

CODE 7
READING PAPER
Time permitted: 60 minutes
Number of questions: 40

Directions: In this section you will read *FOUR* different passages. Each one is followed by 10 questions about it. For questions 1-40, you are to choose the best answer A, B, C or, to each question. Then, on your answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer you have chosen. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.

You have 60 minutes to answer all the questions, including the time to transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

PASSAGE 1 – Questions 1-10

The hugs that keep on giving

Every weekend over the past 10 months, Nguyen Bao Ngoc has been walking around the Sword Lake in Hanoi, dressed up as Doraemon, a popular Japanese comic book character that is half cat half robot. Stretching his arms out, he tries to hug as many strangers as possible. **Some** stop to hug him back before putting money into one of the boxes that his friends are holding. Some others walk faster and avoid eye contact with him. Ngoc, 23, says he started the "Hug Me" (Om toidi) campaign in February, inspired by the Free Hugs social movement in Australia. The difference is his hugs are not free, because he wants to raise money to help children in poor and remote areas around the country. **A**

The **senior** college student who is studying to become a TV reporter has been doing charity work for three years. In one of his most successful attempts, he worked as a *xe om* motorbike taxi driver in his free time and donated all the money he could earn to poor families in his hometown in Quang Binh Province. But "Hug Me," Ngoc says, is his favorite because with it, he can get the attention of his peers. "Young people my age have been more into social media than real life. We may cry over a sad story on Facebook but when we witness the same story in real life, we can be **indifferent**". **B**

As hugging in public is not very common in Vietnam, Ngoc said he puts on costume so that strangers will not feel uncomfortable. Doraemon the cat is in fact famous for its friendliness and kindness. Sometimes, for a change, he also dresses as a bee or a puppy. **C**

Many students who gave him a hug donated more than VND5,000, which is what he hopes to receive, allowing the campaign to earn between \$50 and \$200 each week. Some also brought old clothes and books. Ngoc has organized two trips to bring gifts and food to children in Quang Binh and the northern mountainous province of Yen Bai this year. The **third** has been planned for December.

Ngoc has been diagnosed with first stage bone marrow cancer but he says his condition is "stable." He says he does not want to be defined by his illness. Having cancer is not the motivation for him to help others. "I'd do it anyway. I want people to see me as a student doing charity work, not a cancer patient doing charity work." **D**

1. Why does Ngoc start the "Hug Me" campaign?
 - A. to initiate a social movement in Australia
 - B. to offer free hugs
 - C. to raise money for charity
 - D. to pay for his tuition fee at college
2. The word "**some**" in paragraph 1 refers to
 - A. friends
 - B. children
 - C. strangers
 - D. boxes
3. The word "**senior**" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:
 - A. last-year
 - B. superior
 - C. advanced
 - D. leading

4. The word "indifferent" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:
 A. uncaring
 B. concerned
 C. dissimilar
 D. responsive
5. What character might probably not represent a costume that Ngoc dresses?
 A. a cat
 B. a bee
 C. a puppy
 D. a panda
6. How much is the "Hug Me" campaign expected to earn a month?
 A. VND5,000
 B. \$50 and \$200
 C. \$200 and \$800
 D. free
7. The word "third" in paragraph 4 refers to
 A. province
 B. campaign
 C. trip
 D. month
8. In which space (marked A, B, C and D in the passage) will the following sentence fit?
 "I want to live and love in the real world, not the virtual world." He added.
 A. A
 B. B
 C. C
 D. D
9. What does Ngoc mean when he said "I want people to see me as a student doing charity work, not a cancer patient doing charity work"
 A. having cancer motivates him to do charity work
 B. he does not like being remembered by his illness
 C. any student with such illness can do more to help other people
 D. he is a student who helps cancer people
10. In which paragraph does the author mention the bad health condition of Nguyen Bao Ngoc?
 A. paragraph 1
 B. paragraph 2
 C. paragraph 4
 D. paragraph 5

PASSAGE 2 – Questions 11-20

MY FIRST BIKE

My biking beginnings can be summed up in two words: teenage love. My first girlfriend was small with short blonde hair, and I was mad about her. Our romance came to an abrupt end, however, when she started going out with another guy in my hometown, Crieff. He rode a 50 cc road motorbike first and then a 125. And whereas I had always walked my girlfriend home, suddenly she was going back with this guy.

I was nearly sixteen by then and already heartbroken. Then one day, on the way back from a shopping trip to Perth with my mum, we passed Buchan's, the local bike shop. There was a light blue 50 cc bike on display right at the front of the shop. I didn't know what make it was, or if it was any good. Such trivialities were irrelevant to me. All I knew was that I could get it in three months' 10 time when I was sixteen and allowed to ride it. Maybe I could even get my girlfriend back.

I'd ridden my first bike when I was about six. My father organised a tiny red Honda 50 cc and we headed off to a field that belonged to a family friend. I clambered on and shot off. I thought it was just the best thing. Just one large heap of straw. I thought I would have a go. I came racing towards the adults, shot right through the gap in the straw. I was thrilled to hear the adults scream and elated that it had frightened them. It was my first time on a motorbike. It was exciting and I wanted more.

So when I looked through Buchan's window in Perth that day, it suddenly all made sense to me. I can't remember whether it was to win back my ex-girlfriend's heart or not, but more than anything else it meant that, instead of having to walk everywhere, I could ride my motorbike to school and the games fields at the bottom of Crieff and when I went out at weekends.

I started to fantasise about it. I spent all my waking hours thinking about getting on and starting up the bike, putting on the helmet and riding around Crieff. I couldn't sleep. Driven to desperation by my desire for a bike, I made a series of promises to my mum: I won't leave town. I'll be very safe. I won't take any risks. I won't do anything stupid. But, in fact I was making the promises up – I never thought about keeping them.

Crieff is a small town and my whole childhood was spent walking around the town. It was great, but I was getting to that age when children become aware of the possibilities of **venturing further afield**. Unless, like us, you went everywhere by bicycle. With so many beautiful places nearby, the idea of getting a motorbike was too much to resist.

11. The word "romance" in paragraph 1 could be best replaced by:

- A. love affair
- B. fascination
- C. charm
- D. lover

12. Why did Ewan's relationship with his first girlfriend finish?

- A. She didn't enjoy walking
- B. She met someone with a motorbike
- C. He was upset by her behavior
- D. He made her angry

13. What does "such trivialities" in paragraph 2 refer to?

- A. his mother's attitude to the bike
- B. the bike's size and colour
- C. the bike's price
- D. the bike's quality and its manufacturer

14. Why didn't Ewan buy the bike immediately?

- A. He couldn't afford it
- B. He wasn't old enough to ride it.
- C. He hadn't learnt how to ride it.
- D. He didn't know if his girlfriend would like it.

15. The adults were frightened the first time Ewan rode a motorbike because they thought

- A. the bike was too noisy.
- B. the bike was too fast.
- C. he was going to have an accident.
- D. the bike was too big for him.

16. What was Ewan's main reason for buying the motorbike?

- A. It was less expensive than a car.
- B. It would help his relationship with his girlfriend.
- C. It was good for his image.
- D. It was a useful means of transport.

17. How did Ewan's desire for the bike affect his behaviour?

- A. He couldn't think about anything else.
- B. He spent more time talking to his mother.
- C. He invented reasons for buying the bike.
- D. He spent a lot of time riding a friend's bike.

18. The word "it" in paragraph 5 refer to

- A. the bike
- B. the helmet
- C. his hometown Crieff
- D. his desperation

19. What does Ewan mean by saying “**venturing further afield**”? in the last paragraph?

- A. taking greater risks
- B. becoming more independent
- C. travelling to more distant places
- D. living somewhere different

20. Who, according to the whole passage, was most against Ewan getting a motorbike?

- A. his first girlfriend
- B. his father
- C. his mother
- D. his friends