Section A: Comprehension (20%)

Read the following passages carefully and answer the questions which follow. For each question, select the best answer from the options A, B, C and D.

Passage 1

Deforestation is the cutting or burning down of all the trees in a forest and the conversion of forested areas to non-forest land for use such as arable land or pasture, or for urban use. Deforestation results from removal of trees without sufficient reforestation, and results in decline in habitat and biodiversity, in wood for fuel and industrial use, and in the quality of life. In many countries, massive deforestation is ongoing and is shaping climate and geography.

Deforestation is a **substantial** contributor to global warming, and although 70 percent of the oxygen we breathe comes from photosynthesis of marine green algae and cyanobacteria, the mass destruction of the world's rain forests is not beneficial to our environment. In addition, the incineration and burning of forests plants in order to clear land, releases tonnes of carbon dioxide which increase the impact of global warming.

Deforestation reduces the content of water in the soil, reduces groundwater as well as atmospheric moisture. Deforestation reduces soil cohesion, so erosion, flooding and landslides often result. More flash floods and localised floods occur because of deforestation. This would not happen if there is forest cover.

Forests support considerable biodiversity, providing valuable habitat for wildlife. Moreover, forests foster medicinal conservation and forest biotopes are a major, irreplaceable source of new drugs (like taxol).

Deforestation also contributes to decreased evapotranspiration, which lessens atmospheric moisture which in some cases affects precipitation levels. Water is thus lost in run-off and returns directly to the oceans. According to one preliminary study, in deforested north and northwest China, the average annual precipitation decreased by one third between the 1950s and 1980s.

Long-term gains can be obtained by managing forest lands sustainable to maintain both forest cover and provide a biodegradable renewable resource. Forests are also important stores of organic carbon, and forests can extract carbon dioxide and pollutants from the air, thus contributing to biosphere stability. Deforestation (mainly in tropical areas) accounts for up to one third of total anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions. Forests are also valued for their aesthetic beauty and as a cultural resource and tourist attraction.

The effects of human-related deforestation can be **mitigated** through environmentally sustainable practices that reduce permanent destruction of forests or even act to preserve and rehabilitate disrupted forestland. These methods help the cause and provide a sustainable growth of forests and allow lumber to become a renewable resource.

1. Which of these is not a result of deforestation?
   - A Floods and landslides
   - B Reduction in habitat and biodiversity
   - C More evapotranspiration
   - D Global warming

2. The word **mitigated** in the last paragraph can be replaced with _____.
   - A eliminated
   - B defeated

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C completed D lightened

3. What would happen if there is forest cover?
   A Less flash floods and localised floods
   B Increase in landslide occurrences
   C Soil erosion
   D More flash floods and localised floods

4. Where does most of the oxygen we breathe come from?
   A The world's rain forests
   B Marine animals in the ocean
   C Photosynthesis of marine green algae and cyanobacteria
   D Atmosphere

5. How can forests contribute to biosphere stability?
   A They can refine carbon dioxide and pollutants from the air.
   B They can remove carbon dioxide and pollutants from the air.
   C They can inject carbon dioxide and pollutants into the air.
   D They can stabilize the carbon dioxide and pollutants in the air.

6. Why are forests valued?
   A For its aesthetic beauty B For being a cultural resource
   C As a tourist attraction D All the above

7. How is precipitation affected by a decreased in evapotranspiration?
   A It will stabilize.
   B Precipitation will not be affected.
   C Precipitation is increased.
   D Precipitation is reduced.

8. How can the effects of deforestation be mitigated?
   A Mass deforestation activities
   B Renew contracts of timber companies
   C Preserve and rehabilitate disrupted forestland
   D Loose enforcement of law

9. From the passage, what is TRUE?
   A Deforestation is an insignificant contributor to global warming.
   B Soil cohesion prevents floods and landslides.
   C Deforestation accounts for up to two third of total anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions.
   D Soil cohesion causes floods and landslides.

10. The word **substantial** in paragraph 2 can be rep;aced with
    A remarkable
    B impartial
    C valuable
    D significant

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Passage 2

Every year about two million people visit Mount Rushmore, where the faces of four U.S. Presidents were carved in granite by sculptor Gutzon Borglum and his son, the late Lincoln Borglum. The creation of Mount Rushmore monument took 14 years – from 1927 to 1941 – and nearly a million dollars. **These** were times when money was difficult to come by and many people were jobless. To move the more than 400,000 tons of rock, Borglum hired laid-off workers from the closed-down mines in the Black Hills area. He taught these men to dynamite, drill, carve and finish the granite as they were hanging in midair in his specially **devised** chairs, which had many safety features. Borglum was proud of the fact that no workers were killed or severely injured during the years of blasting and carving.

During the carving, many changes in the original design had to be made to keep the carved heads free of large fissures that were uncovered. However, not all the cracks could be avoided, so Borglum concocted a mixture of granite dust, white lead ad linseed oil to fill them.

Every winter, water from melting snows gets into the fissures and expands as it freezes, making the fissures bigger. Consequently, every autumn maintenance work is done to refill the cracks. The repairers swing out in space over a 500-foot drop and fix the monument with the same mixture that Borglum used to preserve this national monument for future generations.

11. This passage is mainly about
    - A the visitors to the Mount Rushmore monument
    - B The sculptor of the Mount Rushmore monument
    - C the creation of the Mount Rushmore monument

12. According to the passage, Borglum's son
    - A is dead
    - B was a president
    - C spent a million dollars

13. The word 'these' in line 4 refers to
    - A faces
    - B dollars
    - C times

14. The men whom Borglum hired were
    - A trained sculptors
    - B Black Hills volunteers
    - C unemployed miners

15. The word 'devised' in line 7 is closest in meaning to
    - A designed
    - B described
    - C elevated

16. It can be inferred from the passage that
    - A the heads are not as originally planned
    - B the workers made mistakes when blasting
    - C the cracks caused serious injuries

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17. In line 11, the word 'fissures' refers to
    A designs
    B cracks
    C heads

18. The word 'avoided' in line 11 is closest in meaning to
    A circumvented
    B prevented
    C improvised

19. Borglum's mixture for filling cracks was
    A very expensive.
    B bought at the Black Hills miners.
    C invented by the sculptor himself.

20. Today, Mount Rushmore needs to be
    A polished for tourists.
    B restored during the winter.
    C repaired periodically.

SECTION B: FORMS AND FUNCTIONS (5%)

Complete each of the dialogues below by selecting the best answer from the options A, B, C or D according to the underlined function.

21. Johnny: Mother, may I pluck some mangoes from our tree?
    Mother: No, _____. (to warn)
    A There are bees on the tree.
    B Go ahead.
    C They aren't ripe yet.
    D They are too sour to eat.

22. Jean: Money is the most important thing in life.
    Sara: _____ (to disagree)
    A I've heard that before.
    B Nonsense!
    C I like money too.
    D That's true.

23. Amy: When shall we visit Rachel?
    Kelly: _____ (to suggest)
    A Shall we go this evening?
    B What do you think?
    C No idea.
    D I'm afraid I can't.

24. Bob: Let's ask Darren why he ran away from home.
    Leon: _____ (to discourage)
    A Let's do so together.
    B Try your best.
    C Do you know him well?
    D Mind your own business.

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25. Hock: Do you want a lift home?
Pang: _____ (to show appreciation)
A Never mind.
B That's very kind of you.
C Not now.
D Okay.

SECTION C: CLOSEST IN MEANING (10%)
Read the four situations below. For each question, select the best answer which is closet in meaning to the statements underlined.

Situation A

Mr Yee	:	Hello, Kumar!
Mr Kumar	:	Hello, Yee. I'm glad I finally managed to get through to you.
Mr Yee	:	Why, Kumar? Is there anything urgent? You sound rather upset.
Mr Kumar	:	Yes, I am. In fact, I can't come in to work this afternoon. My kitchen pipe just burst and the whole kitchen is flooded. I've fixed up an appointment with the plumber and he will be arriving shortly.
Mr Yee	:	Oh, that's terrible! All right, I'll get Saiful to fill in for you.
Mr Kumar	:	Thanks a lot, Yee.

26. get through to
A meet
B contact
C agree with
D catch up with

27. fixed up
A made
B removed
C stopped
D controlled

28. fill in for
A replace
B discipline
C finish for
D discourage

Situation B

Chee Seng	:	Ashwin, there is something in the ditch.
Ashwin	:	Oh no! It's a little dog. It must have fallen in.
Chee Seng	:	Watch out! It looks fierce.
Ashwin	:	It's frightened. Poor dog... I'll look after you.
Chee Seng	:	Ashwin, your mother said she doesn't want more pets.
Ashwin	:	I can't figure out why she said that. After all, we only have six pets.

29. Watch out!
A Be careful!
B Don't touch!
C Wait for me!
D Run quickly!

30. figure out
A answer
B appreciate
C explain
D understand

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Situation C

Dr Wong loved animals. He was not only a veterinarian but a walking encyclopedia. Children loved him because they could ask him anything and he would always give them an answer.

He taught children to respect and love animals. "Walk a mile in their shoes," he'd say with a smile. He lived with his sister. They were like chalk and cheese.

31. walking encyclopedia
    - A book salesman
    - B very knowledgeable
    - C boasting about books
    - D bookworm

32. Walk a mile in their shoes
    - A Take them walking
    - B Exercise them both
    - C Let them play with shoes
    - D Understand how they feel

33. like chalk and cheese
    - A food lovers
    - B very different
    - C not talking to one another
    - D teachers and food lovers

Situation D

Nazri : I am scared of Cik Sulastri, the 'Dragon'.
Adam : I know. I beat my brains out trying to follow her lesson.
Nazri : The worse thing is my brother and she like each other.
Adam : What? Your brother is a couch potato while Cik Sulastri is exercise-mad!
Nazri : I'm not pulling your leg. If they get married, I will move out of the house.

34. beat my brains out
    - A enjoy the challenge
    - B plan to drop the subject
    - C try very hard to understand
    - D play truant during lessons

35. couch potato
    - A someone who spends too much time watching television
    - B someone who spends a lot of time sleeping on a sofa
    - C someone who enjoys farming
    - D someone who spends a lot of time on the phone

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SECTION D: STRUCTURE AND USAGE (25%)

For each question, select the best answer from the options A, B, C and D to fit each numbered blank.

Text 1

Bacteria are the smallest known living things with a cellular structure. These colorless, one-celled micro-organisms exist _____(36) organic matter is found: in soil, in water and in the air. Since most of them have no chlorophyll, they cannot use light energy to synthesize their food, as green plants _____(37). They must get their food in other ways. In this, bacteria _____(38) animals. However, _____(39) they are enclosed in a cell wall, they can only absorb _____(40) food like plants do.

_____(41) most bacteria do not contain chlorophyll, some of them can make their own organic food from simple inorganic materials. They do not, however, use light energy for this purpose. Others get ready-made food from dead plants and animals. Still _____(42) are parasites. Parasites are able _____ (43) other living organisms and take food from them. In _____(44) so, they often cause diseases or the death _____(45) their hosts.

36.	A	whichever	37.	A	did	38.	A	resembles
	B	whenever		B	does		B	resembled
	C	wherever		C	doing		C	resemble
	D	whoever		D	do		D	resembling
39.	A	since	40.	A	dissolves	41.	A	So
	B	although		B	dissolve		B	But
	C	therefore		C	dissolving		C	Although
	D	until		D	dissolved		D	By the way
42.	A	other	43.	A	enter	44.	A	do
	B	another		B	entering		B	does
	C	the other		C	to enter		C	doing
	D	others		D	entered		D	done

45.	A	off
	B	of
	C	in
	D	at

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Text 2

There is a condition known as anorexia nervosa _____(46) which a person eats very little because he _____(47) he is too fat, even if he might be as thin as a rake. After he has eaten, he tries to throw _____(48) so that the food will not be _____(49) into his body.

Anorexia nervosa is a disease because the person develops a distorted view of _____(50) fat or thin he actually is. As a result, he will continue _____(51) himself of food until it endangers his health.

Anorexia nervosa is seen as a modern disease because today's culture equates thinness _____(52) being beautiful. This _____(53) people who are fat, or even just slightly overweight, to think that they are ugly. By _____(54) some weight, they hope to look _____ (55). The only legitimate reason, however, for losing weight is for the sake of _____(56) health. _____(57) from health reasons, one should learn to accept one's looks as one grows older. Young girls, who are especially susceptible _____(58) anorexia nervosa, should learn to base their _____(59) in things other than looks. For example, the personality of a person is _____(60) than his looks.

46.	A	in	47.	A	think	48.	A	out
	B	when		B	thinks		B	in
	C	on		C	thought		C	up
	D	at		D	thinked		D	away
49.	A	absorb	50.	A	why	51.	A	deprived
	B	absorbent		B	how		B	to deprive
	C	absorbed		C	whose		C	deprives
	D	absorbing		D	which		D	is deprived
52.	A	with	53.	A	make	54.	A	lose
	B	by		B	made		B	lost
	C	to		C	making		C	losing
	D	on		D	making		D	loss
55.	A	well	56.	A	one	57.	A	Besides
	B	best		B	one's		B	Beside
	C	better		C	ones'		C	Result
	D	worse		D	ones		D	Apart
58.	A	with	59.	A	self-confidence			
	B	to		B	self-confident			
	C	by		C	confident			
	D	in		D	overconfidence			

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60. A most important
B important
C much important
D more important

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