

PHẦN 1: NGHE HIỂU – VSTEP

Thời gian: 40 phút

Số câu hỏi: 35

Directions: In this section of the test, you will have an opportunity to demonstrate your ability to understand conversations and talks in English. There are three parts in this section with special directions for each part. Answer all the questions on the basis of what is stated or implied by the speakers in the recording.

There will be time for you to read the instructions and you will have a chance to check your work. The recording will be played ONCE only.

Time allowance: about 40 minutes, including 05 minutes to transfer your answers to your answer sheet.

PART 1: Questions 1-8

Directions: In this part, you will hear EIGHT short announcements or instructions. There is one question for each announcement or instruction. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D. Then, on the answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer that you have chosen.

Now, let's listen to an example. On the recording, you will hear:

Woman: Hello. This is the travel agency returning your call. You left a message about the holiday you've booked, asking which meals are included in the cost during your stay at Sunny Hotel. Lunch and dinner are free but if you wish to have breakfast in the hotel, you will need to pay an extra amount of money, depending on what you order. Let me know if I can help you with any other information. Goodbye.

On the test book, you will read:

Which meal is NOT included in the price of the holiday?

A. Breakfast B. Lunch C. Dinner D. All meals
The correct answer is A. **Breakfast.** Now, let's begin with the first question.

Question 1: What is the purpose of the message?

- A. To schedule a pickup
- B. To delay a meeting
- C. To confirm an appointment
- D. To request some files

Question 2: What is being advertised?

- A. A city tour
- B. A spa package
- C. A hotel
- D. A hospital

Question 3: According to the announcement, what will be built near Berryville?

- A. A university
- B. A high school
- C. A new hospital wing
- D. An airport terminal

Question 4: Who is this announcement probably for?

- A. Factory employees
- B. Office managers
- C. Safety supervisors
- D. Hotel workers

Question 5: What is the purpose of the message?

- A. To make a reservation at a restaurant
- B. To ask about a new employee
- C. To invite a co-worker for dinner
- D. To offer a ride home

Question 6: What is this message about?

- A. A new security policy
- B. The business hours
- C. An office relocation
- D. A permanent closure

Question 7: What is the purpose of the message?

- A. To make an appointment
- B. To offer a position
- C. To cancel an interview
- D. To confirm receipt of an application

Question 8: Who is the speaker?

- A. A new employee
- B. The founder
- C. The chairman of the board
- D. The personnel director

PART 2: Questions 9-20

Directions: *In this part, you will hear THREE conversations. The conversations will not be repeated. There are four questions for each conversation. For each question, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.*

Questions 9 to 12 refer to the following conversation.

Question 9: Why is the woman calling?

- A. To make an appointment
- B. To speak with Dr. Johnson
- C. To confirm an appointment
- D. To receive some medical advice

Question 10: What is probably true about the man?

- A. He is a doctor.
- B. He is very busy these days.
- C. He is the woman's friend.
- D. He will be late for the appointment.

Question 11: What does the woman ask the man to do?

- A. Show up to his appointment a little early
- B. Get more medical insurance
- C. Wait 10 minutes in the waiting area
- D. Always arrange his appointments a day early

Question 12: What will the man likely take to his appointment?

- A. His past medical records
- B. Some insurance documents
- C. His appointment book
- D. An application form

Questions 13 to 16 refer to the following conversation.

Question 13: Who most likely are they?

- A. Journalists
- B. Physicians
- C. Lawyers
- D. Restaurant owners

Question 14: Who has been mentioning the study to the woman?

- A. Her patients
- B. Her mother-in-law
- C. Her doctor
- D. Her friends

Question 15: When will they likely attend the conference?

- A. Today
- B. Friday
- C. Saturday
- D. Sunday

Question 16: Who is going to visit the woman?

- A. Her friends
- B. Her husband
- C. Her mother-in-law
- D. Her patients

Questions 17 to 20 refer to the following conversation.

Question 17: What are they talking about?

- A. A newly released product
- B. The duration of the warranty
- C. A customer they helped
- D. A vehicle the man recently fixed

Question 18: According to the man, what was the customer most satisfied with?

- A. The low cost of the repair work
- B. The free service they provided
- C. The competitive price of their products
- D. The length of the warranty period

Question 19: What do the speakers feel makes customers happy?

- A. The low price
- B. The great service
- C. The free gifts
- D. The store hours

Question 20: What is true about the customer?

- A. He is a loyal one.
- B. He thought the warranty had expired.
- C. He will definitely come back to the store.
- D. He will recommend the store to his friend.

PART 3: Questions 21-35

Directions: *In this part, you will hear THREE talks, lectures or conversations. The talks, lectures, or conversations will not be repeated. There are five questions for each talk, lecture, or conversation. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.*

Questions 21 to 25 refer to the following conversation.

Question 21: Why is the woman visiting this office?

- A. She wants to be a science major.
- B. She wants to learn about politics.
- C. She is interested in registering for a course.
- D. She is interested in Political Science.

Question 22: Why are there few people in the honors program?

- A. It is not considered a prestigious program.
- B. The requirements are difficult to meet.
- C. No one likes the economics requirement.
- D. It is an unpopular program.

Question 23: What subject is NOT included, if the woman chooses Political Science?

- A. Political Science 1
- B. Political Science 2
- C. Writing seminar
- D. Economics

Question 24: Which is one of the requirements, if the woman chooses International Relation program?

- A. Students have to maintain over a "B" average in all required courses.
- B. Students have to study economics and a second history credit.

C. Students need to be realistic in their expectation.

D. A, B, and C are all correct.

Question 25: What is NOT a reason for the Political Science Department's elaborate registration process?

- A. To make students think carefully about what courses they will take
- B. To have a similar system with other majors
- C. To make students have a planned program
- D. To ensure students have realistic expectations

Questions 26- 30 refer to the following lecture.

Question 26: What happened to the debate club meeting?

- A. They painted instead of debating.
- B. The club was disbanded.
- C. The meeting was moved to another room.
- D. The meeting was postponed.

Question 27: Why couldn't the man receive the email?

- A. He was too busy with his classes.
- B. He was in a meeting.
- C. His computer has been out of order.
- D. His friend forgot to tell him.

Question 28: What is going to happen with the debate club's meeting room?

- A. It is going to be demolished.
- B. It is going to be sold.
- C. It is going to be repainted.
- D. It is going to be closed.

Question 29: What is true about the debate club's meeting room?

- A. It is too small for the group.
- B. It is called "Turner Auditorium".

- C. It will soon be enlarged to accommodate everyone.
- D. It is the most run-down room in the student building.

Question 30: What can be inferred about the man?

- A. He does not enjoy the debate club.
- B. He is not taking many classes.
- C. He is a weak debater.
- D. He is not ready for his debate yet.

Questions 31 to 35 refer to the following professor's talk.

Question 31: What is the professor mainly talking about?

- A. The science of space travel
- B. Scientific problems in Star Wars
- C. The erroneous science in science fiction
- D. Why science fiction is bad literature

Question 32: According to the lecture, what is wrong with space travel in most science fiction?

- A. There are no aliens in outer space.
- B. There is no way to go faster than light speed.
- C. There are many other stars and galaxies.
- D. There is nowhere to go in outer space.

Question 33: According to the professor, how long does it take to travel to the closest star to Earth?

- A. Three light years
- B. One hundred light years
- C. Hundreds light years
- D. A million light years

Question 34: What does the professor NOT say about the movie 2001: A Space Odyssey?

- A. It is exceptionally good.
- B. It portrays gravity correctly.
- C. It does not have faster-than-light travel.
- D. It does not depict sound in space.

Question 35: What can be inferred about science fiction?

- A. Many people do not like watching science fiction.
- B. It is costly to make science fiction.
- C. Science fiction is not meant to teach us about science.
- D. The film Space Odyssey is a famous science fiction.

**THIS IS THE END OF THE LISTENING PAPER.
NOW YOU HAVE 05 MINUTES TO TRANSFER
YOUR ANSWERS TO YOUR ANSWER SHEET.**

PHẦN 2: ĐỌC HIỂU – VSTEP

Thời gian: 60 phút
Số câu hỏi: 40

Directions: In this section of the test, you will read **FOUR** different passages, each followed by 10 questions about it. For questions 1-40, you are to choose the best answer A, B, C, or D for each question. Then, on your answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer you have chosen. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.

You have 60 minutes to answer all the questions, including the time to transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

PASSAGE 1 – Questions 1-10

It takes a long time to raise a family of owlets, so the great horned owl begins early in the year. In January and February, or as late as March in the North, the male calls to the female with a **resonant hoot**. The female is larger than the male. She sometimes reaches a body length of twenty-two to twenty-four inches, with a wingspread up to fifty inches. To impress her, the male does a strange courtship dance. He bows. He ruffles his feathers and hops around with an important air. He flutters from limb to limb and makes flying sorties into the air. Sometimes he returns with an offering of food. They share the repast, after which she joins the dance, hopping and bobbing about as though keeping time to the beat of an inner drum.

Owls are poor home builders. They prefer to nest in a large hollow in a tree or even to occupy the deserted nest of a hawk or crow. These structures are large and rough, built of sticks and bark and lined with leaves and feathers. Sometimes owls nest on a rocky ledge, or even on the bare ground.

The mother lays two or three round, dull white eggs. Then she stoically settles herself on the nest and spreads her feather skirts about her to protect her **precious charges** from snow and cold. It is five weeks before the first downy white owlet pecks its way out of the shell. As the young birds feather out, **they** look like wise old men with their wide eyes and quizzical expressions. They clamor for food and keep the parents busy supplying mice, squirrels, rabbits, crayfish, and

beetles. Later in the season baby crows are taken. Migrating songsters, waterfowl, and game birds all fall prey to the hungry family. It is nearly ten weeks before fledglings leave the nest to search for their own food. The parent birds **weary of** family life by November and drive the young owls away to establish hunting ranges of their own.

1. What is the topic of this passage?

- A. Raising a family of great horned owls
- B. Mating rituals of great horned owls
- C. Nest building of great horned owls
- D. Habits of young great horned owls

2. The phrase "a resonant hoot" in the passage is closest in meaning to ____.

- A. an instrument
- B. a sound
- C. a movement
- D. an offering of food

3. It can be inferred from the passage that the courtship of great horned owls ____.

- A. takes place on the ground
- B. is an active process
- C. happens in the fall
- D. involves the male alone

4. According to the passage, great horned owls ____.

- A. are discriminate nest builders
- B. need big nests for their numerous eggs
- C. may inhabit a previously used nest
- D. build nests on tree limbs

5. According to the passage, which of the following is the mother owl's job?

- A. To initiate the courtship ritual
- B. To feed the young
- C. To sit on the nest
- D. To build the nest

6. The phrase "precious charges" in paragraph 3 refers to ____.

- A. the eggs
- B. the nest
- C. the hawks and crows
- D. other nesting owls

7. According to the passage, young owlets eat everything EXCEPT ____.

- A. other small birds
- B. insects
- C. small mammals
- D. nuts and seeds

8. The word "they" in the passage refers to ____.

- A. the wise old men
- B. the adult birds
- C. the young birds
- D. the prey

9. What can be inferred from the passage about the adult parents of the young great horned owls?

- A. They are sorry to see their young leave home.
- B. They are lazy and careless about feeding the small owlets.
- C. They probably don't see their young after November.
- D. They don't eat while they are feeding their young.

10. The phrase "weary of" in the passage is closest in meaning to ____.

- A. tire of
- B. become sad about
- C. support
- D. are attracted to

PASSAGE 2 -- Questions 11-20

In the early 1800s, to reach the jump-off point for the West, a family from the East of the United States could either buy steamboat passage to Missouri for themselves, their wagons, and their livestock or - as happened more often- simply pile everything into a wagon, hitch up a team, and begin their overland trek right in their front yard.

Along the macadamized roads and turnpikes east of the Missouri River, travel was comparatively fast, camping easy, and supplies plentiful. Then, in one river town or another, the neophyte emigrants would pause to lay in provisions. For outfitting purposes, the town of Independence had been preeminent ever since 1827, but the rising

momentum of pioneer emigration had produced some rival jump-off points. Westport and Fort Leavenworth flourished a few miles upriver. St. Joseph had sprung up 55 miles to the northwest; in fact, emigrants who went to Missouri by riverboat could save four days on the trail by staying on the paddle-wheelers to St. Joe before striking overland.

At whatever jump-off point they chose, the emigrants studied guidebooks and directions, asked questions of others as green as themselves, and made their final decisions about outfitting. They had various, sometimes conflicting, options. For example, either pack animals or two-wheel carts or wagons could be used for the overland crossing. A family man usually chose the wagon. It was the costliest and slowest of the three, but it provided space and shelter for children and for a wife who likely as not was pregnant. Everybody knew that a top-heavy covered wagon might blow over in a prairie wind or be overturned by mountain rocks, that it might mire in river mud or sink to its hubs in desert sand - but maybe if those things happened on this trip, they would happen to someone else. Anyway, most pioneers, with their farm background, were used to wagons.

11. What is the topic of this passage?

- A. Important river towns
- B. Getting started on the trip west
- C. The advantages of traveling by wagon
- D. Choosing a point of departure

12. All of the following can be inferred from the passage about travel east of the Missouri EXCEPT that it ____.

- A. was faster than in the West
- B. was easier than in the West
- C. took place on good roads
- D. was usually by steamboat

13. The phrase "jump-off point" in the passage is closest in meaning to ____.

- A. a bridge across a river
- B. a point of departure
- C. a gathering place
- D. a trading post

14. Which of the cities that served as a jump-off point can be inferred from the passage to be farthest west?

- A. Independence
- B. St. Joseph
- C. Westport
- D. Fort Leavenworth

15. The word "preeminent" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. oldest
- B. superior
- C. most easily reached
- D. closest

16. The author implies in the passage that the early emigrants _____.

- A. knew a lot about travel
- B. were well stocked with provisions when they left their homes
- C. left from the same place in Missouri
- D. preferred wagon travel to other types of travel

17. The word "neophyte" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. eager
- B. courageous
- C. prosperous
- D. inexperienced

18. All of the following were mentioned in the passage as options for modes of transportation from the Missouri River to the West EXCEPT _____.

- A. a wagon
- B. a riverboat
- C. a pack animal
- D. a two-wheel cart

19. The word "striking" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. hitting
- B. orienting
- C. departing
- D. marking

20. All of the following features of the covered wagon made it unattractive to the emigrants EXCEPT _____.

- A. speed at which it could travel
- B. its bulk
- C. its familiarity and size
- D. its cost

PASSAGE 3 – Questions 21-30

Alexander the Great commissioned the city of Alexandria to create a Mediterranean stronghold in Egypt to rival Rome and cities in Greece. He died before his idea came to fruition, but his successors built it into one of the greatest cities of the Hellenistic world. The Royal Library of Alexandria has achieved an almost mythical status among scholars of classical studies. As with many ancient topics, scholarship on the matter often conflicts and relies heavily on hearsay and supposition. We will examine the importance of the library during its heyday and how it operated.

As with many ancient landmarks, there is much debate and controversy over Alexandria's library, especially regarding its destruction. The tale has been retold by countless historians and attributed to just as many different factions and rulers, not to profile this landmark of education, but as a tool for political slander. It is estimated that there are over 4000 writings regarding its destruction, yet very little data exists regarding the structure, layout, organization, administration, or whereabouts of the complex. The accuracy of the available information is suspect. However, 20th century scholars have reached some general consensus from the remaining sources.

Most historians have come to the conclusion that the original library (also known as the Temple of the Muses) was commissioned by Ptolemy I, Alexander's key general. More accurately, it was commissioned by the Athenian exile Demetrius of Phaleron under Ptolemy I's patronage. Traditionally it was attributed to his son Ptolemy II. However, it was later shown that Demetrius was antagonistic toward Ptolemy II and did not survive for much of his reign. Ptolemy II can be seen as responsible for the fruition and completion of the library and museum complex. H.G. Wells asserts that Ptolemy and his son encouraged 'a blaze of knowledge and discovery at Alexandria' through their funding of the library and other endowments.

The library itself was not a 'library' in the modern etymology. In fact, the library was essentially a collection of scholars and scribes encouraged to expand scientific and philosophical wisdom and musings brought about because of the ambition and drive of Ptolemy I. It was not the first institution of its type, developing about a half-century after Plato's Academy and Aristotle's Lyceum. About

30-50 scholars were probably permanently housed there, fed, and funded, first by the royal family, and later, according to an early Roman scroll, by public money. It served a religious, as well as an intellectual, function and it was the centerpiece of a so-called cult of the muses, governed by a priest.

[A] The library's output was created through observation and deduction in math, medicine, astronomy, and geometry, the editing of texts and manuscripts, and debating various advances in Western knowledge. [B] For two or three generations, the scientific output at Alexandria was considerably good. Its achievements included the introduction of the first steam engine, the first star map, and an astoundingly accurate estimate of the Earth's diameter. [C] Famous scholars employed there included Euclid, Eratosthenes, Apollonius, and Hero. [D]

The library may have consisted of a group of buildings, including lecture halls, study rooms, dining rooms, gardens, and an astronomical observatory. In organization of the library, it is believed that, in the time of Ptolemy II, the scrolls were haphazardly stored and grouped by general category. From the time of Callimachus onwards, they used an early iteration of a subject catalog. Subject divisions outlined by Callimachus included mathematics, medicine, astronomy, and geometry, as well as philology. At its peak, it is estimated about 600,000 scrolls were held within its walls, although that is likely an overstatement.

The Ptolemys achieved their goal of creating the largest collection of its kind by varied and often forceful means. At the time of its founding, Greek libraries were usually collections of manuscripts by private individuals. Ptolemy had a vision to collect all accepted literature on all matters scientific, philosophical and spiritual. The library tried to get copies of all known books and would send agents far and wide to acquire them. Ptolemy III wrote a letter "to all the world's sovereigns" asking to borrow their books. On more than a few occasions, scribes made copies and kept the originals. Supposedly, all ships entering Alexandria's harbor were searched for books to copy.

The Royal Library of Alexandria was created at an ideal time and place in world history. It was able to combine the deductive techniques of Greek thought toward the learning of other world cultures. As such, it holds a legendary position among historians as an

important center of classical knowledge. Although much of the story has been buried with time and conflict, the importance and significance of its contributions are clear.

21. All of the following sentences express important ideas in the passage EXCEPT ____.

- A. The library was essentially a collection of scholars and scribes encouraged to expand scientific and philosophical wisdom.
- B. In the time of Callimachus, the scrolls were haphazardly stored and grouped by general category.
- C. It is estimated that there were over 4000 writings about its destruction, yet very little evidence exists.
- D. The library tried to get copies of all known books and would employ several methods of acquiring them.

22. The word "factions" in the passage is closest in meaning to ____.

- A. sections
- B. insubordinates
- C. cliques
- D. conspiracies

23. The word "its" in the passage refers to ____.

- A. data
- B. education
- C. the Royal Library of Alexandria
- D. destruction

24. The author mentions "its destruction" in the passage in order to ____.

- A. introduce the idea that the destruction was caused by natural disaster
- B. illustrate that there are so many arguments surrounding its demise and disappearance
- C. indicate the difference between its destruction and other libraries destruction
- D. highlight the difference between the library and other historic sites

25. Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence in the passage? Incorrect answer choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

- A. Commissioned by Ptolemy I, the Royal Library was a place where people who wanted to learn gathered to study and record their philosophies.
- B. The library was a large building where students gathered to research and study.
- C. Philosophers often visited the library to further their studies.
- D. Many people gathered at the Royal Library in Alexandria in order to socialize with their friends.

26. According to paragraph 6, what was true about the early iteration of a subject catalog?

- A. All the books were grouped within two general categories.
- B. The books were chosen for their innovation, thematic impact, and popular appeal.
- C. The librarians organized the collection of books systematically.
- D. The library achieved an astonishing collection and many developments.

27. The word "overstatement" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. estimation
- B. falsehood
- C. exaggeration
- D. presumption

28. Which of the following can be inferred about the Royal Library from the passage?

- A. Most of the manuscripts from the library are preserved in modern museums.
- B. Several writings from the library have been scanned and can be viewed on the Internet.
- C. Little of the manuscripts contained in the library are in existence today.

D. The library is currently being reconstructed.

29. According to historians, all of the following were true about the Royal Library of Alexandria EXCEPT _____.

- A. It probably contained over 600,000 writings.
- B. Little is known of its exact location.
- C. It was responsible for the first star map.
- D. It was the largest and most magnificent library in history.

30. Look at the four squares [] that indicate where the following sentence can be added to the passage.

It remained an important intellectual center for over 500 years until numerous fires and other problems eroded its significance.

Where would the sentence best fit?

- A. [A]
- B. [B]
- C. [C]
- D. [D]

PASSAGE 4 – Questions 31–40

The Pacific Ocean contains approximately 20,000 to 30,000 islands. Islands, excluding Australia, that are south of the Tropic of Cancer are grouped into three divisions: Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia.

Melanesia includes the nation of Papua New Guinea, provinces of Indonesia, and the Solomon Islands. Micronesia means 'small islands,' most of which are north of the equator. Finally, Polynesia, which means 'many islands,' includes the Hawaiian Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Easter Island, among others. Migrants from South East Asian cities were the first settlers. The next wave of migrants populated New Guinea, gradually spreading to Fiji. The last of the Pacific islands to be settled was Polynesia. Hawaii was discovered sometime between the 7th and 13th centuries.

Bats were the only mammals on these islands until the arrival of the first humans. Birds adapted to environmental niches, like grazers and insectivores. Due to the cool and humid location, New Zealand lost plants and animals, like the giant flightless bird, that were intolerant of its climate. However, the extinction coincided with the arrival of the Melanesians, so it was probably caused by hunting and

fires. Adding to that, mining and a natural drought destroyed a majority of the natural habitat. This was repeated on Easter Island, where early settlers wiped out 22 species of sea birds and land birds. By the time the Europeans had arrived, most of the plant life was extinct and nearly 30% of the forests were cleared.

The invasion of New Zealand by the Europeans resulted in a complete transformation of the island, importing over 3,198 species of plants and animals and filling most of the wetlands. Australia also imported animals and plants from many Pacific island countries. Sheep, pigs, goats and foxes were brought to Australia, which further disrupted the native ecosystems. Many plants and animals are presently endangered.

The plants and animals that inhabit Pacific islands are found nowhere else on earth. They are often adapted to specific habitats and live on a small part of a few islands. New Caledonia is an island that has been isolated from other lands for over 80 million years. 66 percent of the plant life there evolved on the island. Numerous plant species, unique in the world, are on a small area of one mountain and are represented by only a few specimens.

This varied genetic heritage is of such scientific importance that New Caledonia has been listed as one of the ten hot spots where the primary forest is in danger of extinction. It also boasts 68 species of bird; the most diverse bird life in the Southwest Pacific.

During the first Ice Age, ocean levels were much lower than they are at present. Levels in the shallow seas, now separating Asia from North America near the present-day Bering strait, dropped approximately 300 feet, creating 1,000 miles of grassland plain. Called the 'Bering Land Bridge,' this linked Asia and North America together. The Bering Sea has a long history of stable animal populations, despite the harsh environments, which sustain human life. Lemmings, ox, and mammoths all made the journey across the land bridge. Although mammoths have been extinct for quite a while now, the other two have remained.

Pacific walrus inhabit shallow waters of the Bering Sea during winter. They congregate to feed on clams, their principal food. [A] This type of feeding releases nutrients into the water, providing food for starfish and increasing the roughness of the sea floor. [B] Actual impact of the ecology of bottom communities is unknown, but

walrus, along with other animals like beavers and sea otters, have huge effects on the biological communities they occupy. [C] Animals such as seals, bowhead whales, and walrus are important for the subsistence of their community. [D]

Pacific islands have the same pollution and over fishing problems as most countries. Destructive forms of fishing in Asian nations have taken their toll on marine animals such as birds and tuna. Many of these nations have now entered joint venture agreements to enable them to develop their marine resources more efficiently.

31. The word "populated" in the passage is closest in meaning to
A. inhabited B. exiled
C. traveled D. governed

32. The word "it" in the passage refers to
A. arrival B. extinction
C. climate D. hunting

33. Why does the author mention "The invasion of New Zealand by the Europeans" in the passage?

- A. To demonstrate its destructive effect on local ecosystems
- B. To explain how many of New Zealand's species came into being
- C. To show the lack of responsibility that early settlers had toward new places
- D. To draw a comparison to the way Australia expanded in the Pacific

34. According to paragraph 5, what is unique about the Pacific Islands?

- A. They have a long history of traditional management approaches for marine resources.
- B. They are home to rare and unique animals.
- C. They are made up of 66% plant life.
- D. They have all been damaged by European settlers.

35. The word "specimens" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. genres
- B. features
- C. examples
- D. images

36. According to paragraph 7, how has the Bering Sea aided life forms in the past?

- A. By providing creatures with plentiful food
- B. By being home to a diverse and varied ecosystem
- C. By allowing transit across the great iceshelves in the Americas
- D. By keeping creatures cool and comfortable in the ice

37. According to the passage, which of the following is true of walrus?

- A. They protect the surrounding ecosystem by preventing over-fishing.
- B. Their unique feeding habits enrich the ecosystem with nutrients.
- C. They are solitary animals which hunt and eat by themselves.
- D. They are usually found living in the deepest regions of the Bering Sea.

38. Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence? Incorrect answer choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

- A. Although ecological impacts are not known, many species are largely dependent on animals occupying a sub-level.
- B. The true biological diversity of all the walrus is revealed only below the species level.
- C. Beavers and otters are strongly related to the walrus family because there is a clear cause-effect relationship.
- D. There is a great deal that still needs to be learned about biological communities and ecosystems.

39. According to paragraph 9, what measures have been taken to protect sea creatures?

- A. Protection agencies have begun guarding areas known for high fish population.
- B. Destructive fishing methods such as drag-nets have been outlawed.
- C. Agreements have been made to ensure that marine resources are used carefully.
- D. Restrictions have been placed on amounts permitted to be fished in certain areas.

40. Look at the four squares [] that indicate where the following sentence can be added to the passage.

Walrus blow the clams loose with a jet of water, then suck them from their shells.

Where would the sentence best fit?

- A. [A]
- B. [B]
- C. [C]
- D. [D]

**THIS IS THE END OF THE READING PAPER.
NOW PLEASE SUBMIT
YOUR TEST PAPER AND YOUR ANSWER SHEET.**

PHẦN 3: VIẾT – VSTEP

Thời gian: 60 phút
Số câu hỏi: 2

Task 1:

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

You live in Ho Chi Minh City. You moved to Manchester to study English three months ago. You have just received an email from a friend of mine, Sara from London. Read part of her email below.

....
What's Manchester like? I bet the weather's not too good!
Have you still got that part-time job in the fast-food restaurant?
It must be a good way of speaking to new people and making friends.
What about the family you're staying with? Do you go out much in the evening? I hope the English classes are going well.
.....
Sara

Write a reply to Sara. In your email, you have to describe Manchester and the weather there, tell her about your part-time job, the family you are staying with, and your activities in the evening, and finally you have to write about your English classes there.

You should write at least 120 words.

Task 2:

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.
Write about the following topic:

In order to solve traffic problems, Vietnamese government should tax private car owners heavily and use the money to improve public transportation. What are the advantages and disadvantages of such a solution?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own experience or knowledge.

You should write at least 250 words.

PHẦN 4: NÓI - VSTEP SPEAKING

Thời gian: 12 phút
Số câu hỏi: 3

Part 1: Social Interaction (3')

Let's talk about walking.

- Do you like walking? When and where do you walk?
- Do you think walking is important?
- Do you think walking in the countryside is better than walking in the city?

Let's talk about your eating habits.

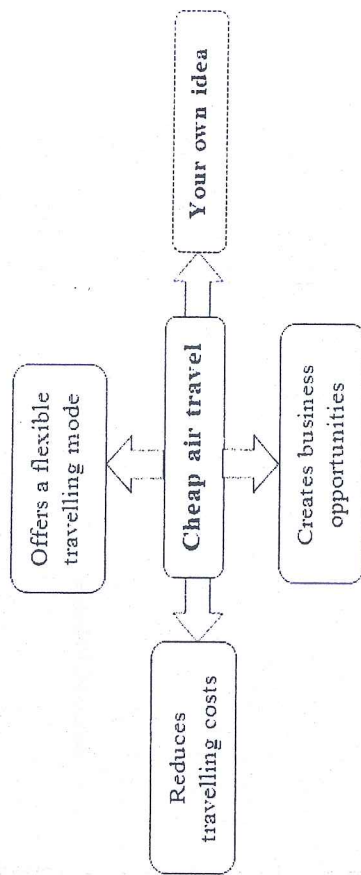
- Do you often eat healthy food?
- What do you usually eat at school/ at work?
- What is the unhealthiest food you can think of?

Part 2: Solution Discussion (4')

Situation: You are choosing a birthday gift for your friend. There are three suggestions: a **book**, a **music show ticket**, and a **shopping coupon**. Which do you think is the best choice?

Part 3: Topic Development (5')

Topic: Cheap air travel should be promoted.



- Do you think that governments should encourage cheap flights?
- Are there any problems with low-cost air travel?
- Cheap air tickets should be offered on domestic flights or international flights?

COLLECTION 2

PHẦN 1: NGHE HIỂU – VSTEP

Thời gian: 40 phút

Số câu hỏi: 35

Directions: In this section of the test, you will have an opportunity to demonstrate your ability to understand conversations and talks in English. There are three parts in this section with special directions for each part. Answer all the questions on the basis of what is stated or implied by the speakers in the recording.

There will be time for you to read the instructions and you will have a chance to check your work. The recording will be played **ONCE** only.

Time allowance: about 40 minutes, including 05 minutes to transfer your answers to your answer sheet.

PART 1: Questions 1-8

Directions: In this part, you will hear **EIGHT** short announcements or instructions. There is one question for each announcement or instruction. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D. Then, on the answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer that you have chosen.

Now, let's listen to an example. On the recording, you will hear:

Woman: Hello. This is the travel agency returning your call. You left a message about the holiday you've booked, asking which meals are included in the cost during your stay at Sunny Hotel. Lunch and dinner are free but if you wish to have breakfast in the hotel, you will need to pay an extra amount of money, depending on what you order. Let me know if I can help you with any other information. Goodbye.

On the test book, you will read:

Which meal is **NOT** included in the price of the holiday?

A. Breakfast B. Lunch C. Dinner D. All meals

The correct answer is **A. Breakfast**. Now, let's begin with the first question.

Question 1: Who is probably making talking on the phone?

- A. The receptionist at a hotel
- B. The receptionist at a dentist's
- C. A travel agent
- D. A real estate agent

Question 2: Why has the meeting been relocated?

- A. Because a building is being renovated
- B. Because the North Tower is being painted
- C. Because the South Tower is sold
- D. Because the North Tower is more spacious

Question 3: What is the main cause of decreased domestic sales?

- A. A weak economy B. Competition
- C. Retail clothing sector D. Domestic economy

Question 4: What should the listeners do before they skate?

- A. Get permission from the safety coordinator
- B. Wear the proper safety equipment
- C. Pay a nominal fee
- D. Have membership cards

Question 5: What profession does the speaker work in?

- A. Sports therapy B. Sports broadcasting
- C. Physical training D. Sports fashion

Question 6: What is the purpose of Ricardo's visit?

- A. To train staff members
- B. To oversee a project
- C. To learn business methods
- D. To see a client

Question 7: What kind of business would be making this announcement?

- A. A gas station
- B. A hotel
- C. A restaurant
- D. A store

Question 8: Why has confidence increased?

- A. Because of increased investment
- B. Because of low inflation
- C. Because of higher production
- D. Because of government data

PART 2: Questions 9-20

Directions: In this part, you will hear THREE conversations. The conversations will not be repeated. There are four questions for each conversation. For each question, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

Questions 9 to 12 refer to the following conversation.

Question 9: What is the problem?

- A. The woman does not know how to get to the man's office.
- B. The copy machine is not working properly.
- C. The man is late for his appointment.
- D. The woman can't go to the office today.

Question 10: Who most likely is the man?

- A. An auto mechanic
- B. A photocopier technician
- C. A new assistant
- D. A coffee shop owner

Question 11: What does the man ask the woman to do?

- A. To have a clinic check-up
- B. To turn off the machine
- C. To check the inside paper jam
- D. To call another technician

Question 12: When will the man most likely get to the woman's office?

- A. In the morning
- B. During lunch
- C. In the afternoon
- D. In the evening

Questions 13 to 16 refer to the following conversation.

Question 13: What is the woman's problem?

- A. She lost a library book.
- B. She does not know where Germany is.
- C. The library does not have a book she needs.
- D. The library will not let her sign out a book.

Question 14: Why does the woman need to find the book?

- A. She wants to borrow it for a friend.
- B. She wants it for her essay.
- C. She wants to learn about computer systems.
- D. She wants to collect it.

Question 15: What does the man offer to do for the woman?

- A. He will help her to locate the material she wants from other libraries.
- B. He will ask his friends about the material she needs.
- C. He asks her to go to the nearest library.
- D. He asks her to go to the book store.

Question 16: What if the woman borrows more than 5 books from other libraries?

- A. She has to return the books earlier than usual.
- B. She has to pay a small service charge.
- C. She has to fill in a special form.
- D. She has to deposit.

Questions 17 to 20 refer to the following conversation.

Question 17: When is the woman supposed to meet James?

- A. At noon
- B. At four o'clock
- C. At four fifteen
- D. At ten o'clock

Question 18: What can be inferred about James?

- A. The low cost of the repair work
- B. The free service they provided
- C. The competitive price of their products
- D. The length of the warranty period

Question 19: What is true about the man?

- A. He is a friend of Jane's and James'.
- B. He is Jane's teacher.
- C. He doesn't know James.
- D. He is an irresponsible man.

Question 20: Why does Jane have this appointment?

- A. To meet her old friends
- B. To complain about James' behavior
- C. To prepare for her exam
- D. To have an interview

PART 3: Questions 21-35

Directions: In this part, you will hear *THREE* talks, lectures or conversations. The talks, lectures, or conversations will not be repeated. There are five questions for each talk, lecture, or conversation. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D.

Questions 21 to 25 refer to the following conversation.

Question 21: What did the woman do last night?

- A. Studied for a final test
- B. Worked on her paper
- C. Stayed in the computer lab
- D. Turned the paper in early

Question 22: What is probably true about the woman?

- A. She called Professor Kensington and asked for an extension.
- B. She had her friend help to complete her paper.
- C. She had plenty of time to complete her paper last night.
- D. She completed his paper without help from anyone else.

Question 23: What can be inferred about the man?

- A. He is too unhappy to express his anger to the woman.
- B. He does not feel the extension was necessary at all.
- C. He understands the reasoning behind the extension.
- D. He is planning to hand in the paper today no matter what.

Question 24: What is the extension for the assignment submission?

- A. They have 1 more day.
- B. They have 2 more days.
- C. They have 1 more week.
- D. They have 2 more weeks.

Question 25: What is the woman probably going to do next?

- A. She is going to revise the paper.
- B. She is going to talk with the professor.
- C. She is going to submit her paper.
- D. She is going to prepare for the exam.

Questions 26-30 refer to the following conversation.

Question 26: Who is professor Atkins?

- A. A math teacher
- B. A physics teacher
- C. A chemistry teacher
- D. A laboratory manager

Question 27: What is the acceptable range of difference off the textbook?

- A. 4% or 5%
- B. 10%
- C. Less than 10%
- D. 45 %

Question 28: What will the woman most likely do?

- A. Redo the experiment in the evenings
- B. Ask the professor for more time

C. Hand in the experiment as it is

D. Lower her results by 10% from the textbook

Question 29: When is the experiment due day?

A. Tomorrow

B. Next week

C. Tuesday

D. Friday

Question 30: What does the professor advise Julie to do?

A. Spend more time in the lab

B. Clean the tubes before the experiment

C. Ask someone to help her

D. Meet him after class hours in the lab

Questions 31 to 35 refer to the following professor's talk.

Question 31: What is true about Alaska?

A. It is the second largest state in the USA.

B. It is bordered by Canada on the East.

C. It is smaller than California and Texas combined.

D. It is populous.

Question 32: What is the average number of students in a middle school classroom?

A. 10

B. 15

C. 20

D. 25

Question 33: Which of the following is a popular transportation system in Alaska?

A. Airplanes

B. Ships

C. Railways

D. A complex highway system

Question 34: What will the professor probably talk about in the next class?

A. The volcanic eruption of Mount Katmai in the early 20th century.

B. The type of airplanes used by Alaskans to move from point to point.

C. The amount of food imported by the Alaskans to balance out their miniscule farming production.

D. The effects of seismic sea waves that reach far inland and destroy communities.

Question 35: What does the professor feel about life in Alaska?

A. It is a fantastic place to dwell for anyone.

B. It is probably not very desirable for some to live in.

C. It is not a place that he knows much about.

D. It is a peaceful place without any worries to think about.

**THIS IS THE END OF THE LISTENING PAPER.
NOW YOU HAVE 05 MINUTES TO TRANSFER
YOUR ANSWERS TO YOUR ANSWER SHEET.**

PHẦN 2: ĐỌC HIỂU – VSTEP

Thời gian: 60 phút

Số câu hỏi: 40

Directions: In this section of the test, you will read **FOUR** different passages, each followed by 10 questions about it. For questions 1-40, you are to choose the best answer A, B, C, or D for each question. Then, on your answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer you have chosen. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.

You have 60 minutes to answer all the questions, including the time to transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

PASSAGE 1 – Questions 1-10

Scientists do not yet thoroughly understand just how the body of an individual becomes sensitive to a substance that is harmless or even wholesome for the average person. Milk, wheat, and egg, for example, rank among the most healthful and widely used foods. Yet these foods can cause persons sensitive to them to suffer greatly. At first, the body of the individual is not harmed by coming into contact with the substance. After a varying interval of time, usually longer than a few weeks, the body becomes sensitive to it, and an allergy has begun to develop. Sometimes it's hard to figure out if you have a food allergy, since it can show up so many different ways. Your symptoms could be caused by many other problems. You may have rashes, hives, joint pains mimicking arthritis, headaches, irritability, or depression. The most common food allergies are to milk, eggs, seafood, wheat, nuts, seeds, chocolate, oranges, and tomatoes. Many of these allergies will not develop if these foods are not fed to an infant until her or his intestines mature at around seven months. Breast milk also tends to be protective. Migraines can be set off by foods containing tyramine, phenethylamine, monosodium glutamate, or sodium nitrate. Common foods which contain these are chocolate, aged cheeses, sour cream, red wine, pickled herring, chicken livers, avocados, ripe bananas, cured meats, many Oriental and prepared foods (read the labels!). Some people have been successful in treating their migraines with supplements of B-vitamins, particularly B6 and niacin. Children who are hyperactive may benefit from eliminating food additives,

especially colorings, and foods high in salicylates from their diets. A few of these are almonds, green peppers, peaches, tea, grapes. This is the diet made popular by Benjamin Feingold, who has written the book *Why Child is Hyperactive*. Other researchers have had mixed results when testing whether the diet is effective.

1. The topic of this passage is

- A. reactions to foods
- B. food and nutrition
- C. infants and allergies
- D. a good diet

2. According to the passage, the difficulty in diagnosing allergies to foods is due to _____.

- A. the vast number of different foods we eat
- B. lack of a proper treatment plan
- C. the similarity of symptoms of the allergy to other problems
- D. the use of prepared formula to feed babies

3. The word "symptoms" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. indications
- B. diet
- C. diagnosis
- D. prescriptions

4. The phrase "set off" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. relieved
- B. identified
- C. avoided
- D. triggered

5. What can be inferred about babies from this passage?

- A. They can eat almost anything.
- B. They should have a carefully restricted diet as infants.
- C. They gain little benefit from being breast fed.
- D. They may become hyperactive if fed solid food too early.

6. The word "hyperactive" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. overly active
- B. unusually low activity
- C. excited
- D. inquisitive

7. The author states that the reason that infants need to avoid certain foods related to allergies has to do with the infant's ____.

- A. lack of teeth
- B. poor metabolism
- C. underdeveloped intestinal tract
- D. inability to swallow solid foods

8. The word "these" in the passage refers to ____.

- A. food additives
- B. food colorings
- C. innutritious foods
- D. foods high in salicylates

9. Which of the following was a suggested treatment for migraines in the passage?

- A. Eating more ripe bananas
- B. Avoiding all Oriental foods
- C. Getting plenty of sodium nitrate
- D. Using Vitamin B in addition to a good diet

10. According to the article the Feingold diet is NOT ____.

- A. verified by researchers as being consistently effective
- B. available in book form
- C. beneficial for hyperactive children
- D. designed to eliminate foods containing certain food additives

PASSAGE 2 – Questions 11-20

Until recently, most American entrepreneurs were men. Discrimination against women in business, the demands of caring for families, and lack of business training had kept the number of women entrepreneurs small. Now, however, businesses owned by women account for more than \$40 billion in annual revenues, and this figure is likely to continue rising throughout the 1990s. As Carolyn Doppelt Gray, an official of the Small Business Administration, has noted, "The 1970s was the decade of women entering management, and the 1980s turned out to be the decade of the woman entrepreneur."

What are some of the factors behind this trend? For one thing, as

more women earn advanced degrees in business and enter the corporate world, they are finding obstacles. Women are still excluded from most executive suites. Charlotte Taylor, a management consultant, had noted, "In the 1970s women believed if they got an MBA and worked hard they could become chairman of the board. Now they've found out that isn't going to happen, so they go out on their own."

In the past, most women entrepreneurs worked in "women's" fields cosmetics and clothing, for example. But this is changing. Consider ASK Computer Systems, a \$22-million-a-year computer software business. It was founded in 1973 by Sandra Kurtzig, who was then a housewife with degrees in math and engineering. When Kurtzig founded the business, her first product was software that let weekly newspapers keep tabs on their newspaper carriers and her office was a bedroom at home, with a shoebox under the bed to hold the company's cash. After she succeeded with the newspaper software system, she hired several bright computer-science graduates to develop additional programs. When these were marketed and ASK began to grow. It now has 200 employees, and Sandra Kurtzig owns \$66.9 million of stock.

Of course, many women who start their own businesses fail, just as men often do. They still face hurdles in the business world, especially problems in raising money; the banking and finance world, is still dominated by men, and old attitudes die hard. Most businesses owned by women are still quite small. But the situation is changing; there are likely to be many more Sandra Kurtzigs in the years ahead.

11. What is the main idea of this passage?

- A. Women today are better educated than in the past, making them more attractive to the business world.
- B. The computer is especially lucrative for women today.
- C. Women are better at small businesses than men are.
- D. Women today are opening more businesses of their own.

12. The word "excluded" in the passage is closest in meaning to ____.

- A. not permitted in
- B. often invited to
- C. decorators of
- D. charged admission to

13. All of the following were mentioned in the passage as detractors to women in the business world EXCEPT _____.

- A. women were required to stay at home with their families
- B. women lacked ability to work in business
- C. women faced discrimination in business
- D. women were not trained in business

14. The word "that" in the passage refers to _____.

- A. a woman becomes chairman of the board
- B. women working hard
- C. women achieving advanced degrees
- D. women believing that business is a place for them

15. According to the passage, Charlotte Taylor believes that women in the 1970s _____.

- A. were unrealistic about their opportunities in business management
- B. were still more interested in education than business opportunities
- C. had fewer obstacles in business than they do today
- D. were unable to work hard enough to succeed in business

16. The author mentions the "shoebox under the bed" in the third paragraph in order to _____.

- A. show the frugality of women in business
- B. show the resourcefulness of Sandra Kurtzig
- C. point out that initially the financial resources of Sandra Kurtzig's business were limited
- D. suggest that the company needed to expand

17. The word "this" in the passage refers to _____.

- A. women becoming entrepreneurs
- B. women buying cosmetics and clothing
- C. women working in "women's fields"
- D. women staying at home

18. The expression "keep tabs on" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. recognize the appearance of
- B. keep records of
- C. provide transportation for
- D. pay the salaries of

19. It can be inferred from the passage that the author believes that businesses operated by women are small because _____.

- A. women prefer a small intimate setting
- B. women can't deal with money
- C. women are not able to borrow money easily
- D. many women fail at large businesses

20. The author's attitude about the future of women in business is _____.

- A. skeptical
- B. optimistic
- C. frustrated
- D. negative

PASSAGE 3 – Questions 21-30

Symbiosis is a close ecological relationship between two dissimilar organisms. They assist each other with feeding, defending, and reproducing. In symbiosis, at least one of the pair benefits from the relationship. The other may be injured (parasitism), unaltered (commensalism), or may also benefit (mutualism).

An interesting mutually dependent relationship exists between the pine and the pinon jay. Blue pinon jays settle on the tops of pine trees and pick at the dark round seeds from the sticky cones. They store the seeds in their throats, fly off and hide them somewhere, and then return to repeat the process again. It seems the reproductive cycle of a pine jay **corresponds** with the ripening of the pine's seed. Similarly, the pine is dependent on the pinon jays for distribution of the seeds.

Seeds are stored in the bark of a tree or in the ground. Using their long bills, pinon jays plant and store them for later consumption. Their throats can expand to hold a large number of seeds; one pinon jay has been reported carrying 50 seeds in one trip. After they have planted

the seeds, they return to eat them. Using their bills like a woodpecker, they hammer the seed until the shell breaks. Any unrecovered nuts are then grown into new trees. This fascinating relationship has been ongoing for thousands of years.

When both species benefit each other, this is called mutualism. An example of mutualism is a plant and fungi. The fungus occupies the cortex cells of the secondary roots of the plant. This relationship is called a 'mycorrhiza.' It helps the plant absorb inorganic nitrogen and phosphorus from the soil. Some fungi also produce antibiotics which may prevent the invasion of parasitic fungi and bacteria. Another example of mutualism is pollination. Bees carry pollen from one plant to the next when they seek out plants for nectar. They feed themselves on the nectar, and the plants reproduce after fertilization by the pollen from other plants.

Mutualism can also bring together two very different organisms, for example, a buffalo and an ox bird. These birds journey on the backs of African buffalo eating their parasites. The bird receives food, and the buffalo is rid of irritating insects. There are also a number of fish that provide an excellent example of mutualism. Known as 'cleaner fish,' these fish get rid of parasites and dead skin found on other fish. The best-known example is the 'cleaner wrasse,' which dwells in the Pacific and Indian oceans. They clean large predatory fish by eating tissue and parasites off their skin. This relationship provides food and protection for the wrasse and several health benefits for the other fish.

The other two types of symbiosis, besides mutualism, are commensalism and parasitism. [A] Commensalism refers to a symbiotic relationship where one organism eats the unused food of another. [B] One benefits, but the other is not affected. Examples include the remora and the shark. The remora attaches itself to the shark, when the shark feeds itself, the remora picks up scraps. [C] One example of commensalism in humans is bacteria living in our intestines that feed on food in our gut. [D]

In parasitism, one organism benefits and the other is harmed. Parasites live off the body of other organisms and receive nourishment from their tissues, while also inflicting damage on their hosts. Plants are parasitized by bacteria, fungi, and a handful of other plants. Parasites cause harm by entering the tissue of the host for their own nutritional benefit.

None of these relationships are fixed, and it is likely that what starts as a parasitic relationship may gradually evolve into a mutualistic one. For example, in 1966, amebas were discovered that had become infected with bacteria. However, after five years, it was found that the core of the amebas had become dependent on the bacteria; thus, parasitism had evolved into mutualism. Unfortunately, the inverse is also possible; mutualistic associations may evolve into parasitic ones.

21. According to paragraph 2, what does the pinon jay do for the pine tree?

- A. It gives the tree important nutrition.
- B. It provides a primary means of seed dissemination for pinon trees.
- C. It keeps the tree free from parasites.
- D. It helps the tree produce larger seeds.

22. The word "corresponds" in the passage is closest in meaning to ____.

- A. matches
- B. includes
- C. exposes
- D. protects

23. According to paragraph 3, how does the blue pinon jay store the seeds for later?

- A. By holding up to 50 in its mouth
- B. By burying them in the ground
- C. By protecting them in its nest
- D. By allowing them to develop into new trees

24. The word "It" in the passage refers to ____.

- A. bacteria
- B. mutualism
- C. mycorrhiza
- D. fungus

25. According to paragraph 5, what is an example of a mutual relationship?

- A. An animal eating parasites from another
- B. An animal licking the body of another

- C. An animal providing protection for another
- D. An animal keeping another awake and alert

26. The author mentions "the remora and the shark" in the passage in order to _____.

- A. explain the details behind a mutualist association
- B. demonstrate a connection between an active parasite picker and host
- C. show how one animal can benefit from the acts of another
- D. give an example of one animal causing the suffering of another

27. Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence? Incorrect answer choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

- A. There are many types of creatures that are very well developed and have the strength to support other species.
- B. Sometimes, the organisms supplying parasites are very harmful to their hosts.
- C. Some animals are selfish and only cause damage to their hosts.
- D. Organisms which must depend on others die easily because they are not strong.

28. The word "gradually" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. slowly
- B. increasingly
- C. constantly
- D. rapidly

29. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT an example of mutualism?

- A. A plant and its fungi
- B. Pollen transfer from one plant to another
- C. The remora and the shark
- D. A buffalo and an ox bird

30. Look at the four squares [] that indicate where the following sentence can be added to the passage.

They are completely safe and may possibly help us, hence a commensalism relationship.

Where would the sentence best fit?

- A. [A]
- B. [B]
- C. [C]
- D. [D]

PASSAGE 4 – Questions 31-40

Earth has several distinct layers; the outermost of these is the crust, which has an inconsistent thickness of 35-70 km in the continents and 5-10 km in the ocean basins. The second layer is known as the mantle, which is about 2900 km thick, and divided into an upper and lower mantle. Most of Earth's internal heat is situated here. The upper mantle has an area known as the low-velocity zone, where secondary waves decrease rapidly and then gradually increase. The last layer is the core. This is a thick ball of iron and nickel divided into two layers, the inner core and the outer core.

The inner core is solid, whereas the outer core is so hot that the metal is always molten. However, because the force at the inner core is so immense, it cannot melt. Due to Earth's rotation, the outer core spins around the inner core, which causes the Earth's magnetism. The inner core consists of iron, nickel and other elements, probably a mix of carbon, oxygen, sulphur, silicon, and potassium. The temperature is extremely high, and due to pressure, the core is solid. Because the outer core is liquid, mainly consisting of iron, nickel and about 10% oxygen and sulphur, here the temperature is not as high.

Both the outer and inner cores together create the Earth's magnetism. The core has a huge influence on Earth. Because it is so hot, it radiates a natural heat to the upper layers, setting off a current of heat, which in turn causes the movement of the tectonic plates. Because of Earth's rotation, the outer core spins, but the inner core does not because it is solid. This provides a sort of dynamo effect and causes the Earth's magnetic force.

A seismic wave is a wave that travels through Earth; it is often the result of a tectonic earthquake. There are two kinds of seismic waves, "body waves" and "surface waves." Other waves do exist, but

are of little importance. Body waves travel through the center of Earth, following ray paths which are bent by the unstable density and stiffness of Earth's interior. These differ according to temperature, **phase**, and structure. Body waves send out the first tremors of an earthquake as well as any later ones.

There are two kinds of body waves, "primary" and "secondary" waves. Primary waves are compression waves, meaning the ground is alternately compressed and expanded in the direction of propagation. These waves can travel slightly faster through solids than secondary waves can, and are also able to travel through any type of material. Through air, they take the form of sound waves and so travel at the speed of sound.

Primary waves, when created by an earthquake, are less destructive than sound waves due to their minor amplitudes. Secondary waves are tilted waves; in other words, the ground is shifted vertically in the direction of transmission. Here, the ground moves from one side to the other. Secondary waves are only able to travel through solids, not liquids or gases, and thus are unable to travel through Earth's core. Primary waves are faster than secondary waves. Primary and secondary waves are usually produced by earthquakes and volcanoes. However, they can also be produced by people using explosives or large machinery.

Surface waves are comparable to water waves traveling just under Earth's surface. They travel at slower speeds than body waves. Surface waves can be the most **devastating** type of seismic wave due to their low frequency, long duration, and large amplitude. In theory, they are understood as a system which relates to primary and secondary waves.

[A] The moment an earthquake occurs, seismographs try to record its primary and secondary waves, but often they cannot detect the secondary waves of a distant earthquake. [B] This may be due to the fact that secondary waves are unable to pass through liquids. [C] This information about wave travel helps scientists determine the internal structure of the planet. [D]

31. In paragraph 1, what does the author say about the presence of the low-velocity zone in the Earth's interior?

- A. It causes the high-frequency stimulation.
- B. Its width is consistent with the fault zone.

C. It induces regionally extensive oscillations.

D. It is located just above the lower crustal boundary.

32. The word "**immense**" in the passage is closest in meaning to ____.

- A. compressed
- B. dilated
- C. immeasurable
- D. varied

33. According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT true about the inner core?

- A. It contributes to the Earth's magnetic field.
- B. It is always molten and liquid.
- C. It is under a lot of pressure.
- D. It mainly consists of iron, nickel and some lighter elements.

34. According to paragraph 3, which of the following is the reason for tectonic plate movement?

- A. The convection of heat from the core
- B. The gravitational effect of the core
- C. The powerful magnetic forces of the core
- D. The spinning of the inner and outer core together

35. Why does the author mention "**a tectonic earthquake**" in the passage?

- A. To show that primary waves are far more powerful than secondary waves
- B. To demonstrate the effect of seismic waves on the Earth
- C. To develop understanding of the structure of the Earth's interior
- D. To explain that scientific detection methods are very efficient

36. The word "**phase**" in the passage is closest in meaning to ____.

- A. change
- B. period
- C. heat
- D. construction

PHẦN 3: VIẾT – VSTEP

Thời gian: 60 phút

Số câu hỏi: 2

Task 1:

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

You live in Ho Chi Minh city. You just took a trip to Ha Long Bay with an English friend named Daisy. You received an email from her after she returned to London. Read part of her email below.

.....

I hope you like the photos we took in Ha Long Bay. Did you get home all right?

I'm back at work now, but it's a bit difficult to start again. I wish we were still on holiday.

Why don't we plan another trip this spring if you've got time and money? Any suggestions where we could go?

.....

Daisy

Write a reply to Daisy. In your email, you have to tell her that you really like the photos and the time you got together, describe a problem you had at the airport to her and suggest the time and place for the next trip.

You should write at least 120 words.

37. The word "devastating" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. faint
- B. destructive
- C. productive
- D. quiet

38. Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence? Incorrect answer choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

- A. Although primary and secondary waves would be recorded, the secondary waves are not strong enough to be detected at a distance.
- B. Seismic waves are too small to be felt as a noticeable earthquake, but detectable by seismographs.
- C. Secondary waves can be generated as a result of nonlinear interaction, so seismographs cannot detect them.
- D. Because of extensive fault repetition, the primary wave is the most powerful force in an earthquake.

39. It can be inferred from the passage that the author most likely believes which of the following about earthquakes in the world?

- A. Volcanoes would not exist if earthquakes never happened.
- B. They are caused by the force of primary waves hitting the crust.
- C. They are primarily caused by the heat from the Earth's core.
- D. There is no more destructive thing in the world.

40. Look at the four squares [] that indicate where the following sentence can be added to the passage.

For example, with the use of secondary waves, scientists were able to suggest that Earth has a liquid outer core.

Where would the sentence best fit?

- A. [A]
- B. [B]
- C. [C]
- D. [D]

THIS IS THE END OF THE READING PAPER.
NOW PLEASE SUBMIT

YOUR TEST PAPER AND YOUR ANSWER SHEET.

Task 2:

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.
Write about the following topic:

Recent advances in technology leads the fact that human workforce is gradually replaced with machinery.

What are some problems caused by this trend, and how could they be dealt with?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own experience or knowledge.

You should write at least 250 words.

PHẦN 4: NÓI - VSTEP SPEAKING

Thời gian: 12 phút

Số câu hỏi: 3

Part 1: Social Interaction (3')

Let's talk about weather.

- What kind of weather do you like?
- Does weather affect your mood/ feeling?
- What do you usually do in hot/ cold weather?

Let's talk about your favorite childhood game.

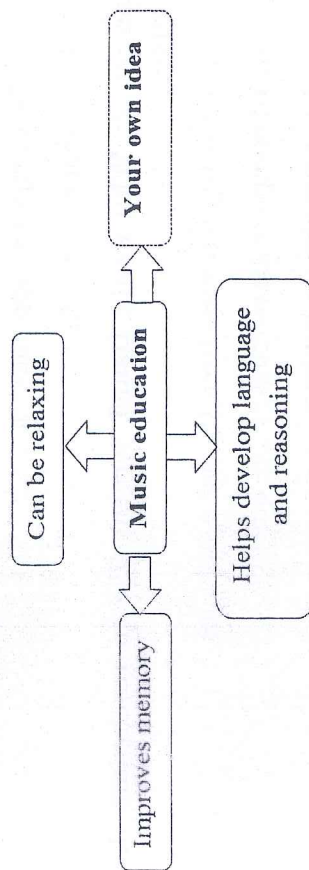
- What game(s) did you enjoy playing when you were a child?
- Who did you play with?
- Did you need any skills to play the game?

Part 2: Solution Discussion (4')

Situation: You are planning your holiday. There are three suggestions: a beach holiday, a climbing holiday, and a sight-seeing holiday. Which do you think is the best choice for you?

Part 3: Topic Development (5')

Topic: Music should be taught in schools.



- Should children be encouraged to learn music early?
- Do you agree that music can change people's moods/feelings?
- How would life be like without music?

COLLECTION 3

PHẦN 1: NGHE HIỂU – VSTEP

Thời gian: 40 phút

Số câu hỏi: 35

Directions: In this section of the test, you will have an opportunity to demonstrate your ability to understand conversations and talks in English. There are three parts in this section with special directions for each part. Answer all the questions on the basis of what is stated or implied by the speakers in the recording.

There will be time for you to read the instructions and you will have a chance to check your work. The recording will be played **ONCE** only.

Time allowance: about 40 minutes, including 05 minutes to transfer your answers to your answer sheet.

PART 1: Questions 1-8

Directions: In this part, you will hear **EIGHT** short announcements or instructions. There is one question for each announcement or instruction. For each question, choose the right answer A, B, C or D. Then, on the answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer that you have chosen.

Now, let's listen to an example. On the recording, you will hear:

Woman: Hello. This is the travel agency returning your call. You left a message about the holiday you've booked, asking which meals are included in the cost during your stay at Sunny Hotel. Lunch and dinner are free but if you wish to have breakfast in the hotel, you will need to pay an extra amount of money, depending on what you order. Let me know if I can help you with any other information. Goodbye.

On the test book, you will read:

Which meal is **NOT** included in the price of the holiday?

A. Breakfast B. Lunch C. Dinner D. All meals

The correct answer is **A. Breakfast**. Now, let's begin with the first question.

Question 1: Why is the speaker apologizing?

- A. To schedule a pickup
- B. To delay a meeting
- C. To confirm an appointment
- D. To request some files

Question 2: Why would Daniel Jergens like to reschedule the meeting?

- A. To satisfy a request from Barrier Associates
- B. To complete the purchase more quickly
- C. To reconsider the contract
- D. To avoid the severe weather condition

Question 3: Why will the information technology division be relocating earlier?

- A. Because of an increase in staff
- B. Because of an interruption of network service
- C. Because of the full relocation
- D. Because of the high release costs

Question 4: What is the message mainly about?

- A. A question about substituting order items
- B. A question about the number of the items
- C. The list of items that will be delivered
- D. The shipping service that will be used

Question 5: What is the purpose of the talk?

- A. To address customer complaints
- B. To discuss a presentation
- C. To celebrate a new contract
- D. To hand out assignments