often gradual transformation, as new words and expressions are added to the lexicon and meanings of words are altered. Different cultures can speak the same basic language, but it will have variations reflecting those different cultures. For instance, Koreans share a common language, but after six decades of being separated by a tightly sealed border, the cultures of North and South Korea have diverged along with the Korean language. If a South Korean asks a North Korean how they are doing, the North Korean would likely reply “*liupsopneda*”, an expression that literally means “not much,” which has a sense similar to

"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.

Concurrently, \_\_\_\_113\_\_\_\_ (HIGH) awareness of modern agricultural methods has also led to humanitarian concerns. Many choose to boycott meat because they cannot condone the systemic suffering inflicted upon \_\_\_\_114\_\_\_\_ (LIVE) —such as the severe \_\_\_\_115\_\_\_\_ (CONFINE) of calves to produce veal or the manipulation of avian ovulation cycles through artificial light to induce egg production. Ultimately, modern vegetarians are not setting themselves up as moral ideals. A vegetarian isn't necessarily a crank, an eccentric, a subversive. A vegetarian is someone who doesn't eat meat.

**Questions 116 -120 ERROR CORRECTION (0.50 pt)**

Identify the FIVE errors in the following passage and correct them. Indicate the line at which mistakes are found, and how to correct them.

Example:

Line	Error	Correction
1	belief	believed

1	It is traditionally <i>belief</i> that paper was invented in China during the Eastern Han
2	Dynasty. There, a resourceful court official with the name of Ts'ai Lun first developed a
3	material that was similar to the paper we use today. Although the factual details of his
4	story have remained unknown, it is thought that his original ingredients included bits of
5	tree bark, old rags, and fishing nets. The legends surrounded this invention speak of the
6	inspiration, which Ts'ai Lun apparently drew from watching paper wasps construct thin-
7	shelled nests from tiny pieces of wood fibre. Centuries later, the first industrial machine
8	for manufacturing paper in a continuing roll was perfected in France in 1799. Since then,
9	the world has enjoyed an uninterrupted supply of the material. The wide variety of paper
10	options today, ranging from fine white sheets and tough brown wrapping paper, wouldn't
11	exist without these monumental advancements centuries before.

**Questions 121 - 130 SENTENCE TRANSFORMATION (2.00 pts)**

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given in the brackets. Do NOT make any changes to the word given. You must write from THREE to EIGHT words, including the given word.

Example: 0 Do you mind if I watch you while you paint?  
 → Do you \_\_\_\_\_ you while you paint? (OBJECTION)

Write ONLY the missing words on the Answer Sheet:

0	have any objection to my watching
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121. The fraudster was given the maximum prison sentence as a warning to others. (EXAMPLE)  
 → The fraudster \_\_\_\_\_ with the maximum prison sentence.
122. The children were so tired that they fell asleep almost immediately. (EXHAUSTION)  
 → Such \_\_\_\_\_ like a light.
123. It seemed to me that they already knew each other. (ACQUAINTED)  
 → I was under \_\_\_\_\_.
124. Catherine never thought of paying for her medical bills with her children's money. (COVER)  
 → It never crossed \_\_\_\_\_ with her children's money.
125. With multiple delays, I fear this project cannot be saved. (LIKELY)  
 → Having been \_\_\_\_\_ in the water.
126. It is typical for teenagers to be defiant towards their parents. (REBELLING)  
 → Teenagers \_\_\_\_\_ the course.
127. Leon was suspended for one week for breaking the rules repeatedly. (EARNED)  
 → Repeatedly running \_\_\_\_\_ suspension.
128. The construction has not seen much progress since the start of the year. (HEADWAY)  
 → Little \_\_\_\_\_ since the start of the year.
129. Americans are disappointed with the fact that their taxes are paying for foreign wars. (DISMAY)  
 → Much to the Americans' \_\_\_\_\_ the bill for foreign wars.
130. Plastic surgery changed Jim's looks to the point that we do not recognize him anymore. (RECOGNITION)  
 → Jim's looks \_\_\_\_\_ to plastic surgery.

THIS IS THE END OF THE TEST.

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.

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#### 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.

**PART 1. LANGUAGE USE (4.00 pts)**

For questions 1-60, mark your answers on the provided **MULTIPLE-CHOICE ANSWER SHEET**.

**Questions 1 – 40 (2.00 pts) GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY**

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

1. 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
2. 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
3. Surrounded at Dien Bien Phu with their supply lifelines severed, the French forces were \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. on a hiding to nothing                      B. digging their own grave  
C. in the doldrums                      D. out on a limb
4. The famous movie star looks surprisingly casual today; his only \_\_\_\_\_ is a plain necklace.  
A. upkeep                      B. embellishment                      C. decoration                      D. adornment
5. Molly: " \_\_\_\_\_ our meeting to tomorrow afternoon?"  
Holly: " \_\_\_\_\_ Tomorrow afternoon actually works better for me."  
A. Would you object to rescheduling / Yes, please!                      B. Would you be objected to reschedule / Never mind!  
C. Would you mind if I rescheduled / Not at all!                      D. Do you mind rescheduling / Of course!
6. Jerry's coach \_\_\_\_\_ for failing to defend his champion title.  
A. phased him out                      B. wrote him off                      C. passed him up                      D. ruled him out
7. Fans are excited at the prospect of a \_\_\_\_\_ between two beloved anime franchises.  
A. crossover                      B. layover                      C. runover                      D. spillover
8. His manuscript is ruined by a highly \_\_\_\_\_ style with barely coherent digressions.  
A. fastidious                      B. pretentious                      C. meticulous                      D. discursive
9. 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. I beg to differ.                      C. My thoughts exactly.                      D. That's a bit of a stretch.
10. Realizing that his matcha-flavored dog food venture had completely failed, the entrepreneur chose to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. cut his losses                      B. burn his boats                      C. raise his stakes                      D. bide his time
11. Children are often described as \_\_\_\_\_, easily influenced by their parental and guardian figures.  
A. ephemeral                      B. malleable                      C. sporadic                      D. volatile
12. For basing their argument on \_\_\_\_\_ evidence rather than verified documentation, the plaintiff's civil lawsuit was dismissed.  
A. hypothetical                      B. anecdotal                      C. incidental                      D. accidental
13. \_\_\_\_\_ a short self-paced online course, one can receive a certificate.  
A. With the completion                      B. Having completed                      C. On being completed                      D. By completing
14. \_\_\_\_\_, 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
15. The boy denied \_\_\_\_\_ the answer key, but his perfect score makes it hard to believe.  
A. having been stolen                      B. to steal                      C. stealing                      D. to have stolen
16. Grace was praised for her \_\_\_\_\_ judgement when she reported the scammer pretending to be a police officer on the phone.  
A. fair                      B. snap                      C. firm                      D. sound
17. It took the panel quite some time to \_\_\_\_\_ this conclusion.  
A. arrive at                      B. reach at                      C. land on                      D. jump to
18. The law requires that this factory \_\_\_\_\_ the machines every week.  
A. have an engineer inspect                      B. have an engineer to inspect  
C. has an engineer to inspect                      D. has an engineer inspect
19. With no major releases \_\_\_\_\_, the media company decided to lay off a portion of its staff.  
A. in the offing                      B. in the balance                      C. on the back burner                      D. against the grain
20. If you \_\_\_\_\_ with the shares that you have, it might be your ticket to early retirement.  
A. stick to your guns                      B. follow your nose                      C. throw your hat in the ring                      D. play your cards right

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?

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.

Communication apprehension may have a biological basis; some individuals inherit a tendency to feel anxious. However, speakers can manage this by focusing on changeable behaviors, like enhancing speaking skills, rather than on their \_\_\_\_\_43\_\_\_\_\_ makeup. Conversely, psychology affects biology. A speaker's perception of the assignment, skills, and self-esteem interact to create anxiety. \_\_\_\_\_44\_\_\_\_\_ with conflict, the brain triggers a "fight-or-flight" \_\_\_\_\_45\_\_\_\_\_, increasing breathing rates, adrenaline, and blood \_\_\_\_\_46\_\_\_\_\_. These physiological changes cause a rapid heartbeat, shaking, quivering voice, or stomach "butterflies". \_\_\_\_\_47\_\_\_\_\_, speakers may minimize eye contact, use vocalized pauses ("um," "ah"), or speak too rapidly. \_\_\_\_\_48\_\_\_\_\_ uncomfortable, the body is simply attempting to assist with the task.

Regardless, apprehension seems to follow a predictable \_\_\_\_\_49\_\_\_\_\_, with people generally feeling most nervous right before presenting, when uncertainty is highest. The second highest anxiety level occurs when the instructor explains the assignment, while the least anxiety is felt during preparation. Understanding this helps speakers manage anxiety when it \_\_\_\_\_50\_\_\_\_\_. Because anxiety decreases once speaking begins and diminishes through positive preparation, starting early ensures both a better speech and greater confidence.

- |                      |              |               |                 |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 41. A. murmur        | B. shiver    | C. flutter    | D. vibrate      |
| 42. A. evoked        | B. sustained | C. triggered  | D. advanced     |
| 43. A. natural       | B. genetic   | C. cultural   | D. organic      |
| 44. A. Caught        | B. Bound     | C. Dealt      | D. Faced        |
| 45. A. reply         | B. response  | C. reflection | D. reaction     |
| 46. A. surge         | B. flow      | C. pulse      | D. stream       |
| 47. A. Interestingly | B. Finally   | C. Ironically | D. Consequently |
| 48. A. Despite       | B. Unless    | C. Since      | D. Though       |
| 49. A. trend         | B. schedule  | C. rhythm     | D. pattern      |
| 50. A. arouses       | B. raises    | C. arises     | D. rears        |

Guided cloze 2:

In many schools, handwriting has begun to make a modest comeback. For years, it was \_\_\_\_\_51\_\_\_\_\_ dismissed as a nostalgic skill, likely to be eclipsed by keyboards. Yet recent classroom experiments suggest that putting pen to paper can \_\_\_\_\_52\_\_\_\_\_ memory in ways typing often cannot. The point is not to \_\_\_\_\_53\_\_\_\_\_ one tool against the other, but to ask which tool best suits a particular task. When pupils take handwritten notes, they are \_\_\_\_\_54\_\_\_\_\_ to compress ideas, deciding what matters before it reaches the page. That act of selection can \_\_\_\_\_55\_\_\_\_\_ understanding. By contrast, laptops make it easy to transcribe a lesson word \_\_\_\_\_56\_\_\_\_\_ word, a habit that can create the illusion of learning without much processing.

None of this means schools should turn their backs on digital literacy. A child who cannot search responsibly or revise a shared document is at a \_\_\_\_\_57\_\_\_\_\_. But a curriculum that treats handwriting as obsolete may be throwing away a simple \_\_\_\_\_58\_\_\_\_\_ for thought. The best classrooms are not those that \_\_\_\_\_59\_\_\_\_\_ to old methods or chase every new device; they teach students to choose deliberately. In that sense, the revival of handwriting is less a reactionary move than a reminder that learning is not always \_\_\_\_\_60\_\_\_\_\_ by speed.

- |                    |              |                |                  |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| 51. A. summarily   | B. totally   | C. utterly     | D. superficially |
| 52. A. retrieve    | B. reinforce | C. recollect   | D. restore       |
| 53. A. place       | B. plant     | C. position    | D. pit           |
| 54. A. prohibited  | B. forced    | C. permitted   | D. prompted      |
| 55. A. inflate     | B. extend    | C. deepen      | D. enlarge       |
| 56. A. for         | B. in        | C. by          | D. over          |
| 57. A. downfall    | B. drawback  | C. deficit     | D. disadvantage  |
| 58. A. shortcut    | B. scaffold  | C. substitute  | D. shelter       |
| 59. A. cling       | B. abide     | C. commit      | D. affix         |
| 60. A. accelerated | B. enriched  | C. exacerbated | D. exceeded      |

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 were no incendiary devices hidden in the card catalogue. Some of the funniest things that have happened to me at work include the discovery of a piece of streaky bacon stuck between the pages of a detective novel. I pictured the borrower, reading his book at the breakfast table before rushing off to work, and reaching out for whatever was at hand to mark his page.

I love my job so much that work-life balance has never been an issue. Plus, I am very happy to take my work home with me because I never leave the library without a big stack of books, CDs and DVDs. The only regret I have about my long career in public libraries is that I have not been able to convince more librarians that they should be less book-focused and more people-focused; that they should look outward to the community rather than inward to the library; that they should get rid of desks and counters and do more active roving inside the library and outside in the community; that they should put less emphasis on the excellence of the collection and more on providing books that people actually want to read; and, most important of all, that libraries should be community-led and based on the needs of the public they serve.

What I dislike most about the profession is its insistence on standards of excellence and a rule-bound culture which tends to exclude those for whom public libraries were founded in the first place – the deserving poor and, indeed, the undeserving poor as well. For it is a fact that libraries are used most by those who need them the least (the middle class) and used the least by those who need them the most (the working class).

The job has, regrettably, not changed much from when I started out. Libraries have been modernised through technology but their underlying strategies, structures, systems and culture remain the same. We have a plethora of rules and regulations, and the part of my job I dread the most is having to ban someone from the library, because usually they come from the section of society that needs libraries the most. But this is more than balanced out by the many pleasures of the job, which include helping borrowers to improve the quality of their lives and meet their needs – whether that is for books and information, or helping them to find a job or a roof over their head.

Librarians are **chronically** underpaid but we don't do the job just for the money. [I] More money is always good, but what we really want is recognition from politicians that we are the fourth emergency service. [II] Proving this is difficult, but we are already starting to see what happens when public libraries are closed down. [III] Library closures are low-hanging fruit but the tiny amounts that this saves from the public purse is more than outweighed by the costs of increased crime, and worsening health and education outcomes. [IV] While we cannot demonstrate a direct link, every librarian knows that we are an important ingredient of the glue that sticks communities together.

81. What was the main reason the writer decided to become a qualified librarian?
- A. He had no career plans after graduation.                      B. He was dissatisfied with being an assistant.  
C. He was over-qualified as an assistant.                      D. He was not suitable for other career paths.
82. What does the writer say about his experiences as a librarian in the second paragraph?
- A. He did not respect his bosses' opinions.                      B. He mostly encountered eccentric people.  
C. He was not very successful with his cause.                      D. He was surprised by the diversity of visitors.
83. What is the tone of the writer in the third paragraph?
- A. ironic                      B. nostalgic                      C. amused                      D. excited
84. What criticism does the writer have of some librarians in the fourth paragraph?
- A. They are not friendly enough to visitors.  
B. They fail to maintain the excellence of book collections.  
C. They adopt a passive attitude to work.  
D. They are negligent of the community.
85. What is the writer's attitude to the fact that his job has changed very little?
- A. indifferent                      B. relieved                      C. surprised                      D. disappointed
86. Which can best replace the word 'chronically' in the final paragraph?
- A. incurably                      B. sickeningly                      C. constantly                      D. severely
87. What does the writer suggest about library closures?
- A. Their impact is not immediately noticeable.                      B. They represent a short-sighted approach.  
C. They can have adverse financial effects.                      D. They threaten the well-being of poor people.
88. Where does the following sentence best fit in the final paragraph?  
*'It brings a great deal of satisfaction helping others who are significantly less fortunate than ourselves.'*
- A. [I]                      B. [II]                      C. [III]                      D. [IV]

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.

- C. The soil is a living organism made up of tens of thousands of species of microorganisms—viruses, bacteria, fungi, protozoa—and larger nematodes, worms, insects, and mites. Plants and animals blanket the forest floor, lichens and mosses coat rocks and decaying wood, snags and fallen logs provide nutrition and protection for countless organisms.
- D. “You see that tree over there?” he shouted, pointing to a giant that was probably many centuries old. Without waiting for my response, he continued, “It doesn’t have any value until it’s cut down.” I was dumbstruck by the statement, giving him the opening to carry on.
- E. Foresters rationalize these practices as “proper silvicultural management,” as if they know what it is that creates the original forest that was cut down. Of course, they have no idea. They lack both a proper inventory of all the constituent species that make up the forest and a blueprint that explains how all of the components are interconnected.
- F. What had made me speechless was the realization that he was right. In the value system inherent in the form of economics our society has embraced, only when money is exchanged for goods and services is the transaction recognized as having economic worth.
- G. Likewise, the roots of the tree cling to soil even under the hardest of rains, thereby inhibiting erosion while siphoning vast quantities of water up into the canopy, where it is released through transpiration, hence ameliorating weather. From roots to tips of branches, the tree offers a habitat for countless forms of life, from lichens and fungi to insects, birds, and mammals.
- H. What foresters refer to as a “second-growth forest” is not a forest at all but a tree plantation—an attempt to grow trees like a crop of tomato or corn plants. But of course, such a “managed forest,” or “fiber farm,” no longer has the resilience, regenerative capacity, or self-protective devices of a natural forest.
- I. Consequently, while carbon offset credits offer a lucrative alternative for developing nations to preserve forest areas, local enforcement often fails to prevent illegal logging operations along unmarked borders. This instability makes it difficult for conservation groups to project the long-term financial viability of these corporate partnerships.

**Questions 96 – 105 READING PASSAGE 3 (1.00 pt)**

**Read the passage below and answer the questions which follow.**

British anthropologist Sir Edward Burnett Tylor espoused the classic definition of culture in 1871, describing it as that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, arts, morals, law, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society.” Culture is learned; it is not something that is biologically determined. This is in contrast to our innate ability to acquire language. Regardless, the particular language an individual first learns – their “mother tongue” – can “only be acquired by man as a member of society.” Language, therefore, is a part of one’s culture, but at the same time, language is used to transmit that culture, to teach that culture. In fact, culture and language are interdependent. No type of human society can be maintained if its members do not share a common language. Moreover, language, the most common way people communicate, could not have developed outside a social setting.

Language both expresses culture and reflects culture. Some linguists and anthropologists argue that different languages produce different ways of thinking. Cultures organize and view the world in diverse ways, and their languages support these differences through grammar and vocabulary. By studying lexical classification in various languages, scientists have been able to show that speakers of different languages perceive and distinguish things differently. The Nuer people of Sudan, for instance, traditionally were cattle herders, and their entire lifestyle centered on cattle, so their language has dozens of words for cattle. Another cultural-dependent concept is time. English speakers divide time into past, present and future, and English grammar has tenses to reflect this view of time. On the other hand, the Hopi, a Native American tribe of the Southwest United States, only make a distinction between events that have existed or exist (English past and present) and those that do not exist or do not yet exist (English future, including the subjunctive case used for possibility). Their language does not differentiate between present and past. Similarly, the complexity of vocabulary in a language to describe family relationships varies depending on the role of kinship in that culture. Color terminology also varies widely by language. Those that involved in areas with a history of using dyes and artificial coloring have the broadest range of color vocabulary.

Living languages, of course, undergo constant but often gradual transformation, as new words and expressions are added to the lexicon and meanings of words are altered. Different cultures can speak the same basic language, but it will have variations reflecting those different cultures. For instance, Koreans share a common language, but after six decades of being separated by a tightly sealed border, the cultures of North and South Korea have diverged along with the Korean language. If a South Korean asks a North Korean how they are doing, the North Korean would likely reply “*liupsopneda*”, an expression that literally means “not much,” which has a sense similar to

"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.

Concurrently, 113 (**HIGH**) awareness of modern agricultural methods has also led to humanitarian concerns. Many choose to boycott meat because they cannot condone the systemic suffering inflicted upon 114 (**LIVE**) —such as the severe 115 (**CONFINE**) of calves to produce veal or the manipulation of avian ovulation cycles through artificial light to induce egg production. Ultimately, modern vegetarians are not setting themselves up as moral ideals. A vegetarian isn't necessarily a crank, an eccentric, a subversive. A vegetarian is someone who doesn't eat meat.

**Questions 116 -120 ERROR CORRECTION (0.50 pt)**

Identify the **FIVE** errors in the following passage and correct them. Indicate the line at which mistakes are found, and how to correct them.

Example:

Line	Error	Correction
1	belief	believed

1	It is traditionally <i>belief</i> that paper was invented in China during the Eastern Han
2	Dynasty. There, a resourceful court official with the name of Ts'ai Lun first developed a
3	material that was similar to the paper we use today. Although the factual details of his
4	story have remained unknown, it is thought that his original ingredients included bits of
5	tree bark, old rags, and fishing nets. The legends surrounded this invention speak of the
6	inspiration, which Ts'ai Lun apparently drew from watching paper wasps construct thin-
7	shelled nests from tiny pieces of wood fibre. Centuries later, the first industrial machine
8	for manufacturing paper in a continuing roll was perfected in France in 1799. Since then,
9	the world has enjoyed an uninterrupted supply of the material. The wide variety of paper
10	options today, ranging from fine white sheets and tough brown wrapping paper, wouldn't
11	exist without these monumental advancements centuries before.

**Questions 121 - 130 SENTENCE TRANSFORMATION (2.00 pts)**

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given in the brackets. Do NOT make any changes to the word given. You must write from THREE to EIGHT words, including the given word.

Example: 0 Do you mind if I watch you while you paint?  
 → Do you \_\_\_\_\_ you while you paint? (**OBJECTION**)

Write ONLY the missing words on the Answer Sheet:

0	have any objection to my watching
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121. The fraudster was given the maximum prison sentence as a warning to others. (**EXAMPLE**)  
 → The fraudster \_\_\_\_\_ with the maximum prison sentence.
122. The children were so tired that they fell asleep almost immediately. (**EXHAUSTION**)  
 → Such \_\_\_\_\_ like a light.
123. It seemed to me that they already knew each other. (**ACQUAINTED**)  
 → I was under \_\_\_\_\_.
124. Catherine never thought of paying for her medical bills with her children's money. (**COVER**)  
 → It never crossed \_\_\_\_\_ with her children's money.
125. With multiple delays, I fear this project cannot be saved. (**LIKELY**)  
 → Having been \_\_\_\_\_ in the water.
126. It is typical for teenagers to be defiant towards their parents. (**REBELLING**)  
 → Teenagers \_\_\_\_\_ the course.
127. Leon was suspended for one week for breaking the rules repeatedly. (**EARNED**)  
 → Repeatedly running \_\_\_\_\_ suspension.
128. The construction has not seen much progress since the start of the year. (**HEADWAY**)  
 → Little \_\_\_\_\_ since the start of the year.
129. Americans are disappointed with the fact that their taxes are paying for foreign wars. (**DISMAY**)  
 → Much to the Americans' \_\_\_\_\_ the bill for foreign wars.
130. Plastic surgery changed Jim's looks to the point that we do not recognize him anymore. (**RECOGNITION**)  
 → Jim's looks \_\_\_\_\_ to plastic surgery.

**THIS IS THE END OF THE TEST.**

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.

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### 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.

**PART 1. LANGUAGE USE (4.00 pts)**

For questions 1-60, mark your answers on the provided **MULTIPLE-CHOICE ANSWER SHEET**.

**Questions 1 – 40 (2.00 pts) GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY**

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

1. For basing their argument on \_\_\_\_\_ evidence rather than verified documentation, the plaintiff's civil lawsuit was dismissed.  
A. accidental                      B. hypothetical                      C. incidental                      D. anecdotal
2. \_\_\_\_\_ a short self-paced online course, one can receive a certificate.  
A. On being completed              B. Having completed              C. By completing                      D. With the completion
3. \_\_\_\_\_, 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
4. Not until the files were declassified decades later \_\_\_\_\_ the true extent of the criminal operation.  
A. that the public realized              B. did the public realize              C. had the public realized              D. were the public realizing
5. 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
6. His manuscript is ruined by a highly \_\_\_\_\_ style with barely coherent digressions.  
A. discursive                      B. pretentious                      C. meticulous                      D. fastidious
7. I would rather you \_\_\_\_\_ the citations of your essay carefully before submitting it tomorrow.  
A. check                      B. checked                      C. would check                      D. had checked
8. \_\_\_\_\_ is comfortable with relocating the fragile fresco.  
A. Neither the restoration experts nor the museum curator  
B. The restoration experts as well as the museum curator  
C. Both the restoration experts and the museum curator  
D. Either the museum curator or the restoration experts
9. \_\_\_\_\_ a medic present at the scene of the accident, the victim would not have survived.  
A. Had it been for                      B. Were there not                      C. Had there not been                      D. Were it not for
10. Grace was praised for her \_\_\_\_\_ judgement when she reported the scammer pretending to be a police officer on the phone.  
A. sound                      B. fair                      C. snap                      D. firm
11. With no major releases \_\_\_\_\_, the media company decided to lay off a portion of its staff.  
A. in the balance                      B. on the back burner                      C. in the offing                      D. against the grain
12. Refrain from consuming cheese or cream if you are lactose \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. intolerant                      B. indigestible                      C. repellant                      D. averse
13. Harry displays an \_\_\_\_\_ attitude to religion, often joking about heaven and hell.  
A. incorrigible                      B. irreverent                      C. irreconcilable                      D. irrelevant
14. If you \_\_\_\_\_ with the shares that you have, it might be your ticket to early retirement.  
A. stick to your guns                      B. play your cards right                      C. follow your nose                      D. throw your hat in the ring
15. Alfred: "Her latest album feels completely derivative and uninspired."  
Bruce: "\_\_\_\_\_ It heavily relies on the out-of-fashion Euro-pop sound."  
A. That's a bit of a stretch.              B. Agree to disagree.              C. My thoughts exactly.              D. I beg to differ.
16. 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
17. Passed down through generations, '*Quan Ho*' singing requires vocal precision that is \_\_\_\_\_ to the region's identity.  
A. ingrained                      B. identical                      C. systemic                      D. intrinsic
18. The famous movie star looks surprisingly casual today; his only \_\_\_\_\_ is a plain necklace.  
A. decoration                      B. upkeep                      C. adornment                      D. embellishment
19. The documentary was criticised not so much for what it said \_\_\_\_\_ for what it left unsaid.  
A. and                      B. but                      C. as                      D. than
20. 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. gigs                      B. menial tasks                      C. odd jobs                      D. errands

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.

Communication apprehension may have a biological basis; some individuals inherit a tendency to feel anxious. However, speakers can manage this by focusing on changeable behaviors, like enhancing speaking skills, rather than on their 43 makeup. Conversely, psychology affects biology. A speaker's perception of the assignment, skills, and self-esteem interact to create anxiety. 44 with conflict, the brain triggers a "fight-or-flight" 45, increasing breathing rates, adrenaline, and blood 46. These physiological changes cause a rapid heartbeat, shaking, quivering voice, or stomach "butterflies". 47, speakers may minimize eye contact, use vocalized pauses ("um," "ah"), or speak too rapidly. 48 uncomfortable, the body is simply attempting to assist with the task.

Regardless, apprehension seems to follow a predictable 49, with people generally feeling most nervous right before presenting, when uncertainty is highest. The second highest anxiety level occurs when the instructor explains the assignment, while the least anxiety is felt during preparation. Understanding this helps speakers manage anxiety when it 50. Because anxiety decreases once speaking begins and diminishes through positive preparation, starting early ensures both a better speech and greater confidence.

- |                      |             |               |                 |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 41. A. vibrate       | B. flutter  | C. murmur     | D. shiver       |
| 42. A. sustained     | B. evoked   | C. advanced   | D. triggered    |
| 43. A. organic       | B. natural  | C. cultural   | D. genetic      |
| 44. A. Caught        | B. Faced    | C. Dealt      | D. Bound        |
| 45. A. response      | B. reaction | C. reflection | D. reply        |
| 46. A. flow          | B. stream   | C. surge      | D. pulse        |
| 47. A. Interestingly | B. Finally  | C. Ironically | D. Consequently |
| 48. A. Though        | B. Unless   | C. Despite    | D. Since        |
| 49. A. pattern       | B. trend    | C. rhythm     | D. schedule     |
| 50. A. arouses       | B. raises   | C. rears      | D. arises       |

Guided cloze 2:

In many schools, handwriting has begun to make a modest comeback. For years, it was 51 dismissed as a nostalgic skill, likely to be eclipsed by keyboards. Yet recent classroom experiments suggest that putting pen to paper can 52 memory in ways typing often cannot. The point is not to 53 one tool against the other, but to ask which tool best suits a particular task. When pupils take handwritten notes, they are 54 to compress ideas, deciding what matters before it reaches the page. That act of selection can 55 understanding. By contrast, laptops make it easy to transcribe a lesson word 56 word, a habit that can create the illusion of learning without much processing.

None of this means schools should turn their backs on digital literacy. A child who cannot search responsibly or revise a shared document is at a 57. But a curriculum that treats handwriting as obsolete may be throwing away a simple 58 for thought. The best classrooms are not those that 59 to old methods or chase every new device; they teach students to choose deliberately. In that sense, the revival of handwriting is less a reactionary move than a reminder that learning is not always 60 by speed.

- |                     |             |               |                  |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|
| 51. A. totally      | B. utterly  | C. summarily  | D. superficially |
| 52. A. reinforce    | B. restore  | C. retrieve   | D. recollect     |
| 53. A. place        | B. position | C. plant      | D. pit           |
| 54. A. permitted    | B. prompted | C. prohibited | D. forced        |
| 55. A. enlarge      | B. inflate  | C. extend     | D. deepen        |
| 56. A. by           | B. for      | C. over       | D. in            |
| 57. A. disadvantage | B. downfall | C. drawback   | D. deficit       |
| 58. A. shelter      | B. shortcut | C. scaffold   | D. substitute    |
| 59. A. commit       | B. cling    | C. abide      | D. affix         |
| 60. A. accelerated  | B. enriched | C. exceeded   | D. exacerbated   |

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

were no incendiary devices hidden in the card catalogue. Some of the funniest things that have happened to me at work include the discovery of a piece of streaky bacon stuck between the pages of a detective novel. I pictured the borrower, reading his book at the breakfast table before rushing off to work, and reaching out for whatever was at hand to mark his page.

I love my job so much that work-life balance has never been an issue. Plus, I am very happy to take my work home with me because I never leave the library without a big stack of books, CDs and DVDs. The only regret I have about my long career in public libraries is that I have not been able to convince more librarians that they should be less book-focused and more people-focused; that they should look outward to the community rather than inward to the library; that they should get rid of desks and counters and do more active roving inside the library and outside in the community; that they should put less emphasis on the excellence of the collection and more on providing books that people actually want to read; and, most important of all, that libraries should be community-led and based on the needs of the public they serve.

What I dislike most about the profession is its insistence on standards of excellence and a rule-bound culture which tends to exclude those for whom public libraries were founded in the first place – the deserving poor and, indeed, the undeserving poor as well. For it is a fact that libraries are used most by those who need them the least (the middle class) and used the least by those who need them the most (the working class).

The job has, regrettably, not changed much from when I started out. Libraries have been modernised through technology but their underlying strategies, structures, systems and culture remain the same. We have a plethora of rules and regulations, and the part of my job I dread the most is having to ban someone from the library, because usually they come from the section of society that needs libraries the most. But this is more than balanced out by the many pleasures of the job, which include helping borrowers to improve the quality of their lives and meet their needs – whether that is for books and information, or helping them to find a job or a roof over their head.

Librarians are **chronically** underpaid but we don't do the job just for the money. [I] More money is always good, but what we really want is recognition from politicians that we are the fourth emergency service. [II] Proving this is difficult, but we are already starting to see what happens when public libraries are closed down. [III] Library closures are low-hanging fruit but the tiny amounts that this saves from the public purse is more than outweighed by the costs of increased crime, and worsening health and education outcomes. [IV] While we cannot demonstrate a direct link, every librarian knows that we are an important ingredient of the glue that sticks communities together.

81. What was the main reason the writer decided to become a qualified librarian?

- A. He had no career plans after graduation.
- B. He was dissatisfied with being an assistant.
- C. He was over-qualified as an assistant.
- D. He was not suitable for other career paths.

82. What does the writer say about his experiences as a librarian in the second paragraph?

- A. He did not respect his bosses' opinions.
- B. He mostly encountered eccentric people.
- C. He was not very successful with his cause.
- D. He was surprised by the diversity of visitors.

83. What is the tone of the writer in the third paragraph?

- A. ironic
- B. nostalgic
- C. amused
- D. excited

84. What criticism does the writer have of some librarians in the fourth paragraph?

- A. They are not friendly enough to visitors.
- B. They fail to maintain the excellence of book collections.
- C. They adopt a passive attitude to work.
- D. They are negligent of the community.

85. What is the writer's attitude to the fact that his job has changed very little?

- A. indifferent
- B. relieved
- C. surprised
- D. disappointed

86. Which can best replace the word 'chronically' in the final paragraph?

- A. incurably
- B. sickeningly
- C. constantly
- D. severely

87. What does the writer suggest about library closures?

- A. Their impact is not immediately noticeable.
- B. They represent a short-sighted approach.
- C. They can have adverse financial effects.
- D. They threaten the well-being of poor people.

88. Where does the following sentence best fit in the final paragraph?

*'It brings a great deal of satisfaction helping others who are significantly less fortunate than ourselves.'*

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

**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.

- C. The soil is a living organism made up of tens of thousands of species of microorganisms—viruses, bacteria, fungi, protozoa—and larger nematodes, worms, insects, and mites. Plants and animals blanket the forest floor, lichens and mosses coat rocks and decaying wood, snags and fallen logs provide nutrition and protection for countless organisms.
- D. “You see that tree over there?” he shouted, pointing to a giant that was probably many centuries old. Without waiting for my response, he continued, “It doesn’t have any value until it’s cut down.” I was dumbstruck by the statement, giving him the opening to carry on.
- E. Foresters rationalize these practices as “proper silvicultural management,” as if they know what it is that creates the original forest that was cut down. Of course, they have no idea. They lack both a proper inventory of all the constituent species that make up the forest and a blueprint that explains how all of the components are interconnected.
- F. What had made me speechless was the realization that he was right. In the value system inherent in the form of economics our society has embraced, only when money is exchanged for goods and services is the transaction recognized as having economic worth.
- G. Likewise, the roots of the tree cling to soil even under the hardest of rains, thereby inhibiting erosion while siphoning vast quantities of water up into the canopy, where it is released through transpiration, hence ameliorating weather. From roots to tips of branches, the tree offers a habitat for countless forms of life, from lichens and fungi to insects, birds, and mammals.
- H. What foresters refer to as a “second-growth forest” is not a forest at all but a tree plantation—an attempt to grow trees like a crop of tomato or corn plants. But of course, such a “managed forest,” or “fiber farm,” no longer has the resilience, regenerative capacity, or self-protective devices of a natural forest.
- I. Consequently, while carbon offset credits offer a lucrative alternative for developing nations to preserve forest areas, local enforcement often fails to prevent illegal logging operations along unmarked borders. This instability makes it difficult for conservation groups to project the long-term financial viability of these corporate partnerships.

**Questions 96 – 105 READING PASSAGE 3 (1.00 pt)**

**Read the passage below and answer the questions which follow.**

British anthropologist Sir Edward Burnett Tylor espoused the classic definition of culture in 1871, describing it as that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, arts, morals, law, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society.” Culture is learned; it is not something that is biologically determined. This is in contrast to our innate ability to acquire language. Regardless, the particular language an individual first learns – their “mother tongue” – can “only be acquired by man as a member of society.” Language, therefore, is a part of one’s culture, but at the same time, language is used to transmit that culture, to teach that culture. In fact, culture and language are interdependent. No type of human society can be maintained if its members do not share a common language. Moreover, language, the most common way people communicate, could not have developed outside a social setting.

Language both expresses culture and reflects culture. Some linguists and anthropologists argue that different languages produce different ways of thinking. Cultures organize and view the world in diverse ways, and their languages support these differences through grammar and vocabulary. By studying lexical classification in various languages, scientists have been able to show that speakers of different languages perceive and distinguish things differently. The Nuer people of Sudan, for instance, traditionally were cattle herders, and their entire lifestyle centered on cattle, so their language has dozens of words for cattle. Another cultural-dependent concept is time. English speakers divide time into past, present and future, and English grammar has tenses to reflect this view of time. On the other hand, the Hopi, a Native American tribe of the Southwest United States, only make a distinction between events that have existed or exist (English past and present) and those that do not exist or do not yet exist (English future, including the subjunctive case used for possibility). Their language does not differentiate between present and past. Similarly, the complexity of vocabulary in a language to describe family relationships varies depending on the role of kinship in that culture. Color terminology also varies widely by language. Those that involved in areas with a history of using dyes and artificial coloring have the broadest range of color vocabulary.

Living languages, of course, undergo constant but often gradual transformation, as new words and expressions are added to the lexicon and meanings of words are altered. Different cultures can speak the same basic language, but it will have variations reflecting those different cultures. For instance, Koreans share a common language, but after six decades of being separated by a tightly sealed border, the cultures of North and South Korea have diverged along with the Korean language. If a South Korean asks a North Korean how they are doing, the North Korean would likely reply “*liupsopneda*”, an expression that literally means “not much,” which has a sense similar to

"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.

Concurrently, 113 (HIGH) awareness of modern agricultural methods has also led to humanitarian concerns. Many choose to boycott meat because they cannot condone the systemic suffering inflicted upon 114 (LIVE) —such as the severe 115 (CONFINE) of calves to produce veal or the manipulation of avian ovulation cycles through artificial light to induce egg production. Ultimately, modern vegetarians are not setting themselves up as moral ideals. A vegetarian isn't necessarily a crank, an eccentric, a subversive. A vegetarian is someone who doesn't eat meat.

**Questions 116 -120 ERROR CORRECTION (0.50 pt)**

Identify the FIVE errors in the following passage and correct them. Indicate the line at which mistakes are found, and how to correct them.

Example:

Line	Error	Correction
1	belief	believed

1	It is traditionally <i>belief</i> that paper was invented in China during the Eastern Han
2	Dynasty. There, a resourceful court official with the name of Ts'ai Lun first developed a
3	material that was similar to the paper we use today. Although the factual details of his
4	story have remained unknown, it is thought that his original ingredients included bits of
5	tree bark, old rags, and fishing nets. The legends surrounded this invention speak of the
6	inspiration, which Ts'ai Lun apparently drew from watching paper wasps construct thin-
7	shelled nests from tiny pieces of wood fibre. Centuries later, the first industrial machine
8	for manufacturing paper in a continuing roll was perfected in France in 1799. Since then,
9	the world has enjoyed an uninterrupted supply of the material. The wide variety of paper
10	options today, ranging from fine white sheets and tough brown wrapping paper, wouldn't
11	exist without these monumental advancements centuries before.

**Questions 121 - 130 SENTENCE TRANSFORMATION (2.00 pts)**

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given in the brackets. Do NOT make any changes to the word given. You must write from THREE to EIGHT words, including the given word.

Example: 0 Do you mind if I watch you while you paint?  
 → Do you \_\_\_\_\_ you while you paint? (OBJECTION)

Write ONLY the missing words on the Answer Sheet:

0	have any objection to my watching
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121. The fraudster was given the maximum prison sentence as a warning to others. (EXAMPLE)  
 → The fraudster \_\_\_\_\_ with the maximum prison sentence.
122. The children were so tired that they fell asleep almost immediately. (EXHAUSTION)  
 → Such \_\_\_\_\_ like a light.
123. It seemed to me that they already knew each other. (ACQUAINTED)  
 → I was under \_\_\_\_\_.
124. Catherine never thought of paying for her medical bills with her children's money. (COVER)  
 → It never crossed \_\_\_\_\_ with her children's money.
125. With multiple delays, I fear this project cannot be saved. (LIKELY)  
 → Having been \_\_\_\_\_ in the water.
126. It is typical for teenagers to be defiant towards their parents. (REBELLING)  
 → Teenagers \_\_\_\_\_ the course.
127. Leon was suspended for one week for breaking the rules repeatedly. (EARNED)  
 → Repeatedly running \_\_\_\_\_ suspension.
128. The construction has not seen much progress since the start of the year. (HEADWAY)  
 → Little \_\_\_\_\_ since the start of the year.
129. Americans are disappointed with the fact that their taxes are paying for foreign wars. (DISMAY)  
 → Much to the Americans' \_\_\_\_\_ the bill for foreign wars.
130. Plastic surgery changed Jim's looks to the point that we do not recognize him anymore. (RECOGNITION)  
 → Jim's looks \_\_\_\_\_ to plastic surgery.

THIS IS THE END OF THE TEST.

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.

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#### 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.

**PART 1. LANGUAGE USE (4.00 pts)**

For questions 1-60, mark your answers on the provided **MULTIPLE-CHOICE ANSWER SHEET**.

**Questions 1 – 40 (2.00 pts) GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY**

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

1. Passed down through generations, 'Quan Ho' singing requires vocal precision that is \_\_\_\_\_ to the region's identity.  
A. identical                      B. intrinsic                      C. systemic                      D. ingrained
2. I would rather you \_\_\_\_\_ the citations of your essay carefully before submitting it tomorrow.  
A. check                      B. checked                      C. would check                      D. had checked
3. Refrain from consuming cheese or cream if you are lactose \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. intolerant                      B. indigestible                      C. repellant                      D. averse
4. Harry displays an \_\_\_\_\_ attitude to religion, often joking about heaven and hell.  
A. incorrigible                      B. irreverent                      C. irreconcilable                      D. irrelevant
5. If you \_\_\_\_\_ with the shares that you have, it might be your ticket to early retirement.  
A. stick to your guns                      B. play your cards right                      C. follow your nose                      D. throw your hat in the ring
6. 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. odd jobs                      B. gigs                      C. menial tasks                      D. errands
7. The documentary was criticised not so much for what it said \_\_\_\_\_ for what it left unsaid.  
A. and                      B. as                      C. but                      D. than
8. 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!
9. The journalist refused to disclose her source, even \_\_\_\_\_ legal action threats.  
A. for the sake of                      B. in the face of                      C. on account of                      D. by virtue of
10. \_\_\_\_\_ is comfortable with relocating the fragile fresco.  
A. The restoration experts as well as the museum curator  
B. Neither the restoration experts nor the museum curator  
C. Either the museum curator or the restoration experts  
D. Both the restoration experts and the museum curator
11. Children are often described as \_\_\_\_\_, easily influenced by their parental and guardian figures.  
A. sporadic                      B. ephemeral                      C. malleable                      D. volatile
12. 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
13. \_\_\_\_\_ a short self-paced online course, one can receive a certificate.  
A. With the completion                      B. Having completed                      C. On being completed                      D. By completing
14. The university is offering grants in astrophysics, \_\_\_\_\_ have to be women currently pursuing a PhD program.  
A. of that the recipients                      B. which the recipients for them  
C. the recipients of which                      D. the recipients of those
15. Grace was praised for her \_\_\_\_\_ judgement when she reported the scammer pretending to be a police officer on the phone.  
A. fair                      B. sound                      C. firm                      D. snap
16. 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
17. The famous movie star looks surprisingly casual today; his only \_\_\_\_\_ is a plain necklace.  
A. decoration                      B. upkeep                      C. embellishment                      D. adornment
18. \_\_\_\_\_, the movie was panned by critics as formulaic and lacking in substance.  
A. Successfully commercial though was the film                      B. Commercially successful though the film was  
C. Commercially successful though was the film                      D. Successfully commercial though the film was
19. Fans are excited at the prospect of a \_\_\_\_\_ between two beloved anime franchises.  
A. crossover                      B. runover                      C. spillover                      D. layover
20. Sabrina wrote down "baking soda for mom" on her shopping list, lest in her hurry she \_\_\_\_\_ it.  
A. forget                      B. forgot                      C. will forget                      D. forgets

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.

Communication apprehension may have a biological basis; some individuals inherit a tendency to feel anxious. However, speakers can manage this by focusing on changeable behaviors, like enhancing speaking skills, rather than on their 43 makeup. Conversely, psychology affects biology. A speaker's perception of the assignment, skills, and self-esteem interact to create anxiety. 44 with conflict, the brain triggers a "fight-or-flight" 45, increasing breathing rates, adrenaline, and blood 46. These physiological changes cause a rapid heartbeat, shaking, quivering voice, or stomach "butterflies". 47, speakers may minimize eye contact, use vocalized pauses ("um," "ah"), or speak too rapidly. 48 uncomfortable, the body is simply attempting to assist with the task.

Regardless, apprehension seems to follow a predictable 49, with people generally feeling most nervous right before presenting, when uncertainty is highest. The second highest anxiety level occurs when the instructor explains the assignment, while the least anxiety is felt during preparation. Understanding this helps speakers manage anxiety when it 50. Because anxiety decreases once speaking begins and diminishes through positive preparation, starting early ensures both a better speech and greater confidence.

- |                   |                  |                 |              |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 41. A. flutter    | B. shiver        | C. murmur       | D. vibrate   |
| 42. A. triggered  | B. advanced      | C. evoked       | D. sustained |
| 43. A. cultural   | B. organic       | C. genetic      | D. natural   |
| 44. A. Caught     | B. Dealt         | C. Faced        | D. Bound     |
| 45. A. reflection | B. response      | C. reaction     | D. reply     |
| 46. A. stream     | B. flow          | C. pulse        | D. surge     |
| 47. A. Ironically | B. Interestingly | C. Consequently | D. Finally   |
| 48. A. Since      | B. Despite       | C. Unless       | D. Though    |
| 49. A. pattern    | B. rhythm        | C. schedule     | D. trend     |
| 50. A. raises     | B. arouses       | C. arises       | D. rears     |

Guided cloze 2:

In many schools, handwriting has begun to make a modest comeback. For years, it was 51 dismissed as a nostalgic skill, likely to be eclipsed by keyboards. Yet recent classroom experiments suggest that putting pen to paper can 52 memory in ways typing often cannot. The point is not to 53 one tool against the other, but to ask which tool best suits a particular task. When pupils take handwritten notes, they are 54 to compress ideas, deciding what matters before it reaches the page. That act of selection can 55 understanding. By contrast, laptops make it easy to transcribe a lesson word 56 word, a habit that can create the illusion of learning without much processing.

None of this means schools should turn their backs on digital literacy. A child who cannot search responsibly or revise a shared document is at a 57. But a curriculum that treats handwriting as obsolete may be throwing away a simple 58 for thought. The best classrooms are not those that 59 to old methods or chase every new device; they teach students to choose deliberately. In that sense, the revival of handwriting is less a reactionary move than a reminder that learning is not always 60 by speed.

- |                 |                  |                |                 |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 51. A. totally  | B. superficially | C. summarily   | D. utterly      |
| 52. A. retrieve | B. restore       | C. reinforce   | D. recollect    |
| 53. A. plant    | B. place         | C. position    | D. pit          |
| 54. A. prompted | B. permitted     | C. forced      | D. prohibited   |
| 55. A. deepen   | B. inflate       | C. extend      | D. enlarge      |
| 56. A. for      | B. in            | C. by          | D. over         |
| 57. A. downfall | B. drawback      | C. deficit     | D. disadvantage |
| 58. A. scaffold | B. shelter       | C. shortcut    | D. substitute   |
| 59. A. abide    | B. affix         | C. cling       | D. commit       |
| 60. A. exceeded | B. enriched      | C. exacerbated | D. accelerated  |

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

were no incendiary devices hidden in the card catalogue. Some of the funniest things that have happened to me at work include the discovery of a piece of streaky bacon stuck between the pages of a detective novel. I pictured the borrower, reading his book at the breakfast table before rushing off to work, and reaching out for whatever was at hand to mark his page.

I love my job so much that work-life balance has never been an issue. Plus, I am very happy to take my work home with me because I never leave the library without a big stack of books, CDs and DVDs. The only regret I have about my long career in public libraries is that I have not been able to convince more librarians that they should be less book-focused and more people-focused; that they should look outward to the community rather than inward to the library; that they should get rid of desks and counters and do more active roving inside the library and outside in the community; that they should put less emphasis on the excellence of the collection and more on providing books that people actually want to read; and, most important of all, that libraries should be community-led and based on the needs of the public they serve.

What I dislike most about the profession is its insistence on standards of excellence and a rule-bound culture which tends to exclude those for whom public libraries were founded in the first place – the deserving poor and, indeed, the undeserving poor as well. For it is a fact that libraries are used most by those who need them the least (the middle class) and used the least by those who need them the most (the working class).

The job has, regrettably, not changed much from when I started out. Libraries have been modernised through technology but their underlying strategies, structures, systems and culture remain the same. We have a plethora of rules and regulations, and the part of my job I dread the most is having to ban someone from the library, because usually they come from the section of society that needs libraries the most. But this is more than balanced out by the many pleasures of the job, which include helping borrowers to improve the quality of their lives and meet their needs – whether that is for books and information, or helping them to find a job or a roof over their head.

Librarians are **chronically** underpaid but we don't do the job just for the money. [I] More money is always good, but what we really want is recognition from politicians that we are the fourth emergency service. [II] Proving this is difficult, but we are already starting to see what happens when public libraries are closed down. [III] Library closures are low-hanging fruit but the tiny amounts that this saves from the public purse is more than outweighed by the costs of increased crime, and worsening health and education outcomes. [IV] While we cannot demonstrate a direct link, every librarian knows that we are an important ingredient of the glue that sticks communities together.

81. What was the main reason the writer decided to become a qualified librarian?

- A. He had no career plans after graduation.
- B. He was dissatisfied with being an assistant.
- C. He was over-qualified as an assistant.
- D. He was not suitable for other career paths.

82. What does the writer say about his experiences as a librarian in the second paragraph?

- A. He did not respect his bosses' opinions.
- B. He mostly encountered eccentric people.
- C. He was not very successful with his cause.
- D. He was surprised by the diversity of visitors.

83. What is the tone of the writer in the third paragraph?

- A. ironic
- B. nostalgic
- C. amused
- D. excited

84. What criticism does the writer have of some librarians in the fourth paragraph?

- A. They are not friendly enough to visitors.
- B. They fail to maintain the excellence of book collections.
- C. They adopt a passive attitude to work.
- D. They are negligent of the community.

85. What is the writer's attitude to the fact that his job has changed very little?

- A. indifferent
- B. relieved
- C. surprised
- D. disappointed

86. Which can best replace the word 'chronically' in the final paragraph?

- A. incurably
- B. sickeningly
- C. constantly
- D. severely

87. What does the writer suggest about library closures?

- A. Their impact is not immediately noticeable.
- B. They represent a short-sighted approach.
- C. They can have adverse financial effects.
- D. They threaten the well-being of poor people.

88. Where does the following sentence best fit in the final paragraph?

*'It brings a great deal of satisfaction helping others who are significantly less fortunate than ourselves.'*

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

**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.

- C. The soil is a living organism made up of tens of thousands of species of microorganisms—viruses, bacteria, fungi, protozoa—and larger nematodes, worms, insects, and mites. Plants and animals blanket the forest floor, lichens and mosses coat rocks and decaying wood, snags and fallen logs provide nutrition and protection for countless organisms.
- D. “You see that tree over there?” he shouted, pointing to a giant that was probably many centuries old. Without waiting for my response, he continued, “It doesn’t have any value until it’s cut down.” I was dumbstruck by the statement, giving him the opening to carry on.
- E. Foresters rationalize these practices as “proper silvicultural management,” as if they know what it is that creates the original forest that was cut down. Of course, they have no idea. They lack both a proper inventory of all the constituent species that make up the forest and a blueprint that explains how all of the components are interconnected.
- F. What had made me speechless was the realization that he was right. In the value system inherent in the form of economics our society has embraced, only when money is exchanged for goods and services is the transaction recognized as having economic worth.
- G. Likewise, the roots of the tree cling to soil even under the hardest of rains, thereby inhibiting erosion while siphoning vast quantities of water up into the canopy, where it is released through transpiration, hence ameliorating weather. From roots to tips of branches, the tree offers a habitat for countless forms of life, from lichens and fungi to insects, birds, and mammals.
- H. What foresters refer to as a “second-growth forest” is not a forest at all but a tree plantation—an attempt to grow trees like a crop of tomato or corn plants. But of course, such a “managed forest,” or “fiber farm,” no longer has the resilience, regenerative capacity, or self-protective devices of a natural forest.
- I. Consequently, while carbon offset credits offer a lucrative alternative for developing nations to preserve forest areas, local enforcement often fails to prevent illegal logging operations along unmarked borders. This instability makes it difficult for conservation groups to project the long-term financial viability of these corporate partnerships.

**Questions 96 – 105 READING PASSAGE 3 (1.00 pt)**

**Read the passage below and answer the questions which follow.**

British anthropologist Sir Edward Burnett Tylor espoused the classic definition of culture in 1871, describing it as that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, arts, morals, law, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society.” Culture is learned; it is not something that is biologically determined. This is in contrast to our innate ability to acquire language. Regardless, the particular language an individual first learns – their “mother tongue” – can “only be acquired by man as a member of society.” Language, therefore, is a part of one’s culture, but at the same time, language is used to transmit that culture, to teach that culture. In fact, culture and language are interdependent. No type of human society can be maintained if its members do not share a common language. Moreover, language, the most common way people communicate, could not have developed outside a social setting.

Language both expresses culture and reflects culture. Some linguists and anthropologists argue that different languages produce different ways of thinking. Cultures organize and view the world in diverse ways, and their languages support these differences through grammar and vocabulary. By studying lexical classification in various languages, scientists have been able to show that speakers of different languages perceive and distinguish things differently. The Nuer people of Sudan, for instance, traditionally were cattle herders, and their entire lifestyle centered on cattle, so their language has dozens of words for cattle. Another cultural-dependent concept is time. English speakers divide time into past, present and future, and English grammar has tenses to reflect this view of time. On the other hand, the Hopi, a Native American tribe of the Southwest United States, only make a distinction between events that have existed or exist (English past and present) and those that do not exist or do not yet exist (English future, including the subjunctive case used for possibility). Their language does not differentiate between present and past. Similarly, the complexity of vocabulary in a language to describe family relationships varies depending on the role of kinship in that culture. Color terminology also varies widely by language. Those that involved in areas with a history of using dyes and artificial coloring have the broadest range of color vocabulary.

Living languages, of course, undergo constant but often gradual transformation, as new words and expressions are added to the lexicon and meanings of words are altered. Different cultures can speak the same basic language, but it will have variations reflecting those different cultures. For instance, Koreans share a common language, but after six decades of being separated by a tightly sealed border, the cultures of North and South Korea have diverged along with the Korean language. If a South Korean asks a North Korean how they are doing, the North Korean would likely reply “*liupsopneda*”, an expression that literally means “not much,” which has a sense similar to

"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.

Concurrently, 113 (**HIGH**) awareness of modern agricultural methods has also led to humanitarian concerns. Many choose to boycott meat because they cannot condone the systemic suffering inflicted upon 114 (**LIVE**)—such as the severe 115 (**CONFINE**) of calves to produce veal or the manipulation of avian ovulation cycles through artificial light to induce egg production. Ultimately, modern vegetarians are not setting themselves up as moral ideals. A vegetarian isn't necessarily a crank, an eccentric, a subversive. A vegetarian is someone who doesn't eat meat.

**Questions 116 -120 ERROR CORRECTION (0.50 pt)**

Identify the **FIVE** errors in the following passage and correct them. Indicate the line at which mistakes are found, and how to correct them.

Example:

Line	Error	Correction
1	belief	believed

1	It is traditionally <i>belief</i> that paper was invented in China during the Eastern Han
2	Dynasty. There, a resourceful court official with the name of Ts'ai Lun first developed a
3	material that was similar to the paper we use today. Although the factual details of his
4	story have remained unknown, it is thought that his original ingredients included bits of
5	tree bark, old rags, and fishing nets. The legends surrounded this invention speak of the
6	inspiration, which Ts'ai Lun apparently drew from watching paper wasps construct thin-
7	shelled nests from tiny pieces of wood fibre. Centuries later, the first industrial machine
8	for manufacturing paper in a continuing roll was perfected in France in 1799. Since then,
9	the world has enjoyed an uninterrupted supply of the material. The wide variety of paper
10	options today, ranging from fine white sheets and tough brown wrapping paper, wouldn't
11	exist without these monumental advancements centuries before.

**Questions 121 - 130 SENTENCE TRANSFORMATION (2.00 pts)**

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given in the brackets. Do NOT make any changes to the word given. You must write from THREE to EIGHT words, including the given word.

Example: 0 Do you mind if I watch you while you paint?

→ Do you \_\_\_\_\_ you while you paint? (**OBJECTION**)

Write ONLY the missing words on the Answer Sheet:

0	have any objection to my watching
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121. The fraudster was given the maximum prison sentence as a warning to others. (**EXAMPLE**)

→ The fraudster \_\_\_\_\_ with the maximum prison sentence.

122. The children were so tired that they fell asleep almost immediately. (**EXHAUSTION**)

→ Such \_\_\_\_\_ like a light.

123. It seemed to me that they already knew each other. (**ACQUAINTED**)

→ I was under \_\_\_\_\_.

124. Catherine never thought of paying for her medical bills with her children's money. (**COVER**)

→ It never crossed \_\_\_\_\_ with her children's money.

125. With multiple delays, I fear this project cannot be saved. (**LIKELY**)

→ Having been \_\_\_\_\_ in the water.

126. It is typical for teenagers to be defiant towards their parents. (**REBELLING**)

→ Teenagers \_\_\_\_\_ the course.

127. Leon was suspended for one week for breaking the rules repeatedly. (**EARNED**)

→ Repeatedly running \_\_\_\_\_ suspension.

128. The construction has not seen much progress since the start of the year. (**HEADWAY**)

→ Little \_\_\_\_\_ since the start of the year.

129. Americans are disappointed with the fact that their taxes are paying for foreign wars. (**DISMAY**)

→ Much to the Americans' \_\_\_\_\_ the bill for foreign wars.

130. Plastic surgery changed Jim's looks to the point that we do not recognize him anymore. (**RECOGNITION**)

→ Jim's looks \_\_\_\_\_ to plastic surgery.

**THIS IS THE END OF THE TEST.**