PASSAGE 2

Questions 11-20

15 minutes

GHI CHÚ

Các câu hỏi dễ hơn cần ưu tiên trả lời đúng

★ Câu hỏi thông tin chi tiết: **12, 16, 17**

★ Câu hỏi tham chiếu: **18**

★ Câu hỏi từ vựng: **14**

★ Câu hỏi ý chính: **11, 19**

A new road that connects the Pacific with the Atlantic could bring riches – and environmental ruin.

Bridging a Continent

In early 2012, the Transoceanic Highway opened to public vehicles for the first time. A dream of Peru's leaders since the 1950s, work on the vast network of roads and bridges began in 2006 and was completed in late 2011. Today, the east-west passageway spans 2,600 kilometers (1,600 miles). From Peru's Pacific Ocean coastline, it continues across the Andes Mountains and through a large part of the Amazon rain forest in the Peruvian state of Madre de Dios. It then travels into Brazil, where it connects with a network of existing highways to the Atlantic.

Improving People's Lives

In addition to making travel faster and easier, supporters say the highway will also be good for business. There is enormous demand in North America and Asia for Brazilian and Peruvian products, including soybeans, beef, and gold. A number of companies in Cusco and Puerto Maldonado also sell wood to different corners of the world. Many of these companies transport their lumber to the Pacific, where it travels by ship to other countries. Thanks to the highway, wood can now reach the Pacific in days; in the past, it could take a week or more. This lowers costs and allows the wood to reach a company's customers sooner, and also in better condition. **In the long run**, say many business owners, this will mean more profit.

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Environmental Challenges

Despite the highway's many potential benefits, environmentalists are concerned. The Transoceanic passes directly through a large part of the Amazon rain forest, in the state of Madre de Dios in Peru. According to a Peruvian government study, the forested area in the western mountains of this state has the greatest biodiversity of any place on Earth, and until recently, large parts of the forest were in pristine condition. As more people are moving into the region, environmentalists are worrying about the impact this will have on the Amazon's plants and animals, many of which are found nowhere else.

Shortly after the highway opened, large numbers of people began coming into Puerto Maldonado from all over Peru – and the world – to mine gold. There's a lot of money to be made in mining, as well as in farming, says environmental photographer Gabby Salazar. "I think we're going to see a big increase in farming," she says. "Right across the border in Brazil, you see soybean farms all over the place." Studies show three-quarters of the deforestation of the Brazilian Amazon occurs within 50 kilometers (30 miles) of a highway, and environmentalists like Salazar are concerned that the same thing will happen in Peru. "It's having an impact on the environment," she explains. "It's having an impact on the people as well."

Faced with **these risks**, many Peruvians talk about the importance of being practical. "In rural Peru, a lot of people are living in poverty, so it's very difficult to say don't build the highway." explains Roger Mustalish, president of the Amazon Center for Environmental Education and Research. "But every time you see a road like this going through, you soon see major changes." Will these changes be mostly positive or negative? Many Peruvians are hopeful, but only time will tell.

11 What is the passage mainly about?

A. the impact a highway will have on the environment and people of Peru

B. how the Brazilian government helped the people of Peru build a new highway

C. a new development that is resulting in mining and farming jobs

D. how environmentalists are protecting the Amazon's diverse wildlife

12 What is true about the Transoceanic Highway?

A. Its construction began in the 1950s.

B. It helps connect the Pacific Ocean with Brazil.

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C. It was opened to the public in 2006.

D. It begins at the Atlantic Ocean.

13 What is NOT a product exported from Brazil to North America?

A. soybeans
B. diamond
C. wood
D. beef

14 The phrase '**in the long run**' in paragraph 3 could be replaced by

A. on the other hand
B. as expected
C. eventually
D. optimistically

15 What is NOT given as a reason the highway will be good for Peru?

A. The cost of transporting goods will be lower.

B. Goods will reach customers in better condition.

C. It will increase the number of tourists in Peru.

D. Goods will reach customers faster.

16 Which of the following concerns does the reading specifically mention?

A. Increased mining will lead to soil erosion.

B. Farming will lead to an increase in water pollution.

C. The highway will have an impact on plants and animals.

D. The cities along the highway will become overpopulated.

17 According to the passage, which activity has an impact on the environment?

A. Cutting down trees for wood.

B. Building hotels and restaurants along the highway.

C. Killing animals in the forest.

D. Mining gold and farming.

18 What does '**these risks**' in paragraph 6 refer to?

A. environmental risks
B. financial risks
C. transportation risks
D. depopulation risks

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19 What would be the best heading for the final paragraph?

A. A Positive Future
B. Finding the Right Balance
C. An End to Poverty
D. Say No to Highways

20 The author's attitude toward the impact of the highway can be described as

A. positive
B. negative
C. unsure
D. indifferent

HỌC TỪ VỰNG

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PASSAGE 3

Questions 21-30

15 minutes

GHI CHÚ

Các câu hỏi dễ hơn cần ưu tiên trả lời đúng

★ Câu hỏi thông tin chi tiết: **26, 27, 29**

★ Câu hỏi tham chiếu: **22**

★ Câu hỏi từ vựng: **21, 28**

After 45 years of the queen's rule, James I **succeeded** Elizabeth I to the English throne in 1603, at which point the English economy was struggling. The population of England was swelling, food production was insufficient, and prices were high. Despite **its** instability, a few industries brought reliable income to the English economy. In particular, many merchants relied on the export of cloth to continental Europe. For the first decade of James I's reign, the cloth trade prospered and was an important source of revenue for the English. However, the king was to make a serious mistake that would eventually lead to the fall of the English cloth trade.

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