I. Vocabulary : 10 points
Find the most appropriate answer for each blank and write down the corresponding English letter on the answer sheet.

Passage A
New research is clarifying what can be said about the 1 of violent gaming on young people. Playing video games does stir hostile 2 and mildly aggressive behavior in the short 3 . Youngsters who develop a gaming habit can become slightly more 4 , at least over a year or two. Yet it is not clear whether, over longer periods, such a habit increases the likelihood of committing a crime, much less a 5 like the one in Connecticut in December that left 20 children dead.

1. (A) affects (B) effects (C) affect (D) effect
2. (A) urges (B) emerge (C) surge (D) merge
3. (A) turn (B) term (C) tail (D) tour
4. (A) initiated (B) unplugged (C) aggressive (D) unified
5. (A) mass (B) massive (C) massacre (D) mess

Passage B
Indians have tended to view outward expressions of love, 6 they physical or 7 , with suspicion, said Dr. Roy Abraham, president of the Indian Psychiatric Society. “I don’t tell my wife that I love her,” he said. “My father has never 8 88 years told me that he loved me. We don’t do that.” Kissing scenes were banned by Indian film 9 until 10 .

6. (A) whether (B) no matter (C) be (D) for
7. (A) mental (B) verbal (C) written (D) sentimental
8. (A) in (B) as (C) from (D) by
9. (A) questioners (B) watchers (C) censors (D) performers
10. (A) the 1990’s (B) 1990’s (C) the 1990s (D) 1990s
II. Cloze passages: 60 points

i. Fill in each of the following blanks with the most appropriate one from the choices offered.

**Passage A**

What’s startling about watching the first Bond movies again is how ___1___ they are. Since each Bond must inevitably trump the Bond before it — bigger stunts, wilder gadgets, crazier villains — it ___2___ that each preceding Bond is, well, trumped. We’re used to Bond whizzing all over the planet, but in the first film, the fights are early 1960s judo flips, and Bond was more a frightened husband than a secret agent. The films quickly established a formula and ___3___ it. Bond is given his assignment and gadgets. In an exotic locale, he meets his local, ethnic contact, who usually dies halfway through the picture. There are chases, attempts on Bond’s life, meetings with the new villain and the new villain’s super-powered henchman. He beds three women: the inconsequential one at the beginning, an enemy agent in the middle, and then “the Bond girl,” with whom he shares the final assault on the enemy’s fortress. There, captured, he learns the villain’s diabolical plot to a) blackmail the West, b) start World War III, or c) both. He escapes, kills the henchman, blows everything up, and ___4___ the girl and sex on his mind. Nobody had seen anything like it. Soon imitators ___5___ everywhere: “I Spy,” “Get Smart,” “Mission: Impossible,”

1. (A) awe-inspiring  (B) refined   (C) tepid   (D) multitasking
2. (A) props up   (B) makes sense  (C) figures out  (D) lines up
3. (A) waded through  (B) got a handle on (C) capitalized on (D) kept to
4. (A) winds up with  (B) buys into  (C) gets a handle on  (D) eats up
5. (A) made splashes (B) popped up  (C) made scenes  (D) stepped into its shoes

**Passage B**

The allure of Internet phone calling is understandable—dirt-cheap calls to anywhere in the world, sound quality that’s at times ___6___ the traditional landline, and the ability to take your phone number with you when you travel. ___7___ the threats Internet callers may face, experts say it’s helpful to think of the calls as spoken e-mails—___8___, they both consist of packets of data zipping across the Internet. Therefore, it’s possible for Internet phone calls to ___9___ the same attacks that dog e-mail: Hackers listening to your calls, automated spam messages that call you and phone messages that seek personal financial information from recipients ___10___ raiding their bank accounts.

6. (A) imprudent of  (B) echoing with  (C) striving against  (D) superior to
7. (A) In thinking about (B) Hinging on  (C) Coming to terms with (D) Leaning on
8. (A) besides     (B) nevertheless  (C) after all  (D) however
9. (A) be given to (B) prevail on  (C) be plagued by  (D) shy away from
10. (A) on the brink of (B) with the intention of (C) on the horizon of (D) in the market for

**Passage C**

A referendum, also known as a plebiscite or a vote ___11___ a ballot question, is a direct vote in which an entire ___12___ is asked to either accept or reject a particular proposal, usually a piece of legislation which has been ___13___ by the local legislative body and was signed by the ___14___ executive officials. This may ___15___ the adoption of a new constitution, a constitutional amendment, a law, the recall of an elected official or simply a specific government policy. It is a form of direct democracy. In a first classification ___16___, a referendum may be ___17___, that is, the law, usually the constitution, directs authorities to hold referendums on specific matters ___18___ in amending most constitutions, or ___19___ heads of state as well as ratifying international treaties) and are usually binding. A referendum can also be facultative, that is, it can be initiated ___20___ a public authority (President of the Republic in France and Romania or the Government/Parliament in Greece or Spain) or ___20___ the citizens (a petition). It can be binding/non-binding.

11. (A) of (B) by (C) with (D) on
12. (A) capacity (B) electorate (C) platitude (D) sanctuary
13. (A) passed into law (B) excavated (C) pulled off (D) pinpointed
14. (A) pertinent (B) malicious (C) fraudulent (D) gratifying
15. (A) chalk up (B) break into (C) result in (D) square off
16. (A) on the right foot (B) in a flash (C) on the whole (D) by necessity
17. (A) dissipating (B) emotive (C) preventative (D) mandatory
18. (A) the same (B) ambiguous (C) such is the case (D) unknown
19. (A) provincial (B) impeaching (C) precocious (D) sanitizing
20. (A) at the desire of (B) on the run of (C) at the will of (D) in defense of

**Passage D**

(A) rigid (B) Chances (C) up (D) engaged
(E) flexible (F) for (G) ergonomic (H) to
(I) face (J) fulfill

Relax, research tells us, ___1___ better productivity. And we’re listening, eager to ___2___ our desire for creature comforts. ___3___ are your classroom chair was not made for comfort. It was a ___4___ design of steel, saw-dust and resin that was made for a student to sit ___5___ and work. But now everything must be ___6___. The new chair at Thomas Nelson High School in Kentucky allows students to ___7___ front or back. They are “human friendly” and “form ___8___ the body,” Wes Bradley, the principal, told the Times. In Albuquerque, the Academy High School’s chairs have wheels. Administrators say that the children seem more ___9___ in their ___10___ chairs.
Passage E
(A) air conditioners   (B) definition   (C) outside   (D) globalization
(E) standard     (F) globe     (G) model   (H) worker
(I) wardrobe     (J) temperature
In the office, there is no universal 1__ of comfort, especially when it comes to 2__, wrote Maggie Koerth-Baker in the Times Magazine. As 3__ become more affordable, 4__ has helped popularize a building code called Ashrae 55, which determines the ideal temperature for large buildings across the 5__. But the 6__ is not culture-blind. “It’s based on Fanger’s Comfort Equation, a mathematical 7__ developed in Denmark and the United States, which seeks to make a very specific 8__ comfortable: a man wearing a full business suit,” wrote Ms. Koerth-Baker. But what about 9__ for office workers in hotter countries, where a dashiki is acceptable business attire? These workers may start to dress differently, making them less comfortable 10__ and at home, she wrote.

Passage F
(A) deal   (B) purchase   (C) tablets  (D) checkout (E) sites
(F) price   (G) market   (H) retailers  (I) options  (J) images
Ryan O’Neil was in the 1__ to buy a digital weather station. His wife researched 2__ on their iPad, but even though she found the lowest 3__, Mr. O’Neil made the 4__ on his laptop. “I do use the iPad to browse 5__,” Mr. O’Neil said, but when it comes time to close the 6__, he finds it easier to do on a computer. The size of the average order on 7__, particularly iPads, tends to be bigger than on PCs. So 8__ have poured money and marketing into mobile Web sites and apps with rich 9__ and, they thought, easy 10__.

ii. Choose the most appropriate from the clauses below to fill in the blanks in the following passages. On the answer sheet, write down the English letter corresponding to the clause chosen.

Passage A
(A) is(are) remembered on the right day from one year to the next
(B) call(s) for unremitting backstage teamwork by the actors and production team
(C) attend(s) to the fine details of the management and maintenance of the self-same identity of the characters they play
(D) require(s) considerable art to bring off this artless effect
(E) ensure(s) that no discrepancies appear between the past and present
To maintain the densely textured social world of such programs 1___. The actors portray the characters they play as “real people”, as persons in all their particularity. It 2__ and the care with which the actors 3__ shows up clearly in the discussion with the cast. The longest running programs include a historian or archivist in the production team to 4__, that characters retain consistent biographies, and that birthdays and anniversaries 5___. For it is certain that if mistakes creep in they will be spotted by regular listeners or viewers.
Passage B

(A) wherein people had sought refuge
(B) during the brink of the tsunami’s devastation
(C) as evident
(D) added to that
(E) as seen on the aftermath brought by the 311 earthquake

Japan has been one of the unfortunate victims of Mother Nature’s wrath __6__, ever recorded with an 8.9 magnitude. The country suffered a series of ground trembling aftershocks that sent people panicking in their homes and the streets. __7__, they have suffered the fate of a tsunami which was stirred up by the earthquake and aftershocks. The tsunami rose to 23-feet and the enormous volume of water swept away everything in its path. The devastation of the tsunami was clearly documented as it was recorded and the videos were fed live __8__. Live video feeds from local news teams showed the devastation of the earthquake __9__ in the burning houses in a residential area in Natori city. Also, there were video feeds showing the devastation of the tsunami in Sendai Airport __10__ as they watched the devastation during the wake of the tsunami. The citizens of Japan had tried to prevent a nuclear meltdown as they struggled to flood the cooling systems of the nuclear reactor.

III. Choose the most appropriate clause to fill in each blank. (10 points)

Passage A

(A) suffer from the whims
(B) pursued a project
(C) enshrines individual rights
(D) guaranteed full powers
(E) was ratified

After the chaos of the Cultural Revolution, the surviving Communist Party leaders __1__ that might sound familiar to those in the West: Write a constitution that __2__ and ensures rulers are subject to law, so that China would never again __3__ of a tyrant. The resulting document __4__ for a representative legislature, the right to ownership of private property, and freedoms of speech, press and assembly. But the idealism of the founding fathers was short-lived. Though the Constitution __5__ in 1982 by the National People’s Congress, it has languished ever since.

Passage B

(A) whose economy declined
(B) designated by the European Union annually since 1985
(C) France’s second largest city
(D) Most of them North African
(E) For an exhibition opening on March 1

In a building in Marseille, down by the old port, immigrants from the colonies, __1__ were showered, deloused and examined before entry into France. The structure had been
abandoned for 40 years and was nearly demolished in 2009. Now, it is being rehabilitated as a museum, __2__ called “Regards de Provence, Mediterranean Reflections” --- part of Marseille’s celebration of itself as a European Capital of Culture for 2013. Gaining the title, __3__ is something like winning the Olympics. It gives Marseille, __4__ a chance to remake itself, reclaim its gorgeous port for ordinary citizens and to reshape its image --- from a poor, rough, crime-ridden and corrupt cross-roads __5__ with the end of colonialism to an attractive tourist destination of sun, sea, seafood and culture.

IV. Reading comprehension: 20 points
Choose the best answer for each of the following questions.

Passage A

Rites of passage are ceremonies that mark important periods of transition or change in a person’s life. The phrase *rites of passage* was first used by a Belgian anthropologist. He said that all rites of passage had three parts. First, the individual is separated from society. Then he or she undergoes a transformation. Finally, the participant returns to society with a different status. They often symbolically demonstrate the society’s values by using elements such as clothing, jewelry, words, music, and dance. In addition, the individual involved in the rite may have to prove himself or herself to the group he or she belongs to. In many societies, the most complex and significant rites of passage occur at puberty when young people move from childhood to adulthood.

The most familiar rites of passage in the USA is the wedding ceremony. One element of a traditional western wedding is the reciting of the wedding vows. Vows are promises that the bride and groom make to each other in front of their friends and family. After they say their vows, the couple is considered married. Another important rites of passage in American society is graduation. The graduates often wear caps and gowns that completely cover their clothing. In the past, the gowns were always black, but today, they are usually the school colors. On their heads, graduates wear a cap with a square, flat top which has a colored tassel that hangs down in the front. The gown was the traditional clothing of students and professors hundreds of year ago, so it signifies that the wearer is an academic. The cap signifies the student’s change in status when, at the end of the graduation ceremony, the participants move the tassel from left to right.

1. Which of the followings is not one of the transitions which rites of passage mark?
   (A) examination  (B) having children  (C) death  (D) birth

2. From the passage, we know that
   (A) Rites of passage occur in just some societies.
   (B) Symbolic elements are important in rites of passage.
   (C) Only one symbolic element is used in any rites of passage.
   (D) Transformation is not always necessary in rites of passage.

3. The gowns worn by graduates in American society
   (A) are always black.
   (B) are worn by students only.
   (C) signify the students are academically successful.
   (D) are able to cover their clothing.

4. The element people use to signify the change of status at puberty is
   (A) reciting vows  (B) moving the tassel  (C) jewelry  (D) not mentioned.
5. Which of the following pertaining the first use of the rites of passage is true?
   (A) According to the first user, the participant’s status remained the same after the rites of passage.
   (B) The first user was more interested in the rites of passage in the USA.
   (C) The phrase rites of passage was invented by a European.
   (D) The first user studied all rites of passage.

**Passage B**

Society has many different outlooks on a controversial situation. The majority of the public is small-minded, or shall I say narrow-minded about these issues. So when gay parenting becomes an issue, many outlooks are presented that conflict with each other. Nowadays scores of Internet sites offer information about adoption and sperm banks. Children’s storybooks feature same-sex parents and physicians and hospitals are more open to helping. The rise in gay-headed families has been aided by a great willingness among adoption agencies to accept gay men and lesbians as adoptive parents. In addition, the way same-sex parents express their emotion toward children demonstrated with no doubt that they’re loving people, just looking out for the benefit of their kids. Nevertheless, people still argue that in a homosexual household, not only is one of the sexes missing, but the children are confronted with abnormal sexuality being presented as the norm. Having to explain to peers that you have two mommies or two daddies is a burden no child should have to bear.

6. From the arguments, we know that the author
   (A) supports gay parenting.
   (B) hates gay parenting.
   (C) has no opinion about gay parenting.
   (D) is confused by so many outlooks about gay parenting.

7. We can infer from the passage that
   (A) gay parenting is hardly becoming acceptable in the society.
   (B) gay parenting is not a controversial issue.
   (C) if society fully accepts these families, then being gays or lesbians won’t be abnormal in the years to come.
   (D) families with gay parents are not looked differently from heterosexual families.

8. What is the negative effect of gay parenting on children?
   (A) Children will not be confused about their own sexualities.
   (B) Gay parents might express too much emotion.
   (C) To explain they have two mommies or daddies is not easy.
   (D) They think gays and lesbians are abnormal.

9. Gay parents can probably be good parents because
   (A) Internet sites can offer help.
   (B) they are loving people.
   (C) they are accepted by adoption agencies.
   (D) there are fewer custody disputes.
10. The last sentence in the passage could be
(A) Gay parenting remains unacceptable in society.
(B) Possibly the gay and lesbian family could provide greater love for their children than some so-called normal families.
(C) Even if gay parents wanted to influence their children’s sexual orientation, they probably couldn’t.
(D) But the truth is that the long-term research suggests that children of same-sex couples seem to develop pretty much like other children.