

GRADE 9 - FILL IN THE BLANK 1

I. Choose the word or phrase that best fits the blank space in the following passage (1.5 pts) (A)

Most people think of computers as very modern inventions, products of our new technological (15)_____. But actually the idea for a computer was worked out over two centuries ago by a man called Charles Babbage. Babbage was born in 1791 and grew up to be a brilliant mathematician. He drew up plans for several calculating machines (16)_____ he called "engines". Despite the fact that he (17) _____ building some of these, he never finished any of them. Over the years people have argued (18) _____ his machines would ever work. Recently, however, the Science Museum in London has finished building an engine based on one of Babbage's designs. (19) _____ has taken six years to complete and more than four thousand parts have been specially made. Whether it works or not, the machine will be on show at a special exhibition in the Science Museum (20)_____ remind people of Babbage's work.

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|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| 15. A. old | B. age | C. time | D. years |
| 16. A. whose | B. who | C. these | D. which |
| 17. A. wanted | B. made | C. started | D. missed |
| 18. A. until | B. whether | C. while | D. though |
| 19. A. One | B. He | C. They | D. It |
| 20. A. to | B. as | C. for | D. so |

II. Choose the word or phrase that best fits the blank space in the following passage (1.5 pts) (B)

Earthquakes can be caused by volcanoes in certain cases. Nuclear explosions under the ground can create waves (15) _____ are very similar to natural seismic waves. The seismic energy (16) _____ in an atomic bomb is one hundred-thousandth that of the largest earthquake.

Earthquakes (17) _____ in all parts of the world. (18) _____ activity occurs along certain belts. 80% of all seismic energy is generated (19) _____ a belt that is found at the border of the Pacific Ocean. A great deal of volcanoes is also found there, and volcanoes (20) _____ many earthquakes. Japan, the Philippine Islands, New Guinea, and New Zealand are all parts of the Pacific belt.

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|-------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 15. a. who | b. that | c. whom | d. whose |
| 16. a. create | b. to create | c. creating | d. created |
| 17. a. take place | b. take in | c. take over | d. take off |
| 18. a. frequency | b. frequencies | c. frequent | d. frequently |
| 19. a. for | b. in | c. from | d. with |
| 20. a. set off | b. set on | c. set in | d. set up |

III. Choose the word (A, B, C or D) that best fits the blank space in the following passage. (1.5pts.) (C)

POWER UP!

If you went to hospital and there was no electricity, you would be (19) _____. You'd (20) feel scared, too! But (21) _____ some of the world's poorest countries, hospitals

often have no power. Doctors sometimes perform operations in the candle light! If they (22) _____ electric lights, these operations would be easier and safer.

Power Up Gambia is a charity that provides (23) _____ energy for hospitals (24) _____ health clinics in the Gambia, West Africa. Its most famous supporter is Olivia Wilde, star of the American TV show House.

"If I were a superhero, I'd want electrical power in my finger," Olivia once said. Perhaps supporting Power Up Gambia is the next best thing.

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|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| 19. A. amazed | B. amazing | C. amazement | D. amazes |
| 20. A. friendly | B. probably | C. lovely | D. lively |
| 21. A. on | B. to | C. from | D. in |
| 22. A. had | B. has | C. have | D. having |
| 23. A. sun | B. sunny | C. solar | D. sunlight |
| 24. A. when | B. and | C. too | D. after |

IV. Choose the word (A, B, C or D) that best fits the blank space in the following passage. (1.5 pts.) (D)

In recent years, the problem of environmental pollution has (27) _____ a serious situation in big cities of our country. Why? - Nowadays, we are living in a city with an increase in population, so domestic waste is the first reason. Then many people's social (28) _____ is not high. In several areas, they throw trash on the street or onto the rivers. It is easy for us to see rubbish of all kinds (29) _____ on the water. Moreover, many uncultured people even "make water" in the public place. Secondly, our city is overloaded with vehicles that expel all (30) _____ and dust from them. This contributes to the heat of the air, and causes pollution. Thirdly, in several places, trees (31) _____ cut down to have room for buildings, hotels, or supermarkets. This makes the atmosphere in our city muggy and stuffy as well. Also, many factories send out waste into the rivers or poisonous gas into the air. Finally, the drainage system in our city is very old and downgrade, so it's always flooded whenever it rains. In conclusion, air (32) _____ in the cities are really alarming problem now! What do you think about this?

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|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 27. A. became | B. become | C. to become | D. becoming |
| 28. A. compliment | B. announcement | C. authority | D. consciousness |
| 29. A. disappointing | B. saving | C. floating | D. consuming |
| 30. A. smoke | B. doll | C. dormitory | D. existence |
| 31. A. to be | B. have been | C. having been | D. to have been |
| 32. A. pollutants | B. polluting | C. polluted | D. pollution |

