***Task 1.*** *For questions* ***1-6****, read the article and choose the best answer (****A, B, C*** *or* ***D****). (****6 points****)*

**DIRTY BRITAIN**

Before the grass has thickened on the roadside verges and leaves have started growing on the trees is a perfect time to look around and see just how dirty Britain has become. The pavements are stained with chewing gum that has been spat out and the gutters are full of discarded fast food cartons. Years ago I remember travelling abroad and being saddened by the plastic bags, discarded bottles and soiled nappies at the edge of every road. Nowadays, Britain seems to look at least as bad. What has gone wrong?

The problem is that the rubbish created by our increasingly mobile lives lasts a lot longer than before. If it is not cleared up and properly thrown away, it stays in the undergrowth for years; a semi-permanent reminder of what a tatty little country we have now.

Firstly, it is estimated that 10 billion plastic bags have been given to shoppers. These will take anything from 100 to 1,000 years to rot. However, it is not as if there is no solution to this. A few years ago, the Irish government introduced a tax on non-recyclable carrier bags and in three months reduced their use by 90%. When he was a minister, Michael Meacher attempted to introduce a similar arrangement in Britain. The plastics industry protested, of course. However, they need not have bothered; the idea was killed before it could draw breath, leaving supermarkets free to give away plastic bags.

What is clearly necessary right now is some sort of combined initiative, both individual and collective, before it is too late. The alternative is to continue sliding downhill until we have a country that looks like a vast municipal rubbish tip. We may well be at the tipping point. Yet we know that people respond to their environment. If things around them are clean and tidy, people behave cleanly and tidily. If they are surrounded by squalor, they behave squalidly. Now, much of Britain looks pretty squalid. What will it look like in five years?

1. The writer says that it is a good time to see Britain before the trees have leaves because
2. Britain looks perfect.
3. you can see Britain at its dirtiest.
4. you can see how dirty Britain is now.
5. the grass has thickened on the verges.
6. According to the writer, things used to be
7. worse abroad.
8. the same abroad.
9. better abroad.
10. worse, but now things are better abroad.
11. For the writer, the problem is that
12. rubbish is not cleared up.
13. rubbish last longer than it used to.
14. our society is increasingly mobile.
15. Britain is a tatty country.
16. Michael Meacher
17. followed the Irish example with a tax on plastic bags.
18. tried to follow the Irish example with a tax on plastic bags.
19. made no attempt to follow the Irish example with a tax on plastic bags.
20. had problems with the plastics industry who weren't bothered about the tax.
21. The writer thinks
22. it is too late to do anything.
23. we are at the tipping point.
24. there is no alternative.
25. we need to work together to solve the problem.
26. The writer thinks that
27. people are squalid.
28. people behave according to what they see around them.
29. people are clean and tidy.
30. people are like a vast municipal rubbish tip.

***Task 2.*** *For questions* ***7-21****, read the text below and decide which answer (****A****,* ***B****,* ***C*** *or* ***D****) (****15 points****) best fits each gap.*

**GENDER BIAS AND POVERTY**

**(7.) ………**between men and women results in poorer health for children and greater **(8.) ………**for the family, **(9.) ………**to a new study. The UN agency Unicef found that in places where women are **(10.) ………**from family decisions, children are more likely to suffer from **(11.) ………**. There would be 13 million **(12.) ………**malnourished children in South Asia if women had an equal say in the family, Unicef said.

Unicef**(13.) ………**family decision-making in 30 countries **(14.) ………**the world. Their chief finding is that equality between men and women is vital to **(15.) ………** poverty and improving health, especially that of children, in developing countries. The conclusions are contained in the agency's latest report. This report **(16.) ………**to a greater **(17.) ………**of opportunities for girls and women in education and work which contributes to disempowerment and poverty. Where men control the household, less money is spent on health care and food for the family, which **(18.) ………**in poorer health for the children.

An increase in **(19.) ………**and income-earning opportunities for women would increase their **(20.) ………**power, the report said. For example, the agency found that **(21.) ………** has the greater share of household income and assets decides whether those resources will be used for family needs.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **A** | Unequal | **B** | Inequal | **C** | Unequality | **D** | Inequality |
|  | **A** | poor | **B** | poorness | **C** | poverty | **D** | impoverished |
|  | **A** | resulting | **B** | according | **C** | regarding | **D** | with regard |
|  | **A** | excluded | **B** | exclude | **C** | exclusion | **D** | excludes |
|  | **A** | ill-nourished | **B** | malnourish | **C** | malnutrition | **D** | ill-nutrition |
|  | **A** | more | **B** | few | **C** | fewer | **D** | least |
|  | **A** | survey | **B** | surveying | **C** | surveys | **D** | surveyed |
|  | **A** | in | **B** | around | **C** | over | **D** | among |
|  | **A** | increase | **B** | reduce | **C** | increasing | **D** | reducing |
|  | **A** | points | **B** | indicates | **C** | shows | **D** | suggests |
|  | **A** | lack | **B** | lacking | **C** | lacks | **D** | lacky |
|  | **A** | leads | **B** | result | **C** | lead | **D** | results |
|  | **A** | employ | **B** | employment | **C** | employee | **D** | employed |
|  | **A** | house | **B** | householder | **C** | household | **D** | home |
|  | **A** | whatever | **B** | whoever | **C** | whichever | **D** | however |

***Task 4.*** *For questions* ***22-33****, read the text below and decide which answer (****A****,* ***B****,* ***C*** *or* ***D****) (****12 points****) best fits each gap.*

**THE TRUTH BEHIND A SMILE**

People smile a great deal, and we seem to know instinctively that some smiles are more genuine than others. But is there any scientific **(22.) ………** for this? Recent research suggests that a mechanism in the brain can help us **(23.) ………** whether a smile is really heartfelt - or whether it is just being **(24.) ………** on for show. **(25.) ………** to various long-held traditions, a genuine smile involves the eyes as well as the mouth, in the nineteenth century, a French anatomist **(26.) ………** to prove this. He used electrodes to stimulate the facial muscles of volunteers, **(27.) ………** creating false smiles. He found that real smiles were always **(28.) ………** with the contraction of a muscle around the eye, but that his artificially induced ones were not.

During more recent research, volunteers were shown a variety of human facial **(29.) ………** and their reactions to these were monitored. When they were shown a happy face, 35% of the volunteers immediately started looking at the eye area, checking for tell-tale crinkles that would **(30.) ………** that the smile was genuine; but when shown a sad or neutral face, they did not. So why did the human brain evolve to **(31.) ………** between real and false smiles? It could be that this ability to **(32.) ………** a quick assessment of a smile has an important role to play in successful communication. A genuine smile **(33.) ………** as a gesture of conciliation in conflict, and it’s important to know whether we are really being offered a truce or not.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **A** | sign | **B** | basis | **C** | root | **D** | fact |
|  | **A** | recollect | **B** | accept | **C** | admit | **D** | recognise |
|  | **A** | put | **B** | brought | **C** | created | **D** | stuck |
|  | **A** | Providing | **B** | Considering | **C** | Relating | **D** | According |
|  | **A** | got down | **B** | set out | **C** | went off | **D** | carried out |
|  | **A** | despite | **B** | thereby | **C** | however | **D** | nonetheless |
|  | **A** | associated | **B** | mixed | **C** | joined | **D** | accompanied |
|  | **A** | exhibitions | **B** | resemblances | **C** | appearances | **D** | expressions |
|  | **A** | assure | **B** | confirm | **C** | justify | **D** | approve |
|  | **A** | decide | **B** | tell | **C** | distinguish | **D** | reckon |
|  | **A** | make | **B** | earn | **C** | do | **D** | hold |
|  | **A** | aims | **B** | serves | **C** | portrays | **D** | applies |

***Task 5.*** *Complete the following sentences, using the correct form of the word in capitals. (****10 points****) There is an example at the beginning (0)*

**CONTROL YOUR ANGER**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| When a celebrity, a politicianor other person in the media spotlight loses their |  |
| 1. temper in public, they run the risk of hitting the headlines in a most ………………… | EMBARRASS |
| 1. way.For such…………………outbursts of anger are often triggered by what seem | CONTROL |
| to be trivial matters and, if they are caught on camera, can make the person appear |  |
| 1. slightly………………… .But it’s not only the rich and famous who are proneto fits | RIDICULE |
| 1. of rage.According to recent surveys, ordinary people are…………………tending | INCREASE |
| to lose their cool in public. |  |
| 1. Yet anger is a potentially………………… emotion that uses up a lot of energyand | DESTROY |
| creates a high level of emotional and physical stress – and it stops usthinking |  |
| 1. rationally.…………………angry people often end up saying, anddoing, things they | CONSEQUENT |
| laterhavecause to regret.So, how can anger be avoided? Firstly, diet and lifestyle |  |
| 1. maybe to blame. ………………… and irritability certainly come to the surface when | TOLERANT |
| 1. someone hasn’t slept properly or has skipped a meal, and any ………………… of | TAKE |
| caffeine can make things worse. |  |
| 1. Taking regular exercise can help to ease and diffuse feelings of …………………, | AGGRESSIVE |
| however, reducingthe chances of an angry response. But if something or someone |  |
| 1. doesmake you angry, it’s ………………… not to reactimmediately. Once you’ve calmed down,things won’t look half as bad as you first thought. | ADVISE |

***Task 6.*** *Complete sentence* ***b)*** *in each pair so that it has a similar meaning to sentence* ***a)****. (****3 points****)*

1. **a)** We didn't know then what Oliver would do with the chemistry set, but later on we wished we'd never given it to him.

**b)** If we what he would do with it, we'd never have given Oliver the chemistry set.

1. **a)** I don't have access to the Internet, so I don't use my computer very much.

**b)** I my computer more if I access to the Internet.

1. **a)** Every time you press this button, extra milk is automatically added to your coffee.

**b)** The machine to your coffee when you

***Task 7.*** *Complete the sentences (****4 points****)*

1. On July, 4, 1776 …
2. the leaders of the thirteen colonies signed the Declaration of Independence.
3. the English won the war.
4. Thomas Jefferson was born.
5. Who was the first president of the United States?
6. Thomas Jefferson
7. Abraham Lincoln
8. George Washington
9. Name two political parties in the USA and the animals symbolize each party:

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………

1. What pen name did the American writer use to sign the humorous stories which he wrote in prison?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………