TEST FOR GIFTED STUDENTS – Round 2

(School year: 2020 -2021)

Name: …… Class: ……. Total: …… / 100

I. Choose the word pronounced differently from that of the others. (5.0pt)

1.	A. pref**a**ce	B. g**a**zelle	C. surf**a**ce	D. flam**i**ngo
2.	A. suff**i**ce	B. coward**i**ce	C. accompl**i**ce	D. prejud**i**ce
3.	A. grea**se**	B. tea**se**	C. cea**se**	D. lea**se**
4.	A. nor**th**ern	B. tee**th**e	C. **th**ermometer	D. sunba**th**e
5.	A. suppos**ed**ly	B. advocat**ed**	C. dogg**ed**	D. alleg**ed**

II. Choose the word whose main stress pattern is different from that of the others. (5.0pt)

1.	A. sympathetic	B. circumstances	C. disappearance	D. correspondence
2.	A. imminence	B. prevalence	C. insurgent	D. reference
3.	A. underpass	B. elevate	C. arrogant	D. accomplish
4.	A. psychokinesis	B. self-analysis	C. misdiagnosis	D. autohypnosis
5.	A. refugee	B. referee	C. committee	D. chimpanzee

III. Circle the best option A, B, C or D to complete the sentences. (15 pts)

1. "Why are you carrying an atlas?" – "Mr. Stone asked …… I bring it."

A. me B. for C. that D. to

2. The weather was fine, and everyone was …… the coast.

A. joining in B. seeing about C. going in for D. making for

3. He was …… with an extraordinary musical ability.

A. ensured B. entrusted C. entreated D. endowed

4. The man argued with his wife until he was …… but still she wouldn't agree with him.

A. lack and blue B. in the black C. blue in the face D. out of the blue

5. Margaret was …… to learn that her students had done so well in their exams.

A. typified B. gratified C. clarified D. diversified

6. I couldn't believe it when they turned me down ……!

A. flatten B. flattening C. flattened D. flat

7. …… , dolphins have no sense of smell.

A. As known as far B. It is known as far C. As far as is known D. Known as far as it is

8. Environmentalists' warnings about the ozone layer seem to be …… on deaf ears.

A. falling B. landing C. going D. coming

9. Bob says there's never anything worth watching on TV but…… for hours watching football.

A. he'll sit B. he'd sat C. is sitting D. he sit

10. The new mayor has a reputation for being corrupted, but that's …… the truth.

A. far from B. barely not C. not so far from D. too far away from

11. I finished my homework two days ahead …… the deadline.

A. by B. at C. to D. of

12. Although ……., James managed to finish the report.

A. extremely tiring B. was extremely tired C. extremely tired D. was being extremely tired

13. "If you implement that scheme, we shall have no choice but to go on a strike."

"……., we must implement the scheme."

A. Be that as it may B. May that be as it is C. Though it be thus D. While that be so

14. John: How about another glass of beer? - Peter: No, thanks ……

A. all the same B. not at all C. you for all D. you so much

15. Today is my 20th birthday. - …… .

A. Many happy returns! B. Take care! C. I don't understand D. Have a good time.

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IV. Replace the word or phrase in bold with the word with a similar meaning (A, B, C or D). (4 pts)

1. Children normally feel a lot of **anxiety** about their first day at school.

A. composure B. agitation C. contentment D. tranquility

2. No matter how hard we try, there is no way to **circumvent** taxes.

A. pay in installments B. get around C. travel round D. round up

3. The power failure at dinner time caused **consternation** among the city's housewives.

A. disability B. deliberation C. dismay D. distaste

4. It's not a pleasant feeling to discover you've been **taken for a ride** by a close friend.

A. driven away B. deceived deliberately C. given a lift D. treated with sincerity

V. Give the correct form of the words in brackets to complete the passage. (10 pts)

Curiosity goes back to the dawn of human (**0. exist**) .....**existence**..... This irresponsible desire to know is not a (**1. character**) ..... of inanimate objects. Nor does it seem to be attributable to some forms of living organism which, for that very reason, we can scarcely bring ourselves to consider alive. A tree, for example, does not display (**2. recognize**) .....curiosity, nor does a sponge or even an oyster. If chance events bring them poison, predators or parasites, they die as (**3. ceremonious**) .....as they lived. Early in the scheme of life, (**4. depend**) ..... motion was developed by some organisms. It meant an (**5. ordinary**) ..... advance in their control of the environment. A moving organism no longer waited in stolid (**6. rigid**) ..... for food to come its way, but went out after it. The individual that hesitated in the (**7. zeal**) ..... search for food, or that was overly (**8. conserve**) ..... in its investigation, starved. As organisms grew more complex, more messages of greater variety were received from and about the (**9. round**) .....environment. At the same time, the nervous system, the living instrument that interprets and stores the data collected by the sense organs, became (**10. increase**) ..... complex.

VI. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. (10 pts)

The Connection Between Culture and Thought

A

The world's population has surpassed 7 billion and continues to grow. Across the globe, humans have many differences. These differences can be influenced by factors such as geography, climate, politics, nationality, and many more. Culture is one such aspect that can change the way people behave.

B

Your culture may influence your clothing, your language, and many aspects of your life. But is culture influential enough to change the way an individual thinks? It has long been believed that people from different cultures would think differently. For example, a young boy from a farm would talk about cows while a boy from New York will talk about cars. If two young children from different countries are asked about their thoughts about a painting, they would answer differently because of their cultural backgrounds.

C

In recent years, there has been new research that changed this long-held belief; However, this new research is not the first to explore the idea that culture can change the way we think. Earlier research has provided valuable insight to the question. One of the earliest research projects was carried out in the Soviet Union. This project was designed to find out whether culture would affect peopled way of thought processing. The researchers focused on how living environment and nationality might influence how people think. The experiment led by Bessett aimed to question such awareness of cognitive psychology. Bessett conducted several versions of the experiment to test different cognitive processes.

D

One experiment led by Bessett and Masuku showed an animated video picturing a big fish swimming among smaller fish and other sea creatures. Subjects were asked to describe the scene. The Japanese participants tended to focus on the aquatic background, such as the plants and colour of the water, as well as the relationship between the big and small fish. American participants tended to focus on individual fishes, mainly the larger,

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more unique looking fish. The experiment suggested that members of Eastern cultures focus more on the overall picture, while members of Western culture focus more on the individuals.

E

In another experiment performed by Bessett and Choi, the subjects were presented with some very convincing evidence for a position. Both the Korean and the American showed strong support. And after they were given some evidence opposing the position, the Korean started to modified or decreased their support. However, the American began to give more support to the former argument. This project suggested that in Korean culture, support for arguments is based on context. Ideas and conclusions are changeable and flexible, so an individual may be more willing to change his or her mind. For Americans, they were less willing to change their original conclusion.

F

Bessett and Ara devised an experiment to test the thought processing of both oriental and occidental worlds. Test subject was given an argument "All animals with furs hibernate. Rabbit has fur. Therefore, rabbit hibernate". People from the eastern world questioned the argument as not being logical, because in their knowledge some furry animals just don't hibernate. But the American think the statement is right. They assume the logic deduction is based on a correct argument; thus, the conclusion is right since the logic is right.

G

From these early experiments in the Soviet Union, one might conclude that our original premise— that culture can impact the way we think—was still correct. However, recent research criticises this view, as well as Bessett's early experiments. Though these experiments changed the original belief on thought processing, how much does it result from all factors needs further discussion. Fischer thinks Bessett's experiments provide valuable information because his research only provides qualitative descriptions, not results from controlled environment. Chang partly agrees with him, because there are some social factors that might influence the results.

H

Another criticism of Bessett's experiments is that culture was studied as a sub-factor of nationality. The experiments assumed that culture would be the same among all members of a nationality. For example, every American that participated in the experiments could be assumed to have the same culture. In reality, culture is much more complicated than nationality. These early experiments did not control for other factors, such as socioeconomic status, education, ethnicity, and regional differences in culture. All of these factors could have a big effect on the individual's response.

I

A third criticism of Bessett's experiment is that the content itself should have been more abstract, such as a puzzle or an IQ test. With objective content, such as nature and animals, people from different countries of the world might have different pre-conceived ideas about these animals. Prior knowledge based on geographic location would further complicate the results. A test that is more abstract, or more quantitative, would provide a more controlled study of how cognitive processing works for different groups of people.

J

The research on culture's effect on cognitive processing still goes on today, and while some criticisms exist of Bessett's early studies, the projects still provide valuable insight. It is important for future research projects to control carefully for the variables, such as culture. Something like culture is complex and difficult to define. It can also be influenced by many other variables, such as geography or education styles. When studying a variable like culture, it is critical that the researcher create a clear definition for what is—and what is not—considered culture.

Questions 1-4

The reading passage has ten paragraphs, **A-J.**

Which paragraph contains the following information?

Write the correct letter, **A-J**, *in boxes* **1-5** *below.*

NB *You may use any letter* **more than once.**

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1. All people have the same reaction to a certain point of view.

2. Qualitative descriptions are valuable in exploring thought processing.

3. Different cultures will affect the description of the same scene.

4. We thought of young people as widely different at different geographical locations.

1.	2.	3.	4.

Questions 5-7

*Look at the following statements (Questions **5-7**) and the list of researchers below.*

*Match each statement with the correct researcher, **A-C.***

*Write the correct letter, **A-C,** in boxes **5-7** below.*

NB** You may use any letter **more than once.

A. Bessett & Masuku

B. Bessett & Choi

C. Bessett & Ara

5. Geographical location affects people's position on certain arguments.

6. Animated images reveal different process strategies.

7. Eastern people challenge a deduction because they knew it is not true.

5.	6.	7.

***Questions 8-10:** Complete the sentences below.*

*Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer*

*Write your answers in boxes **8-10** on your answer sheet.*

8. Researchers in the Soviet Union wanted to find out how …… and nationality will control the way people think.

9. Bessett and Ara's experiment shows, for Americans, so long as the logic deduction is based on a correct argument, the ……should be right.

10. Fischer thinks Bessett's research is quite valuable because it is conducted in a …… way rather than in controlled environment.

8.	9.	10.

VII. Think of one word which can be used appropriately in all three sentences. (6pts)

1. - The party leaders got together to plan their next ..... in the election campaign.

- Chrysoula hated playing chess with Yannis because he always took so long when it was his .....
- It's high time we made a .....; there's so much to do.

2. - Some of the tourists are hoping to get compensation for the poor state of the hotel, and I think they have a very ..... case.

- There's no point in trying to wade across the river, the current is far too .....
- If you're asking me which of the candidates should get the job, I'm afraid I don't have any ..... views either way.

3. - Rick does a lot of dangerous sports, but fortunately he has come to no ..... so far.

- I don't suppose I'll win this competition, but there is no ..... trying.
- I know you're fairly sit, but a bit more exercise wouldn't do you any .....

VIII. Read and circle the best option to complete the passage. (10 pts)

The idea that only an Italian is capable of making the world's greatest cup of coffee seems to have been around for ever, so universally is it (**1**) ..... today. (**2**) .....it is actually a fairly recent phenomenon. Emilio Lavazza, who died in 2010, can (**3**) .....much of the credit. He taught the world not only how to make coffee, but also how to drink it. That may explain why Italy has still not been invaded by the American coffee-bar chains so ubiquitous (**4**) .....in Europe.

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Emilio Lavazza was born in 1932, and was a leading (**5**) .....in the generation of Italian businessmen who (**6**) .....their family firms in the 1950s. These began to expand rapidly, first around the country and then abroad as Italy (**7**) ..... its long post-war economic expansion. This was the generation that (**8**) .....the seeds for what has (**9**) .....to be known as 'Made in Italy', the (**10**) .....of companies and brands that make high-quality household and consumer products, from fashion to food to furniture. These products are identified with a variety of craftsmanship on the one hand, and the elegant Italian lifestyle on the other hand. Emilio Lavazza made sure that coffee became an inextricable part of that heritage.

1. A. consented	B. agreed	C. accepted	D. complied
2. A. Yet	B. Though	C. Whereas	D. Whilst
3. A. insist	B. claim	C. demand	D. uphold
4. A. therefore	B. wherever	C. moreover	D. elsewhere
5. A. figure	B. symbol	C. role	D. creature
6. A. enlisted	B. joined	C. enrolled	D. participated
7. A. entertained	B. appreciated	C. benefited	D. enjoyed
8. A. set	B. sowed	C. laid	D. buried
9. A. ended	B. come	C. finished	D. gone
10. A. cluster	B. pile	C. bundle	D. heap

IX. Read the passage carefully and then fill each gap with ONE suitable word. (10 pts)

Ellis Island in New York – that extraordinary entrance to a new land and a new life which received, processed and dispatched millions of arriving immigrants (**1**) ..... 1892 and 1924 – has been turned (**2**) .....a museum. (**3**) .....lain derelict for years after its official closure, the island's huge purpose-built reception centre has been restored. It has (**4**) ..... a place of pilgrimage for the descendants of the desperate people who filed through its cavernous main hall to answer questions and (**5**) .....in the forms in whatever halting English (**6**) ..... possessed.

To get to Ellis Island, you take a ferry from the southernmost tip of Manhattan. (**7**) ..... you sail past the Statue of Liberty and pull up to the dock outside the enormous entrance to that imposing reception building, it is impossible (**8**) .....to reflect on (**9**) ..... it must have looked to those hordes of people who clambered off the boats with their children clinging (**10**) .....them and their belongings packed in baskets and bags.

X. Rewrite the sentences without changing their meaning using the words in the brackets. (5 pts)

1. They still haven't found out what caused the accident. (**cause**)
They have yet .....the accident was.

2. Eventually, Jim admitted that he was responsible for the error. (**owned**)
Eventually, it .....been responsible for the error.

3. Hard work was what caused Jill's success. (**put**)
Jill's success can .....

4. James never really expected the plan to be a success. (**of**)
James had little .....a success.

5. Helen's report is rather unclear in places. (**lacking**)
Helen's report .....in places.

XI. Finish the second sentence in such a way that is similar to the original one. (5pts)

1. I'd really hate to live in a big city.
Living .....liking.

2. There aren't many other books which explain this problem so well.
In few other books .....

3. What are the chances of Twilight 2 being a huge box-office success?
How likely .....

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4. At the time, scientists did not realise how important their findings were.

At the time, scientists failed .....of their findings.

5. The truth only came out on the publication of the general's personal diaries.

Only when .....

XII. **WRITING: (15pts)**

Essay topic: ***People today often use the internet to learn about the culture of other countries. This means that it is not that important to travel to those countries.***

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

In about 200 words, write opinion about this matter using your knowledge and experience.

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