

Reading ECPE

- 51 They were stunned that the tickets near the stage \_\_\_\_\_ than those right at the back of the theatre.
- A were not any expensive  
 B were not as expensive  
 C were none so expensive  
 D were no more expensive
- 52 \_\_\_\_\_ our mains when the server came along and snatched up the plates, telling us they were closing.
- A We had finished hardly  
 B Had we finished hardly  
 C Hardly had we finished  
 D Finished hardly had we
- 53 \_\_\_\_\_ this product malfunctions, be sure to return it to the retailer for a refund or replacement.
- A In the event that  
 B On condition when  
 C So long as  
 D Provided for
- 54 Rather than planning every minute detail of our vacation, why don't we just \_\_\_\_\_?
- A take it as it comes  
 B take as comes it  
 C take what it comes  
 D take it to come
- 55 First Response Industries, \_\_\_\_\_, is a company that deals in emergency medical devices.
- A with its name implies  
 B implying as its name  
 C as the name implies  
 D to imply the name
- 56 \_\_\_\_\_ disturb your mom when she's working in her office.
- A Don't be sure to  
 B You're sure to not  
 C To be sure don't  
 D Be sure not to
- 57 Ellen couldn't find the book she was looking for, but she \_\_\_\_\_ a recommendation for similar one.
- A had been gotten  
 B was getting  
 C did get  
 D has been getting
- 58 In order to process your application quickly, please bring \_\_\_\_\_ I requested to my office.
- A some papers that  
 B the papers that  
 C your papers what  
 D a paper to which

51	A	B	C	D
55	A	B	C	D

52	A	B	C	D
56	A	B	C	D

53	A	B	C	D
57	A	B	C	D

54	A	B	C	D
58	A	B	C	D

59 We were all surprised when John quit because nobody \_\_\_\_\_ idea that he had any intention of leaving.

- A didn't have a faint
- B had the faintest
- C had only a faint
- D was having the faintest

60 Most young couples have to \_\_\_\_\_ a house until they've both got a stable income.

- A hold buying off
- B hold off on buying
- C hold buying from
- D hold from buy

61 They took on extra staff at the free concert \_\_\_\_\_ large crowds.

- A that anticipating
- B to anticipate some
- C with anticipation for
- D in anticipation of

62 We \_\_\_\_\_ in Los Angeles at 7:30am, but our flight was delayed.

- A had due to arrive
- B were due arriving
- C were due to arrive
- D had been due arriving

63 Nuria \_\_\_\_\_ her parents' car without asking beforehand.

- A wouldn't dream of driving
- B wouldn't dream to drive
- C wouldn't have dreamt to drive
- D wouldn't be dreaming of driving

64 The team is bound to win the track events as \_\_\_\_\_ super hard, but they are also really talented.

- A not only have they been training
- B they have been training not only
- C not only they have been training
- D they not only have trained

65 If the bosses aren't going to listen to your solutions, \_\_\_\_\_ their own mess.

- A let them have fixed
- B let them fix
- C let fixing themselves
- D let them to fix

66 \_\_\_\_\_, the farmers were already up and working in the fields.

- A Before it is sunrise
- B It was before sunrise
- C Being before sunrise
- D The sunrise happening

59	A	B	C	D
63	A	B	C	D

60	A	B	C	D
64	A	B	C	D

61	A	B	C	D
65	A	B	C	D

62	A	B	C	D
66	A	B	C	D

**This passage is about Silicon Valley.**

Silicon Valley is renowned as the home of countless **67)** \_\_\_\_\_ in all things technological. With famous corporations headquartered there and innovative starts ups on every corner, it is constantly **68)** \_\_\_\_\_ in all sorts of fields.

Yet few people are aware that its history is grounded more in academia than in business. The area gained prominence

**69)** \_\_\_\_\_ of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, after the establishment of Stanford University in 1891. This, coupled with an **70)** \_\_\_\_\_ of money and increasing international trade, soon created a unique business culture.

The second boost came during the 1950s from Stanford's dean of engineering, Frederick Terman, an academic who had

**71)** \_\_\_\_\_ turning the area's electronics industry into an economic powerhouse. His approach was **72)** \_\_\_\_\_ on strict guidelines concerning what research the university would do for private organizations or government. He persuaded William Shockley, an innovator in transistor technology, into **73)** \_\_\_\_\_ and setting up a company, but, unfortunately, he was **74)** \_\_\_\_\_ at management and the company soon dissolved. However, the engineers from his company went on to set up Fairchild Semiconductors, which became remarkably successful. The new company had **75)** \_\_\_\_\_ Silicon Valley, and this is still felt today since almost three quarters of Bay Area companies are considered to be its direct **76)** \_\_\_\_\_.

- 67**    **A** protagonists            **C** innovators  
         **B** intruders                 **D** advocates
  
- 68**    **A** breaking new ground    **C** going with the flow  
         **B** turning over a new leaf   **D** burning the midnight oil
  
- 69**    **A** on the dot                 **C** in the face  
         **B** at the turn                **D** to the point
  
- 70**    **A** overload                    **C** outline  
         **B** expenditure              **D** influx
  
- 71**    **A** set his sights on            **C** taken stock of  
         **B** come to terms with       **D** given rise to
  
- 72**    **A** addressed                 **C** founded  
         **B** related                     **D** represented
  
- 73**    **A** joining forces             **C** breaking free  
         **B** knowing best             **D** bearing fruit
  
- 74**    **A** deceptive                 **C** ruthless  
         **B** appalling                 **D** conceited
  
- 75**    **A** an intense significance in   **C** a profound impact on  
         **B** deep indications for       **D** sincere efforts in
  
- 76**    **A** hierarchies                **C** predecessors  
         **B** ventures                    **D** descendants

<b>67</b>	A	B	C	D
<b>71</b>	A	B	C	D
<b>75</b>	A	B	C	D

<b>68</b>	A	B	C	D
<b>72</b>	A	B	C	D
<b>76</b>	A	B	C	D

<b>69</b>	A	B	C	D
<b>73</b>	A	B	C	D

<b>70</b>	A	B	C	D
<b>74</b>	A	B	C	D

This passage is about automation.

While automated vehicles seem like a vision that wouldn't look 77) \_\_\_\_\_ in a sci-fi movie, they are very much a reality in today's world. Citizens of cities like Austin, Pittsburgh and Phoenix, amongst others, are some of the 78) \_\_\_\_\_ already sharing their highways with fully driverless automobiles.

Naturally, all such considerable developments tend to bring about skepticism from the general public, especially regarding road safety, with many people 79) \_\_\_\_\_ of whether automation can really be as trustworthy as human control. However, the fact of the matter is that the data suggest 80) \_\_\_\_\_, as does history.

Developments that involve automation have always taken time for the public to 81) \_\_\_\_\_ themselves to. Nowadays, for example, we wouldn't think twice about using an automatic elevator, but at the 82) \_\_\_\_\_ of their automation many people felt 83) \_\_\_\_\_ about it, as they were accustomed to having an elevator 'driver' whose very presence provided a psychological 84) \_\_\_\_\_ to passengers.

Ironically, what many people don't appreciate is that human action is considerably more 85) \_\_\_\_\_ to errors compared to the reliability of automation. This has already been embraced in the aviation industry where some of the most demanding manoeuvres are 86) \_\_\_\_\_ automation, and before long, hopefully, a similar confidence will be bestowed on vehicle automation.

- 77 A out of place C back to front  
B on the cards D a safe bet
- 78 A founders C developers  
B champions D pioneers
- 79 A jumping to conclusions C keeping their fingers crossed  
B posing the question D raising the alarm
- 80 A it C to  
B that D so
- 81 A confront C reconcile  
B prevail D incorporate
- 82 A outset C application  
B principle D means
- 83 A in confidence C off limits  
B ill at ease D touch and go
- 84 A tolerance C reassurance  
B resignation D willpower
- 85 A legitimate C susceptible  
B eminent D disposable
- 86 A authorized by C made do with  
B implied in D left to

77	A	B	C	D
81	A	B	C	D
85	A	B	C	D

78	A	B	C	D
82	A	B	C	D
86	A	B	C	D

79	A	B	C	D
83	A	B	C	D

80	A	B	C	D
84	A	B	C	D

87 Worker \_\_\_\_\_ is especially important to the company, which is why we offer great employee benefits.

- A rejection
- B retention
- C resolution
- D repression

88 For Jane, the \_\_\_\_\_ of working in an office was something she wanted to avoid no matter what.

- A mediocrity
- B stability
- C humanity
- D peculiarity

89 Working in the movie industry can be very \_\_\_\_\_, but for the majority it's a tough business with little reward.

- A lucrative
- B immense
- C applicable
- D monetary

90 There was \_\_\_\_\_ in the community when the prisoner was released early.

- A rapture
- B sincerity
- C irony
- D outrage

91 As far as I'm concerned, this idea \_\_\_\_\_ serious consideration.

- A merits
- B endorses
- C appreciates
- D devises

92 When the cost of living rises, everyone has to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A toe the line
- B tighten their belts
- C make their way
- D recharge their batteries

93 If you \_\_\_\_\_ it, you'll master the guitar in a couple of years.

- A keep in
- B keep at
- C keep up
- D keep to

94 Nick was only \_\_\_\_\_ injured in the car accident, and was still able to go to work.

- A visibly
- B deeply
- C unavoidably
- D superficially

87	A	B	C	D
91	A	B	C	D

88	A	B	C	D
92	A	B	C	D

89	A	B	C	D
93	A	B	C	D

90	A	B	C	D
94	A	B	C	D

95 The statue was erected to \_\_\_\_\_ the achievements of the city's famous artist, Erika Jones.

- A reinforce
- B overlook
- C embody
- D commemorate

96 There are \_\_\_\_\_ drinks and snacks available on all AirGo long-haul flights.

- A supplementary
- B complimentary
- C mandatory
- D voluntary

97 Vicky moved to Canada and gradually \_\_\_\_\_ from her friends.

- A slipped away
- B stepped down
- C backed out
- D drifted apart

98 Whitez detergent is specially developed to avoid \_\_\_\_\_ on your family's skin.

- A irritations
- B annoyances
- C nuisances
- D frustrations

99 I noticed someone attempting to steal a car and had the \_\_\_\_\_ to call the police

- A means to an end
- B conscious decision
- C presence of mind
- D breadth of experience

100 Basil has a pleasant taste and \_\_\_\_\_ that can be sensed in any dish.

- A musk
- B air
- C odor
- D stink

101 My memories of living in southern France are something I will \_\_\_\_\_ forever.

- A treasure
- B perceive
- C indulge
- D deduce

102 Research suggests that people \_\_\_\_\_ giving speeches more than taking exams.

- A revolt
- B dread
- C suppress
- D disguise

95	A	B	C	D
99	A	B	C	D

96	A	B	C	D
100	A	B	C	D

97	A	B	C	D
101	A	B	C	D

98	A	B	C	D
102	A	B	C	D

**This passage is about probiotics.**

Probiotics seem to be all the rage in many parts of the USA at the moment, and understandably so – after all, who wouldn't want to take a one-size-fits-all solution to any health issues they might have? However, the jury still seems to be out regarding whether they can really live up to all the hype currently surrounding them.

What we can declare with some certainty is that our microbiome, in particular the microorganisms in the gut, is important to our health, and that the array of people's microbiomes in the West is becoming more and more limited due to antibiotics use and, **ironically**, the efforts we make to stay hygienic. As a result of this, conditions like asthma and allergies have soared in recent decades.

Probiotics claim to help populate the gut with healthy microorganisms, therefore improving overall gut health and possibly generating a curative effect for other illnesses. These kinds of probiotics are found naturally in many foods such as sauerkraut, but these are not in the everyday diet of many Westerners. More recently, as a result, probiotic juices, capsules and pills have been made so that people can take them consistently day to day, and this has grown into a multi-billion-dollar industry.

There are some factions out there that will categorically state that these probiotics can't make serious changes to our health, but the truth of their effects may well be more ambiguous. There is some evidence, for instance, that they can help sufferers of digestive illnesses related to the stomach, but the claims made that they could also help with a whole host of illnesses cannot be adequately validated at present. This doesn't mean that they can't – or indeed one day won't – have a positive effect on other ailments.

Firstly, there are trillions of microorganisms in the gut, and unlocking the formulae of these is not a simple endeavor that has been achieved, even partially. At the moment, while there is a bewildering range of probiotics in the market, their effectiveness is **arbitrary** in that any one person could take one brand and respond differently to someone else.

103 What is the main purpose of the passage?

- A to outline the uses of probiotics
- B to discuss the effectiveness of probiotics
- C to describe how probiotics function
- D to explain why the popularity of probiotics has grown

104 What does the writer say about Westerners' gut health?

- A It's cleaner than it was.
- B It's more important than it used to be.
- C It's worse than before.
- D It has the most microbiomes.

105 In paragraph 2, which word could best replace **ironically**?

- A justifiably
- B scrupulously
- C acutely
- D paradoxically

106 What does the writer say about the effectiveness of probiotics?

- A They are the answer for people with gut problems.
- B They can help with a range of illnesses.
- C More validation studies need to be done.
- D They are limited in their benefits so far.

107 In the second sentence of paragraph 5, which word could best replace **arbitrary**?

- A unknown
- B random
- C varied
- D useless

Therefore, effectiveness now is up to individual trial and error, and it's up to the scientists to build upon what they already know to create more effective and targeted remedies for the future.

- 108 What is the writer's overall opinion of probiotics?
- A They could be more effective once we know more about them.
  - B They are likely to replace traditional medicine one day.
  - C They should be studied more before they are sold.
  - D They don't make much difference to our overall health.

103	A	B	C	D
107	A	B	C	D

104	A	B	C	D
108	A	B	C	D

105	A	B	C	D
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106	A	B	C	D
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**This passage is about the Brooklyn Bridge.**

With their sweeping curves and imposing towers, suspension bridges are impressive and awe-inspiring structures, and the Brooklyn Bridge is one of the most iconic. Spanning the East River and connecting Brooklyn with the island of Manhattan, the Brooklyn Bridge was innovative in its use of materials being the first to use steel in place of iron. When it opened in 1884, it took the record for the longest suspension bridge in the world.

Despite the fact that the project was beset by all sorts of troubles, including the tragic death of its engineer, John Roebling, and costs that spiralled to \$15 million (double the predicted amount), the bridge is nothing short of a triumph of engineering. Its completion was also a testament to the efforts made by Roebling's son Washington and daughter-in-law Emily who ensured that his vision was realized after his death.

The issues that Roebling had to overcome were sizeable and had therefore prevented a bridge from previously being constructed over the East River even though, for many years, the need for a crossing was plain for all to see. First and foremost was the river itself, which is actually more of a tidal estuary, extremely wide in many places with deep and turbulent water. Any bridge would have needed the deepest foundations ever built and to be able to withstand the pressures of tidal waters. Construction workers frequently suffered from decompression sickness, so working on a project such as this was dangerous. Compression sickness occurs when people move too quickly from a high-pressure to low-pressure environment, and typically affects underwater divers, and workers on construction sites on riverbeds or seabeds.

There were additional factors that the engineers had to account for, including the fact that the East River had more river traffic than almost any other stretch of water on Earth.

- 109 What is the main purpose of the passage?
- A to describe features of bridge engineering
  - B to acknowledge the people who built the bridge
  - C to explain the complexities of building the bridge
  - D to show why people are attracted to the bridge
- 110 What does the passage say about the project?
- A it was completed on schedule
  - B it received financial subsidies
  - C it had some design flaws
  - D it suffered several setbacks
- 111 What does the author say about the East River?
- A it was troublesome for vessels to navigate
  - B its qualities are dissimilar to those of other rivers
  - C it has few stretches suitable for bridges
  - D its bed is not appropriate for heavy foundations
- 112 In the fourth sentence of paragraph 4, what does **these** refer to?
- A factors
  - B implications
  - C loads
  - D towers
- 113 Why had no one built a bridge over the East River before?
- A raising sufficient investment was problematic
  - B engineering practices were not advanced enough
  - C the risk of accidents put many engineers off the idea
  - D the need had not been sufficiently critical

For the river to remain unobstructed, any bridge would need to be high and long. This would then have implications for the towers, which would need to be strong enough to shoulder the enormous loads of the roadway and cables. All of **these** resulted in a challenge that was significantly beyond the expertise and experience of most engineers of the day.

However, Roebling's understanding of materials, and steel in particular, allowed him to propose a design that answered all the engineering questions associated with the Brooklyn Bridge, and to pave the way for a revolution in construction in fields as diverse as aviation, elevators and cable cars.

114 According to the passage, what was John Roebling's legacy?

- A his innovation had a lasting impact on industry
- B his bridge designs were copied extensively
- C he invented modern engineering practices
- D he made construction sites safer for workers

109	A	B	C	D
113	A	B	C	D

110	A	B	C	D
114	A	B	C	D

111	A	B	C	D
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112	A	B	C	D
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**This passage is about technology.**

Most people have some kind of love–hate relationship with technology that varies from being addicted to their phones to wanting to throw their malfunctioning printer out of the window. You'd be inhuman not to have these kinds of reactions sometimes. This kind of relationship can also be seen in the guest experience in hotel use, where most customers love high-tech convenience, but only up to a point.

Nowadays, the idea of hyper-personalization is all the rage for many hotel groups, which tailors the guest experience, from booking through to post-stay follow ups, according to the needs and personalities of individual guests. **This** puts the customer experience at the forefront by using customer data, such as browsing activities and purchasing behavior, to ensure that hotels offer exactly what every customer needs.

This is all well and good, but hotels must not lose sight of the customer when drawn into this data-driven technology. While studies indicate that the majority of hotel guests find the use of technology to do things such as order room service a welcome advancement from the more traditional face-to-face exchanges, a large proportion also said that they feel the need for human interaction should they face any technological problems during their stay. Indeed, many forms of digital assistance, such as self-help screens, FAQs or chat bots, are generally cited by guests as irritations. Despite often doing so, hotels should not neglect the customer who would prefer their entire guest journey to be a genuine, human experience. There could be a myriad of reasons for this: perhaps the guest is constantly on the computer or phone and requires a digital detox; or perhaps, for them, technology has passed them by.

Providing a seamless, dual process of guest interaction is something that many hotels now need to focus on, and data indicates support for this assertion. Recent research has found that some chains had overly focused on their digital offering at the expense of the personal touch that comes from human interaction.

- 115 What is the main purpose of the passage?
- A to explain why technology is important in the hotel industry
  - B to argue how hotels should deploy technology
  - C to describe the problems guests have with technology
  - D to outline the types of technology hotels use
- 116 In paragraph 2, sentence 2, what does **this** refer to?
- A the needs and personalities of guests
  - B the experience of the customer
  - C booking and post-stay follow ups
  - D the idea of hyperpersonalization
- 117 What does the writer say about hyperpersonalization?
- A Not everybody enjoys personalized experiences.
  - B It can distract from real customer service
  - C It can only be as good as the data that is available.
  - D It is overwhelmingly successful for hotels.
- 118 What do hotels have a tendency to do?
- A overestimate their customers' technological abilities
  - B overlook part of their customer base
  - C undersell technological innovation
  - D undervalue the guest journey
- 119 In paragraph 4, sentence 3, which expression could replace **the bottom line**?
- A the tip of the iceberg
  - B the deciding factor
  - C the prime example
  - D the last resort

There is no denying that the world is advancing, and as such hotels need to keep up digitally, but **the bottom line** of all this is that they must also remember that the application of this technology at the right time is paramount, and that it should be done in conjunction with a human touch.

- 120 What does the writer think is the most important part of applying technology in hotels?
- A understanding the effects
  - B knowing the limits
  - C smoothing out problems
  - D timing the changes

115	A	B	C	D
119	A	B	C	D

116	A	B	C	D
120	A	B	C	D

117	A	B	C	D
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118	A	B	C	D
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# Reading ECPE

## Test 3