PRACTICE TEST 3 – V2

I. LISTENING

Part 1: For questions 1–5, choose from the list (A–H) the way the innovation has impacted each speaker.

1. Speaker 1: ……..	A They make decisions more quickly than before.
2. Speaker 2: ……..	B They have started using an item of technology less frequently.
3. Speaker 3: …….	C They have started exploring new areas of research.
4. Speaker 4: …….	D They have stopped buying certain items of clothing.
5. Speaker 5: …….	E They feel reassured about their contribution.
	F They wear clothes they otherwise wouldn't have chosen.
	G They have encouraged others to follow their lead.
	H They have resolved a long-standing problem

Part 2. For question 6-10, listen to a recording about the walking shark and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F). Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

6. ……. Epaulette shark's existence on Earth is relatively short in comparison with other species of sharks.
7. ……. Though epaulette shark has fins that resemble legs, those fins are actually thick and inflexible.
8. ……. The heat endurance of epaulette shark is greater than the majority of other species of fish.
9. ……. Epaulette sharks are able to live on land for up to one hour.
10. ……. The striking similarities in biological systems between epaulette sharks and bull sharks are testimony to magical evolution.

Part 3: You will hear part of an interview with two graphic designers called Anita Dickinson and Joe Connolly in which they talk about going freelance. For questions 11-15, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to what you hear.

11. What does Joe say about when he first started working freelance?
    A. It was more complicated than he'd expected.
    B. He resented having less free time than before.
    C. It was necessary to have the right attitude to work.
    D. He found it easy to find clients through his website.
12. Joe confesses that having to work at home on his own is
    A. a relief after working in a busy office.
    B. a cause of loneliness for him at times.
    C. something that he avoids as much as possible.
    D. something that he thought he would dislike.
13. When asked about self-discipline, Anita claims that
    A. she checks her daily work output very carefully.
    B. she is rarely tempted away from work by social media.
    C. she needs certain apps to keep her focused on work.
    D. she is often forced to change her working hours to fulfill contracts.
14. Anita and Joe agree that keeping up to date with trends is
    A. less important than being a specialist in one area.
    B. difficult when balanced against other demands on time.
    C. one of the most enjoyable sides of their work.
    D. not as challenging as they'd expected it to be.
15. What does Joe think is the reason for his success as a freelancer?
    A. He has effective negotiating skills.
    B. He makes sure he has good relations with clients.
    C. He gets plenty of personal recommendations.
    D. He offers his services at the right price.

Part 4. You will hear a travel expert and writer reporting on travelling in deserts. For questions 1–10, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

Into the wilderrness

According to the writer, deserts are the (1) _____for experienced travellers like herself.
While describing desert features, she compares rock formations to (2)_____ .
In contrast to the other three types of deserts, (3) _____ do not experience extremely high or low temperatures.
She describes the sand dunes outside of Merzouga as (4) _____ and (5) _____.
The writer recommends wearing long trousers to protect you, especially from (6) _____ .

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She says that taking numerous (7) _____is the best way to deal with dramatic changes in temperatures.
With the exception of camels, a single (8) _____ was the only form of desert wildlife the writer had the chance to see up close.
She particularly admires the (9) _____ of the addax, a type of endangered antelope.
The writer is sceptical of what is called (10) _____ , which for her represents the wrong way to think about deserts.

II. LEXICO-GRAMMAR)

Part 1: For questions 26-35, write the letter A, B, C or D in the numbered boxes provided to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

26. As the helicopter descended towards the landing pad, the pilot decided to _____ to ensure a gentle touchdown.
A. ease up B. speed off C. kick in D. jump out
27. The director was adamant that the film needed to undergo _____ editing before it could be released to the public.
A. cursory B. perfunctory C. rigorous D. approximate
28. Their newest phone might be described as _____ a par with their main competitor's model that came _____ the market last year.
A. on/in B. under/on C. on/on D. at/on
29. She then took us on a _____ ride through the industrial district, which, while not exactly scenic, eventually got us to our destination.
A. rudimentary B. esoteric C. pedestrian D. circuitous
30. After the merger, the company decided to _____ certain departments in order to streamline operations and cut costs.
A. ramp up B. phase out C. double down on D. spin off
31. Although his proposal was met with skepticism, he _____, convinced that it would ultimately prove successful.
A. stuck to his guns B. threw in the towel
C. kept a low profile D. went out on a limb
32. Frustrated _____ Emily was, she wouldn't give in and decided to try again.
A. despite the fact that B. however
C. though D. as if
33. Despite the CEO's optimistic projections, many in the company feared that the new policy would be a _____ disaster.
A. strategic B. mitigated C. burgeoning D. resounding
34. _____ the female singer's voice, the company decided to sign her to a long-term contract.
A. Amazed by B. To amaze C. Having amazed D. Amazing
35. _____ the numerous objections raised during the public hearings, the city council decided to proceed with the new urban development plan.
A. Notwithstanding B. Hitherto C. Given D. Considering

Part 2: For questions 36-40, write the correct form of each bracketed word in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

The pursuit of higher education is often heralded as the pinnacle of intellectual achievement, offering both prestige and potential socioeconomic mobility. However, this **(36, NARRATE)** _____ is increasingly being scrutinized in the modern world. In recent years, the rising costs of tuition and student loans have made higher education increasingly **(37, TENUITY)** _____ for many. As a result, some individuals opt to enter the workforce immediately after finishing secondary school, rather than pursue **(38, PEDAGOGUE)** _____ studies.
Nevertheless, higher education continues to play a vital role in modern society. Universities not only provide epistemology, but also foster innovation and critical thinking. The question remains, however, whether the current system is truly perennial in its present form, or if significant reforms are needed to make it more **(39, EQUITY)** _____. Critics argue that without such reforms, higher education risks becoming increasingly **(40, EXCLUSION)** _____, accessible only to the privileged few. On the other hand, proponents of the current system claim that it already offers diverse opportunities for a wide range of students through scholarships, financial aid, and alternative pathways.

Part 3: The passage below contains 05 mistakes. For questions 41-45, FIND OUT the mistakes and WRITE YOUR CORRECTIONS in the numbered space provided. The first one has been done as an example.

Scientists posit that Jupiter's moon Ganymede, the largest natural satellite in the solar system, **experiencing** a cataclysmic impact event approximately 4 billion years ago, when it was struck by an asteroid of monumental

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proportions. This asteroid, is estimated to be around 185 miles in diameter - an order of magnitude larger than the Chicxulub impactor that precipitated the Cretaceous-Paleogene extinction event on Earth - likely inflicted profound and long-lasting geophysical repercussions on Ganymede. The collision is hypothesized to have induced a reorientation of Ganymede's rotational axis, such that the resultant impact crater now consistently faces away from Jupiter, akin with a tidally locked configuration.

The immense energy released by the asteroid's impact created an initial crater possibly spanning up to 1,000 miles in diameter. The resulting debris from the collision may have significance altered Ganymede's surface features and internal structure, which is thought including a hidden saltwater ocean beneath its frozen outer layer. In his article in Scientific Reports, planetary scientist Dr. Naoyuki Hirata proposes that the unique concentric grooves, which Ganymede's surface displays remnants of an ancient impact, are a result of this event. Hirata's simulations indicate that the asteroid's mass and momentum were enough to disrupt Ganymede's original axial alignment, causing the moon to undergo true polar wander and realign itself to adjust to the additional mass.

MISTAKES	**YOUR CORRECTIONS**
0. *experiencing*	*experienced*
41.	
42.	
43.	
44.	
45.	

III. READING

Part 1: For questions 46-55, read the passage and fill in each of the following numbered blanks with ONE suitable word. Write your answers in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

The pros and cons of remote working

As remote working has become increasingly commonplace, many long-established assumptions about the nature of work are (46) _____ turned upside-down.

One common concern is that, without a manager looking over their shoulder, remote employees (47) _____ grow lazy. (48) _____ may be overlooked is that office-based workers often waste just as much time on coffee breaks, small talk and surreptitious scrolling through social media; they (49) _____ have to work harder to conceal their laziness. There's even an argument that remote employees work more efficiently, (50) _____ the temptation to chat around the water cooler or the distraction of other people's noisy phone calls to contend with. Above all, if employees feel entrusted to get on with their work without constant monitoring, their job satisfaction skyrockets, motivating them to work more efficiently.

Of course, face-to-face decision-making is often smoother, without the need to compose lengthy emails (51) _____ wait for replies to trickle in. A quick meeting can resolve issues extremely efficiently. The problem is that (52) _____ meetings tend to be neither quick nor efficient, and merely serve to keep employees (53) _____ from their actual work.

Additionally, remote working allows employees to live wherever they choose. (54) _____ only does this have a positive impact on employee retention, as current workers are not faced with a choice between their jobs and a pleasant place to live, but it also makes the recruitment of great people significantly easier when we have the entire world's population to choose from.

For me, the benefits of remote working far outweigh the drawbacks. I would not be at (55) _____ surprised to see the end of office-based work within a few years, and the world would be much better for it.

Part 2: Read the following passage and do the tasks that follow.

Japanese knotweed

A. Japanese knotweed (Fallopia japonica) is a perennial plant which grows tall stems and has attractive creamy-white flowers. It grows best in full sun, though it is tolerant of shade, and it is often found near sources of water, such as brooks, rivers and marshy land. In spring and summer, the stems grow to a height of around two metres, though these die back to ground level in winter.

B. Philipp Franz Balthasar von Siebold was a surgeon in the Dutch East Indies army when he was sent to Japan on a fact-finding mission. He was not allowed to receive payment for his work as a doctor so patients would routinely give him gifts and he began collecting plants, among other things. During a move while in Japan, he was found to be in possession of maps, something that was not allowed by law; he was accused of spying and forced to leave the country. His collections, including over 2,000 plant species, were brought to Europe. Among them was Fallopia japonica, which was introduced to British gardens in the 19th century but soon spread into the wild. Although documentation

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from before the 1880s reveals that it was acknowledged as a pest, its sale as an exotic oriental plant continued until the 1930s.

C. Fallopia japonica has become a pest in large parts of Europe as well as North America. It has been listed as a global plant pest by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). The reason it is so widely known (and feared) is because it spreads so rapidly, crowding out other plants. This is as true of tender, exotic plants in gardens as it is of long-established and robust native plants. Even the non-gardening home-owner has probably heard of it too, since it has the strength to lift tarmac on roads and pavements. Many claim that it can break through brick and concrete - even the foundations of buildings. However much truth there is in this, it is known that its presence can drive down house prices and drive up insurance premiums. Some lenders will refuse mortgages on properties where it has been found. Either that or they will insist on the removal of all evidence of the plant before agreeing to the loan.

D. As with many perennial weeds, digging it out is not usually successful because even the tiniest part of rhizome (underground root-forming stem) left in the soil will grow into a new plant. If the plant is allowed to dry out, it can be destroyed by burning. Extremely powerful chemicals are usually the method of choice, although these are potentially dangerous to use and can affect nearby plants. Extreme persistence is usually required, as the eradication process can take three to four seasons. Re-infestation is almost inevitable in cases where neighbouring properties (such as your next-door neighbour's garden, or waste land bordering your own) are not treated simultaneously. Removal, even by professionals, is slow and costly with no guarantee that the pest will not return.

E. Although it is not an offence to have this plant on your property in the UK, there are legal implications. There is legislation governing disposal of the plants as authorities are keen to avoid its spread. Firstly, the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) outlaws planting it or allowing it to grow in the wild. This includes allowing it to escape from your garden. Secondly, the Environmental Protection Act (1990) considers it controlled waste, so dumping of the plant is carefully regulated, and landfills need a special permit in order to accept it. One accepted method of disposal of the plant on your own property is burial, but the law stipulates that this must be at a depth of five metres. The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act (2014) has the power to issue a community protection notice to anyone who fails to act regarding uncontrolled growth of the plant on their property. Allowing contaminated soil or plant material to spread into the wild is punishable by a fine of up to £5,000 or up to 2 years in prison.

F. Despite the undesirable nature of the plant, it does offer some benefits. Initially, Japanese knotweed was sold to feed grazing cattle and so that its roots could stabilise sand dunes. It is seen by bee-keepers as an important source of nectar, and the young stems can be eaten as a spring vegetable. It has been used in herbal medicine to treat fungal infections and skin inflammations, as well as cardiovascular, nervous system and liver complaints. One of its active ingredients is thought to have a beneficial effect on the immune system.

Questions 56-61 The passage has six sections, A-F.

Choose the correct heading for sections A-F from the list of headings below. Write the correct number i-ix in the correct numbered boxes provided.

List of headings	
i Why it is not wanted	56. Section A _____
ii Returning it to its native land	57. Section B _____
iii The law	58. Section C _____
iv What it is	59. Section D _____
v The meaning of the name	60. Section E _____
vi Not all bad news	61. Section F _____
vii Origin	
viii Getting rid of it	
ix Danger to the health	

Questions 62-68

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the passage?

Write:

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information.

FALSE if the statement contradicts the information.

NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this.

62. …….. The writer considers Fallopia japonica to have a nice appearance.
63. …….. The man who introduced Fallopia japonica to Europe knew of its ability to spread quickly.
64. …….. Sales of Fallopia japonica were halted when it was discovered how invasive it was.
65. …….. Fallopia japonica has the ability to dominate even very strong plants.
66. …….. Financial institutions always refuse to lend money for property with Fallopia japonica.
67. …….. To avoid the plant coming back, it is often necessary to treat a wide area.
68. …….. Taking the plant to any landfill is the safest way to dispose of it.

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Part 3: In the passage below, seven paragraphs have been removed. For questions 69-75, read the passage and choose from paragraphs A-H the one which fits each gap. There is ONE extra paragraph which you do not need to use. Write the letters A-H in the corresponding numbered boxes provided.

Secret underground stations

Charles Brent embarks on a journey to confer with Professor Malcolm Cook, a distinguished historian whose academic focus lies in unraveling the intricate history of London. Over the years, Professor Cook has devoted his scholarly pursuits to an in-depth examination of London's past, with a particular emphasis on the subterranean realm of the city-home to the world's oldest and most frenetic underground railway network. Reflecting on his work, the professor remarks, 'The rich history of London captivates me endlessly, and I derive immense satisfaction from delving into the mysteries of its underground. Though much of it remains concealed beneath the surface, ample traces persist for those with the discerning eye to uncover them.'

69.

The professor expounded upon the labyrinthine underground network, which spans a staggering 255 miles and harbors approximately forty abandoned stations, some concealed beneath the earth while others linger above ground. Certain stations have all but evaporated from collective memory, their existence erased with scarcely a vestige remaining to mark their presence, while others persist in a near-pristine state of disrepair. These remnants stand as somber, dirt-encrusted relics, entombed in grime, serving as unintentional time capsules - haunting monuments to the very moment they were sealed off from the world.

70.

I asked the professor to tell us more about it. 'Well, the Ticket Hall and lifts at Aldwych station have been remarkably restored and preserved since its closure in 1994. They're frequently used by film and television companies as film sets and this was very evident throughout the tour. The original ticket office is in perfect condition, because it was re-decorated for a period drama not that long ago!'

71.

The professor explained how the tour group then went down the emergency staircase, the only way now to get down to the platforms. He continues, 'This was when we really felt that we were in a ghost station. The paint on the walls and roof is peeling off rather badly in places and there were puddles everywhere on the platforms. There was also a horrid, foul smell in the air. It had an abandoned air about it and you couldn't mistake the fact that it is no longer in operation!

72.

'Since I went on that tour, part of it has been cleaned up, at least on the surface, by a film company! A few years ago, part of a James Bond film, Die Another Day, was filmed in a disused London underground station. Bond enters through a small door opposite the Houses of Parliament near Westminster Bridge, to get to Q's gadget laboratory.

73.

Of course, one of the things the London Underground is most famous for is providing shelter to Londoners during the Second World War. I commented that it must have felt very safe and secure down there, sheltering people of all ages and class from all over London at night, while the destruction and devastation continued unabated above ground.

74.

I asked the professor if all these ghost stations are in such a bad state of repair. He replied that they weren't. 'There's a disused platform at Holborn that hasn't been used since 1994. Up until recently, you could still see it through some gates, but doors have now replaced the gates. However, the platform is still there and kept in an excellent condition!

75.

I expressed my gratitude to Professor Cook for taking the time to speak with me. His insights had illuminated a striking truth: the vast majority of Londoners remain almost entirely unaware of the hidden world that lies just beneath their feet. The underground is not merely a means of transport, but a vast repository of history, much of it long forgotten. Perhaps, as he suggested, it is time we began to look downwards and delve deeper into the stories embedded within the very ground we walk upon, discovering a past that has quietly persisted beneath the bustling city above.

A. 'For example, when travelling between Tottenham Court Road and Holborn on the Central Line, look out of the window and you'll see a station which has stood disused since 1932. This was once where people alighted to visit the British Museum, but today it stands neglected. There are many such stations, often called ghost stations, and I love finding out more about them!

B. 'It hasn't changed much since it was shut down and if you didn't know any better, you'd think it was still operational. There are actually new advertising posters on the walls and between these there are white boards put up on the walls. These serve as screens for what was a new video projection system that they were testing here as the platform is not being used by the public!'

C. Professor Cook did his research and found out that it was a film stage, not a real station, but the film company had done a lot of research before shooting the film. The professor commented, 'The film company had actually based most of the station on Aldwych. The walls had been painted the same, but the shape of the tunnel was different. Even so, the film makers went to a lot of trouble to make it look realistic!

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D. 'On the right of the ticket office are the two original Otis lifts, put in when the station was opened in 1907. These lifts were the main reason the station was shut down, as they would have taken nearly four million pounds to replace. Something I love is that if one lift broke down, the other lift could be brought up alongside, locked together and a door opened between the two lifts to allow passengers to transfer into the still operating lift. This is one of the reasons you'll see most of the lifts on the Underground system come in twos!'
E. Professor Cook continued, noting, 'There are numerous organized tours that explore these empty stations, with some preserved in far better condition than others. For example, Aldwych Station, constructed in the early twentieth century, offers a truly fascinating tour, one that I had the pleasure of experiencing just a few weeks ago!'
F. 'Yes', said Cook, 'they would surface the next morning unsure if their homes were still standing or not. Many stations were used for this, including Aldwych. London Transport did not originally want people sleeping on their platforms and tried to discourage them from doing so at the start of the war. In the end, Aldwych was closed to trains and used only as shelter for most of the war.
G. 'The whole place is rather despondent - a once thriving station that now has no useful life. We all felt a bit as if we were intruders and shouldn't really have been there. There was quite a sharp wind blowing down the corridors, which meant we could hear the trains from the Piccadilly Line, and after we had negotiated more puddles and some rubble and noticed how decaying the whole place was, I think we were all glad to leave.
H. At the moment, there are no tours of the ghost stations being run by the London Transport Museum. They appreciate how many people would like to take a tour and might possibly arrange some in the future. They always had a huge number of people applying for each tour when they publicised them, but many were disappointed because they can only take a small group at a time, owing to the dangers in some of the stations.

Part 4: For questions 76-85, read the following text and write A, B, C or D in the corresponding numbered boxes provided to indicate the correct answer which fits best according to what is stated or implied in the text.

PUTTING THE 'GREEN' IN GREENHOUSE

When we think about views of the Earth from space, normally awe-inspiring ancient constructions spring to mind like the Great Wall of China or incredible natural wonders like the Great Barrier Reef. One vista that few tend to think of lies in south-eastern Spain, in the province of Almeria, where there is an expanse of greenhouses which cultivate vegetables for much of Europe, conspicuously standing out from the desert-like surroundings.
Known as the 'mar de plastico', or 'sea of plastic' in English, the area is somewhat of a modern-day phenomenon that has completely changed the fortunes of the region. In the middle of the 20th century, Almeria was one of the poorest of Spain's provinces, with a barren climate, remote location, and little industry. However, this all changed when farmers started to question how they could exploit their year-round temperate climate and counter the dry conditions that were so detrimental to growth.
The answer came in the form of greenhouses, which retain water and heat while keeping the harsher elements out. With this ingenious development came the emergence of a new-found wealth within the region, and as farming in the region consisted of many family-owned smallholdings, this fanned out throughout the region, giving more horizontal growth and offering plentiful job opportunities unlike anything the area had seen previously.
Almeria plays a pivotal role in meeting the ever-growing demand for produce across Europe, exporting to nearly every country on the continent throughout the entire year. In a contemporary society that expects a steady supply of seasonal produce year-round, addressing these needs is vital, and Almeria has continually advanced in this regard. In addition to fostering a flourishing agricultural sector, the region has also become a hub for numerous research and development enterprises. However, intensive farming in this province is not without its **inherent** challenges, particularly concerning sustainability and its impact on the local environment.
One area which needs careful consideration in the long term is the methods of using water. Water scarcity may become an issue due to widespread use of water from underground sources for use in cultivation. Many environmentalists claim that in an area so arid as Almeria, the underwater sources can't replenish at the rate of their depletion. However, many farms have adopted more sustainable practices to help combat this, such as drip-feeding irrigation and the use of hydroponics, a soil-free method of plant-growing, which can reduce water use by around 80%.
Another pressing sustainability concern in Almeria is the plastic waste produced by these greenhouses. The short three-year lifespan of the plastic structures results in a significant amount of waste, and the way it is disposed of is far from ideal, with plastic debris creating a mess and polluting the surrounding environment. In essence, the situation is far from being **a clean sweep**. Addressing this is a rather more complex issue. While there are waste management services for farmers to use, they are not generally cost effective. A more environmentally-friendly answer may be in replacing plastic with glass. Albeit the material of choice for some large farming areas in northern Europe, many farms in the Almerian province, especially the smallholdings, are put off by the massive investment this would require.
However, while these sustainability challenges are important to consider, the delicate interplay of progress and its environmental effects is far from cut and dried, especially when it comes to this kind of farming. In many ways, the greenhouses of Almeria could be considered a pinnacle of natural sustainability. Although this may seem strange, given the vision of plastic it displays, there are many ways in which Almeria is ecologically very sound. Firstly, the greenhouses, thanks to mild temperatures and abundant light, need little heating, which means very little traditional

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energy consumption is involved considering the large-scale of the food production, even taking into account transportation effects. Additionally, an unintended effect of the greenhouses has been to cool the area in the long-term, as the roofs reflect the sunlight. In a world which is constantly getting hotter, Almeria is one of the exceptions to this, which could be an important discovery for wider consideration.

Finally, what cannot be forgotten is that with increasing demands, increased production is essential. If large-scale intensive farming like that of Almeria isn't used to feed populations, then alternatives are few and far between. Upscaling food production significantly, while reducing the environmental footprint may be the ideal objective, but real-life indicates that there always has to be some form of trade-off, and at the moment, Almeria, with perhaps a few tweaks, seems well-placed to be the food production model of the future.

76. What is the author's objective in the first paragraph?
    A. to explain why the greenhouses in Almeria exist
    B. to suggest the importance of the greenhouses in Almeria
    C. to highlight the scale of the greenhouses in Almeria
    D. to describe how the greenhouses in Almeria are overlooked
77. What does the writer admire about farmers in the 1950s?
    A. their resourcefulness in adapting to conditions
    B. their resistance to the climate conditions
    C. their persistence in developing growing conditions
    D. their skilled approaches to poor conditions
78. The writer says that the owners of the greenhouses _____.
    A. employ more people than any other industry in the region.
    B. consist of families that were generally native to the region.
    C. have more wealth than any other social group in the area.
    D. are generally well-dispersed across the entire province.
79. The word "**inherent**" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
    A. fundamental B. external C. superficial D. accidental
80. Which of the following statements best captures the primary concern discussed in paragraph 5 regarding water use in Almeria?
    A. Advanced irrigation techniques have completely solved Almeria's water scarcity issues.
    B. Using underground water in Almeria may be unsustainable due to slow replenishment.
    C. Environmentalists prefer traditional irrigation over hydroponics for water scarcity.
    D. Almeria's climate prevents the effective use of sustainable water practices.
81. The phrase "**a clean sweep**" in paragraph 6 is closest in meaning to _____.
    A. partial success B. full removal C. fragmented approach D. complex issue
82. Which of the following statements is **NOT** mentioned in the text?
    A. Farmers in Almeria have successfully eliminated all issues related to plastic waste.
    B. The use of hydroponics can significantly reduce water usage in Almeria's greenhouses.
    C. Replacing plastic with glass in greenhouses is seen as an environmentally friendly alternative.
    D. Waste management services available to farmers are not typically cost-effective.
83. What is the writer's view on plastic waste in the area?
    A. It is a necessary evil that the area must live with.
    B. There's little incentive for farmers to deal with it.
    C. It makes the surrounding area less desirable.
    D. Farmers will probably come up with an ingenious solution.
84. How does the greenhouse industry in Almeria contribute to sustainability?
    A. It largely functions on natural resources. B. It keeps seasonal temperatures consistent.
    C. It creates less transport pollution. D. It generates energy that is used in the area.
85. What is the writer's overall opinion on intensive farming?
    A. It is a pragmatic food supply option to cater for growing needs.
    B. It is a trend that is unlikely to continue in the future.
    C. It needs some slight adaptations before being adopted internationally.
    D. It has to further consider the environmental effects of production.

Part 5: The passage below consists of five paragraphs marked A, B, C, D, and E. For questions 86-95, read the passage and do the task that follows. Write the letter A, B, C, D, or E in the corresponding numbered spaces provided.

The Logistics of a Stadium World Tour

A. Embarking on a stadium world tour is a colossal undertaking that requires meticulous planning, coordination and resources. Major bands such as the Rolling Stones and Guns N' Roses have astounded audiences across the globe with their awe-inspiring performances, and, behind the scenes, an intricate web of logistics supports the realisation of these

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monumental spectacles. A tour involves months of planning before it even starts, mountains of bureaucracy at every turn and thousands of team members working together to make the tour a reality. A stadium world tour typically spans several months to accommodate numerous cities and countries. Bands like the afore-mentioned Rolling Stones or Guns N' Roses plan their tours carefully, considering factors such as geographic location, transportation logistics and venue availability. Zig-zag movement across a continent, for instance, must be avoided as it is inconvenient and costly. The process often commences a year or more in advance to ensure adequate preparation and organisation.

B. The first stage of organising a stadium world tour involves identifying potential tour dates and the tour route. Bands collaborate with their management teams, promoters and booking agents to determine the regions and cities that they should aim to visit. Factors like market demand, fan base and historical ticket-sales data help in shaping the tour itinerary. The selection of stadiums is a critical component of a successful world tour, as stadiums offer vast seating capacities, enabling bands to cater to large audiences. Popular venues include iconic stadiums like Wembley Stadium in London, Madison Square Garden in New York or the Maracanã Stadium in Rio de Janeiro. Negotiations with venue management involve securing dates, contract agreements and analysing the infrastructure to ensure it can accommodate the band's production requirements.

C. Stadium tours demand extensive technical infrastructure to deliver the electrifying performances that fans anticipate. Bands work closely with production companies specialising in live events to design and execute these intricate setups. The technical team collaborates with the band's crew to ensure the integration of the show elements. Failures in these areas can have grave consequences. AC/DC's 'Razors Edge' world tour experienced a devastating incident in Salt Lake City, Utah, where a combination of poor planning and a tragic accident led to the deaths of three fans. The band's elaborate stage design included a central structure resembling a large cannon. During the performance of their song 'For Those About to Rock', a firework exploded prematurely, engulfing the stage in flames. The explosion caused panic among the audience, resulting in a stampede towards the exits. The incident prompted a thorough re-evaluation of safety protocols and practices in the live music industry, emphasizing the vital need for scrupulous planning, demanding safety checks and effective communication to prevent such tragic accidents.

D. A stadium world tour involves moving an enormous amount of equipment, personnel and artists from one location to another. Bands typically travel in a private jet or a fleet of chartered planes to ensure efficiency and comfort. The crew and equipment, meanwhile, are transported via a fleet of trucks, which may number anywhere from 10 to 30, depending on the scale of the production. It's estimated that a crew of 150-to-200 people is required to run a stadium world tour smoothly. The logistics team plays a pivotal role in the success of a stadium tour. They manage accommodation, catering, ground transportation, visas and work permits for the entire crew. Each tour stop involves a thoroughly planned schedule, ensuring smooth 'load-ins' and 'load-outs', soundchecks, rehearsals and media engagements. The team also coordinates with local police, airport authorities and venue staff. Promotion and ticketing are essential elements for a successful stadium world tour. Bands work closely with marketing teams and promoters to generate buzz and awareness through traditional and digital channels. Tickets are typically sold through various platforms, including ticketing websites and authorized resellers. For a high-demand tour, ticket sales can reach hundreds of thousands, generating significant revenue.

E. A stadium world tour involves substantial costs, but it also presents lucrative opportunities for bands. The major expenses include production costs, crew salaries, transportation, accommodation, venue fees and promotional activities. The costs can vary significantly depending on the band's requirements, the number of tour dates and the scale of the production. On average, a stadium world tour can cost tens of millions of dollars. Revenue generation primarily comes from ticket sales, which can reach astronomical figures given the capacity of stadiums. Additional sources of revenue include merchandise sales, sponsorship deals and licensing agreements. Bands may also explore partnerships with streaming platforms or television networks to broadcast live performances, further expanding their revenue potential. With large crowds and high-profile events, security is of paramount importance. Bands employ teams of experienced security personnel to ensure the safety of the audience, crew and artists. Close collaboration with local law enforcement and venue security staff is crucial in implementing comprehensive security measures, including bag checks, metal detectors and crowd-control strategies. In recent years, there has been a growing emphasis on sustainability and reducing the environmental impact of stadium tours. Bands are increasingly incorporating eco-friendly practices into their tours, such as using renewable energy sources for power, implementing waste-management and recycling system, and promoting carbon-offset initiatives.

In which section are the following mentioned?

86. …….. the different treatment that artists and crew receive
87. …….. determining likely levels of interest in the shows amongst the public
88. …….. the business deals that take place so a concert can be staged in a specific location
89. …….. the balancing of income and outgoings
90. …….. the considerations involved in planning shows
91. …….. how artists publicize their shows

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92. …….. the potentially fatal consequences of inadequate preparations
93. …….. the importance of liaising with local authorities
94. …….. the need to follow specifications
95. …….. the need to coordinate the location of concerts effectively

IV. WRITING (6.0 points)

Part 1: Read the following extract and use your own words to summarize it. Your summary should be between 100 and 120 words. (1.5 points)

The landscape of terrorism has undergone profound transformation in recent decades, marked by the advent of advanced technologies and increasingly complex operational strategies. Contemporary terrorist organizations, such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda, utilize cutting-edge technology and digital platforms to further their agendas. For instance, ISIS has effectively employed social media networks like Twitter and Telegram to disseminate radical propaganda, recruit new members, and orchestrate coordinated attacks across multiple nations. These platforms facilitate encrypted communication, which complicates the efforts of intelligence agencies to intercept and disrupt terrorist activities. Governments worldwide have responded to these challenges with intensified counter-terrorism measures, including expanded surveillance programs and enhanced international cooperation. Countries have established joint task forces and intelligence-sharing agreements to track and combat terrorist networks more effectively. For example, the Global Coalition Against ISIS represents a collective effort by multiple nations to dismantle the group's infrastructure and counteract its influence. Despite these efforts, the escalation of surveillance and data collection has provoked significant concerns regarding privacy and civil liberties. The intrusive nature of modern surveillance technologies, such as mass data monitoring and biometric tracking, has led to debates about the balance between national security and individual freedoms. Critics argue that these measures risk overreach, potentially infringing on personal privacy and civil rights. Furthermore, the emphasis on security has led to substantial investments in technology and infrastructure, raising questions about the allocation of resources. The challenge lies in adapting counter-terrorism strategies to the evolving tactics of terrorist groups while ensuring that fundamental human rights are preserved.

Part 2: The table below shows the percentage of smartphone users in five different countries from 2018 to 2021. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant. You should write about 150 words. (1.5 points)

Year	United States	Germany	Japan	India	Brazil
2018	70%	65%	55%	30%	40%
2019	75%	68%	58%	40%	45%
2020	80%	72%	62%	55%	50%
2021	85%	78%	65%	75%	60%

Part 3. Write an essay of about 350 words on the following topic.

People should embrace change and adapt to new circumstances rather than clinging to familiar routines and traditions; otherwise, they may struggle to succeed in an ever-evolving world.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience. (3.0 points)

----The end----

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