I. Cloze passages (20%)

Our growing _1_ to technology has become even more dramatic thanks to the proliferation of mobile devices. While their benefits are _2_, that same powerful computer in our pocket is also spawning _3_ behavior, often served up with heaping sides of angst. Psychologists call it the “always on” syndrome. They had patients who were already _4_ by life, and now their problems were even much _5_ by all these new devices.

We have all felt it ourselves. The nagging needs to _6_ check for incoming texts and emails even at dinners with friends or at streets walking with families. And there’s the “phantom vibration syndrome,” that creepy _7_ that your smartphone is buzzing in your purse or pocket when _8_ it isn’t. A psychology profession said solid research on _9_ anxiety is still in its early stage. He pointed out that, all you have to do is look over at that texting driver next to you at the red light to see how people are all _10_ using our phones. We have reached a point where it’s increasingly hard for us to have the mind at quiet.

1. (A) addict  (B) addiction   (C) addicting   (D) addictiveness
2. (A) limited  (B) insured   (C) bountiful   (D) sufficient
3. (A) arbitrary  (B) discounting   (C) obsessive   (D) numerous
4. (A) bewildered  (B) overwhelmed   (C) agitated   (D) introspected
5. (A) undeniable  (B) inevitable   (C) unbelievable   (D) complicated
6. (A) ceaselessly  (B) unexpectedly   (C) restlessly   (D) recklessly
7. (A) perception  (B) subject   (C) notion   (D) sensation
8. (A) in fact  (B) as usual   (C) to be honest   (D) however
9. (A) self-obsessed  (B) life-long   (C) tech-induced   (D) money-oriented
10. (A) speedily  (B) extraordinary   (C) constantly   (D) intricately
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 number corresponding to the clause chosen. (20%)

Passage A

A. countering those who pointed to the existence of a world English
B. historically speaking
C. over a period of several centuries
D. as the second language of many speakers in countries throughout the world
E. with the decline of the Roman Empire

The emergence of new Englishes has been compared to the spread of Latin throughout the Roman world. In the late 1970s, the chief editor of the Oxford English Dictionary made a series of predictions based on this comparison. His controversial thesis was that just as, ___1___, Latin broke up into mutually unintelligible European languages, so ___2___, global English will similarly disintegrate into separate languages. He pointed out that, ___3___, languages have always had a tendency to break up or to evolve. ___4___, he argued that “English, ___5___, is more likely to survive the inevitable political changes of the future than did Latin.

Passage B

A. the forces on land, sea and air were powerless
B. Churchill’s government launched a major propaganda drive
C. the working class soon became a major center of attention
D. labor was the nation’s ultimate resource
E. the BBC began a series of industrial features

Before the war the working class, both as an audience for who programs were made and as a subject about who programs were made, was marginalized on national radio and recognized and acknowledged only in the regional service. In the war, however, ___6___ for the BBC’s morale and propaganda activities on the home front. This sudden change of heart was guided by instrumental, pragmatic considerations. In this first total war, for the British, ___7___. Without the continuous supply of weaponry ___8___. So the work front was import than the fighting front. In the immediate aftermath of Dunkirk, ___9___ to back up its switch to a full-scale war economy. A great and sudden upsurge of effort from the workfront was called for by the Ministry of Supply. Three weeks after the ministry launched its campaign to show how the workforce had responded to that appeal ___10___.
III. Reading comprehension (20%)

Passage A

It is said that space is pervaded by ether, an invisible medium by which all waves of energy are thought to be transmitted. Of these ethereal vibrations, the most important for plants are the light waves, since all plants grow by the action of light, which a substance in their leaves converts into energy.

Various species of plants, however, thrive best on different varieties of what we call light. For example there is a marked difference between sun light and moonlight owing to the fact that the vibrations of light from the sun run in all directions, but the vibrations of moonlight are polarized and run in one direction only. Certain plants, such as the cucumber, thrive best in this polarized moonlight.

Since the discovery of this scientific fact, various experimental farms have been established where light has been artificially polarized in order to further the growth of certain species of plants. In Washington, E.C., there is an interesting exhibit showing the remarkable development of certain plants after they have been subjected to the action of their favorite light waves.

1. The selection states that plants grow by the action of
   (A) heat  (B) light  (C) moisture  (D) nervous energy.

2. The statements that space is pervaded by ether is
   (A) a supposition.  (B) an impossibility.
   (C) a falsehood.  (D) a known fact.

3. Moonlight is said to differ from sunlight in that it is light which is
   (A) weaker  (B) whiter  (C) colorless  (D) polarized.

4. The statement that cucumbers grow best in moonlight is
   (A) a ridiculous conclusion.  (B) a scientific fact
   (C) an impossibility  (D) a superstition

5. Experimental farms have been established to
   (A) aid the farmers’ wives  (B) increase our annual output
   (C) verify established facts  (D) use untended land.

Passage B

Ballroom dancing has always had fans, but recently it has become even more popular thanks to movies like Shall We Dance. Historically, ballroom dancing was a pursuit of the higher classes. The Viennese Waltz is recognized as the oldest dance in the genre, emerging in the 18th century. The waltz was subject to criticism as some people expressed distaste for the fact that the couples faced one another as they danced, regarding it as vulgar and scandalous compared to the communal non-contact dances that had come before. These days, ballroom’s appeal reaches far beyond parties thrown by the wealthy. With the activity in vogue, interest in dance contests has naturally increased. Competitive ballroom dancing, also known as dancesport, encompasses the classic styles and the Latin styles. Each dance ought to communicate a story so the expressiveness of the dancers is vital to the performance. As
glamor and glitz are a part of ballroom dancing’s history, couples in the dance contest can go the extra mile when it comes to looking good. While the male dancer is always immaculately dressed, it is the woman who lights up the dancefloor in an extravagant gem-studded dress and jewelry that shimmers like stardust. Rather than the fancy costumes, judges are supposed to focus on, among other things, poise, musicality, footwork, and chemistry between the dancers.

6. According to the passage, what type of person was originally interested in ballroom dancing?
(A) Someone who enjoyed watching dancing movies.
(B) Someone who was searching for a glamorous partner.
(C) Someone who had money and was well-educated.
(D) Someone who was looking to join the dance contest.

7. What is evaluated by judges in a ballroom dance contest?
(A) The dance dress that the couple wear when they dance
(B) The spark that the couple show when they dance
(C) The music types that the couple choose for their dance
(D) The footwear that the couple have when they dance

8. Which of the following statements about the waltz is true?
(A) It is the oldest form of dance in the world.
(B) At first, many people thought it was morally wrong.
(C) It was created sometime in the 1800s.
(D) Most people didn’t want to face one another as they danced.

9. Which of the following statements about dance competitions is not true?
(A) More people are interested in them than ever before.
(B) Many competitions feature a variety of styles.
(C) Female dancers often wear lots of rings and necklaces.
(D) Men usually wear casual clothing while dancing.

10. What would be the suitable title for the passage?
(A) Learning the Basic Steps of Ballroom Dancing.
(B) The Elegance of Ballroom Dancing
(C) The Evolution of Ballroom Dancing
(D) Ballroom Dancing: A Forgotten Art Form
IV. Reading and Writing:( 20%)

Directions: After reading the following article, in a passage of at least 250 words, 1) please describe and discuss what issues people face in the article, 2) then connect the reading to your own life, to similar events at other times and places, to other people or problems that you are reminded of, and also 3) address your response to these similar experiences.

A Young Man and His Kilt

An American high school student, Nathan Warmack, wanted to honor his family history, so he decided to wear a Scottish kilt to his high school dance. Then his principal told him to change into a pair of pants for more appropriate attire. The young man’s case has resulted in an international debate about a variety of issues. More than 1600 people have signed an Internet petition, asking the school to apologize to the young man for not letting him wear the kilt to his senior prom. Some people think that the principal has the authority to decide the dress code policy for after-school activities while others claim that students can express themselves in different ways. After the news was released, several Scottish organizations stated that the kilt is a symbol of Scottish pride and considered formal dress, and that regarding the traditional Scottish dress as a clown dress is a direct insult to people of Scottish heritage.

V. Composition (20%): (not less than 150 words)

Recently there has been a trend that the movie or media industry made movies based on the traditional folktales, such as *Alice in the Wonderland*, *Shrek series*, *Tangled*, etc. In your opinion, are there any advantages or disadvantages in their new interpretations of these stories? Give examples and explain.