

I. Vocabulary (20%): Please select the most appropriate item to complete the following sentences

1. _____ the tension between North Korea and the United States, an envoy was sent to North Korea to seek peaceful solution.
(A). In relation to (B). Except (C). In light of (D). In addition to
2. An 18-year-old woman was killed and at least 22 people _____ Thursday when a speeding car plowed into pedestrians in Manhattan's bustling Times Square.
(A). ministered (B). injured (C). profited (D). dammed
3. When travelling to the United States, if you have prohibited items, such as fruit that could carry pests or diseases, they will be _____ and destroyed.
(A). alleviated (B). blasted (C). consecrated (D). confiscated
4. The image of the alien in this YouTube video was later exposed to be a _____, as the actors confessed that they were paid to play the role of the extraterrestrials.
(A). gutter (B). hoax (C). prediction (D). vivisection
5. The soccer player was kicked in the leg, and the audience saw him limp off the field in _____.
(A). ecstasy (B). admiration (C). agony (D). plight
6. The economic downturn in recent years has stirred much _____ in those who are about to enter the society.
(A). appropriation (B). appreciation (C). approbation (D). apprehension
7. The waitress in the cafe tried to _____ the furious customer as his order was delayed for 30 minutes.
(A). soothe (B). smooth (C). enhance (D). exceed
8. After returning from the trip, he has been _____ about the beautiful girl he met in Japan nonstop.
(A). meandering (B). rhapsodizing (C). proliferating (D). combating
9. A taskforce was appointed to _____ the scandals surrounding the Prime Minister.
(A). investigate (B). innumerate (C). instigate (D). incorporate
10. Nowadays the public loves to read _____ journalism because it contains sensational contents.
(A). belligerent (B). tarnished (C). monitored (D). tabloid

II. Grammar (20%): Please select the most appropriate item to complete the following sentences

11. Not once _____ at the office when I phoned.
(A). he was (B). he is (C). was him (D). was he
12. Jackie dressed in _____ baggy Levis and flannel shirts in high school, for she did not like to wear tight clothes.
(A). anything but (B). everything but (C). nothing but (D). anything except
13. If I _____ a jurist, I would keep physician-assisted suicide illegal for this issue is much too complicated.
(A). was (B). were (C). am (D). have been
14. Despite its commercial aspects, Woodstock, a music festival held in 1969, momentarily _____ the American dream of a harmonious community.
(A). embodies (B). was embodied (C). embodied (D). has been embodied
15. _____ much consideration, Jonathan finally decided to move to Taipei to pursue his dream as a hair stylist.
(A). Since (B). After (C). In (D). For
16. Whoever stole the cherished artifacts in the museum _____ a mystery till this day.
(A). remain (B). is remaining (C). remained (D). remains
17. Working 13 hours a day _____ the employees no leeway to enjoy their leisure time.
(A). were leaving (B). are leaving (C). have been leaving (D). leaves
18. What _____ if you were in my shoes?
(A). you will do (B). would you have done (C). have you done (D). you would do
19. Not only _____ industrial production use up a lot of water, it also causes water pollution and destroys the environment.
(A). had (B). is (C). did (D). does
20. _____ the horse to the cart, John invited us to take a ride with him in the countryside.

(A). Harnessed (B). Harnessing (C). Being harnessed (D). Been harnessed

III. Cloze Test (40%): Please select the most appropriate item to complete the sentences

Passage I.

I haven't always been crippled, a fact 21 I am soundly grateful. To be whole of limb is, I know from experience, infinitely more pleasant and useful than to be crippled; and if that knowledge leaves me open to bitterness at my loss, the physical 22 I once enjoyed (though I did not enjoy it half enough) is well worth the occasional stab of regret. Though never any good at sports, I was a normally active child and young adult. I climbed trees, played hopscotch, jumped rope, skated, swam, rode my bicycle, sailed. However, I 23 team sports, spending some of the wretchedest afternoons of my life, sweaty and humiliated, behind a field-hockey stick and under a basketball hoop. I tramped alone for miles along the bridle paths that webbed the woods behind the house I grew up in. I also enjoyed dancing: I 24 through countless dim hours in the arms of one man or another under the scattered shot of light from mirrored balls, and 25 through countless more as Tab Hunter and Johnny Mathis gave way to the Rolling Stones, Credence Clearwater Revival, Cream. I walked down the aisle. I pushed baby carriages, changed tires in the rain, marched for peace.

21. (A). that (B). in which (C). where (D). for which
 22. (A). weakness (B). soundness (C). deterioration (D). crippledness
 23. (A). eliminated (B). promoted (C). disliked (D). regretted
 24. (A). swayed (B).skipped (C). responded (D). elevated
 25.(A). splashed (B). gyrated (C). stipulated (D). roasted

Passage II.

The Anthropocene has fast become an academic 26 and has achieved a degree of public visibility in recent years. But the more the term is used, the more confusion 27, at least for those not familiar with the niceties of the underpinning science. Roughly 28, the Anthropocene means the "age of humans." In today's usage, this word is defined in geological terms. Geologists examine 29 of rock called "strata", which tell a story of changes to the functioning of Earth's surface and near-surface processes, be these oceanic, biological, terrestrial, riverine, atmospheric, tectonic or chemical.

26. (A). buzzword (B). package (C). dissemination (D). scandal
 27. (A). reigns (B). diminishes (C). disappears (D). crumbles
 28. (A). translating (B). transformed (C). transfixed (D). translated
 29.(A). layers (B). forms (C). tons (D). fortresses

Passage III.

The purpose of advertising, according to orthodox economic theory, is to provide us with information about the goods and services offered in the marketplace. Without that stream of information we consumers won't make informed choices, and Adam Smith's invisible hand will be not only invisible but also blind. We won't know when a better frozen dinner comes along, 30 will we know where to get the best 31 on a new car. The contents of marketing messages themselves, 32, show the simple-mindedness of that explanation. Classified ads and yellow page telephone directories would suffer if advertising were only about telling people 33 already want something where to get it and what it costs. Rather, advertising is intended to expand the pool of desires, awakening wants that would 34 otherwise— or, as critics say, manufacturing wants that would not otherwise exist.

30. (A). or (B). of (C). nor (D). and
 31. (A). deal (B). revenue (C). player (D). complication
 32. (A). however (B). in relation to (C). whatever (D). namely
 33. (A). whom (B). whoever (C). who (D). whose
 34.(A). lie dormant (B). execute (C). forsake (D). mechanize

Passage IV.

Pokemon just got real with this new 35 reality mobile game, Pokemon Go. The game gives players the chance to catch Pokemon 36 on a real-world view from the phone's camera. It's only been out a few days but it's already 37 a monster hit, so much so that at times the game's service had been 38. Like the original game, it's all about catching and battling Pokemon, although things work a little bit differently. To catch a Pokemon, I just flick a PokeBall at it, no battling required. The Pokemon pop up at random using your phone's GPS location, although there have been some concerns that people might 39 run into the road while trying to catch Pokemon. But it's very easy to 40 and carried away, and there are likely to be a lot of children playing.

35. (A). cyberspace (B). cybernetic (C). fictional (D). augmented
36. (A). lying (B). overlaid (C). possessing (D). overlay
37. (A) proved (B). proving (C). proven (D). been proving
38. (A). domesticated (B). disciplined (C). overwhelmed (D). mitigated
39. (A). absent-mind (B). absent-minded (C). absent-mindedly (D) absent-minding
40. (A) get immersed (B). get away (C). get out of (D). get rid of

IV. Reading Comprehension (20%): Read the following passages and select the best answer for the questions that follow

Passage I.

Thanks to the ubiquity of text on the Internet, not to mention the popularity of text-messaging on cell phones, we may well be reading more today than we did in the 1970s or 1980s, when television was our medium of choice. But it's a different kind of reading, and behind it lies a different kind of thinking—perhaps even a new sense of the self. "We are not only *what* we read," says Maryanne Wolf, a developmental psychologist at Tufts University and the author of *Proust and the Squid: The Story and Science of the Reading Brain*. "We are *how* we read." Wolf worries that the style of reading promoted by the Net, a style that puts "efficiency" and "immediacy" above all else, may be weakening our capacity for the kind of deep reading that emerged when an earlier technology, the printing press, made long and complex works of prose commonplace. When we read online, she says, we tend to become "mere decoders of information." Our ability to interpret text, to make the rich mental connections that form when we read deeply and without distraction, remains largely disengaged.

41. Which of the following statements is **TRUE** according to the passage above?
(A). The author believes that there is no difference between people in the 1970s/1980s and today in terms of the way they receive information.
(B). Television is still regarded as the main medium for people today to acquire information, whereas cell phones and the Internet are secondary in this respect.
(C). The author suggests that people today receive more information than those in the 1970s or 80s, but basically they think in similar ways.
(D). The author indicates that people today may form a new sense of self and thinking due to the change in modern information and communications technology.
42. According to Maryanne Wolf, a developmental psychologist, we are "*how* we read." This sentence means
(A). we choose different media to gather information.
(B). the sense of self is constructed by the information we read.
(C). the sense of self depends on the interaction with those netizens we meet on the Internet.
(D). the sense of self is constructed by the technology with which we gather information.

43. In the passage, the sentence "we tend to become 'mere decoders of information'" means
- (A). we become a machine that deletes unnecessary information.
 - (B). we become encrypted by the Internet.
 - (C). we gather information on the Internet and interpret them actively.
 - (D). we read the information from the Internet passively as if we were merely data processing machines .

44. Which of the following statements is **TRUE** according to the passage above?
- (A). The style of reading promoted by the Internet helps cultivate our ability to interpret the texts deeply.
 - (B). As we read more and more via the Internet or the cell phone, we gradually lose the ability to interpret the texts and think deeply.
 - (C). Long works of prose valued by the printing press help revolutionize modern day information and communications technology.
 - (D). The printing press values the writing style that puts efficiency and immediacy above all else.

Passage II.

A study of 100 reefs, published in Science Magazine, shows the interval between bleaching events in recent decades has shortened dramatically. It has gone from once every 25-30 years in the early 1980s to an average of just once every six years today. Bleaching is caused by anomalously warm water, which prompts coral polyps to eject their symbiotic algae. This drains the corals of their color and is fatal unless conditions are reversed in a reasonably short time. But even if temperatures fall back quickly, it can still take many years for damaged reefs to fully recover. Aside from their beauty, tropical corals provide important ecosystem services upon which the livelihoods of many millions of people depend. Reefs, for example, afford coastal protection from big waves, storms, and floods; they also act as key spawning and nursery grounds for economically important fish and other aquatic species. This study concentrates on the climate challenge to corals, but many reefs are also experiencing other stresses, including pollution, overfishing and habitat destruction.

45. Which of the following statements is **TRUE**?
- (A). The bleaching events of the coral reefs were more frequent in the 1980s than today.
 - (B). The interval between bleaching events of the coral reefs has come to a halt today.
 - (C). The interval between bleaching events of the coral reefs today has diminished almost by one-fourth to one-fifth in recent decades.
 - (D). The interval between bleaching events of coral reefs has been widening ever since the early 1980s.
46. According to the passage, what is **TRUE** about bleaching?
- (A). It is caused by a steady rise of sea temperature.
 - (B). It is caused by natural deterioration of coral reefs.
 - (C). It is caused by a dramatic rise of sea temperature, to which coral reefs respond by ejecting the coral polyps.
 - (D). It is caused by a dramatic rise of sea temperature, to which coral reefs respond by ejecting the algae that co-exist with them.
47. Which of the following statements is **TRUE**?
- (A). The main function of the tropical corals is for tourism.
 - (B). Tropical corals receive stress mainly from the rise of sea temperature.
 - (C). Tropical corals provide home for a great number of marine species besides offering protection to coasts.
 - (D). This study is a comprehensive research into all the aspects that may cause the bleaching of coral reefs.

Passage III.

Physicist Stephen Hawking recently warned of the dangers of artificial intelligence and "powerful autonomous weapons." Autonomous technology is racing forward, but international discussions on managing the potential risks are already underway. Recent advances in machine intelligence are enabling more advanced weapons that could hunt for targets on their own. For the past several years, a consortium of nongovernmental organizations have called for a ban on lethal autonomous weapons before they can be built. One of their concerns has been that robotic weapons could result in greater civilian casualties. However, opponents of a ban have countered that autonomous weapons might be able to more precisely target the enemy and avoid civilians better than humans can, just as self-driving cars might someday make roads safer. Machine image classifiers, using neural networks, have been able to beat humans at some benchmark image recognition tests. Machines also excel at situations requiring speed and precision. These advantages suggest that machines might be able to outperform humans in some situations in war.

48. Which of the following statements is **TRUE**?

- (A). Autonomous technology is still currently lagging behind its regulations.
- (B). Autonomous technology is developing at a modest pace, so international discussions on this subject are still budding.
- (C). Autonomous technology is fast developing, and the international community has reached an optimistic consensus about its future benefits.
- (D). Autonomous technology is fast developing, and the international community is also debating about its future benefits and possible risks.

49. Which of the following statements is the reason why nongovernmental organizations seek to ban lethal autonomous weapons?

- (A). More economic growth will lead to environmental pollution.
- (B). More innocent people will get killed.
- (C). More warfare will occur.
- (D). More lethal weapons will be purchased by civilians.

50. Which of the following statements is **NOT** the reason why some people support autonomous weapons?

- (A). Machine technology is more correct in identifying the enemy.
- (B). Machine technology can avoid killing civilians for it has a program to interact with them.
- (C). Machine technology is safer for its technological accuracy, much like the safety that self-driving cars may bring us in the future.
- (D). Machine technology performs better than humans in identifying images with its complicated neural networks.