PART ONE *(40 pts)*

Read the passage carefully.

TOURISTS IN A FRAGILE LAND



1 As a scientist working in Antarctica, I spend most of (33) _____ time in the lab studying ice. I am trying to find out the age of Antarctic ice. All we know for certain is that it is the oldest ice in the world. The more we understand it, the more we will understand the (34) _____ weather of the Earth. Today, as with an increasing number of days, I had to leave my work to greet a group of tourists who were taking a vacation in this continent of ice. And even though I can appreciate their desire to experience this **vast** and beautiful **landscape**, I feel Antarctica should be closed to tourists.

2 Because Antarctica is the center of important scientific research, it must (35) _____ **preserved** for this purpose. Meteorologists are now looking at the effects of the ozone hole that was discovered above Antarctica in 1984. They are also trying to understand global warming. If the Earth's temperature continues to increase, the health and safety of every living thing on the planet will be affected. Astronomers have a unique view of space and are able to see it very (36) _____ from Antarctica. Biologists have a chance to learn more about the animals that **inhabit** the coastal areas of this frozen land. Botanists study the plant life to understand how it can live in such a **harsh** environment, and geologists study the Earth to learn more about how it was formed. There are even psychologists who study how people behave when they live and work together in such a **remote** location.

3 When tourist groups come here, they take us away from our research. Our work is difficult, and some of our projects can be damaged by such simple mistakes as opening the wrong door or bumping into a small piece of equipment. Tourists in Antarctica can also hurt the environment. Members of Greenpeace, one of the world's leading environmental organizations, (37) _____ that tourists leave trash on beaches and **disturb** the plants and animals. In a place as frozen as Antarctica, it can take 100 years for a plant (38) _____ back, and tourists can easily damage penguin eggs. Oil spills are another problem caused by tourism. Oil spills not only kill penguins but can also destroy scientific projects.

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4 The need to protect Antarctica from tourists becomes even (39) _____ when we consider the fact that there is no government here. Antarctica belongs to no country. Who is making sure that the penguins, plants, and sea are safe? No one is responsible. In fact, we scientists are only **temporary** visitors ourselves. It is true that the number of tourists (40) _____ visit Antarctica each year is small compared to the number of those who visit other places. However, these other places are inhabited by local residents and controlled by local governments. They have an interest in protecting their natural environments. Who is concerned about the environment of Antarctica? The scientists, to be sure, but not necessarily the tour companies that make money from sending people south.

5 If we do not protect Antarctica from tourism, there (41) _____ be serious **consequences** for us all. We might lose the results of scientific research projects. It is possible that these results could teach us (42) _____ about the causes and effects of climate change. Some **fragile** plants and animals might die and disappear forever. This could damage the balance of animal and plant life in Antarctica. We know from past experience that when things get unbalanced, harmful changes can occur. Clearly, Antarctica should remain a place for careful and controlled scientific research. We cannot allow tourism to bring possible danger to the planet. The only way to protect this fragile and important part of the planet is to stop tourists from traveling to Antarctica.

Task 1: ***Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.***

33.	(A) our	(B) his	(C) her	(D) my
34.	(A) changed	(B) change	(C) changing	(D) changes
35.	(A) have	(B) be	(C) make	(D) do
36.	(A) clearly	(B) clarity	(C) clear	(D) unclearly
37.	(A) complaining	(B) complain	(C) complaint	(D) complained
38.	(A) to grow	(B) growing	(C) grow	(D) growth
39.	(A) great	(B) greater	(C) greatest	(D) most great
40.	(A) which	(B) whom	(C) who	(D) where
41.	(A) would	(B) need	(C) ought to	(D) may
42.	(A) important thing	(B) importance	(C) importantly	(D) something important

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Task 2: ***Choose the best option A, B, C, or D for each gap.***

43. The word **vast** in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.

(A) very large
(B) pretty
(C) small
(D) faraway

44. The word **landscape** in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.

(A) an area of land for living
(B) a painting
(C) an icy environment
(D) the way an area of land looks

45. The word **preserved** in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.

(A) closed
(B) explored
(C) protected
(D) changed

46. The word **inhabit** in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.

(A) avoid
(B) cover
(C) prefer
(D) live in

47. The word **harsh** in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.

(A) unpleasantly difficult
(B) mild
(C) dry
(D) cold

48. The word **remote** in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.

(A) ideal
(B) isolated
(C) hostile
(D) lonely

49. The word **disturb** in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.

(A) make somebody/something happy
(B) bring somebody/something comfort
(C) annoy somebody/something
(D) cause somebody/something to die

50. The word **temporary** in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.

(A) rich and adventurous
(B) careful
(C) lasting for a limited time
(D) responsible

51. The word **consequences** in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to _____.

(A) acquaintances
(B) effects
(C) causes
(D) disasters

52. The word **fragile** in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to _____.

(A) native
(B) rare
(C) useful
(D) easily damaged

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PART TWO *(14 pts)*

Read the passage carefully.

The white face, dark eyes and hair, and blood red lips: both foreigners and the Japanese are fascinated by these beautiful and mysterious women.

Makiko is training to be a geisha. Not many girls want to be a geisha in Japan today. Makiko's parents want her to go to university, study medicine and become a doctor. But Makiko's grandfather paid for her training and bought the kimonos she needed. It's very expensive to become a geisha. You have to have a different kimono for each month of the year, and today a kimono costs three million yen, that's about $30.000.

It's a hard life for a trainee geisha. **She** has to leave her family and move to a special boarding house called a 'maiko house'. Here, she has to learn traditional Japanese arts such as playing instruments, performing the **tea ceremony**, arranging flowers, singing and dancing. She has to take many difficult tests and exams. Only the best will pass everything and become geishas many years later.

We asked Makiko to describe exactly what a geisha does.

'A geisha has to serve customers and also entertain **them**. She has to sing and dance, and make good conversations.'

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Did she enjoy her life as a trainee geisha?

'I love it. But it's hard work. Sometimes I get tired of wearing the kimonos and I want to put on a pair of jeans and go to school like a normal teenager. But I can't have a normal life now. I don't mind. I feel very lucky.'

And what about later? Can she have a family?

'Of course. A geisha can have relationships like anybody else and she can get married when she chooses.'

In Japan today there are fewer than a thousand geishas, but they play an important role in preserving Japanese culture and history.



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Choose the best option A, B, C, or D.

53. What is the main idea of the passage?

(A) How to be a famous geisha.
(B) Interesting life of geishas.
(C) Life and work of geishas.
(D) How geishas feel about their life.

54. Why is Makiko training to be a geisha?

(A) Her parents want her to do so.
(B) Her grandfather supported her financially.
(C) She was lucky to be chosen.
(D) Being a geisha is Makiko's dream.

55. What is **NOT** a requirement for a geisha?

(A) She has to pass all difficult tests and exams.
(B) She can't stay home during the training.
(C) She has to learn music.
(D) She has to play modern instruments.

56. The word **She** in the passage refers to _____.

(A) Makiko
(B) A trainee geisha
(C) The writer
(D) A family member

57. Why does the writer mention **tea ceremony**?

(A) To express he/she likes tea.
(B) To indicate that geishas love tea.
(C) To give an example of Japanese traditional arts.
(D) To show that all Japanese drink tea in a special way.

58. The word **them** in the passage refers to _____.

(A) geishas
(B) tests and exams
(C) customers
(D) conversations

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