## THE EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY FOR SCHOOL-LEVAERS

This month, Teen Talk magazine has received many letters from secondary school students asking about the different options for school-leavers. We've talked to educational experts, and they think that young people should either continue their studies at a college or university or go to a vocational school.

Higher education is really for people who want formal learning in order to get an academic degree. If you are good at certain subjects and need a degree related to those subjects, then university is the right choice for you. Besides studying, university students also have the opportunity to live independently, make new friends, and join different clubs. Many students still manage to work part-time during their university years. In addition, college or university students usually have an **advantage** over students from vocational schools when it comes to further studies after a degree. **They** will also have **broader** career options and an advantage in the job market.

If you are not interested in traditional academic subjects and want to work ina specific trade, then vocational education is the right choice for you. You will gain the practical skills and knowledge necessary for a specific job. In addition, a vocational school may also offer you an apprenticeship. ***This type of training not only provides students with hands-on experience, but also gives them wages to cover their living costs.*** Most importantly, vocational training is usually much shorter than a college or university course. After getting their vocational qualifications, graduates can immediately start work and earn a salary.

There are a lot of educational opportunities for school-leavers today. You can choose from hundreds of vocational schools or higher education institutions to continue your educational journey.

(Source: Global Success11)

Question 23. The word "advantage" in paragraph 2 could be best replaced by _____.

A. weakness B. disadvantage C. benefit D. strength

Question 24. The word "broader" in paragraph 2 is OPPOSITE in meaning to _____.

A. wider B. bigger C. narrower D. larger

Question 25. The pronoun "They" in paragraph 2 refers to _____.

A. subjects B. new friends C. students D. university years

Question 26. According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT mentioned as an advantage of higher education?

A. Broader career options B. Opportunity to study specific trades

C. Living independently D. Joining different clubs

Question 27. Which of the following best paraphrases the bold sentence in paragraph 3: "*This type of training not only provides students with hands-on experience, but also gives them wages to cover their living costs*."?

A. Apprenticeship helps students gain practical experience and financial support for living expenses.

B. Students in vocational schools will gain experience and higher wages.

C. Hands-on training means students can earn money while studying specific trades.

D. Apprenticeship ensures students are fully trained and paid during their studies.

Question 28. Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. Vocational training is longer than a university course.

B. University graduates have more career options.

C. Apprenticeships are common in higher education.

D. Vocational school students do not earn money during their studies.

Question 29. In which paragraph does the writer mention the advantages of studying at a university?

A. Paragraph 2 B. Paragraph 3 C. Paragraph 4 D. Paragraph 1

Question 30. In which paragraph does the writer explore the benefits of vocational education?

A. Paragraph 1 B. Paragraph 2 C. Paragraph 3 D. Paragraph 4

## URBANIZATION IN MALAYSIA AND AUSTRALIA

Urbanisation in Malaysia began in the early 1970s. At that time, only about 26 percent of the population resided in urban areas, with the majority still living in rural communities. [I] However, the country experienced rapid economic development and population growth, which significantly accelerated urbanisation. [II] This marked a major turning point in the country's urban development. [III] Since then, the urbanisation rate has continued to increase steadily. [IV] For example, the urban population rose from 66 percent in 2004 to 74 percent in 2014. The trend reflects the ongoing migration of people from rural areas to cities in search of better opportunities and living conditions.

Today, Malaysia is regarded as one of the most urbanised nations in East Asia and a leading example of rapid urbanisation on a global scale. According to the latest statistics, over 77 percent of the population now live in urban areas and cities, with metropolitan regions becoming **vibrant economic hubs** that contribute significantly to the country's GDP.

Australia, on the other hand, presents an interesting case of early urbanisation. The process began much earlier, at the end of the 19th century, when more than 60 percent of its population already lived in urban areas. This early shift towards urban living was partly due to Australia's immigration policies, **which** encouraged newcomers to settle in urban regions, particularly along the coastal areas. Over time, the country maintained a **gradual** but steady urbanisation rate.

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Today, **Australia ranks among the most urbanised countries globally**, with nearly 90 percent of its population living in urban areas. Its two largest cities, Sydney and Melbourne, are economic and cultural powerhouses, together housing over 40 percent of the nation's population. This concentration of people in major urban centers highlights the critical role cities play in shaping modern Australia.

(Adapted from Global Success 12)

Question 31. Where in paragraph 1 does the following sentence best fit?

"By the early 1990s, the number of people living in urban and rural areas became almost equal."

A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

Question 32. The phrase "vibrant economic hubs" in paragraph 2 could be best replaced by _____.

A. noisy business areas B. dynamic financial centers

C. quiet rural towns D. outdated industrial zones

Question 33. The pronoun "which" in paragraph 3 refers to _____.

A. Australia's immigration policies B. urban areas

C. urbanization D. Australia's population

Question 34. According to paragraph 1, which of the following is NOT a reason for urbanisation in Malaysia?

A. Rapid economic development B. Population growth

C. Improved immigration policies D. Better opportunities in cities

Question 35. Which of the following best summerises paragraph 3?

A. The early shift towards urban living was in Australia

B. Policies encouraged newcomers to settle in urban regions

C. Australia maintained a gradual but steady urbanisation rate.

D. More than 60 percent of Australia's population lived in urban areas.

Question 36 Which of the following is best tittle for the passage ?

. A. Urbanisation in Malaysia and Australia

B. The most urbanised conntries in Asia

C. The rapid population growth in the world

D.The unemployment rates are rising

Question 37. The word "gradual" in paragraph 3 is OPPOSITE in meaning to _____.

A. consistent B. steady C. abrupt D. slow

Question 38. Which of the following is best paraphrases the underline sentence in paragraph 4?

A. Australia is one of the most urbanised countries in the world

B. Australia is one of the most urbanised countries in Asia

C. Australia is more urbanised than Malaysia.

D. Australia is as urbanised as a country in the world .

Question 39. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. Urbanisation has significantly shaped the economies of both Malaysia and Australia.

B. Australia's immigration policies slowed down urbanisation.

C. Rural areas in Malaysia remain largely undeveloped.

D. Urbanisation in Malaysia peaked in the 1970s.

Question 40. Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. The passage compares urbanisation trends and their impact on Malaysia and Australia.

B. Malaysia has a higher urbanisation rate than Australia.

C. Immigration is the main reason for urbanisation in Australia.

D. Both countries experienced urbanisation during the same period.

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