

I. LISTENING (2.0 points)

PART 1. *You will hear an interview with a man called Tim Jones, who organises an international summer course for young musicians. (1.0 point)*

For questions 1 to 5, choose the correct answer A, B, or C.

1. What does Tim enjoy most about his job?
A. sorting out all the details.
B. getting to know the musicians.
C. listening to lots of good music.
2. Tim says that the teachers on the course _____.
A. usually enjoy themselves.
B. are always complaining.
C. are extremely well-paid.
3. Tim liked to hold the course in a place which _____.
A. is specially designed for musicians
B. is convenient for public transport
C. is a long way from big city
4. What does Tim say about musical instruments?
A. Students can not bring expensive ones.
B. Students sometimes lose them.
C. Students keep them in special places.
5. What does Tim say about the concert tour after the course?
A. it has to make a lot of money.
B. it needs to be carefully planned.
C. it's difficult to sell tickets.

PART 2. *You will hear a radio talk about holidays in Northumberland.*

For questions 6-10, fill in the missing information in the numbered space with a word or short phrase. You will hear the recording TWICE. (1.0 point)

Holidays in Northumberland

Useful information

- Read Peter Green's book called '(6) _____ around Northumberland'.
- Lots of things to see, for example a castle.
- Accommodation in flats, hotels, (7) _____ or bed and breakfast places.

- Best time to go is spring.

Bike Hire

- One week - £35
- Two weeks - (8) £ _____

Local Events

- June - (9) _____ Festival
- August - International Festival of music

National Park Activities

- Guided walks
- (10) _____
- Bird watching

II. READING (2.0 points)

PART 1. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the question from 1 to 5. (1.0 point)

One of the factors contributing to the intense nature of twenty-first-century stress is our continual exposure to media - particularly to an overabundance of news. If you feel stressed out by the news, you are far from alone. Yet somehow many of us seem unable to prevent ourselves from tuning in to an extreme degree.

The further back we go in human history, the longer news took to travel from place to place, and the less news we had of distant people and lands altogether. The printing press obviously changed all that, as did every subsequent development in transportation and telecommunication.

When television came along, it proliferated like a population of rabbits. In 1950, there were 100,000 television sets in North American homes; one year later there were more than a million. Today, it's not unusual for a home to have three or more television sets, each with cable access to perhaps over a hundred channels. News is the subject of many of those channels, and on several of them it runs 24 hours a day.

What's more, after the **traumatic** events of September 11, 2001, live newscasts were paired with perennial text crawls across the bottom of the screen - so that viewers could stay abreast of every story all the time.

Needless to say, the news that is reported to us is not good news, but rather disturbing images and sound bytes alluding to disaster (natural and man-made), upheaval, crime, scandal, war, and the like. Compounding the problem is that when actual breaking news is scarce, most broadcasts fill in with waistline, hairline, or very existence in the future. This variety of story tends to treat with equal alarm a potentially lethal flu outbreak and the bogus claims of a wrinkle cream that over promises smooth skin.

Are humans meant to be able to process so much trauma – not to mention so much overblown anticipation of potential trauma – at once? The human brain, remember, is programmed to slip into alarm mode when danger looms. Danger looms for someone, somewhere at every moment.

Exposing ourselves to such input without respite and without perspective cannot be anything other than a source of chronic stress.

(Extracted from The Complete Idiot's Guide to Beating Stress by Arlene Matthew Hull – Penguin Group 2006)

1. According to the passage, which of the following has contributed to the intense nature of twenty - first - century stress?
A. An overabundance of special news B. The degree to which stress affects our life
C. Our inability to control ourselves D. Our continual exposure to the media
2. The word “**traumatic**” in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
A. boring B. fascinating C. upsetting D. exciting
3. According to the passage, when there is not enough actual breaking news, broadcasts _____.
A. are full of dangerous diseases such as flu
B. send out live newscasts paired with text across the screen
C. send out frightening stories about potential dangers
D. are forced to publicize an alarming increase in crime
4. Which of the following is NOT true, according to the passage?
A. The news that is reported to us is not good news.
B. Many people are under stress caused by the media.
C. Many TV channels supply the public with breaking news.
D. The only source of stress in our modern life is the media.
5. What is probably the best title for this passage?
A. Effective Ways to Beat Stress B. More Modern Life - More Stress
C. The Media - A Major Cause of Stress D. Developments in Telecommunications

PART 2. *You are going to read an article about a man who takes photos of celebrities. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A-G the one which fits each gap (0-5). There is ONE extra sentence which you do not need to use. (1.0 point)*
There is an example at the beginning (0).

The airport photographer

I'm a photographer based at Heathrow Airport in London. Airlines often commission me to take photos of aircraft or their staff. But mostly I concentrate on getting shots of celebrities as they come through the arrivals hall. I sell some photos direct to the daily newspapers and celebrity magazines, and the rest go to a picture agency.

On a typical day I look out for the flights arriving from Los Angeles on the major airlines.
(0) D Most of them fly either with British Airways because it's such an established company, or with Virgin Atlantic because the owner, Richard Branson, modes in those celebrity circles.

You've got to cover all the incoming flights though - Victoria Beckham took to flying with Air New Zealand at one time. I know the ground and security staff here very well. (1) _____ That can really make all the difference to being in the right place at the right time. I've been

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Today's big stars are generally okay and give you a polite smile. I won't mention names, but there are some who wave me away rudely, whilst others even have their managers popping up from nowhere, saying: 'no pictures' to the waiting photographers. (3) _____ You've probably seen photographers leaping around in this manner on TV footage of celebrities arriving at airports and wondered why they do it - well often that's why.

But if today's stars don't make my job as easy as it was, today's technology more than makes up for it. When I started out it was much less sophisticated. I remember when the British queen's granddaughters, Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie, were just babies. I heard that their mother, the Duchess of York, was coming through Heathrow with them. She was carrying both babies in her arms. (5) _____ I realised I had a good chance of getting one of them onto the front page of the newspaper, which is always the photographer's aim.

- A. You get the impression that they enjoy the attention.
- B. I was lucky enough to get some lovely shots of them.
- C. Often it's one of them who tips me off that a big star has just come through passport control.
- D. That's where you generally find the celebrities.
- E. They could be appearing in the arrivals hall at any time, night or day, of course.
- F. When that happens, they have to do what call 'duck and dive' to get a shot.
- G. With some stars, however, you're never quite sure what you're going to get.

PART 1. Choose the word or phrase A, B, C or D that best completes each sentence. (1.0 point)

A. Hardly as he worked B. Hard as he worked

big (9) _____ in the popularity of this snack with most people choosing to have a sandwich for lunch. This trend started in the 1960s and it is still going (10) _____ today.

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|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. A. Time | B. Years | C. Era | D. Ages |
| 2. A. consumed | B. fed | C. nourished | D. cut |
| 3. A. therefore | B. however | C. nevertheless | D. yet |
| 4. A. concerned | B. tied | C. connected | D. involved |
| 5. A. disagreed | B. denied | C. refused | D. argued |
| 6. A. take | B. carry | C. bring | D. obtain |
| 7. A. cut | B. separated | C. removed | D. sliced |
| 8. A. cover | B. include | C. show | D. contain |
| 9. A. increase | B. spread | C. growing | D. expanse |
| 10. A. long | B. big | C. strong | D. hard |

PART 3. Fill each blank with ONE suitable word. (1.0 point)

MICROFLATS

In Britain today, many urban centres are suffering from a chronic lack (1) _____ affordable housing. For many first-time buyers, (2) _____ only solution to this problem is the microflat, a recent trend in apartments which in some cases measure little more (3) _____ 15 square metres. With just enough room (4) _____ enable the occupier to sleep, eat and wash, microflats represent the ultimate in small-scale city living.

(5) _____ of the best publicized designs of microflat was that of young architects Stuart Piercy and Richard Conner, who (6) _____ up with their idea when they realized they couldn't afford to buy a place to live in the capital, (7) _____ the fact that they were earning reasonable salaries. Their 30-square-metre prototype (8) _____ first exhibited in the shop window of Selfridges department store in London in January 2002.

Teacher Sally Wright, who has been living in her London microflat for nearly two years now, sees her home as a short-term option. 'Naturally, I would rather live in a bigger flat, but I had no choice. It came (9) _____ quite a shock when I moved down to London and saw how expensive everything was. I rapidly came (10) _____ the conclusion that I'd have to think small for a while.'

PART 4. Give the correct form of the words in the brackets. (1.0 point)

1. In the mountains, it's much _____ to travel by horse than by bicycle. (**EASE**)
2. The old house is nearly falling down and it's completely _____. (**INHABIT**)
3. Your business will be more _____ if you can reduce your overheads. (**PRODUCE**)
4. The company is trying to reduce _____ on transport. (**EXPEND**)
5. Students are expected to be quiet and _____ in the classroom. (**OBEY**)
6. The quality of these drawings and paintings shows how _____ Alexia is. (**ART**)
7. The overland journey to their destination was _____ and filled with danger. (**EVENT**)
8. We met in a little _____ just off the main road. (**EAT**)
9. The _____ unit of the UK is the pound. (**MONEY**)

10. Marco was working _____ at his desk. (INDUSTRY)

PART 5. For questions 1 – 5, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do NOT change the word given. (1.0 point)

1. Can you please stay on one channel when we're watching TV. (KEEP)

→ I wish _____ the channel when we're watching TV.

2. Although I like him very much, I don't want to socialize with him. (LIKE)

→ Much _____, I don't want to socialize with him.

3. To me, he looks exactly the same in the photo as he does in real life. (DIFFERENCE)

→ I can't see _____ way he looks in the photo and in real life.

4. It's possible that thieves entered the building by forcing a window at the back. (BROKEN)

→ The thieves may _____ the building through a window at the back.

5. The recipe is really a lot more imaginative than the others in this book. (MOST)

→ The recipe is by _____ in this book.

For questions 6 – 10, finish each of the sentences in such a way that it means exactly the same as the one printed before it.

6. They coped as well as they could in a different situation.

→ Given _____ that they could.

7. The plain clothes officer's boots showed he was a policeman.

→ The plain clothes policeman's real _____ by his boots.

8. She was so attractive that every boy in the class ran after her.

→ Such _____.

9. They don't know much about music.

→ Their knowledge _____.

10. I'm always inviting him for a weekend with us but he's always too busy.

→ No matter _____.

IV. WRITING (1.0 point)

In about 120 – 150 words, write a PARAGRAPH answering the following question.

Do you agree with the following statement?

"Online learning has had some negative effects on students' performance at school."

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Thí sinh không được sử dụng tài liệu. Cán bộ coi thi không giải thích gì thêm.

Họ và tên thí sinh:..... Số báo danh:.....

Chữ ký cán bộ coi thi 1:..... Chữ ký cán bộ coi thi 2:.....