Read the text and answer the questions.

For each question (**14 – 20**), choose the correct answer **True, False** or **Not given.**

Good News for the World

Yesterday, I heard an absolutely fascinating TV interview with a scientist, who wrote a book about some important global issues. This man was very optimistic. His argument was that the world is changing very fast for the better. The reason why we don't believe it, is because the television and newspapers have been focusing on the problems and disasters while ignoring great human successes and progress.

About 200 years ago, more than 90% of the citizens in the world lived in poverty while today this number is less than 10%. Because of modern science and technology, even the poorest countries are now able to rapidly increase their income.

Many more countries are now able to provide food, healthcare, education and housing to all their citizens, especially those who are poor or elderly. Ancient communities suffered from famines frequently, but today those disasters are becoming less common.

The world has been changing and becoming a safer, more peaceful place for hundreds of years. More and more people are living in friendly, multicultural societies. The UN is one of the international organisations that have been trying to protect world peace for decades, but before the countries of the world started working together, most countries had been at war most of the time.

Many people are still suffering from natural disasters, but science can often warn us before some of them happen. Also, thanks to satellite technology and telecommunication, we can provide effective help to the people affected.

Of course, serious global problems haven't disappeared completely and there are now some new ones, such as threats to the environment. We must remember, however, that the world has been steadily changing for the better, not the worse. Additionally, if we work together, we will be able to use human knowledge and science to overcome the problems, the world is still facing.

14. The interview guest talked about global issues that are getting worse.

True **False** **Not given**

15. The writer reads a lot of newspapers.

True **False** **Not given**

16. 200 years ago over 90% of people were very poor.

True **False** **Not given**

17. Today, there are fewer situations when communities have no food to eat.

True **False** **Not given**

18. The UN can, one day, ensure world peace.

True **False** **Not given**

19. The author says that technology is responsible for natural disasters.

True **False** **Not given**

20. Damage to the environment is the biggest issue the world is facing now.

True **False** **Not given**