MINI TEST – READING UNIT 7&8

Questions 1-3

Reading Passage 2 has eight paragraphs (A-D). Which paragraphs concentrate on the following information?

1 a comparison of past and present transportation methods

2 the increasing use of motor vehicles

3 the impact of the car on city development

The Motor Car

A There are now over 700 million motor vehicles in the world - and the number is rising by more than 40 million each year. The average distance driven by car users is growing too - from 8 km a day per person in western Europe in 1965 to 25 km a day in 1995. This dependence on motor vehicles has given rise to major problems, including environmental pollution, depletion of oil resources, traffic congestion and safety.

B While emissions from new cars are far less harmful than they used to be, city streets and motorways are becoming more crowded than ever, often with older trucks, buses and taxis, which emit excessive levels of smoke and fumes. This concentration of vehicles makes air quality in urban areas unpleasant and sometimes dangerous to breathe. Even Moscow has joined the list of capitals afflicted by congestion and traffic fumes. In Mexico City, vehicle pollution is a major health hazard.

C Until a hundred years ago, most journeys were in the 20 km range, the distance conveniently accessible by horse. Heavy freight could only be carried by water or rail. The invention of the motor vehicle brought personal mobility to the masses and made rapid freight delivery possible over a much wider area. Today about 90 per cent of inland freight in the United Kingdom is carried by road. Clearly the world cannot revert to the horse-drawn wagon. Can it avoid being locked into congested and polluting ways of transporting people and goods?

D In Europe most cities are still designed for the old modes of transport. Adaptation to the motor car has involved adding ring roads, one-way systems and parking lots. In the United States, more land is assigned to car use than to housing. Urban sprawl means that life without a car is next to impossible. Mass use of motor vehicles has also killed or injured millions of people. Other social effects have been blamed on the car such as alienation and aggressive human behaviour.

Question 1 - 5

*Complete each sentence with the correct ending, **A - H**, from the box below.*

*Write the correct letter **A - H** in the answer box.*

***NB:** There are more endings given than beginning*

EDUCATING OUR MOBILE CHILDREN

One of the greatest concerns parents have when facing an international move is "What schooling will be available to my child? Will my child be disadvantaged academically as a result of this move?" Although this fear is certainly strongest in families moving overseas for the first time, even those who may be more experienced often have concerns about their children's education.

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Dr. Ernest Mannino - Director of the State Department's Office of Overseas Schools, and Dr. Keith Miller - Deputy Director of the office - spoke candidly about some of the common concerns parents have regarding the education of their children. Dr. Mannino and Dr. Miller caution parents against making assumptions about their children's education. To make an educated choice, parents need to think through schooling issues and to research post schools as far in advance of a move as possible.

Children who are internationally mobile have many choices of schools to attend. In most major cities, there are schools based on the U.S. French, German, and British systems. Some parents also choose to become their children's teachers through home education. Which school is appropriate for your child is an individual decision based on many factors.

One of the primary factors that should be considered is what type of college or university your child will attend after high Some parents want an international education instead of just an education within an American system school and fortunately, they have the opportunity to go to these types of schools. But what parents must keep in mind is whether this school will nest prepare your child for education beyond high school.

Parents may be tempted to alternate their children's school system in order to enhance cross-cultural understanding, but many experts suggest just the opposite. Mannino and Miller warn that differences in the sequencing of curriculum exist in the high school grades; moving your child from one academic system to another during this time can handicap a child academically. At the very least, the parents should learn what the differences in curriculum are and try to keep the child in one system (although this may be in more than one location) for all of the high school years. It is clear that whatever continuity you can provide these children is important. The nice thing about the American school system or the French, German or whichever, is that it is the same school system throughout their lives.

List of endings

A. the type of university their children will attend.
B. where to move internationally.
C. making decisions about their children's education.
D. it is advised to make some researches in advance.
E. it is better to keep the child within one school system.
F. enhance their children's tolerance.
G. certain systems are better than the others.
H. stay in more than one location.

1. Most of the families moving overseas will worry about ... [ ]
2. To parents who need to make choices for their children's education ... [ ]
3. An important factor which parents should think about is ... [ ]
4. Many experts agree that ... [ ]
5. To keep the children in one system in high schools, parents may have to ... [ ]

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