I. Vocabulary (20%) Please fill in the blank with the best answer to complete the sentence.

1. America’s Sweetheart became a single mother at the age of 45 when she _____ son Louis from New Orleans.
   (A) adapted (B) adopted (C) adepts (D) adroit

2. We have lived for a few years amid a torrent of reports about the clear and _____ danger of epidemic flu.
   (A) distant (B) inarticulate (C) imminent (D) indistinctive

3. When the political hurricane known as the Arab Spring hit the region, Bashar al-Assad ______ his country’s immunity to the troubles.
   (A) proclaimed (B) obscured (C) disclaimed (D) concealed

4. 200% increase in U.S. ______ killed or injured while wearing headphones since 2004.
   (A) podiums (B) pedestals (C) symposiums (D) pedestrians

5. By the summer of 2009, the worse of the financial crisis appeared to be over, but the broader economic ______ started settling in.
   (A) malaise (B) optimism (C) buoyancy (D) hopefulness

6. The organization Christine Lagarde took over had already undergone a radical _______.
   (A) transfer (B) transaction (C) transformation (D) transmission

7. In the move that would _____ Soros’s swashbuckling reputation in the financial world, he made more than $ 1 billion in 1992 after he shorted the British pound.
   (A) decade (B) manipulate (C) cement (D) separate
8. Charlize Theron might be late for the interview because her house was surrounded by ______ and she couldn’t get out.
(A) performers (B) paparazzi (C) freelancers (D) celebrities

9. While “K-pop” has gained popularity as the catch-all term for a host of glossy boy and girl bands, East Asia’s music industry is being ______ tailored for a global audience in the digital age.
(A) astutely (B) imprudently (C) idiotically (D) naively

10. In 1956, Bangalore found itself the capital of a new Kannada state. The first to pour in were _____ who needed offices, houses and roads to run the new state.
(A) enterprisers (B) entrepreneurs (C) bureaucracies (D) bureaucrats

II. Grammar (20%) Please fill in the blank with the best answer to complete the sentence.
1. For more than a year and a half, Chen, an advocate of women’s right and for the disabled, ______ under extra-legal house arrest in the far-eastern province of Shandong.
(A) had held (B) had been held (C) had hold (D) had been hold

2. Apple has launched numerous lawsuits against Android phone makers and so far ______ interest in settling.
(A) have showed less (B) have shown little (C) has showed less (D) has shown little

3. Microsoft will face a tough slog against Apple’s iPad and Amazon’s Kindle, ______ outsells the Nook tow to one.
(A) the latter of which (B) the later of it (C) the latter of those (D) the later of which

4. It remains ______ whether the government will actually implement this policy.
(A) seeing (B) to see (C) to be seen (D) to be seem

5. The United States has more children growing up without a father than ______.
(A) Germany children does (B) Germany has children (C) Germany children have (D) Germany have children

6. When Jessica Simpson, nine months’ pregnant with a 10-pound baby, ______ to give birth last week, she was not just any mother to be.
(A) heads to the hospital (B) heading to the hospital (C) head to the hospital (D) headed to the hospital
7. Among ________ in Beijing, petitioners make repeated trips to the capital, or they stay for years, collecting scrapes to support themselves or picking up thrown-out food to eat.
(A) the most marginalized groups (B) the more marginalized groups (C) most marginalized group (D) more marginalized group

8. _________ and American-style trousers, Garry Kasparov looks like a businessman who has come home from work.
(A) To wear a sport coat (B) Wearing a sport coat (C) A sport coat (D) Sport coats

9. If the government ________ taxes further, this would have serious consequences.
(A) will raise (B) raised (C) would raise (D) raises

10. Not just by overeating, but through lack of exercise, ________ overweight.
(A) people have become (B) people become (C) people became (D) do people become

III. Reading Comprehension (40%) Please read the passages and choose the best answer to the questions.

When Newsweek ran its first Green Rankings in 2009, climate change was high on the agenda. The U.S. House had passed a cap-and-trade bill to put a price on carbon, and the world’s biggest economies were about to make history with an agreement to cut greenhouse-gas emissions. Since then, green momentum has seriously stalled, at least in the public sector. The U.N. Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen at the end of 2009 ended without an agreement, and climate science in the U.S. has been politicized by Tea Partiers and others. A skeptical Congress, plus the ongoing economic downturn, have made environmental regulations a tough sell. Elsewhere in the world, there is some movement--such as in Australia, where the lower house has just passed a carbon tax--but it’s slow.

If governments are hesitating, many of the globe’s big companies missed the memo. Top-ranked companies are approaching green projects with increasing tenacity, even in this weak economy. Corporate sustainability, it seems, is here for the long haul--it makes sense not just for the sake of the planet, but for the business. “Big companies have decided that this is a long-term play,” says Thomas Lyon, a professor at the University of Michigan’s Ross School of Business. The Newsweek Green Rankings are unique in that they allow the environmental performance of all different kinds of companies to be compared on one level playing field. That’s because Newsweek considers not only the actual environmental footprint of each
company, but how well it manages that impact through policies, programs, and initiatives. In other words, even firms that are pulled down by a heavy impact can get a boost in the rankings if they take their environmental management seriously. The companies *Newsweek* evaluated fall into 19 industry sectors, from Technology Equipment to Food and Beverage.

(Source: *Newsweek*, October 24, 2011 by Ian Yarett)

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to _____.
   (A) highlight the reasons why climate change is beneficial (B) argue that a carbon-tax is an essential part for business (C) introduce green rankings ran by a magazine (D) educate readers about how to protect the environment.

2. Based on information in this passage, which of the following would most likely be considered true?
   (A) The environmental management of different types of companies is evaluated based on different criteria. (B) Sony does not fall into the industry sectors evaluated by *Newsweek*. (C) Green Rankings include many different types of companies. (D) Since 2009, green projects have been increased in the public sector.

3. This passage would most likely be found _____.
   (A) in a magazine article about climate change (B) in a letter from a magazine editor to another (C) in a magazine article identifying different types of green momentum (D) in a magazine article about environmental regulation movements

4. What would be the best title of this passage?
   (A) The World’s Green Rankings (B) Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen (C) Governments’ Environmental Management (D) Environmental Regulations in Australia

   All eyes are on Asia as the continent that can turn around the rest of the world’s financial struggles. More and more businesses are looking to invest and establish foundations in the East. India, China, Singapore and Hong Kong are all regarded as economic powerhouses and are bustling centers of commercial activity. Considering this growing Eastern trend, it comes as no surprise that many graduates are looking forwards Asian institutes for higher education. By undertaking a graduate or postgraduate degree in Asia, candidates will not only acquire the skills associated with their course at a top quality institution but will also familiarize and immerse themselves in Asian culture. This introduction to the Asian way of life represents a priceless experience that is well regarded by potential employers who will see that
the candidate has had exposure in the region. Their time spent in Asia will be invaluable as they enter the world of business.

Take the MBA. Having become one of the most sought after post-graduate qualifications on the planet, MBAs are attracting swathes of candidates from all over the world. Institutes offering MBA qualifications have grown exponentially in Asia complementing the growing economic importance placed upon the region. The MBA is extensively offered in countries like Australia, China, Singapore, India and Hong Kong. Other developing regions that bubble with economic potential like Thailand and the Philippines also now have similar offerings. The MBAs from these countries are held in high regard by potential employers. Holding an MBA qualification from Asia is seen as a very positive addition to the resume as it means that the holder has experience of this vibrant part of the world both inside the classroom and in the workplace.

In today’s employment climate, the possession of degrees and acquisition of qualifications have become ubiquitous to success in the business world. This is why having not just the right qualification but one from a quality institution is so important. A top qualification will always have a striking impact on a potential employer and often is the difference between two similar candidates vying for the same position. Asian universities and colleges are renowned putting their candidates through rigorous training, projects, assignments and presentations throughout their courses. These processes will have developed and honed essential skills required in the world of work. There are many reasons why one should opt to study in Asia. Perhaps the paramount reason is the immersion of oneself into another culture central to an economic hotspot. By pursuing an education in Asia, students will be introduced to the business mentality and knowledge that has proved so successful in the global market. Moreover, the exposure to an Asian way of life represents the perfect complement to academic studies which ultimately results in a well-rounded and experienced character ready for the business world.

(Source: Newsweek, December 26, 2011 and January 2, 2012 by anonymous)

5. What is the purpose of this article?
   (A) to promote Asia’s colleges and universities (B) to introduce economic powerhouses in Asia (C) to advertise MBAs in the East (D) to hire candidates with an MBA qualification.

6. According to the author, what is the major reason for one to study in Asia?
   (A) to hold an MBA qualification (B) to compete with other candidates for the same position (C) to receive rigorous training and develop presentation skills (D) to immerse oneself in another culture central to an economic hotspot.
7. Based on the information in this article, it can be inferred that _______.
(A) more and more businesses are hiring candidates with an MBA qualification (B) MBAs have become the most sought after qualifications for graduates in Asia (C) qualifications from a quality institution is important in today’s employment climate (D) Australia, China and Singapore are renowned for quality higher education

8. Which of the following statements would the author most likely agree with?
(A) Experience of the Asian way of life is regarded as a very positive addition to the resume. (B) MBAs from Australia, China, Singapore and Hong Kong are held in high regard by potential employers. (C) Those who undertake a graduate degree in Asia will have a striking impact on potential employers. (D) A top qualification means holding a degree in MBA from an Asian university.

9. According to the author, which of the following is ever-present to success in the world of business?
(A) exposure to an Asian way of life (B) experience of another culture in the East (C) degrees and qualifications (D) academic studies and experience of the workplace

10. Using the article as a guide, it can be understood that ______.
I. Universities in Taiwan are renowned for providing their students with rigorous training and assignments throughout their courses.
II. More and more companies are looking to invest and establish foundations in Asia.
III. Due to the growing Eastern trend, many students are looking forwards to high education in Asia.
(A) I only (B) II only (C) I and II only (D) II and III only

To those who have followed Greece’s financial crisis for five years, there wasn’t much doubt who won the latest round Friday when the region’s finance ministers struck a deal to keep the bailout on track. Even German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble, who said he didn’t “want to make it more difficult for them,” concluded Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras will have a “difficult” time selling the agreement at home. That’s because Tsipras’s populist rhetoric of ending austerity was overpowered by the united front he faced.

A “complete political surrender to the world of reality” was how Erik Nielsen, London-based global chief economist of UniCredit Bank AG, put it. Societe Generale SA and Berenberg Bank both labeled it a “u-turn” by Tsipras, who won election Jan. 25 promising an end to budget cutting. ”If the deal holds, it would be a major victory of common sense over populism,” said Holger Schmieding, chief economist at Berenberg in London, who cut his probability of Greece leaving the
The euro area to 25 percent from 35 percent. “The taming of Tsipras would show that Europe’s ‘tough love’ approach is working.”

While Tsipras says skirting national insolvency meant “we won a battle, but not the war,” economists say he may not have managed even that. That’s because the basics of the existing aid deal he fought against are still intact.

At last week’s meeting, Greece signed up to all the conditions of its current package and to continued international oversight, ditching plans to win back control of its purse strings so it could raise wages and pensions.

“The combination of pressure on the banking sector and on state cash flows has forced the bulk of the concessions to come on their side,” said Malcolm Barr, an economist at JPMorgan Chase & Co. in London.

There were some concessions. Tsipras now gets a chance to draw up a list of reform ideas rather than have them forced upon him. The fiscal target for this year was also made less specific, giving him potentially some extra cash to throw around at home. Those tweaks left Commerzbank AG chief economist Joerg Kraemer suggesting while donor nations may have gotten their way, they are ultimately likely to back down on explicit requirements, allowing Tsipras some face-saving room to maneuver. “Nominally, at least, the creditors have won, but reality is likely to be different,” said Kraemer. Investors boosted European debt as the fear of contagion from Greece dissipated. “Europe has drawn the line in the sand - and markets had absolutely no problem with that,” said Nielsen of UniCredit.

(Source: Bloomberg Business, by Simon Kennedy and Jennifer Ryan)

11. What is the best title for the passage?
(A) Greek Civilization and Tragedy (B) Who Won the Greek Showdown in Europe? (C) New Development in Greek Austerity (D) The Victory of Alexis Tsipras

12. According to the passage, the Greek concessions are related primarily to _____.
(A) labor and education (B) transportation and insurance (C) a physical battle (D) international oversight of Greek finance

13. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT a factor Alexis Tsipras has to face?
(A) The basics of the existing aid deal (B) The investor’s face-saving room (C) A list of reform ideas (D) The combination of pressure on the banking sector and on state cash flows

14. In the last sentence, “that” refers to _____.
(A) return privileges (B) debt (C) buyer and seller (D) money
15. What is the possible issue following the article?
(A) unusual ways to advertise European debts  (B) types of payment plans for service
(C) theories about how financial crisis affects different levels of society  (D) how
certain elements of a price “package” influence its market value

Are Taiwanese university and college students actually learning things that can
be put to practical use?

It’s a question currently on the minds of many education experts. Wide-reaching
educational reforms that started a decade ago with the ideal of creating universal
higher education have radically transformed Taiwan’s colleges and universities. A
degree is no longer a privilege reserved for Taiwan’s intellectual elite but is now
freely available. But with this broadening of opportunity, educational standards
appear to have eroded significantly.

Academia Sinica President Wong Chi-huey says flatly that there are now too
many colleges and universities. Including police and military academies, Taiwan is
now home to a total of 173 institutions of higher education – 64 public ones and 109
private – which is 101 more than existed in 1991. At the full university level, there
are 53 regular and teacher-training institutions and 38 polytechnic universities.

A large proportion of young people are now enrolled in universities and colleges.
Around two decades ago, says Ni Chou-hwa, a section chief with the Ministry of
Education’s Department of Higher Education, around 16% of high school students
annually could pass the entrance exam and enter a university. Now, higher education
is becoming almost universal. Citing OECD Indicators 2007, Lin Wan-I, a National
Taiwan University professor and formerly a minister without portfolio under the
Democratic Progressive Party administration, notes that 65% of Taiwan’s
19-year-olds were enrolled in a tertiary institution in 2005, a situation aided by rising
household affluence levels in addition to the expansion in the number of colleges.
Only South Korea, at 72%, had a higher figure for the same age group, with the
United States standing at 49% and Australia at 35%. “Taiwan and Korea really value
study,” says Lin. MOE statistics show that in 2007 a total of 230,230 students
graduated with an undergraduate degree, 53,470 received a Master’s degree, and
3,106 a doctorate.

Yet in terms of quality of education, at least as measured by international
rankings, Taiwan is not faring as well as its Asian neighbors. According to the Times
Higher Education World University Rankings 2008, only one Taiwanese university –
National Taiwan University – ranked within the top 200 internationally (it came in at
124, a slip from 104th place a year earlier). Taiwan’s other star universities –
National Tsing Hua, National Chiao Tung and National Cheng Kung universities –
were all excluded. Meanwhile, the University of Hong Kong received a stellar
ranking at 26, and three other Hong Kong universities also made it to the top 200. The National University of Singapore was ranked the 30th best university in the world, and Peking University tied with Seoul National University for 50th place.
(Source: ‘Cover Story: Grading Taiwan’s Higher Education’, AmCham Taipei, by Jane Rickards)

16. The proportion of young people now enrolled in universities and colleges in 2005 was around______.
   (A) 65% (B) 72% (C) 49% (D) 16%

17. It can be inferred from this passage that______.
   (A) most people in Australia countries value study (B) students in American high schools are keen to study (C) there are actually fewer colleges and universities in America than has not been reported (D) the proportion of student’s enrollment in college is seen as a measure of a nation’s economy

18. The number of colleges and universities in Taiwan in the past decade______.
   (A) has been on the rise (B) has been decreasing gradually (C) has remained unchanged (D) has surpassed that of high schools

19. “Educational standards” (in paragraph 2) in this article most probably refers to______.
   (A) the number of universities (B) to make better living by higher degree (C) international rankings (D) the proportion of high school student’s enrollment in college

20. Which of the following statements best summarized the main idea of the passage?
   (A) The contribution of higher education to Taiwan’s development (B) Today’s conditions for Asian high school students (C) Grading Taiwan’s Higher Education (D) Higher education in developed countries

IV. Translations (20%)
From English to Chinese (10%)
1. Elizabethan England was, of course, quite different from modern Western societies in the ways in which its educational systems worked and in how they served social and cultural structures.
2. Sometimes it is the people who no one imagines anything of, who do the things that no one can imagine.
From Chinese to English (10%)

1. 宋先生决心要让女儿们受教育并且还要送她们出国留学，这在当时的中国家庭中是罕见的。这是他主张进步的另一实例：他把女儿们作为智力上完全与男子平等的家庭成员来对待。

2. 如果有来生
   要做一棵树
   站成永恒
   没有悲欢的姿势
   一半在土里安详
   一半在风里飞扬
   一半洒落阴凉
   一半沐浴阳光。