

**Reading comprehension: (45 points)**

**Question Number One:(25 points)**

**Read the following passage and the answer the questions below.**

**Text A**

As a parent, I'm becoming increasingly worried about the effect communications technology is having on young people. My fourteen-year-old son seems to spend hours every day texting or chatting online, or updating his social media page. He says he's going to do his homework, but an hour or two later still hasn't started it, and I can't help feeling that he's wasting so much time on this instead of doing useful things, or even just being with his friends and communicating with real people.

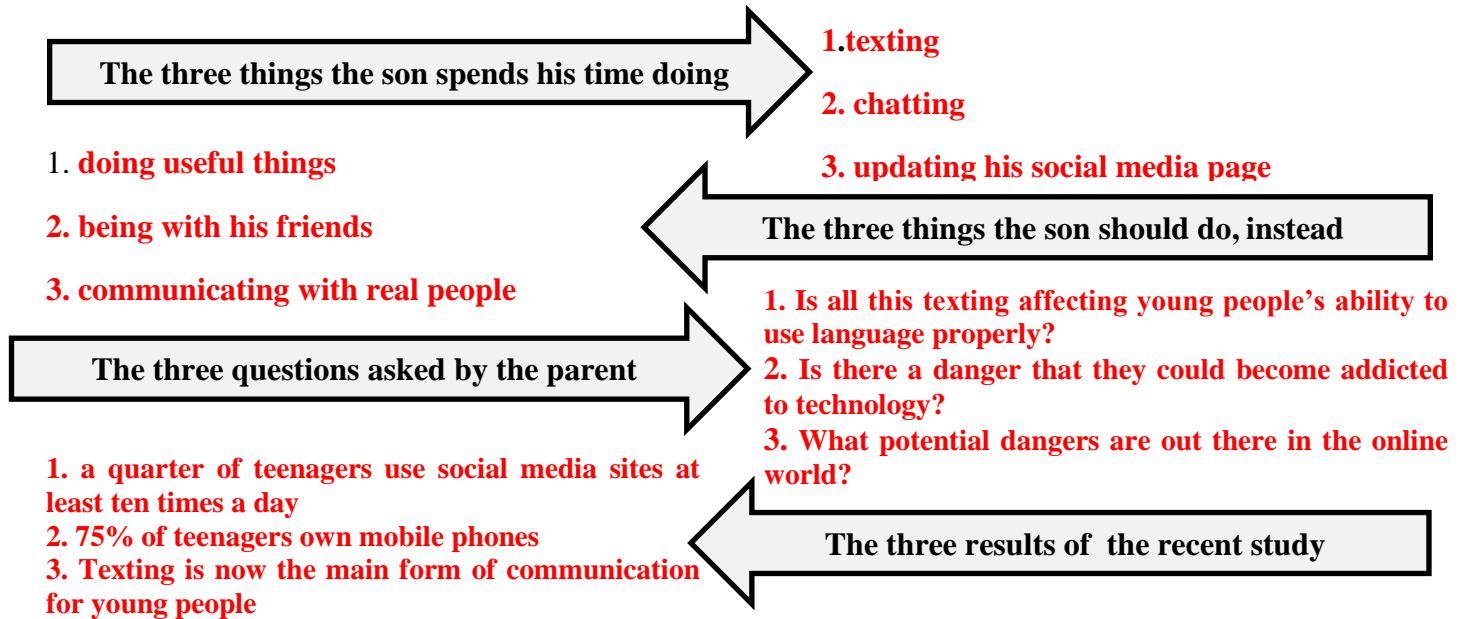
Is all this texting affecting young people's ability to use language properly? Is there a danger that they could become addicted to technology? What potential dangers are out there in the online world? I don't know enough about these new technologies to be able to answer questions like these.

**Text B**

Like it or not, today's young people are the connected generation. A recent study in the US found that nearly a quarter of teenagers use social media sites at least ten times a day and 75% own mobile phones. Texting is now the main form of communication for young people. The figures obviously vary between countries, but the one thing we can predict is that they will continue to rise.

Inevitably, this has led to panic among parents, teachers and other adults. But are these fears justified? Not according to Dr Amy Lehane, who has studied exactly how young people are using technology. 'If you look back,' she says, 'you find the same panic reaction from older people to the growth of the telephone or television. Often it comes from a fear of something they don't understand, but our research indicates that young people are quite capable of telling the difference between the online world and the real world, or between the types of language used for texts and job applications. They're also very aware of the possible negative effects of technology: they know, for example, that it's not a good idea to post a message like 'I'm having a party next Saturday' on a public site.'

**(1) Complete the following diagram suitably. (12 points)**



**(2) Answer the following questions. (3 points)**

1. Are parents' fears of the effect of communication technology on their children justified? Why?

**No, they are not justified because**

**(1) parents' fears come from a fear of something they don't understand**

**(2) young people are quite capable of telling the difference between the online world and the real world**

2. What is the main form of communication for young people? Is it affecting their use of language properly? **The main form of communication for young people is texting. No, it is not affecting their use of language properly and they are quite capable of telling the difference between the types of language used for texts and job applications.**

**(3) Choose the correct answers. (5 points)**

1. Like it or not, today's young people are ..." The meaning of the underlined phrase is..  
(a) **Inevitably** (b) Fortunately
2. "the one thing we can predict is that they will continue to rise." The pronoun "they" refers to  
(a) communication technologies (b) **the figures**
3. Which text gives evidence to show how young people communicate?  
(a) Text A (b) **Text B**
4. Which text shows that we can trust young people more.  
(a) Text A (b) **Text B**
5. "...or even just being with his friends and communicating with real people." The opposite of the phrase "real people" is (a) **online people** (b) fake people

**(4) Decide whether the following sentences are true or false. (5 points)**

1. The parent doesn't want the son to use the internet. (✗)
2. The recent study found that almost three quarters of teenagers own mobile phones. (✓)
3. "...today's young people are the connected generation." The underlined phrase means that Young people depend on technology heavily nowadays. (✓)
4. Young people cannot differentiate between the online world and the real world. (✗)
5. Parents' fear comes from the fact that they do not understand the new technology. (✓)

**Question Number Two:(20 points)**

**Read the following text and the answer the questions below.**

My wife and I decided to get out of our comfort zone for some time. We left our well-paid jobs in the city and move to a remote village in the country. Now roughly a year has gone by, so maybe it's time to stop and ask ourselves some questions. What have we gained from it, and how much have we lost? The main answer to the first question, I think, is 'a simpler and healthier life'. And the answer to the second question is 'not very much'. We are poorer than before, of course, and we work a lot harder. Our social network has shrunk too as we don't go out as much. On the other hand, we have more control over our time: we can now choose when we do things. I wouldn't recommend it to everyone. The initial period was quite hard and we weren't convinced we were capable of living this way. There was no guarantee that our decision was the right one. To be honest, we're still not 100% sure, but we definitely don't regret trying.

**(1) Decide whether the following sentences true or false. (10 points)**

- a) The text is about a couple who chose to get stuck in their comfort zone a year ago. (✗)
- b) According to the writer, getting outside comfort zone led to a simpler and healthier life. (✓)
- c) The writer and his wife have lost so much in this experience. (✗)
- d) They wish that everyone should try what they have done. (✗)
- e) They wish that they should not have stepped outside their comfort zone. (✗)

**(2) Match the following meanings with words from the text. (5 points)**

- (a) having the ability (adj.) **capable of** (b) far away **remote** (c) got smaller **shrunk** (d) first **initial**  
(e) sure or certain something is true (adj) **convinced**

**(3) Choose the correct answers. (5 points)**

1. "Now roughly a year has gone by, ..." The word (roughly) means  
(a) **approximately** (b) obviously
2. What have we gained from it? The word (gained) means  
(a) **won** (b) taken

3. Our social network has shrunk. The phrase (social network) means  
 (a) **relation with people** (b) system of our life
4. "I wouldn't recommend it to everyone" The word (recommend) means  
 (a) **advise** (b) tell
5. There was no guarantee that our decision was the right one. The word (one) refers to  
 (a) guarantee (b) **decision**

**Vocabulary: (20 points)**

**1. Match the words in the box with their meanings below. (10 points)**

**like-minded fantasy trend colleague disappointed motivated**

- (1) sad because of an unexpected result: **disappointed** (2) movement, fashion or change: **trend**  
 (3) unreality: **fantasy** (4) with similar attitudes: **like-minded** (5) someone you work with:  
**colleague**

**2. Choose the correct answers to complete the meaning. (5 points)**

- a) Attendance is [**optional** - inevitable] for those who aren't working on the project.  
 b) After I had finished school, I used to [catch up - **keep in touch**] with some of my old friends.  
 c) He was accused of [**misusing** - misbehaving] public money.  
 d) I am sure he broke the vase [on duty - **on purpose**].  
 e) A lot of students and teachers disagreed with the school's [potential - **controversial**] decision to have a longer working day.

**3. Replace the underlined parts with words from the box. (5 points)**

**put up on demand on request excuse aware of come across run into**

- a) I'm sure he isn't really ill. I think it's just an untrue reason for not working hard **excuse**  
 b) Young babies expect to be given food whenever they want it **on demand**  
 c) We need to make people knowledgeable about the effect of their life style on the environment  
**aware of**  
 d) He didn't expect to find his friend's name by chance in the newspaper **come across**  
 e) She offered me to stay in her house for a night because I'd missed the last bus and they were not night buses running **put up**

**Language: (20 points)**

**1. Circle the correct answers. (5 points)**

- a) Normally, I **finish** / **am finishing** work at 5, but this week I **work** / **am working** until 6 to earn a bit more money.  
 b) The headmaster's interviewed two candidates for the teaching position, **didn't he** / **hasn't he**?  
 c) We hope they will stop **to ask** / **asking** such silly questions.  
 d) When they got home last night, they **found** / **had found** that somebody **broke into** / **had broken** their apartment.  
 e) While Sami was painting the door, he **had noticed** / **noticed** a snake which **had been** / **was** in the store for a long time  
 f) I can't be sure, but this idea **will probably** / **will** solve the problem.  
 g) The man has taken his shoes outdoors. I think he **will pray** / **is going to** pray at the mosque.

**2. Correct the mistakes in the following sentences. (4 points)**

- a) Did you enjoy this lesson? **Have you enjoyed this lesson?**  
 b) We are having to walk if we miss the bus. **We will have to walk if we...**  
 c) Are you supposing that everything is going to be right? **Do you suppose that....**  
 d) I asked him what will he like to eat. **I asked him what he would like to eat.**

**3. Write the verbs in the correct forms. (3 points)**

- a) Omar **does not accept** (not accept) my suggestions quite often.  
 b) Sorry, you can't talk to him right now. He **is driving** downtown. (drive)  
 c) Did you remember **to bring** (bring) the book that you **had borrowed**? (borrow)

4. Rewrite the following sentences using the words in brackets. (2 points)
- a) I borrowed 1000 \$ to buy anew a laptop. (until)  
**I did not buy a laptop until I had borrowed 1000\$.**
- b) She cleaned the room after we had left. (before)  
**We had left before she cleaned the room.**
5. Add question tags to the questions below. (2 points)
- a) She rarely comes these days, **does she?**
- b) He'd sit there before I ask for a permission, **wouldn't he?**
6. Rewrite the following sentences using a future form: will do, present continuous or going to. (2 points)
- a) What have you arranged to study next year ?  
**What are you going to study next year?**
- b) Please quiet! The show's time for tonight is after two minutes.  
**Please quiet! The show will start\begin after two minutes.**
7. Rewrite the following questions using the new beginnings. (2 points)
- a) Are you happy with your new house?  
I asked my brother **if he was happy with his new house.**
- b) How long does it take from your new house to the office?  
The boss asked me **how long it took from my new house to the office.**

#### Writing: (15 points)

Choose only one of the following questions.

- (1) Write a short essay on the topic of coincidence. You may use the following ideas:
- Why do coincidences happen?
  - What are the various explanations of coincidence?
  - What examples does science provide on coincidence?
  - What is your conclusion about coincidences?
- (2) Write an essay about your dream job. You can use the following ideas:
- Describe your dream job and the reasons for choosing it
  - Its positives \ negatives
  - Things you need to achieve

### Coincidences

People often say, "It is a small world, isn't it?" We say this when we experience one of those strange coincidences. Coincidences are nearly a part of everyone's lives, and they happen because our lives are more connected now than before. **But**, what is the explanation of coincidences?

**Actually, people have an exciting explanation for coincidences.** They think that coincidences are an evidence of something mysterious happening, or some kind of hidden plan outside our knowledge.

**On the other hand, science has a less exciting but more logical explanation.** The first part of the scientific explanation is that coincidences are unexpected events that happen at the same time for no clear reason. **For example**, if we run into another person in from home in another country, and neither of us knows that.

**In addition**, science explains coincidences as finding an unexpected connection between random things or people; **for instance**, when we talk to a complete stranger and find that we have the same birthday.

**And, there is mathematical way to prove that. For example,** if there are 23 people in a room, there is a chance of 50% that two persons of them having the same birthday. **Also,** if there are 48 people in the room, the probability will be 95%.

**But, why coincidences happen? In my view,** there is a reason for everything in our life. **Sometimes,** we find the reason, but in many times, only The Almighty Allah knows the reasons which are outside our control and knowledge.

**To conclude,** there are so many events in our lives, and now, especially with the internet, we connect with high number of people. Therefore, coincidences happen more often, and the more we run into people, the more we come across coincidences.

### **My dream job**

**Job is an important part in everyone's life, and without it life is impossible.** With job, we earn living and become self-dependent. With job, we have a place in society and become responsible citizens. Job also offers an everyday learning. When we work, we develop new skills and learn new things.

**In general, everyone tends to have a dream job. For me, in future, I will choose the job of (teacher\doctor..).** This job suits me because I really like (teaching\ medicine\ ...). It also has some advantages. **For example,** it offers job satisfaction and job security. However, the best advantage of this job is the feeling that I will do useful things for people.

**On the other hand, this job has some disadvantages such as pressure and long hours working. But,** the most important thing is loving the job. I think this feeling will outweigh any disadvantages.

**To sum up,** I really want to spend the rest of my life in my dream job, and also I am thinking of making a part of my work for free to help those who can't pay.