

I. Vocabulary (40%): Choose the word that BEST completes the sentence.

1. The CEO decided to ___ from his position after ten years of service.
(A) resign (B) persist (C) acquire (D) retain
2. The security team managed to ___ the confidential message before it reached the wrong hands.
(A) interpret (B) interfere (C) interject (D) intercept
3. She had to ___ through the fog to see the approaching car.
(A) peer (B) stare (C) glance (D) ignore
4. The manager decided to ___ some of his responsibilities to his team members.
(A) assume (B) oversee (C) withhold (D) delegate
5. The teacher encouraged the students to ___ their ideas before presenting them to the class.
(A) neglect (B) refine (C) impose (D) discard
6. The detective was able to ___ the true motive behind the crime after examining all the evidence.
(A) deduce (B) obliterate (C) evoke (D) deter
7. The professor's lecture was ___, filled with complex ideas that required deep concentration.
(A) simplistic (B) trivial (C) erudite (D) superficial
8. The politician's response was ___, leaving the audience unsure of their true stance.
(A) decisive (B) ambiguous (C) explicit (D) transparent
9. The text was written in a ___ style, making it difficult for modern readers to understand.
(A) precise (B) casual (C) archaic (D) contemporary
10. Her ___ demeanor often intimidated those who didn't know her well.
(A) austere (B) gregarious (C) indulgent (D) playful
11. The team was praised for their ___ effort in completing the project under tight deadlines.
(A) negligent (B) lethargic (C) herculean (D) effortless
12. The two software programs are ___ with each other, making it impossible to run them on the same system.
(A) incompatible (B) harmonious (C) complementary (D) compatible
13. The judge's decision was based on legal ___, which provided guidance in similar cases.
(A) precedent (B) conjecture (C) speculation (D) anomaly
14. The journalist's exposé caused a public ___, leading to widespread protests.
(A) tranquility (B) compliance (C) uproar (D) concord
15. The scientist's theory faced significant ___ from the academic community due to its

controversial nature.

(A) rebuttal (B) endorsement (C) consensus (D) conformity

16. Unfortunately, their plans to launch the new product ___ due to unforeseen technical issues.

(A) made do (B) broke into (C) turned down (D) fell through

17. Smoking is forbidden here. Hence, please ___ your cigarette.

(A) put up with (B) put down (C) put away (D) put out

18. The project was completed ___ ahead of schedule, thanks to the team's hard work.

(A) briefly (B) constantly (C) significantly (D) rarely

19. The decision was made ___, without considering the long-term consequences.

(A) impetuously (B) cautiously (C) consciously (D) deliberately

20. The novel's plot was ___ constructed, with each chapter building seamlessly on the previous one.

(A) flippantly (B) masterfully (C) awkwardly (D) carelessly

II. Cloze test (30%): Choose the BEST answer for each missing word or phrase in the following excerpted passages.

Passage A: Questions 21-30

While artificial intelligence (AI) offers remarkable benefits, it also presents significant challenges and drawbacks that society must address. One major concern is the (21) _____ of bias in AI systems, which often stems from the data used to train them. For instance, if an AI system is trained on data that reflects societal prejudices, it may (22) _____ these biases in its outputs, leading to unfair outcomes in areas such as hiring or law enforcement. Another issue is the potential for widespread job displacement as AI technologies automate tasks previously performed by humans. While proponents argue that AI creates new opportunities, critics contend that these opportunities may not replace the jobs lost, particularly in industries (23) _____ low-skilled labor is predominant. Additionally, AI systems are not always transparent, (24) _____ it difficult to understand how they arrive at their decisions—a problem known as the “black box” effect. This lack of (25) _____ can erode trust and accountability, especially in critical fields like healthcare or finance. Furthermore, as AI becomes more advanced, it raises ethical concerns about autonomy and control. For example, the use of AI in autonomous weapons could (26) _____ global security by reducing the human oversight needed in military operations. There is also the risk of AI being used maliciously, such as in cyberattacks or the creation of deepfakes, which can (27) _____ public trust in media and institutions. Another significant drawback is ensuring that pronouns (28) _____ the correct antecedents in AI-generated text, as mismatches can confuse readers or distort meaning. In addition, the proliferation of AI technologies can exacerbate existing inequalities, as access to advanced AI tools often depends on financial and technical resources that are unevenly distributed. While governments and organizations are working on regulations, the (29) _____ nature of technological advancements makes it challenging to keep policies up to date. Finally, when discussing accountability, it is essential to ensure the subject and verb in a

sentence agree correctly. These challenges illustrate the importance of (30) _____ ethical frameworks and policies to ensure that AI serves humanity in a responsible and equitable way.

Questions

21. (A) detection (B) exposure (C) eradication (D) presence
22. (A) obscure (B) reject (C) amplify (D) devalue
23. (A) where (B) when (C) which (D) that
24. (A) that makes (B) making (C) will make (D) having made
25. (A) transparency (B) accessibility (C) flexibility (D) predictability
26. (A) highlight (B) undermine (C) embellish (D) safeguard
27. (A) tweak (B) erode (C) validate (D) coerce
28. (A) correlate with (B) look up (C) identify with (D) refer to
29. (A) transformative (B) obsolete (C) dynamic (D) standardized
30. (A) ignoring (B) violating (C) opposing (D) implementing

Passage B: Questions 31-35

Scams in Taiwan have been on the rise in recent years, and they often target unsuspecting individuals. One of the most common scams involves fake phone calls or text messages that (31) _____ people into believing they owe money or have won a prize. Scammers usually (32) _____ their victims by pretending to be from official organizations such as banks or government agencies. They ask for personal information or urge victims to make an immediate payment to avoid legal trouble. The messages are often written in a way that (33) _____ urgency, inspiring a sense of panic in the victim. To avoid falling victim to such scams, people should report (34) _____ communications and always verify the source before taking action. In addition, it is important to remember that scams often appear in ways that make them look genuine, so being cautious and skeptical is key. People should also be aware that scammers often try to appeal (35) _____ people's emotions to make them act quickly.

31. (A) prove (B) mistake (C) help (D) deceive
32. (A) trick (B) reassure (C) comfort (D) assist
33. (A) create (B) creates (C) created (D) creating
34. (A) sustainable (B) suspicious (C) suspended (D) susceptible
35. (A) to (B) in (C) for (D) on

III. Reading comprehension (30%): Answer the following questions according to the information provided or implied in the articles. Choose the BEST answer to each question.

Article A: Questions 36-40

The Great Barrier Reef, located off the northeastern coast of Australia, is one of the most famous natural wonders of the world. Spanning over 2,300 kilometers, it is the largest coral reef system on Earth, made up of nearly 3,000 individual reefs and 900 islands. The reef is home to an incredibly diverse range of marine life, including fish, corals, sea turtles, and various species of sharks and rays. It plays a significant role in marine ecology, providing habitat, food, and shelter

to countless organisms. However, the reef faces numerous threats, including climate change, coral bleaching, overfishing, and pollution. Rising sea temperatures, in particular, have caused widespread coral bleaching, which weakens the reef and makes it more vulnerable to disease. Efforts are underway to protect and preserve the reef, including regulations on fishing, restrictions on coastal development, and initiatives to reduce pollution. Despite these efforts, the reef continues to face significant challenges, and its long-term survival depends on continued global action to mitigate climate change and protect marine ecosystems.

Questions

36. What is the Great Barrier Reef known for?
- (A) Its size and diversity of marine life
 - (B) Its proximity to major Australian cities
 - (C) Its role in global agriculture
 - (D) Its freshwater resources
37. What is one of the major threats to the Great Barrier Reef mentioned in the passage?
- (A) Air pollution
 - (B) Rising sea temperatures
 - (C) Fish overpopulation
 - (D) Microplastics in the ocean
38. Which of the following is correct about this article?
- (A) The Great Barrier Reef is the largest coral reef system in the world.
 - (B) The reef has no significant threats to its survival.
 - (C) Rising sea temperatures have helped the reef thrive.
 - (D) The reef is located on the western coast of Australia.
39. Which statement is **NOT** supported by the article?
- (A) The reef faces threats such as climate change, coral bleaching, and overfishing.
 - (B) The reef is shrinking due to the impact of human activities.
 - (C) The reef is a significant habitat for marine life.
 - (D) The reef is protected by regulations on fishing and coastal development.
40. This article is most likely to be:
- (A) A scientific report about marine ecosystems
 - (B) A travel brochure for tourists visiting Australia
 - (C) A fictional story about ocean life
 - (D) A political debate about coastal development

Article B: Questions 41-45

The Austronesian language family is one of the largest and most widely dispersed in the world, encompassing over 1,200 languages spoken across a vast area from Southeast Asia to the Pacific Islands and even parts of Africa. Linguists have traced the origins of Austronesian languages to Taiwan, where it is believed the family began around 5,000 years ago. The indigenous languages of Taiwan, known as Formosan languages, are considered the most diverse within the Austronesian family, providing crucial evidence for the Taiwan origin hypothesis. From Taiwan, Austronesian-speaking populations migrated southward, spreading their languages and cultures to the Philippines, Indonesia, and beyond. This migration was not a single event but rather a series of gradual expansions, driven by factors such as resource scarcity, technological advancements, and

the development of seafaring capabilities.

One of the key methods used to study the origins of Austronesian languages is comparative linguistics. By analyzing shared features in vocabulary, grammar, and phonology, linguists reconstruct Proto-Austronesian, the hypothetical ancestral language of the family. Words for domesticated animals, agricultural practices, and seafaring tools are commonly reconstructed, offering insights into the lifestyles and innovations of early Austronesian speakers. For example, Proto-Austronesian terms for “rice” and “boat” suggest that agriculture and maritime travel were integral to their society. This reconstruction not only illuminates the linguistic history but also provides a window into the cultural and environmental context in which these ancient people lived.

Archaeological evidence complements linguistic research and adds depth to our understanding of Austronesian migration. Excavations have uncovered pottery styles, seafaring technology, and agricultural tools consistent with Austronesian expansion patterns. The Lapita culture, identified through distinctive pottery, is a key archaeological marker of Austronesian settlement in the Pacific. Moreover, genetic studies of modern populations have provided further support for the movement of Austronesian-speaking peoples. The development of sophisticated maritime skills, such as the ability to navigate vast ocean distances using only the stars and ocean currents, was crucial for their success. These skills enabled them to settle remote islands in the Pacific, including Hawaii and Easter Island, as well as regions like Madagascar off the coast of Africa.

Austronesian languages exhibit remarkable diversity, reflecting thousands of years of adaptation to different environments and social contexts. While some languages, like Tagalog in the Philippines and Maori in New Zealand, have millions of speakers and robust documentation, others are critically endangered. For instance, the Rapa language of Easter Island is spoken by only a handful of people, putting it at risk of extinction. Language documentation and revitalization efforts are being carried out in various regions to preserve this rich linguistic heritage. These efforts include recording native speakers, developing educational materials, and promoting the use of endangered languages in local communities. The loss of a language represents not only a loss of linguistic diversity but also the disappearance of unique cultural knowledge embedded within the language.

Questions:

41. According to the article, which statement below is **FALSE**?
- (A) The Austronesian language family originated in Taiwan.
 - (B) Comparative linguistics is used to reconstruct Proto-Austronesian.
 - (C) Austronesian languages are found exclusively in Southeast Asia and the Pacific.
 - (D) Some Austronesian languages, like Rapa, are critically endangered.
42. Which topic below is **NOT** covered in the article?
- (A) The origins of Austronesian languages
 - (B) The role of maritime skills in Austronesian expansion
 - (C) Genetic evidence supporting Austronesian migration
 - (D) The influence of Austronesian languages on Indo-European languages
43. How do linguists study the origins of the Austronesian language family?
- (A) By analyzing the development of writing systems
 - (B) By comparing features of Austronesian languages to reconstruct Proto-Austronesian
 - (C) By studying the influence of Austronesian languages on African languages
 - (D) By examining phonetic changes in isolated Austronesian languages

44. What evidence especially supports the migration of Austronesian-speaking populations?
- (A) The diversity of modern Austronesian languages
 - (B) Linguistic similarities between Proto-Austronesian and African languages
 - (C) Archaeological findings, such as pottery styles and maritime tools
 - (D) Historical records written in Proto-Austronesian
45. What is one purpose of language revitalization efforts?
- (A) To eliminate differences between endangered languages
 - (B) To ensure linguistic diversity and preserve cultural knowledge
 - (C) To prioritize widely spoken Austronesian languages
 - (D) To replace oral traditions with written documentation

Article C: Questions 46-50

The rise of all-gender restrooms, also known as unisex or gender-neutral restrooms, reflects a growing societal commitment to inclusivity. These facilities are designed to accommodate individuals of all gender identities, providing a safe and private space for everyone. Unlike traditional gender-segregated restrooms, which cater exclusively to “male” or “female” users, all-gender restrooms are open to anyone, regardless of gender. This approach seeks to eliminate barriers and discomfort often experienced by non-binary or transgender individuals in public spaces. While the concept is not new, its widespread adoption in schools, workplaces, and public facilities has accelerated in recent years.

Advocates for all-gender restrooms argue that they promote dignity, equality, and convenience. For transgender and non-binary people, using traditional restrooms can be a source of anxiety or discrimination. Gender-neutral facilities also benefit parents with children of different genders, people with disabilities who may require assistance from caregivers of another gender, and individuals seeking greater privacy. However, opponents often cite concerns about safety, privacy, and cultural values. Critics worry that such restrooms could lead to misuse or make certain users uncomfortable, though studies have shown no increase in safety issues related to their implementation.

The design of all-gender restrooms varies widely, ranging from single-stall units with floor-to-ceiling doors to multi-stall layouts with enhanced privacy features. Many institutions transitioning to gender-neutral facilities aim to balance inclusivity with the comfort of all users. For instance, some schools have converted single-user restrooms into all-gender options, while others have incorporated multi-user designs that include additional privacy features, such as enclosed stalls and separate handwashing areas. The success of these designs often depends on public awareness and education to dispel misconceptions and promote understanding.

Globally, the adoption of all-gender restrooms reflects diverse cultural attitudes toward gender and inclusivity. In countries like Sweden and Canada, where gender equality is prioritized, gender-neutral restrooms are more common and widely accepted. In contrast, some regions face resistance due to cultural norms and legal barriers. Despite these challenges, the movement for inclusive restrooms continues to gain momentum, driven by advocacy groups and progressive policies. The push for gender-neutral restrooms underscores a broader societal effort to recognize and respect the diversity of human experiences.

Questions:

46. Which of the following would be an appropriate title for the article?

- (A) "The Controversy Surrounding All-Gender Restrooms"
(B) "Designing the Future of Public Restrooms"
(C) "The Rise of All-Gender Restrooms: A Move Toward Inclusivity"
(D) "Privacy Concerns in Public Restroom Design"
47. Which inference from the article is **NOT** correct?
(A) All-gender restrooms are becoming more common in many parts of the world.
(B) Opponents of all-gender restrooms frequently cite safety as a concern.
(C) The design of all-gender restrooms does not vary significantly across institutions.
(D) Public awareness and education play a role in the success of gender-neutral facilities.
48. The word "misuse" in paragraph 2, line 6, is closest in meaning to:
(A) Improper use
(B) Frequent use
(C) Disregard
(D) Neglect
49. What does the article suggest about the benefits of all-gender restrooms?
(A) They primarily serve individuals with disabilities.
(B) They reduce privacy concerns for all users.
(C) They address the needs of diverse groups, including parents and caregivers.
(D) They eliminate traditional restrooms in most institutions.
50. What cultural difference does the article highlight about the adoption of all-gender restrooms?
(A) All countries have embraced the concept equally.
(B) Countries like Sweden and Canada are leaders in implementing these facilities.
(C) Cultural resistance has prevented any progress in inclusive restroom design.
(D) Legal barriers are absent in regions opposed to gender-neutral restrooms.

試題隨卷繳回