SỞ GIÁO DỤC VÀ ĐÀO TẠO
THÀNH PHỐ HỒ CHÍ MINH

ĐỀ CHÍNH THỨC

(Đề thi có 04 trang)

KỲ THI TUYỂN SINH LỚP 10 THPT NĂM HỌC 2025-2026
Môn chuyên: TIẾNG ANH
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Thời gian làm bài: 150 phút, không kể thời gian phát đề

Họ và tên thí sinh: _____ Số báo danh: _____

I. USE OF ENGLISH (30 PTS)

PART A: CHOOSE THE BEST ANSWER TO FILL IN THE BLANK. (10 PTS)

1. Although not everyone is a fan of Justin Bieber, most people agree he is worthy of his _____ success.
A. influenced **B.** aspiring **C.** phenomenal **D.** resourceful

2. Helen's plan to study abroad didn't _____ due to a lack of her family's finances.
A. fall through **B.** knuckle down **C.** pull off **D.** pan out

3. The empty shops with their _____ windows and graffiti-covered walls are a sorry sight.
A. off-limits **B.** clear-cut **C.** boarded-up **D.** top-heavy

4. To my parents' disappointment, my attempts to learn to play the piano were _____.
A. a seminal contribution **B.** a credit to me
C. a turn-up for the books **D.** a dismal failure

5. You'll have to reverse out of this road - it's a _____, we can't go any further.
A. dead-end **B.** run-down **C.** write-off **D.** built-up

6. The solicitor advised his client to _____ not guilty to all charges.
A. condone **B.** plead **C.** punish **D.** charge

7. Robbie is no _____ student; he gets straight As in all subjects and is captain of the football team.
A. run-of-the-mill **B.** up-and-coming **C.** off-the-record **D.** out-of-the-box

8. She was hesitant to quit her job, but she finally _____ and pursued her passion.
A. kept it at bay **B.** washed her hands **C.** got her lines crossed **D.** took the plunge

9. The children were _____ by the magician's wonderful performance.
A. interrogated **B.** entranced **C.** exacerbated **D.** suppressed

10. It's amazing how the band's popularity has never _____, even after all these years.
A. plunged **B.** waned **C.** spiralled **D.** slumped

11. _____ to your health problems is a bad idea. You need to start taking care of yourself.
A. Not have faced up **B.** Not facing up **C.** Not having faced up **D.** To face up not

12. _____ visit the British Museum while you're in London, you mustn't forget to look at the famous Rosetta Stone.
A. For fear that you **B.** In case you **C.** When you might **D.** If you should

13. Minh made a decision to book a ticket back home only one day in advance, _____ the fare was exorbitant!
A. by which time **B.** in which case **C.** during which **D.** in which event

14. You acted as though you _____ Jake when we saw you last night.
A. didn't meet **B.** wouldn't have met **C.** weren't meeting **D.** hadn't met

15. Shelves _____, the hypermarket was ready to open its door to the public.
A. to stack **B.** stacking **C.** stacked **D.** having stacked

16. - Linh: Do we need anything from the market?
- Hung: No, we've got _____ everything for the weekend.
A. a lot **B.** plenty of **C.** too much **D.** enough

17. In reality, there's _____ a stress-free job. It's time you got your foot in the door.
A. no such thing as **B.** nothing as
C. nothing that compares **D.** nothing compared to

18. - Mary: I'm surprised he didn't perform well at the job interview.
- Anne: He might have _____ better preparations.
A. if he made **B.** had he made **C.** did he make **D.** if he would make

19. - Phuong: Why are you so depressed?
- Lan: _____
A. Losing the contract was a bitter pill to swallow. **B.** My boss gave my contract the red light.
C. My contract was left in the lurch. **D.** My boss made a big thing of the contract.

20. - Binh: Living in a new neighbourhood is really challenging.
- An: That's right. We need to get used to these small _____ that come from engaging with new people.
A. doses of anxiety **B.** bouts of anxiety **C.** lumps of anxiety **D.** dabs of anxiety

PART B: CHOOSE THE WORD OR PHRASE THAT BEST FITS EACH BLANK IN THE FOLLOWING PASSAGES. (20 PTS)

PASSAGE 1

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The 300 or so species of octopuses have been around for over 250 million years and are known to **(1)** _____ in every ocean on the globe. They belong to the class Cephalopoda, from the Greek word meaning "head feet." This comes from their lack of a true body, as their eight legs extend **(2)** _____ out from their bulbous heads. Each of these legs has an independently functioning brain at its base, which **(3)** _____ movement and sends signals to a ninth central brain. Octopuses also have three hearts and unusually blue blood. **(4)** _____ the blood of most animals contains iron which carries oxygen around the body, octopus blood uses copper for this purpose, allowing the oxygen to be absorbed better at low temperatures. It is also this metal that **(5)** _____.

With neither a skeleton nor a shell for **(6)** _____, the survival of these creatures for so many millennia may seem **(7)** _____ miraculous. Several explanations have been **(8)** _____: perhaps their survival depends on their ability to eject black ink, in some cases poisonous, as a defense, or on their impressive **(9)** _____ for learning. They can also squeeze themselves into tiny spaces and change the texture and color of their skin, rendering them exceptionally difficult to detect, a trait that **(10)** _____ their survival against predation.

1.	**A.** inhabit	**B.** dwell	**C.** populate	**D.** settle
2.	**A.** directly	**B.** clearly	**C.** absolutely	**D.** precisely
3.	**A.** commands	**B.** switches	**C.** inspects	**D.** controls
4.	**A.** While	**B.** Whereupon	**C.** Wherein	**D.** Whereby
5.	**A.** changes how it moves		**B.** improves the circulation	
	C. makes it resistant to cold		**D.** gives the blood its unusual color	
6.	**A.** guard	**B.** shelter	**C.** fortune	**D.** protection
7.	**A.** nothing less than	**B.** not in the least	**C.** only a little	**D.** all but
8.	**A.** drawn forward	**B.** given out	**C.** put forward	**D.** passed out
9.	**A.** capacity	**B.** ability	**C.** discipline	**D.** power
10.	**A.** hinges	**B.** bolsters	**C.** underpins	**D.** enforces

PASSAGE 2

I was recently offered free tickets to the opening night of the theatrical adaptation of Alfred Hitchcock's Rear Window at the Sun Royal Theatre. Naturally, given the press hype **(1)** _____ the production, not to mention the exorbitant ticket prices, I jumped at the **(2)** _____. Having seen the movie countless times and with vast sections of the script **(3)** _____ to memory, I was intrigued to experience the stage adaptation of the story. On the night in **(4)** _____, I eagerly took my seat in the stalls and waited for the curtain to open. That night there was a full **(5)** _____ and you could palpably feel the anticipation hanging in the air. The curtains drew back and revealed a set which had been **(6)** _____ modelled on the New York apartment in the movie, so much so that there was an audible **(7)** _____ from the audience in recognition of the attention to detail. The female **(8)** _____ was played to perfection by a little-known actor, who managed to really capture the essence of her onscreen **(9)** _____. The very spirit of Hitchcock **(10)** _____ through every scene, creating a show that was truly inspired on every level. Overall, a magnificent production.

1.	**A.** surrounding	**B.** encompassing	**C.** binding	**D.** corresponding
2.	**A.** occasion	**B.** moment	**C.** outcome	**D.** chance
3.	**A.** entrusted	**B.** committed	**C.** assigned	**D.** accomplished
4.	**A.** principle	**B.** question	**C.** effect	**D.** hand
5.	**A.** crew	**B.** audience	**C.** house	**D.** group
6.	**A.** faithfully	**B.** decisively	**C.** obediently	**D.** steadfastly
7.	**A.** pant	**B.** gasp	**C.** groan	**D.** rumble
8.	**A.** main	**B.** head	**C.** chief	**D.** lead
9.	**A.** comrade	**B.** fellow	**C.** counterpart	**D.** peer
10.	**A.** moved	**B.** went	**C.** came	**D.** sensed

II. READING (35 PTS)

PART A: READ THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE AND CHOOSE THE BEST ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS. (10 PTS)

There's growing alarm about our relationship with food, transcending the simplistic "live to eat or eat to live" debate. Childhood obesity is escalating, with sedentary lifestyles becoming the norm. The focus has shifted from tobacco-related diseases to obesity as the primary health concern. Obese children face social ostracization, which can exacerbate the problem by leading to comfort eating. Research indicates a significant drop in moderate activity levels among children, particularly teenage girls. Parents often lack the nutritional knowledge to support their children in changing their lifestyles. The pressures of work and family contribute to a reliance on pre-cooked or fast food options, worsening the situation. While initiatives like Weight Loss Camps exist, they aren't widely promoted.

Schools bear some responsibility for **marginalizing physical education** due to national curriculum pressures and financial constraints, often selling off playing fields to invest in computers, ironically furthering sedentary habits. The food industry also contributes through advertising campaigns that target children with high-fat, high-sugar products. These items are often marketed as affordable options, leading to overconsumption. Experts advocate for government intervention, similar to the approach taken with the

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tobacco industry, including health warnings on fast food and bans on vending machines in schools. Obesity isn't limited to children. Surveys reveal that a significant portion of adults **eat on the hoof**, relying on convenience foods in the hope of sparing more time for work. This reflects a culture that promotes fast food while simultaneously presenting unattainable beauty standards through images of excessively thin models. This paradox leads to overeating and its extreme opposite, anorexia.

It's crucial to re-evaluate our relationship with food. The ideal diet should consist of fruits, vegetables, protein, and limited carbohydrates, acknowledging the occasional indulgence. The old adage of **"a little of what you fancy does you good"** remains relevant.

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
- **A.** The multifaceted causes and consequences of childhood obesity
- **B.** The increasing prevalence of sedentary lifestyles among adults
- **C.** The ethical implications of the "live to eat" philosophy
- **D.** The socioeconomic factors influencing food choices in low-income families

2. What does the author imply about social isolation among obese children?
- **A.** It is a direct result of parental neglect.
- **B.** It primarily stems from academic underachievement.
- **C.** It can paradoxically reinforce unhealthy eating habits.
- **D.** It is effectively addressed by participation in Weight Loss Camps.

3. What does the phrase **marginalizing physical education** most closely mean?
- **A.** Completely eliminating PE from school curriculum
- **B.** Deeming PE as less critical compared to other academic fields
- **C.** Reducing funds to improve facilities to better physical health
- **D.** Creating programmes for pupils that are overweight

4. According to the passage, why are the food industry's marketing strategies particularly concerning?
- **A.** Because they promote healthy eating habits among children.
- **B.** Because they are primarily targeted at adults.
- **C.** Because they encourage children to consume excessive amounts of fruits and vegetables.
- **D.** Because they exploit the vulnerability of low-income families.

5. What can be inferred from the passage about Weight Loss Camps?
- **A.** They address the psychological aspects of obesity.
- **B.** They are sufficiently widespread and accessible to all children.
- **C.** They are a universally effective solution for childhood obesity.
- **D.** They primarily focus on physical exercise and restrictive dieting.

6. When using the comparison with the tobacco industry, what does the author argue for?
- **A.** The complete prohibition of fast food advertising
- **B.** Increased government regulation of the fast food industry
- **C.** The implementation of higher taxes on sugary drinks
- **D.** Mandatory nutritional education in schools

7. What does the phrase **eat on the hoof** mean?
- **A.** A preference for organic, locally sourced food
- **B.** A return to traditional eating habits
- **C.** A rejection of processed convenience foods
- **D.** A lifestyle characterized by rapid consumption

8. What is highlighted regarding a paradoxical relationship between contemporary culture and health?
- **A.** The increasing popularity of vegetarian diets
- **B.** The promotion of unattainable beauty standards alongside unhealthy food options
- **C.** The widespread availability of nutritional information
- **D.** The growing awareness of environmental sustainability in food production

9. What is the author's tone when contemporary beauty standards are discussed?
- **A.** Laudatory
- **B.** Ambivalent
- **C.** Cynical
- **D.** Dismissive

10. What does the phrase **a little of what you fancy does you good** mean?
- **A.** Strict dietary adherence is of great importance.
- **B.** Eliminating processed foods completely is beneficial.
- **C.** The occasional indulgence can be incorporated to have a balanced diet.
- **D.** All dietary guidelines and restrictions need to be rejected.

PART B: READ THE PASSAGE AND THEN CHOOSE FROM THE LIST A-G GIVEN BELOW THE BEST SENTENCE TO FILL IN EACH OF THE BLANKS. TWO OF THE SUGGESTED ANSWERS DO NOT FIT ANY BLANK AT ALL. (5 PTS)

Hydroelectricity, a form of solar energy due to the sun driving the precipitation-supplying water cycle, is globally the most utilized renewable energy source. Nations like New Zealand and Nepal, blessed with abundant rainfall and mountainous terrain ideal for water storage, generate over half their electricity through hydropower. This involves water falling onto turbines, causing them to spin. **(1)** _____. However, once operational, the ongoing running costs are minimal.

(2) _____. For example, it is possible to build several dams on the same river. This helps multiply the productivity of the water flowing through. **(3)** _____. These pump-storage dams function effectively when hydroelectric dams supplement, rather than supplant, coal power stations. Coal stations require days to power up and often operate continuously. **(4)** _____. At night, demand for electricity is much less than

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during the day, and so coal stations are generating electricity for which there is no need. A pump-storage dam uses some of this surplus power to pump water uphill from one lake to another during this time. **(5)** _____.

(A) This means the water is effectively recycled and available for re-use when the next peak in demand occurs.
(B) For these reasons, hydroelectric dams are a vital part of the environment.
(C) The initial investment - dam construction, turbine installation, and power line networks - is substantial.
(D) Another resource-saving strategy involves developing pump-storage dams.
(E) Instead, they should be supplementing the reliability of hydroelectric systems.
(F) In contrast, hydroelectric dams rapidly respond to fluctuating power demands by simply adjusting a valve.
(G) There are various ways of managing hydroelectric facilities to conserve the water resource.

PART C: READ THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE AND SUPPLY EACH BLANK WITH ONE SUITABLE WORD. (20 PTS)

PASSAGE 1

The blind box trend is more than just a passing **(1)** _____; it's a window into the contemporary teenage experience. The appeal lies not simply in the acquisition of collectible items, **(2)** _____ in the ritualistic aspect of the unboxing and the subsequent sharing of that experience on **(3)** _____ like TikTok and Instagram. This feeds **(4)** _____ the desire to create an online persona, showcasing carefully selected interests and displaying a sense of **(5)** _____ to a specific community. Furthermore, blind boxes often feature characters and themes from popular culture, allowing **(6)** _____ to tap into existing fandoms and connect with **(7)** _____ individuals. However, the trend also raises concerns about the manipulation of consumer desires. Some companies exploit the addictive nature of blind boxes by creating ultra-rare figures that are almost **(8)** _____ to obtain, setting up a cycle of relentless purchasing and disappointment. It's crucial that teenagers learn to take with a **(9)** _____ of salt the claims made by manufacturers and influencers. The key is to encourage a balanced approach, where blind boxes are enjoyed as a lighthearted hobby, rather than becoming an all-consuming obsession that puts a **(10)** _____ in one's bank account.

PASSAGE 2

Some people possess extraordinary memory, a result of brains naturally optimized for **(1)** _____. They recall effortlessly, **(2)** _____ most who struggle. While few are born this way, hope remains for others to improve. Boris Konrad exemplifies this: a self-trained champion memorizer who, **(3)** _____ starting with average recall, achieved remarkable feats. Konrad's example underscores the dedication needed. However, new research suggests significant improvement is possible with just 30 minutes of daily practice using **(4)** _____ like the Memory Palace. The Memory Palace technique, also known as the method of loci, is widely used, **(5)** _____ by innate memorizers.

Dating back to Ancient Greece, it involves **(6)** _____ information with specific locations in an imagined space. Impressively, recall performance remained high even **(7)** _____ training ceased. A study divided participants into three groups: no training, everyday techniques, and Memory Palace. The Memory Palace group more than doubled their recall capacity and exhibited brain patterns **(8)** _____ to natural super memorizers.

This indicates a potential for total **(9)** _____ rewiring, suggesting that memory is less about innate ability and **(10)** _____ about training. Most people can significantly improve their memory with the right approach.

III. ERROR CORRECTION (5 PTS)

IDENTIFY THE FIVE (05) MISTAKES IN THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE AND CORRECT THEM.

LINE NUMBER	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	The increasing online availability of books and other written material for download has forced many publishing companies to reevaluate their business models. The digital age has caused gradual shift in book-buying trends. Today, many books can be cheaply purchased online and then downloaded onto portable devices, which has made a good deal of actual printing necessary. Still, it should be noted that, while some analysts predict digital book sales will soon overpace those of printed books, there are many readers who remain loyal to read on paper. However, the real change is happening elsewhere, in what is called publishing on demand (POD). Publishers edit and lay out a new book on a computer. They then wait until somebody wants to buy one, and they print a copy. It's a cost-effective alternative to traditional publishing and allows for a wider range of ideas being published.

IV. WORD FORMS (10 PTS)

SUPPLY THE APPROPRIATE FORMS OF THE WORDS IN BRACKETS.

1. The little boy _____ consumed a tainted product, suffering severe food poisoning as a result. **[know]**
2. The small startup quickly grew into a(n) _____ corporation with offices around the globe. **[fledge]**
3. The intricate embroidery was clearly the _____ of a highly skilled artisan. **[hand]**

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4. It's crucial that the broken arm need _____ immediately after the accident. **[mobile]**
5. The structural engineer identified a dangerous _____ in the bridge supports, necessitating urgent repairs. **[align]**
6. Unfortunately, there's no _____ solution to such a complex problem. **[dry]**
7. The school's academic program is under the _____ of the principal and the faculty. **[intend]**
8. The maths teacher often posed _____ to challenge his students' critical thinking skills. **[brain]**
9. Leaving the secondary school was a(n) _____ moment, filled with joy and nostalgia. **[sweet]**
10. The painter tried to capture the stark contrast between the _____ lifestyle and the serenity of the countryside. **[city]**

V. WRITING (20 PTS)

COMPLETE THE SECOND SENTENCE SO THAT IT MEANS THE SAME AS THE FIRST ONE, USING THE WORD GIVEN. YOU MUST USE BETWEEN THREE AND TEN WORDS, INCLUDING THE WORD GIVEN.

1. The charity faces lots of difficulties due to a lack of funding. **(lacking)**
→ Were the charity _____ straits.
2. The company tried to keep the scandal secret, but it became known at last. **(lid)**
→ Much as the company _____ out at last.
3. As soon as we arrived at the main square, we fell in love with the city. **(moment)**
→ The city took our _____ in the main square.
4. The new employee was so completely incompetent that the task was slowly handled. **(rank)**
→ Such was his _____ with by the new employee.
5. The adults usually object to how indifferent the young are nowadays. **(exception)**
→ The adults usually _____ of the young nowadays.
6. A lot of the city's one million unemployed are trying to make ends meet. **(many)**
→ There are one million _____ all out to make ends meet.
7. "Don't do anything mischievous!", she told her child clearly and strongly. **(uncertain)**
→ Her child was told _____ mischief was a must.
8. If you don't spend hours reviewing, you can't ensure good results in the upcoming exam. **(likely)**
→ The more hours you put _____ ensure good results in the upcoming exam.
9. I think that if you don't intervene too much, the students work much harder. **(devices)**
→ The students work much harder when left _____ standpoint.
10. She remained calm rather than getting irritated by Jack's behaviour. **(being)**
→ Far _____ cool head.

---------- **THE END OF THE TEST** ----------

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