

CHOOSE THE ONE BEST ANSWER FOR EACH QUESTION ( 4 POINTS EACH)

*Questions 1 - 5 are based on the following reading:*

Everywhere we look in the world today, we see images of stark contrast. We see pictures of poverty and deprivation juxtaposed with those of lavish wealth and overconsumption; a woman in Ethiopia bending in agony over the body of her starving child as another in France prepares to relax in a milk-bath; people foraging frantically through garbage dumps all day to still the hunger in their distended bellies while for some people the primary daily struggle consists of how to stay "slim and trim." Such contrasts, of course, are not limited to such basic needs as food, clothing, shelter, health, and education, but extend to all areas of human life. We live in a world in which a very small percentage of the population monopolizes, consumes (and wastes) the major portion of the world's natural, economic and technological resources, while the majority languish in their daily struggle with hunger and disease.

Such extreme disparities in a world which has enough resources to meet the basic needs of all of the world's population, are not only inhumane and unjust, but they are also a source of constant instability within and conflict among nations.

The primary threat to international stability, in this context, is posed by the extreme economic gaps which separate the developing countries of Africa, Asia, and South America from the advanced industrialized nations of the west. The frustration of the masses and the leaders in these countries with the slow pace of their own development as they watch their former colonizers achieve new technological and economic frontiers, remains a major destabilizing force in the world today. Such extremes in wealth and poverty lead to suspicion and bitterness on the part of the poorer countries against the rich, thus creating an explosive potential for conflict and war. They also cultivate an inferiority complex which often reinforces the tendency on the part of the political leaders in these countries to seek fulfillment and glory not in the painstaking, gradual, and often uncertain process of national development, but in the "quick fix" of regional military superiority.

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1. How do the majority of the world's people live their lives?
  - A. in wealth and luxury
  - B. trying to stay "slim and trim"
  - C. monopolizing most of the world's resources
  - D. trying very hard every day just to survive
  
2. The writer thinks that the extreme disparities between the world's rich and poor are
  - A. justified
  - B. temporary
  - C. unfair
  - D. human
  
3. The economic gaps between the west and other areas of the world
  - A. are not as important as some people think
  - B. are a danger to international security
  - C. help the developing countries
  - D. are very small
  
4. Which country or area below is an example of a "former colonizer"?
  - A. England
  - B. Africa
  - C. Asia
  - D. South America
  
5. Political leaders in poorer countries
  - A. feel content with their situation
  - B. may try to emphasize their militaries over their economies
  - C. may be certain of assistance from other countries
  - D. may invent new technologies

*Questions 6 - 10 are based on the following reading:*

Several trends, in motion since more than a century ago, have converged at this point in history to prepare humanity for an ultimate transition from nationalism to internationalism. The rapid advancement in the means of transportation and communication, from the steam-engine to the automobile and the jet plane, and from the telegraph to the telephone, the television, the computer and the satellite, have merged the continents together and torn down the barriers of time and space which, for centuries, separated mankind. The same technological advancements have led to the globalization of trade, industry, and finance, creating what is rapidly becoming a single world economy and weaving the people of the world together in a global network of mutual dependence for their food, energy, and income.

As a result of these trends, "global interdependence" is no longer a phrase used by people as a means of creating international goodwill, but an important reality necessitating the construction of a new world order.

The same momentous trends, which have created the need for an overhaul in the present world structures, have also created the potential for a corresponding mental transition on the part of individual human beings beyond nationalistic frontiers. For the first time in human history, the advancement of science and technology has given us a clear view of ourselves and the nature of the world in which we live. While a century ago the horizon for most people stretched only as far as the boundaries of their own village, today we have at our disposal both the knowledge and the vision required to enlarge the boundaries of our consciousness beyond nationalistic limits. Having viewed our planet from the outer space in the beauty of its oneness we have been provided with the knowledge required to recognize the earth as one country and mankind as its citizens. Such a recognition, however, will not come about automatically. The choice to remove the veils of nationalism, and the effort entailed in achieving a truly "world embracing vision," is still ours to make.

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6. Which of the following is NOT a trend supporting a transition to internationalism?
  - A. the change from travelling by steam ships to travelling by airplanes
  - B. the advances in communications technologies
  - C. the isolation of national economies
  - D. some nation's reliance on others for resources
  
7. The "global network of mutual dependence" can be compared to:
  - A. a cloth of tightly connected threads
  - B. a telegraph
  - C. a satellite
  - D. time and space
  
8. The writer thinks "global interdependence" is:
  - A. an outdated concept
  - B. much more than just words
  - C. not an important reality
  - D. going to soon become a reality
  
9. The writer believes that people can now move beyond what kind of thoughts?
  - A. technological
  - B. political
  - C. nationalistic
  - D. thoughts about nature
  
10. What did the writer think was beautiful?
  - A. nature
  - B. international goodwill
  - C. the horizon
  - D. a photograph of the earth

Questions 11 - 14 are based on the following reading:

### STUDENT ACCOMMODATION AT NORTHSIDE UNIVERSITY

Situated about 20km from the city centre, **Northside University** is not easy to get to by public transport. However, students have several different alternatives for accommodation on or near the University campus.

Firstly, the University has several residential colleges; Burnside College, Boronia College and Helen Turner College. Each of these colleges provides a single fully furnished room with shared bathroom facilities, and meals. Burnside College is the most expensive, with 1996 fees ranging from \$154 - \$165 per week. However, each student room is equipped with a private telephone and voice-mailing facilities, and within the next few months college students will have access to E-MAIL, On-Line library, INTERNET and AARNET via a network with the University. Boronia College has similar room facilities but does not offer the same computer access. It also offers only 17 meals per week, compared to Burnside's 21. Fees vary from \$147 - \$157 per week. Helen Turner College is a college exclusively for women, with similar fees to Boronia College. To attend classes, students have a short walk from the residential Colleges to the main University campus.

The University also provides 23 self-contained furnished townhouses. These townhouses have either 3, 4 or 6 bedrooms each and student residents are expected to be studying full-time. Rents in 1996 ranged from \$54 per week for a room in a six bedroom flat to \$68.50 per week for a room in a three-bedroom house. Students wanting to live in university housing should apply to the university housing officer in August of the previous year, as it is in high demand. Smoking is banned in University housing.

Off campus, there are many flats, townhouses and houses for rent in the local area. These can be found by looking in the local newspaper under ACCOMMODATION, or by checking notices pinned up on the boards around the university. There are always students advertising for housemates and you can even add a notice of your own to the board. However, even sharing accommodation with others can be expensive; tenants are usually required to pay a rental bond, rent in advance, and telephone/electricity/gas bills in addition to food bills. Be sure that you know what you will be required to pay before you enter into any written agreement.

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11. The University Residential Colleges provide
- A a place to live and regular classes
  - B regular classes only
  - C a place to live only.
12. Smoking is
- A allowed in University housing
  - B not allowed in University housing
  - C allowed only in certain areas in University housing.
13. University townhouses are available for
- A full-time students only
  - B part-time students only
  - C all students.
14. Accommodation in the area surrounding the university is
- A scarce
  - B plentiful
  - C scarce and expensive.

Questions 15 - 19 are based on the following reading:

## Job Sharing

*Job sharing* refers to a situation in which two people divide the responsibility of one full-time job. The two people willingly act as part-time workers, working enough hours between them to fulfil the duties of a full-time worker. If they each work half the hours of the job, for example, they each receive 50 per cent of the job's wages, its holidays and its other benefits. Of course, some job sharers take a smaller or larger share of the responsibilities of the position, receiving a lesser or greater share of the benefits.

Job sharing differs from conventional part-time work in that it is mainly (although not exclusively) occurring in the more highly skilled and professional areas, which entail higher levels of responsibility and employee commitment. Until recently, these characteristics were not generally seen as compatible with anything less than full-time employment. Thus, the demands of job sharing are reciprocated by better pay and conditions and, ideally, more satisfaction than conventional part-time work.

### Section B

Job sharing should not be confused with the term *work sharing*, which pertains to increasing the number of jobs by reducing the number of hours of each existing job, thus offering more positions to the growing number of unemployed people. Job sharing, by contrast, is not designed to address unemployment problems; its focus, rather, is to provide well-paid work for skilled workers and professionals who want more free time for other pursuits.

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As would be expected, women comprise the bulk of job sharers. A survey carried out in 1988 by Britain's Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) revealed that 78 per cent of sharers were female, the majority of whom were between the ages of 20 and 40 years of age. Subsequent studies have come up with similar results. Many of these women were re-entering the job market after having had children, but they chose not to seek part-time work because it would have meant reduced wages and lower status. Job sharing also offered an acceptable transition back into full-time work after a long absence.

Although job sharing is still seen as too radical by many companies, those that have chosen to experiment with it include large businesses with conservative reputations. One of Britain's major banks, the National Westminster Bank, for example, offers a limited number of shared positions intended to give long-serving employees a break from full-time work. British Telecom, meanwhile, maintains 25 shared posts because, according to its personnel department, 'Some of the job sharers might otherwise have left the company and we are now able to retain them.' Two wide-ranging surveys carried out in the country in 1989 revealed the proportion of large and medium-sized private-sector businesses that allow job sharing to be between 16 and 25 per cent. Some 78 per cent of job sharers, however, work in public-sector jobs.

The types of jobs that are shared vary, but include positions that involve responsibility for many subordinates. Research into shared senior management positions suggests that even such high-pressure work can be shared between two people with little adjustment, provided the personalities and temperaments of the sharers are not vastly different from one another. A 1991 study of employees working under supervisory positions shared by two people showed that those who prefer such a situation do so for several reasons. Most prevalent were those who felt there was less bias in the evaluation of their work because having two assessments provided for a greater degree of fairness.

The necessity of close cooperation and collaboration when sharing a job with another person makes the actual work quite different from conventional one-position, one-person jobs. However, to ensure a greater chance that the partnership will succeed, each person needs to know the strengths, weaknesses and preferences of his or her partner before applying for a position. Moreover, there must be an equitable allocation of both routine tasks and interesting ones. In sum, for a position to be job-shared well, the two individuals must be well-matched and must treat each other as equals.

Questions 15 - 19

Do the following statements express the views of the writer? Next to each number

15 - 19 below, write:

- A if the statement DOES express the views of the author
- B if the statement DOES NOT express the views of the writer
- C if there is no information about this in the reading

15. The majority of male job sharers are between 20 and 40 years of age.
16. Job sharers have no intention of later resuming full-time work.
17. Employers may allow job sharing to keep or attract good workers.
18. Fewer job sharers are employed in the private sector than in the public sector.
19. Most employees prefer to work under a shared supervisory position.

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Questions 20 - 25 are based on the following reading:

## Television News

Critics of television news often complain that news programs do not make enough of an effort to inform the viewer, that the explanations they give of events are too short, too simple, lacking depth, or misleading. Critics say that when a person wants to get a comprehensive report of an event, he or she must turn to a newspaper; television news offers only simplified stories rather than denser and more detailed accounts.

Television news, argue the critics, concentrates mostly on stories of visual interest such as transport disasters or wars, leaving important but visually uninteresting stories such as government budget and legislation stories with little or no coverage. This leads to the claim that the selection of stories to be presented on television news tends less toward information and more toward entertainment. Thus, television news, according to this view, presents an image of the world that is quite subjective.

The reporting of political stories on television, in particular, is often criticised for failing to be either comprehensive or fair to the viewer. The main complaint is not that the news is politically biased, but that the limitations of the medium cause even important stories to be covered in as little as 60 seconds of broadcasting time. A politician is seen on the news to speak for between 10 and 30 seconds, for example, when in fact he or she may have been speaking for many times longer. Critics complain that viewers get used to seeing such abbreviated stories and thus become less inclined to watch longer, more thorough discussions of issues. Indeed, politicians, now long accustomed to speaking to television cameras, adjust their words to suit short news stories, because making long, elaborate arguments no longer works. Thus, television not only reports on politics, but has become a major influence on it.

Such views stand in contrast to those of US political scientist Ronald Butcher, who believes that television news is too complex and that it provides too much information. According to Butcher, the complexity of the presentation of television news programs prevents half of the audience from truly understanding many news stories. Moreover, it is assumed by news broadcasters that the viewer already knows much of the information that underlies particular stories. But this assumption, says Butcher, is inaccurate. The same can be said about how well viewers are able to interpret the importance of events.

Shoemaker and Lvov (1986) carried out research that showed that the ordinary television viewer 'fails to understand the main points in two-thirds of all major TV news stories'. Accounts of political events appear to offer the most difficulty for viewers because they make references to connected events and use terminology that only some people could readily comprehend. The researchers recommend that news programs make a greater effort to aid the viewer in understanding the events, no matter how many times the stories have been told before.

Regardless of how one feels about television news, research has left no doubt that it is the primary source of information for the vast majority of people in societies where television sets are widely available. In Australia, studies have shown that not only do most people get their news from television (see figure 1), but an increasing number of people regard television news as 'accurate and reliable'.



Questions 20 - 25

'Television News' discusses several ways in which the TV viewer relates to news broadcasts. Decide which of the people (A, B or C) hold the views expressed below.

- A Ronald Butcher
- B Shoemaker and Lvov
- C television news critics

Write A, B, or C next to each number 20 - 25 below:

20. The viewer is presented with too much information.
21. The viewer is unlikely to seek comprehensive political coverage.
22. The viewer is often unfamiliar with the background of certain news stories.
23. The viewer may not understand stories because of unfamiliar political vocabulary.
24. A story about a motor vehicle accident is more likely to be shown on television news than a story about the passing of a new law.
25. Television news provides a view of the world that is not objective enough.