



Springboard
English

SPRINGBOARD ENGLISH - LỚP HỌC NHÀ XUÂN

ĐỀ THI CHUYÊN ANH - PTNK - ĐHQG TP. HỒ CHÍ MINH 2025-2026

Đội ngũ anh chị mentors và trợ giảng từ trung tâm Springboard (Nhà Xuân) cam kết luôn nỗ lực tạo ra những bài giảng - học liệu mới nhất, bổ ích nhất dành cho kì thi chuyên Anh - HSG tiếng Anh cấp địa phương, khu vực đến cấp quốc gia.

Quý phụ huynh/quý thầy cô/các em học sinh có thể truy cập các kênh sau để cập nhật tài liệu mới nhất từ Nhà Xuân:

- **Facebook page Springboard English**: Trang Facebook chính thức của Nhà Xuân.
- **Website học liệu của Springboard**: Trang web tổng hợp tất tần tật các tài liệu được biên soạn chi tiết bởi Springboard (Nhà Xuân).
- **Facebook group Springboard Connects**: Nhóm trao đổi - tư vấn học tập và tài liệu học tập với 30.000+ thành viên.

Liên hệ:

- **Gửi đề thi** mới nhất và yêu cầu chữa đề chi tiết cho Nhà Xuân về địa chỉ:

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- **Tham khảo và đăng ký tư vấn** các lớp học ôn thi Chuyên Anh - Thi HSG Tiếng Anh cấp THPT - Thi Olympic 30/4 và Duyên Hải Bắc Bộ - Thi HSG cấp Quốc Gia tại: **Form đăng**

ký

Về **Springboard Education (Nhà Xuân)**:

- Trung tâm đầu tiên tại Việt Nam xây dựng chương trình chuyên nghiệp dành cho kỳ thi chuyên anh vào 10, các kì thi HSG tiếng Anh cấp tỉnh/thành phố, và HSG cấp Quốc Gia.
- Chỉ trong năm 2024, 2025, Nhà Xuân đã hỗ trợ thành công hơn 500+ học viên chinh phục các kì thi chuyên Anh, thi HSG, với thành tích nổi bật cụ thể: 5 Thủ Khoa - Á Khoa thi đầu vào trường Chuyên, 15 Huy Chương Vàng kỳ thi Olympic 30/4 và Duyên Hải Bắc Bộ, 45+ HS Giải HSG cấp Quốc Gia (3 giải nhất, 15 giải nhì, 16 giải ba).

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Springboard English

SECTION I. LANGUAGE USE (2.00pts)**Questions 1 - 40. GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY****1. A. Against**

- “Against one’s better judgment” means contrary to what one believes to be wise or sensible (Làm điều mình biết là không nên; Trái với lẽ thường/tư duy hợp lý của chính mình)

2. A. made off

- “Make off” in this context means to steal something (Trốn thoát (thường sau khi trộm cắp))

3. C. beholden

- “Beholden” means owing thanks or having a duty to someone in return for help or a service (Mang nghĩa phải biết ơn hoặc chịu ơn ai đó vì đã giúp mình)

4. C. illicit

- “Illicit” means illegal or disapproved of by society (Bất hợp pháp, bị xã hội phản đối)

5. B. unwavering

- “Unwavering” in this context means steady or resolute (Kiên định, không lay chuyển)

6. B. many a time

- “Many a time” means regularly or many times (Diễn đạt hành động xảy ra thường xuyên)

7. D. throw caution to the wind

- “Throw caution to the wind” means to do something without worrying about the risk or negative results (Làm liều, bất chấp hậu quả)

8. D. had it coming

- “Have it coming” means to be due for retribution on account of something bad that one has done (Đáng bị như vậy (vì hành động xấu trước đó))

9. C. held

- “Hold someone accountable for something” means to make someone responsible for what they do and demand a satisfactory reason for it (Bắt ai đó chịu trách nhiệm)

10.C. read the fine print

- “Read the fine print” means carefully examining the small, often difficult-to-read text in legal documents, contracts, or other agreements (Đọc kỹ các chi tiết nhỏ (thường là điều khoản quan trọng))

11.B. fleshed out

- “Flesh out” means to provide more information about something (Bổ sung chi tiết, làm rõ hơn)

12.D. brush up on

- “Brush up on” means to improve your knowledge of something already learned but partly forgotten (Củng cố lại điều đã học rồi)

13.D. Depicting

- “Depict” means to show or represent by a drawing, painting, or other art form (Mô tả, khắc họa qua tranh vẽ, từ ngữ,...)

14.A. Situated atop the church spire is a brass figure of a rooster

- This sentence is using inversion, which means the verb comes before the subject instead of the subject before the verb (Câu đảo ngữ - động từ đứng trước chủ ngữ để nhấn mạnh vị trí)

15.B. playful little brown poodle puppy

- The order of adjectives in English is Opinion, Size, Age, Shape, Color, Origin, Material, Purpose/Type (Thứ tự tính từ: Ý kiến - Kích thước - Màu sắc)

16.A. trim the fat

- “Trim the fat” in this context means cost-cutting measures, staff reductions, or streamlining processes to improve efficiency (Cắt giảm những phần dư thừa (chi phí, nhân sự, quy trình...; Tối ưu, tinh gọn tổ chức/doanh nghiệp))

17.C. had he heard the voice of his love than

- The structure here is “No sooner A than B”, which means event B happened later than event A (Cấu trúc “No sooner... than...”)

18.A. mile

- “Go the extra mile” means to put in more effort than you initially anticipated (Nỗ lực vượt mức bình thường)

19.B. might well have forgotten

- “May/Might well” means that something is likely to happen (Có khả năng cao là đã)

20.C. mounting

- “Mounting pressure” means pressure, stress, or demands are gradually increasing or rising over time (Áp lực/gánh nặng dồn dập, leo thang)

21. C. perfunctory

- “Perfunctory” means an action gesture that is carried out with a minimum of effort or reflection (làm cho có lệ, qua loa, thiếu nhiệt tình)

22. C. providing you complete the project

- This sentence is an example of an adverbial phrase of condition, which modifies a verb, adjective, or another adverb and provides information about the conditions under which something happens (Miễn là bạn hoàn thành dự án => Cụm trạng ngữ chỉ điều kiện (adverbial phrase of condition))

23. A. let the dust settle

- “Let the dust settle” means to wait for a situation to calm down and become clear before making a decision or taking action (Đợi tình hình lắng xuống => Chờ mọi chuyện yên ổn rồi mới hành động)

24. B. ultimatum

- “Ultimatum” means a final demand or statement of terms, the rejection of which will result in retaliation or a breakdown in relations (Tối hậu thư; Lời cảnh báo cuối cùng trước khi có hậu quả)

25. B. think tank

- “Think tank” is an organization that conducts research and produces policy recommendations on various issues (Tổ chức nghiên cứu chính sách; Nhóm chuyên gia đưa ra tư vấn chiến lược, nghiên cứu)

26. D. stand in for her

- “Stand in for” means to do something that someone else is supposed to do or usually does, because they are unable to do it (Làm thay khi người khác vắng mặt)

27. B. left unattended

- This sentence is in passive voice and refers to an action **done to the luggage** (i.e., the luggage was left somewhere and not attended to) (Câu bị động: hành lý bị bỏ lại mà không ai trông; Left Unattended: Bị để mặc không trông coi)

28. B. threw people under the bus

- “Throw someone under the bus” means to betray or sacrifice someone, especially to protect oneself or gain personally (Đâm sau lưng, đổ lỗi để tự cứu mình)

29.C. alleviate

- “Alleviate” means to ease or reduce (a problem) (Làm dịu bớt, giảm bớt; Làm giảm vấn đề (đau, áp lực, khó khăn...))

30. C. Expensive as the camera was

- This sentence is a concessive clause, which expresses a contrasting or surprising idea compared to the main clause (Mặc dù máy ảnh đắt tiền => Câu nhượng bộ (concessive clause))

31.A. boat

- “On the same boat” means two or more people are in the same difficult or challenging situation, sharing a similar experience of hardship or adversity (Cùng chung cảnh ngộ)

32.C. vast

- “Vast majority” means the largest or most significant part of something, to the point where other parts are nearly insignificant (Phần lớn, đại đa số)

33.C. eyebrows

- “Raise some eyebrows” means to cause other people to react with surprise or mild disapproval (Khiến người khác ngạc nhiên hoặc không hài lòng)

34. D. imminent

- “Imminent” means happening soon or ready to occur (Sắp xảy ra, cận kề)

35.B. ineffable

- “Ineffable” means too great or extreme to be expressed or described in words (Không thể diễn tả bằng lời; Quá tuyệt vời / kinh khủng đến mức không thể nói nên lời)

36.B. it if her guests arrived

- “**Would prefer it if...**” expresses a polite or indirect preference. “**Her guests arrived**” uses **past simple**, which in this context doesn’t refer to past time but adds a layer of **hypothetical politeness**, common in expressing preferences or desires.

37. B. down a rabbit hole

- “Go down a rabbit hole” means to become deeply engrossed in a topic or activity, often to the point of losing track of time or becoming distracted from other tasks (Lạc vào một chủ đề sâu rộng, khó dứt ra; Sa đà vào thứ gì đó rất cuốn, khó kiểm soát thời gian)

38.C. bite the bullet

- “Bite the bullet” means to do something difficult after hesitating (Cắn răng chịu đựng / quyết làm điều khó)

39.B. not be touched

- This sentence uses a **subjunctive mood**, similar to question 36 ((Subjunctive mood) Không được động vào)

40. A. cast

- “Cast doubt on” means to cause people to feel uncertainty about something (Làm dấy lên nghi ngờ)

Questions 41 - 60. GUIDED CLOZE TEST**41.A. acclaimed**

- “Critically acclaimed” means someone/something that attracts approval and praise from critics.

42.C. intersections

- “Intersection” in this context metaphorically means a situation in which all three themes come together and affect each other in the series “Black Mirror”.

43. D. having been aired

- This sentence is in a present participle structure.

44. A. recognition

- “Gain recognition” means to become acknowledged or praised.

45. A. self-contained

- “Self-contained” in this sentence means that each episode stands on its own and doesn’t require follow-up episodes.

46.B. switched-off

- “Switched-off” here refers to the black screens of inactive mobile devices.

47.D. Rather than

- This detail contrasts with the one that follows, between “**grand** dystopias” and “**intimate** stories”.

48. A. favors

- “Favor ... over ...” means to prefer something to something else.

49.B. renders

- “Render” in this context means to cause someone or something to be in a particular state.

50. D. questioning

- All four options mean to inquire, but “doubting,” “suspecting,” and “interrogating” are either too accusatory or don’t fit the tone.

51.D. Isolated

- “Isolated from” here means being far from civilization.

52.C. barely

- Only the word “barely” fits with the context, which is the fishermen being unaffected by changes due to their exclusive environment.

53.C. banks

- “Bank” here refers to the land alongside a river or similar stream, matching the context of the sentence.

54. A. otherwise

- “Otherwise” is the only word that grammatically fits this section.

55.C. for

- “For” in this context means because, implying the reason for the lack of biodiversity.

56.C. none but

- “None but” means nothing/no one else except, fitting the context of this sentence.

57. B. have always lived

- “Live as they have always lived” uses the **present perfect tense** (“have lived”) combined with “**always**” to emphasize a **continuous action from the past up to the present**. It’s used when something **began in the past and is still true now**.

58.C. trained

- This detail is referring to the Mohana training herons, which are fish-catching birds.

59.D. discern

- “Discern” means to perceive or detect something subtle.

60. B. thus

- “Thus” means consequently/as a result.

Questions 61 - 80. OPEN CLOZE TEST

61.example/instance



- The following detail presents an example to support the previous sentence's idea.

62. helped/set

- The phrase "On the positive side" indicates a positive idea, which is the freedom of the African American press, indirectly because of the advertiser's discrimination.

63. from

- "Free something/someone from something/someone else" is a phrasal verb that means to help or make life better for someone by taking something unpleasant away from them.

64. politically

- This word fits because "politically charged material" refers to content with strong viewpoints, particularly on racial and social issues. Without advertiser control, Black newspapers could publish such material more freely.

65. could/did

- This word correctly maintains parallel sentence structure, emphasizing the comparative ability of African American newspapers to print sensitive content.

66. relied/depended

- The phrasal verbs "rely on" or "depend on" mean to be dependent on something.

67. that

- The structure "that of" correctly compares the costs between African American newspapers and mainstream ones.

68. much

- The phrase "Often as much as two-thirds" quantifies how much financial support came from subscribers or subsidies.

69. groups

- This word means a group of people that seeks to influence public policy based on a particular common interest or concern, connecting to the subjects "subscribers or subsidies" and describing various parties that financially supported Black newspapers.

70. despite

- This word introduces the contrast between gaining independence and still needing to print sensational content to maintain readership.

71. ever

- This sentence follows a superlative structure, indicated by the phrase “one of the finest”.

72. considered

- This word connects with the detail “a spiritual entity” and conveys that the sword is not just a weapon but holds deep cultural and spiritual significance.

73. only

- This sentence follows a “Not only ... but also ...” structure.

74. often

- The phrase “Though often classically regarded as artists” acknowledges that master smiths were frequently seen as artists, but their craftsmanship extended beyond artistry.

75. which

- This word refers to the subject “swords”.

76. into

- “Fold into” is a phrasal verb that describes the process of layering steel to create the sword’s structure.

77. both

- This word addresses the various characteristics of the blade.

78. techniques

- This word follows the phrase “using their secret forging”, suggesting methods used by smiths to create unique swords.

79. The

- This is the correct article for this section of the sentence.

80. to

- “Devote to” means to give all of something, especially your time, effort, or love, or yourself, to something you believe in or to a person.

SECTION II. READING (2.50pts)

Questions 81 - 88. IELTS READING 1

81. F

“Researchers found in a 2009 study that women who viewed images of cute babies exhibited more careful, slow, and deliberate behavior afterward, which Stavropoulous says could build on the idea that cute aggression is an adaptive



mechanism to activate caretaking behaviors, which ultimately helps babies survive.”

82. E

“Aragon also says it’s possible our variety of reactions when we encounter a baby could teach babies about the nuance of emotional expression.”

83. B

“Oriana Aragon, PhD, assistant professor of psychology at Clemson University, became interested in the scientific underpinnings of cute aggression in 2011 after she saw model Leslie Bibb say on Conan O’Brien that a puppy was ‘so cute she wanted to bash it.’”

84. D

“For example, if you see a cute baby and respond with clenched fists and a quick approach, a mother may perceive you as overly excited and decide that this hyped-up interaction might be too much for her baby. She can then set a boundary by holding the baby herself.”

85. A

“If you’ve ever had the desire to hug a cute baby or animal *super tight*, you’re part of the approximately 50% of people who experience what psychologists call ‘cute aggression’.”

86. A

“Since feeling emotionally and physically overwhelmed isn’t sustainable, researchers have long presumed that the brain may respond with a seemingly contradictory expression to ‘balance’ out or shift the individual away from the other, all-encompassing emotion.”

87. D

“In a separate study in 2018, Aragon found another byproduct of dimorphous responses: something called “motivational orientation,” which is our unconscious way of showing not just our emotions, but our intentions to the people around us. Expressing and understanding intent is important because it can help us coordinate actions toward people around us.”

88. E

“Researchers found in a 2009 study that women who viewed images of cute babies exhibited more careful, slow, and deliberate behavior afterward, which Stavropoulos says could build on the idea that cute aggression is an adaptive mechanism to activate caretaking behaviors, which ultimately helps babies survive. Maybe this feeling of ‘I want to squeeze it’ serves to remind us that this baby or animal is super fragile, and we are big adults, so we actually need to move carefully.”

Questions 89 - 98. IELTS READING 2

89. NG

“Anything with a highly human-like appearance can be subject to this peculiar effect, but common examples are androids, computer game characters, and life-like dolls.”

90. F

“Since 1970, the uncanny valley effect has been explored from many perspectives, from the practical interest of roboticists to theoretical approaches from philosophers and experimental studies conducted by psychologists.”

91. NG

Chỉ nói về việc nghiên cứu của Mori được dịch sang Tiếng Anh, chứ không nói thêm về việc nghiên cứu ngành nghề này không được viết nhiều bằng Tiếng Anh.

92. T

“Their data showed the classic rise-diprise that Mori originally predicted. This was found with the original robots and also with CGI images built to systematically vary in human likeness.”

93. dip

“It is this distinctive **dip** in the relationship between human likeness and emotional response that is called the ‘uncanny valley’.”

94. alive

“Christine Looser and Thalia Wheatley looked at mannequin faces that were morphed into human faces and found a valley at the point where the inanimate face started to look **alive**.”

95. think

“A study by Kurt Gray and Daniel Wegner found that robots were only unnerving when people believed that they could **think** and experience things, and robots that did not seem to possess a mind were not frightening.” Experience = feel nên ta chỉ còn think là khả dĩ.

96. psychopathic

“The study suggested that this may even be reminiscent of the pattern of expressive behaviour exhibited by humans with **psychopathic** traits.”

97. B

“Maya Mathur and David Reichling studied 80 real-world robots and found a clear valley effect in how much people liked and were willing to trust them. Their data showed the classic rise-diprise that Mori originally predicted. **This was found with the original robots and also with CGI images built to systematically vary in human likeness.**”

98. D

“However, we’re certainly not there yet, and we could eventually find that the uncanny valley effect was an artefact of this particular period in the history of artificial humans, when representations were easily distinguishable from humans.”

Questions 99 - 105. GAPPED TEXT

99. J

Ở đoạn trên tác giả có nhắc đến việc Margot luôn được thiên vị trong khi cô thì không, và ngay sau đó ở đoạn J ta thấy có đoạn “Last night proved it again.” Và việc người mẹ nhấn mạnh tác giả phải trả lại sách ngay lập tức => Khớp với đoạn dưới khi người cha cũng yêu cầu một việc tương tự.

100. C

Ta thấy ở đoạn C có đoạn “I would’ve given the book back on my own, without all the fuss.” Đây là một đoạn nối tiếp việc trả lại sách.

101. I

Trước đó tác giả có nhắc đến việc tác giả chẳng yêu thương ai trong nhà vì họ là chính họ cả, nhưng ở đoạn sau đó ta thấy có nhắc đến người cha yêu dấu của tác giả và tác giả mong muốn được sự chú ý nhiều hơn từ người cha. Đặc biệt, ở đoạn I có đoạn “It’s different with Father.” nên I là lựa chọn thích hợp nhất.

102. G

Ở đoạn sau tác giả đã nhắc đến:” But Father won’t let me talk about Mother – he avoids it.” Mà ở đoạn G lại có nói “My contempt for mother is growing.”

103. A

Ngay trước đó tác giả nhắc rất nhiều về những đức tính tiêu cực của người mẹ và gần như là trái ngược với tác giả cũng như là lời nhắc phải nhìn vào mặt tích cực của người mẹ ở đoạn sau nên ta chọn A.

104. H

Ở ngay đoạn sau có nhắc đến: “But for the time being, who else can I turn to but you, Kitty?” và ở đoạn F lại có đoạn: “Or hear one word of encouragement from someone who truly loves me.” Nên ta chọn F.

105. F

“I promise you I’ll keep going, I’ll find my own way, and I’ll swallow my tears.” Mang tính tích cực và nhìn nhận vấn đề theo hướng khó khăn sẽ giúp mình mạnh mẽ hơn và ở đoạn H ta thấy có đoạn: “... Maybe that’ll make me stronger in the end.” Cũng mang thông điệp tương tự nên ta sẽ chọn đoạn H là khả dĩ nhất.

SECTION III. WRITING

Questions 106 - 115. WORD FORMATION (1.00pts)

106. manhunting/manhunts

manhunt (v): an organized search for a person, especially a criminal (cuộc truy lùng người (đặc biệt là tội phạm) hoặc cuộc truy bắt tội phạm có tổ chức)

107. concertgoers

concertgoer (n): a person who attends a concert, especially one who does so regularly (người đi xem hòa nhạc; người hay đi nghe nhạc sống)

108. cyberterrorism

cyberterrorism (n): the unlawful use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians, in the pursuit of political aims on technological applications (hành vi khủng bố qua internet nhằm vào mục tiêu chính trị)

109. overlook

overlook (v): to fail to notice or consider something or someone (bỏ sót, không nhận thấy; không chú ý đến, lơ đi)



110. undercover

undercover (adj): working secretly using a false appearance in order to get information for the police or government (hoạt động bí mật (thường là cho cảnh sát/chính phủ); bí mật, cải trang để điều tra)

111. cybercrimes

cybercrime (n): crime or illegal activity that is done using the internet (hành vi phạm pháp thực hiện qua internet; tội phạm mạng)

112. totalitarian

totalitarian (adj): of or being a political system in which those in power have complete control and do not allow people freedom to oppose them (chế độ kiểm soát tuyệt đối, không cho phép bất đồng chính kiến)

113. confidant

confidant (n): a person you trust and share your feelings and secrets with (người tri kỷ, đáng tin để giải bày tâm sự)

114. unknowing

unknowing (adj): not conscious of a particular situation or problem (không hay biết điều gì đang xảy ra; không biết, vô ý)

115. forgery

forgery (n): an illegal copy of a document, painting, etc., or the crime of making such illegal copies (sự làm giả (tài liệu, tranh,...), hoặc hành vi đó; hành vi làm giả tài liệu, tranh ảnh,...)

Questions 116 - 120. ERROR CORRECTION (0.5pts)

116. Line 2, resist to -> resist

Resist is a transitive verb, so it is followed by a direct object, not a preposition (Resist là ngoại động từ, không đi với giới từ "to")

117. Line 6, phase -> phase out

Phase out means to remove something gradually. While phase itself means the opposite, to introduce something gradually. According to the context, this is not correct (Phase out = loại bỏ dần dần; còn phase in = đưa vào dần dần. Ở đây đang nói đến việc giảm trợ cấp nhiên liệu hóa thạch)

118. Line 7, climate changes -> climate change

“Climate change” is a fixed phrase, meaning long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns (“Climate change” là cụm danh từ cố định, mang nghĩa biến đổi khí hậu dài hạn. Không dùng số nhiều ở đây)

119. Line 9, to address -> in addressing

We have the phrase play a crucial role **in + gerund phrase**. (play a role in + V-ing: đóng vai trò trong việc gì)

120. Line 10, willness -> willingness

willingness is the correct noun form of willing, whereas willness does not have any meanings (“Willingness” là danh từ đúng của “willing”. “Willness” không có nghĩa, sẽ có “Will” nhưng mang nghĩa là ý chí)

Questions 121 - 130. SENTENCE TRANSFORMATION (2.00pts)

121. Not *until you have completed all required fields should* you submit your assignment.

Inversion structure: Not until + clause + should + O (Chỉ khi... thì bạn mới...)

122. Try not to *shy away from volunteering, as it offers self-development* opportunities.

Shy away from something: to avoid something that you dislike, fear, or do not feel confident about (Tránh né việc gì mà bạn không thích, sợ hoặc không tự tin)

123. It was from my mother *that I learnt to live and let live*.

Live and let live: said to mean that people should accept the way other people live and behave, especially if they do things in a different way (Sống cho mình và để người khác sống cho họ; mặc kệ sự đời)

124. With two *consecutive defeats, their elimination is a foregone conclusion*.

Foregone conclusion: a result that is obvious to everyone even before it happens (Kết quả hiển nhiên)

125. Visiting her nursing home *every now and then was everything Jack did*.

every now and then: sometimes, but not regularly (Thỉnh thoảng)

126. That our little daughter took *to chemistry like a fish to water took* us by surprise.

take to something like a duck to water: to discover when you start to do something for the first time that you have a natural ability to do it (Có năng khiếu bẩm sinh khi làm việc gì đó)

127. While what he said ***had a grain of truth, it was mostly*** pseudoscience.

a grain of truth: If there is a grain of truth in something, there is small part of it that is true, but most of it is not true (Có một phần nhỏ là sự thật)

128. Had the team been ***firing on all cylinders, they would have made*** it to the finals.

be firing on all cylinders: to be operating as powerfully and effectively as possible (Hoạt động hết công suất)

129. Becoming ***addicted to smoking took a/its toll on*** his lungs.

to take a toll/take its toll: to cause harm or suffering (Gây tổn hại)

130. We were ***given champagne on the house by*** the restaurant owner.

on the house: If you have something on the house, it is given to you free by a business. (Được miễn phí (quán bao))