

SECTION 1. LISTENING (4.0 points)

I. Complete the form below.

Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/ OR NUMBER for each answer. (2.0 points)

Example

Name: Ralph Pearson

Contact address: (1) _____ Drayton

Postcode: DR6 8AB

Telephone number: 01453 586098

Name of group: Community Youth Theatre Group

Description of group: amateur theatre group ((2) _____ members) involved in drama (3) _____

Amount of money requested: (4) £ _____

Description of project: to produce a short (5) _____ play for young children

Money needed for:

- (6) _____ for scenery
- costumes
- cost of (7) _____
- (8) _____
- sundries

How source of funding will be credited: acknowledged in the (9) _____ given to audience

Other organisations approached for funding (and outcome): National Youth Services – money was (10) _____

Your answers:

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

II. For questions 1-5, listen to a conversation between a university tutor and two students of literature and decide whether these statements are True (T) or False (F). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. (1.0 points)

1. People who translate novels into their own language tend to produce a better product.
2. Misunderstanding is no longer the case if the translator is a native speaker.
3. Writers tend to produce a translation that reflects their own writing style.
4. There is a problem in the way spoken languages in Zola's books has been translated.
5. Literary translation makes the study of literature much broader.

Your answers:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
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III. You will hear two students called Jane and Kieran talking about books. Choose the correct answer A, B, C, or D. (1.0 point)

1. Kieran thinks the packing advice given by Jane's grandfather is _____
A. common sense. B. over-protective.
C. hard to follow. D. easy to see.
2. How does Jane feel about the books her grandfather has given her?

- A. They should go to a collector. B. They are not worth keeping.
C. They have sentimental value for her. D. They have no value.
3. Jane and Kieran agree that hardback books should be _____
A. put away in trunks. B. given as gifts to visitors.
C. more attractively designed. D. put out on display.
4. While talking about taking a book from a shelf, Jane _____
A. reflects on a significant childhood experience.
B. explains why some books are easier to remove than others.
C. forgets what her father has taught her.
D. describes the mistakes other people make when doing it.
5. What do Jane and Kieran suggest about new books?
A. Their parents liked buying them as presents.
B. Not everyone can afford them.
C. They would like to buy more of them.
D. Everyone desires to own them.

Your answers:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
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SECTION 2. PHONETICS (1.0 points)

IV. Write the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word whose underlined part is pronounced differently from the rest. (0.6 points)

1. A. ecosystem B. knowledge C. technology D. commodity
2. A. exhibit B. exhhaust C. exhale D. exhilarate
3. A. wretched B. bow-legged C. learned D. believed

V. Write the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word whose stress pattern is different from the other three of the group. (0.4 points)

4. A. personnel B. freelancer C. orchestra D. compliment
5. A. costume B. advent C. attire D. hostel

SECTION 3. LEXICO-GRAMMAR (5.0 points)

VI. Write the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct word or phrase that best completes each of the following sentences. (3.0 points)

1. Luckily my wallet was handed in to the police with all its contents _____.
A. preserved B. unscathed C. contained D. intact
2. After a month of apprenticeship, I hope to _____ the ropes and won't keep bothering you for help.
A. study B. learn C. grasp D. hold
3. She tried to _____ Tom's importance to the company in order to gain a promotion for herself.
A. diminish B. swindle C. reduce D. shrink
4. J: "How's John doing?"
M: "He had a rough week of it with the flu, but he's on the _____ now, thanks God."
A. run B. top C. go D. mend
5. It is very important that we _____ as soon as there is any change in the time of the meeting.
A. notify B. are notified C. be notified D. will be notified
6. _____, she got up and began to prepare a meal for her children.
A. However she was tired B. Although tired she was
C. Tired as she was D. Tired she was but
7. As the drug took _____, the boy became quieter.

- A. force B. influence C. action D. effect
8. Sorry, but that book is _____. We'll get some copies from the publisher next Monday.
A. out of print B. out of stock C. out of order D. off shelf
9. In the _____ of just two days, her whole life changed.
A. interval B. space C. spell D. duration
10. He _____ the doctor earlier, but he kept postponing the appointment.
A. will have visited B. needn't have visited C. had visited D. could have visited
11. My boss was about to _____ the meeting as everyone had all agreed on the plan when a new problem was raised.
A. draw in B. take down C. stop off D. wind up
12. _____ in disguise, attempting to blend in.
A. Among the crowd was spotted a famous celebrity
B. A famous celebrity was among the crowd spotted
C. Among the crowd was a famous celebrity spotted
D. A famous celebrity spotted among the crowd
13. You can try reformatting your computer, but once you open that _____, you'll probably be working on it for days,
A. apple of discord B. can of worms C. load of cobblers D. spot of bother
14. John: "Do you mind if I put the TV on?"
Mary: "_____."
A. Yes, not in the least B. No, not in the least C. At all costs D. Sure, you're welcome.
15. *Peter is inviting Mary to his house for lunch.*
- **Peter:** "I'm having some friends over for lunch this Saturday. Would you like to join us?"
- **Mary:** "_____"
A. Can I take a rain check? B. Come on. It's your turn.
C. Thanks, but I mustn't. D. As a matter of fact, I do.

VII. Read the text and use the bold words in brackets to form words that fit in the numbered blanks. (1.0 point)

The decision as to which university to apply to is often taken on the (1. **BASIC**) _____ of a university's position on the world rankings table. Yet, other considerations, such as whether the course is (2. **THEORY**) _____ or offers hands-on experience and the amount of time that students will need to work independently should be taken into account.

The fact is that some undergraduates who express their (3. **SATISFY**) _____ with their university experience base their complaints on poor organization, the lack of support received and on having fewer contact hours than expected.

As higher education (4. **PROVIDE**) _____ come under increasing pressure to meet established targets and to maintain or improve their status, course guidelines should clarify what participants can expect from the course and what the course expects from them. This should ensure a reduction in student drop-out rates. Inevitably, though, no matter how much the content and structure is spelt out, some students will turn up with (5. **REAL**) _____ expectations that can never be met.

Your answers:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
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VIII. Identify 5 mistakes in the following passage and correct them. (1.0 point)

Why is it that many teenagers have the energy to play computer games until late at night but can't find the energy to get out of bed in time for school? According to a new report, today's generation of children are in danger of getting so few sleep that they are putting their mental and physical health at risk. Adults can easily survive on	Line 1 Line 2 Line 3 Line 4
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seven to eight hours' sleep a night and teenagers require nine or ten hours. According to medical experts, one in five youngsters gets anything between two and five hours' sleep a night less than their parents did at their age. This rises serious questions about whether lack of sleep is affecting children's ability to concentrate at school. The connection between sleep deprivation and lapses in memory, impaired reaction time and poor concentration is well establishing. Research has shown that losing as little as half an hour's sleep a night can have profound effects on how children perform the next day. A good night's sleep is also crucial for teenagers because it is while they are asleep when they release a hormone that is essential for their 'growth spurt' (the period during teenage years when the body grows at a rapid rate). It's true that they can, to some extent, catch up on sleep at weekends, but that won't help them when they are dropping off to sleep in class on a Friday afternoon.

Line 5
Line 6
Line 7
Line 8
Line 9
Line 10
Line 11
Line 12
Line 13
Line 14
Line 15

	Line	Error	Correction		Line	Error	Correction
1.				2.			
3.				4.			
5.							

SECTION 4. READING (6,0 points)

IX. Write the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks. (2.0 points)

This passage is about revision course

Students who want to retake exams or those who hope to bump up their grades to get into a good university often opt to spend the spring holiday before the exam period doing revision courses. Various colleges and educational institutions run these courses and (1) _____ that they can be more effective than allowing students to revise (2) _____. Advocates for such crammers" as the are popularly known, (3) _____ that even a few days' focused revision can help students achieve the grades they need. However, many educators question (4) _____ such courses are really necessary, and point out that it is the school's responsibility to prepare students for exams. Head teacher advise parents (5) _____ spending a lot of money on revision courses without first making sure they are tailor-made to their children's needs. Students who benefit from the change of environment and the relative lack of distractions (6) _____ that they aren't disciplined enough to study as effectively on their own. Parents should be (7) _____ that sooner or later their offspring will have to fend for themselves and those who need such motivation to study might be (8) _____ lost when it comes to a university course! Also, they should not expect miracles: those students who have (9) _____ to study all year are beyond help and parents should be (10) _____ from pressuring such students into academic careers.

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|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. A. urge | B. claim | C. assume | D. recommend |
| 2. A. alone | B. lone | C. together | D. themselves |
| 3. A. inform | B. doubt | C. assure | D. insist |
| 4. A. that | B. whether | C. if | D. when |
| 5. A. against | B. that | C. if | D. when |
| 6. A. propose | B. tell | C. admit | D. convince |
| 7. A. reminded | B. suggested | C. promised | D. explained |
| 8. A. entirely | B. rather | C. too | D. fully |
| 9. A. avoid | B. resisted | C. refused | D. denied |
| 10. A. stopped | B. discouraged | C. encouraged | D. forbidden |

Your answers:

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

X. Fill in each gap with ONE suitable word to complete the following passage. Write your answers in the numbered spaces given below. (2.0 points)

Although there are many strains of antibiotic bacteria now present in hospital wards, antibiotics have effectively served their original purpose over the course of the past eighty years. They have been able to treat the infections of countless individuals and (1) _____ millions of lives.

Antibiotics have changed the (2) _____ in which many common diseases are viewed. (3) _____ infected with bacterial pneumonia, for instance, is no longer considered fatal. Rather, it is viewed (4) _____ a mundane infection which can be cured with a simple course of antibiotics. The (5) _____ of antibiotics available for use has also affected (6) _____ impact on society. Even if one antibiotic is ineffective in treating a disease, there are, for most common infections, a host of (7) _____ drugs that can be used to effectively cure the disease.

The development of antibiotics over the past eighty years has changed the (8) _____ between humans and disease. Antibiotics have (9) _____ humans the power to fight back effectively against microorganisms in a way that (10) _____ have been considered impossible just a century ago.

Your answers:

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

XI. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions. (2.0 points)

Visitors to Prince Edward Island, Canada, delight in the “unspoiled” scenery – the well-kept farms and the peaceful hamlets of the island’s central core and the rougher terrain of the east and west. In reality, the Island ecosystems are almost entirely artificial.

Islanders have been **tampering with** the natural environment since the eighteenth century and long ago broke down the Island’s natural forest cover to exploit its timber and clear land for agriculture. By 1900, 80 percent of the forest had been cut down and much of what remained had been destroyed by disease. Since then, however, some farmland has been abandoned and has returned to forest through the invasion of opportunist species, notably spruce. Few examples of the original climax forest, which consisted mostly of broadleaved trees such as maple, birch, and oak, survive today.

Apart from a few stands of native forest, the only authentic habitats on Prince Edward Island are its sand dunes and salt marshes. The dunes are formed from sand washed ashore by waves and then dried and blown by the wind to the land beyond the beach. The sand is prevented from spreading farther by marram grass, a tall, long-rooted species that grows with the dunes and keeps them remarkably stable. Marram grass acts as a windbreak and allows other plants such as beach pea and bayberry to take hold. On dunes where marram grass is broken down – for instance, where it is **trampled** – the dunes may spread inland and inundate agricultural lands or silt up fishing harbors. The white dunes of the north coast are the most impressive. There are also white dunes on the east and west coasts. Only in the south are there red dunes, created when the soft sandstone cliffs crumble into the sea and subsequently wash ashore as red sand. The dunes were once used as cattle pasture but were abandoned as the early settlers moved inland.

Salt marshes are the second remaining authentic habitat. These bogs are the result of the flooding of low coastal areas during unusually high tides. In the intervals between tides, a marsh area remains and plants take root, notably cord grass, the “marsh hay” used by the early settlers as winter forage for their livestock. Like the dunes, though, the marshes were soon dismissed as wasteland and escaped development.

1. On what aspect of Prince Edward Island does the author focus?

- A. Its tourist industry B. Its beaches C. Its natural habitats D. Its agriculture

2. Why does the author use quotation marks around the word *unspoiled* in line 1?

- A. He is quoting from the other author.
 B. The scenery is not as attractive as it once was.
 C. The scenery looks unspoiled but is not.
 D. He disagrees with the ideas in this paragraph.

3. The phrase **tampering with** in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. preserving B. interfering with C. remembering D. dealing with

4. What can be inferred about Prince Edward Island's forests?
 - A. Only a few small stands of trees still exist.
 - B. They are more extensive than they were in 1900.
 - C. They are virtually the same as they were in the eighteenth century.
 - D. About 80 percent of the island is covered by them.
5. Which of the following type of tree is most common in the forests of Prince Edward Island today?
 - A. Oak
 - B. Birch
 - C. Spruce
 - D. Maple
6. What does the author say about the beach pea and bayberry?
 - A. They have become commercially important plants.
 - B. They grow on dunes after marram grass is established.
 - C. They were once an important food crop for early settlers.
 - D. They are spreading across the Island, destroying important crops.
7. According to the passage, what effect does the destruction of marram grass have?
 - A. It permits the sand dunes to cover farmland.
 - B. It creates better conditions for fishing.
 - C. It allows seawater to flood agricultural land.
 - D. It lets the sand wash into the sea.
8. The word "**trampled**" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to
 - A. ripped up
 - B. flooded
 - C. stepped on
 - D. burned
9. What conclusion can be drawn from the passage about both the sand dunes and salt marshes of Prince Edward Island?
 - A. They were once used but have long since been abandoned.
 - B. They have never been used.
 - C. They have been used continuously since the island was first settled.
 - D. They were long unused but have recently been exploited.
10. In which of these paragraphs does the author discuss the destruction of an ecosystem?
 - A. The first
 - B. The second
 - C. The third
 - D. The fourth

Your answers:

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

SECTION 5. WRITING (4.0 points)

XII. Rewrite each of the following sentences in such a way that it has a similar meaning to the original one. (1.0 point)

1. The truth only came out on the publication of the General's personal diaries.
→ Only when _____.
2. Being creative is of the utmost importance to your success in the new job.
→ But _____.
3. "It was kind of you to help me with my homework" Peter said to Mary.
→ Peter thanked _____.
4. I took my car to the garage last Saturday and they repaired it.
→ I had my _____.
5. The quality of life of people in the countryside has been significantly improved
→ There _____.

XIII. Rewrite each of the following sentences in such a way that it has a similar meaning to the original one. The word given **MUST NOT be altered in anyway. (1.0 point)**

1. My son enjoys unwrapping his birthday presents.
→ My son _____ unwrapping his birthday presents.
(A KICK)
2. Nick offered her a lift in his new car, but she didn't accept.

→ She _____ offer of a lift in his new car.

(TURNED)

3. Peter didn't listen to what his doctor told him.

→ Peter _____ his doctor's advice.

(NOTICE)

4. Alex was not given details of the company's new project.

→ Alex was _____ the company's new project.

(DARK)

5. Students at the school are not allowed to go into the Rainbow Disco.

→ The Rainbow Disco is _____ students at the school.

(BOUNDS)

XIV. Write a paragraph (150-200 words) about the following topic: (2.0 point)

In the modern world, many students lack soft skills such as communication, working in teams or problem-solving. What are the main causes of this problem? What are the effects of the lack of such skills?

-----The End-----

Họ và tên thí sinh:.....; Số báo danh.....

**PHÒNG VĂN HÓA-XÃ HỘI
XÃ VẠN XUÂN**

**HDC THI CHỌN HỌC SINH GIỎI LỚP 9 THCS
NĂM HỌC 2025 - 2026
Môn: TIẾNG ANH
(HDC có 02 trang)**

SECTION 1. LISTENING (4.0 points)

I. You will hear a man booking tickets for an event. For questions 1-10, complete the table below with ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER. (2.0 points)

1. 230 South Road	2. 18/eighteen	3. activities and workshops	4. 250	5. interactive
6. material(s)	7. insurance	8. publicity	9. program	10. unavailable/not available

II. For questions 1-5, listen to a conversation between a university tutor and two students of literature and decide whether these statements are True (T) or False (F). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided. (1.0 points)

1. True	2. False	3. False	4. True	5. True
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III. You will hear two students called Jane and Kieran talking about books. Choose the correct answer A, B, C, or D. (1.0 point)

1. A	2. C	3. D	4. A	5. B
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SECTION 2. PHONETICS (1.0 points)

IV. Write the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word whose underlined part is pronounced differently from the rest. (0.6 points)

1. A	2. C	3. D
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V. Write the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word whose stress pattern is different from the other three of the group. (0.4 points)

4. A	5. C
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SECTION 3. LEXICO-GRAMMAR (5.0 points)

VI. Write the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct word or phrase that best completes each of the following sentences. (3.0 points)

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

VII. Read the text and use the bold words in brackets to form words that fit in the numbered blanks from 21 to 25. (1.0 points)

21. basis	22. theoretical	23. dissatisfaction	24. providers	25.unrealistic
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VIII. Identify 5 mistakes in the following passage and correct them. (1.0 points)

Sentences	Mistakes	Correction
1: line 3	few	little
2: line 5	and	but/while
3: line 7	rises	raises
4: line 10	establishing	established
5: line 12	when	that

SECTION 4. READING (6.0 points)

IX. Write the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks. (2.0 points)

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

X. Read the passage below and fill each numbered blank with ONE suitable word. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes on your answer sheet. (2.0 points)

1. saved	2. way	3. being	4. as	5. number
6. their	7. other	8. relationship	9. given	10. would

XI. Read the following passage and write the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions. (2.0 points)

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

SECTION 5. WRITING (4.0 points)

XII. Finish each of the following sentences in such a way that it means exactly the same as the sentence printed before it. (1.0 points)

- Only when the General's personal diaries were published did the truth come out.
- But for your creativity/being creative, you wouldn't/couldn't succeed/be successful in your new job.
- Peter thanked Mary for helping/having helped him with his homework.
- I had my car repaired by the garage last Saturday/at the garage last Saturday.
- There has been a significant improvement in the quality of life of people in the countryside.

XIII. Rewrite each of the following sentences in such a way that it has a similar meaning to the original one. The word given MUST NOT be altered in anyway. (1.0 points)

- My son gets a kick out of/from unwrapping his birthday presents.
- She turned down Nick's offer of a lift in his new car.
- Peter took no notice of/ didn't take (any) notice of his doctor's advice.
- Alex was kept in the dark about the company's new project.
- The Rainbow Disco is out of bounds to/for students at the school.

XIV. Paragraph writing (2.0 points)

Write a paragraph (150-200 words) about the following topic:

In the modern world, many students lack soft skills such as communication, working in teams or problem-solving. What are the main causes of this problem? What are the effects of the lack of such skills?

Suggested marking criteria:

Parts	Criteria
1. Organization: (0.3 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paragraph has three parts (topic sentence, supporting sentences, concluding sentence) - The idea is parallel
2. Content, coherence and cohesion: (1.2 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topic sentence: consists of topic and controlling idea. - Supporting sentences: support directly the main idea stated in the topic sentence and provide logical, persuasive examples. - Concluding sentence: summarizes the main supporting ideas/ restates the topic sentence and give personal opinion. - The communicating intentions are expressed sufficiently and effectively. - Appropriate transition signals.
3. Language use and accuracy: (0.5 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A variety of vocabulary and structures appropriate to the level of English language for lower -secondary school students. - Good use and control of grammatical structures. - Correct use of punctuation and spelling. - Legible handwriting. <p>* Penalty mark: If the whole paragraph is off-topic, it gets no mark.</p>

The end.