

II. READING PAPER

Duration: 60 minutes, 25 points.

Part 1 (4 points, 1 point per item). Read the texts about unusual jobs. Decide which job (items 26–29) would be most suitable for the people (statements A–F). There is **one** statement that you do not need to use. There is an example (0).

- A** Brave people ready to experiment
- B** Communicative people ready to live under stress
- C** Critical people ready to work under time pressure
- D** Disciplined people able to remain motionless
- E** Motivated people able to learn various skills
- F** Relaxed people able to wait for a result

0. A

Pet Food Taster. If pets could talk, people wouldn't have to taste-test cat and dog food. To make sure the flavours are just right, a group of adventurous eaters swallow pet food, remarking on everything from texture to consistency. But some of them admit to spitting out the pet food after tasting it and keeping a glass of water on hand to wash with.

26.

Live Mannequin. Businesses focusing on customers have found that live mannequins attract more attention than plastic ones. Being a live mannequin you can earn \$100 per hour. That's probably because this unusual job involves staying perfectly still, to a standard most of us could not achieve. In other words, you must be ready to sit frozen in place for hours, with a blank expression on your face, and absolutely nothing on your mind.

27.

Furniture Tester. Furniture testers actually get paid to test furniture for companies by sitting on it; well, sitting and moving. They have to rock or lean back and forth. Some positions even require furniture testers to try out 200 different pieces a day, so they can't get too comfortable. To be a furniture tester you must be able to reach a conclusion without hesitation.

28.

Toy Designer. A toy designer should know what kids think is fun. They are career-driven people who don't mind getting on the job training to keep up with new technology. A toy designer is also good at marketing, with the ability to 'sell' his idea to toy manufacturers in such a way as to convince them that their company can't afford NOT to make a certain toy.

29.

Food Attendant. Food attendants can work at restaurants, hotels, hospitals and schools. They welcome each guest with a smile, eye contact, and a friendly greeting. They also prepare and serve meals for dining in, carryout or from 'drive-thru' windows. Most food attendants spend a lot of time on their feet, often have problems with demanding customers and get no breaks to rest.

Part 2 (6 points, 1 point per item). Read the text about selfies. For questions 30–35, complete the text with the words from the box below. There are **two** words that you do not need to use. There is an example (0).

clever	craze	different	end	huge	look	power	record	tend
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ARE SELFIES ART?

We live in an age of addictive self-portraiture, which is known as the ‘age of the selfie’. Everyone’s doing it; even Barack Obama and David Cameron at Nelson Mandela’s memorial service. Art critics are now taking a second (0) look and locating the new genre within the context of art history.

Are selfies art? Of course, there are many famous self-portraits by painters, including Rembrandt and Van Gogh, but art critic Jerry Saltz has linked the modern (30) _____ of the selfie with a new artistic genre. “Selfies are something like art. They have a certain (31) _____ and they’re starting to show that people are the photographers of modern life.” Saltz believes the selfie has appeared as a new kind of portrait genre, and this phenomenon has (32) _____ long-term significance. Genres are a really big deal. Once they come into being, they (33) _____ never to disappear.

Saltz says while about 99 per cent of selfies are just silly – people making duck faces and posing with monuments or someone famous – they do look totally (34) _____ compared to all other self-portraits in art history. In a hundred years, the mass of selfies will be an incredible (35) _____ of the fine details of everyday life.

Part 3 (7 points, 1 point per item). Read the text about future packaging. Seven sentences have been removed from the text. For questions 36–42, choose from sentences A–I the one which best fits each gap. There is **one** sentence that you do not need to use. There is an example (0).

DRINK UP, THEN EAT THE GLASS

New technologies are being used to make edible packaging for food and drink. It could reduce what we send to landfill, but will it taste any good? Picture the scene. You’re at a party, drinking a cocktail. (0) A Sounds a little on the wild side, but this is the image *Loliware* (a product innovation company) wants us to play in our heads.

The US start-up, founded by Chelsea Briganti and Leigh Ann Tucker, has launched a ‘biodegradable’ – biodegradable and edible – cup. Frustrated by the amount of disposable packaging discarded at events, the pair spent some time experimenting in a lab with several materials. (36) _____ They settled on a seaweed-based gel.

For Briganti, the edible glasses are an environmental no-brainer. “You can throw them in the grass or dissolve them in a matter of minutes in hot water,” she explains. The problem with disposable cups is that they take months and sometimes years to degrade, often leaking chemicals in the process. (37) _____ Billions of plastic cups are entering the landfill every year. “If *Loliware* replaces even some of this waste, this would have far-reaching impact,” says Briganti.

There are doubts, however, over the cost and long-term sustainability. Cost is an issue for any new start-up; *Loliware* recently launched a campaign to raise \$1m to roll the product out across the US – scaling up production would help reduce the price. (38) _____

And from edible glasses to bubbles of food. *WikiPearls* are small balls of food covered in an edible membrane made from biodegradable polymer and food particles, i.e. food casing that mimics the design of the skin of soft fruit. These are the creation of Harvard bioengineer David Edwards. His team have produced an orange membrane containing orange juice and a grape membrane that holds wine. (39) _____ The resulting ‘bubble’ can be carried around in your pocket and rinsed before consuming, in the same way as you might wash an apple before eating it.

Similar to *WikiPearls* with a fruit-like skin is the *Ooho!*, an edible water bottle created by three students at Imperial College London. Initial demonstrations suggest that the product would need to be scaled up if it's to hold a significant amount of water and become commercially viable. “(40) _____ People in a village in Africa could become plastic-bottle-free and make things for themselves,” says Edwards.

Edible packaging isn't without its critics. Some people feel that it being edible defeats the whole point of packaging – to protect the food from dirt and microbes. (41) _____ Food safety regulators will be concerned about the number of hands and surfaces food wrapped in edible packaging is likely to touch on its way to a shop shelf. If it is decided that any edible packaging must be protected by more packaging, then it becomes self-defeating, to put it mildly.

Briganti believes the way to reduce people's fears is to design a product that is as fun as it is environmentally friendly. Flavouring the edible glass will complement the drink so it becomes the twist to a cocktail. (42) _____ So, the packaging innovations of the future are already real.

- A Once you've sipped, you eat the glass.
- B Briganti is confident that people will buy into the idea.
- C They were looking for some that would allow them to create a cup that looks like a glass and also tastes good.
- D However, eating the container that your food and drink comes in isn't a new concept.
- E It's really exciting from a humanitarian point of view.
- F For every cup eaten or composted, we are preventing a plastic cup from reaching the dump site.
- G Such playful and tasty packaging may encourage more people to make the switch from plastic.
- H They believe the technology can be applied to contain any substance and create any flavour.
- I And there's a psychological barrier that people need to overcome when ingesting plastic.

Part 4 (8 points, 1 point per item). Read the text about the XXXI Olympiad in Brazil – the first in South America. For questions 43–50, complete the answers by inserting **no more than one word** from the text. There is an example (0).

RIO OLYMPICS ARE COMING

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil will stage the Games of the XXXI Olympiad in August 2016. Inspired by the fauna and flora of Brazil, the mascots for these Games feature various influences from pop culture, along with elements of animation. The mascots' mission is to spread joy throughout the world and inspire everybody to use determination to always reach further.

Rio de Janeiro is a city in motion, preparing for arguably the biggest event in its history. "This is an opportunity to reinvent the city," Mayor Eduardo Paes said. "I don't care about the racetrack for Usain Bolt¹ in the 100m. What I care about is what will last for the city." The Mayor is using the Games to supercharge development (and, it is widely rumoured, his presidential bid in 2018). He boasts that 57% of the funds will come from private enterprises rather than the public pocket. Critics accuse him of giving priority to construction firms and real estate developers who have provided him with campaign funds. Meanwhile, the state and city governments say they lack the money to fulfil their promises to clean up Guanabara Bay in time for the Olympics.

Work is now in full swing to get the accommodation ready in time for the arrival of the athletes. Few construction workers in the world have as stunning a view from their workplace as Geovane Ribeiro, the manager of the athletes' village in Barra da Tijuca. "This is the most important project I've worked on because the buildings will house the world's best athletes, so the reputation of Brazil is at stake," Ribeiro says. Many of the Olympic sites are funded by investment firms such as *Odebrecht* – Ribeiro's employer and the main builder for Rio 2016 projects, which stand to reap considerable profits by selling or operating the facilities. Barra is becoming one of the most sought-after residential areas in the city. Most of the 3,604 apartments in the athletes' village have already been sold.

Contrary to the widely expressed view that the mega-events will primarily benefit the upmarket resort area in the city's south, the Mayor said development projects were geared towards removing inequality. "There is nothing happening in the rich areas. It's all in the poor areas," he said, pointing to the port area and the new rapid bus network. "We used the Games to get them built. We don't expect them to be used by the sports guys. It's for the poor and is already being used for the poor to commute".

More than infrastructure, Cláudia Uchôa, planning secretary in the Rio state government, hopes the legacy of the Games will be a shift in attitudes. "The Olympics will be a life-changing experience for Brazilian society. Although Brazil is known as a peaceful country, we have more killings than in war zones. Although we are known to be multicultural, we have seen how much prejudice there is against black people. The cultural differences of the Olympics should bring out more tolerance."

Some hoped-for changes, however, have come more slowly than anticipated. Outside the church, Brazil does not have much of a charity culture, which may explain why it has proved difficult to recruit volunteers. The experience does not seem to have been enough so the Brazilian government has now added a range of extra incentives including transport payments and preparatory courses.

"If there is anything we can expect at these Games, it is fun," says Agberto Guimarães, executive director of sport in the organising committee. "We have neither the historical nor cultural features of China and Japan. We're a young country and we're not used to following rules." To generate interest in events outside the usual Brazilian favourites of football, basketball and athletics, Guimarães plans to create more of a show with lights, music and entertainment during breaks. Go for it, Rio.

¹ a Jamaican sprinter

0. What is the aim of the two symbols of the XXXI Olympiad?

Their aim is to entertain people and inspire them to reach their goals.

43. What has the Mayor of Rio been blamed for?

It is said that he favours private companies that have given money for his _____ campaign.

44. What is special about the building site Geovane Ribeiro is working on?

His _____ offers a splendid panorama over the athletes' village.

45. Why does Ribeiro consider this project to be essential for Brazil?

If the project fails, the country may lose its _____.

46. Why do companies financially support the construction of the athletes' village?

Transforming the area into a residential district can bring them substantial _____.

47. What is the Mayor's opinion about the improved transportation system?

He believes it has reduced _____ by making it easier to get to work.

48. Which consequence of hosting the Olympiad may be important for Brazilian society?

The diversity of the participants may lead to a _____ from aggressive actions to more positive behaviour.

49. Why do the organisers fail to get volunteers for the events?

As there is little _____ experience, Brazilians are reluctant to work as volunteers.

50. What will make the Rio 2016 Olympics different from the previous ones?

The organisers are going to emphasise amusement rather than _____.