

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 announcement asking people to watch?

- A. Their tickets B. Their flights C. Their children D. Their luggage

Question 2: What is the time limit for this delivery service?

- A. Fifteen minutes B. Thirty minutes C. Forty minutes D. One and a half hour

Question 3: What can you do if you press "2"?

- A. Cancel a reservation B. Confirm a reservation
C. Change a reservation D. Pay for a reservation

Question 4: What kind of vehicle was used to go to the first camping site??

- A. A bus B. A truck C. A jeep D. A van

Question 5: What percent of your income should you save?

- A. 5 percent B. 10 percent C. 20 percent D. 50 percent

Question 6: How long is the class on Saturday?

- A. One hour B. Two hours C. Six hours D. Eight hours

Question 7: Who are the furnished apartments popular with?

- A. Elderly residents B. Single men C. Young couples D. College students

Question 8: What does this health tip describe?

- A. A step in good brushing B. How to brush your teeth
C. Choosing a good toothpaste D. Choosing a good toothpaste

PART 2: Questions 9-20

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: Who are the speakers?

- A. Customer and salesperson
- B. Teacher and student
- C. Two Colleagues
- D. Two university students

Question 10: What kind of furniture is mentioned in this conversation?

- A. A cabinet
- B. A desk
- C. A closet
- D. A bed

Question 11: What is the man's problem?

- A. His teachers are not friendly.
- B. His house is in bad condition.
- C. His dorm room is so small.
- D. His college life is boring.

Question 12: What will they probably buy from the store?

- A. A bed
- B. School supplies
- C. A box
- D. Some books

Questions 13 to 16 refer to the following conversation.

Question 13: Where is the conversation most likely taking place?

- A. In an office building
- B. In a meeting room
- C. In a coffee shop
- D. In a parking lot

Question 14: When did they intend to meet each other?

- A. At half past eleven
- B. At twelve o'clock
- C. At half past twelve
- D. At one o'clock

Question 15: What can be inferred about Sam?

- A. He already left.
- B. He does not drink coffee.
- C. He tried to call the woman.
- D. He has been late before.

Question 16: What will probably happen next?

- A. The woman will talk with Sam.
- B. The woman will leave for the office.
- C. They will go somewhere else.
- D. They will leave a message for Sam.

Questions 17 to 20 refer to the following conversation.

Question 17: What does the woman congratulate the man on?

- A. His wife gave birth to a baby son.
- B. His wife gave birth to a baby girl.
- B. His wife gave birth to a boy and a girl.
- D. His wife gave birth to three babies.

Question 18: How is his wife after giving birth?

- A. She is sleepless.
- B. She is quite weak.
- C. She needs some rest.
- D. She is doing well.

Question 19: Who is his daughter going to be named after?

- A. His wife
- B. His mother
- C. His wife's mother
- D. His godmother

Question 20: Where is the conversation probably taking place?

- A. In the office
- B. In the coffee shop
- C. At the man's home
- D. At the bus station

PART 3: Questions 21-35

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 lecture.

Question 21: What is the main topic of the lecture?

- A. The origin of the camera obscura
- B. Different types of early cameras
- C. The life of Joseph Nicephore Niepce
- D. The history of early photography

Question 22: When was the first photograph created?

- A. 1682
- B. 1727
- C. 1782
- D. 1826

Question 23: What role did the study of optics play in the development of modern photography?

- A. It led to the invention of the camera obscura.
- B. It gave insight into the power of light.
- C. It provided a scientific background for artists.
- D. It helped develop photographic methods.

Question 24: According to the professor, what was the significance of Johann Schulze's discovery?

- A. It allowed the projection of images outside of a camera obscura.
- B. It inspired other scientists to combine optics and chemistry.
- C. It enabled photographers to capture images with light-sensitive material.
- D. It demonstrated the ability to create light-sensitive images.

Question 25. What was the problem with Wedgwood's photographs?

- A. They were destroyed when exposed to light.
- B. They took a long time to produce.
- C. They required expensive materials.
- D. They could not be reproduced.

Questions 26- 30 refer to the following lecture.

Question 26: What is the lecture mainly about?

- A. The common types of scheduling systems used by managers
- B. The problems with conventional workday schedules
- C. The advantages and disadvantages of a flextime scheduling system
- D. The kinds of companies that benefit from flextime schedules

Question 27: Why does the professor mention school schedules?

- A. To show other places that use flextime schedules
- B. To liken a condensed schedule to a typical school day
- C. To explain why flextime schedules were originally created
- D. To describe how flextime can be useful for working parents

Question 28: If an employee chooses condensed schedule, he probably has to work _____.

- A. 1 day a week
- B. 2 days a week
- C. 4 days a week
- D. 5 days a week

Question 29: How many types of flextime schedule are there?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

Question 30: According to the professor, how do companies benefit from offering flextime?

- A. It gives managers flexibility when creating schedules.
- B. It makes it easier to plan staff meetings.
- C. It builds loyalty among workers.
- D. It encourages employees to work harder.

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

Question 31: What aspect of Mars does the professor mainly discuss?

- A. Its seasonal similarities to Earth
- B. How its weather patterns are changing
- C. The basic characteristics of its climate
- D. Its suitability for supporting life

Question 32: Why does the professor tell the students that Mars takes twice as long as Earth to go around the sun?

- A. To explain the length of Martian seasons
- B. To demonstrate the differences between Earth and Mars
- C. To argue that Mars has more than four seasons
- D. To suggest that distance from the sun doesn't affect temperatures

Question 33: According to the lecture, what is true about temperatures on Mars?

- A. They vary less than temperatures on Earth.
- B. They are below freezing at all times.
- C. They change according to location and time.
- D. They were probably colder in the past.

Question 34: What is the average wind speed on Mars?

- A. Thirty-two kilometers per hour
- B. Thirty-eight kilometers per hour
- C. Ninety kilometers per hour
- D. Ninety-six kilometers per hour

Question 35: What do scientists believe about dust storms on Mars?

- A. They're responsible for the long seasons.
- B. They are affecting larger parts of the planet than in the past.
- C. They're related to extremely high wind speeds.
- D. They're occurring less frequently because of colder weather.

THIS IS THE END OF THE LISTENING PAPER.

NOW YOU HAVE 05 MINUTES TO TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO YOUR ANSWER SHEET.

English for Everyone

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, 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.

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

Mount Rushmore is a well-known monument in the Black Hills of South Dakota that features the countenances of four United States presidents: Washington, Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Lincoln. What is not so well known is that the process of creating this national treasure was not exactly an uneventful one.

Mount Rushmore was the project of the visionary sculptor John Gutzen de la Mothe Borglum, who was born in Idaho but studied sculpture in Paris in his youth and befriended the famous French sculptor Auguste Rodin. In 1927 Borglum was granted a commission by the federal government to create the sculpture on Mount Rushmore. Though he was **nearly** sixty years old when he started, he was undaunted by the enormity of the project and the obstacles that it engendered. He optimistically asserted that the project would be completed within five years, not caring to recognize the potential problems that such a massive project would involve, the problems of dealing with financing, with government bureaucracy, and with Mother Nature herself. An example of what Mother Nature had to throw at the project was the **fissure** – or large crack – that developed in the granite where Jefferson was being carved. Jefferson had to be moved to the other side of Washington, next to Roosevelt because of the break in the stone. The work that had been started on the first Jefferson had to be dynamited away.

Mount Rushmore was not completed within the five years predicted by Borglum and was in fact not actually completed within Borglum's lifetime, although **it** was almost finished. Borglum died on March 6, 1941, at the age of seventy-four, after fourteen years of work on the presidents. His son, Lincoln Borglum, who had worked with his father throughout the project, completed the monument **within eight months of his father's death**.

1. Which of the following best expresses the main idea of the passage?

- A. Mount Rushmore is a famous American monument.
- B. John Gutzen de la Mothe Borglum created Mount Rushmore.
- C. Mount Rushmore has sculptures of four United States presidents on it.
- D. Mount Rushmore was a huge project filled with numerous obstacles.

2. Which of the following best describes the relationship between Borglum and Rodin in Borglum's early years?

- A. Borglum was far more famous than Rodin as a sculptor.
- B. Borglum and Rodin were friends.
- C. Borglum and Rodin were born and raised in the same place.
- D. Borglum studied about Rodin in Paris.

3. The word "nearly" could best be replaced by which of the following?

- A. Barely
- B. Closely
- C. Almost
- D. Over

4. Which of the following is NOT true about Borglum?

- A. He predicted that Mount Rushmore would be finished around 1932.
- B. Borglum worked on Mount Rushmore for more than a decade.
- C. Mount Rushmore was finished when Borglum predicted it would be.
- D. He began Mount Rushmore around the age of sixty.

5. It can be inferred from the passage that Borglum was someone who _____.

- A. set realistic goals
- B. was always afraid that bad things were going to happen
- C. never tried anything too challenging
- D. expected the best to happen

6. The word "fissure" is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. break
- B. softness
- C. discoloration
- D. unevenness

7. Why does the author mention the fact that the carving of Thomas Jefferson was moved?

- A. It demonstrates Borglum's artistic style.
- B. It is an example of a problem caused by nature.
- C. It shows what a perfectionist Borglum was.
- D. It gives insight into Jefferson's character.

8. The pronoun "it" refers to which of the following?

- A. Mount Rushmore
- B. The first Jefferson
- C. Fourteen years of work
- D. Borglum's lifetime

9. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the expression "within eight months of his father's death"?

- A. Less than eight months before his father's death
- B. Less than eight months after his father's death
- C. More than eight months after his father's death
- D. More than eight months before his father's death

10. This passage would most likely be assigned reading in a course on _____.

- A. management
- B. geography
- C. art history
- D. government

PASSAGE 2 – Questions 11-20

Narcolepsy is a disease characterized by **malfunctioning** sleep mechanics. It can consist of a sudden and uncontrollable **bout** of sleep during daylight hours and disturbed sleep during nighttime hours. It occurs more often in men than in women, and it commonly makes its appearance during adolescence or young adulthood. At least a half million Americans are believed to be affected by narcolepsy.

Narcolepsy can take a number of forms during daylight hours. One common symptom of the disease during daytime hours is a sudden attack of REM (rapid-eye movement) sleep during normal waking hours. This occurs in some people hundreds of times in a single day, while others only have rare occurrences. During a sleep attack, narcoleptics may experience automatic behavior; even though asleep, they may continue automatically performing the activity they were involved in prior to falling asleep. They may, for example, continue walking, or driving, or stirring a pot until the activity is interrupted by external forces. Others experience cataplexy during daytime hours; cataplexy involves a sudden loss of muscle tone that may cause the head to droop or the knees to wobble in minor attacks or a total collapse in more serious attacks. Cataplexy seems to occur most often in conjunction with intense emotion or excitement.

During sleep hours, narcolepsy can also manifest itself in a variety of ways. During the transitional phase that precedes the onset of sleep, it is common for hallucinations to occur. These hallucinations, known as hypnagogic phenomena, consist of realistic perceptions of sights and sounds during the semi-conscious state between wakefulness and sleep. Narcoleptics may also suffer from night waking during sleep, **resulting in** extremely fragmented and restless sleep. Then, upon waking, a narcoleptic may experience sleep paralysis, the inability to move, perhaps for several minutes, immediately after waking.

- 11. According to the passage, narcolepsy is a _____.**
A. syndrome B. symptom C. disease D. disorder
- 12. The word "malfunctioning" is closest in meaning to _____.**
A. regularly waking B. improperly working
C. harshly interpreting D. incorrectly classifying
- 13. At which of the following ages would a person be most likely to develop narcolepsy?**
A. 10 B. 20 C. 30 D. 40
- 14. Approximately how many narcoleptics are there in the United States?**
A. Fewer than 500,000 B. More than 500,000
C. Fewer than 1,500,000 D. More than 1,500,000
- 15. The word "bout" is closest in meaning to _____.**
A. period B. illness C. lack D. symptom
- 16. Which of the following would be most likely to occur during daily activities?**
A. Hallucinations B. Automatic behavior
C. Sleep paralysis D. Night waking
- 17. Which of the following involves a complete collapse?**
A. Cataplexy B. Automatic behavior
C. REM sleep D. Hallucinations

18. The word "**resulting in**" is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. bringing on
- B. making up
- C. leading to
- D. getting to

19. When would hypnagogic phenomena most likely occur?

- A. Soon after waking
- B. Just after going to bed
- C. After getting up
- D. In the middle of the night

20. Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the passage?

- A. Cure for Narcolepsy
- B. A Good Night's Sleep
- C. Hallucinations during Sleep
- D. An Unusual Sleep Disturbance

PASSAGE 3 – Questions 21-30

EARLY CINEMA

The cinema did not emerge as a form of mass consumption until its technology evolved from the initial "peepshow" format to the point where images were projected on a screen in a darkened theater. In the peepshow format, a film was viewed through a small opening in a machine that was created for that purpose. Thomas Edison's peepshow device, the Kinetoscope, was introduced to the public in 1894. It was designed for use in Kinetoscope parlors, or arcades, which contained only a few individual machines and permitted only one customer to view a short, 50-foot film at any one time. The first Kinetoscope parlors contained five machines. For the price of 25 cents (or 5 cents per machine), customers moved from machine to machine to watch five different films (or, in the case of famous prizefights, successive rounds of a single fight).

These Kinetoscope arcades were modeled on phonograph parlors, which had proven successful for Edison several years earlier. In the phonograph parlors, customers listened to recordings through individual ear tubes, moving from one machine to the next to hear different recorded speeches or pieces of music. The Kinetoscope parlors functioned in a similar way. Edison was more interested in the sale of Kinetoscopes (for roughly \$1,000 apiece) to these parlors than in the films that would be run in them (which cost approximately \$10 to \$15 each). **He refused to develop projection technology, reasoning that if he made and sold projectors, then exhibitors would purchase only one machine — a projector — from him instead of several.**

[A] Exhibitors, however, wanted to maximize their profits, which they could do more **readily** by projecting a handful of films to hundreds of customers at a time (rather than one at a time) and by charging 25 to 50 cents admission. **[B]** About a year after the opening of the first Kinetoscope parlor in 1894, showmen such as Louis and Auguste Lumière, Thomas Armat and Charles Francis Jenkins, and Orville and Woodville Latham (with the **assistance** of Edison's former assistant, William Dickson) perfected projection devices. **[C]** These early projection devices were used in vaudeville theaters, legitimate theaters, local town halls, makeshift storefront theaters, fairgrounds, and amusement parks to show films to a mass audience. **[D]**

With the advent of projection in 1895-1896, motion pictures became the ultimate form of mass consumption. Previously, large audiences had viewed spectacles at the theater, where vaudeville, popular dramas, musical and minstrel shows, classical plays, lectures, and slide-and-lantern shows had been presented to several hundred spectators at a time. But the movies differed significantly from these other forms of entertainment,

which depended on either live performance or (in the case of the slide and-lantern shows) the active involvement of a master of ceremonies who assembled the final program.

Although early exhibitors regularly accompanied movies with live acts, the substance of the movies themselves is mass-produced, prerecorded material that can easily be reproduced by theaters with little or no active participation by the exhibitor. Even though early exhibitors shaped their film programs by mixing films and other entertainments together in whichever way they thought would be most attractive to audiences or by accompanying them with lectures, their creative control remained limited. What audiences came to see was the technological marvel of the movies; the lifelike reproduction of the commonplace motion of trains, of waves striking the shore, and of people walking in the street; and the magic made possible by trick photography and the manipulation of the camera.

With the advent of projection, the viewer's relationship with the image was no longer private, as it had been with earlier peepshow devices such as the Kinetoscope and the Mutoscope, which was a similar machine that reproduced motion by means of successive images on individual photographic cards instead of on strips of celluloid. **It** suddenly became public – an experience that the viewer shared with dozens, scores, and even hundreds of others. At the same time, the image that the spectator looked at expanded from the minuscule peepshow dimensions of 1 or 2 inches (in height) to the life-size proportions of 6 or 9 feet.

21. According to paragraph 1, all of the following were true of viewing films in Kinetoscope parlors EXCEPT _____.

- A. prizefights were the most popular subjects for films.
- B. customers could view one film after another.
- C. one individual at a time viewed a film.
- D. each film was short.

22. The author discusses phonograph parlors in paragraph 2 in order to _____.

- A. describe the model used to design Kinetoscope parlors
- B. explain Edison's financial success
- C. contrast their popularity to that of Kinetoscope parlors
- D. illustrate how much more technologically advanced Kinetoscope parlors were

23. Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the underlined sentence from the passage? *Incorrect answer choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.*

- A. Edison did not want to develop projection technology because it limited the number of machines he could sell.
- B. Edison was more interested in developing a variety of machines than in developing a technology based on only one.
- C. Edison would not develop projection technology unless exhibitors agreed to purchase more than one projector from him.
- D. Edison refused to work on projection technology because he did not think exhibitors would replace their projectors with newer machines.

24. The word "readily" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. easily
- B. frequently
- C. intelligently
- D. obviously

25. The word "assistance" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. help
- B. leadership
- C. criticism
- D. approval

26. According to paragraph 4, how did the early movies differ from previous spectacles that were presented to large audiences?

- A. They were more educational.
- B. They were viewed by larger audiences.
- C. They were a more expensive form of entertainment.
- D. They did not require live entertainers.

27. According to paragraph 5, what role did early exhibitors play in the presentation of movies in theaters?

- A. They often took part in the live-action performances.
- B. They advised film-makers on appropriate movie content.
- C. They decided how to combine various components of the film program.
- D. They produced and prerecorded the material that was shown in the theaters.

28. The word "It" in the passage refers to _____.

- A. the viewer's relationship with the image
- B. the advent of projection
- C. a similar machine
- D. celluloid

29. According to paragraph 6, the images seen by viewers in the earlier peepshows, compared to the images projected on the screen, were relatively _____.

- A. small in size
- B. unfocused
- C. inexpensive to create
- D. limited in subject matter

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

When this widespread use of projection technology began to hurt his Kinetoscope business, Edison acquired a projector developed by Armat and introduced it as "Edison's latest marvel, the Vitascope."

Where would the sentence best fit?

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

DESERT FORMATION

The deserts, which already occupy approximately a fourth of the Earth's land surface, have in recent decades been increasing at an alarming pace. The expansion of desert-like conditions into areas where they did not previously exist is called desertification. It has been estimated that an additional one-fourth of the Earth's land surface is **threatened** by this process.

Desertification is accomplished primarily through the loss of stabilizing natural vegetation and the subsequent accelerated erosion of the soil by wind and water. In some cases the loose soil is blown completely away, leaving a stony surface. In other cases, the finer particles may be removed, while the sand-sized particles are accumulated to form mobile hills or ridges of sand.

Even in the areas that retain a soil cover, the reduction of vegetation typically results in the loss of the soil's ability to absorb substantial quantities of water. The impact of raindrops on the loose soil tends to transfer fine clay particles into the tiniest soil spaces, sealing them and producing a surface that allows very little water penetration. Water absorption is greatly reduced, consequently runoff is increased, resulting in accelerated erosion rates. The gradual drying of the soil caused by its diminished ability to absorb water results in the further loss of vegetation, so that a cycle of progressive surface deterioration is established.

In some regions, the increase in desert areas is occurring largely as the result of a trend toward drier climatic conditions. Continued gradual global warming has produced an increase in aridity for some areas over the past few thousand years. The process may be accelerated in subsequent decades if global warming resulting from air pollution seriously increases.

There is little doubt, however, that desertification in most areas results primarily from human activities rather than natural processes. The semiarid lands bordering the deserts exist in a **delicate** ecological balance and are limited in their potential to adjust to increased environmental pressures. Expanding populations are subjecting the land to increasing pressures to provide them with food and fuel. In wet periods, the land may be able to respond to these stresses. During the dry periods that are common phenomena along the desert margins, though, the pressure on the land is often far in excess of its diminished capacity, and desertification results.

Four specific activities have been identified as major contributors to the desertification processes: over-cultivation, over-grazing, firewood gathering, and over-irrigation. The cultivation of crops has expanded into **progressively** drier regions as population densities have grown. These regions are especially likely to have periods of severe dryness, so that crop failures are common. Since the raising of most crops necessitates the prior removal of the natural vegetation, crop failures leave extensive tracts of land devoid of a plant cover and susceptible to wind and water erosion.

The raising of livestock is a major economic activity in semiarid lands, where grasses are generally the dominant type of natural vegetation. The consequences of an excessive number of livestock grazing in an area

are the reduction of the vegetation cover and the trampling and pulverization of the soil. This is usually followed by the drying of the soil and accelerated erosion.

Firewood is the chief fuel used for cooking and heating in many countries. The increased pressures of expanding populations have led to the removal of woody plants so that many cities and towns are surrounded by large areas completely lacking in trees and shrubs. The increasing use of dried animal waste as a substitute fuel has also hurt the soil because this valuable soil conditioner and source of plant nutrients is no longer being returned to the land.

The final major human cause of desertification is soil salinization resulting from over-irrigation. Excess water from irrigation sinks down into the water table. If no drainage system exists, the water table rises, bringing dissolved salts to the surface. The water evaporates and the salts are left behind, creating a white crustal layer that prevents air and water from reaching the underlying soil.

The extreme seriousness of desertification results from the vast areas of land and the tremendous numbers of people affected, as well as from the great difficulty of reversing or even slowing the process. Once the soil has been removed by erosion, only the passage of centuries or millennia will enable new soil to form. In areas where considerable soil still remains, though, a rigorously enforced program of land protection and cover-crop planting may make it possible to reverse the present deterioration of the surface.

31. The word "threatened" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. restricted
- B. endangered
- C. prevented
- D. rejected

32. According to paragraph 3, the loss of natural vegetation has which of the following consequences for soil?

- A. Reduced water absorption
- B. Increased numbers of spaces in the soil
- C. Increased stony content
- D. Reduced water runoff

33. The word "delicate" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. predictable
- B. fragile
- C. complex
- D. valuable

34. According to paragraph 5, in dry periods, border areas have difficulty _____.

- A. adjusting to stresses created by settlement
- B. providing water for irrigating crops
- C. retaining their fertility after desertification
- D. attracting populations in search of food and fuel

- 35. The word “progressively” in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.**
- A. impressively
 - B. openly
 - C. objectively
 - D. increasingly
- 36. According to paragraph 6, which of the following is often associated with raising crops?**
- A. Failure to plant crops suited to the particular area
 - B. Excessive use of dried animal waste
 - C. Lack of proper irrigation techniques
 - D. Removal of the original vegetation
- 37. According to paragraph 9, the ground’s absorption of excess water is a factor in desertification because it can _____.**
- A. limit the evaporation of water
 - B. interfere with the irrigation of land
 - C. bring salts to the surface
 - D. require more absorption of air by the soil
- 38. All of the following are mentioned in the passage as contributing to desertification EXCEPT _____.**
- A. soil erosion
 - B. insufficient irrigation
 - C. global warming
 - D. the raising of livestock
- 39. Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the underlined sentence in the passage? *Incorrect choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.***
- A. The spread of deserts is considered a very serious problem that can be solved only if large numbers of people in various countries are involved in the effort.
 - B. Slowing down the process of desertification is difficult because of population growth that has spread over large areas of land.
 - C. Desertification is a significant problem because it is so hard to reverse and affects large areas of land and great numbers of people.
 - D. Desertification is extremely hard to reverse unless the population is reduced in the vast areas affected.
- 40. As inferred from the passage, which of the following does the author most likely believe about the future of desertification?**
- A. Desertification will continue to increase.
 - B. Desertification will soon occur in all areas of the world.
 - C. Governments will act quickly to control further desertification.
 - D. The factors influencing desertification occur in cycles and will change in the future.

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 have just received a letter from one of your close friends, Aldora from England. She is looking forward to your visit to London. Read part of her letter below.

.....

It's so great that you're coming to visit me at last! Let me know when your flight arrives on the 25th of October. I'll come and meet you at the airport. I hope I recognize you- it's 5 years since we last saw each other.

You haven't been to London, have you? How long will you stay here?

I am wondering if there is anything you would want to do or to see during your stay.

I can't wait to meet you.

.....

Aldora

Write a letter responding to Aldora. In your letter, you should **express your excitement of going to London**. Then, you **describe yourself**. Finally, **tell her how many days you will stay in that city and what you would particularly want to do and to see there**.

You should write at least 120 words. You do not need to include your name or addresses. Your response will be evaluated in terms of Task Fulfillment, Organization, Vocabulary and Grammar.

TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Read a part of the statements:

*.... Some people say that **physical exercise should be a required part of every school day**. Other people believe that **students should spend the whole school day on academic studies**....*

Write an essay to discuss both views and give your own opinion.

Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.

You should write at least 250 words. Your response will be evaluated in terms of Task Fulfillment, Organization, Vocabulary and Grammar.

PHẦN 4: NÓI – VSTEP

Thời gian: 12 phút

Số câu hỏi : 3

Part 1 : Social Interaction (3')

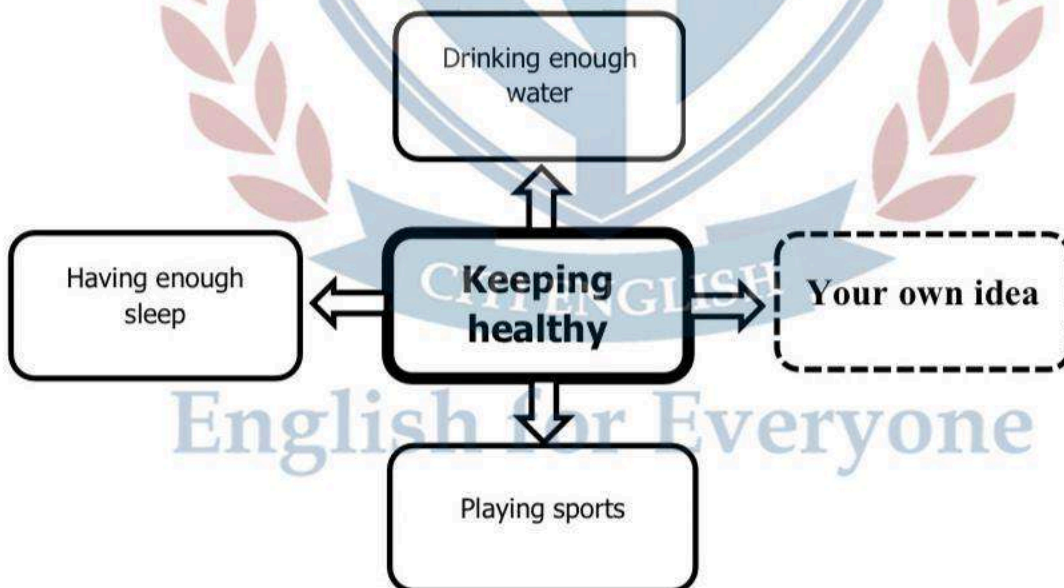
- Let's talk about **learning English**.
 - How long have you learnt English?
 - What do you find difficult about learning English?
 - How will you use English in the future?
- Let's talk about **brothers and sisters**.
 - Do you have any brothers or sisters?
 - Do your brothers or sisters go to work?
 - What are the special occasions when all your family is together?

Part 2: Solution Discussion (4')

Situation: Hồng Huyền, a sociable high school student, wants to become a member of a club organized by her school. She enjoys acting and longs for an opportunity to be in a play or musical. There are three options: **the sports club, the theatre club, and the English club**. Which one would be her best choice?

Part 3: Topic Development (5')

Topic: Let's talk about the ways to keep you healthy.



- Do you now have healthy habits? What are they?
- In your opinion, having a balanced diet and playing sports, which one is more important to keep you healthy?
- Should children play more sports?