

**National Dong Hwa University Graduate Entrance Examination
English Reading Comprehension Test**

Directions

In this section you will read several passages. Each passage is followed by several questions. For each question choose the ONE best answer from (1), (2), (3), and (4). Then on your answer sheet fill in the space that corresponds to the letter you have chosen. Your answers should be based on what is stated or implied in the passage.

Suggestion: For questions regarding specific words used in the reading, please find the words in bold in the passage.

QUESTIONS 1-14 (4% each)

Today's cars are smaller, safer, cleaner, and more economical than their predecessors, but the car of the future will be far more pollution-free than those on the road today. Several new types of automobile engines have already been developed that run on alternative sources of power, such as electricity, compressed natural gas, methanol, steam, hydrogen, and propane. Electricity, however, is the only zero-emission option presently available.

Although electric vehicles will not be truly practical until a powerful, **compact** battery or other dependable source of current is available, entering everyday life: shorter-range commuter electric cars, three-wheeled neighborhood cars, electric delivery vans, bikes, and trolleys.

As automakers work to develop practical electrical vehicles, urban planners and utility engineers are focusing on infrastructure systems to support and make the best use of the new cars. Public charging facilities will need to be as common as today's gas stations. Public parking spots on the street or in commercial lots will need to be equipped with devices that allow drivers to **charge** their batteries while they shop, dine, or attend a concert. To encourage the use of electric vehicles, the most convenient parking in transportation centers might be reserved for electric cars.

Planners **foresee** electric shuttle buses, trains, buses, and neighborhood vehicles all meeting at transit centers that would have facilities for charging and renting. **Commuters** will be able to rent a variety of electric cars to suit their needs: electric trucks, one-person three-wheelers, small cars, or electric/**hybrid** cars for longer trips, which will no doubt take place on automated freeways capable of handling five times the number of vehicles that can be carried by a freeway today.

1. The following electrical vehicles are all mentioned in the passage EXCEPT:
(1) vans (2) trains (3) planes (4) trolleys
2. The author's purpose in the passage is to
(1) criticize conventional vehicles
(2) support the invention of electric cars
(3) narrate a story about alternative energy vehicles
(4) describe the possibilities for transportation in the future
3. The passage would be most likely be followed by details about
(1) automated freeways (2) pollution restrictions in the future
(3) the neighborhood of the future (4) electric shuttle buses
4. According to the passage, why would city planners place parking lots for electric cars in more convenient areas?
(1) because they will take up less room (2) their drivers will be more important
(3) to encourage people to buy electric cars (4) because electric cars require charging facilities

5. A general assumption in the first sentence of the article is that:

- (1) cars on the road today are as pollution-free as cars will ever be
- (2) cars of the future will be more pollution-free than cars of today
- (3) cars of the future will be larger and less-economical
- (4) cars of the future will not be driven on roads

6. The word "compact" is closest in meaning to

- (1) long-range
- (2) inexpensive
- (3) concentrated
- (4) square

7. The term "zero-emission" probably means

- (1) does *not* produce pollutants
- (2) produces *some* pollutants
- (3) pollutants
- (4) does not use *any* energy

8. In the second paragraph the author implies that

- (1) a dependable source of electric energy will eventually be developed
- (2) everyday life will stay much the same way it is now in the future
- (3) a single electric vehicle will eventually replace several modes of transportation
- (4) electric vehicles are not practical for the future

9. According to the passage, public parking lots of the future will be

- (1) more convenient than they are today
- (2) equipped with charging devices
- (3) much larger than they are today
- (4) as common as today's gas stations

10. The passage would most likely be found in a

- (1) medical journal
- (2) history book
- (3) psychology periodical
- (4) textbook on urban planning

11. The word "charge" in this passage refers to

- (1) electricity
- (2) credit cards
- (3) a forward march
- (4) public parking facilities

12. The word "foresee" could best be replaced with

- (1) count on
- (2) invent
- (3) imagine
- (4) rely on

13. The word "commuters" refers to

- (1) daily travelers
- (2) visitors
- (3) cab drivers
- (4) shoppers

14. The word "hybrid" is closest in meaning to

- (1) combination
- (2) hazardous
- (3) futuristic
- (4) automated

QUESTIONS 15-25 (4% each)

Amy Tan, the American-born daughter of Chinese immigrants, received the Commonwealth Club Gold award in 1989 for her fiction, *The Joy Luck Club*. The sixteen interrelated stories that constitute **the work** alternate between the tales of four Chinese immigrant mothers and their Americanized daughters, in an exploration of the generational and cultural **tensions** experienced by many first-generation daughters of immigrants.

Tan's parents, like many immigrants, had high expectations for their children and often set confusing standards, expecting Amy and her two brothers to think like Chinese but to speak perfect English, excel academically, and take advantage of every circumstance that might lead to success. Tan, however, **rebelled** against her parents' expectations; which included such **exalted** professions as neurosurgery, and devoted herself to being thoroughly American and dreaming of being a fiction writer.

Tan obtained a bachelor's degree in English and linguistics and a master's degree in linguistics and eventually established herself as a highly successful business writer. Tan, however, was not satisfied despite her material success. Turning to her life long dream, she wrote her first short story, "Endgame," and then a second, "Waiting between the Trees." In 1987, Tan visited her half-sisters in China with her mother, a trip that proved to be a turning point in her life and career. Tan felt a sense of completeness, a bonding with the country and its culture that she had never expected. Returning to China, Tan was surprised to learn that on the strength of her short stories she had received an **advance** from her publisher. Tan closed her business and wrote the remaining stories for *The Joy Luck Club*. It was a **resounding** success, well received by the critics and appearing on the *New York Times* bestseller list. It has been translated into seventeen languages, including Chinese, and was made into a movie in 1993.

15. What is the author's main purpose in the passage?

- (1) to analyze Amy Tan's literary works (2) to support Amy Tan's decision to become a fiction writer
(3) to present Amy Tan's biographical information (4) to criticize Amy Tan's rebellion against her parents

16. According to the passage, Amy Tan's visit to China

- (1) was disappointing (2) had a profound affect on her
(3) was not surprising in the least (4) was a trip she had always dreamed of taking

17. The words "the work" refer to

- (1) stories (2) writing (3) Commonwealth Club Gold Award (4) *The Joy Luck Club*

18. Before becoming a fiction writer, Amy Tan was a successful

- (1) business writer (2) publisher (3) English teacher (4) neurosurgeon

19. The expectations of Tan's parents included all of the following EXCEPT

- (1) excelling academically (2) speaking perfect English
(3) questioning tradition (4) choosing an important profession

20. It can be inferred from the passage that

- (1) Tan's parents understood her dilemma but wanted the best for her
(2) it took Tan a while to summon the courage to follow her dreams
(3) Tan started writing fiction in order to make more money
(4) Tan had always wanted to return to China

21. The word "exalted" means

- (1) highly respected (2) very difficult (3) common (4) established

22. It can be concluded from the passage that

- (1) parents are usually selfish and never know what's best for their children
(2) Tan did not prefer to use personal experience in her writing
(3) Tan was smart to choose her business
(4) Tan always knew she was Chinese foremost and American only in her imagination

23. Tan's famous *The Joy Luck Club*

- (1) was translated into English from Chinese
(2) was published first in Chinese
(3) was translated from English into Chinese
(4) is currently being translated into English from Chinese

24. The words "rebelled against" are closest in meaning to

- (1) fought against (2) forgot (3) worked toward (4) failed

25. From the information in the article, we can infer that Tan's half-sisters

- (1) traveled to China with Tan (2) live in Texas (3) emigrated to Hong Kong (4) live in China