

SPRINGBOARD EDUCATION

ĐỀ LUYỆN TẬP SỐ 1

KỶ THI THỬ TUYỂN SINH LỚP 10
TRƯỜNG PHỔ THÔNG NĂNG KHIẾU
NĂM HỌC 2026 – 2027

Môn thi: **TIẾNG ANH (chuyên)**

Thời gian làm bài: **150 phút** (không kể thời gian phát đề)

Ngày làm bài thi: .../.../202...

Đề thi gồm **14** trang, **130** câu

Name:

Candidate number:

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

- Write your name, candidate number and exam room number on your answer sheet.
- Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully. Answer all the questions. Only answers that follow the instructions will be counted for marking.
- Read the instructions on the answer sheet. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet. Use a **pen**, not a pencil.
- You **MUST** complete the answer sheet within the time limit.
- At the end of the test, hand in **BOTH** this question paper and your answer sheet.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

There are **130** questions in this paper.

- Questions **1–80** carry 0.5 points each.
- Questions **81–120** carry 1 point each.
- Questions **121–130** carry up to 2 points each.

I. LANGUAGE IN USE (40 points)

Part 1. FOUR-OPTION MULTIPLE CHOICE (20 points)

For questions 1–40, write the letter A, B, C or D in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet to indicate the answer that best fits each gap.

1. _____ of Andras Schiff's homage to Otto Klemperer.
 - A. It was the silences that were the most extraordinary part
 - B. It were the silences that were the most extraordinary part
 - C. It were the silences that was the most extraordinary part
 - D. It was the silences that was the most extraordinary part
2. Scarcely _____ he burst into tears.
 - A. had he completed the test than
 - B. did he complete the test than
 - C. had he completed the test when
 - D. did he complete the test when
3. We would sooner you _____ your friend to the party yesterday.
 - A. had not invited
 - B. would not invite
 - C. would not have invited
 - D. did not invite
4. *Harry Potter* is wonderful – I have never read _____ before!
 - A. such gripping book
 - B. such gripping a book
 - C. so gripping a book
 - D. so gripping book
5. Tomorrow we will be interviewing someone _____ books to date are now topping the bestseller list.
 - A. whose two
 - B. the two of whose
 - C. the both of whose
 - D. whose both
6. First _____ decades ago, Cambridge English exams are now trusted by millions all over the world.
 - A. being introduced
 - B. been introduced
 - C. having introduced
 - D. introduced
7. If you keep procrastinating, your goal of passing ABRSM Grade 8 will be no closer _____ realised.
 - A. than to be
 - B. to being
 - C. than being
 - D. to be
8. On realisation of what happened to her daughter, Emma was _____.
 - A. angrier than unhappy
 - B. more angry than unhappy
 - C. angrier compared to unhappy
 - D. the angriest unhappy
9. It's highly unlikely that Charlie likes Beth. If he really liked her, he _____ for dinner yesterday.
 - A. would ask her out
 - B. will have asked her out
 - C. would have asked her out
 - D. will ask her out
10. The owner's condition was that Emma _____ the plants every day.
 - A. not forget to water
 - B. not forget watering
 - C. did not forget to water
 - D. did not forget watering
11. The president was quick to _____ rumours that his health was deteriorating.
 - A. deride
 - B. dismiss
 - C. dispel
 - D. deny
12. Many people believe that climate change and urbanization are _____ linked.
 - A. irretrievably
 - B. indistinguishably
 - C. immaculately
 - D. indissolubly
13. Coming second in the 200 metre race made Jennifer _____ disappointed.
 - A. crossly
 - B. fiercely
 - C. bitterly
 - D. sharply
14. The word 'great' doesn't quite _____ justice to Martha Argerich's magnificent performance.
 - A. give
 - B. do
 - C. put
 - D. make
15. Charles Dickens, the author of *Oliver Twist* and *Great Expectations*, is a novelist of great _____.
 - A. position
 - B. renown
 - C. reputation
 - D. mark
16. Not many people appreciate the fact that many artefacts of _____ cultural significance from the last century are made from plastic.
 - A. lingering
 - B. enduring
 - C. unceasing
 - D. perennial
17. Despite its ubiquity, the origins of the word *OK* remain _____ in mystery.
 - A. shrouded
 - B. smothered
 - C. clothed
 - D. draped

18. There's no way you can invite Emily to a church – she's a _____ Buddhist.
A. steadfast B. resolute C. devout D. staunch
19. Against the _____ of technological change, workers need to upskill themselves to stay afloat.
A. undercurrent B. context C. landscape D. backdrop
20. People unfamiliar with tennis might find its appeal _____ and wonder what is really fun about it.
A. beguiling B. bewildering C. disconcerting D. entrancing
21. For Jonathan, the news of the promotion was _____ – he had worked really hard for it.
A. music to his ears B. the tip of the iceberg C. a nine days' wonder D. the short straw
22. Despite the star-studded cast, the movie proved to be a flop at the box office _____.
A. all the more B. all time time C. all the same D. all the while
23. There is no way Kayla's waist is so slender – she always eats like a _____!
A. dog B. horse C. bird D. pig
24. To keep the talented employees happy and ensure that they don't leave, the company offered a variety of golden _____, ranging from bonuses to promotions.
A. parachutes B. hellos C. handshakes D. handcuffs
25. He didn't like her attitude, so her attractive smile fell on _____ with him.
A. blind eyes B. stony ground C. deaf ears D. a grenade
26. At long last, the authorities _____ to her request for a work permit.
A. attested B. adhered C. attended D. acceded
27. The tourist wandered aimlessly round the old market, slowly _____ the atmosphere.
A. pottering around B. sweeping aside C. drinking in D. diving into
28. Our poor cat was very sick and in immense pain, so sadly we had to _____ her down.
A. bring B. put C. cut D. get
29. We need to _____ the age and wellbeing of the patients before arriving at a conclusion.
A. usher in B. pitch in C. let in D. factor in
30. To _____ the meal, here is a very lovely croissant that just came straight out of the oven.
A. leave off B. round off C. cordon off D. cut off
31. It goes without saying that everyone can trust Kate _____ – she never reveals anything!
A. implicitly B. inherently C. insouciantly D. indirectly
32. Try to prevent your emotions from _____ high when you are about to make an important decision.
A. getting B. pulling C. running D. climbing
33. Mary and Keith got married, had a baby a year later and quickly fell into the _____ of family life.
A. direction B. pattern C. course D. journey
34. The enemies' invasion of the capital marked the end of the _____ truce signed just days ago.
A. uneventful B. unbecoming C. uneasy D. unabated
35. The criminal received a harsher sentence due to _____ circumstances, namely his lack of remorse.
A. exacerbating B. aggravating C. extenuating D. mitigating
36. The intrepid explorers were intent on carrying on _____ the inclement weather.
A. with no regard of B. without regarding C. with no regards for D. regardless of
37. Peter's had a _____ cold for days on end – if only he could shake it off!
A. spitting B. drizzling C. streaming D. pouring
38. The ruins here bear _____ to the once great civilisation that conquered the world centuries ago.
A. veracity B. testament C. witness D. proof
39. Try as we might to put a rational _____ on things, meeting your doppelganger can be discomfiting.
A. twist B. curl C. roll D. spin
40. A growing number of people are turning to LinkedIn _____ finding work.
A. in an attempt of B. in the wake of C. in the hope of D. on account of

Part 2. GUIDED CLOZE (10 points)

For questions 41–60, read the texts below and write the letter A, B, C, or D in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet to indicate the answer that best fits each gap.

PASSAGE 1

ART ON APPROVAL

For inexperienced collectors, the idea of (41) _____ over a large sum of cash for a piece of contemporary art is a daunting prospect. It's quite (42) _____ that the work will look out of place in a domestic setting, or that the buyer might simply (43) _____ of it. In an ideal world, it'd be possible to spot a piece with potential, (44) _____ it up, put down a deposit and take it home on approval. Only after living with it for a while would you (45) _____ into a formal commitment to buy.

However, many dealers are reluctant to allow this arrangement since there is always the possibility that such a (46) _____ of trust will backfire drastically. In the late 1990s, for example, some of the world's leading dealers were (47) _____ in by confidence tricksters. A bogus count asked to view some pieces in situ in various lavishly (48) _____ apartments he owned. The generous hospitality he offered the dealers (49) _____ them into leaving the works of art with him on extended loan. Both the count and the works of art (50) _____ disappeared without a trace.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 41. A. handing | B. paying | C. giving | D. passing |
| 42. A. reasonable | B. understandable | C. inevitable | D. conceivable |
| 43. A. bore | B. fatigue | C. tire | D. loathe |
| 44. A. scale | B. prop | C. bring | D. size |
| 45. A. accept | B. enter | C. agree | D. with |
| 46. A. matter | B. gesture | C. motion | D. token |
| 47. A. ripped | B. fooled | C. taken | D. tricked |
| 48. A. appointed | B. realised | C. arranged | D. organised |
| 49. A. hoodwinked | B. coerced | C. forced | D. talked |
| 50. A. imminently | B. punctually | C. accordingly | D. promptly |

PASSAGE 2

The past few years have been a period of innovation and adjustment in architecture, with many of the assumptions of the twentieth century now being called into (51) _____. For example, in the (52) _____ to accommodate ever-expanding populations, architects are increasingly (53) _____ their attention to space-saving designs. The average house built in Britain today typically provides 30 percent less space than was provided by its counterpart of a century ago. Much of that change has (54) _____ about in recent years and there is every likelihood that the trend will continue.

Many architects (55) _____ in the challenge of designing homes that use space with greater efficiency, without (56) _____ aesthetic and environmental aims. (57) _____ avoid a small living space appearing (58) _____, for instance, there is a need to minimize clutter. That is why the provision of storage space is a crucial element in any design.

One country that can teach us a great deal about save-saving interiors is Japan. Architects there have a (59) _____ of squeezing extra space out of easily overlooked voids, often (60) _____ away deep within buildings.

- | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| 51. A. dispute | B. examination | C. question | D. scrutiny |
| 52. A. aim | B. struggle | C. effort | D. attempt |

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 53. A. bringing | B. turning | C. drawing | D. calling |
| 54. A. brought | B. come | C. transpired | D. taken |
| 55. A. welcome | B. revel | C. embrace | D. relish |
| 56. A. modifying | B. compromising | C. nullifying | D. aggravating |
| 57. A. With a view to | B. With regard to | C. As a means to | D. So as to |
| 58. A. restricted | B. cramped | C. constricted | D. packed |
| 59. A. flair | B. aptitude | C. knack | D. talent |
| 60. A. blocked | B. obscured | C. concealed | D. tucked |

Part 3. OPEN CLOZE (10 points)

For questions 61–80, read the texts below and fill each of the following numbered blanks with ONE suitable word. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet.

PASSAGE 1

COMETS

Comets are like cats, in (61) _____ they have tails and do precisely what they want. They have had a (62) _____ press for thousands of years, and only in the last two hundred has science been able to rehabilitate them. Instead of arriving on haphazard courses leaving calamity in their (63) _____, they are now known to circumnavigate the solar system following paths we call (64) _____. However, in 1979, the first evidence of cosmic impact was found in a layer of Italian rock (65) _____ back to the dinosaurs. Is it possible that comets do not predict disaster, as people once thought, but actually cause it?

The discovery that three-quarters of life on this planet might have been extinguished by a single strike brought with (66) _____ an uneasy premonition. Then, in the summer of 1994, the shattered remnants of Comet *Shoemaker-Levy 9* slammed (67) _____ Jupiter. Dark clouds the size of Earth persisted over the impact sites, vividly displaying the awesome forces nature can (68) _____ to bear. And as we reflected, the ground shifted beneath our feet in the knowledge that the Earth too had once been struck by comets.

There's (69) _____ to this story. In 1986, a flotilla of spacecraft found carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen in Halley's comet. Is it possible that, when they struck primordial Earth, these mysterious travellers brought the materials that made (70) _____ possible?

PASSAGE 2

Early civilisations, as (71) _____ to merely primitive early societies, seem to have a common positive characteristic: they change the human scale of things. They bring together the cooperative efforts (72) _____ large numbers of people, usually bringing them together physically in large agglomerations.

Civilisation is usually marked by urbanisation. It (73) _____ be a bold individual who was willing to draw a precise (74) _____ at the moment when the (75) _____ tilted towards a dense pattern of agricultural villages clustered (76) _____ a religious centre or a market to reveal the first true city. However, it is perfectly reasonable to say that more than (77) _____ other institution the city has provided the critical mass which produces civilisation.

Inside the city, the surpluses of wealth produced by agriculture made (78) _____ other things characteristic of civilised life. They provided for the upkeep of a priestly class which elaborated a complex religious structure, (79) _____ to the construction of great buildings which served more than merely economic functions, and in (80) _____ time to the writing down of literature.

II. READING (25 points)

Part 1. MATCHING HEADINGS (6 points)

For questions 63–68, read the following passage and choose the correct heading (i–x) for paragraphs B–G. There are FOUR extra headings that you do not need to use. Write the correct number i–x in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet.

SINGLE-GENDER EDUCATION: A CASE MADE?

- A.** All modern democracies, instilled as they are with the ethics of freedom and equality of the sexes, nevertheless offer the option of single-sex education. This separates the genders into their own classrooms, buildings, and often schools. Traditionally, women had to fight hard and long to achieve equal opportunities in education, and the single-gender controversy is mostly in relation to them. The question is whether this educational system advances or retards their cause, and there are supporters on both sides, each convinced that the case is made.
- B.** Given that the word ‘segregation’ has such negative connotations, the current interest in single-gender schooling is somewhat surprising. In the same way that a progressive society would never consider segregation on the basis of skin colour, income, or age, it seems innately wrong to do this on gender. Yet in the real world and the society in which we live, segregation of some sort happens all the time. Clubs inevitably form – for example, of clerical workers, of lawyers, of the academically gifted, and of those skilled in music or the arts. Exclusionary cliques, classes, and in-groups, are all part of everyday life. Thus, it may simply be an idealistic illusion to condemn single-gender settings on that basis alone, as do many co-educational advocates.
- C.** This suggests that single-gender education must necessarily be condemned on other grounds, yet the issue is complicated, and research often sinks into a morass of conflicting data, and, occasionally, emotional argument. One study comes out with strong proof of the efficacy of single-gender schooling, causing a resurgence of interest and positive public sentiment, only to be later met with a harshly-titled article, ‘*Single-Sex Schooling: The Myth and the Pseudoscience*’, published and endorsed by several respected magazines. Similarly, the arguments on both sides have apparent validity and often accord, on the surface at least, with common sense and personal observation. What then can parents do?
- D.** Proponents of separating the genders often argue that it promotes better educational results, not only in raw academic scores but also behaviour. The standard support for this is the claim of innate gender differences in the manner in which boys and girls learn and behave in educational settings. Separation allows males to be taught in a ‘male way’ and in accordance with the ‘male’ developmental path, which is said to be very different to the female one. Such claims demand hard evidence, but this is difficult to come by, since statistics are notoriously unreliable and subject to varying interpretations.
- E.** Of course, one of the key factors’ that leads to superior performance at single-gender schools is often the higher quality of the teachers, the better resources at hand, and the more motivated students, often coming as they do from wealthier or more privileged backgrounds. Single-gender schools are often the most prestigious in society, demanding the highest entry marks from their new students, who, in turn, receive more deference and respect from society. When taking these factors into account, large-scale studies, as well as the latest findings of neuroscientists, do not support the claims of superior results or persistent gender differences, respectively. Those who make such claims are accused of emphasising favourable data, and drawing conclusions based more on anecdotal evidence and gender stereotyping.
- F.** Yet the single-sex educationalists come out with other positives. One of the most common is that girls are free from the worry of sexual harassment or negative behaviour originating from the presence of

boys. Girls are said to develop greater self-confidence, and a preparedness to study subjects, such as engineering and mathematics, which were once the exclusive province of males. Conversely, boys can express a greater interest in the arts, without the possible jibe, 'That's a girls' subject'. But logically, one senses such stereotyping could equally come in single-gender settings, since it is the society outside of school, with all its related expectations, which has the greatest influence.

- G.** Among this welter of conflicting arguments, one can, at least, fall back on one certainty – that the real world is co-gendered, and each side often misunderstands the other. Supporters of co-education argue that positive and co-operative interaction between the genders at school reduces such divisions by de-emphasising gender as a factor of concern. In theory, stereotypes are broken down, and inclusion is emphasised, providing benefits for society as a whole. But such sentiments, admittedly, do sound as if we are retreating into self-promotional propaganda. In other words, these statements are just glib and unreal assertions, rather than a reflection of what actually happens in the co-educational classroom.
- H.** The key point is whether the interaction in co-educational settings is indeed positive and co-operative. Some would say it could equally be the opposite, and surely it must occasionally be so (if we abandon the rosy picture painted in the previous paragraph). But I would say that that interaction, whether good or bad, whether academically enhancing or retarding, still constitutes education, and of a vital nature. It presents exactly the same subset of challenges that students, male or female, will ultimately have to deal with in the real world. This is the most important point, and would determine my choice regarding in which educational setting I would place my children.

83. Paragraph B

84. Paragraph C

85. Paragraph D

86. Paragraph E

87. Paragraph F

88. Paragraph G

List of headings	
i	Another argument in favour
ii	Conflicting evidence
iii	Negatives are positives
iv	An emotional argument
v	Does it help or not?
vi	Looking at the other side
vii	A counter-argument
viii	It's happening anyway
ix	The problems with genders
x	An argument in favour

Part 2. MULTIPLE MATCHING (6 points)

For questions 87–92, read a review of a recent book and choose from the sections A–G. The sections may be chosen more than once. Write the correct letter A–G in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet.

Joanna Knight reviews Roger Scruton's book 'Beauty'

- A.** Roger Scruton's new book 'Beauty' is a lucid and often graceful compendium of his reflections. He discusses beauty in nature and art, and above all in buildings. Even in an artistic paradise like the city of Venice, Scruton's attention moves quickly from the heroic buildings on the waterfronts to the 'modest neighbours' that surround them. 'Ravishing beauties,' he says, 'are less important in the aesthetics of architecture than those that create a soothing context, a continuous narrative as in a street or a square, where nothing stands out in particular.'
- B.** Beauty may have its roots in sensuous enjoyment, but even at its humblest it appeals to something larger: a willingness to consider, compare and arrive at a judgement. The 'judgement of taste', as the

philosopher Immanuel Kant called it, spans two worlds: a private world of individual subjectivity, as idiosyncratic as you please, and a public world where you defend and develop your tastes through conscientious discussion – where you try to reason me out of wearing a yellow shirt, for instance, and I try to persuade you to get rid of the Carmen ringtone on your phone.

- C. Scruton explores beauty in its various forms, starting with nature. He maintains, for instance, that the beauty of unspoilt wilderness depends on an evident absence of any fixed centre, a lack of prescribed edges. The beauty of birds, animals and flowers, on the other hand, is rooted in their existence as self-defining entities with boundaries of their own. And the special beauty of the human body belongs not to a mere assemblage of body parts but to the personality that finds expression in it. All this beauty gives you, as Scruton puts it, a sense that ‘a world that makes room for such things makes room for you.’
- D. Gardens are different again. They are places where wild nature has been disciplined, more or less sympathetically, into artificial forms. Their beauty is not that of infinite landscapes but of bounded spaces that surround us, rather like architectural interiors; and they enable Scruton to move smoothly from considering natural beauty to the far more contentious terrain of high art. Scruton can be as perceptive about sculpture, painting and classical music as about the varieties of natural beauty, but inevitably he is more controversial.
- E. It is curious to observe how Scruton's feelings lead him to transgress his own standards of courtesy and decorum, and indeed of accurate and well-tuned prose. And you do not have to be a complete punk to suspect that the cause of his anguish may lie within him, and particularly in his premise that there is an unbroken continuum between the beauties of nature and works of art. Any attempt to cover the entire spectrum of reasonable pleasure with a single concept of beauty is bound, after all, to be quite a stretch.
- F. Take the literary arts. Scruton is conspicuously vague when he invokes the concept of ‘beautiful novels’, and he sounds distinctly uneasy when describing story and dialogue as ‘sensory features’ of fiction, as if they could appeal to the same aesthetic sense as glorious sunsets. Yet, in the case of literature, beauty is only half the story, and this applies to other art forms too. In a revealing passage, Scruton confesses to a general dislike for cinema as an art form, but he makes one exception: you could take a still from any film by Ingmar Bergman, he says, frame it and hang it on your wall, and it would hold its own there like a picture. That may or may not be true; but single, silent images, however beautiful, are hardly a promising basis for understanding cinematic techniques or judging how they may have extended the ancient arts of storytelling.
- G. Scruton sometimes reminds me of R G Collingwood, one of the most gifted philosophers of the 20th century, with a marvellous sense of history and, apart from a weakness for irritable sarcasm, a wonderful way with words. Like Scruton, he worked out his philosophical ideas in constant engagement with the arts. Unlike him, though, he was aware that there is more to art than beauty. In his autobiography, he described how he came to realise that works of art, however beautiful, will fail if they are unreal or imperceptive; and that works that disappoint lovers of beauty may still articulate issues about the world. If a work does not achieve beauty, it may still bear witness to truth.

In which section are the following mentioned?

88. People tend to impose their expectations on others.
89. An underlying presupposition is unwarranted.
90. Overall harmony prevails over alluring standouts.
91. The true value of beauty lies in its inclusivity.
92. Some readers might find a propensity annoying.

93. In his book, Scruton bit off more than he could chew.

Part 3. FOUR-OPTION MULTIPLE CHOICE (6 points)

You are going to read an article in which a squash player writes about the fact that his sport is not included in the Olympic Games. For questions 94–98, read the article and write A, B, C or D in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer which fits best according to what is stated or implied in the article.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES AND THE SPORT OF SQUASH

Squash player Stuart Lee outlines his reaction to the decision not to include squash in the Olympic Games

1. How should I and my fellow squash players react as our sport once again fails to earn a place at the next Olympic Games? With the increasing numbers of international competitions and the recent successful integration of women's and men's tours, one might be **forgiven** for thinking that the sport has arrived. Except, in Olympic terms, it hasn't. In fact, it's all over the place. For the **umpteenth** time, squash tried to sell itself and lost. We have **pleaded** for years and hoped to appeal to a very powerful governing committee responsible for the world's greatest sporting event, and were rejected again. Stop me if you've heard all this before, but over the years, we've **dared** to think (many times) that we were close to securing Olympic inclusion. Following our latest attempt, five sports were recommended as better options for the next Olympic Games.
2. It was always going to be touch-and-go, as the host nation this time around has not traditionally been strong on squash. There was little surprise over the inclusion of baseball and softball – they'll fill arenas and put money in the bank. Surfing is also a fair choice: it's a tough sport, enjoyed by millions of people across the world. But then came sport climbing, and skateboarding. Judging by the reactions I've seen and heard, many people were unaware that such things even existed as sports. Climbing, yes, but what's 'sport climbing'? Do these sports have governing bodies and world titles? Are they televised? Are there rules? Do they have infrastructures and do millions of people do them? I'm not trying to be clever, just asking the questions. Any sport that encourages activity and participation is a great thing, and I'm not here to denigrate anything that provides this outlet. I don't know enough about them to say what appeal they would give to the Olympics. Clearly more than squash.
3. The official line from both the Professional Squash Association and the World Squash Federation has been extremely gracious, as always. Players have been told not to react negatively, criticise those in charge or lambast other sports, but we're struggling to stop ourselves at this stage. There's some feeling now that it's going to be very hard to keep responding peaceably, merely saying 'Oh well, maybe next time'. Everyone who asks us questions about the Olympics asks with disdain why other sports are selected before squash, and it now seems that disdain has turned to amusement. It was bad enough to play second fiddle to golf and rugby sevens, but at least people who asked for our reaction to those decisions understood that they are established and recognised entities. It has been back-breaking work for squash associations to lobby for inclusion year after year. We've produced swanky and expensive promotional videos with money we didn't have and we have enlisted every celebrity we could get our hands on to hold posters up saying things such as: 'Squash for the Olympics – I'm in – are you?'
4. Nobody is quite sure why the sport has suffered these repeated failures. The Olympics is the biggest sporting event in the world. Of course we want to be there, we dearly want to be there but, with respect, all we ever do is try to justify ourselves. Our top players, who are by anyone's standards some of the greatest athletes alive, shouldn't need to do this. This is our sport, it is what it is, and it's getting better all the time. Take it or leave it. We want the Olympics and we hope the Olympics want us. When I heard the news of this latest rejection, I was in the US, playing in an international tournament, and all the players were comforted by the fact that the event had the crowds in raptures every night. It's a fine

thing to play in front of such warm and enthusiastic people. The spectators may or may not have heard the news that was on all the players' minds, but squash goes on, Olympics or not.

93. Which **bold and underlined** word in the first paragraph is used to indicate indignation?
 A. forgiven B. umpteenth C. pleaded D. dared
94. One reason the writer considers the decision to include surfing justified is its
 A. potential to generate revenue. B. rather demanding nature.
 C. regulation by official authorities. D. popularity compared to squash.
95. In the second paragraph, the writer
 A. implies that squash is inferior to baseball and softball.
 B. suggests that sports climbing is not a legitimate sport.
 C. explains why some sports should not have been chosen.
 D. acknowledges his relative ignorance of certain sports.
96. The writer mentions golf and rugby sevens in order to illustrate
 A. his inability to prevent himself from airing his grievances.
 B. his confusion as to how squash lost the bid to those sports.
 C. his fear that people are now starting to make fun of squash.
 D. the amount of effort people put into promoting squash.
97. How can the writer's main point in the fourth paragraph best be summarised?
 A. The Olympic committee's decision not to include squash is a serious mistake.
 B. Squash is the only sport subject to unfair treatment by the Olympic committee.
 C. Squash will continue to thrive even if it does not appear in the Olympic Games.
 D. The Olympic Games would benefit immensely from squash's appearance.
98. The writer gives the impression that squash players
 A. will go to any lengths to feature their sports in the Olympic Games.
 B. have had enough of trying to persuade the Olympic committee.
 C. are among the most respectable athletes around the world.
 D. no longer care about their sport's international reputation.

Part 4. GAPPED TEXT (7 points)

You are going to read an extract from a book. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the extract. For questions 99–105, read the extract and choose from paragraphs A–H the one which fits each gap. There is ONE extra paragraph which you do not need to use. Write the correct letter A–H in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet.

LONDON ZOO'S NEW TIGER TERRITORY

London Zoo, one of the oldest in the world, is an architectural jumble.

Has its £3.6m Tiger Territory put things right?

'We have tried our best to fade into the background,' says Michael Kozdon, architect of the new £3.6m Tiger Territory at London Zoo. It's not often you hear an architect say that, but then it's not often you have a pair of endangered Sumatran tigers called Jae Jae and Melati as clients, either. 'In the past,' continues Kozdon, 'animal enclosures were all about creating an iconic architectural statement. Now the emphasis is on animal welfare, on bringing visitors as close to the creatures as possible. Our aim is to disappear.'

The enclosure's sinuous silhouette echoes the pinkish peaks of its neighbour, the Mappin Terraces, a man-made range of rocky mountains that have long poked their summits above the trees, bringing a surreal air to this strange corner of the park. Built in 1914, this elevated landscape was the result of a clause governing the zoo's expansion: an additional land grab of four acres would only be allowed if the animals they housed could be visible from the rest of the park. Sadly, this sheer geological formation, erupting above the neat neoclassical terraces of north west London, has been barren since 1985, when Pipaluk, the last of the polar bears, was finally moved out after 18 years.

100

'Tigers are avid climbers,' explains Robin Fitzgerald, the zoo's project manager. 'They like to observe their terrain from a towering vantage point, so we've given them a habitat that lets them do exactly that with a view out over Regent's Park.' Describing how the poles and canopy support each other, he adds: 'It's basically circus tent technology.' Neatly complying with the brief to all but vanish into thin air, this means there is no need for the extra steel structures that are so common in the zoo's other mesh enclosures such as Cedric Price's famous Snowdon Aviary.

101

The former now provides a cosy den for the tigers, complete with heated rocks to soothe their weary muscles, while the latter has become an elevated area for visitors, with panoramic windows looking out across the Indonesian-inspired landscaping of the enclosure. From here, you can watch the tigers happily splashing about in their pool, or scaling the feeding poles to devour chicken wings and steak.

102

Such practical details are a far cry from many of the zoo's more famous structures, most of which were designed to maximise exotic spectacle. Founded in 1828 as the world's first scientific zoological gardens, the site has become burdened by the weight of its own history. From the start, when it was laid out by Decimus Burton, the zoo employed architects of the highest calibre – leaving it with a legacy of protected buildings.

103

Next door to the Tiger Territory are the bulbous flanks of the majestic elephant and rhinoceros pavilion, designed by Hugh Casson in 1965 to evoke a herd of elephants gathered around a watering hole, their huge rumps jostling for position. Topped with triangular roof lights intended to call to mind nodding heads and swinging trunks, the pavilion was commissioned 'to display these animals in the most dramatic way'.

104

The unavoidable strategy of make-do-and-mend renders London Zoo an inevitably dated institution, laden with rigid monuments conceived in another era that it must now either work with or around building design safari as a wildlife one. Victorian kiosks jostle uncomfortably with mock Tudor clocktowers; lichen-encrusted steel spaceframes cantilever out over brutalist concrete terraces.

105

London Zoo is a fascinating piece of living heritage. With its vastly increased area, near-invisible structure, and strategic re-use of what is already there, the Tiger Territory points a promising way forward.

'The challenge is far greater than it used to be,' says Kozdon. 'Before, architecture led the way. Now the best situation would be to have no buildings at all.'

Missing paragraphs:

- A. However, the Tiger Territory had other constraints to grapple with. With a limited area of 36 acres in one of London's most protected settings, the zoo was forced to modify what it had in this case, a Victorian stork and ostrich house and a 1960s sea lion viewing platform, both of which had been off-limits to visitors for 30 years.
- B. But this heritage is a mixed blessing. Take the 1934 penguin pool, a sleek and slender double helix of ramping concrete floating above a blue oval pool. Faces tend to fall when visitors find it empty, the bright white surfaces apparently damaged the penguins' eyes, and the concrete was too hard on their feet. It now stands as an unused but still-loved relic of a bygone age.
- C. This explains its importance as an important breeding centre for tigers. Tiger Territory's two Sumatran tigers are the most genetically important pair of tigers in Europe. With high hopes for breeding resting on the pair, their cubs would be the first to be born at the zoo for more than 15 years.
- D. A look inside is telling: the space for visitors far exceeds the narrow nooks created for the immense creatures. The vast structure is now home to bearded pigs and pygmy hippos – tubby, low-slung creatures that seem out of place in the building's soaring, top-lit reaches.
- E. This architectural jumble all comes to a strange climax in the stripped classical facade of the 1920s aquarium, with its arched entranceway and symmetrical windows now squeezed beneath the colossal mock-rocks of what was once Bear Mountain – itself used to house tanks of water for the fish below.
- F. This explains why, rather than being held in by a roof, the animals have a fine net canopy stretching above their heads – even though its silken threads are made of 3 mm steel cable. The canopy soars above the treetops of Regent's Park like a giant spider's web.
- G. Thanks to the Tiger Territory, the skyline of the zoo is now newly populated. The new enclosure boasts several mature plane trees, as well as tall wooden feeding poles fitted with pulleys that hoist big chunks of meat aloft. So, before they can sink their three-inch teeth into lunch, the animals will first have to go up them, which suits their predatory nature.
- H. These design features demonstrate a new emphasis on animal welfare. This extends to the pairing of the animals, which was meticulously planned. But if needed, the pair can be separated, along with any future cubs, into two different parts of the enclosure, connected by a glass door.

III. WRITING (35 points)

Part 1. WORD FORMATION (10 points)

For questions 106–115, read the passage and fill in each of the numbered spaces with the correct form of the words given in the box to make a meaningful passage. There are TWO words that you do not need to use. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet.

ADAPT	CONDUCT	RIGID	CONSERVE	TRIBUTE	BREAK
DEPEND	ZEAL	CEREMONY	SIMILAR	CHARACTER	PRESS

THE DESIRE TO KNOW

Curiosity goes back to the dawn of human existence. This (106) _____ desire to know is not a (107) _____ of inanimate objects. Nor does it seem to be (108) _____ to some forms of living

organism which, for that very reason, we can scarcely bring ourselves to consider alive. A tree, for example, does not display recognisable curiosity, nor does a sponge or even an oyster. If chance events bring them poison, predators or parasites, they die as (109) _____ as they lived.

Early in the scheme of life, (110) _____ motion was developed by some organisms. It meant a(n) (111) _____ advance in their control of the environment. A moving organism no longer waited in stolid (112) _____ for food to come its way, but went out after it. The individual that hesitated in the (113) _____ search for food, or that was overly (114) _____ in its investigation, starved.

As organisms grew more complex, more messages of greater variety were received from and about the surrounding environment. At the same time, the nervous system, the living instrument that interprets and stores the data collected by the sense organs, became increasingly complex, allowing for more advanced cognitive functions and behavioral (115) _____.

Part 2. ERROR IDENTIFICATION AND CORRECTION (5 points)

For questions 116–120, identify FIVE mistakes in the following passage and correct them. Indicate the line at which the mistakes are located, as well as how to correct them. Write NO MORE THAN FOUR WORDS for each error and correction in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet.

An example (00) has been done for you. You MUST NOT write this example on your answer sheet.

Example:

	Line	Error	Correction
00	1	of	of

Line	Passage
1	Jon Wynne-Tyson was an original thinker <u>of</u> whose best-known book, entitled <i>Food for</i>
2	<i>a Future</i> , published in 1975. In this classic work, a case was put forward for what can only be
3	described as a more responsible and humane attitude to the world's food resources. It had
4	gradually become clear to Wynne-Tyson that the economics and ecology of meat production
5	hardly made sense. What justification was there, he argued, with using seven tonnes of cereal
6	to produce one tonne of meat?
7	Even today, the book's succinct style makes it compulsively readable. Because his
8	approach is basically an emotional one, Wynne-Tyson goes to great lengths to back up every
9	statement with considerable supporting evidence and statistical data. Thus, even those of us
10	who are widely read on the subject of vegetarianism will gain fresh insights into the book. It
11	is generally agreed that his most skilful achievement is the slow revelation of his main thesis
12	as the arguments unfold. The book concludes that a move away from an animal-based diet to
13	one based on plant sources is inevitable in the long term, in spite of the fact that there is no
14	sound nutritional, medical or justification for meat eating.

Part 3. KEY WORD TRANSFORMATION (20 points)

For questions 121–130, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one, using the word given in brackets. Do NOT change the word given. You must use between THREE AND EIGHT WORDS, including the word given. Write ONLY THE MISSING WORDS in the corresponding numbered boxes provided on your answer sheet.

An example (00) has been done for you.

Example:

00. Do you mind if I watch you while you paint? **(OBJECTION)**
Do you _____ you while you paint?

Write ONLY THE MISSING WORDS on your answer sheet:

00 have any objection to my watching

121. “The museum being built right now must start admitting visitors this month,” said Tom. **(UNDER)**
Tom insisted _____ the public this month.
122. Candidates who bring the test paper out of the exam room will be immediately disqualified. **(BE)**
Candidates will face _____ from the exam room.
123. The detective maintained that Brian had never signed the document. **(BELONG)**
According to the detective, _____.
124. No one on Earth has managed to solve the 3x3 Rubik’s Cube in less than 3.13 seconds. **(WORLD)**
3.13 seconds _____ 3x3 Rubik’s Cube.
125. Because my phone died, I had to take the bus to get home. **(RUN)**
My _____ forced to take the bus to get home.
126. You must not drink alcohol while you are on heart medication. **(FROM)**
_____ absolutely essential.
127. The teacher had warned that the mid-term test was difficult, but it was very easy. **(NOTHING)**
The mid-term test turned _____ the teacher had warned us it would be.
128. Yoshi tried his best to make sure that everything was as it should be on the big day. **(LEFT)**
Yoshi took _____ on the big day.
129. I had almost given up on the quiz when I suddenly knew how to solve it. **(EDGE)**
I suddenly knew the quiz’s solution just as I _____ sponge.
130. We must always remember that scientists have contributed a lot to improving our lives. **(SIGHT)**
Never _____ play in improving our lives.

THE END OF THE TEST