You are going to read an extract from an article. For **questions 19 to 26**, *choose the correct answer (***A**, **B**, **C**, *or* **D***) and mark the correct letter* **A**, **B**, **C**, *or* **D**.

A New Chance at Life

In 2018, a horrible car accident on Route 22 in New Jersey changed young Joe DiMeo's life forever. The 20-year-old fell asleep while driving home after working a night shift as a product tester for a drug company. His car hit the curb and utility pole, flipped over, and immediately burst into flames. Thankfully, another driver who saw the accident pulled over and pulled DiMeo from the burning vehicle and saved his life. But DiMeo suffered from third-degree burns to more than 80 per cent of his body. The injury was so severe that he was left without eyelids, ears and much of his fingers even though he survived.

Afterwards, he spent months in a medically induced coma and had undergone 20 reconstructive surgeries and multiple skin grafts to treat his third-degree burns. He had severe scarring on his face and neck that limited his motion. After the surgeries, he only regained limited use of his hands and face. It became clear that he was unable to regain full vision and use of his hands after the surgeries. He had to move back in with his parents to help taking care of his basic needs.

So, DiMeo's medical team began preparing him for a risky face and hands transplant in early 2019. The team encountered challenges including finding a donor as they estimated that he only had a 6 per cent chance of searching for a match that would be compatible with his immune system. Moreover, they wanted to find a donor that would have the same gender, skin tone and hand dominance.

Then, the pandemic hit during the search for a donor and organ donations plummeted. The members of the transplant unit were reassigned in COVID-19 wards during the New York City's surge. A piece of great news came in early August when the team finally identified a donor in Delaware. The gruelling surgery took 23 hours, 80 people working in six surgical teams and two adjoining operating rooms. They first amputated both of DiMeo's hands, replacing them mid-forearm and connecting nerves, blood vessels and 21 tendons with hair-thin sutures. Then, they transplanted a full face, which included the forehead, eyebrows, nose, eyelids, lips, both ears, and underlying facial bones. The operation was done as fast as possible to avoid infection. DiMeo spent 45 days in intensive care in the hospital and two months of inpatient rehabilitation.

© Penerbitan Pelangi Sdn. Bhd.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DiMeo's doctors waited for six months before announcing the success of the surgery to ensure that the transplants were not rejected as previous transplant surgeries were unsuccessful. This makes DiMeo to become the world's first successful face and double hand transplant. Dr. Robert Sucher told that there can be problems such as wounds not healing properly, the transplant being infected and the risk of immunological problems where the body rejects the transplanted organs. The risk has become smaller after several months but remains for the rest of DiMeo's life. So far, DiMeo has shown no signs of rejecting his new face or hands.

DiMeo has been in intense rehabilitation since leaving the hospital in November 2020. He spent hours daily on physical, occupational and speech therapy. DiMeo said the rehab was intense as it involves a lot of retraining himself to do things on his own again. In the rehab session, he practised raising his eyebrows, opening and closing his eyes, puckering his mouth, giving a thumbs up and even whistling. He can feel his forehead and hands get cold and always pushes up his long hair off his face. Now, he can also dress and feed himself. He plays pool and plays with his dog, Buster. He also starts working out at the gym again and is practising his golf swing.

At the news conference in February, he pulled a written statement out of his breast pocket with his new hands and held it up to read. He thanked the donor and said that he wanted to share his story to give people hope in the world. DiMeo said when you get a new chance at life, you can't give it up. To get to where he is now was not an easy journey. But there's no excuse for him to not be motivated or not do his therapy.

(Adapted from -https://www.dw.com/en/joe-dimeo-unprecedented-transplant-a-second-chance-at-life/a-56464641)

19 In paragraph 1, what caused DiMeo's injury to be so severe in the accident?

A His car was caught on fire.
B His car hit the utility pole.
C His car flipped over.
D His car hit the curb.

20 In paragraph 2, how do we know the surgeries were unsuccessful?

A DiMeo had scarring that would not allow him to move freely.
B DiMeo was unable to regain full use of his face and hands.
C DiMeo had to move back in with his parents.
D DiMeo had limited use of his hands.

© Penerbitan Pelangi Sdn. Bhd.
LIVEWORKSHEETS

21 From paragraph 3 and 4, which of these is NOT the difficulty faced by DiMeo medical team when finding a donor for the transplant?
- **A** Finding a donor who has a similar height.
- **B** Finding a donor with a compatible immune system.
- **C** The decline in the number of organ donation due to pandemic.
- **D** The doctors from the medical team were transferred to other wards.

22 In paragraph 4, why is the transplant surgery described as 'gruelling'?
- **A** The surgery needed to have two operating rooms.
- **B** The surgery needed to be done as fast as they could.
- **C** The surgery involved a lot of people who had to work for long hours.
- **D** The surgery was difficult as they needed to connect many intricate nerves, blood vessels and tendons with thin sutures.

23 In paragraph 5, why did the doctors wait for six months before announcing the surgery was a success?
- **A** They wanted DiMeo to recuperate for a long time in the hospital.
- **B** They wanted to be sure that DiMeo's body did not reject the transplanted organs.
- **C** They were excited to be the world's first successful face and double hand transplant.
- **D** They were nervous because there have been previous unsuccessful transplant surgeries.

24 In paragraph 6, why is the rehabilitation important to DiMeo after the surgery?
- **A** Because he has forgotten how to do things after the accident.
- **B** So that he can practise using his new transplanted organs.
- **C** Because he has been in the hospital for a very long time.
- **D** So that he can be healthy again.

25 How has the transplant surgery affected DiMeo's life?
- **A** It makes him more motivated.
- **B** It has improved his quality of life.
- **C** It forced him to undergo intense rehabilitation.
- **D** It allows him to share his story and inspire others.

26 In the last paragraph, what does the sentence "... he pulled a written statement out of his breast pocket with his new hands and held it up to read." show the audience?
- **A** DiMeo showed how he uses his hands.
- **B** DiMeo was very motivated at his rehab.
- **C** DiMeo was able to take out the note on his own.
- **D** DiMeo was able to use his transplanted hands as his own.

LIVEWORKSHEETS