

Reading and Use of English

[40 marks]

[Time: 1 hour 30 minutes]

Part 1

Questions 1-8

Read the text carefully in each question. Choose the best answer A, B or C for each question, mark the correct answer.

My husband and I have been living in Johor for the past two years. We love Malaysia and take an interest in all aspects of living here: from politics to the people and everything in between, we really enjoy the lifestyle here. There is a real charm about the place that we really appreciate.

Anne Roberts

1. Which of the following best describes the feelings of the writers?

A Blessed

B Nostalgic

C Appreciative

Dear Editor,

For most of us, awareness of garbage crisis stops as soon as it is out of sight. We do not even wonder where the garbage goes. However, do you know what mountains of waste can do to us? Someday the effects can cause hazardous pollution which is uncontrollable. So, what are we waiting for? I hope all of you out there will not hesitate to do something now!

Concerned

2. **Concerned** is trying to tell us that pollution caused by garbage is

A unhealthy

B alarming

C risky

TIGER'S CRY

Within seconds, you would have done the greatest favour in life. Donate RM20 and save wild tigers around the world as they are desperate for help. They could become extinct in less than 20 years. The loss of habitat due to human population and poaching has driven the tigers to the brink of extinction.

Just click to participate:

Sign up to save the tigers
DONATE

www.tigerscry.com.my

3. Which of the following about this web page is true?

- A People need to give help to the tigers.
- B Tigers are already extinct in 20 years' time.
- C The growth of human population has caused the loss of habitat.

"I bought the boys two shirts, two pairs of trousers and two pairs of shoes each, amounting to about RM300. These were quality items and this may have added to the cost. However, the more expensive brands tend to last longer so I prefer such goods."

Madam Liew, 45

"I have spent about RM350 on uniforms and books alone for my two children. Luckily, they can still fit into last year's shoes, so I don't have to spend anything extra on that. I pity those with four children in school."

Mrs Tana, 35

4. What are the comments mainly about?

- A Rising prices of school supplies.
- B Low quality of uniforms and shoes.
- C Getting the children ready for school.

Father: Son, my friend is offering you a wonderful job as a journalist.

Don't blow it.

Son: I will try my best not to disappoint you, Dad.

5. The father is telling the son not to

- A waste the opportunity
- B take the job
- C embarrass his father

New Year Blessing

KUALA LUMPUR: A dentist had a narrow escape when a micro piler fell on his Honda City while he was driving past an MRT station that was under construction along Jalan Ipoh

Dr Ling said he alighted from his vehicle and confronted the construction site manager and safety manager. He told them that although he pulled the brakes, the machinery hit his vehicle causing it to come to a stop. Fortunately, both of them took responsibility for the mishap.

6. We can conclude that

- A Dr Ling was denied compensation for the damage.
- B Dr Ling was lucky to get away from a very dangerous situation.
- C the road near Jalan Ipoh was under massive construction.

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7. Based on the advertisement above, we can conclude that the candidate

- A must serve food to the patients
- B must be able to work with a team
- C must be bilingual

The screen should be straight in front of you at a distance that allows you to focus easily – for most people, this is about an arm's length. The top of the screen should be on a level with your eyes so that you don't have to look down and strain your neck muscles.

To avoid eyestrain, adjust the brightness and contrast so that the image is sharp and you can read individual letters easily. The characters on the screen should not flicker or move. Keep your screen clean – even finger marks can obstruct your view.

8. The following describes the correct way to use the computer except

- A placing the computer at arm's length
- B ensuring that the screen is dim
- C keeping the screen at eye level

Part 2

Questions 9-18

Refer to the text below and choose the best word for each space. For each question mark the correct letter **A, B, C** or **D**

Teenage Life

The teenage years can be challenging times. Teenagers (0) of today experience higher levels of stress because of high expectations. They are growing up in a (9) _____ competitive society. Many teenagers maybe (10) _____ to similar anxieties and worries as adults. In a fast moving society, they are in a hurry to enter adulthood. In (11) _____ rush to grow up and be independent, many of them are not equipped emotionally to handle the stress which (12) _____ adult life.

Teenagers who struggle to cope with stress, may suffer serious problems. The danger of suffering from depression is very real. They may plunge into depression when they cannot (13) _____ with their problems in a rational way. They may also turn (14) _____ drugs or alcohol to escape their worries and stress. Without the maturity to handle tough situations or juggle their responsibilities, they may seek quick fixes that (15) _____ detrimental to their long-term physical and emotional well-being.

Adults, especially parents and teachers, (16) _____ be aware of the characteristics of a teenager who is struggling with stress. They should be equipped with the understanding of teen-related problems as well as the ability to identify warning signs so they can provide (17) _____ with the proper help. Teenagers do not usually reach out for help in the most obvious ways. (18) _____, parents and teachers should be extra diligent.

- | | | | | |
|----|-------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 0 | A of | B for | C in | D on |
| 9 | A high | B highly | C highest | D highness |
| 10 | A connected | B exposed | C experienced | D involved |
| 11 | A theirs | B them | C their | D they |
| 12 | A accompany | B accompanies | C accompanied | D accompanying |
| 13 | A overcome | B deal | C cope | D meddle |
| 14 | A to | B at | C for | D with |
| 15 | A is | B are | C was | D were |

- 16 A should B could C might D may
- 17 A us B him C her D them
- 18 A However B Moreover C Thereafter D Therefore

Part 3

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.

When Datin Seri Tiara Jacqueline was given the movie script for 'Puteri Gunung Ledang', she sat on it for six years! She was excited by the story of the love triangle between Hang Tuah, Sultan Mahmud and the mysterious princess who lived atop Gunung Ledang in Johor; and she thought it could be made into a good movie. Yet, she was unsure about doing the role.

Finally, she decided to take on the challenge. The movie was on, however, to portray Puteri Gunung Ledang properly, Tiara decided, she had to go and experience the life of a real Javanese Princess.

Tiara met up with Puteri Astrini, sister of the Sultan of Solo, who arranged for her stay at the Mangkunagaran royal palace in Solo, Java. She visited Mangkunagaran palace twice and stayed nearly a month each time.

"I wanted to experience and see what the life was really like and to learn all I could about Javanese royal culture. I wanted to learn the dances, music, social graces and manners of the Javanese royalty. In Mangkunagaran palace, I learned how to play the 'rebab', sing classical Javanese prose and perform court dances," she said.

Known for their spirituality and mysticism, the ancient Javanese were masters of 'jamu' (herbal medicine) and meditation. Tiara was placed alone in an empty room to meditate for hours. "The room had thick walls and was completely quiet. You could almost hear your heart beating. I practiced meditation and fasting."

To her amazement, Tiara learned that the life of a Javanese princess was a hard one! "I had to sleep on the hard cement floor and was woken up four times a night to meditate. Now I admire Javanese princesses. They can endure hardship despite their delicate looks. When you are deprived of food, even simple things taste good! I was only given white rice and water but after prolonged fasting, they certainly tasted delicious. As a treat, I would be given a piece of fried chicken. And yes, I lost weight!"

She was put through a military drill. "Wars from the time of Sri Vijaya and Majapahit empires meant a kingdom could be overthrown overnight and royal children must learn to survive or they will die. This is why even princesses must be strong."

Among other things, she was also taught humility. "At first, it seemed strange that a princess has to act in a humble way as royalty is highly respected in Solo. Then I learned that the royals are respected because they deserve it. They think before they speak, and don't just say anything they wish!" she said.

However, Tiara's stay in Solo ended on a sad note. "Ibu Dinar, who taught me and all the princesses the art of grooming, died before the film was released. She promised to come to Kuala Lumpur on opening night but this was unfulfilled. She was the most elegant and beautifully groomed lady I have ever met! I miss her and hope I lived up to her expectations in the movie."

The movie "Puteri Gunung Ledang" premiered in 2004 and went on to win 11 awards at the recent Asia Pacific Film Festival, where Tiara Jacquelina picked up the best actress award for her role in the film. Then, about 30,000 saw the musical when it was staged at Istana Budaya, in 2006. Local and international audiences were captivated with grace and charm that Tiara projected as the mysterious princess on the high mountain, but few knew the lengths that Datin Tiara went to learn the role.

19 From paragraph 1, what did Tiara think of the movie script for "Puteri Gunung Ledang" when she first read it?

- A She thought the story of the love triangle was exciting.
- B She thought it was a mysterious story.
- C She was unsure about doing the role.
- D She thought it could be made into a good movie.

20 From Paragraph 2, what did Tiara do to play the role of Puteri Gunung Ledang well?

- A She became the Javanese Princess.
- B She took on the challenge
- C She went and experienced the life of a real Javanese Princess.
- D She replaced the role of the Javanese Princess.

21 From paragraph 3, how long did Tiara Jacqueline stay in Mangkumaran palace?

- A She stayed there for nearly one month.
- B She stayed there for almost two months.
- C She stayed there more than two months.
- D She stayed there for less than a month.

22 In Mangkunagaran royal palace, she learned all these except

- A performing court dances
- B grooming the princess
- C playing the musical instrument
- D singing classical Javanese prose

23 Why was Tiara placed alone in the room?

- A To learn the art of making jamu
- B To hear her heart beating
- C To practice spirituality
- D To practice meditation

24 According to Tiara, what made her lose weight?

- A Prolonged fasting
- B Eating a piece of fried chicken
- C Long hours of meditation
- D Sleeping on hard cement floor

25 From paragraph 8, the royalty was highly respected in Solo because of all the reasons below accept?

- A They speak as they wish.
- B The princesses act in a humble way
- C They think before they speak.
- D They deserve it

26 "but few knew the lengths that Datin Tiara went to learn the role." From this statement, what can we conclude about Tiara Jaqcueline?

- A She is a very talented actress.
- B She aims to be the Javanese princess.
- C She is a dedicated and diligent actress.