

V. PART FIVE: OPEN CLOZE TEST (40 pts)

Fill in each blank with ONE suitable word to make a meaningful passage.

PASSAGE A

The city of Melbourne, Australia has always had a (61)_____ for unusual weather. Melbourne people enjoy telling this joke to visitors: if you don't like the weather in Melbourne, don't worry, just wait five minutes, because it's sure to change.

At the beginning of 1992, Melbourne had its wettest January for over 100 years. It rained for nine days on (62)_____. As well as raining all day, the weather was also cold. At night, people in some Melbourne suburbs were (63)_____ on their heating as if it was winter. It was (64)_____ cold many people could (65)_____ believe that it was summer at all.

The best weather in Melbourne, however, is not usually in the summer: it is in the autumn. The autumn usually has more pleasant days (66)_____ the summer. The weather in autumn is usually comprised of warm days and cool, comfortable (67)_____.

The (68)_____ of the city at this time of year is beautiful, too. Melbourne has many lovely gardens and parklands with beautiful trees. In the autumn, the trees change their leaves to red, gold and brown. As they are (69)_____ in the air by the wind of a late autumn day, the leaves add life to the city. So even if the summer is cold and wet, people in Melbourne can still look forward to the (70)_____ of a warm sunny autumn.

Task 2

Many tourists who visit Central America find it surprising to learn that the Mayas still live there. (71)_____ it is true that their ancient civilization came to an end when their country was (72)_____ over by the Spanish conquistadors, the Mayan people carried (73)_____ living in the area. Today there are an estimated 1.2 million Mayas who live in southern Mexico, and many other areas of Central America states have large Mayan populations as (74)_____.

Many of their stories and art forms have remained (75)_____ over time, and today, women weave clothing and carpets that have signs and symbols that are the same as (76)_____ found in ancient temples.

The different patterns and symbols on these brightly coloured (77)_____ not only look attractive, but can also communicate important information such as marital (78)_____.

Even though the majority of the Mayas are now Catholics, many of the festivals that they take part in are a mixture of the old rituals that their ancestors use to practise and more modern Christian elements. It was perhaps the Mayas' ability to (79)_____ and change that made it possible for them to survive to the (80)_____ day.