

ĐỀ CHÍNH THỨC

Thời gian làm bài: 180 phút (không kể thời gian giao đề)

Full name .....

## I. LISTENING (40points)

**Part 1: For questions 1–6, listen to a conversation about gated communities and decide if these statements are true (T) or false (F). (12pts)**

1. The two speakers have differing attitudes about the subject.
2. Both speakers agree about the kinds of people who live in gated communities.
3. The woman accepts that people can choose how to spend their money.
4. The man's tone of voice suggests he isn't convinced that gated communities are bad for society.
5. The woman suggests that gated communities increase the division between rich and poor.
6. The woman admits she would live in a gated community if she was rich.

**Part 2: For questions 7–12, listen to an interview with a man called O'Toole, who works as a teacher trainer and choose the best answer (A, B, C or D). (12pts)**

7. *Why are many teachers leaving the profession, according to Mike?*

- A. They don't feel it is financially rewarding any more.
- B. They are not being given the respect they once were.
- C. They are investing too much in it without getting enough back.
- D. They find the subject matter they have to teach too difficult.

8. *Mike believes that without radical changes \_\_\_\_\_*

- A. education in the UK will begin to get worse.
- B. UK schools will lose their ability to compete with one another.
- C. the UK will soon no longer be a leader in education.
- D. the educational system in the UK can be transformed.

9. *The main failing of the UK education system is \_\_\_\_\_*

- A. the inability of students to use computers.
- B. the resistance within schools to the introduction of technology.
- C. the failure of government to invest in hardware for schools.
- D. the lack of training for teachers in the use of technology in the classroom.

10. *Why is teacher training failing teachers, according to Mike?*

- A. It is not helping them to keep pace with developments.
- B. It does not use technology in its training classrooms.
- C. It uses hardware and software that are out of date.
- D. It is suffering from a lack of trainers with specialist knowledge.

11. *Teachers can only benefit from technology if \_\_\_\_\_*

- A. they cease to see it as a threat.
- B. they can combine it with traditional methods.
- C. they are allowed to use it in their own way.
- D. they are willing to research its possibilities on their own.

12. *What does Mike imply about the choice that needs to be made?*

- A. It is impossible to know which one is correct at present.
- B. It leads to two radically different outcomes.
- C. The consequences are reversible.

D. Most developing countries have already chosen.

**Part 3: For questions 13–20, listen to a young business owner called Matt Hawkins giving a presentation about his experience of opening his own restaurant and complete the sentences. (16pts)**

### **SUCCESS IN THE RESTAURANT BUSINESS**

- Matt considers (13)\_\_\_\_\_ to be of secondary importance in starting a restaurant.
- Matt says you have to stay focused on (14)\_\_\_\_\_ for your business to be a success.
- To get a busy location for your restaurant, you might have to compromise on (15)\_\_\_\_\_ to afford it.
- Matt had to spend a little extra on (16)\_\_\_\_\_ to get his restaurant up and running.
- Matt says you must be good at (17)\_\_\_\_\_ responsibilities of a restaurant owner.
- For one of the mistakes Matt made in his business, he paid a(n) (18)\_\_\_\_\_ to come in and fix it.
- In trying to get more customers, the idea for a(n) (19)\_\_\_\_\_ was a big success for Matt.
- To make things more efficient, Matt set up a(n) (20)\_\_\_\_\_ orders to the kitchen.

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## II. LEXICO- GRAMMAR (45pts)

### Part 1: Choose the word or phrase (A, B, C or D) which best completes each sentence. (20pts)

- Companies are joining forces with governments in Africa to \_\_\_\_ regional campaigns against malaria.  
A fabricate                      B originate                      C mount                      D produce
- The authorities have \_\_\_\_ their original decision to allow development of this rural area.  
A dispensed                      B detached                      C refrained                      D revoked
- The integrity of a marine ecosystem could be \_\_\_\_ due to the impact of coastal reclamation.  
A compromised                      B conceded                      C conciliated                      D confronted
- One of the organisation's aims is to \_\_\_\_ information about the disease so that more people know of its symptoms.  
A disentangle                      B deride                      C dwindle                      D disseminate
- This room has been \_\_\_\_ as a no-smoking area.  
A designed                      B designated                      C described                      D destined
- She \_\_\_\_ control of the family investments to her son.  
A renounced                      B disowned                      C disclaimed                      D relinquished
- Dealing with \_\_\_\_ refusal from an employee is easier than dealing with false compliance.  
A an offset                      B a remedial                      C an agile                      D an outright
- Unemployment threat has been \_\_\_\_ for a while now.  
A intimidating on the air                      B daunting on the lookout  
C looming on the horizon                      D overwhelming on the wing
- After \_\_\_\_ in obscurity for many years, her early novels have recently been rediscovered.  
A abolishing                      B flourishing                      C languishing                      D shattering
- The best thing about living in the countryside is the \_\_\_\_ greenery.  
A myriad                      B innumerable                      C untold                      D abundant
- Our lecturer \_\_\_\_ the importance of taking notes  
A. reincarnated                      B. reiterated                      C. rehabilitated                      D. reciprocated
- The contemporary dialogue for me struck a slightly \_\_\_\_ note.  
A. disembodied                      B. discordant                      C. dismissive                      D. disconcerting
- Both of the jobs I've been offered are fantastic opportunities – I'm in such \_\_\_\_!  
A. a constituency                      B. a deviation                      C. an arrhythmia                      D. a quandary
- Sharon is such a positive person – she \_\_\_\_ her problems, whatever they are.  
A. goes light on                      B. throws light to                      C. makes light of                      D. sheds light upon
- After hearing news of the attack, the general made plans for an immediate \_\_\_\_ against the enemy.  
A. compilation                      B. retaliation                      C. accumulation                      D. incantation
- He didn't mean to be offensive; it was quite an \_\_\_\_ remark.  
A. innocuous                      B. indehiscent                      C. incendiary                      D. insidious
- Serena is still \_\_\_\_ ignorant of the fact that she is about to be made redundant.  
A. blissfully                      B. decorously                      C. jubilantly                      D. ecstatically
- No decision has been taken about the building of the new airport. The authorities are still \_\_\_\_.  
A. beating about the bush                      B. comparing apples and oranges  
C. sitting on the fence                      D. holding all the aces
- Oil spills will \_\_\_\_ even the healthiest of marine ecosystem.

- A. play havoc on      B. break ground with      C. pay the consequences for      D. take their toll on
20. Congratulations on your success! How does it feel to be \_\_\_\_\_?
- A. the man of the hour      B. a word of honor      C. an egg on the face      D. the top of the morning

**Part 2. There are 10 mistakes in the following paragraph. Find and correct them. (10pts)**

**SCREEN LEARNING**

A few days ago I noticed my six-years-old eating noodles in a funny way. He was pulling them up with his teeth while trying to look fiercely. "I'm a little dinosaur," he said. He was play-acting a scene from a recent TV programme, so I quizzed him about what he remembered about dinosaur. The answer was: not a lot.

There is a modish rush to embracing internet and computer learning, but is learning through a screen a good method? One writer tells how he tried on an interactive programme with his son. The father diligently read the words while his son fiddled about the pictures. "Had he spent ten minutes in front of a book, he might possibly have learned something," said his father.

Television, as my son and his noodles demonstrate, is an impressionistic, suggestive media. Research about television and learning shows that learning goes on in a learning environment where dialogue is taking part with teachers or parents. It needs to be mediated. There is nothing matter with harnessing new technology to teach our children, but there is still a big role in formal education.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 3. Fill in the blank with suitable prepositions or particles. (5pts)**

- Only when they have discussed the matter ..... great length will they draw any conclusion.
- Without any prior preparation, Peter sailed ..... his final exams.
- You need to show that picture .....a dark background.
- Inside your passport, you should write the name of your next.....kin.
- Grandfather must be tired. He's nodding .....in his chair.
- I must ask you not to allude .....my past indiscretions.
- The concert was excellent; there were lots of well-known songs with some new ones thrown in ..... good measure.
- My father's going to go ..... the wall when he finds out that I've lost the car keys.
- The politician was drowned ..... by people shouting and yelling.
- I wouldn't have any doubts about trusting him; I'm sure he's completely ..... the level.

**Part 4. Complete the following sentences with the correct forms of the words given in the brackets. (10pts)**

- My friends started going out late to nightclubs so I decided to \_\_\_\_\_ myself from the group. (SOCIAL)
- New immigrants have been successfully \_\_\_\_\_ into the community. (SIMILAR)
- He wanted Jill to give up her life of alcohol and \_\_\_\_\_. (DESTROY)
- The six long years in prison had \_\_\_\_\_ him. (COARSE)
- College \_\_\_\_\_ have increased for the past years in. (DROP)
- While all the desserts are pretty good, the clear \_\_\_\_\_ is the lemon pie. (STAND)
- The sports association accepted the inevitability of a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ by the elite clubs. (BREAK)
- She looked absolutely \_\_\_\_\_ when I told her what had happened. She could hardly say a word. (DUMB)
- It was not wickedness that led him into crime but a cheerfully \_\_\_\_\_ nature and a complete lack of reasoning power. (PULSE)
- He does a little training, but first and \_\_\_\_\_ he's a writer. (MANY)

**III. READING (55pts)**

**Part 1. Read the texts below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. (15pts)**

In the north-west corner of the island paradise Isla Perlita, nestling in the shadow of Mount Machu, lies the sleepy village of San Lorenzo. Off the beaten (1) \_\_\_\_\_, there is nothing out of the ordinary about this quaint little village - nothing, that is, apart from the magnificent (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Bay Hotel. The Bay, as it is known locally, is a recent development catering for (3) \_\_\_\_\_ travellers who enjoy luxury holiday-making. Famous throughout the island for the outstanding quality of its accommodation and the excellence of its cuisine, the Bay (4) \_\_\_\_\_ 30 guest suites, each with a charm and character of its own. Each suite looks (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Falmer Beach, commanding breathtaking views of the four miles of white sand, which gently shelves into the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ clear waters of the Crepuscan Sea. At the heart of the Bay Hotel is personal, efficient and unobtrusive service. (7) \_\_\_\_\_ staff anticipate your every need in an atmosphere of quiet professionalism and genuine friendliness. (8) \_\_\_\_\_, the Bay Hotel is a place to get (9) \_\_\_\_\_ from the stresses of everyday life, and whether it is (10) \_\_\_\_\_ away the hours (11) \_\_\_\_\_ up the sun or taking advantage of the wide range of recreational activities that the hotel has (12) \_\_\_\_\_ offer, you can be sure that a holiday at the Bay truly is the holiday of a lifetime. Air Perlita flies direct to Isla Perlita once a fortnight from Gatwick. It is advisable to book well in (13) \_\_\_\_\_, especially during (14) \_\_\_\_\_ season (January through March) as flights fill up quickly. For air (15) \_\_\_\_\_, hotel tariffs and general terms and conditions, please see pages 67 and 68 of this brochure.

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|---------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>Question 1.</b>  | A. path          | B. track      | C. road         | D. way           |
| <b>Question 2.</b>  | A. five-starred  | B. five-stars | C. five-star    | D. five-starring |
| <b>Question 3.</b>  | A. disconcerting | B. discerning | C. distinctive  | D. discriminated |
| <b>Question 4.</b>  | A. announces     | B. claims     | C. asserts      | D. boasts        |
| <b>Question 5.</b>  | A. back on       | B. onto       | C. into         | D. down          |
| <b>Question 6.</b>  | A. crystal       | B. sky        | C. diamond      | D. pearl         |
| <b>Question 7.</b>  | A. Preoccupied   | B. Attentive  | C. Concentrated | D. Undivided     |
| <b>Question 8.</b>  | A. All over      | B. For all    | C. Above all    | D. All along     |
| <b>Question 9.</b>  | A. out           | B. over       | C. off          | D. away          |
| <b>Question 10.</b> | A. whiling       | B. wearing    | C. wending      | D. winding       |
| <b>Question 11.</b> | A. soaking       | B. drawing    | C. taking       | D. absorbing     |
| <b>Question 12.</b> | A. in            | B. for        | C. on           | D. at            |
| <b>Question 13.</b> | A. anticipation  | B. time       | C. hand         | D. advance       |
| <b>Question 14.</b> | A. high          | B. on         | C. full         | D. open          |
| <b>Question 15.</b> | A. fees          | B. rates      | C. fares        | D. tenders       |

**Part 2. Read the text below and think of one word which best fits each space. Use only ONE WORD for each space. (10pts)**

**From Royalist to Republican**

Erskine Childers was not what you would call your (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Irish freedom fighter, A Briton by birth, and a proud (2) \_\_\_\_\_ at that – for most of the early years of his life, Childers was a decorated soldier of the British Admiralty (3) \_\_\_\_\_ had demonstrated unwavering commitment and loyalty to both king and country. And yet, somewhere along the way, disillusionment (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in.

While it is difficult to pinpoint the precise moment when doubt started to creep into Childers' mind (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to whether his loyalty was misguided, what was essentially a complete philosophy shift - a total realignment of ideals - did occur. Childers went from (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a royalist to a staunch nationalist, obsessed with the cause of Irish freedom.

He befriended the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of Eamon DeVelera and Michael Collins, key figures in the Irish Republican camp, and even went so far as to ship illegal armaments to the leaders of the ill-fated Easter Rising of 1916, which was easily put (8) \_\_\_\_\_ by the British army.

Later, he would fight on the side of the Irish rebels in the War of Independence, (9) \_\_\_\_\_ an uneasy truce was agreed between Britain and Ireland. Eventually, a treaty was signed partitioning the country. For Childers, by now totally devoted to the cause of Irish freedom and the notion of a united Ireland, partition was (10) \_\_\_\_\_ bitter a pill to swallow.

**Part 3: Read the passage and choose the answer A, B, C, or D which you think fits best according to the text. (10pts)**

What happens psychologically when one is lost at sea? Why does one person survive while another perishes? Is there a personality type that makes one person better at handling the elements, fear and loneliness? Until recently, science has been completely in the dark about what makes a survivor. Now experts are intensifying their search to demystify the psychology of survival, analysing personality traits among people who triumph over life-threatening crises – and those who succumb.

In a life-threatening situation the brain immediately triggers a state of shock, sending alarms through the body. Your emergency response system shifts into gear. Blood pressure rises, muscles tense, adrenalin pumps. If you survive initially, you then shift mental gears to longer-term planning – whatever you have to do to survive. Next you go into the resistance phase; a chronic coping state, in which the body tries to maintain balance **in the face of** threat, danger and deprivation.

Later, one of two things happens: you enter an exhaustion phase, in which the coping mechanisms are overwhelmed, you lose strength, and die – as often happens – or you persevere long enough and get rescued or escape the situation. Who survives, it turns out, isn't determined by age, physical stamina, or experience. Although one would expect people who are fitter to be the best candidates to make it back alive, the mind, that great trickster, isn't ruled by logic.

Last summer, for example, a sailboat sank. It was being steered by Nicholas Abbott, who often transported pleasure boats from the Caribbean to New York. With him was his friend, Janet Culver, a reserved woman, not a risk-taker, making her first long-distance cruise. If you worked for **an insurance agency**, you'd bet Abbott would be the one to return alive. Yet he's the one who died. After 10 days adrift in a tiny dinghy, battling 16-foot waves and thundershowers, Abbott – hungry, thirsty, and delirious – said he was going to swim home, jumped overboard and drowned. Culver, covered with sun blisters and too weak to sit, would not give up. "Each day I stayed alive was another chance to be rescued," she told me. "Something deep inside told me to hang on one more day." While Abbott let his depression get the better of him, Culver evaluated his situation in small, manageable increments. She kept her mind open. It is important to remain mentally active, dwelling on positive things. "Don't give up", say the experts. "Drive your thoughts to things that make you happy. Have fantasies. In other words, play games with your mind. Don't let it play tricks on you, which experts say it does.

The mind goes from hope for rescue, to isolation, to depression. These feelings come, go and vary in order. You have a better chance of survival with other people there. Just being able to say "I'm not going to do what he's doing" helps handle negative thinking. Highly destructive is the "last chance" phenomenon: rescue is visible, but they don't see you. You start thinking "That was my only chance; they won't be back again!" Then you feel doomed. In the end, long-term exposure causes delirium. You start drinking salt water, which causes more delusions. In the cold, people sometimes start shedding garments and a trail of clothes is found. Paradoxically, these people interpret their coldness as warmth.

Researchers studying people who triumph over life-threatening crises are finding survivors share common personality traits: high self-esteem and optimism. Often the difference in mental, rather than physical toughness determines who will endure. Survivors often have a strong belief system outside themselves, in family and religion. Once you give into the sense of abandonment, you give up. Survivors tend to be **tenacious** in a self-preserving way. They do the right things under pressure. Even though Culver was technically less skilled at sea, she didn't lose her head. Abbott panicked, left the safest position, and exposed himself to death. The experts attribute this fighting spirit to an immeasurable factor. They can measure weight, age, sex, swimming ability, flotation, quality of clothing – finite things. But they can't measure the will to live. The only true measure of it is who stares into the abyss and doesn't blink.

*1. Until recently, scientists in extreme situations*

- A. had no knowledge of why some people are less vulnerable.
- B. had been experimenting with people in extreme situations.
- C. believed that the personality of a survivor was defined by fear.
- D. had not been interested in what makes a survivor.

*2. According to the writer,*

- A. the exhaustion phase is preceded by a failure of coping mechanisms.
- B. survival depends on how healthy you are.

- C. you need to be intelligent to survive a dangerous situation.  
 D. there are a number of phases in the survival process.
3. *Why is it surprising that Janet Culver survived?*  
 A. She had little or no relevant sailing experience.                      B. She didn't take Abbott's advice.  
 C. She didn't appear to have a very strong character.                      D. She was nervous of being at sea.
4. *What is one reason why the presence of other people with you in a survival situation can sometimes help you to survive?*  
 A. They tell you not to give up.                      C. They remind you of how not to behave.  
 B. You can play games with them to keep awake.                      D. They can help you look out for rescue vehicles.
5. *Why is near-rescue destructive?*  
 A. It makes the person lose hope.                      C. It causes delirium.  
 B. The person knows they will not get another chance.  
 D. People usually try to swim to the rescue vessel.
6. *Why can't scientists measure the will to live?*  
 A. Because it is different in every person.                      C. Because it changes throughout a person's life.  
 B. Because it is an abstract quality.                      D. Because people are reluctant to be analysed in such a way.
7. *What do you think is the best title of the passage?*  
 A. Survival at sea                      B. Nicholas Abbott                      C. Janet Culver                      D. Death at sea
8. *Which best replaces the phrase "in the face of"?*  
 A. due to                      B. including                      C. notwithstanding                      D. de facto
9. *Why does the writer mention an insurance agency?*  
 A. To explain the reasonability of Abbott's death.                      C. To reveal a bad habit of an insurance agent.  
 B. To tell what people generally predict.                      D. To emphasize a terrible mistake of insurance companies.
10. *Which has the closest meaning to "tenacious"?*  
 A. cohesive                      B. resolute                      C. bound                      D. strong

**Part 4. Read the following passage and do the tasks that follows. Write your answer in the space provided. (10pts)**

#### **Mutual harm**

**A** In forests and fields all over the world, plants are engaged in a deadly chemical war to suppress other plants and create conditions for their own success. But what if we could learn the secrets of these plants and use them for our own purposes? Would it be possible to use their strategies and weapons to help us improve agriculture by preventing weeds from germinating and encouraging growth in crops? This possibility is leading agricultural researchers to explore the effects plants have on other plants with the aim of applying their findings to farming.

**B** The phenomenon by which an organism produces one or more chemicals that influence the growth, survival and reproduction of other organisms is called allelopathy. These chemicals are a subset of chemicals produced by organisms called secondary metabolites. A plant's primary metabolites are associated with growth and development. Allelochemicals, however, are part of a plant's defence system and have a secondary function in the life of the organism. The term *allelopathy* comes from the Greek: *allelo* and *pathy* meaning 'mutual harm'. The term was first used by the Austrian scientist Hans Molisch in 1937, but people have been noting the negative effects that one plant can have on another for a long time. In 300 BC, the Greek philosopher Theophrastus noticed that pigweed had a negative effect on alfalfa plants. In China, around the first century AD, the author of *Shennong Ben Cao Jing* described 267 plants that have the ability to kill pests.

**C** Allelopathy can be observed in many aspects of plant ecology. It can affect where certain species of plants grow, the fertility of competitor plants, the natural change of plant communities over time, which plant species are able to dominate a particular area, and the diversity of plants in an area. Plants can release allelopathic chemicals in several ways: their roots can release chemicals directly into the soil, and their bark and leaves can release chemicals into the soil as they rot. Initially, scientists were interested in the negative effects of allelopathic chemicals. Observations of the phenomenon included poor growth of some forest trees, damage to crops, changes in vegetation patterns and, interestingly, the occurrence of weed-free areas. It was also realised that some species could have beneficial effects on agricultural crop plants and the possible application of allelopathy became the subject of research.

**D** Today research is focused on the effects of weeds on crops, the effects of crops on weeds, and how certain crops affect other crops. Agricultural scientists are exploring the use of allelochemicals to regulate growth and to act as natural herbicides, thereby promoting sustainable agriculture by using these natural chemicals as an alternative to man-made chemicals. For example, a small fast-growing tree found in Central America, sometimes called the 'miracle tree', contains a poison that slows the growth of other trees but does not affect its own seeds. Chemicals produced by this tree have been shown to improve the production of rice. Similarly, box elder - another tree - stimulates the growth of bluestem grass, which is a tall prairie grass found in the mid-western United States. Many weeds may use allelopathy to become ecologically successful; a study in China found that 25 out of 33 highly poisonous weeds had significant allelopathic properties.

**E** There may be at least three applications of allelopathy to agriculture. Firstly, the allelopathic properties of wild or cultivated plants may be bred into crop plants through genetic modification or traditional breeding methods to improve the release of desired allelochemicals and thus improve crop yield. Secondly, a plant with strong allelopathic properties could be used to control weeds by planting it in rotation with an agricultural crop and then leaving it to rot and become part of the soil in order to inhibit the growth of weeds. Finally, naturally occurring allelopathic chemicals could be used in combination with man-made chemicals. Boosting the efficiency of man-made herbicides could lead to a reduction in the amount of herbicides used in agriculture, which is better for the environment.

**F** Despite the promising uses of allelopathic chemicals, agricultural scientists are still cautious. Firstly, allelopathic chemicals may break down and disappear in the soil more easily than artificial chemicals. Secondly, allelopathic chemicals may be harmful to plants other than weeds. Thirdly, allelopathic chemicals could persist in the soil for a long time and may affect crops grown in the same field as the allelopathic plants at a later date. Because the effects of allelopathic chemicals are not yet fully known, agricultural scientists will need to continue to study the biological war between plants.

**Choose the correct heading for paragraphs B-F from the list of headings below. Write the correct number, i-ix, next to Questions 1-5.**

List of Headings	Example Answer
i What are metabolites?	Paragraph A <i>iii</i>
ii The negative effects of allelopathy	1. Paragraph B : _____
iii Biological warfare in the plant world	2. Paragraph C : _____
iv Why we cannot use allelopathic chemicals at present	3. Paragraph D : _____
v What is allelopathy?	4. Paragraph E : _____
vi The reasons why plants compete with other plants	5. Paragraph F : _____
vii The effects of allelopathy and realisation of its possible uses	
viii How could we use allelopathic chemicals in farming?	
ix Specific examples of allelopathic plants	

**Questions 6-10: Complete the summary below. Choose NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS from the passage for each answer. Write your answer in the space provided.**

Scientists can see three potential uses of allelopathic chemicals in farming. Firstly, the ability to produce allelopathic chemicals could be (6) \_\_\_\_\_ into agricultural crops; secondly, allelopathic plants could be planted in rotation with the (7) \_\_\_\_\_; finally, naturally produced chemicals could be combined with (8) \_\_\_\_\_ herbicides. However, agriculturalists are still (9) \_\_\_\_\_ as allelopathic plants may have negative effects on plants which are not the intended target and the chemicals could remain in the ground for a(n) (10) \_\_\_\_\_, even after the plants themselves have died.

**Part 5. You are going to read the transcript of a series of interviews with ordinary people conducted for the *Have your say* feature of a daily newspaper. For questions 1-10, choose from the people (A-D). The people may be chosen more than once. Write your answer in the space provided. (10pts)**



*Which person gives each of these opinions about the economic crisis?*

1. A culture of trying to look for people to blame for our problems is what caused the crisis in the first place. \_\_\_\_\_
2. People feel helpless to change the situation and this is reflected in their lack of interest in the political system. \_\_\_\_\_
3. It was glaringly obvious that the bottom would fall out of the housing market, not just to experts but to everyone. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Some form of civil disturbance or protest by ordinary members of the public is likely if the economic crisis continues. \_\_\_\_\_
5. It is very unfair that the people in finance who caused our economic problems continue to be well-rewarded for their work while ordinary hard-working people suffer. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Political parties should not receive funds from private sources but should instead be entirely state-funded. \_\_\_\_\_
7. The highest earners should be required to pay more tax in order to generate more revenue for the government. \_\_\_\_\_
8. The fact that some politicians tried to defraud the state by claiming more expenses than they were due is evidence that corruption is widespread in our society. \_\_\_\_\_
9. There is very little difference in terms of policies between all of the main political parties today. \_\_\_\_\_
10. We should stop trying to vilify bankers and take a more positive and proactive approach to speed up the economic recovery. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Have your say ... on the Economic Crisis**

#### **A. Robert**

I find it infuriating to reflect on the fact that bankers, at least the ones at the top, continue to be paid huge sums of money every year and receive massive bonuses despite the fact that they are largely responsible for the poor state of health of the economy, and let's not forget, the toughest and longest recession since the 1930s. I mean, where is the justice in that? While ordinary decent folk are losing their jobs and struggling to put food on the table as a result of problems that are no fault of their own, the very problem-makers themselves continue to earn big bucks. I wouldn't be surprised if there was an increase in civil unrest in the coming months and years, especially if the economic crisis continues to hit ordinary people hard. After all, if no one is going to look after their interests, they will have to start looking after their own - don't be surprised to see protest marches in the near future, and where there are large groups of unhappy people gathered together, there's always a danger that the situation will descend into chaos. I would never condone violence, but I think that the more desperate people get, the more I can empathise with why they might resort to it. If you are a man who has been unemployed for over a year, and who has to look on helplessly as his family disintegrates right before his very eyes, it must be awful - these people need help.

#### **B. Barbara**

The solution to our problems is very simple and I blame the political system for it not having happened already. Politicians, you see, are totally reliant on rich business people to bankroll their efforts to get elected. Now, ask yourself this, why on earth would a businessperson donate money to a politician out of the goodness of their heart? I mean, are we really so naive as to believe that that can actually happen. Well, just in case, let me put you straight - it can't and it doesn't. The only reason businesspeople give money to politicians is in return for favours when they get into power. And that's the problem. We have a situation where the government doesn't have enough money to cover spending. The logical thing to do then would be to increase taxes to generate more, and obviously this obligation to pay extra tax should fall on those who earn the most - ah, but this is where we get into problem territory. You can't really expect politicians to vote to increase the tax rate of those who support them financially. To do so would be risk angering their backers and losing their support, putting the very careers of the politicians themselves in jeopardy. Politicians clearly have a vested interest in maintaining low tax rates for the wealthy. The only way we are ever going to create a situation where this is not so is if we ban all private donations to political parties and fund them instead with money from the state's coffers. In the long run, it will work out less expensive - just think of all the money that would be saved as a result of there being less corruption - we might finally have politicians who focused on doing what's best for country rather

than on trying to prolong their political careers by doing favours for their 'buddies'.

### C. Ned

It is not just the economy that is in crisis; it is the whole of society. The extent to which we have lost hope is, I think, reflected in voter apathy. Every time there is an election now, the number of people who turn out to vote is less and less. Surely this is a sign that people feel totally disenfranchised - powerless to make a difference. But, more importantly, it is an indictment of our politicians and the extent to which they have failed us. The people no longer see a point in voting as it won't make any real difference either way. Besides, nowadays, all the main parties have centrist policies; the whole political system might just as well join together into one big party and then we wouldn't even have to hold elections anymore. People often complain about the bankers and how they acted corruptly, and that this was the main cause of the economic crisis we are in today. Okay, fine; the bankers were definitely at fault, but they hardly have a monopoly on corruption. I mean, think about the expenses scandal from a couple of years ago - politicians were trying to claim huge sums of money they weren't entitled to; let's not kid ourselves; the whole system from the top down is corrupt, not just the bankers. They are just being made a scapegoat.

### D. Mary

I think, today, that we live in a very cynical world. Everyone is very quick to point the finger of blame for our economic woes on anyone but themselves - the easy targets usually; the politicians, the bankers and so on. It is so easy to criticise other people and wash your hands of responsibility for what is happening. But that is what got us into this mess in the first place - people not taking responsibility for their actions. The way I see it, it is about time that we all started to take a little bit of responsibility and instead of blaming the rest of the world for our problems, perhaps we should start by looking at ourselves. Okay, so the bankers did wrong; they were careless with money, but so were we. Who put a gun to your head and made you buy a house that was so overpriced it was obvious there was going to be a dramatic downward correction? Is it the bank's fault or your own that you are in negative equity now? Now, just because you 1 made a mistake with your money doesn't mean you are some kind of monster - and the same goes for the bankers... Let's stop trying to find scapegoats and instead try to work together to pull ourselves out of this crisis. We do not need the cynicism of naysayers, we need people to think positively and try to make good things happen to get this recovery underway. I for one am done with the blame game.

## IV. WRITING (60 pts)

**Part 1: For each question from 1 – 5, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to first one, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between five to seven words including the word given. (10pts)**

1. The crash victim was beyond help when emergency services reach her. (WHATSOEVER)  
-> There \_\_\_\_\_ do on reaching the crash victim.
2. Jane didn't get the job because she wasn't experienced enough. (DOWN)  
-> Jane's \_\_\_\_\_ lack of experience.
3. His fake arrogance only hid his genuine insecurity. (LAY)  
-> Behind \_\_\_\_\_ insecurity.
4. The time that must be invested in development is the only drawback of this software. (ASIDE)  
-> This software \_\_\_\_\_ its lengthy development time.
5. I suspected him when he started being so helpful. (RAT)  
-> I \_\_\_\_\_ so much.

**Part 2. Rewrite the following sentences using the words given. Do not change the meaning of the original sentences. (10pts)**

1. The disrespect John showed for the professor aggravated me so I had to take a walk to calm down. (HACKLES)  
.....
2. He was finally able to adjust himself to the new working condition. (SWING)



.....  
 .....  
 .....

## ANSWER KEY

### I. LISTENING (40 points)

#### Part 1: (12 points)

1. T	2. F	3. F	4. T	5. T	6. F
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#### Part 2: (12 points)

7. C	8. C	9. D	10. A	11. A	12. B
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#### Part 3: (16 points)

1. financial means	2. (making a) profit	3. furnishings	4. renovations
5. multi-tasking	6. consultant	7. grand opening	8. computerized system

### II. LEXICO- GRAMMAR (45pts)

#### Part 1: (20 pts)

1. C	2. D	3. A	4. D	5. B
6. D	7. D	8. C	9. C	10. D
11. B	12. B	13. D	14. C	15. B
16. A	17. A	18. C	19. D	20. A

#### Part 2 (10 pts)

1. line 1: years → year	6. Line 6: on → out
2. line 2: fiercely → fierce	7. Line 8: about → with/about with/around with
3. Line 4: dinosaur → dinosaurs	8. Line 11: media → medium
4. Line 5: embracing → embrace	9. Line 12: part → place
5. Line 6: through → via	10. Line 14: in → for

#### Part 3 (5pts)

- |       |            |            |        |        |
|-------|------------|------------|--------|--------|
| 1. at | 2. through | 3. against | 4. of  | 5. off |
| 6. to | 7. for     | 8. up      | 9. out | 10. on |

#### Part 4 (10pts)

- |               |                |                     |              |              |
|---------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. dissociate | 2. assimilated | 3. self-destruction | 4. coarsened | 5. dropouts  |
| 6. standout   | 7. breakaway   | 8. dumbfounded      | 9. impulsive | 10. foremost |

### III. READING ( 55 pts)

#### Part 1 (15 pts)

1. B	2. C	3. B	4. D	5. B
6. A	7. B	8. C	9. D	10. A
11. A	12. C	13. D	14. A	15. C

#### Part 2 (10 pts)

1. average    2. one                      3. who            4. set            5. as  
6. being      7. likes                              8. down        9. until        10. too

#### Part 3: (10 pts)            1A 2D 3A 4C 5A 6B 7A 8C 9B 10D

#### Part 4 (10 pts)

1. v    2. vii    3. ix    4. viii    5. Iv    6. bred    7. agricultural crop    8. man-made    9. cautious  
10. long time

#### Part 5 (10 pts)

1. D    2. C                      3. D    4. A    5. A    6. B    7. B                      8. C    9. C    10. D

### IV. WRITING ( 60 pts)

#### Part 1: (10 pts)

1. was nothing whatsoever emergency services could
2. failure to get the job was down to
3. his fake arrogance lay (a) hidden
4. has no drawbacks aside from
5. smelt a rat when he started helping

#### Part 2. (10 pts)

1. The disrespect John showed for the professor *made my hackles rise* so I had to take a walk to calm down.
2. He finally *got in(to) the swing of* the new working condition.
3. After the game, the children *made a beeline for* John, who was severing cold drinks.
4. The first part of his plan was to *curry favour with* the members of the committee.
5. I *dropped a clanger* by asking John how his dog was when it's been dead for three months.

#### Part 3 (40pts)