

UNIT 5 – PRACTICE 2

READING

I. Read the following passage and decide which option A, B, C or D best fits each sentence.

The last two decades have seen enormous changes in the way people's (1) ____ are affected by IT. Twenty years ago, few people had access to a computer while today (2) ____ people use them at work, home or school and use of e-mail and the Internet is an every day event.

These developments have brought many (3) ____ to our lives. E-mail makes communication much easier and more immediate. This has numerous benefits for business, commerce, and education. The World Wide Web means that information on every conceivable subject is now (4) ____ to us. Clearly, for many people this has made life much easier and more convenient.

However, not all the effects of the new technology have been beneficial. Many people feel that the (5) ____ use of e-mail is destroying traditional forms of communication such as letter writing, telephone and face-to-face conversation. With ever increasing use of information technology these (6) ____ elements are likely to increase in the future.

In addition, the huge size of the Web means it is almost (7) ____ to control and regulate. This has led to many concerns regarding children (8) ____ unsuitable websites. Yet perhaps the biggest threat to IT in years to come will be the computer (9) ____ -more sophisticated or more destructive strains are almost inevitable.

In conclusion, developments in IT have brought many benefits, (10) ____ I believe developments relating to new technology in the future are likely to produce many negative effects that will need to be addressed very carefully.

1. A. live	B. lives	C. living	D. life
2. A. most	B. most of	C. most of the	D. almost
3. A. services	B. uses	C. benefits	D. effects
4. A. free	B. convenient	C. unused	D. available
5. A. widespread	B. immediate	C. particular	D. continued
6. A. positive	B. negative	C. careless	D. trivial
7. A. possible	B. impractical	C. likely	D. impossible
8. A. accessing	B. approaching	C. entering	D. getting
9. A. disease	B. program	C. virus	D. software
10. A. so	B. moreover	C. therefore	D. yet

II. Read the passage below and choose the correct option marked A, B, C or D to answer the questions.

I left school at fifteen. I was an academically bright lad who was urged by some of his teachers not to leave, but I wanted out to see life, and I didn't want to reach beyond the expectation of the friends who left school with me. I worked for a year in a laundry, as a van-boy delivering dry cleaning,

On turning sixteen I applied to be, and eventually began working as a trainee heating engineer with a medium-sized company in East Belfast. The first months were boring. The work was not demanding but I found the environment of the factory annoying. I remember my first week. I left the factory to meet up with a friend and I realized that I had forgotten to collect my wages. My friend thought I was an idiot. After many months

working in the factory, I was sent off to college to study for my Certificate in Heating Engineering. I found the classroom routine unpleasant and I remember feeling a sense of limitation. Five years of this- to end up as a heating engineer and continue with that for the foreseeable future was not an exciting thought.

Although I had left school against the advice of my teachers I had, without telling anyone, tried to continue my studies in literature at evening classes. It was a boring walk from one end of the city to another and to sit amongst adults was confusing. I was the youngest in the class, so the companionship I knew at school was absent. I put up with **it** for a short period. It was too long a walk on cold winter's nights and it was hard to concentrate on Shakespeare with wet shoes and soaking trousers. So I carried on reading books and started writing poetry at home.

By chance, I won some prizes and literary awards in national competitions. A young woman from a TV company came to the college one day. She told me in the quiet of the corridor that I had won a national poetry award. I stared at her in astonishment and disbelief. She wanted to make a short film about me, to which I said: 'No, I couldn't do that? Not that I had any real excuse. I was just frightened. She eventually persuaded me that I should do it the following day.

1. One reason why the writer left school at the age of fifteen was that he ____.

- A. thought he would get a good job
- B. didn't get on well with his teachers
- C. had no other choice
- D. didn't want to be different from his friends

What did the writer feel while he was training to be a heating engineer?

- A. He was capable of doing something better.
- B. He preferred the college to the factory.
- C. He didn't receive enough money.
- D. He might fail to qualify as a heating engineer.

3. What did the writer find when he attended the evening classes?

- A. The behavior of the other students annoyed him.
- B. He was out of place among the other students.
- C. The studies were less interesting than he expected.
- D. He learned more when he studied at home.

4. What does "**it**" in 'I put up with it for a short period.' refer to?

- A. literature
- B. the walk
- C. the evening class
- D. companionship

5. Why at first did the writer refuse to appear in the film?

- A. He thought someone else should be in it.
- B. He wanted more time to think about it.
- C. He felt he didn't deserve it.
- D. He was taken by surprise.