Reading Comprehension (1st Term)

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I.

Music can move the soul. It can be a very strong influence. Some music can calm us down but other music can make us wild! How does music affect us? Music is used in a variety of ways. It is used in the medical field as a source of research and as a sort of treatments as well. Music has been used as treatment to lower blood pressure, help ill children recover quickly, treat mental illness, treat depression, aid in healing, and reduce stress and insomnia and premature infants.

Julius Portnoy, a musicologist, found that it can change heart rates, increase or decrease blood pressure, effect energy levels, and digestion, positively or negatively, depending on the type of music. Calming music, such as classical musk, was found to have a very calming effect on the body, and cause the increase of endorphins, thirty minutes of such music was equal to the effect of a dose of valium. Both hemispheres of the brain are involved in processing music. The music in these studies is not the lyrics, but the music itself, the melody, the tones, the tunes, the rhythm, and the chords. Conversely, music has also been documented to cause sickness. The right, or wrong music, can be like a poison to the body. Studies had been done on plants and the results were that loud hard rock music killed plants and soft classical music made the plants grow faster.

Music is very powerful, like a drug and can even be an addiction. According to Patty Hearst, a researcher on music, it was documented that music was used in the aid of brainwashing some people. In the book, "Elevator Music" by Joseph Lanza, it is stated that certain types of strong music over prolonged periods in certain conditions were shown to cause seizures.

1. Which is the main idea of the text?

A. Music used as drugs
B. Powerful music
C. Music treatment
D. The effect of music

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2. According the text, _____.

A. All pieces of music have the same influence
B. Music can be used in the same way
C. Children cannot listen to music
D. Different music has different effects

3. The word "it" refers to_____.

A. the heart
B. stress
C. treatment
D. music

4. The studies talked about the effect of music on _____.

A. mammals and turtles
B. fish and bird
C. men and bird
D. human being and plants

5. According to writer,_____.

A. All kinds of music are bad for our health
B. Music does not influence our blood pressure
C. Music can cause addiction
D. Music always has positive effects on human beings

II.

During high school, it's easy to become stressed in balancing a number of (24) ____. But between all the stress and pressure of keeping up with your various activities, it's important to contribute to the community, and make (25) ____ to protect the environment. So here are a few tips on ways you and other teens can "go green".

One of the easiest ways teens can go green is simply to turn off the lights. Open up the curtains and (26) ____ the natural sunlight brighten up the room, or turn off the lights and fans when you leave a room that no one else is in studies have indicated that (27) ____ electricity helps to reduce global warming.

Another way to go green is to use your bike, or walk. Using your bike or walking reduces carbon (28) ____, and it is a great way to exercise. Therefore, by riding a bike

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or walking, not only are you helping the environment, you are (29) ____ contributing to your own health.

You could also try (30) ____ a reusable water bottle. Buying a reusable bottle is a smart investment because not only plastic water bottles often go un-recycled, but buying a reusable water bottle can actually save you money over buying plastic bottles over and over again as well.

Another great idea is to (31) ____ your computer and all other electronics before you go to bed, or after you are done using them. Although you may no longer be using your computer, it stills uses electricity in small amounts that add up.

Finally, you can go green by turning off the faucet. Many people leave the faucet (32) ____ while they brush their teeth, but this is just wasting water. Turing the faucet off (33) ____ you brush your teeth can save the world a lot of water.

6. A. forces	B. prohibitions	C. regulations	D. obligations
7. A. achievements	B. efforts	C. contributions	D. dedications
8. A. let	B. allow	C. help	D. try
9. A. keeping	B. cutting	C. producing	D. conserving
10. A. emissions	B. cycles	C. releases	D. storage
11. A. completely	B. positively	C. hopefully	D. reluctantly
12. A. to buy	B. buying	C. being bought	D. to be bought
13. A. discharge	B. uncover	C. remove	D. unplug
14. A. to run	B. to be run	C. having run	D. running
15. A. before	B. after	C. while	D. until

III.

Who talk more - men or women? Most people believe that women talk more. However, linguist Deborah Tannen, who has studied the communication style of men and women, says that this is a stereotype.

According to Tannen, women are more verbal - talk more - in private situations, where they use conversation as the "glue" to hold relationships together. But, she says,

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men talk more in public situations, where they use conversation to exchange information and gain status. Tannen points out that we can see these differences even in children. Little girls often play with one "best friend", their play includes a lot of conversation. Little boys often play games in groups; their play usually involves more doing than talking. In school, girls are often better at verbal skills, boys are often better at mathematics.

A recent study at Emory University helps to shed light on the roots of this difference. Researchers studied conversation between children age 3-6 and their parents. They found evidence that parents talk very differently to their son than they do to their daughters. The startling conclusion was that parents use more language with their girls. Specifically, when parents talk with their daughters, they use more descriptive language and more details. There is also far more talk about emotions, especially sadness, with daughters than with sons.

Question 16: Which sentence best expresses the main idea of the first paragraph?

A. Women talk more than men.
B. It's stereotype that women talk more than men.
C. Women talk more in private, and men talk more in public
D. Little girls and little boys have different ways of playing.

Question 17: Which sentence best expresses the main idea of the second paragraph?

A. Parents do not talk much about sadness with their sons.
B. Researchers have studied the conversations of children and their parents.
C. Study at Emory University can help to explain the differences between communication styles of boys and girls.
D. An Emory University found that parents talk more with their daughters than with their sons.

Question 18: Which of the following statements can be inferred from the first paragraph?

A. Women talk more in some situations, men talk more in others.
B. Men and women have different styles of talking, which may begin in childhood.
C. According to Deborah Tannen, the belief that women talk more is partly right but most wrong and oversimplified.
D. Men are more sociable than women

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Question 19: Which of the following statements is TRUE about the passage?
A. Girls are thought to be more talkative than boys.
B. Parents give more love to their daughters than their sons.
C. Parents use more language to talk with their daughters.
D. Boys don't like showing their emotions.

Question 20: Which of the following statements can be inferred from the second paragraph?
A. Boys don't like to be with their parents as much as girls do.
B. A recent study found that parents talk differently to their sons and daughters.
C. Parents don't enjoy talking with their sons as much as with their daughters.
D. Girls have more practice discussing sadness than boys do.

Question 21: Which word could best replace "startling"?
A. interesting
B. annoying
C. surprising
D. beginning

Question 22: Which word is similar in meaning to "glue" in the first paragraph?
A. game
B. sticky substance
C. rope
D. means

Question 23: Which of the following phrases best explains the meaning of the word "verbal"?
A. being very talkative
B. deriving from verbs
C. connected with the use of spoken language
D. using very loud noise

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IV.

Nanotechnology is the creation and use of materials or devices at extremely small scales. These materials or devices fall in the range of 1 to 100 nanometers (nm). One nm is equal to one-billionth of a meter (0.000000001 m), which is about 50,000 times smaller than the diameter of a human hair. Scientists refer to the dimensional range of 1 to 100 nm as the nanoscale, and materials at this scale are called nanocrystals or nanomaterials.

The nanoscale is unique because nothing solid can be made any smaller. It is also unique because many of the mechanisms of the biological and physical world operate on length scales from 0.1 to 100 nm. At these dimensions materials exhibit different physical properties; thus scientists expect that many novel effects at the nanoscale will be discovered and used for breakthrough technologies.

A number of important breakthroughs have already occurred in nanotechnology. These developments are found in products used throughout the world. Some examples are catalytic converters in automobiles that help remove air pollutants, devices in computers that read from and write to the hard disk, certain sunscreens and cosmetics that transparently block harmful radiation from the Sun, and special coatings for sports clothes and gear that help improve the gear and possibly enhance the athlete's performance. Still, many scientists, engineers, and technologists believe they have only scratched the surface of nanotechnology's potential.

Nanotechnology is in its infancy, and no one can predict with accuracy what will result from the full flowering of the field over the next several decades. Many scientists believe it can be said with confidence, however, that nanotechnology will have a major impact on medicine and health care; energy production and conservation; environmental cleanup and protection; electronics, computers, and sensors; and world security and defense.

(Adapted from: Encarta DVD 2009)

Câu 24: What is the passage mainly about?

A. A new physical property of matters in nature
B. A way of manufacturing technological products
C. An introduction to a new technology
D. An overview of how technology will develop

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Câu 25: The word *"that"* in paragraph 3 refers to _____.

A. converters
B. automobiles
C. technologies
D. properties

Câu 26: The word *"novel"* is closest meaning to _____.

A. imaginative
B. innovative
C. inventive
D. significant

Câu 27: Which of the following statements is NOT true about nanotechnology according to the passage?

A. No other products are smaller than those made by nanotechnology.
B. Nanotechnology allows the production of things at extremely small scales.
C. Nanotechnology has seen a number of important breakthroughs.
D. Medicine and healthcare will be greatly affected by nanotechnology.

Câu 28: Which of the following will be most likely discussed in the next part of the article?

A. word security and defense
B. nanotechnology's potential
C. how nanotechnology works
D. nanotechnological products

V.

One of the greatest advantages of robots is that they can work in situations that are dangerous or harmful for human workers. For example, the continuous smell of paint has a harmful effect on painters, but it doesn't ***"bother"*** a robot. Robots can work in nuclear power plants and in undersea research stations that might be dangerous for humans. Already, robots are working in the plastics industry and in chemical and industrial equipment industries. One of the most common uses of robots is still in automobile factories. They can do the heavy, unpleasant, or dangerous work. These kinds of industrial robots are not usually ***"mobile".*** The work they need to do is brought to them, like cars on an assembly line, for example.

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The robot industry is a big business. By the middle of the 1990s, Japan' led the world in robot production with more than 71,000 industrial robots at work. Both the United States and Japan, as well as other countries, continue to develop more advanced robots. Robots can now be made to perform more complex jobs. Robots can make decisions while they are working and learn from their mistakes. Robots can now see with TV camera "eyes." They can easily hear and can even speak using a voice made by a computer. But it is difficult to make a robot "understand." Thinking. and understanding are very human qualities. The robots of the future will probably be very complex. They will be able to perform many humanlike tasks. Robots and other technology will make the future a very interesting place!

29. We can infer from the passage that by the middle of the 1990s_____.

A. only Japan had used robots in production
B. Japan and the USA were the only countries to use robots
C. some countries had used robots in industrial production
D. Japan led the world in production thanks to robots

30. Which of the following are robots NOT be able to do?

A. To speak using a voice made by a computer
B. To think and understand
C. To make decisions at work
D. To learn from mistakes

31. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true about the robots of the future?

A. They will probably be very complicated.
B. They will be able to do humanlike tasks.
C. They will contribute to making the future more interesting.
D. They will replace human workers in all kinds of work.

32. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word *"bother"* in the first paragraph?

A. cancel
B. change
C. upset
D. terminate

33. Which of the following can *be the opposite of* the word *"mobile"* in the first paragraph?

A. stationary
B. movable
C. unthinkable
D. repairable

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