

## ĐỀ ĐẶC BIỆT SỐ 1

*Read the following article and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 1 to 6.*

### Urban heat islands

Scientists now fear that global warming may be connected by what they call the 'urban heat island effect'. This refers to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ rises in temperature in big cities, when compared to surrounding rural areas, that affects local climate patterns (2) \_\_\_\_\_ rainfall and wind. Basically, when plants and trees are cut down and concrete is put in their place, the natural state is already altered. Then the way the concrete itself absorbs, stores and releases heat further alters the natural balance. Then waste heat from traffic and buildings, together with ozone pollution, contributes still further (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the problem.

Scientists claim it is important to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ action to counter this effect in cities – by planting as much vegetation as possible. In addition, they are urging city developers to use a more expensive concrete for pavements (5) \_\_\_\_\_ rainwater, thus cooling them down. They also advise that rooftops and pavements should be made of light-coloured (6) \_\_\_\_\_, as dark objects convert energy into heat whereas white objects reflect light.

**Question 1.** A. consideration B. considerably C. consider D. considerable

**Question 2.** A. in contrast to B. in place of C. in terms of D. in addition to

**Question 3.** A. for B. of C. to D. with

**Question 4.** A. take B. put C. bring D. keep

**Question 5.** A. absorbed B. that absorb C. absorb D. absorbing

**Question 6.** A. resources B. materials C. ingredients D. qualities

*Read the following article and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 7 to 12.*

Have you ever sat in class wondering if you would ever (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the information that was being taught? Our minds and bodies gather information in different ways and from all around us: seeing, hearing, and doing. Then our brains process that information, organising it and making connections to things we already know. This process can also work in a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of ways: Do we think in pictures or words? Do we remember details or the big picture?

When we're trying (9) \_\_\_\_\_, it helps to know how our brain works. How do we best gather and organise information? Different people have (10) \_\_\_\_\_. For example, one person might struggle with written information but (11) \_\_\_\_\_ it immediately in an illustration. (12) \_\_\_\_\_ person might have problems with the picture but not the written text.

**Question 7.** A. gain B. grab C. grasp D. seize

**Question 8.** A. variety B. degree C. handful D. plenty

**Question 9.** A. learning B. to learn C. to learning D. learn

**Question 10.** A. styles different learning B. different styles learning

C. different learning styles D. learning different styles

**Question 11.** A. put out B. pass down C. make up D. take in

**Question 12.** A. Other B. Some C. Another D. A few

*Mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the best arrangement of utterances or sentences to make a meaningful exchange or text in each of the following questions from 13 to 17.*

**Question 13.**

Dear Uncle Harry,

a. My dad told me that using weights is a good way to get fit, too.

b. Thanks so much for the presents you sent me for my birthday!

c. I use them every day before school and I reckon I'm stronger already.

d. When I was opening them, I thought they were bowling balls - I'm glad that they weren't!

e. Maybe you should buy some for him!

Lots of love

Connor

A. a – c – b – e – d

B. d – a – e – c – b

C. b – d – c – a – e

D. c – a – e – b – d

**Question 14.**

a. We deeply valued the quality time spent together, although the trip required significant effort.

b. Typically, we book a modest holiday apartment when travelling, but last summer, we opted for a camping trip instead.

c. As a professional with a demanding job, I have limited time to spend with my children during term time.

d. While my sons are eager to go again, I must admit that the physical demands and lack of comfort made it a challenging experience.

e. Despite initial concerns about adjusting to each other's constant presence, the experience strengthened our bond as a family.

A. e - a - b - c - d

B. c - b - e - a - d

C. b - a - d - c - e

D. a - b - c - d - e

**Question 15.**

a. Katie: I'd love to, thanks. Shall I eat before I come?

b. Olivia: I'm having some friends over tomorrow night to watch a DVD. Would you like to come?

c. Olivia: No, we're going to eat while we watch the film.

A. c - a - b

B. a - c - b

C. a - b - c

D. b - a - c

**Question 16.**

a. A few years ago, Viewpark City's local government decided to reduce congestion by allowing only drivers with even-numbered registration plates on certain days.

b. If the policy had lasted longer, residents, including drivers, could have experienced its benefits and likely supported the scheme.

c. This idea was excellent and aimed to encourage car sharing and increased use of public transport.

d. Unfortunately, because of local opposition, this initiative had to be abandoned.

e. The following day, it would be the turn of those driving cars displaying odd numbers on their number plates.

A. a - c - b - d - e

B. a - e - c - d - b

C. a - d - e - b - c

D. a - b - e - c - d

**Question 17.**

a. Phil: If the planet keeps getting warmer, we can expect more terrible natural disasters.

b. Gloria: Is that because today we burn fossil fuels in many of our everyday activities?

c. Gloria: I can see that. Temperatures are getting higher, and the oceans are rising in many places. But why does this matter?

d. Phil: Yes, you're right. It's making the Earth warmer and causing the climates to change.

e. Phil: People all over the world are now adding extra carbon dioxide to the atmosphere.

A. e - c - a - b - d

B. a - c - d - b - e

C. a - b - d - c - e

D. e - b - d - c - a

**Read the following passage about HGH and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 18 to 22.**

HGH (Human Growth Hormone) could be the favourite drug at the next athletic world championships, and we might never know it. (18) \_\_\_\_\_. Scientists are allowed to make the drug, and it is also legal to take HGH in most countries. Considered a wonder drug for children, (19) \_\_\_\_\_.

However, some athletes are now taking the drug. HGH helps add muscle in adults, and recent research by the World Anti-Doping Agency shows that HGH may improve a sprinter's time by 5%. Some athletes say that HGH definitely makes them stronger. It also helps them to recover more quickly from injuries.

(20) \_\_\_\_\_, HGH is almost impossible to test for. The drug is completely natural, and it will only show in tests for around 24 hours after taking it. Testing is usually done only during competitions, but athletes use HGH during training, so it is very difficult to know who has used the drug. This makes it very attractive for some athletes. Scientists are developing a new test (21) \_\_\_\_\_. But it isn't going to be easy. Everybody has different levels of natural HGH in their body.

For this reason, scientists are warning athletes of the possible problems with the drug. Research shows that HGH can give people headaches, pains and - more dangerously - bigger hearts. Finally, high levels of HGH increase the risk of cancer. But is this enough to stop athletes from taking it? Scientists don't think so. (22) \_\_\_\_.

**Question 18.**

A. Producing this natural substance, the human body helps children's bones and muscles grow

B. But for this natural substance, the human body could help children's bones and muscles grow

C. The human body produces this natural substance so that children's bones and muscles can grow

D. It is a natural substance produced by the human body, helping children's bones and muscles grow

**Question 19.**

A. children with growth problems benefit a lot from HGH

B. HGH helps many children with growth problems every year

C. they create HGH to help children with growth problems

D. the use of HGH is useful for children with growth problems

**Question 20.**

A. Having banned from most professional sports

B. Although it is banned by most professional sports

C. Most professional sports have banned this drug

D. The ban imposed on it by most professional sports

**Question 21.**

A. whose ability to identify the drug in the body for up to two weeks

B. detected the drug in the body for as long as two weeks

C. traced the drug in the body for a period of two weeks

D. which will find the drug in the body for up to two weeks

**Question 22.**

- A. The concern about their health later drives some athletes to focus entirely on winning
- B. Putting their health concerns aside, winning is prioritised by some athletes
- C. Some athletes will do all they can to win, and worry about their health later
- D. The idea of winning at all costs may cause worry for some athletes about their health

**Read the following passage about weddings in Britain and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions from 23 to 30.**

Weddings are important occasions in British life. They can be very expensive and take a long time to organise. There are also many traditional aspects of weddings that are important for people who get married. However, many traditions have become less common in recent years, and marriage in Britain is changing.

**Marriage is legal from the age of 18, but this can be lowered to 16 if the couple have their parents' permission.** The average age of people who get married in the UK is about 30. People can marry in a civil ceremony, at a registry office, or they may have a religious ceremony in a church, mosque or other place of worship. All couples must sign a marriage certificate.

In the past, a traditional marriage in the UK meant a couple first got engaged. This was when the man formally asked the woman to marry him with a ring. It was also **customary** for the groom to ask the bride's father if he agreed. The wedding commonly took place at the bride's local church with about a hundred guests. It was a tradition for the groom's father to buy the flowers and champagne but for the bride's father to pay for everything else. The two families sat on different sides of the church and the bride's father gave away his daughter to the groom. The new bride took her husband's surname.

These days, however, many people do not always **follow** tradition so closely. It is now common for the woman to ask the man to marry her, and not many men ask the woman's father for her hand in marriage. People frequently marry in a town hall. A few even marry on a beach in a hot country. The couple tend to pay for the wedding themselves but still expect both families to help **them** pay for the reception. These days, not every woman wants to change her surname, so she might keep her maiden name or take both names.

**Question 23.** Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 2?

- A. Only those with parental permission can marry at 18; otherwise, they must wait until they turn 16.
- B. Marriage can be legal from 16, provided the couple is already 18 and has parental approval.
- C. People can legally marry from the age of 18, but with parental consent, the minimum age can be reduced to 16.
- D. Marriage is permitted at 16, but those who lack parental permission must wait after they turn 18.

**Question 24.** Which of the following is NOT a recognised place for marriage in Britain?

- A. a church
- B. a registry office
- C. a private home
- D. a mosque

**Question 25.** The word **customary** in paragraph 3 can be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. suitable
- B. optional
- C. available
- D. usual

**Question 26.** The word **follow** in paragraph 4 is opposite in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. consider
- B. reject
- C. obey
- D. question

**Question 27.** The word **them** in paragraph 4 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. names
- B. families
- C. the couple
- D. men

**Question 28.** Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

- A. People in Britain now do not get engaged before organising a wedding ceremony.
- B. Women in Britain nowadays are always the ones who propose to their partners.
- C. The wedding ceremony in Britain is now completely different from it was in the past.
- D. In Britain, the bride's father covered all other expenses except flowers and champagne.

**Question 29.** In which paragraph does the writer explore how a traditional marriage in Britain was held?

- A. Paragraph 1
- B. Paragraph 2
- C. Paragraph 3
- D. Paragraph 4

**Question 30.** In which paragraph does the writer mention a legal document?

- A. Paragraph 1
- B. Paragraph 2
- C. Paragraph 3
- D. Paragraph 4

**Read the following passage about friendships and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions from 31 to 40.**

[I] There is a poem in Sanskrit, the classical language of India, which says that friendship must consist of the following elements: giving, taking, sharing secrets, knowing where your friends are, and giving and sharing food with them. [II] This ancient definition seems like a very apt description. [III] It isn't easy to get on with someone who can't stand your taste in music or fashion. [IV]

Most of us have friends - but it's likely that only a few of them can be described as close friends. Robin Dunbar, a British professor of evolutionary psychology, believes that the maximum number of people we can have in our social group at one time is 150. Many of these are acquaintances. We don't meet them very often, but we might invite **them** to a big party, for instance. But - according to Dunbar - we don't normally have more than five close friends.

So, who is a best friend? It is someone who's there for you when you're feeling **miserable** - to give you advice when you want it and to just listen when you need someone to talk to. It might be someone you have known all your life, or someone you've recently met. It might be someone you only see once a year, but when you do get together it feels like you saw him or her only last week. But can you have a best friend of the opposite sex? In theory, the answer should be yes, but in practice, things can get complicated!

These days, social networking sites offer many opportunities to get to know people online. These are usually people who are into the same things as you are (such as music and films), and can give you advice about the different issues you face. For some people, especially those who aren't so self-assured, making friends online is easier. **Online friends aren't going to be as demanding as your friends from the real world might be.** Moreover, if you get bored with a conversation online, or if someone's messages are **getting on your nerves**, you can just ignore them. On the other hand, it may not be realistic to expect your online friends to give you real support when you need it - so a balance of online and real-world friends is probably ideal!

**Question 31.** Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?

**Shared interests and opinions are essential.**

A. [I]

B. [II]

C. [III]

D. [IV]

**Question 32.** According to paragraph 1, which of the following is NOT mentioned as an element of friendship?

A. confiding in each other

B. sharing taste in music or fashion

C. exchanging food

D. being aware of each other's whereabouts

**Question 33.** Which of the following best summarises paragraph 2?

A. Each of us has only a few close friends, while Robin Dunbar suggests we can maintain no more than 150 social connections at once.

B. Most of us have many acquaintances, and we might invite them to parties, but close friendships are impossible.

C. People usually have five close friends, but they also have acquaintances, whom they sometimes meet at social events like big parties.

D. Robin Dunbar claims that while we have 150 social connections, only about five are close friends, with many others being acquaintances.

**Question 34.** The word **them** in paragraph 2 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

A. close friends

B. people

C. friends

D. acquaintances

**Question 35.** The word **miserable** in paragraph 3 is opposite in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

A. truthful

B. comfortable

C. discouraged

D. decisive

**Question 36.** Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?

**Online friends aren't going to be as demanding as your friends from the real world might be.**

A. Were online friends as demanding as real-world friends, they would not be considered close.

B. Unlike friends in the real world, online friends are generally less demanding.

C. Only if real-world friends were less demanding would online friendships become unnecessary.

D. Because online friends are not as demanding, real-world friendships have become less valuable.

**Question 37.** The phrase **getting on your nerves** in paragraph 4 mostly means \_\_\_\_\_.

A. annoying you

B. exposing you

C. betraying you

D. motivating you

**Question 38.** Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. With the rise of social networking sites, real-world friendships have become obsolete.

B. A best friend is willing to lend you a sympathetic ear when you feel down in the dumps.

C. According to Robin Dunbar, people normally have no more than 150 acquaintances.

D. The idea of having a friend of the opposite sex is normal, though it requires effort to build.

**Question 39.** Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. The truest friends are those you act most naturally with when you are with them.

B. The definition of friendship in Sanskrit seems irrelevant in today's digital world.

C. Social networking sites do not eliminate the need for real-world friendships.

D. Making friends online is only suitable for those who lack confidence in themselves.

**Question 40.** Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. Online friendships are easier and less demanding than real-world ones, and while best friends provide emotional support, people can have up to 150 social connections, all of them being acquaintances.

B. Friendships vary in closeness, with many being acquaintances, while best friends provide emotional support, and online friendships offer convenience but may lack real-world reliability, making a balance between both ideal.

C. Best friends are those who support you emotionally, and though social networking makes meeting new people easier, friendships can be complicated, especially when they involve people of the opposite sex.

D. People mostly have acquaintances, but they sometimes develop close friendships, and online friends can offer advice, though they always fail to provide the same level of emotional support as real-world friends.