READING

Task 4

Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (17–21). There are three choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

WAYS TO PREVENT TRAFFIC CONGESTION

There are certain times of the day when there is always going to be a lot of traffic. While this can't be avoided there are ways your own driving habits can help minimize the magnitude of congestion in your area.

17 ____

It's not hard to stop every time you see other drivers' red lights come on in traffic. In fact, it's good to pay attention to the cars in front of you and know when they are slowing down, or speeding up.

But hitting your brakes frequently helps create a traffic accordion as drivers behind you replicate your movement. This slows everybody down in the long run and makes congestion worse.

If traffic is stop-and-go, drive slowly enough that you aren't braking every few seconds to avoid hitting the car in front of you.

18 ____

Tailgating the car in front of you won't get you to your destination any faster, either. In fact, it may slow you down even more. Giving yourself a car length of space between your front end and the next car gives you room to react to other cars. It also allows you the time to decide whether or not you need to apply the brakes or gas to keep the traffic flow moving.

19 ____

You may be bored and want to know what's going on with all those emergency vehicles, but the cost of adding to already-clogged roads should outweigh any knowledge you might gain from staring. If you really want to know what the deal is, dial into your car's radio or check the news later. But just don't be 'that guy' by slowing everyone else down as you gaze intently out your window.

20 ____

If you can change your schedule to drive during a less busy time of day, even better. But many of us can't do that — so use the apps at your disposal, and your knowledge of the everyday driving situation, to help you pick a route that will take you around the traffic rather than right through its heart.

21 ____

If you have the ability to take an alternate mode of transportation during rush hour, such as a bicycle, bus, or train, then do so! Although that might mean more riders on the bus or train at that time, you still won't have to wait as long as you might while sitting on the road with all of the other drivers snaking their way home. Being an educated, thoughtful driver will help you make long strides toward avoiding the worst parts of traffic congestion.

A Walk, don't drive.
B Use the websites not to be marooned.
C Carpool or choose different transportation.
D Don't surge ahead.
E Easy on the brakes.
F Drive a different route
G Avoid gawking
H Give yourself space.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Task 5

Read the text below. For questions (22–26) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

THE STORY OF THE MICROWAVE OVEN, 20TH CENTURY FAMOUS INVENTION

It was during a radar-related research project around 1946 that Dr Percy Spencer, while working for Raytheon Corporation, noticed that a candy bar in his pocket melted during the testing of a new vacuum tube called a magnetron. This intrigued Dr Spencer, so he tried another experiment, this time he placing some popcorn kernels near the tube and, watched as the popcorn sputtered, cracked and popped.

The next morning Spencer decided to put the magnetron tube near an egg. Spencer and a colleague both watched as the egg began to tremor and shake. Spencer's colleague moved in for a closer look just as the egg splattered yolk all over his face. Dr Spencer concluded that if you can cook an egg that quickly, then you could cook other foods as well. He began experimenting. Dr Spencer enclosed the food to be cooked in a metal box that he fed the microwaves into. Dr Spencer had invented what was to revolutionize cooking, and form the basis of a multimillion dollar industry, the microwave oven, another one of the famous inventions I think is super important.

In 1947, Raytheon demonstrated the world's first microwave oven and called it a Radarange. The first microwave ovens cost between $2,000 and $3,000. Around 1952–55, Tappan introduced the first home model priced at $1295. In 1967 Raytheon owned Amana Refrigeration introduced the first countertop microwave oven. It cost just under $500 and was smaller, safer and more reliable than previous models.

By 1975, sales of microwave ovens would, for the first time, exceed that of gas ranges. In 1976, the microwave oven became a more commonly owned kitchen appliance than the dishwasher, reaching nearly about 52 million U.S. households. America's cooking habits were being dramatically changed by the convenience of the microwave oven. Once considered a luxury, the microwave oven had developed into a practical necessity for a fast-paced world of the 20th century.

22 The invention started with _____ .
A an egg
B a lollipop
C the popcorn
D a sweet

23 The egg near the magnetron _____ .
A boiled
B fried
C cooked
D cracked

24 The first models microwave ovens were _____ .
A pricey
B cheap
C luxurious
D efficient

25 Before the 1970s the microwaves were _____ the gas ovens.
A more popular than
B not as popular as
C as popular as
D not popular at all

26 America's cooking habits were _____ changed by the convenience of the microwave oven.
A moderately
B seriously
C slightly
D somewhat

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Task 6

Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (27–32). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

AN INTERVIEW WITH A FAMOUS PHOTOGRAPHER

27 In some of the places, absolutely, because they're so incredible that no matter what you've seen on TV, it's different when you're actually there experiencing the sounds and the smells. When we went down to Antarctica, there was an awful odour around penguin colonies, because they eat a lot of fish. Even though it's awful, it wakes people's senses up to the fact that they're in this incredible environment.

28 It changes for every assignment, and a lot of the assignments I've been doing lately require lighting. So I travel with too much lighting equipment, and stands and backgrounds and grip equipment. It gets pretty expensive with all the extra baggage, so I'm trying more and more to rent things overseas.

29 I bring a lot of lighting if I'm doing a science type of shoot, where I'm lighting either archaeological places or museum objects or scientists working. For example, there was a National Geographic story last year called Hothouse Earth. That story was mostly domestic, shot in Wyoming, Florida, and swamps down in Georgia and Carolina, along with trips to Bolivia and Nunavut. The arctic at one time looked like the swamps of North Carolina, so I shot a picture in the swamps, we made a huge print on canvas, and I had a man in Nunavut hold it.

30 There's no guarantee. I try to take direct flights so that the equipment doesn't have to be offloaded and onloaded and have a chance of getting lost. I let them know it's lighting equipment. Some of the companies will give press and film crews a discount on excess baggage fees, at least domestically. It doesn't work internationally. One time coming back from China I paid something like $3,500 in excess baggage fees.

31 On the last trip I made to Utah, I was always near a car, and even when I was camped out, eventually I would get back to a car. So I took an inverter with me that I could plug into a cigarette lighter. I'd plug chargers into the inverter while driving. I tried a solar blanket once, but it didn't charge fast enough. Solar just isn't there yet, to charge what I need to charge.

32 The cameras don't need anything special there. But me, I've got to hydrate a lot. Especially in the place where you don't feel yourself sweating because everything gets absorbed and evaporates, you don't feel like you're losing that much moisture, but you are.

A What kinds of shoots do you need a lot of lights for?
B What about the other extreme, when you're shooting in the desert?
C How do you make the process go smoothly and ensure that your checked gear arrives undamaged?
D Are your students surprised by places that they've already seen in pictures and on television?
E How much time do you spend out there?
F How do you usually prepare for your travel?
G If you're going somewhere remote, what do you do for power?
H Do you have a standard travel kit, or does your gear change for every task?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Task 7

Read the text below. Choose from (A–H) the one which best fits each space (33–38). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

HOLLYWOOD CAREER

Actress Hedy Lamarr was born Hedwig Eva Maria Kiesler on 9 November, 1913, in Vienna, Austria. Discovered by an Austrian film director as a teenager, she gained international notice in 1933. After her unhappy marriage ended with Fritz Mandl, a wealthy Austrian manufacturer who sold arms to the Nazis, she fled to the United States and signed a contract with the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio in Hollywood **(33)** ____ . Upon the release of her first American film, *Algiers*, co-starring Charles Boyer, Lamarr became an immediate box-office sensation.

Often referred to as one of the most gorgeous and exotic of Hollywood's leading ladies, Lamarr made a number of well-received films during the 1930s and 1940s. Notable among them were *Lady of the Tropics* (1939), co-starring Robert Taylor; *Boom Town* (1940), co-starring Tracy; and *Samson and Delilah* (1949), opposite Victor Mature. She was reportedly producer Hal Wallis' first choice for the heroine in his classic 1943 film, *Casablanca*, **(34)** ____ .

In 1942, during the heyday of her career, Lamarr earned recognition **(35)** ____ . She and her friend, the composer George Antheil, received a patent for an idea of a radio signaling device, or 'Secret Communications System,' which was a means of changing radio frequencies **(36)** ____ . Originally designed to defeat the German Nazis, the system became an important step in the development of technology to maintain the security **(37)** ____ .

Lamarr wasn't instantly recognized for her communications invention since its wide ranging impact wasn't understood until decades later. However, in 1997 Lamarr and Antheil were honoured with the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) Pioneer Award, and that same year Lamarr became the first female to receive the BULBIE™ Gnass Spirit of Achievement Award, **(38)** ____ .

A co-inventing an early technique for spread spectrum communications
B to keep enemies from decoding messages
C a part that eventually went to Ingrid Bergman
D in a field quite different from entertainment
E under the name Hedy Lamarr
F of both military communications and cellular phones
G considered 'The Oscars' of inventing
H key to many wireless communications of our present day

LIVEWORKSHEETS