ELEMENTARY GROUP
Mid-Term 01
SECTIONS III&IV
SECTION III.
LANGUAGE USE

A. Below is a text on space colonization. Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the verbs in parentheses. DO NOT USE MODALS.

Since the Industrial Revolution of the 19\textsuperscript{th} century, the Earth’s ecological balance (1)\textsuperscript{___________________}(damage) significantly by human activities. In the days before the Industrial Revolution, many more animal and plant species (2)\textsuperscript{___________________}(live) on our planet, and natural resources were more plentiful. However, humans’ destructive activities led planet Earth to lose all that abundance and variety. Currently, an increasing number of plant and animal species (3)\textsuperscript{___________________________}(disappear) as a result of humans’ increasing consumption of the world’s resources. According to scientific studies and calculations, if we (4a)\textsuperscript{_______________________}(continue) to consume the Earth’s natural resources at the current rate, we (4b)\textsuperscript{___________________________}(have) enough resources to continue living on this planet in less than 100 years’ time. Also, in today’s world, more and more money (5)\textsuperscript{______________________}(spend) on the industrialization of nations. This means that in the near future, nations (6)\textsuperscript{_______________________________}(start/probably) to compete even more for the limited resources. Under these conditions, today, scientists (7)\textsuperscript{________________________}(think) of possible ways of making sure that humans continue to survive as a species – and building colonies in space is one of them. Scientists predict that humans (8a)\textsuperscript{___________________________}(reach) this goal when the necessary methods for space colonization (8b)\textsuperscript{___________________________}(become) cheap enough.

B. Below is the rest of the same text. Rewrite the underlined sentences using the clues given.

(1) The possibility sounds unrealistic, but this situation could force humans to consider space colonization. Space colonization is the concept of permanent human habitation outside of Earth. At the present time, there are many proposals and speculations about the first future space colony. It is seen as a long-term goal of some national space programs. (2) Potential sites for space colonies include the Moon, Mars, asteroids and other free-floating space habitats. These habitats offer sufficient quantities of all the necessary materials, such as solar energy and water. According to experts, building human colonies in outer space is possible, but there are serious difficulties along the road. One difficulty arises from the medical problems posed by microgravity (weightlessness.) Also, (3) there are high levels of radiation outside the Earth’s atmosphere. This is another difficulty. However, despite these serious challenges, scientists are hopeful. In 2005, NASA Administrator Michael Griffin identified space colonization as the ultimate goal of current spaceflight programs, saying: “...the goal isn’t just scientific exploration. It is also about extending the range of human habitat out from Earth into the solar system as we go forward in time. (4) Humans will build habitats on other planets one day. I’m sure about this.”

1. Although \textsuperscript{___________________________________________________________}.

2. Potential sites for space colonies include the Moon, Mars, asteroids and other free-floating space habitats \textsuperscript{___________________________________________________________}, such as solar energy and water.

3. Another difficulty is \textsuperscript{___________________________________________________________}.
C. Below is a text on space exploration. Fill in the blanks with ONE WORD ONLY.

Humans have always been interested (1)____________________ the universe and its mysteries ever since ancient times. A (2)____________________ of theories about the universe and our solar system were developed by early philosophers and astronomers. However, not (3)____________________ progress was made towards understanding the universe until the 17th century, when the telescope was invented. The invention of the telescope changed the history – and future – of humanity forever. Thanks to this invention, for the first time, humans were (4)____________________ to see their place in the universe and began to understand the universe itself. They saw that they had (5)____________________ knowledge about space than they earlier believed, and realized that they (6)____________________ to go further with space exploration in order to have a better future.

There have been (7)____________________ benefits of space exploration in different fields. For (8)____________________, with the help of satellites, meteorologists make accurate predictions about the weather. Therefore, natural disasters (9)____________________ be predicted before they happen and cause damage. In (10)____________________, communication has advanced so much that today distances do not matter, and the world has become a global village. (11)____________________, scientific research in the fields of medicine, agriculture and technology has been encouraged to a great extent with the exploration of space.

(12)____________________ conclusion, these benefits prove that mankind should continue to explore space. In fact, that is why governments of developed countries are spending huge amounts of money (13)____________________ it.
SECTION IV: READING

VOCABULARY
Below is a text on the endangerment of species. Fill each gap with a suitable word from the box. DO NOT change the form of the words. Use each word only ONCE. Be careful as there are more words than you need.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>man-made</th>
<th>waste</th>
<th>tie</th>
<th>consequences</th>
<th>affects</th>
<th>feed</th>
<th>destroying</th>
<th>excessive</th>
<th>process</th>
<th>per</th>
<th>misconceptions</th>
<th>thaws</th>
<th>exist</th>
<th>floating</th>
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</table>

Before this day ends, about 45 different animal and plant species will disappear from the Earth forever. Within a year, the number of species that no longer (1)__________________ will be about 17,000. According to scientists, these estimates represent the most hopeful case. In reality, more species may be disappearing (2)__________________ year.

The disappearance of plant and animal species has unfortunate (3)__________________. The Earth loses thousands of kinds of plants that could (4)__________________ the millions of hungry people all around the world. We are also losing the possible medicinal benefits of these species, as medicines mostly come from natural ingredients found in plants, not (5)__________________ substances.

Actually, it is natural for species to disappear over millions of years. What is unnatural is humans are making this (6)__________________ happen faster in a variety of ways. First of all, people put the survival of plants and animals in danger by (7)__________________ their habitats. When these organisms cannot find a place to live, they become extinct, or disappear completely. Another way that humans are causing some animals to disappear is overhunting, which is the killing of certain animals in too great, or (8)__________________, numbers for their meat, skin, or fur, or for some other purpose. Animals that are in danger of becoming extinct because of overhunting include the blue whale, African elephants, and seals. Humans are also polluting the air, water, and soil. Pollution (9)__________________ animal species in the form of a chain reaction. For example, (10)__________________ from factories and homes is dumped into rivers, lakes, and seas, and these waters become polluted, causing the fish to be poisoned and to die. The birds that eat these fish also get poisoned and die.

Is there time to prevent disaster? Scientists fear that it might be too late already. However, we can still take action before things become even worse and start to pose a danger to humans.
Text I.
Read the text below and answer the questions that follow.

Communicating with the World

1 People have always found ways to communicate with each other across distances. For most of history, communication could be only as fast as people, their horses, or their ships could travel. When our ancestors wanted to communicate over distance, they had few communication options. Sending visual messages with fire and smoke was one of them. Another was sending sound messages using instruments like drums or horns. Sometimes people used pigeons, a type of bird, to send messages. However, each of these methods had serious limitations. Wind blew smoke away, drum sounds only traveled a short distance, and pigeons could only carry small messages.

2 People have always searched for ways to send messages as quickly and precisely as possible. Each new advance in communications opens up more possibilities, and so the search continues for something even better, faster, and more powerful. Many inventions in the last two centuries have helped people send messages more easily and quickly. In 1840, Samuel Morse developed the telegraph. The telegraph revolutionized communication as it allowed people to send messages immediately by transmitting electrical signals along a wire. This was something people could never do until then. The sender tapped in a code. The person at the other end of the wire would decode the signals. This person would then write the message in regular language. However, there were some problems with the telegraph. The telegraph needed wire between different places. Also, the messages needed to be sent and received by a trained person, so not everybody could do it. Moreover, until waterproof cables became available, telegraph messages could not be sent across the ocean between Europe and America.

3 The year 1876 brought one of the greatest novelties of all time: the telephone. This innovation in communication was invented by Alexander Graham Bell. After he invented the telephone, Bell spent the next few years perfecting his invention. He also traveled around the world, showing people how it worked. Although the telephone was amazing, it had problems. Like the telegraph, it required miles of wires to connect one phone to another. Also, for many years, human operators had to connect callers to each other. In 1889, Almon Strowger developed a way to connect callers without a human operator. He invented a dialing system for telephones. To use it, each telephone needed a unique number. Then people could make telephone calls without an operator.

4 Although there were improvements, the need for wires still hindered effective and easy communication. Inventors like Nikola Tesla and Guglielmo Marconi worked to find ways to send electronic signals without wires. These men learned that natural radio waves could carry sounds. Using a transmitter and a receiver, these inventors figured out how to send sounds without wires. In 1896, Marconi developed the first wireless telegraph. Only a decade later, in 1906, the first voice was sent over radio waves. The first song was heard on a radio in 1910. Wireless transmission allowed for many changes in the telephone. Thanks to this technology, in 1927, the first radio telephone service operated between Britain and the United States.

5 The cellular telephone system started April 3, 1973. On that day, Dr. Martin Cooper made the first call on a portable cellular phone. As he walked down the street in New York, people probably found him strange. It was probably the first time that they saw a man standing on the street talking on a phone without wires. Who would have imagined a day when so many people would be walking and talking at the same time? Cell phones allow us to do so much more than just send and receive calls. We can send e-mails or instant text messages. We can access the Internet, watch television, listen to songs, take pictures or video, and play games with a phone as small as the palm of our hand. Today’s cell phones can connect to any device with a computer chip. Who knows what the future of telecommunications holds?
A. What do the following refer to?
1. them (para. 1) :________________________________________
2. it (para. 3) :________________________________________

B. Find words in the text that mean the following. Write ONE word on each blank and do NOT change the form of the word.
1. innovations (n) (para. 3) :___________________________
2. prevented (v) (para. 4) :___________________________

C. Answer the following questions according to the information in the text.
1. Why was the telegraph a revolutionary invention?
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________

2. What made it possible for people to send telegraph messages across the ocean?
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________

3. What common problem did the telephone and the telegraph share?
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________

4. How did Tesla and Marconi send sounds without wires?
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________

5. What made it possible for people in Britain to speak to people in the US by phone?
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________

6. Why does the writer think that people probably found Dr. Martin Cooper strange?
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
Text II.
Read the text below and answer the questions that follow.

Mushrooms

1 Most of us are familiar with one or two kinds of mushrooms, usually white or brown varieties that we find on pizzas. Actually, more than 3,000 types grow around the world in a wide variety of flavors and sizes. Some are less than two centimeters high, and others are more than 30 centimeters tall. Some have unusual names like Portobello and Black Trumpet, and they are listed on the long menus of fancy restaurants. However, many centuries ago, long before there were pizzas and expensive restaurants, people were eating them.

2 Ancient hieroglyphics (symbols) from more than 4,600 years ago tell us that ancient Egyptians called mushrooms “the magic food.” They traditionally believed eating them resulted in endless life, and only kings and their wives were given this right so that they could live forever. In other words, just the Egyptian royalty could enjoy all the delicious mushrooms and could live eternally. Other ancient civilizations in places such as Russia and Mexico thought mushrooms had ingredients that could actually produce superhuman powers.

3 Centuries ago, European people associated magic with mushrooms. Sometimes they observed unusual places in a meadow, like a patch of bright green grass or a spot of bare soil. Then, they imagined these places were the result of footprints left by *fairies dancing at night. When mushrooms grew near the edge of these “fairy rings,” people liked to think of them as seats where the tired fairies could rest. Today, however, we have a more scientific approach to the mushroom.

4 All of the many species of mushrooms are classified as fungi. They are plant-like organisms that usually grow in damp, dark places like caves or forest floors, but they can also grow in grassy areas. Fungi work with other plants and animals that help dead materials in the soil to decompose. This keeps the soil suitable for plant growth and survival. Like many other plants, mushrooms serve as a source of food for insects and small animals. Mushrooms differ from green plants because they lack chlorophyll and do not require sunshine to grow.

5 As the demand for mushrooms increased over the centuries, people established mushroom farms to plant and grow the fungi in special environments. Some farms were in caves, some underground, and some in special buildings. In the 1600s, for example, France developed the formal cultivation of mushrooms in special caves near Paris. Until the 1940s, most mushroom farms were in the Far East, especially China and Japan. Then, during World War II, many American soldiers tasted some delicious varieties of mushrooms and learned about mushroom farming. After the war, they took this knowledge back to the United States, which soon became one of the world’s major mushroom producers.

6 Mushroom consumption is promoted by health experts because they are fat-free, cholesterol-free, and low in calories. They are rich in B-vitamins, potassium, and iron. As they are highly nutritious, mushrooms have become extremely popular in the marketplace. In 1999, 510,000 tons of mushrooms were produced by farmers around the world, with a market value of $900 million. In 2011, the amount was more than 1.5 million tons with a market value of about $3 billion. At this rate, it appears safe to say mushrooms are here to stay!
A. Find words in the text that mean the following. Write ONE word on each blank and do NOT change the form of the word.

1. expensive, luxurious (adj) (para. 1) : _________________________
2. endlessly, forever (adv) (para. 2) : _________________________

B. Answer the following questions according to the information in the text.

1. According to old European beliefs, what were “fairy rings”?
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________

2. How do mushrooms make the soil suitable for the survival of plants?
_______________________________________________________________________________

3. What TWO characteristics of green plants make them different from mushrooms?
   a) ________________________________________________
   b) ________________________________________________

C. Fill in the blanks according to the information in paragraphs 5 and 6 using CORRECT LANGUAGE. Make sure you include all the necessary details. DO NOT change the meaning.

As the demand for mushrooms grew bigger through the centuries, mushroom farms were established in caves, under the ground, and in special buildings so that people could (1)________________________________________________________ in special environments. For instance, there were special caves near Paris, France in the 1600s, where mushrooms were formally cultivated. Until the 1940s, there weren’t many mushroom farms in the world, except in (2)________________________________________________________. Later on, during World War II, when American soldiers (3a)________________________________________ and (3b)______________________________________________________, they decided to take this knowledge back to the United States. In a short time, the United States became a major global mushroom producer.

Health experts (4)______________________ because they are healthy. They do not contain fat or cholesterol, and they are low in calories. Moreover, they contain high amounts of nutrients, such as (5)________________________________________. That’s why mushrooms have become extremely popular in the marketplace. Back in 1999, farmers around the world (6)______________________________, and earned $900 million. In 2011, both the amount and the market value tripled. It seems that the global demand for mushrooms will continue to increase.