PART I: WRITING (35 MARKS)

Write an composition of 220-250 words on ONE of the following topics:

1. Two teenagers are expressing their views on whether ‘Teenagers should participate in reality shows’. Write an article for an online magazine giving your opinion on the subject. You can use ideas from the following extracts.

   Personally, I don’t think anyone should participate in reality shows. They’re humiliating and degrading. Teenagers should be protected as much as possible. They can’t handle pressure, criticism or failure.

   Such shows offer a wonderful platform for many who have the talent and do not have the opportunity to reveal it.
2. Drawing information from the following newspaper extracts write an article for an international website entitled: **Are extreme sports worth the risk?** Give examples to support your views.

Bizarrely Pedrosa has broken a bone every season for the last six years whilst riding competitively. Facts like these also demonstrate that MotoGP is a supremely dangerous sport almost in the manner of boxing with some riders being more severely injured.

“That’s a challenge for me and I love to push myself to do things that most people think are impossible.”

“I’m always looking for the next major hurdle and doing something that the world has never seen,” Wallenda said in a press release. “I want my family to be there to see history in the making and I’ll feel comforted knowing that they’ll be praying along with me.”

**PART II: READING COMPREHENSION**

(35 MARKS)

Read the two passages below and do **ALL** the exercises that follow.

**Passage 1**

**Teenagers working while still at school**

A. I think that students ought to seek part-time jobs. Since the economic downturn in 1997 in Malaysia, parents do not have enough money to support their children's educational fees in the universities or colleges. So, by working part-time, they can help their parents. Parents, on the other hand, will be proud to have a child helping. In other words, by having part-time jobs, students will have their own pocket money and they will be independent from their parents for their educational needs.

Ahmad Faiz, Perak, Malaysia
A. For questions 1-10, choose from the people A-E (8x2=16 marks)

Who believes that

1. teenagers are exposed to dangers. 1___
2. teenagers are not responsible to support their parents financially. 2___

B. Teenagers should be allowed to work. They have the right to decide whether they work or not. Some people say that their first priority should be school, but I think it's not necessary to say that. Their priority should be what is most important for them. It can be sports, music, art, school or work. School is just one of their choices. However, some parents or schools do not allow students to work. Students should follow their parents’ or school’s rules, but if they are allowed to do so, they could work. It’s their right.

C. I think teenagers don’t have to work because it is time to study. When parents made the decision to get married, they knew what their responsibilities would be, and one of them is providing education to their children. Some people support that jobs provide their kids good work experience and more responsibility. However, the responsibility of a student is school, that is the first priority. When they begin to earn money, school will be the second or third priority. According to statistics, the following problems arise when teenagers have part time jobs:
   1. Teenagers come into class sleepy and can’t concentrate.
   2. They never finish their homework and grades drop.
   3. They cut back on their social life.
If you want to do something very well, you can’t do two things at the same time.

D. I do not think that teenagers should work while they are in school; Teenagers have to study hard to enter the college or university that they want to attend. If they work after school, they can’t concentrate on their studies. Needless to say that their quality of life is questionable. They have no time for social life and dangers in the workplace are numerous. There are so many reasons why teenagers try to work. They want to buy new gadgets, have expensive things, and imitate adult life. So, in my opinion, school and parents have to persuade their children or students to study hard.

(Adapted from: http://www.topics-mag.com/readers/teen-workers-forum.htm)
3. teenagers should only study.  3___ 4___
4. parents should convince their children to study hard  5___
5. teenagers should support their parents financially.  6___
6. teenagers can work after parental permission.  7___
7. school is as important as work.  8_____

B. Use information from the text and refer to two advantages and two disadvantages of having a part time job.  (4 marks)

Passage 2

Self-driving cars with no driver seat, no steering wheels.

Daily News Article – posted 28 May 2014

Google is building cars that don’t have steering wheels, accelerator pedals or brake pedals, in an attempt to develop self-driving cars. The small electric cars, which seat two passengers, are currently prototypes that Google has been building through partnerships with automotive suppliers and manufacturers, Google co-founder Sergey Brin said at a conference in Southern California yesterday.

Google aims to build up to 200 such cars in the near term and hopes the vehicles will be available in various cities within a couple of years. Google has been testing self-driving cars since 2009, incorporating laser sensors and radars into standard automobiles such as the Prius from Toyota Motor
Corp and sport-utility vehicles from Toyota luxury car division Lexus. While those vehicles require a human to remain in the driver’s seat and to take over in certain situations, the new cars operate completely autonomously. They could primarily operate as a service, picking up passengers when summoned, or potentially even operate as fleets of interconnected “trains.”

“Ten seconds after getting in, I had forgotten I was there,” Brin said of his experience riding in one of the pod-like vehicles, which resemble a cross between a Smart car and Volkswagen Beetle. Brin declined to specify whether Google intended to build and sell the cars itself, saying only that the company would “work with partners.”

The driverless cars are currently limited to a maximum speed of 25 miles an hour, but Brin said there was no reason the cars could not go as fast as 100 miles an hour or more once they had been proven to be safe. The front of the cars contain about 2 feet of foam and the windshield is made out of plastic instead of glass to make the cars safer.

“Within a couple of years I hope we will surpass the safety metrics we’ve put in place, which is to be significantly safer than a human driver, and we will start testing them without drivers. Hopefully you’ll be able to utilize them at some limited cities,” Brin said.

A handful of U.S. states, including California and Nevada, have passed legislation to allow testing of self-driving cars on public roads. The company is optimistic that the new, passenger-only self-driving cars would be approved for testing in the U.S. and overseas in the future.

(Adapted from: http://www.studentnewsdaily.com/daily-news-article/)

C. Choose the best alternative a, b, c or d according to Passage 2.
(5X2=10 marks)

1. Google’s self-driving car can be described as a car with
   a. no steering wheels, no seats and no acceleration pedals.
   b. no brake pedals and maximum speed 100 miles per hour.
   c. no seat belts and maximum speed 25 miles per hour.
   d. no acceleration pedals and maximum speed 25 miles per hour.
2. **The 200 cars mentioned in the text**

a. were available in 2009.
b. will be available in three years for customers to buy.
c. will be available in a variety of cities.
d. were available in May 2014.

3. **How does this new prototype car differ from the cars Google developed in 2009?**

a. It has laser sensors and radars.
b. It requires a human in the driver’s seat.
c. It is promoted into market by Toyota.
d. It is a driverless vehicle.

4. **What does not Google plan to do with the cars?**

a. pick up passengers when summoned.
b. build and sell the cars itself.
c. build up to 200 prototypes in the near future.
d. operate as fleets of interconnected trains.

5. **At the moment, Google’s car can be tested on public roads**

a. everywhere in the United States.
b. in more than two American states.
c. only in two states, California and Nevada.
d. both in the US and overseas.

D. **Match the words in Column A, underlined in the text, with the words in column B, according to the text. There are two extra meanings. (5X1=5 marks)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. utilize</td>
<td>a. a set of laws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. operate</td>
<td>b. use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. summoned</td>
<td>c. look like</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. resemble</td>
<td>d. asked to come</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. legislation</td>
<td>e. involve</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>f. work</td>
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<td></td>
<td>g. participate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A. Fill in the gaps with only ONE suitable word. (10x1=10 marks)

Advertisements try to make people feel bad

Many adverts do more (1) _______ just advertising products. Some try to make people feel inferior if they do not have the product. Perceptions (2) _______ beauty and fashion in particular (3) _______ been terribly distorted. Many young people have low self-esteem and lead unhealthy lifestyles (4) _______ they feel they should be thinner and (5) _______ attractive like the models they see in adverts. This leads (6) _______ serious problems like eating-disorders (7) _______ self-harm. Research that proved this effect also concluded (8) _______ the media can boost self-esteem where it is providing examples of a variety of body shapes. (9) _______ , it often tends to portray a limited number (10) _______ body shapes.

B. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. (5x1=5 marks)

1. The students were gossiping about the teacher's haircut. WAS
   The teacher's haircut ________________ about by the students.

2. Surely Tina didn't leave her laptop in the kitchen. CAN'T
   Tina ________________ her laptop in the kitchen.

3. I made a mistake and that's why I'm here now. NOT
   If I hadn't made a mistake, I ______________ here now.

4. I regret not asking for her phone number! ASKED
   If only ______________ for her phone number.

5. "I didn't steal the money", he said. DENIED
   He ______________ the money.
C. Fill in the gaps with words from the box. 
There are two extra words.

Homework reduces the amount of leisure time

mentally  creative  available  physically  
encourage  exploring  believe

Homework takes up a lot of time. In America, they (1)_________ the 10 minute homework for every grade, meaning that high-school students are all doing more than an hour’s worth of homework each night. Being young is not just about being (2)_________ active, (3)_________ the environment through play, doing (4)_________ things like music and art, and playing a part in the community. It is also important for young people to build bonds with others, especially family and friends, but homework often squeezes the time (5)_________ for all these things.

D. Read the text and complete the blanks with the correct form of the words in bold.

The Birth of the Internet

The Internet grew out of a project (1)_________ (origin) set up in 1969 by the Pentagon to help scientists to exchange (2)_________ (science) documents and so on, at a speed that is almost instantaneous. The Internet is now a vast (3)_________ (globe) network of networks with over 30 million (4)_________ (use). It (5)_________ (able) them to consult huge databases, transfer data, send and receive mail (6)_________ (electronic). On the World Wide Web, you can see the latest images of Mars, go on a tour of a museum or an art (7)_________ (exhibit). Of course, not all of this is free. You have to pay a (8)_________ (subscribe) fee to an Internet service (9)_________ (provide) such as AOL or Wanadoo. However, there is a wide (10)_________ (choose) of newsgroups and these are all free of charge.

GOOD LUCK!