

Part 3

Questions 19 to 26 are based on the following passage.

Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer **A, B, C** or **D**. for each question, mark your answer on the answer sheet.

I rushed off the train, excited about finally getting a chance to reconnect with old friends in Kedah. I couldn't contain my smile as I hurried towards the exit. Every second wasted was a second away from my friends. I prayed that the taxi I called would arrive soon, that every car in front of us would move faster, that every stoplight would be green. I just wanted to be there already!

My three friends meant so much to me. The four of us attended the same secondary school in Kedah. Surprisingly, the demanding, stressful year of Form Three became my favourite school year because of them. One of them was a school debater while the other two were an athlete and a football player respectively. They were the ones who took time from their packed schedules to help me improve in the subjects I struggled with. They were the ones who reassured me when I was worried. During that one year, we became closer than friends I had known for years.

Daniel was a hardworking mathematics genius who was always on top of his studies. He was also a talented writer. I remember how once, with surgical precision, he helped me cut down my six-page English essay to three pages, shortening it, making it much precise. Megat was everyone's personal therapist: there was evidently no one he would not help out in a pinch. He was the person you would call whether you were being chased by a dog or just needed someone to rant to. Finally, there was Aidan, the one I could always rely on to reply to texts almost instantly in our group chat. Aidan was a strong speaker, as well as funny and engaging. I admired how his speeches and rebuttals could be firm and critical, while he remained logical and calm.

We became close network of support in every way. From playing an escape game as a team of four to sharing our favourite books, we all contributed to the group and learned from one another. Over time, we rubbed off on each other so much that our catchphrases, the ways we talked and even the way we texted became similar.

We decided to meet up at the mall across from our old school. When I saw the place again, the nostalgic memories flooded my head. There was a bakery where I used to buy the next day's breakfast, the restaurant where so many birthdays we celebrated and the iconic juice stand with incredible mango smoothies. It's true, you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.

As I walked into Sunshine Mart, I remembered buying packed nasi lemak with fried chicken, biscuits and chewy candies. The same cashier was still working there, the one who always smiled and talked to me. But when our eyes met, his no longer lit up. His lips no longer lifted into a smile. I was nothing more than a stranger to him. His memory of me had faded away. I felt my stomach tighten, worried this was an indication of more disappointment to come. I took a deep breath and tried to get rid of this awful feeling. It didn't matter, as long as I could see my friends.

The entrance bell rang, and I glimpsed a familiar haircut over the top of the aisle. Megat! He's here! I felt hopeful and excited. A memory. But something else was buried deep inside me too, something that made me nervous and worried, trapped inside a bottle that began to unscrew its lid. I greeted him with a smile. He replied, "Hey." Silence.

It will pick up, I told myself. I was never much good at starting conversations anyway. While we were awkwardly chatting, Daniel came in. He took me by surprise. In one's memories, the people you leave behind never change. In my mind, he was still the one we would tease playfully about his height. Now, I marvelled at his figure. He was taller and thinner.

We tried to catch up, talking about all the things that had happened to us since our lives separated. Megat had finally adjusted to his college life. Daniel was accepted into a prestigious foundation programme and I was truly happy for him. In an instant, it felt like we were back to the time when we all studied like crazy together, sharing our stress over homework and examinations, but soon, the answers became a little shorter and the silence between each question became a little longer. Before we knew it, we were struggling to make conversation.

My head began to spin. Texting made everything much easier. There were no awkward silences, no anxious glances. No need to come up with a topic simply just to talk. Had I become a stereotypical teen who could only communicate on his phone? All these thoughts filled my head in a simple second of silence.

19 In paragraph 1, why did the writer rush off the train?

- A He wanted to get a taxi quickly.
- B He was late to see his school friends.
- C He could not wait to see his old school.
- D He would have a reunion with his friends.

20 In paragraph 2, how did the writer become close to his friends?

- A They shared their school problems and helped each other.
- B They supported him when he struggled with studies.
- C They helped him with all of his homework.
- D They went to the same school together.

21 In paragraph 3, what did the writer say about his friends?

- A Megat was a good listener.
- B Aidan spent his time writing speeches.
- C Daniel loved to solve mathematics problems.
- D All of his friends had identical characteristics.

22 In paragraph 5, why did the writer use the phrase flooded my head?

- A He used to hang out at the mall after school with his friends.
- B He recalled pleasant moments he had at the mall.
- C He planned to do many activities once he met his friends.
- D He thought that memories should be cherished.

23 The writer concluded that the cashier

- A could not be bothered by him as he was busy.
- B was not as friendly as he used to be.
- C pretended not to know him.
- D had forgotten him.

24 How did the writer feel about talking with each other in person?

- A He became shy and timid.
- B He was insecure.
- C He felt uneasy.
- D He regretted meeting them.

25 Why did the conversation lose its sparks?

- A They had lost interest in each other.
- B They did not know how to respond to some questions.
- C They were not willing to share their recent life experiences.
- D They were not used to communicating with each other in person.

26 What can we learn from the writer's experience?

- A We should build relationships through face-to-face communication.
- B We should know that socialising with friends in person is important.
- C We should know that social media can ruin friendships.
- D We should keep and maintain old friendships.

Part 3

Questions 19 to 26 are based on the following passage.

Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer A, B, C or D.

For each question, mark your answer on the answer sheet.

Around 11 a.m., Wayne Barrett was waiting for his son, Spencer to come home from school. A yellow bus loaded with school kids from the rural Winn Elementary School near Michigan, arrived at his place. With a wave to his friends, Spencer jumped into his father's arms.

Several metres away from the road stood a 50-foot-tall utility pole and hidden knee-deep at its base was a metal wire that supported the old wooden structure. The bus started backing out of the road towards the pole to turn around. Then it stopped, and for several seconds 65-year-old driver Richard Henry checked to see which child would be dropped off next. "Is Kory Kenny here?" he asked. "Yes," replied the kids, referring to the freckled-nosed boy in the first seat across from Henry. There were 11 kids in all.

As the bus slowly moved again, the sound of shattering wood ripped the air. Barrett looked up to see the bus's bumper pushing at the metal wire. The wooden pole was broken. One of the power lines hung off to the side. The other was over the bus's emergency hatch on the roof. It carried 46,000 volts. Henry wanted to continue driving. "Stop!" Barrett shouted, frantically waving his hands to Henry. "There's a live wire. Don't get off the bus. I'll call 911."

Barrett was a fireman before. He knew the kids should be fine as long as they stayed put and didn't touch the bus and the ground at the same time. But any child stepping off the bus risked getting electric shock. The rear tires were smoking. Inside the bus, the frightened faces of the children were pressed against the windows. Barrett quickly explained the situation to Henry. Nobody could safely touch the vehicle and ground at the same time, he said.

But as they talked, Henry noticed smoke building in the air and flowing into the bus. The current began damaging the bus with a loud noise. Firefighters were on the way. The children saw smoke rising in the back of the bus. The seat frames were getting hot. Electricity had flowed

through the bus. The smoke was building up inside and the kids were coughing more. Henry opened the bus door. "We've got to get the kids off," he called to Barrett. "Yes," Barrett yelled back. "Right now." **Their eyes locked.** The men feared that death by smoke or fire could be just minutes away. They decided they had only one option – but it involved a deadly mission. Henry would throw each kid through the narrow bus door towards Barrett.

"Get up," Henry told the schoolkids. "Line up behind me." He instructed them on the importance of not touching anything. They had to go out face first with their arms tucked in, not brushing the door on the way out. If a child fell to the ground, then reached back to grab the door or another child on the bus, he could be getting electric shock. Henry wanted to make sure each kid landed on the ground at least five feet from the front door. "You'll all be safe," Henry promised. Barrett would quickly collect each child. Then, he did it.

Not long after, a blue Michigan State Police car and two fire engines arrived at the scene. They could see flames and thick black smoke, while the electricity from the hot wire caused bright blue-white fire. Still worried that he might have missed someone, Henry searched the bus, calling out for children. He found no one. Returning to the front door, he planted his work boots and pushed hard off the top step. He then landed on the ground near Barrett. Within several minutes, the electricity power was shut off. The fires were put out before anyone was hurt.

Three weeks later, in front of the school kids at Winn Elementary, Consumer Energy presented Richard Henry and Wayne Barrett with an award for saving the children's lives. Some months after the incident, Henry was having his lunch at a local restaurant and heard a small voice call out. "That's one of the men who saved me," said Kory Kenny, pointing out Henry to his parents. Smiling, he added, "He's my hero."

(Adapted from Reader's Digest: January 1999)

19 In paragraph 1, where was Wayne Barrett?

A He was on the bus.
B He was by the roadside.
C He was inside his house.
D He was at the elementary school.

20 In paragraph 2, why did the bus stop again?

A The bus driver got off the bus to check the ground.
B The bus driver made sure all kids replied to his question.
C The bus driver wanted to count the number of kids on the bus.
D The bus driver called the next kid to be ready for the next stop.

21 In paragraph 5, why did the writer use the phrase **Their eyes locked**?

A Both Barrett and Henry's eyes were sore of the smoke.
B Both Barrett and Henry saw something bad was happening.
C Both Barrett and Henry were worried about the safety of the kids.
D Both Barrett and Henry agreed with the idea of starting the rescue mission.

22 In paragraph 5, what caused the two adults to start taking the kids out of the bus?

A The kids started to feel panic.
B The inside of the bus was on fire.
C The smoke could kill everyone on the bus.
D The noise from the electric current was unbearable.

23 In paragraph 6, what was the most important instruction Henry gave to the kids?

A To stay five feet from the front door of the bus.
B To stand in line behind him for the rescue mission.
C To wait on the ground until everyone was out of the bus.
D To keep their hands to themselves until they reached the ground.

24 Why didn't Henry rush out of the bus after all kids had been rescued?

A He wanted to put out the fire from inside the bus.
B He wanted to check how the fire had damaged the bus.
C He wanted to ensure no one was left behind on the bus.
D He wanted to pick up the kids' belongings to be taken out of the bus.

25 How did the kid feel when he met Henry in the last paragraph?

A He was interested to see him as his hero.
B He felt grateful to accept him as his hero.
C He was disappointed to see him as his hero.
D He felt awkward when he saw him as his hero.

26 What was the purpose of the writer writing this article?

A To show how accident could affect our lives.
B To show how people reacted to acts of kindness.
C To show how to appreciate the heroes who had saved our lives.
D To show how cooperation and concern among people could save lives.

Part 3

You are going to read a short passage. For questions 19 – 26, choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) and mark the correct letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet.

Five-year-old Nevaeh addressed a letter to her cat Tin Tin in heaven and it was spotted by a postman at the Royal Mail, who took the time to send a parcel and letter in reply. A distraught little girl, who sent a letter addressed to 'heaven' when her cat died, received an incredible reply, thanks to a kind-hearted postman. Five-year-old Nevaeh Lowe from Walton – on – Thames was left devastated when her beloved pet cat and best friend Tin Tin had to be put down.

Nevaeh was worried Tin Tin would be alone and wrote her a letter to check if she was okay, addressing it to heaven to make sure she would see it. Although her mum Tamara, 26, warned that heaven might be too far away to send a letter, Nevaeh insisted and the pair dropped it in a postbox. Incredibly, they received a parcel in the post a week later after a postman at Royal Mail spotted the letter and decided to write back.

He wrote Nevaeh a message from Tin Tin, explaining that she had to go to heaven and Nevaeh didn't need to worry about her - and even included a toy cat that looked just like her and a book to read with her mum whenever she missed her. Tamara told her little girl that her cat had transformed into a star and the letter she received back said that whenever she looked up at the sky, the brightest star there would be Tin Tin.

She received a letter, toy and book in the post a week later. It said: "I want you to know that I'm okay and have made some nice friends here, one of them called Tibbles snores so loud when we have cat naps. I'm being fed and looked after well by the angels. I know you are sad that I'm not there with you but please don't be. In here is a

little cuddle cat that I thought looks a little like me. So, if you do feel sad you can cuddle him like how we used to." It ended; "Forever your best friend, Tin Tin." and a paw mark.

Teaching assistant Tamara said: "I was gobsmacked when the parcel arrived, it was so moving to open it with Nevaeh. Nevaeh addressed the letter to 'The brightest star in the clouds, Heaven. I think she really needed some closure so she could start to move on after Tin Tin died, and what this postman has done really did that for us. Nevaeh and Tin Tin were best friends, they had a really close bond, whenever they saw each other they were so happy. When we sent the letter I didn't expect anything to come back and I don't think Nevaeh did either but it was important to her to say farewell."

"Getting a response was the last thing we expected, and I'm just so thankful to the Royal Mail and the postman for writing that letter and sending it to us - and of course for the toys too." Mum Tamara said she was taken aback by the parcel they got in return. "I tracked down the postman that did it and although I didn't get a chance to speak to him, I did speak to his wife, and they have cats too so they totally understood why Neveah was so upset. It has really helped, her sleeping is getting back to normal and now that she knows Tin Tin is okay, she is starting to get over the loss and is a bit happier." Tin Tin had to be put down due to heart failure earlier this year and Nevaeh, who was struggling to sleep, eventually decided she needed to say a proper goodbye.

19. In paragraph 1, how did the postman notice Nevaeh's letter?

- A. It was addressed to heaven
- B. It stated her cat had died.
- C. It had a parcel with it.
- D. It came with a reply.

20. What kind of a person was the postman?

- A. Meticulous
- B. Thoughtful
- C. Grateful
- D. Loving

21. In paragraph 2, what was Tamara's warning to her daughter?

- A. Her letter will get lost in the Royal Mail.
- B. Her daughter will not get a reply at all.
- C. Her letter will not be spotted.
- D. The distance to heaven

22. In paragraph 3, what was the main content of the letter?

- A. Nevaeh's cat had turned to a star
- B. Description of her new toy cat.
- C. Her cat was happy in heaven.
- D. Tin Tin was a great listener.

23. In paragraph 4, the postman sent all the items to Nevaeh because

- A. she was terribly missing her dead cat.
- B. she wanted to snuggle with her cat.
- C. it reminds her of Tibbles' snores.
- D. the angels had fed her cat.

24. In paragraph 5 'I was gobsmacked.' means

- A. the writer was exhausted.
- B. the writer was surprised.
- C. the writer was thrilled.
- D. the writer was in joy.

25. What was the last thing mother and daughter expected?

- A. A reply
- B. A soft toy
- C. A new cat
- D. A farewell

26. What happened to Nevaeh in the end?

- A. She was understood by everyone
- B. She started coping with her loss
- C. She was still pain stricken.
- D. She still missed her pet.

PART 3
[8 marks]
[Time suggested: Twenty minutes]

Question 19 to 26

You are going to read advice from a first-year student and her dad. For questions 19 to 26, choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) and mark the correct letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet.

**Welcome to the home
of the future**



[1] The 2009 *British Homes Awards* challenged the industry to design a house that can adapt to different life stages. The participants were asked to rethink the construction and design of individual homes so that they were easily adaptable to less mobile *inhabitants*, and also to create communities in which ageing occupants could continue to enjoy shared amenities. The top design also had to be attractive to its potential buyers, because the competition was put to the public vote. The winner, gaining 12,000 votes from Mail on Sunday readers, was the strikingly modern SunnySideUp, designed by Kosi Architects. Here are its three main features:

1. Upside Down House

[2] The architects took as a starting point the accepted norm for a house – rows of

houses facing onto streets crammed with cars, with living rooms on the ground floor and bedrooms above. Then they scrapped it. They ended up with the living room, dining room and kitchen on the top floor where they can benefit from the light and views, and maximise energy efficiency. And they put the bedrooms on the ground floor where the garden aspect gives inhabitants increased privacy, and a cool temperature is maintained throughout the day. The two floors are linked by wide, gentle gradient stairs, which are designed to allow for a stairlift to be fitted if necessary as owners age.

2. Concealed Parking Spaces

[3] But the feature that, according to Warren Rosing, one of the Kosi architects responsible for the design, was particularly popular with the public, is actually the parking. In a SunnySideUp development, no one has to look out onto a street full of cars or worry about their kids being run

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over because the terrace zone at the first-floor level links all the homes and is a car-free zone. Vehicles are tucked away on the lower floor, leaving safe and pleasant spaces outside the houses for people to meet, and kids to play. A lift takes people directly from the garage to the living area, so that all residents, including the elderly and those with heavy shopping, can move comfortably between the floors. The natural feel of the front area is enhanced by the planters that are placed outside the kitchens at the front to encourage residents to grow vegetables and flowers where they can be seen. The idea is that not only would they look pretty, but they would be a talking point, encouraging interaction between residents on the terrace area outside.

3. Flexible Spaces

[4] But it's the fact that space is designed to adapt to the changing needs, including the fluctuating income of its owners, that

makes it a thought-provoking, as well as winning, design. The lower-floor bedrooms have separate outdoor access so they can be easily let. The idea is that owners can get some extra money to pay for their mortgages during the first years. And later in the future, those bedrooms can be used as a granny flat, or an office, and can easily be converted into a separate one-bed flat if your kids won't leave home. And if more space is required, as well as the usual loft that can be converted, there is potential for a gallery floor to be inserted in the living room.

4. Where can you get one?

[5] At the moment the SunnySideUp house is still just a set of drawings. But Warren Rosing says, "We are hoping to have it built." The organisers are in talks with builders, but due to the economic climate it may take longer than we would like." We're sure it will be worth the wait" they say.

19. In paragraph 1, *The British Homes Awards* challenged architects to design a house ...

- A. for disabled people
- B. for ageing inhabitants
- C. that could adapt to all ages
- D. for young families with children

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20. In paragraph 1, the word '*inhabitants*' can best be replaced with...

- A. Occupants
- B. Foreigner
- C. Alien
- D. outsider

21. In paragraph 2, in the winning property, bedrooms are downstairs to ...

- A. benefit from the view
- B. have easier access to the house
- C. have more privacy in the living room
- D. keep the same pleasant atmosphere the whole day

22. In paragraph 3, the parking spaces in this house design are ...

- A. on the first floor
- B. on the ground floor
- C. in a separate building
- D. in the street

23. In paragraph 3, we learn that ...

- A. children can play safely outside the house
- B. the houses overlook a street crammed with cars
- C. the back garden is the main talking point for the inhabitants
- D. the house can be transformed into a kindergarten

24. In paragraph 4, in the SunnySideUp house the ground floor ...

- A. can be rented
- B. can be sold separately
- C. is only used to store cars
- D. has a room for grandparents

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25. In paragraph 4, the house has been designed ...

- A.** to be rented
- B.** to be shared if necessary
- C.** for families with a small income
- D.** for the elderly

26. In paragraph 5, the SunnySideUp development ...

- A.** is being built
- B.** will never be built
- C.** will hopefully be built
- D.** has been recently built

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Part 3

You are going to read an extract from an article. For questions 19 to 26, choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) and mark the correct letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet.

Right now, somewhere in the world, Tom Turcich is walking. He started his hike in April 2015 and is still going. His intention is to walk across every continent in the world.

Tom made the decision to travel the world after one of his close friends died at the age of 17. The tragedy encouraged Tom to make the most of his own life. He spent the next few years completing college and working to save money, and in 2015, he finally quitted his job, packed a few belongings and set off on foot from his home in New Jersey, USA.

He took a route south through the USA and Central America and down the west coast of South America. After that, he travelled to Antarctica and Europe aboard a ship, and he is currently walking across North Africa. From there, he'll hike east through Asia and Australia. Then he plans to fly to the west coast of the USA and cross that on foot, back towards his final destination, New Jersey.

Tom isn't walking alone. He picked up a dog called Savannah from an animal shelter in Texas. At first, he thought it would be useful to have a dog protecting him, but the two soon became perfect travel companions. He thought he would have trouble crossing borders with the dog, but he acquired a certificate proving that it was free of disease and since then the process has been surprisingly simple.

Tom usually walks about 38 kilometres a day, burning 5000 calories daily. He has encountered a number of difficulties on the way, such as walking across the mountains

and volcanoes of Guatemala. They were so steep that he could only manage about 10 miles a day. He carries just a tent, a sleeping bag and a few basic supplies, all of which he pushes in a baby stroller, as he found that it requires less effort than carrying a backpack.

When he first started out, his legs ached at the end of the day. But he is now used to the exercise, although he makes sure to spend time at the end of the day stretching his legs. He had worn out several pairs of hiking boots already, each pair lasting about 800 kilometres. Tom has an arrangement with a friend in the States who mails him new pairs of sneakers whenever he needs them.

He has had some great experiences along the way and is always surprised by the generosity and hospitality of strangers, who frequently welcome him into their homes. However, few of them believe him when he tells them that he has walked to South America on foot, assuming that he has made a mistake speaking Spanish. But eventually, they accept his story and are extremely impressed.

Tom keeps a blog where he documents his travels and posts wonderful photographs that he has taken along the way. He had never been interested in photography before he started his trek but now loves the art form. He hopes that after returning to the USA, he will be able to work as a travel writer or photographer.

Adapted from <https://testenglish.com/reading/b1-b2/world-walker-reading-test/>

19 In paragraph 2, why did Tom decide to make the most of his life?

A His friend passed away at a young age.
B He wanted to walk across every continent.
C He was exhausted after studying and working for years.
D He quitted his job and began his travel across the world.

20 In paragraph 4, what does Tom think about Savannah as his travel companion?

A Pleased
B Thrilled
C Troubled
D Surprised

21 In paragraph 5, what made his journey across mountains and volcanoes difficult?

A He had to push a baby stroller up the mountains and volcanoes.
B The mountains and volcanoes were very steep.
C He brought some equipment with him.
D The walk took about 10 miles a day.

22 In paragraph 6, how does Tom get new pairs of sneakers?

A His friend arranges them for him.
B The States arranges them for him.
C The States mails them to him.
D His friend posts them to him.

23 In paragraph 7, how do other people react to his story?

A They are generous.
B They are reassured.
C They are astonished.
D They are welcoming.

24 In paragraph 8, why does Tom want to be a travel writer or photographer?

A He has been blogging about his travels.
B He is fascinated with the art of photography.
C He loves blogging and posting photographs of his travels.
D He has taken amazing photographs throughout his travels.

25 From the story, what can we say about Tom?

A He is a man of principle.
B He has great perseverance.
C He is protective of his companion.
D He prioritises others' needs before his own.

26 What is the purpose of this article?

A To recall how Tom faces difficulties during his travels.
B To share amazing stories about Tom's travels.
C To influence readers to take up travelling.
D To encourage people to do what Tom did.

PART 5
[8 marks]
[Time suggested: Twenty minutes]

You are going to read an extract from an article. For questions 19 to 26, choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) and mark the correct letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet.

She knew the street backwards, of course. How many times had she been dragged up it as a child by the wrist, whining and snivelling, always wishing she were somewhere else? Now she had no desire to be anywhere but here. This bustling traffic, these fuming buses, these chipped paving stones and boarded-up shop fronts, they were ***hers***. Here, she would grow from a defiant teenager to an independent woman. When she was an old woman, she would gaze out over the lawns and say ‘Ah, Knox Road, that’s where I really came into my own’.

Number 126 was only a short walk from the bus stop, and she heaved her multiple bags onto her shoulders and trudged off, trying to maintain the elation as the straps dug into the flesh of her neck and fingers. Number 126 was set back slightly from the main road, with a concrete path and weed-patch at the front. The window frames were rotten and the paint chipped. Holly tried not to mind. It was what was *inside* that counted, after all. The coming-together of six individuals from diverse backgrounds, discussing politics, culture and art late into the night, sharing ideas, recipes, milk, shower gel and lovers – that would be what she’d look back on of course, not the paintwork. In the absence of either a bell or knocker, she rapped firmly on the door.

There was no reply. Holly peered through the gap in curtains in the downstairs window, but there was nothing but gloom within. She could hear a faint thudding of a bass beat but was not sure which house it belonged to. She rapped more firmly and was searching for a pebble to throw to the upstairs window when the door opened. A shirtless, overweight twenty-something, with bleary eyes and greasy hair, stood in the doorway wearing boxer shorts and mismatched socks.

“I’ve come for the upstairs room, I’m the new tenant,” said Holly brightly. The man grunted slightly and moved aside. He gestured up the dim, uncarpeted stairway and began to shuffle along the dark hallway to the rear of the house. “Top floor, is that right? I guess I just follow my nose!” Holly gave a high laugh and received another grunt in reply. Then the man

was gone. Not to worry, he must be the quiet moody type, thought Holly, too caught up in his own profound thoughts for inane chit-chat. One day she would penetrate his hard-outer shell and release the free spirit inside. Anyway, now for the stairs.

The four flights of stairs would be worth it, she'd decided when she picked out the flat, even if it did mean her going downstairs to get to the bathroom, because the room faced the front, and she could watch the world scurry by as she sipped her morning coffee. Kicking one bag in front and dragging the others behind, she finally made it up the four flights and flung open the door to her new room, her new haven, her new adult life.

Peeling beige wallpaper, a lumpy mattress on a chipboard bed frame, a bare light bulb, a flat-pack wardrobe inexpertly put together. All this, Holly could just about put up with, but when she saw the view from her window – a dull patch of grey sky, invariable whatever the angle, she finally had to admit to herself that her adult life was not getting off to a great start.

<https://www.examenglish.com>

19 What can be inferred from the text?

- A** This is Holly's first time living away from home.
- B** Holly visited the house before deciding to move in.
- C** Holly is new to this part of the town.
- D** Holly already knows someone who lives in this house

20 Where is Knox Road?

- A** in a town centre
- B** in a suburb
- C** in a village
- D** on a housing estate

21 Which word best describes 126 Knox Road?

- A** austere
- B** run-down
- C** quaint
- D** pristine

22 What can be inferred about the character of Holly?

- A** She is a daydreamer.
- B** She is ambitious.
- C** She is prejudiced.
- D** She is reckless.

23 Which one is **NOT** true of 126 Knox Road?

- A** There isn't a front garden.
- B** The window frames need painting.
- C** There isn't a doorbell or a door knocker
- D** The downstairs curtains are drawn.

24 What can be inferred about the man who opened the door?

- A** He owns the property.
- B** He had not expected Holly.
- C** He lives in the front, ground floor room.
- D** He had been asleep.

25 Which one is **NOT** true of Holly's room?

- A** It is on the fourth floor.
- B** It is furnished.
- C** It has an en suite bathroom.
- D** It is at the front of the house.

26 Which best describes the change in Holly's emotions?

- A** nervous → optimistic
- B** optimistic → disillusioned
- C** disappointed → resigned
- D** eager → nervous

Part 3

Questions 19 to 26 are based on the following passage.

Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer A, B, C or D.
For each question mark your answer on the answer sheet.

It was a scorching sunny afternoon. As expected, the field was packed with students practising for the school sports that was to be held the next day. They were all distraught. The strong spirit of competition and the desire to be the champions got to everyone. Serena was no exception. She too felt **she had to win**.

Her old grandfather was the one who had instilled in her a strong love for sports. He had been an athlete and a high jumper but had failed to make it to the national level. So, he had pinned all his hopes on his granddaughter. He was the one who had been with her when she practised her long jump for months. Serena's favourite activity was browsing through the old photos of her grandfather taking part in sports competition.

Sweat was trickling down her face and messing it up as she completed her last practice. Her T-shirt was soaked through and she changed into dry clothes before leaving the field. When she reached home that evening, the house was very quiet. Her mother greeted her with a worried look, "Grandpa's illness got worse today. Go and talk to him."

Serena's grandfather was old and had been sick for the past three months. His illness had taken a heavy toll on him so much so he even found it difficult to sit up. When he saw her, he smiled feebly and asked, "So Serena, how was your practice today?"

They talked for a while and suddenly she asked him. "Grandpa, how tall are you?" The old man rubbed his nose and said, "Oh, I used to be a towering 1.90 metres tall. Now, I've shrunk. Why are you asking about my height?" She nodded, "Someday, Grandpa, I'll make a jump as high as that. I promise you that." The old man touched her hand and said, "That's a very big leap for a girl but I'm sure you'll be able to do it. I can't wait for the day when you fulfil your promise."

The next morning, she woke up early. It was that very important day. Before she left, she peeped into her grandfather's room. He was still sleeping. So she tiptoed to his bed kissed him on his forehead. When she got to the field, it was already crowded with participants. They looked confident and every inch a winner. Serena jogged a bit and did some warm-up exercises. Thinking of her grandfather's encouraging words, her confidence returned. Just before her event, she saw her mother walking towards her. There was something in her mother's expression that disturbed her. "Is anything wrong?" she asked. "Your grandfather is very ill and is in hospital. But he would want you to do your event. We'll come and fetch you later."

Serena felt tears welling in her eyes when she thought of how ill her grandfather was. But she knew she should not get upset for she had to do her best to make her grandfather proud of her. It was then when she heard her name being called out. The high jump event was about to begin. When it was her turn, she looked at the crossbar and thought that it looked higher than usual. Feeling a sense of panic, she despaired. "I won't be able to do it."

But when she heard the whistle blow, she ran up the runaway to gain momentum for the jump. As she did so, she was filled with strong determination to succeed for the sake of her grandfather and for the promise she had made to him: "Someday, Grandpa, I'll make a jump as high as that." So, she leaped in a way that she had never done before. It was a well-performed high jump, and she landed steadily on the ground.

The spectators and judges noticed her skill and grace. They applauded loudly. In the midst of all that, she could only hear her grandfather's words, "I'm sure you'll jump higher than that. I can't wait for the day when you fulfil your promise." And she whispered "Yes, I did it, Grandpa. For you."

19 In paragraph 1, why did Serena feel ‘she had to win’?

A She was tense and felt she had enough practice.
B Other students supported and wanted her to win.
C Winning the competition was very important to her.
D The sense of competition and winning was infectious.

20 In paragraph 2, what can you say about the grandfather’s character?

A He was the one who discovered Serena’s talent.
B He was responsible for making Serena fond of sports.
C He was discouraged when he could not make it to the national level.
D He enjoyed being photographed while taking part in sports competitions.

21 In paragraph 3, how did the writer describe her last practice?

A It was enjoyable.
B It was hard work.
C It was satisfying.
D It was depressing.

22 In paragraph 4, what was the proof that Serena’s grandfather was very ill?

A He was old.
B He lay in bed.
C He could only smile weakly.
D He could not sit up on his own.

23 In paragraph 5, what effect did Serena’s grandfather have on her?

A She wanted to make him happy by making promises.
B She was curious to know everything about him.
C She wanted to please him as he was very ill.
D She wanted to jump his height.

24 In paragraph 6, why did Serena recall her grandfather's words while warming up?

A She had lost confidence when she saw the other participants.
B She was worried thinking of her grandfather's condition.
C She almost did not want to take part in the event.
D She missed her grandfather very much.

25 In paragraph 7, how did Serena feel when she was taking part in her high jump event?

A Confident that she would win
B Excited to take part in the event
C Determined to jump well and win
D Hopeful that she would be able to clear the crossbar

26 At the end of the text, we learn that

A schooldays shape who we are today.
B there are difficulties in becoming a sportswoman.
C love can be a driving force when succeeding in something.
D the precious memories of a mother and grandfather remain.

Part 3

[8 marks]

Questions 19 to 26

Read the text carefully and answer the questions. Choose the answer **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**. For each question, mark the correct answer **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** on your answer sheet.

Two things define the current youth: rebelliousness and music. This is shown through the Electronic Dance Music and Hip-Hop. And there is only one thing that combines the two: BTS also known as Bangtan Sonyeondan or the Bulletproof Boy Scouts.

Originated in 2010 with seven young and handsome Korean boys; Kim Namjoon, Kim Seokjin, Min Yoongi, Jung Hoseok, Park Jimin, Kim Taehyung and Jeon Jungkook was from South Korea, the band debuted in 2013 and nine years later, they are regarded as one of the biggest names in K-pop world. Not only are they popular, their lyrics are well written with delicate themes of mental health, teenage issues and individualism. Their success did not just come to them immediately, it took a lot of effort to become the most popular boy band in the world.

The boys were first discovered by Big Hit Entertainment, a South Korean entertainment company in the fall of 2010. Before turning into a band, they started as trainees for Big Hit and received coaching to be what they are today. Their rigorous training took them almost three years before making their debut. They debuted in 2013 as a hip hop group. Along the way, their musical style evolved to include a wide range of genres. Their first official album as a seven-member K-pop idol group, “2 Cool 4 Skool” reflected their message in the title song of their first album, “No More Dream”. The group’s second album, sold one million copies in South Korea. By 2017, BTS crossed into the global music market, leading the Korean Wave into the United States and breaking numerous sales records.

BTS was breaking records with their diverse genres and soon, garnered several recognition to their name. BTS is the best-selling artist in South Korean history and holds the best-selling album in South Korea with ‘Map of the Soul: 7’. They are the first Asian and non-English speaking act to be named Global Recording Artist of the Year 2020, Billboard’s Top Touring Artists of the 2010.

They sold out Wembley Stadium and Rose Bowl Stadium for their ‘Love Yourself’ World Tour as well as SoFi Stadium and Las Vegas stadium for their ‘Permission to Dance’ tour this year. As of March 2022, they have won 63 awards in total and remain the only artist as well as the most-awarded in South Korean history to do so. The group’s numerous achievements also include 9 American Music Awards, 12 Billboard Music Awards, 28 Golden Disk Awards, and nominations for 2 Grammy Awards and 2 Brit Awards.

The reasons for their ever growing success were their connection to the youth in a deeply personal way and becoming their broken voice. The band gradually started gaining recognition and their fans began uniting as “A.R.M.Y” (Adorable Representative M.C for Youth). Over the years, they started performing at concert tours and witnessed tremendous commercial success.

Outside of music, they partnered with UNICEF to establish the Love Myself anti-violence campaign, addressed three United Nations General Assemblies, and became the youngest ever recipients of the Order of Cultural Merit from the President of South Korea due to their contributions in spreading Korean culture and language.

19 According to paragraph 1, this boy band is known for these names except

- A** Electronic Dance Music.
- B** Bulletproof Boy Scouts.
- C** Bangtan Sonyeondan.
- D** BTS.

20 The theme of their songs are normally about

- A** culture.
- B** popularity.
- C** conformity.
- D** mental health.

21 The boy band started off as a

- A** electronic music group.
- B** hip hop group.
- C** big hit group.
- D** pop group.

22 Based on paragraph 3, when did the group enter the global music market?

- A** 2010
- B** 2013
- C** 2016
- D** 2017

23 The name of their latest concert is

- A Love Yourself.
- B 2 Cool 4 Skool.
- C No More Dream.
- D Permission to Dance.

24 According to paragraph 5, BTS has won ...

- A two Brit Awards.
- B two Grammy Awards.
- C twelve American Music Awards.
- D twenty eight Golden Disk Awards.

25 Other than music, BTS showed influence in various causes except

- A giving a speech in United Nations General Assemblies.
- B promoting Korean Culture and Language.
- C receiving the Order of Cultural Merit.
- D promoting anti-violence.

26 The main purpose of this passage is to ...

- A share BTS biography.
- B describe the members of BTS.
- C show that BTS concerts sell out.
- D discuss how BTS won the awards.