

Time—2 hours

SECTION I: MULTIPLE CHOICE AND CLOZE TEST

I. Vocabulary: Choose the best answer (15%)

1. The guest speaker was given a ____ welcome by the students. They were excited about his arrival.
(A) raucous (B) rapturous (C) perfunctory (D) factitious
2. This novel is set in the 19th-century France. The political ____ during that time led to the tragic ending.
(A) pendants (B) luminaries (C) confluences (D) convulsions
3. Jean wondered what she'd done to ____ her husband's wrath.
(A) indict (B) peruse (C) incur (D) appall
4. The father tried to ____ his crying son by buying him a toy.
(A) lambast (B) mollify (C) annihilate (D) deflect
5. John grudged Mary her promotion and gave her a ____ look.
(A) petulant (B) tenacious (C) pliant (D) bashful
6. The suspect's _____ in the face of evidence indicating his involvement in the horrific murder sent a shudder through the prosecutors.
(A) implausibility (B) imperturbability (C) perceptibility (D) susceptibility
7. After the old man had been bedridden for more than a year, his leg muscles had _____. His legs could no longer support his body weight.
(A) dissipated (B) ostracized (C) obtruded (D) atrophied
8. Smoking should be banned in all public places because it has a ____ effect on people's health.
(A) salutary (B) soporific (C) pernicious (D) restorative
9. Government forces launched an air raid on the village and inflicted heavy casualties on _____. In fact, the rebels had been reduced to a spent force.

- (A) mutineers (B) stalwarts (C) connoisseurs (D) bigots
10. He was trying everything to win back her love though it was a(n) ____ attempt.
(A) fortuitous (B) ostensible (C) forlorn (D) captious
 11. A group of international terrorists is believed to have been ____ into the country.
(A) infiltrating (B) floundering (C) relapsing (D) blustering
 12. Some members of the opposition party think the new bill ____ federal law. It shouldn't have been passed.
(A) disparages (B) contravenes (C) buttresses (D) exonerates
 13. The sweltering summer evening makes me sink into _____. I just don't feel like doing anything.
(A) trepidation (B) exultation (C) lethargy (D) cacophony
 14. The actress gave an ____ reply to the question of her marital status, refusing to confirm her divorce.
(A) equivocal (B) exorbitant (C) auspicious (D) abrasive
 15. Most Americans are in the habit of drinking coffee in the morning, so tea has no comparably ____ position as coffee in America.
(A) subservient (B) enigmatic (C) flimsy (D) entrenched

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

II. Passage Completion: Choose the best answer from the table. Each answer can only be used ONCE (25%)

Questions 16--25

Not long ago, Apple was almost universally __16__. It was the most profitable tech company in the world, and commentators predicted that it might be the first trillion-dollar company in U.S. history. What a difference a few months make. Since September, the stock has __17__ thirty-five per cent, losing more than two hundred billion dollars from its market cap. January's earnings report disappointed investors, and analysts are cutting earnings __18__. Now there's a deluge of forecasts stating that Apple is "in big trouble," "losing its cool," and just plain "doomed."

So why the sudden fall from grace? There were a few missteps: a __19__ launch for the iPhone 5, followed by the Maps fiasco. And Steve Jobs's absence is obviously __20__ people's minds. But there's a more concrete reason: Apple's competitors are finally doing a better job of making the kinds of phones that customers want. The most notable of these is an oversized phone dubbed "the phablet"—Samsung's Galaxy Note is the leader in the category. The phablet is bigger than a traditional phone, smaller than a tablet, and as ungainly as its name—too big to fit comfortably in your pocket and __21__ for making calls. In the U.S., the phablet is still very much a niche product, but overseas, particularly in Asia, sales exploded in the second half of last year. And, unfortunately for Apple, there is no iPhablet. Phablets are eating away at both iPhone and iPad sales.

These are serious problems, and shareholders are undoubtedly in for a bumpier ride than they're used to. Still, the company's __22__ are simply too good to justify panic. Its cash hoard is bigger than the market cap of almost every company in the S. & P. 500. It makes the world's two best-selling phones. The U.S. market may be maturing, but it's still immensely lucrative and far from __23__, and Apple is the market leader in both smartphones and tablets. It's also by far the biggest maker of tablets worldwide.

Over the years, predictions that the great ideas engine of Apple was grinding to a halt have been surprisingly common. The iPod was initially seen as just an overpriced MP3 player, and the iPad's launch was greeted with a good deal of ridicule. And even when Jobs was running things there were __24__ complaints that Apple was "getting lazy." Past performance is no guarantee of future results: just ask Motorola and BlackBerry. But the fact that Apple's epitaph has been written before should make us skeptical of this most recent death __25__. Failing to build a phablet or a cheap phone may well have been mistakes, but they're fixable mistakes.

A	tepid	B	estimates	C	knell	D	adroit	E	venerated
AB	cumbersome	AC	recurrent	AD	preying on	AE	tipped off	BC	turbid
BD	spying on	BE	inextricable	CD	tapped out	CE	tumbled	DE	fundamentals

Questions 26--40

When dozens of countries refused to sign a new global treaty on internet governance in late 2012, a wide range of activists rejoiced. They saw the treaty, crafted under the auspices of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), as giving governments powers to __26__ and censor the internet. For months groups with names like Access Now and Fight for the Future had campaigned against the treaty. Their lobbying was sometimes hyperbolic. But it was also part of the reason the treaty was rejected by many countries, including America, and thus in effect rendered __27__. The success at the ITU conference in Dubai capped a big year for online activists. In January they helped defeat Hollywood-sponsored anti-piracy legislation, best known by the acronym SOPA, in America's Congress. In Brazil they got closer than many would have believed possible to __28__ a ground-breaking internet bill of rights, the "Marco Civil da Internet".

"It feels like when 'Silent Spring' was published," says James Boyle, an intellectual-property expert at Duke University, North Carolina. The publication of Rachel Carson's jeremiad on the effects of pesticides in 1962 is widely seen as __29__ the appearance of modern environmental awareness, and of the __30__ that goes along with it. Fifty years on, might the world really be witnessing another such moment, and the creation of another such movement—this one built around the potential for new information technology to foster free speech and innovation, and the threats that governments and companies pose to it?

Debate and __31__ over the issues raised by the spread of information technology are not new. In the 1990s civil-liberties groups campaigned against the Communications Decency Act, part of which was eventually overturned by America's Supreme Court. Today every corner of the digital universe has its own interest group: consumer groups defend online privacy; hackers reject __32__ software patents; researchers push for open access to scientific journals online.

As Mr Boyle's __33__ suggests, there was a similar diversity in early 1960s environmentalism. Some sought to clean the Hudson river, some to stop logging in Tasmania, some to ban nuclear tests. But as the late American environmentalist Barry Commoner put it: "The first law of ecology is that everything is connected to everything else." As it was with the environment, so it became with environmentalism. Over the course of the 1960s and 1970s __34__ concerns were tied together into a single, if far from seamless, movement that went on to wield real power.

The internet is nothing if not an exercise in interconnection. Its politics thus seems to call out for a similar __35__, and connections between the interest groups that make up the net movement are indeed getting stronger. Beyond specific links, they also share what Manuel Castells, a Spanish sociologist, calls the "culture of the internet"; its members believe in technological progress, the

free flow of information, __36__ communities and entrepreneurialism. Their online forum of choice will typically be something such as a wiki that all can __37__ and help to shape.

In some countries the nascent net movement has __38__ “pirate parties” that focus on net-policy issues. And as the environmental movement had a radical wing in organizations such as the Earth Liberation Army, its digital __39__ has also developed a direct-action arm. In early October Anonymous, a “hacktivist” collective, took down a bunch websites in Sweden as a protest against efforts to extradite Julian Assange, the founder of WikiLeaks, from Britain. Like environmental issues, the issues that this new movement cares about can be cast as economic ones. Environmental issues have increasingly come to be seen in terms of “negative externalities”. Hardin argued that common properties would be overexploited because the benefits of the exploitation would be __40__ by the people doing the exploiting, whereas the costs fall on all equally.

A	appropriated	B	hapless	C	dissent	D	politics	E	analogy
AB	spawned	AC	proximal	AD	convergence	AE	marking	BC	virtual
BD	securing	BE	void	CD	rapport	CE	disparate	DE	subjugation
ABC	contribute to	ABD	far-reaching	ABE	incarcerated	BCD	meddle with	BCE	successor