



SEKOLAH MENENGAH KEBANGSAAN CONVENT SENTUL, KUALA LUMPUR
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TINGKATAN 4

Name : _____

Class : _____

Section A : Comprehension (8 marks)

Question 1-8

You are going to read an extract from an article. For question 1-8 choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) and write it in the box provided beside the question.

Even before the pandemic razed our normal lives, I had noticed that children had the tendency to be stuck inside the house glued to their mobile phones. After much thought about it, I realize that it is the time and it is the new generation. Our children are missing real playtime. The playtime that I enjoyed most.

One evening, I went for a walk, I sat a while on the bench at a playground. There were several teenagers playing basketball nearby whilst the playground was unoccupied. I **watched them play with nostalgia**. When I was about ten or eleven, I used to spend a lot of time playing in the playground. I played with the neighbourhood children. Sometimes we go to different houses in groups. Let's say, today we are in Normala's house playing hide and seek, the next day, we might be at Raihan's house playing monopoly for hours. Then, the next day, we might be playing badminton on someone's lawn. I wish I can run around with my grandkids in this playground.

Alas, I couldn't even sit there long enough to bring back more memories- and there, a mosquito was hovering over me. Another has already sucked my blood. How could I have brought my grandkids here, dengue is on the rise! Parents need to be concerned about so many things nowadays before allowing their children out to play. They are merely trying to guard their children against any harm.

Parents seem to be concerned about the safety of their kids. They worry about kidnappers, strangers, or bullies that might hurt their children. These concerns are the main reasons why they do not allow their children to play and roam outside the house. These concerns have become barriers to free active play. When I look across the generations from mine to today's generation, it is very clear that these concerns have increased over time.

I see now why children do not seem to be happy. In one research that I have come across, it showed that children are in high spirits or ecstatic when they are playing with friends than in any other situation. I agree. I feel this way- joyful when remembering my own childhood play experiences. Through play, children can negotiate their physical and social environments. This in turn results in mastery over their world or environment. This aspect offers a lot of psychological benefits. When children get the opportunity to control their own actions, make and follow through on their own decisions, to solve their own problems whilst learning to follow rules in the play, grow up feeling that they are in control of their own lives and fate. When a person feels a lack of control over his or her own life, anxiety and depression can occur.

The natural means of making friends and learning to treat one another fairly is social play. As play is something voluntary and the friends they are playing with may abandon the game at any time if they feel uncomfortable, children learn to be aware of their friends' needs and attempt to meet them to maintain the play. Learning to get along and cooperate with others as equals could be the most crucial evolutionary function of social play. Social play is one way of teaching children that they are not special even though they are more skilled or better at certain games. In any game, one must consider the needs and wishes of the others as equal to their own. Otherwise, others would exclude them and they would be left with no friends.

I am rather worried because increasing social isolation is a potential indication of psychopathology and the decline in play may perhaps be both the consequence and the cause of the increased social isolation and loneliness.

- 1 In paragraph 2, why did the writer use the phrase **watch them play with nostalgia**?
 - A The writer wanted to play basketball with the teenagers.
 - B The writer used to play basketball in the playground.
 - C The writer is yearning for the return of past circumstances.
 - D The writer is looking for her grandchildren to play at the playground.
- 2 In paragraph 3, what does the writer say about the parents?
 - A The parents are very strict with their children.
 - B Parents are actually trying to protect their children.
 - C The parents have no time to play with their kids in the playground.
 - D The parents are frightened of all kinds of things outside their homes.
- 3 In paragraph 4, how did the writer conclude about the parents' concerns?
 - A The concerns are not real but made up by the parents.
 - B The concerns have become obstacles to free, active play time.
 - C The concerns are real and the children have no problem with that.
 - D The concerns are the reasons why children do not have friends.
- 4 In paragraph 5, what does the findings in the research show?
 - A Children are the masters of their world or environment.
 - B Children are happier when they are playing with friends.
 - C Children's playtime offers a lot of psychological benefits.
 - D Children solve their own problems whilst learning to follow rules.
- 5 What effect can lack of active play time with friends have on children?
 - A They will be better at decision making.
 - B They might lack a lot of psychological benefits.
 - C They might succumb to anxiety and depression.
 - D They will be able to negotiate their physical environments.
- 6 Why would a child attempt to meet their friends' need when their friends want to abandon the play?
 - A To maintain the play.
 - B To make more friends.
 - C To make their friends happy.
 - D To win the game they are playing.
- 7 How does the writer feel about social isolation in the last paragraph?
 - A The writer does not know what is actually going to happen.
 - B The writer feels that it is something new with this new generation.
 - C The writer is concerned that it will cause children to be unhappy.
 - D The writer is concerned that it is a precursor of psychopathology.
- 8 What is the purpose of the writer writing the article?
 - A To show that social isolation is very important for us in the future.
 - B To look back at how wonderful it feels when you can play freely.
 - C To show the importance of free active playtime for children.
 - D To share how we can use our minds to control things.

Section B: Gapped Text (6 marks)

Question 9-14

You are going to read an article about how technology changed our lives. Six sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the sentences A to H and fit one into each gap from 9 to 14. There are two extra sentences which you do not have to use.

Technology

Technology is basically the way we execute the discoveries of science and blend it with our own needs. This general term refers to the different tools, machines and equipment we use in our daily life. These tools and equipment have been invented by man to create convenience by making the tasks faster, easier and more comfortable.

Since the use of microchips in computers and mobiles, technology has come a long way. 9 Besides the countless examples where technology has changed our lives, there are some which are considered as revolutions for mankind.

The technology used in the field of robotics is one such fine example. Nowadays robots are being used by people and industries all over the world for various purposes. 10 One such area is the cleaning and managing of radioactive waste.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is another field which is a classic example of the technological advancements man has achieved. It is difficult to imagine that a machine would be capable of thinking like us. 11 It can do activities such as problem-solving, planning, learning and even reasoning. Today AI is used in all major areas such as warfare, security, healthcare and communication. On top of this, it is far more efficient than us and has a lower rate of error.

Technology has its own importance in our lives. 12 The modernisation in the world today has all been possible because of the technological developments in different fields. Moreover, it has helped in reducing the risks people had to undertake in many sectors such as mining. Tasks are less risky and are more efficient with the presence of new tools.

It is undeniable that technological advancements are important for us. Yet, it is also true that we seem to be over-dependent on them nowadays and face drawbacks of this technology too. 13 Crimes are reported through misuse of digital technology. Humans are mentally as well as physically dormant as they are highly dependent on technology.

Technology is surely a boon for mankind. 14 But, still, it is for us to decide how best we make use of the technology available to us. Robots and other technological advancements have served as a good servant to us but the moment it becomes the master it can wipe off humanity from the Earth.

- A Robots are used in places which are otherwise considered harmful for humans thereby protecting us.
- B The use of mobiles which are meant to keep in touch in difficult times is killing valuable time and some end up misusing them.
- C Even in primitive occupations such as agriculture, there have been so many technological advancements with modern tools.
- D AI is an intelligent machine capable of behaving like us.
- E It is all the more important for the economic growth of a country.
- F The advancement in aeronautics field and agriculture are the other examples that have helped us to make progress.
- G Our lives would not have been simpler and faster without technological advancements.
- H That is what AI has been successful in doing.

Section C : Information Transfer. (8 marks)

Question 15 -22.

Here are some films expected to hit the cinemas in the near future. Read the texts below and answer the questions that follows.

Movies To Be Released Soon

A – PIECES OF A WOMAN

Pieces of a Woman is a deeply personal, searing and transcendent story of a woman learning to live alongside her loss. Martha and Sean are a Boston couple on the verge of parenthood whose lives change irrevocably when a home birth ends in unimaginable tragedy. Thus begins a year-long odyssey for Martha, who must navigate her grief while working through a marriage on the verge of breaking down and her domineering mother, along with the publicly vilified midwife, whom she must face in court.

B – CHAOS WALKING

Director Doug Liman (*The Bourne Identity*, *Edge of Tomorrow*) directs this adventure sci-fi film based on the best-selling novel *The Knife of Never Letting Go* by Patrick Ness. In the not too distant future, Todd Hewitt discovers Viola, a mysterious girl who crash lands on his planet, where all the women have disappeared and the men are afflicted by 'the noise' – a force that puts all their thoughts on display. Viola's life is threatened in this dangerous landscape and to protect her, Todd has to discover his own inner power and unlock the planet's dark secrets.

C – PETER RABBIT 2: RUNAWAY

In this sequel, Peter Rabbit and Thomas are now a makeshift family but despite all efforts, the mischievous bug in Peter rises again. Adventuring out the garden, Peter finds himself appreciated for his mischief but when his family risks everything to look for him, Peter has to decide what kind of bunny he wants to be.

D – CINDERELLA

The upcoming *Cinderella* movie adaptation is a musical romantic comedy starring Camila Cabello as Cinderella and Billy Porter as the fabulous genderless fairy godparent. The film promises to feature new original music too. While the storyline is still kept a secret, the number of huge stars in the film just can't be hidden.

E – FATHERHOOD

Based on a 2011 memoir *Two Kisses for Maddy: A Memoir of Loss and Love* by Matthew Logelin, *Fatherhood* is a true story about a father who has to bring up his baby girl as a single dad after the unexpected death of his wife. She died a day after their daughter's birth and the father finds himself woefully unprepared to raise his daughter on his own.

F – GHOSTBUSTERS: AFTERLIFE

Set thirty years after the second film, a family moves to a farm in Summerville, Oklahoma, inherited from their late grandmother. When the town experiences a series of unexplained earthquakes, the children discover their family's link to the original Ghostbusters, who have become a myth to many after the long-forgotten events of Manhattan Crossrip of 1984. Things get interesting for our young heroes as they discover the secret legacy left by their grandfather.

Question 15 – 18.

Which paragraph (A - F) describes the movie best ? For question 15 - 18 mark paragraph (A – F) in the space provided.

	Statements	Paragraph
15.	It is based on a true story.	
16.	You have the chance to listen to some music that are original.	
17.	The hero has to discover the secrets to protect a girl.	
18.	Discoveries are made after a natural disaster.	

Question 19 -22.

Complete the notes below using the information from the text. For question 19-22 choose no more than one word from the passage for each answer.

Movies To Be Released Soon
• Peter realises that his (19) _____ is willing to risk everything to look for him.
• In Fatherhood, we will be able to witness how a father is unable to (20) _____ his daughter on his own.
• Martha and Sean's baby is born at (21) _____.
• We still do not know the (22) _____ in the movie Cinderella.

Section D : Guided Writing. Question 23 (20 marks)

Write your answer in 125 -150 words in the space provided.

Your class has been discussing the importance of taking up hobbies and your teacher has asked you to write an essay about the benefits of taking up hobbies.

In your essay, you should write about:

- the types of hobbies that are good for students
- why everyone needs a hobby
- the benefits of having a hobby

Write your essay using all the notes and give reasons for your point of view.



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