B | Vocabulary Building.

Test your vocabulary knowledge and match the following words with their meanings.

	Word	Answer		Meaning
1.	congestion	____	**A.**	Added into the surface of something
2.	minimise	____	**B.**	A company that makes goods for sale
3.	embedded	____	**C.**	Put money into something for profit
4.	contribute	____	**D.**	Carry out something
5.	delay	____	**E**	Not easily convinced; having doubts
6.	conduct	____	**F.**	A situation in which a place is blocked/crowded
7.	promising	____	**G.**	Having the capacity to develop in the future
8.	manufacturer	____	**H.**	Think something will happen in the future
9.	invest	____	**I.**	Reduce to the smallest possible amount
10.	predict	____	**J.**	Showing signs of future success
11.	potential	____	**K.**	Add something: help, money, or even problems
12.	sceptical	____	**L.**	When someone or something is late

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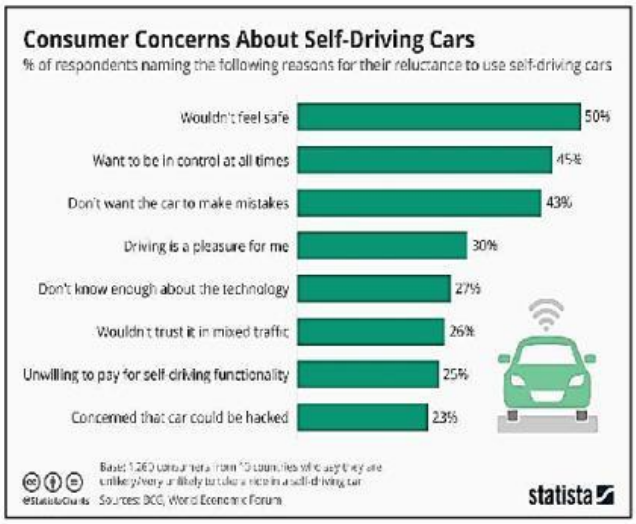
C | Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

[1] The global market for AI is expected to grow dramatically in the coming few years, reaching US$309 billion by 2026 (MarketsandMarkets forecasts). Why would consumers, companies, or governments be willing to spend so much on this new technology? One reason is that many studies show that it could help revolutionise the transport sector by reducing traffic **congestion** and accidents, **minimising** overall expenses, and increasing passenger safety.

[2] Future smart cities might adopt AI solutions to help solve the issue of traffic congestion. They could feature sensors and cameras **embedded** in roads. These sensors could collect large amounts of data about traffic. Information about accidents, road closures, and traffic predictions could then be pushed live to passengers' mobile devices or to car navigation systems. This would help drivers choose the best routes to their destinations.

[3] Another **contribution** AI will probably make is in the area of air travel. Some economies lose large amounts of money every year due to flight **delays** caused by bad weather conditions and other unexpected events such as technical problems with aircraft. In the US alone, it is estimated that the costs due to flight delays are US$39 billion, according to a study **conducted** by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley. Along with financial losses, flight delays negatively affect a passenger's flying experience. However, with the help of AI, data on weather and other problems could be gathered and forwarded straight to airline passengers, which would give them warning of delayed flights and help them make new plans, and minimize inconvenience.

[4] Driverless vehicles have started operating on a trial basis in some major cities around the world. However, with the help of AI, it is possible that they will replace human-driven vehicles, including trucks and taxis. According to Brannon, the American Automobile Association's director of automotive engineering and industry relations, "People are ready to embrace new vehicle technology, especially if it will make driving safer." However, regardless of the **promising** picture painted by automobile industry, many people are still **sceptical** of this technology, largely due to doubts about the safety of such vehicles. A study conducted by the World Economic Forum listed various consumer concerns about self-driving cars (see chart below) and safety was, once again, at the top of the list. Regardless of all the consumer concerns, automobile **manufacturers** continue to **invest** in AI.



[5] Though AI is a growing technology, its effect on our cities is only just starting to become visible. In years to come, our city roads may not only look different, but may also feel different. Traffic congestion might become a thing of the past, ensuring safer, more pleasant driving. In addition, economies could save billions of dollars due to fewer flight delays, allowing cities to spend more on transport infrastructure such as roads and metros. Finally, there will likely be fewer people behind the wheel, due to the spread of self-driving vehicles. Given all these **potential** benefits, many **predict** that AI will continue to be a major focus of research and development. It is believed that AI has only scratched the surface of its real **potential**.

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1. What is the best title for this article?

   a) AI and road safety
   b) Revolutionising cars
   c) The impacts of AI on transport
   d) Concerns about and limitations of AI

2. Match the paragraphs with the main ideas:

Paragraph **2**: ____	**A.** Concerns about the safety of self-driving vehicles
Paragraph **3**: ____	**B.** AI's contributions to traffic management and road safety
Paragraph **4**: ____	**C.** How AI might help reduce problems associated with flying

3. Read the statements and decide whether they are **True (T), False (F)** or **Not Given (NG).**

1. Sensors and cameras installed in cars may help solve traffic issues such as congestion.	**T / F / NG**
2. The cost of flight delays in the US is estimated at US$39 billion, according to a study conducted by Ann Brody Guy, a researcher at the University of California.	**T / F / NG**
3. With the help of AI, airline passengers could receive information on weather conditions directly.	**T / F / NG**
4. Due to the issues self-driving cars have, investment in future AI research is unlikely.	**T / F / NG**
5. It is believed that traffic congestion will be a thing of the past within 20 years.	**T / F / NG**

D | Speed Reading.

In **two minutes**, find the answers to the following questions.

1. What is the predicted size of the future global AI market in financial terms?
   _____
2. Give one example of information sensors and cameras could share with passengers in the future.
   _____
3. What is one contributor to flight delays?
   _____
4. What is one type of vehicle that could become driverless?
   _____
5. What is the main worry consumers have about driverless cars?

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E | Visual Data.

1. Use the chart in the text to complete the sentences below with the most appropriate phrase.

A.	_____of the respondents said they wouldn't feel safe driving a driverless car.	**1.**	**A little under one-third**
B.	_____ of the respondents reported that they are not interested in spending money on self-driving functionality.	**2.**	**Half**
C.	_____ of the respondents said that driving is fun for them.	**3.**	**Fewer than half**
D.	_____ of the respondents said that they want to be in charge at all times.	**4.**	**A quarter**

2. In a small group, describe the remaining information in the chart using the phrases in E. Your chart description should highlight the main trend and any important information for the readers.

   According to a study published by _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

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