WEARABLE COMPUTERS

Wearable computers are very small electronic devices which you can wear as glasses, a watch or as part of your clothes. There are many possible benefits of these devices but equally, there are many criticisms of how wearing a computer may not work well in the real world.

The most famous example of wearable technology is computer glasses. You can record video or take a picture at any time without using your hands. However, that is not the most exciting part. You can also see images from your smartphone in your vision. So, you can see map directions or receive information about the world you are looking at. There are obvious advantages to these functions but there are problems too. They are expensive – about $1,500 – and easily breakable. There are issues about how the glasses will be used. Some people think it is not OK to video people without their permission.

Another must-have fashion accessory for people interested in technology is the smart watch. Using this device, you can check your phone messages, texts and emails while making a call from your watch. Even though they cost $200, you need a smartphone connected to the watch to use it, otherwise it does not work properly. There are other problems too. The watch battery can run out in eight hours. The screens are difficult to see in sunlight. In 2014, one-third of customers stopped using their smart watches after six months. They said it was because they did not think they were very useful.

New technology can be very exciting but it has to have better functions than the technology it is replacing. For example, in the 1990s, MP3 players meant that we didn't have to carry compact disc players and discs around. In 2007, modern smartphones brought computer functions like calculators, TVs, cameras, maps, torches and music players to a large audience and replaced more basic phones. Th ese were big advantages which wearable technology hasn't yet brought.

Questions 1 – 6 Read the statements below. Write true (T), false (F) or does not say (DNS).

1. The author writes in detail about two types of wearable technology.
2. Smart watches are more well known than computer glasses.
3. Smart clothes use small electronic devices so you can light up your jacket at night.
4. Taking video with computer glasses is the most exciting function of the device.
5. Smartphones can connect to smart watches by radio.
6. Wearable technology does not yet have major benefi ts as smartphones or MP3 players do.

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Questions 7 – 10 Read the text again. Complete the table with a number for each statement.

the price of computer glasses	7 _____
smart watch battery life	8 _____
customers who stopped using smart watches after six months	9 _____
when smartphones replaced basic phones	10 _____

READING II:

Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge

A. It's one of the most exciting sports events of the year. This year from April 3 to 10, over a hundred motorbikes and cars will be racing across the sand dunes of Liwa Oasis to win the Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge (ADDC). The race starts on Yas Island in Abu Dhabi. From there, the teams travel south-west to the biggest sand hill in the UAE, the Moreeb Dune. That's where the real challenge begins. For the next seven days, they have to face the biggest dunes in the world.

B. The ADDC takes place every year in the spring when the temperature in the desert is not too hot for the riders. The ADDC is a racing competition. Car drivers and motorbike riders from all over the world come here every year to test their skills in the sand. Some famous motorbike riders who have won the race are Marc Coma from Spain and Cyril Despres from France. Marc Coma has won it seven times! Many rally car drivers come to the ADDC to prepare for international competitions such as the Dakar Rally in South America.

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C. The ADDC is a very diffi cult and dangerous competition. During the seven days, the contestants race for many hours every day. They have to be extremely fit and strong. They also have to be able to read their maps so that they don't get lost in the desert. They don't use GPS because there are no roads in the desert. At the end of each day, the riders and their team members rest in special accommodation prepared for them at the bottom of the Moreeb Dune. There they can enjoy a traditional Arabic meal. Hopefully they can get a good night's rest for the next day of the race.

Questions 1 – 3 Read the text. Choose the correct heading for each paragraph, A – C, from the list of headings below.

You do not need all the headings.

1. Paragraph A

2. Paragraph B

3. Paragraph C

a. weather and climate in the desert
b. the difficulties of the race
c. delicious Arabic food
d. time and place of the competition
e. famous riders at the ADDC
f. using GPS in the race

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Questions 4 – 10 Read the text again. Match the sentence halves.

4. To get to the Moreeb Dune	**A. you have to be very healthy.**
5. The competition _____	**B. because there are no streets or signs in the desert.**
6. The competition takes place when _____	**C. every evening to eat and rest.**
7. Marc Coma _____	**D. you have to drive south-west of Abu Dhabi.**
8. To take part in the race _____	**E. is a famous motorbike rider.**
9. It is not possible to use GPS during the race_____	**F. the weather is not very hot.**
10. The riders come back to the Moreeb Dune _____	**G. takes place in spring every year.**

READING III:

Internet millionaires

There are many ways in which ordinary people can become rich and famous without leaving their homes. One way is by blogging. Bloggers are people who write about an interesting topic. They post their blogs on the internet every week.

Alec Paterson is a famous blogger. He started his blog, Socialnet, when he was 17 years old. His blog is about social media news. He gets money from people who advertise on his blog. He also posts links to other websites and gets money from them. Over 75 million

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people view his blog every month. He earns around $750,000 a month from the blog. The most popular blogs are about fashion, news, and giving advice.

Ana Abreu has made millions with her blog called It's your life!. She writes tips about everyday things and gives people advice about life. She makes over $250,000 a month without leaving her home. People like to read her blog because it's both fun and useful. If you are not a very good writer, you can try vlogging. Vlogging is 'video blogging'.

Many people post their vlogs on video-sharing websites like YouTube. To make money, you need to have millions of people watching your vlogs. Companies pay these websites to advertise their products and vloggers can earn up to $8,000 for mentioning a product in their vlog. Lauren Sanderson's vlog, called Laurievlog, has over 10 million subscribers and millions of teenagers watch her video channel every week. Lauren gives advice about fashion, make-up, and how to eat well. At the age of 18, she's a huge internet celebrity, a fashion designer, and a teenage millionaire.

Questions 1-5 Read the text. Answer each question with a number from the text.

1. How many people read Socialnet?

……..

2. How much money does Alan Paterson get every month?

……

3. How much money does Ana Abreu get every month?

……

4. How much money do some vloggers get for advertising a product?

……

5. How many people follow the Laurievlog channel?

…….

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