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I. Reading Comprehension (15 points). Read each of the following passages and choose the one best answer for each question.

A. The Clinton administration ordered a halt Thursday to road construction in more than 33 million acres of national forests, a move environmentalists hope will lead to permanent protection of vast areas of forest land. But the plan, announced by the Agriculture Department, will exempt large expanses of old-growth forest in the Northwest and in Alaska where road building may continue under previously enacted forest management plans. The 18-month moratorium, a prelude to a broader permanent forest road plan, would prevent construction of about 360 miles of road and block the harvesting of about 200 million board feet of humber, officials said.

- 1. Which of the following would be the most appropriate headline for this story?
  - a. Forest Protection Plan Puts Halt on Roads
  - b. Final Action to Protect Forests
  - c. Plans for New Road Construction Blocked by Administration
  - d. Forest Protection in Northwest and Alaska
- 2. What of the following is closest in meaning to moratorium?
  - a. a proposal for a stop
  - b. a possible stop
  - c. a permanent stop
  - d. a temporary stop
- 3. For environmentalists, this action represents
  - a. complete success.
  - b. disaster.
  - c. a step toward success.
  - d. a setback in their plans.

B. David Marshall, a key leader in Singapore's independence struggle, outspoken government critic and flamboyant criminal lawyer, died of cancer on December 12. He was 87.

Marshall, a mesmerizing orator born into a Jewish family of Iraqi descent, was elected in April 1955 as the first chief minister of Singapore, then still a British colony. The charismatic politician and leader of the Labour Front coalition resigned in protest 15 months later, after the collapse of constitutional talks with Britain over wider self-rule.

Marshall quit the Labour Front in 1957 and started the populist Workers' Party. As a member of parliament, he often criticized the People's Action Party—which came to power in 1959 and led the country to full independence in 1965—for what he considered its authoritarian tendencies. Still, the PAP later adopted and expanded many of his policy ideas, including his emphasis on multiracialism and education.

	八十八學年度_	語	亨	——————————————————————————————————————	組碩士班研究生招生考試
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His reputation as a criminal lawyer once prompted Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's former prime hinister, to declare that Marshall was responsible for 200 murderers walking free. "I am proud of that," esponded Marshall, who opposed the death penalty. "I was convinced of their innocence and acted coording to my conscience."

Marshall abandoned opposition politics in 1972 and retired from his law practice in 1978, at the ge of 70, and was appointed Singapore's first ambassador to France, Spain, Portugal and Switzerland. Some accused him of compromising his political views, but Marshall insisted he could not "run away from the chance to serve my country."

After he retired from these posts in 1993, Marshall resumed his criticism of the government, cousing it of stifling free speech. But he also lauded its economic achievements.

- 4. What is this article mainly about?
  - a. a diplomatic career
  - b. politics in Singapore
  - c. authoritarianism in Singapore
  - d. the life and death of David Marshall
- 5. Which of the following jobs does the article NOT say that David Marshall had?
  - a. lawyer
  - b. member of parliament
  - c. prime minister
  - d. ambassador
- 6. Marshall's attitude toward the Singapore government was
  - a. generally friendly.
  - b. implicitly critical.
  - c. generally critical.
  - d. The story does not say.
- 7. Which of the following is closest in meaning to stifling (final paragraph)?
  - a. encouraging
  - b. tolerating
  - c. suppressing
  - d. criticizing
- C. Most of us believe our time management problems are created by others, friends or co-workers in need of a friendly ear, a boss with a penchant for increasing our workload, or paperwork that just won't quit. Actually, if we analysed our use of time we would discover that most of our difficulties are self-originating. Time management is not a matter of managing the clock, but of managing ourselves with respect to the clock.

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Granted, time is a limited resource, but like money it can be budgeted and allocated. What you need to do if you want to get better use from your time is to budget your time to key result areas. Key result areas are those areas which have special significance for you—areas from which you need to get optimum results.

Key result areas at work are probably customer contact, inventory control, supervision, attracting new business, dealing with suppliers, and keeping pace with technology. In your personal life key result areas might be family, career, social life, physical fitness, personal growth, and/or spiritual developmental.

Once you have identified your key result areas, then you must set goals and develop practical steps to achieve growth in those areas. To illustrate how this works, let's assume attracting new business is one of your key result areas. To achieve growth in this area you might set yourself a goal of exceeding your current sales quotas by 10 percent. One step leading to the accomplishment of this goal would be to contact three existing and three new prospects each day. Then, as you develop your priorities for each day, you can evaluate them against the key result areas, your goal, and the action steps required to move you towards your goal. In other words, your number one daily priority becomes contacting the three existing and three new customers.

8. This passage is mainly about

科目

- a. how to manage time.
- b. how to make yourself a better person.
- c. how to achieve success in business.
- d. how to identify important areas to work on.
- 9. The article was mainly written for
  - a. retired people.
  - b. students.
  - bousewives.
  - d. business people.
- 10. According to the author, time problems are caused primarily by
  - a. ourselves.
  - b. our bosses.
  - c. the people around us.
  - d. circumstances that we cannot avoid.
- 11. The author says that key result areas at work
  - a. are determined by our goals.
  - b. are identified through action steps.
  - c. are extremely difficult to identify.
  - d. require special attention.

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D. No American can quite make up his mind whether it is a compliment or not, but the fact is that San Francisco is every foreigner's favorite American city. The reason for this is mysterious. It varies from one afficionado to the next, and has nothing to do with logic. Even Californians are sometimes vaguely resentful since none of San Francisco's foreign addicts seems to realize what state they are in: they talk of San Francisco as though they believed it to be some sort of sovereign enclave.

"Oh no," say the visitors, "I love to visit the U.S., but I couldn't live there. Except perhaps San Francisco." Or: "Every part of America is like every other part. Except of course San Francisco."

This greatly exasperates numbers of American local patriots who never hear anyone talk that way about Pittsburgh or Des Moines or Omaha, and who will forever wonder what San Francisco is supposed

to have that, say, Milwaukee hasn't.

Foreigners who are hooked on San Francisco tend, when pressed, to mutter excuses about its affinity with European cities. This is nonsense, and supposedly derives from the superficial fact that San Francisco is not laid out, like everywhere else, on the flat, but is forever going madly up and down, with a sort of faintly European eccentricity. Otherwise San Francisco is about as European as Gary Cooper. This is a sort of compliment. I know dozens of European cities that should be flattered to be likened to San Francisco.

It always slightly bothers me to take the majority view in a popularity contest, but I am obliged to say that it is difficult here to do otherwise. It would be original to define San Francisco as dull, provincial and remote. It would also be untrue, since San Francisco is very much what it is cracked up to be: alert, various, and at times extremely beautiful. There is an element of the fantastic about the place that is a great novelty in North America. This permits San Francisco to be quite austerely elegant from one point of view and outstandingly crude and vulgar from another, which is the way vivid cities should be. The difference between San Francisco and Miami, to take an extreme case, is that the latter can make opulence commonplace while the former can make the commonplace opulent. In San Francisco even the crudities have a kind of class, and the really classy bits have the good taste to include a bit of rough stuff too.

- 12. What is this reading mainly about?
  - a. foreigners' misconceptions about San Francisco
  - b. San Francisco's problems
  - c. opinions about San Francisco
  - d. mistaken ideas about San Francisco
- 13. What is the author's opinion of San Francisco?
  - a. He thinks it is a great city.
  - b. He disagrees with the majority.
  - c. He thinks it is not as good as people say it is.
  - d. He has mixed feelings about it.

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III. Summarizing (20 points). Write a short English summary of the following passage. You should find the main ideas of the text and express them in your own words; do not simply quote portions of the English text. Your summary should be no longer than 50 words.

Depictions of precivilized humans as saints and civilized folks as demons are as hypocritical as they are erroneous. Rousseau never left his very civilized circumstances to join tribesmen living in his ideal state—for example, the hunting-gathering bands of Tasmania. Similarly, the modern-day primitive nostalgist listens to tribal music celebrating the sacredness of nature on a stereo composed of completely artificial materials ultimately extracted from strip mines and oil wells on territories seized or extorted from tribal societies. If Westerners have belatedly recognized that they are not the crown of creation and rightful lords of the earth, their now common view of themselves as humanity's nadir is equally absurd. What is morally wrong with longer life; lower infant mortality; wider knowledge of the universe (including a science of ecology); water and food cleansed of parasites and pathogens; photography; Western literature, art, and music; or larger numbers of humans living on less land with fewer premature deaths, including violent ones? But the converse also applies. Can we morally or practically disdain the "social welfare" system of the Plains Indians, the sculpture and winter clothing of the Eskimos, the music and art of tribal Africans, the navigation skills of the Polynesians, the survival techniques of the Australian Aborginals, the medical botany of countless tribal peoples, or the many "primitive' methods for resolving disputes without recourse to violence or lawyers? The myths of either primitive or civilized superiority deny the intellectual, psychological, and physiological equality of humankind.