

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions from 36 to 40.

Telecommunicating is a form of computer communication between employees' homes and offices. For employees whose jobs involve sitting at a terminal or word processor entering data or typing reports, the location of the computer is of no consequence. If the machine can communicate over telephone lines, when the work is completed, employees can dial the office computer from a distant site and transmit the material to their employers. A recent survey in *USA Today* estimates that there are approximately 8.7 million telecommuters. But although the numbers are rising annually, the trend does not appear to be as significant as predicted when *Business Week* published "*The Portable Executive*" as its cover story a few years ago. Why hasn't telecommuting become more popular?

Clearly, change simply takes time. But in addition, there has been active **resistance** on the part of many managers. These executives claim that supervising the telecommuters in a large work force scattered across the country would be too difficult, or, at least, systems for managing **them** are not yet developed, thereby complicating the manager's responsibilities.

It is also true that employees who are given the option of telecommuting are often reluctant to accept the opportunity. Most people feel that they need regular interaction with a group, and many are concerned that they will not have the same consideration for advancement if they are not more visible in the office setting. Some people feel that even when a space in their homes is set aside as a work area, they never really get away from the office.

**Question 36.** The author mentions all of the following as concerns of telecommuters EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the lack of interaction with a group
- B. the different system of supervision
- C. the fact that the work space is in the home
- D. the opportunities for advancement

**Question 37.** How many American workers are involved in telecommuting?

- A. More than 8 million
- B. 9 million
- C. less than 8 million
- D. 8 million

**Question 38.** The word '**them**' in the second paragraph refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. responsibilities
- B. reporters
- C. systems
- D. telecommuters

**Question 39.** The word "**resistance**" could best be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. participation
- B. consideration
- C. opposition
- D. alteration

**Question 40.** Which of the following is the main topic of the passage?

- A. A definition of telecommuting
- B. The advantages of telecommuting
- C. An overview of telecommuting
- D. The failure of telecommuting

---- The end---