Task 4

Read the texts below. Match choices (A-H) to (17-21). There are three choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

17

Be healthy! Be Wealthy!

Our new program is specially designed for you! Train three times a week! Professional coaches and a spacious gym!

Attend a **free demo lesson** only this Friday!

18

Shopping BOOM!

Dresses! Skirts! Trousers! Shorts and tracksuits! Shoes and accessories! World brands!

At great prices!
New and pre-owned items!
NO REFUND. NO EXCHANGE.

Visit us at 34, Button Str. Daily from 10 am to 8 pm

19

Let's colour the world!

Do you enjoy painting and drawing? Is an album or a sketchbook the best present for you? Join our classes and become a professional painter, a designer or a future **Dali**!

Schedule: ***Mon:*** 5 pm – 7 pm
Friday: 6 pm – 8 pm

20

Fresh, juicy, **home-grown** with no pesticides!
Only the **best quality** vegetables and fruit for your healthy life!

Gathered from local farmers and delivered to our store!

NEW SERVICE!

Door-to-door delivery for our regular customers!

21

This Sunday!
Don't know how to put words in lines? How to express your emotions through letters, songs, poems and essays?

A ***free workshop*** from a talented author ***Bill Crew!***

Where: **Green Park** (***near the fountain***)
Time: **12 pm – 4 pm**

Which of the advertisements refers to:

.....?

A a writing class
B a vocal course
C an art course
D a grocery shop
E a stock shop
F a fitness course
G a supermarket
H an acting class

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Task 5

Read the text below. For questions (22-26) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

The Most Difficult Exam in the World

Preparation for Gaokao – the state entrance exam for higher educational institutions in China – begins as early as elementary school. Initially, the term is used as a distant incentive for students to study hard, and later, tempered by years of stress and expectations, students become aware of how high the stakes are since China's leading universities can enrol only one in 50,000 entrants.

The choice of an educational institution is a huge responsibility, since the unemployment rate among university graduates is about 16%. However, Alma Mater directly affects not only a career, but also marital prospects. But the choice is not quite a choice, because it all depends on one single factor – the three-digit result of Gaokao. The maximum number of points is 750 and to score at least 690 means to get into the elite universities of the capital.

Gaokao consists of four or three-hour exams that take two days: Chinese, English, math and science (biology, chemistry, physics), or humanities (geography, history, political science), according to the student's choice. For the most part, the questions are in the form of tests, but not at all simple ones. For example, a math exam is comparable to university-level math in the UK. But for many graduates, the most terrifying part is the Chinese language exam. Most Chinese students believe that everything has the right answer, but the essay, being part of an exam, is a free expression of thoughts through choosing a topic to discuss that cannot be true or false.

Gaokao is a symbol of the Chinese education system as a whole. In the west, it is often seen as monolithic and mechanical, and in China as strict but fair. In Europe and America, there is a perception that Chinese students are unable to think critically. Despite these views, Chinese education is considered to be among the most prestigious ones.

The tradition of a single exam that addresses a young person's perspective goes back to ancient times in China. Imperial exams, the so-called Keju, during which candidates for government positions were tested, were introduced during the Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD) and became the only selection criterion for the seventh century and until its cancellation in 1905, when applicants spent three days taking the exam. Only 1% of the best among the best were selected. Nervous breakdowns were commonplace, as there was no chance to resit the exam.

Gaokao is still a distant relative of Keju. First introduced in 1952, the exam was cancelled during the Cultural Revolution. At that time, most universities closed, and the rest of the seats were allocated according to political preferences rather than academic abilities. And in 1977, a year after Mao's death, Gaokao resumed its present form. Since 1978, Gaokao has been held annually.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

22 What does the choice of a future university depend on?

A. a marital status of a student-to-be
B. only obtaining the maximum number of points to enter the university
C. the final marks of the exam
D. financial support from parents

23 What is NOT true about Gaokao?

A. It is not taken in one day.
B. Students may choose the subjects to take.
C. The math exam is the most difficult one.
D. Students need to complete a written assignment

24 How is Chinese education seen in the world?

A. as one of the best in the world
B. highly digital and computerised
C. too strict and difficult
D. not creative due to the critical method of learning

25 What is said about Keju exam in paragraph 5?

A. The exam still lasts three hours.
B. Candidates are not allowed to sit during the exam.
C. It was designed for state employees.
D. Only one per cent of young politicians could take it.

26 What happened during the period of the 1950s–1980s?

A. Keju was cancelled in 1952.
B. All universities stopped their work.
C. Students could enter university only on the basis of their academic performance.
D. The state test became an annual exam.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Task 6

Read the texts below. Match choices (A-H) to (27-32). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Luxurious Ski Resorts

27 The snow in the ski resort of Verbier in Switzerland is, thanks to its altitude, maintained throughout the holiday season, and the landscapes there provide many opportunities for free riding. It is believed that it is better to go to the Verbier highlands for advanced amateurs and professional skiers as there is a free ride championship here every year. At night, the resort becomes even more lively, as even in the dark, you can ride down the mountains.

28 Kitzbühel is a cosy old town located in the eastern part of Tirol. This winter resort is one of the most famous and oldest not only in the Alps, but also in the world. It mesmerizingly combines classic Tyrolean village houses with designer boutiques of international brands. The legendary Hahnenkamm is the glory of the most extremely challenging ski run of all times.

29 The first impression you get of Les Menuires is its mild climate and the exceptionally warm and friendly atmosphere. Well, the second is a sign of quality, which marks only the best resorts for children. There is a special ski area for those who have just started skiing and challenging trails for experienced athletes in the area of the La Massif.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

30 Courchevel is one of the best places in the Alps and not only for ski lovers. In terms of shopping opportunities, it is in serious competition with other elite resorts. Of course, the choice in Courchevel is not limited to skiing and shopping. Hockey games are regularly held here and it also features a squash court, bowling alley, spa and fitness centre.

31 Grands Montets resort is famous for its glacier that has visitors all year round. A high-speed subway leads to the foot of the Tin Glacier. On the glacier, there are trails that are perfectly suited for carving (a sport based on performing cut turns by pointing your knees towards the turn while skiing).

32 Hemsedal is very popular with families vacationing with their children. This ski resort is Norway's largest children's area, combining 6 slopes, 7 lifts, a snow park and plenty of fun for children. In Hemsedal, children up to 7 years old can ride for free with a ski helmet. In general, the resort offers many interesting activities for families with children, but families without children have nothing to do there.

Which ski resort_____?

A has ski tracks only for children and beginner skiers

B provides opportunities for kids as well as for skilled skiers

C offers a range of sporting events and wellness procedures

D is not recommended for beginners

E is designed only for shopping and fitness

F owns the most difficult track in the world

G will not suit child-free couples

H is located on the dense ice body, which never melts

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Task 7

Read the text below. Choose from (A-H) the one which best fits each space (33-38). There are two choices you don't need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Not a Hamburger

Today, billionaires such as Bill Gates and Richard Branson openly declare support for the development of biotechnology for livestock. Together with one of the world's largest meat companies, Cargill, they are investing in an American startup, Memphis Meats.

The company began producing chicken, duck and beef by multiplying animal cells in appropriate conditions, without feeding, breeding and slaughter.

Sir Richard Branson, **(33)**____, suggested that in 30 years' time we would no longer need to kill animals, and all meat would be either «clean or plant-based.» He wrote that one day, we will look back and think how archaic our grandparents were **(34)**____.

Animal rights activists have fought for the artificial production of foie gras for many years because lavish food requires forced feeding of ducks through the pipe **(35)**____. A startup called JUST started such an experiment in growing foie gras in a laboratory.

Mosa Meat plans to start with burgers in high-end restaurants, **(36)**____. In Vitro already has a laboratory restaurant in the Netherlands, where artificial meat is served as an appetizer, main course and dessert.

Another company worth paying attention to is Future Meat Technologies. It is based in Jerusalem to transform global meat production through the distribution of fat and muscle cells, improving food safety and reducing environmental impacts around the world. Future Meat Technologies uses state-of-the-art cell farming technology developed by biologists and bioengineers and brought to life by the world-renowned innovative chefs from Jerusalem.

More and more scientists and researchers believe **(37)**____. For producing one kilo of beef, more than 38 kilos of feed and almost 7 cubic meters of water are required. Cattle around the world can emit 15% of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. With the abundant population growth, we will not be able to continue the traditional production of meat. There simply will not be enough resources, while a cultivated product requires 100 times less land and 5.5 times less water.

Maastricht Mosa Meat, which in the past received more than $1 million from Google co-founder Sergey Brin, hopes **(38)**____. The goal is to achieve industrial production and prices around $1 a piece. The only problem is that the meat won't look, smell and taste like a traditional one.

A purchasing ham and other kinds of meat in future

B if to hunt for eating and survival in general

C that traditional meat production is inefficient

D to sell beef for hamburgers in the next three years

E who refused to eat beef

F while maintaining a competitive price

G so that they are fed enough for liver growth

H when they killed animals for food

LIVEWORKSHEETS