Circle the best choice.

Failure To Recognize One’s Limits

“To achieve and maintain an adequate measure of a good life, people must have some insight into their limitations,” said Confucius 26 centuries ago. ____ (1) ___, today there are still people who tend to be unaware of their incompetence. Recent research conducted by Justin Kruger and David Dunning suggests that in many social and intellectual fields, people are unaware of the limits of their knowledge and expertise; greatly overestimating their talents.

The phenomenon was demonstrated in a series of experiments performed by Dunning and Kruger, ____ (2) ____ were lecturers at Cornell University at the time. The results of their research were published in the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology in December 1999. In fact, the phenomenon ____ (3) ____ by many philosophers nearly a century before Dunning and Kruger's study. For example, Bertrand Russell, a twentieth century philosopher, is known ____ (4) ____ “The trouble with the world is that the stupid are sure and the intelligent are full of doubt.”

1. a) However  2. a) each of whom  3. a) which was observed  4 a) having said
   b) Whereas  b) each of them  b) what was observed  b) and said
   c) Thus  c) both of them  c) had been observed  c) to say
   d) In contrast  d) both of whom  d) observed  d) to have said

In their article that won the Ig Nobel Prize in 2000, David Dunning and Justin Kruger mainly focus on three points. First, throughout one’s life, success and satisfaction depend on knowledge, wisdom, or a practical understanding in knowing which rules and strategies to follow. Second, people differ ____ (5) ____ in the knowledge and strategies they apply in these areas with varying levels of success. ____ (6) ____ knowledge and theories that people apply to their actions are rational and meet with favourable results while others may not. The more controversial third point is the Dunning-Kruger effect, which is a cognitive bias in which people reach false conclusions and make unfortunate choices, but their inefficiency prevents them ____ (7) ____ this and they are usually left with the mistaken impression that they are doing just fine. This leads to a strange result where less capable or efficient people will rate their own ability higher than that of more capable or efficient people.

5. a) more widely  6. a) Neither  7. a) when realizing
   b) wide  b) Little  b) from realizing
   c) widely  c) Some of the  c) to realize
   d) wider  d) Many of the  d) so that they realize

Findings from Dunning and Kruger’s experiments supported the points mentioned above. In one experiment, people were asked how many capital cities ____ (8) ___. People who claimed to know about 50 were able to name only five. On the other hand, people who in reality knew more than 50 said they could probably name five or six. In another experiment, people who had answered almost all of the questions correctly in an exam said they expected to get around 70% while those who later got around 20% had said ____ (9) ____ around 90%. This all showed that while people who do not know much “sell” themselves well, saying they are very good, people with true knowledge tend to underestimate their competence and are more “invisible”. That is, they avoid ____ (10) ____ by the public. Unfortunately, this is reflected in all areas of life, and mostly at work; those who are “no good” boast about themselves and wrongly make themselves and others believe that they are “worth” something and
really do get promoted whereas those who really know a lot are much more humble and hate showing off and do not get promoted as often.

8. a) they knew
   b) did they know
   c) they know
   d) do they know

9. a) they will get
   b) they would get
   c) to be getting
   d) to have got

10. a) to be noticed
    b) noticing
    c) to notice
    d) being noticed
INTERMEDIATE GROUP
ANSWER KEY

1. a 6. c
2. d 7. b
3. c 8. a
4. d 9. b
5. c 10. d