Exercise 11

Read the following text for questions 1-6.

DRIVERLESS CARS



Driverless cars, also known as self-driving cars or autonomous vehicles, are one of the most exciting and controversial technological developments of recent years. These cars are designed to move without human drivers, using a combination of cameras, sensors, and advanced computer systems. Companies like Tesla, Google, and several traditional car manufacturers have invested billions of dollars into developing these vehicles, hoping they will change the way people travel.

One of the main advantages of driverless cars is safety. Most car accidents happen because of human error, such as speeding, using a mobile phone while driving, or falling asleep at the wheel. Autonomous vehicles are programmed to follow traffic rules perfectly, maintain safe distances from other cars, and react quickly to avoid danger. Supporters believe that if driverless cars become common, the number of road accidents will significantly decrease.

Another benefit is the potential to reduce traffic congestion. Driverless cars can communicate with each other, which means they can organize their movement more efficiently than human drivers. This can help prevent traffic jams and reduce fuel consumption, making travel faster and more environmentally friendly.

However, there are also many challenges. One of the biggest concerns is trust. Many people are uncomfortable with the idea of a car driving itself without human control. They worry about what might happen if the technology fails. There have already been a few cases where autonomous vehicles were involved in accidents, raising questions about their reliability.

There are also legal and ethical issues to consider. For example, if a driverless car crashes, who is responsible? Is it the manufacturer, the software

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developer, or the person who owns the car? These questions have not yet been fully answered and will need careful consideration before self-driving cars become widely used.

In addition, there are concerns about jobs. If driverless cars become common, many professional drivers, such as taxi drivers and truck drivers, might lose their jobs. Governments and businesses will need to find solutions to help workers adapt to these changes.

Despite these concerns, many experts believe that driverless cars will become a normal part of life in the future. As the technology improves, it is likely that we will see more autonomous vehicles on the roads, changing the way people travel and live.

For questions 1-4, fill in the missing information in the numbered spaces. Write no more than ONE WORD and/or A NUMBER for each question.

1. Driverless cars use cameras, **(1)** _____, and computers to move without human drivers.

2. Most traffic accidents are caused by human **(2)** _____.

3. Driverless cars can help reduce traffic **(3)** _____ by communicating with each other.

4. One possible negative effect of driverless cars is the loss of **(4)** _____ for professional drivers.

For questions 5-6, choose the correct answer A, B, C, or D.

5. What is one of the worries people have about driverless cars?

A) They are too slow for highways.
B) They may not follow traffic rules.
C) They could fail and cause accidents.
D) They will only work in big cities.

6. What is the main purpose of the text?

A) To advertise a new kind of car
B) To explain the history of driverless vehicles
C) To describe the benefits and challenges of driverless cars
D) To show how to build an autonomous car

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