

HƯỚNG DẪN LÀM BÀI THI VIẾT THƯ

Viết một bức thư ngắn khoảng 100 -120 từ cho một người bạn nước ngoài trả lời thông tin về một bộ phim yêu thích của bạn, một chương trình tivi, âm nhạc, món ăn, nhà hàng yêu thích... hoặc đưa ra lời khuyên... Nội dung chính của phần viết thư tương đối giống với các chủ đề trong phần nói phần 2 (trình bày theo chủ đề bốc thăm). Vì vậy, học viên có thể tham khảo phần nói này để vạch ra một số ý cho bài viết.

Một số lưu ý khi làm bài viết thư tiếng Anh

- Đảm bảo trả lời tất cả các ý được hỏi. Trước khi bắt đầu viết, hãy đọc kỹ đề bài, ghi ra các câu hỏi và vạch ra các câu trả lời dưới dạng các cụm từ. Tránh viết câu hoàn chỉnh gây mất thời gian.
- Sử dụng đa dạng từ vựng, cấu trúc ngữ pháp
- Sử dụng các từ nối phù hợp, lưu ý dấu chấm câu và phân chia đoạn phù hợp.
- Bài viết dưới dạng một bức thư, cần đảm bảo cấu trúc của một bài viết thư
- Bài thi tiếng Anh B1 không cần viết địa chỉ của người viết, người nhận bên trong

Hướng dẫn viết thư

1; Greeting/ Salutation (Lời chào):

Dear John, hoặc Hi John,

2; Body

Đoạn 1 (mở đầu)

Starting your letter (Bắt đầu bức thư): Bạn có thể sử dụng một trong số các cụm từ sau để bắt đầu bức thư.

Thanks for your letter. (Cảm ơn bạn đã viết thư)

Lovely to hear from you. (Rất vui khi nhận được tin tức từ bạn)

How are you? (Bạn khỏe không?)

How are things? (Mọi việc thế nào)

Hope you're well. (Mình hi vọng bạn khỏe.)

Và nhận xét về một thông tin trong bức thư mà người bạn viết cho bạn.

I'm sorry to hear/learn ... Mình rất tiếc khi nghe được/ biết rằng...

I'm so pleased to hear ... Mình rất vui khi biết rằng

I'm so pleased to hear that: - you are getting married next month

- you have got a new job.

It's great to hear ... Thật vui khi biết rằng

What wonderful news about ...

Đoạn 2: Viết vào nội dung chính, trả lời các câu hỏi trong đề bài. Sử dụng một số các cách chuyển câu như sau:

Anyway, the reason I'm writing ...

I thought I'd write to tell/ask you

Anyway, I was wondering ...

3; (Kết thư): Sử dụng một trong số các cách sau

Well, that's all for now.

Write back soon.

Looking forward to hearing from you again.

All the best/ Best wishes/ See you soon/ Take care/ Yours/ Love/ Lots of love (Tất cả các từ/ cụm từ này đều có dấu phẩy (,) phía sau)

Mẫu đoạn mở đầu:

Thank you for your letter. I'm sorry I haven't written for so long but I've been really busy studying English to pass B1 test. It's great to hear that your all family are fine.

Mẫu đoạn kết:

I have to get back to work now. I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Section 3

Reading Comprehension



Time: 55 minutes (including the reading of the directions)
Now set your clock for 55 minutes.

Directions: In this section you will read several passages. Each one is followed by several questions about it. For questions 1-50, you are to choose the one best answer, (A), (B), (C), or (D), to 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.

Read the following passage:

The railroad was not the first institution to impose regularity on society, or to draw attention to the importance of precise timekeeping. For as long as merchants have set out their wares at daybreak and communal festivities have been celebrated, people have been in rough agreement with their neighbors as to the time of day. The value of this tradition is today more apparent than ever. Were it not for public acceptance of a single yardstick of time, social life would be unbearably chaotic: the massive daily transfers of goods, services, and information would proceed in fits and starts; the very fabric of modern society would begin to unravel.

Example I

What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) In modern society we must make more time for our neighbors.
- (B) The traditions of society are timeless.
- (C) An accepted way of measuring time is essential for the smooth functioning of society.
- (D) Society judges people by the times at which they conduct certain activities.

Sample Answer

(A) (B) (C) (D)

The main idea of the passage is that societies need to agree about how time is to be measured in order to function smoothly. Therefore, you should choose (C).

Example II

In line 5, the phrase "this tradition" refers to

- (A) the practice of starting the business day at dawn
- (B) friendly relations between neighbors
- (C) the railroad's reliance on time schedules
- (D) people's agreement on the measurement of time

Sample Answer

(A) (B) (C) (D)

The phrase "this tradition" refers to the preceding clause, "people have been in rough agreement with their neighbors as to the time of day." Therefore, you should choose (D).

Now begin work on the questions.



Questions 1-5

A distinctively American architecture began with Frank Lloyd Wright, who had taken to heart the admonition that form should follow function, and who thought of buildings not as separate architectural entities but as parts of an organic whole that included the land, the community, and the society. In a very real way the houses of colonial New England and some of the southern plantations had been functional, but Wright was the first architect to make functionalism the authoritative principle for public as well as for domestic buildings. As early as 1906 he built the Unity Temple in Oak Park, Illinois, the first of those churches that did so much to revolutionize ecclesiastical architecture in the United States. Thereafter he turned his genius to such miscellaneous structures as houses, schools, office buildings, and factories, among them the famous Larkin Building in Buffalo, New York, and the Johnson Wax Company building in Racine, Wisconsin.

1. The phrase "taken to heart" in line 2 is closest in meaning to which of the following?

- (A) Taken seriously
- (B) Criticized
- (C) Memorized
- (D) Taken offence

2. In what way did Wright's public buildings differ from most of those built by earlier architects?

- (A) They were built on a larger scale.
- (B) Their materials came from the southern United States.
- (C) They looked more like private homes.
- (D) Their designs were based on how they would be used.



3. The author mentions the Unity Temple because it
- (A) was Wright's first building
 - (B) influenced the architecture of subsequent churches
 - (C) demonstrated traditional ecclesiastical architecture
 - (D) was the largest church Wright ever designed

4. The passage mentions that all of the following structures were built by Wright EXCEPT
- (A) factories
 - (B) public buildings
 - (C) offices
 - (D) southern plantations

5. Which of the following statements best reflects one of Frank Lloyd Wright's architectural principles?
- (A) Beautiful design is more important than utility.
 - (B) Ecclesiastical architecture should be derived from traditional designs.
 - (C) A building should fit into its surroundings.
 - (D) The architecture of public buildings does not need to be revolutionary.



Questions 6-16

There are two basic types of glaciers, those that flow outward in all directions with little regard for any underlying terrain and those that are confined by terrain to a particular path.

Line The first category of glaciers includes those massive blankets that cover whole
(5) continents, appropriately called ice sheets. There must be over 50,000 square kilometers of land covered with ice for the glacier to qualify as an ice sheet. When portions of an ice sheet spread out over the ocean, they form ice shelves.

About 20,000 years ago the Cordilleran Ice Sheet covered nearly all the mountains in southern Alaska, western Canada, and the western United States. It was about 3
(10) kilometers deep at its thickest point in northern Alberta. Now there are only two sheets left on Earth, those covering Greenland and Antarctica.

Any domelike body of ice that also flows out in all directions but covers less than 50,000 square kilometers is called an ice cap. Although ice caps are rare nowadays, there are a number in northeastern Canada, on Baffin Island, and on the Queen Elizabeth
(15) Islands.

The second category of glaciers includes those of a variety of shapes and sizes generally called mountain or alpine glaciers. Mountain glaciers are typically identified by the landform that controls their flow. One form of mountain glacier that resembles an ice cap in that it flows outward in several directions is called an ice field. The
(20) difference between an ice field and an ice cap is subtle. Essentially, the flow of an ice field is somewhat controlled by surrounding terrain and thus does not have the domelike shape of a cap. There are several ice fields in the Wrangell, St. Elias, and Chugach mountains of Alaska and northern British Columbia.

Less spectacular than large ice fields are the most common types of mountain
(25) glaciers: the cirque and valley glaciers. Cirque glaciers are found in depressions in the surface of the land and have a characteristic circular shape. The ice of valley glaciers, bound by terrain, flows down valleys, curves around their corners, and falls over cliffs.

6. What does the passage mainly discuss?
- (A) Where major glaciers are located
 - (B) How glaciers shape the land
 - (C) How glaciers are formed
 - (D) The different kinds of glaciers

7. The word "massive" in line 4 is closest in meaning to
- (A) huge
 - (B) strange
 - (C) cold
 - (D) recent



8. It can be inferred that ice sheets are so named for which of the following reasons?

- (A) They are confined to mountain valleys.
- (B) They cover large areas of land.
- (C) They are thicker in some areas than in others.
- (D) They have a characteristic circular shape.

9. According to the passage, ice shelves can be found

- (A) covering an entire continent
- (B) buried within the mountains
- (C) spreading into the ocean
- (D) filling deep valleys

10. According to the passage, where was the Cordilleran Ice Sheet thickest?

- (A) Alaska
- (B) Greenland
- (C) Alberta
- (D) Antarctica

11. The word "rare" in line 13 is closest in meaning to

- (A) small
- (B) unusual
- (C) valuable
- (D) widespread

12. According to the passage (paragraph 5), ice fields resemble ice caps in which of the following ways?

- (A) Their shape
- (B) Their flow
- (C) Their texture
- (D) Their location

13. The word "it" in line 19 refers to

- (A) glacier
- (B) cap
- (C) difference
- (D) terrain

14. The word "subtle" in line 20 is closest in meaning to

- (A) slight
- (B) common
- (C) important
- (D) measurable

15. All of the following are alpine glaciers EXCEPT

- (A) cirque glaciers
- (B) ice caps
- (C) valley glaciers
- (D) ice fields

16. Which of the following types of glaciers does the author use to illustrate the two basic types of glaciers mentioned in line 1?

- (A) Ice fields and cirques
- (B) Cirques and alpine glaciers
- (C) Ice sheets and ice shelves
- (D) Ice sheets and mountain glaciers



Questions 17-26

Tools and hand bones excavated from the Swartkrans cave complex in South Africa suggest that a close relative of early humans known as *Australopithecus robustus* may have made and used primitive tools long before the species became extinct 1 million years ago. It may even have made and used primitive tools long before humanity's direct ancestor, *Homo habilis*, or "handy man," began doing so. *Homo habilis* and its successor, *Homo erectus*, coexisted with *Australopithecus robustus* on the plains of South Africa for more than a million years.

The Swartkrans cave in South Africa has been under excavation since the 1940's. The earliest fossil-containing layers of sedimentary rock in the cave date from about 1.9 million years ago and contain extensive remains of animals, primitive tools, and two or more species of apelike hominids. The key recent discovery involved bones from the hand of *Australopithecus robustus*, the first time such bones have been found

The most important feature of the *Australopithecus robustus* hand was the pollical distal thumb tip, the last bone in the thumb. The bone had an attachment point for a "uniquely human" muscle, the flexor pollicis longus, that had previously been found only in more recent ancestors. That muscle gave *Australopithecus robustus* an opposable thumb, a feature that would allow them to grip objects, including tools. The researchers also found primitive bone and stone implements, especially digging tools, in the same layers of sediments.

Australopithecus robustus were more heavily built—more "robust" in anthropological terms—than their successors. They had broad faces, heavy jaws, and massive crushing and grinding teeth that were used for eating hard fruits, seeds, and fibrous underground plant parts. They walked upright, which would have allowed them to carry and use tools. Most experts had previously believed that *Homo habilis* were able to supplant *Australopithecus robustus* because the former's ability to use tools gave them an innate superiority. The discovery that *Australopithecus robustus* also used tools means that researchers will have to seek other explanations for their extinction. Perhaps their reliance on naturally occurring plants led to their downfall as the climate became drier and cooler, or perhaps *Homo habilis*, with their bigger brains, were simply able to make more sophisticated tools.

17. It can be inferred from the first paragraph that all of the following may have made and used tools EXCEPT

- (A) *Australopithecus robustus*
- (B) *Homo erectus*
- (C) *Homo habilis*
- (D) *Australopithecus robustus*' ancestors

18. The word "extensive" in line 10 is closest in meaning to

- (A) numerous
- (B) exposed
- (C) ancient
- (D) valuable



19. Which of the following does the author mention as the most important recent discovery made in the Swartkrans cave?
- (A) Tools
(B) Teeth
(C) Plant fossils
(D) Hand bones
20. What does the third paragraph mainly discuss?
- (A) Features of *Australopithecus robustus*' hand
(B) Purposes for which hominids used tools
(C) Methods used to determine the age of fossils
(D) Significant plant fossils found in layers of sediment
21. It can be inferred from the description in the last paragraph that *Australopithecus robustus* was so named because of the species'
- (A) ancestors
(B) thumb
(C) build
(D) diet
22. The word "supplant" in line 24 is closest in meaning to
- (A) exploit
(B) displace
(C) understand
(D) imitate
23. The word "them" in line 25 refers to
- (A) tools
(B) *Homo habilis*
(C) *Australopithecus robustus*
(D) experts
24. What does the author suggest is unclear about *Australopithecus robustus*?
- (A) Whether they used tools
(B) What they most likely ate
(C) Whether they are closely related to humans
(D) Why they became extinct
25. The phrase "reliance on" in line 28 is closest in meaning to
- (A) impact on
(B) dependence on
(C) tolerance of
(D) discovery of
26. Where in the passage does the author mention the materials from which tools were made?
- (A) Lines 9-11
(B) Lines 13-14
(C) Lines 17-19
(D) Lines 23-24



Questions 27-38

The first two decades of this century were dominated by the microbe hunters. These hunters had tracked down one after another of the microbes responsible for the most dreaded scourges of many centuries: tuberculosis, cholera, diphtheria. But there remained some terrible diseases for which no microbe could be incriminated: scurvy, pellagra, rickets, beriberi. Then it was discovered that these diseases were caused by the lack of vitamins, a trace substance in the diet. The diseases could be prevented or cured by consuming foods that contained the vitamins. And so in the decades of the 1920's and 1930's, nutrition became a science and the vitamin hunters replaced the microbe hunters.

(10) In the 1940's and 1950's, biochemists strived to learn why each of the vitamins was essential for health. They discovered that key enzymes in metabolism depend on one or another of the vitamins as coenzymes to perform the chemistry that provides cells with energy for growth and function. Now, these enzyme hunters occupied center stage.

You are aware that the enzyme hunters have been replaced by a new breed of hunters who are tracking genes—the blueprints for each of the enzymes—and are discovering the defective genes that cause inherited diseases—diabetes, cystic fibrosis. These gene hunters, or genetic engineers, use recombinant DNA technology to identify and clone genes and introduce them into bacterial cells and plants to create factories for the massive production of hormones and vaccines for medicine and for better crops for agriculture. Biotechnology has become a multibillion-dollar industry.

(20) In view of the inexorable progress in science, we can expect that the gene hunters will be replaced in the spotlight. When and by whom? Which kind of hunter will dominate the scene in the last decade of our waning century and in the early decades of the next? I wonder whether the hunters who will occupy the spotlight will be neurobiologists who apply the techniques of the enzyme and gene hunters to the functions of the brain. What to call them? The head hunters. I will return to them later.

27. What is the main topic of the passage?
- (A) The microbe hunters
 - (B) The potential of genetic engineering
 - (C) The progress of modern medical research
 - (D) The discovery of enzymes

29. The word "incriminated" in line 4 is closest in meaning to
- (A) investigated
 - (B) blamed
 - (C) eliminated
 - (D) produced

28. The word "which" in line 4 refers to
- (A) diseases
 - (B) microbe
 - (C) cholera
 - (D) diphtheria



30. Which of the following can be cured by a change in diet?

- (A) Tuberculosis
- (B) Cholera
- (C) Cystic fibrosis
- (D) Pellagra

31. The word "strived" in line 10 is closest in meaning to

- (A) failed
- (B) tried
- (C) experimented
- (D) studied

32. How do vitamins influence health?

- (A) They are necessary for some enzymes to function.
- (B) They protect the body from microbes.
- (C) They keep food from spoiling.
- (D) They are broken down by cells to produce energy.

33. In the third paragraph, the author compares cells that have been genetically altered by biotechnicians to

- (A) gardens
- (B) factories
- (C) hunters
- (D) spotlights

34. The word "them" in line 18 refers to

- (A) cells and plants
- (B) hormones
- (C) genes
- (D) gene hunters or genetic engineers

35. The phrase "occupy the spotlight" in line 24 is closest in meaning to

- (A) receive the most attention
- (B) go the furthest
- (C) conquer territory
- (D) lighten the load

36. The author implies that the most important medical research topic of the future will be

- (A) the functions of the brain
- (B) inherited diseases
- (C) the operation of vitamins
- (D) the structure of genes

37. Which of the following best describes the author's tone in the last paragraph of the passage?

- (A) Critical
- (B) Speculative
- (C) Appreciative
- (D) Emotional

38. With which of the following statements would the author be most likely to agree?

- (A) The focus of medical research will change in the next two decades.
- (B) Medical breakthroughs often depend on luck.
- (C) Medical research throughout the twentieth century has been dominated by microbe hunters.
- (D) Most diseases are caused by defective genes.



Questions 39-50

In the mid-nineteenth century, the United States had tremendous natural resources that could be exploited in order to develop heavy industry. Most of the raw materials that are valuable in the manufacture of machinery, transportation facilities, and consumer goods lay ready to be worked into wealth. Iron, coal, and oil—the basic ingredients of industrial growth—were plentiful and needed only the application of technical expertise, organizational skill, and labor.

One crucial development in this movement toward industrialization was the growth of the railroads. The railway network expanded rapidly until the railroad map of the United States looked like a spider's web, with the steel filaments connecting all important sources of raw materials, their places of manufacture, and their centers of distribution. The railroads contributed to the industrial growth not only by connecting these major centers, but also by themselves consuming enormous amounts of fuel, iron, and coal.

Many factors influenced emerging modes of production. For example, machine tools, the tools used to make goods, were steadily improved in the latter part of the nineteenth century—always with an eye to speedier production and lower unit costs. The products of the factories were rapidly absorbed by the growing cities that sheltered the workers and the distributors. The increased urban population was nourished by the increased farm production that, in turn, was made more productive by the use of the new farm machinery. American agricultural production kept up with the urban demand and still had surpluses for sale to the industrial centers of Europe.

The labor that ran the factories and built the railways was recruited in part from American farm areas where people were being displaced by farm machinery, in part from Asia, and in part from Europe. Europe now began to send tides of immigrants from eastern and southern Europe—most of whom were originally poor farmers but who settled in American industrial cities. The money to finance this tremendous expansion of the American economy still came from European financiers for the most part, but the Americans were approaching the day when their expansion could be financed in their own “money market.”

39. What does the passage mainly discuss?
- (A) The history of railroads in the United States
 - (B) The major United States industrial centers
 - (C) Factors that affected industrialization in the United States
 - (D) The role of agriculture in the nineteenth century

40. The word “ingredients” in line 4 is closest in meaning to
- (A) minerals
 - (B) products
 - (C) methods
 - (D) components



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41. Why does the author mention “a spider’s web” in line 9?
- (A) To emphasize the railroad’s consumption of oil and coal
 - (B) To describe the complex structure of the railway system
 - (C) To explain the problems brought on by railway expansion
 - (D) To describe the difficulties involved in the distribution of raw materials
42. The word “themselves” in line 12 refers to
- (A) sources
 - (B) centers
 - (C) railroads
 - (D) places
43. According to the passage, all of the following were true of railroads in the United States in the nineteenth century EXCEPT that
- (A) they connected important industrial cities
 - (B) they were necessary to the industrialization process
 - (C) they were expanded in a short time
 - (D) they used relatively small quantities of natural resources
44. According to the passage, what was one effect of the improvement of machine tools?
- (A) Lower manufacturing costs
 - (B) Better distribution of goods
 - (C) More efficient transportation of natural resources
 - (D) A reduction in industrial jobs
45. According to the passage, who were the biggest consumers of manufactured products?
- (A) Railway workers
 - (B) Farmers
 - (C) City dwellers
 - (D) Europeans
46. The word “nourished” in line 17 is closest in meaning to
- (A) protected
 - (B) fed
 - (C) housed
 - (D) paid
47. Which of the following is NOT true of United States farmers in the nineteenth century?
- (A) They lost some jobs because of mechanization.
 - (B) They were unable to produce sufficient food for urban areas.
 - (C) They raised their productivity by using new machinery.
 - (D) They sold food to European countries.

**The questions for this passage
continue on the next page.**



**The following questions are based on
the passage on page 42.**

48. According to the passage, what did the United States supply to European cities?

- (A) Machine tools
- (B) Money
- (C) Raw materials
- (D) Agricultural produce

50. Where in the passage does the author mention the financial aspect of industrial expansion?

- (A) Lines 1-2
- (B) Lines 11-12
- (C) Lines 19-20
- (D) Lines 25-28

49. The word "ran" in line 21 is closest in meaning to

- (A) operated
- (B) hurried
- (C) constructed
- (D) owned

This is the end of Section 3.



**If you finish before 55 minutes has ended,
check your work on Section 3 only.
Do NOT read or work on any other section of the test.**