

ISET INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS at TSU

English, Variant A

Entrance Exam, May 3, 2009

PART A

Directions: Read the following text. Then answer the seven questions which follow. Remember to mark the answers on your answer sheet.

READING PASSAGE A

John Burns was the New York Times bureau chief in New Delhi in the late 1990s. I happened to visit him in the summer of 1998 when the World Cup soccer matches were being played and Burns was trying to follow the games on TV. One morning Burns told me the following tale: “We have four satellite dishes on the roof of our house [in New Delhi], which are costing the Times thousands of dollars a year. It’s like we’re running an uplink station here. Anyway, I got **fed up** because despite all these satellite dishes I couldn’t even get the Indian channel that televises the World Cup. It has something to do with weather interference and the satellites needing to be adjusted and the man who is supposed to do it turns up intermittently. So I am complaining about all this over breakfast and our cook, Abdul Toheed, who is seventy-one years old and the former shoeshine boy of the last British commander in India, says to me, ‘I don’t know what you’re upset about. I get all the channels on my TV. You are wasting your time and money with your satellites. Come back to my quarters.’ He and his wife live in a little **compound** in the back of our house. So I go back there, and his wife is listening to the BBC. I said to him, ‘What is she doing? She doesn’t speak English.’ And he says to me, ‘She’s learning.’ Then he hands me the television remote, and with increasing astonishment I start at Channel 1 and go all the way to Channel 27. He had television stations from China, Pakistan, Australia, Italy, France—all these channels to choose from, and it was only costing him 150 rupees a month [\$3.75]. With all my satellite dishes, I only had fourteen channels. He had just gotten some friend of his who has his own pirate cable system to run a cable along the telephone wires and into his house behind my house. It was all unofficial and illegal, but he now lives in the wired world and his wife is learning English. He and his family—older working-class people—have access to all sorts of information. Meanwhile, I’m still struggling to get Indian television.”

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1. According to the passage, why was John Burns aggravated?
 - a. He wanted to watch sports.
 - b. He needed to upload his news articles for publication in the *Times*.
 - c. He has a problem with his cook.
 - d. He wishes he had television stations from other countries.

 2. The reason the satellites don't work, as explained to John Burns, is:
 - a. The satellite dishes are of low quality.
 - b. There is interference from the telephone lines.
 - c. The person who is supposed to adjust the satellites doesn't do his job properly.
 - d. Satellite TV is illegal in India.

 3. Who is Abdul Toheed?
 - a. The *New York Times* Bureau Chief
 - b. A shoeshine boy
 - c. A domestic worker
 - d. A cable television technician

 4. Why does Abdul Toheed tell John Burns to visit his house?
 - a. So his wife can practice English with Burns
 - b. To watch the World Cup on his cable television
 - c. To show his satellite dish to Burns
 - d. To show how many television channels he has

 5. Which would be the best title for this passage?
 - a. The Democratization of Information
 - b. The Aggrandizement of Communications
 - c. Bringing the World Cup into your Living Room
 - d. Television's Successes in the Compound

 6. In this passage, "fed up" (line 5) most closely means:
 - a. Full
 - b. Frustrated
 - c. Resigned
 - d. Disgraced

 7. In this passage, "compound" (line 11) most closely means:
 - a. Joined together
 - b. Tunnel passageway
 - c. Garden area
 - d. Group of buildings

PART B

Directions: Read the following text. Then answer the seven questions which follow. Remember to mark the answers on your answer sheet.

READING PASSAGE B

Keeping a Training Log

Many fitness enthusiasts keep training logs, and athletes often have daily training records going back 10 years or more. These records allow them to see the big picture, the patterns that emerge only over time. If you decide to keep a training log, you may find it a **hassle** at first, but if you keep detailed notes on such things as diet and sleep patterns, how much time you spent warming
5 up and stretching, and when, where and how far you ran, it will allow you to see a new, healthier pattern starting to form in your life.

You may find you even start recording your thoughts a practice that can really **pay dividends**. Many runners say their moments of greatest clarity come when they are running, and you may find your insights worth recalling at a later date. At the very least, a year or two down the road
10 you can look back at your old training logs and laugh when you see an entry describing how you maxed out at 500 meters of running—when today you can easily run 5 kilometers without breaking a sweat.

Many runners find that keeping a journal is motivating. If you're having a tough time getting up off the couch, try picking up your training log and flipping through the pages summarizing all your
15 hard work. Then look at the next, blank page—the one that can't be filled in until after that day's training session. Most of the time this will be enough to get you lacing up your shoes.

Keeping a training log in which you record aches and pains can also help you to prevent injuries, or, if not, at least to better recover from them. Noting your aches and pains may motivate you to deal with their causes before they lead to actual injuries. And if you *do* become injured, the log
20 will allow you to work more closely with your doctor or physiotherapist, detailing the kinds of problems you've been having and how they originally **manifested** themselves.

In a nutshell, keeping a training log will enable you to:

- analyze the effects of your training
- monitor your progress
- 25 - develop a systemic plan for improvement
- avoid overtraining and injury
- stay motivated
- **look back in wonder, amusement, or perhaps even amazement.**

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8. This passage is most likely aimed at the following audience:
- Olympic athletes
 - New runners
 - Physiotherapists
 - Authors
9. What is a training log?
- A registration document for national athletes
 - A list of courses attended when preparing for an athletic event
 - A diary of your sports-related achievements and challenges
 - A schedule to follow when practicing
10. In this passage, “hassle” (line 3) most closely means:
- Bother
 - Help
 - Interruption
 - Meaningless effort
11. In this passage, “pay dividends” (line 7) most closely means:
- Lead to a professional career
 - Bring useful results
 - Save you money
 - Cause you a headache
12. According to the passage, which of the following is **NOT** noted as a reason to review your training log:
- To find out how much you must run the next day
 - To get inspiration to keep training
 - To review what behavior has caused or prevented injuries
 - To see how much you have improved your running since you began
13. In this passage, “manifested” (line 21) most closely means:
- Cured
 - Displayed
 - Deterred
 - Entangled
14. According to the passage, you might “look back in wonder, amusement, or perhaps even amazement” (line 28) because:
- You are surprised how much better you can run now as compared to when you first began running
 - You are now injured and cannot run further
 - You could run much further in the past, as compared with today.
 - Your injuries have healed themselves.

PART C

Directions: Read the following text. Then answer the six questions which follow. Remember to mark the answers on your answer sheet.

READING PASSAGE C

Privatization is popular and growing throughout the world for purely **pragmatic** reasons. When carried out sensibly, it leads to greater productivity and better economic performance. Numerous convincing studies of competitive contracting and divestment provide overwhelming and unambiguous evidence as to the effectiveness of privatization. Comprehensive studies of public
5 services—typically municipal services—that have been privatized by contracting are numerous and widespread because the services themselves are very similar in different **localities** (and even in different countries): garbage collection, bus transport, water supply, and the maintenance of vehicles, parks, and streets, for example. Hence, these studies can be carried out across various locations and aggregated, leading to a large number of reliable studies. **In contrast**, every state-
10 owned enterprise is different and operates under a different regime in each country; no country has more than one national airline and one national telephone company. This would appear to make it harder to **draw** accurate conclusions about divestments of such enterprises, but, in fact, several important studies of such divestments have been conducted.

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15. In this passage, “pragmatic” (line 1) most closely means:
- practical
 - experienced
 - dogmatic
 - enigmatic
16. In this passage, “localities” (line 6) most closely means:
- Cities
 - Subdivisions
 - Public areas
 - Variations
17. Based on the information provided in this passage, we can conclude that the author believes which of the following is true:
- Privatization should be undertaken in a series of discrete steps
 - Privatization is not recommended for state-owned enterprises
 - State-owned enterprises can be easily compared across countries
 - Evidence about privatization of government services can be compared across geographic regions
18. According to the passage, which of the following is a public service:
- Television
 - Street repair
 - Privatization
 - State-owned enterprises
19. In this passage, the phrase “in contrast” (line 9) is used to indicate:
- The situation is not clear to the reader
 - For example
 - A different situation will be discussed
 - As previously stated
20. In this passage, the word “draw” (line 12) most closely means:
- Come to
 - Illustrate
 - Research
 - Color

PART D

Directions: Thirty words or phrases are missing from the following text. Each missing word or phrase is indicated by a number. Select the correct word from the word list which follows the text. Mark your answer on the answer sheet.

READING PASSAGE D

Our Purpose

Sam Walton ____21____ it best, "If we work together, we'll lower the cost of living for everyone...we'll give the world an opportunity ____22____ what it's like to save and have a better life."

Saving People Money So They Can Live Better

____23____ people money to help them live ____24____ was the goal that Sam Walton ____25____ when he opened the ____26____ to the first Wal-Mart. Today, more than 40 years later with operations in 16 markets worldwide, we continue to deliver that promise to families around the ____27____. It's the focus that underlies everything we do at Wal-Mart. And for the ____28____ of customers who shop in our stores and clubs around the world each week, it means a lot.

Save Money

We know that price ____29____ to our customers, ____30____ they live in the United States, the United Kingdom, Argentina ____31____ Japan. That's ____32____ we offer the best quality merchandise at the lowest prices in all our stores, from school supplies, to household items and top quality groceries. We also look at savings that go beyond the prices ____33____ see in our stores.

For ____34____, we are working with our suppliers to introduce more energy ____35____ products that can save customers money for ____36____. And because every store or club is designed to reflect the local community, our customers know they will find ____37____ lowest prices around on the products that match their lifestyle.

Live Better

Saving money is a ____38____ to helping our customers live better. By offering the best possible prices on the products our customers need, we can help them afford ____39____ a little extra. Whether it's a grandmother who can buy her grandchildren a special gift because she saved money on her prescriptions, or a young family saving money to buy their first home, we see our mission come ____40____ life every day.

We also see opportunities to help people live better beyond the walls of our stores and clubs. That's why we support causes ____41____ are important to our communities, like education, and why we are working hard to do our part in ____42____ our planet and conserving our natural resources for generations to come. It's the reason why we joined with Mercy Corps and USAID to help small ____43____ in Guatemala, and it's the reason why you see Fair Trade Coffee on the ____44____ at Sam's Club. By ____45____ closely with our communities and suppliers, we can reach ____46____ just our customers to help improve the lives of people around the globe.

Saving people ____47____ so they can live better is at the heart of everything we do, and these are just ____48____ examples of the many ways we bring that mission to the community ____49____ day. Simply put, helping people live better is more than something we do, ____50____ who we are.

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21. a. said
b. told
c. saying
d. telling
22. a. to see
b. saw
c. seeing
d. seen
23. a. collecting
b. assisting
c. spending
d. saving
24. a. good
b. better
c. bad
d. worse
25. a. envisioned
b. won
c. kicked
d. ensnared
26. a. ceiling
b. yard
c. doors
d. floor
27. a. house
b. country
c. town
d. world
28. a. ten
b. tens
c. million
d. millions
29. a. imports
b. weighs
c. matters
d. cares
30. a. or
b. whether
c. instead
d. either
31. a. and
b. either
c. nor
d. or
32. a. because
b. why
c. since
d. if
33. a. he
b. customer
c. you
d. we
34. a. example
b. showing
c. illustration
d. sample
35. a. efficiency
b. efficient
c. efficiently
d. efficacy
36. a. years to come
b. years advancing
c. years advanced
d. years future
37. a. a
b. the
c. some
d. any
38. a. meaning
b. means
c. meant
d. mean
39. a. anywhere
b. something
c. object
d. product
40. a. to
b. in
c. for
d. from
41. a. that
b. what
c. when
d. how
42. a. selling
b. marketing
c. protecting
d. washing
43. a. bacteria
b. bacterium
c. farmer
d. farmers
44. a. drawers
b. shelves
c. filters
d. cups
45. a. work
b. worked
c. works
d. working
46. a. further
b. into
c. beyond
d. afar
47. a. time
b. money
c. planet
d. world
48. a. few
b. the few
c. a few
d. fewer
49. a. each and every
b. high and mighty
c. most and many
d. here and there
50. a. is
b. isn't
c. it
d. it's