



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Part I Reading Comprehension (16 marks)

Passage A

Read the following passage carefully then answer the questions in complete sentences in your own words.

**Are extreme sports are worth the risk?**

1 There are reasons some sports are called extreme. They are fueled by the adrenaline that kicks  
in when a challenge awaits and accomplished with reservoirs of energy most people could not  
muster. They are addictive, out of the ordinary and risky. The sheer risk associated with these  
5 extreme sports is the biggest reason they exist in the first place – and the biggest reason they  
are so controversial.

Caleb Moore’s crash at the Snowmobile Freestyle competition in Aspen, Colorado this January  
wasn’t the first crash at an event, nor will it be the last. Moore’s subsequent death a week later  
after complications resulting from the crash, however, is not something anyone in the extreme  
sports world wants repeated. In the wake of his passing, the permits handed out for special  
10 incidents from occurring in the future. Moore’s death, however, brings up the inevitable  
question: are extreme sports too extreme?

Mere days after Moore’s accident, U.S. Champion Skier, Lindsey Vonn, injured her knee in a race  
crash, and a new report links snowboarding to increased injury rates on the slopes. It’s worth  
pondering just what is driving daredevils of all extreme sports genres to risk serious injury in  
15 order to compete.

Professional mountain biker, Nick Simcik, had this to say about what drives him to risk so much  
while tearing down a mountain on his bike. “Risks are part of everyday life. We’re just continuing  
to do what we love and so it doesn’t feel like an unnecessary risk... there certainly is that element  
of potential danger and injury, and potentially worse, but that’s kind of why we do it – the thrill

20	of it.”
25	The “adrenaline rush” or the “thrill” Simcik spoke of is really just the stimulation of the adrenal gland through an activity that places stress on the body. With extreme sports, that stress is magnified to untold dimensions. The average person who just plays basketball or baseball with his friends on the weekends doesn’t have any real sense of the hormones coursing through the body the same way an extreme sports athlete does.
30	The “thrill” Simcik mentions can be addictive, and the increased adrenaline can allow extreme sports athletes to often walk away from falls and spills that would normally ruin someone who wasn’t so hopped up on endorphins that counteract the pain. That’s why we call these people Adrenalists. So, while the unfortunate death of Caleb Moore and the injury of Lindsey Vonn is a sobering reminder of what is being risked during extreme sports, the reminder isn’t necessary for their practitioners. They’re more intimate with the vulnerabilities and the risks than any of us could ever be. It’s the reason they do what they do.

*Refer to the passage and answer questions 1 to 8 on the Answer Sheet . (16 marks)*

1. Why are extreme sports considered to be ‘extreme’? (2 marks)
2. What happened to Caleb Moore at the Snowmobile Freestyle competition in Aspen? (2 marks)
3. What did authorities that hold extreme sport competitions do to ensure the safety of the participants? (2 marks)
4. Why do ‘Adrenalists’ engage in activities that may cost their lives? (2 marks)
5. What are the extreme sports mentioned in the passage? (2 marks)
6. Explain the effects that the ‘thrill’ has on a human body. (2 marks)
7. According to the passage, why is playing a game of basketball or baseball not a kind of extreme sports? (2 marks)
8. Find a word in the passage to replace the following words (2 marks)
  - a) weaknesses, susceptibilities
  - b) risky, life threatening, dangerous

Part II Grammar Usage (37 marks)

A. Vocabulary (15 marks)

Choose from the words or expressions in the box below to complete the sentences. You may have to change the form of the vocabulary.

shy	appropriate	nut to crack	enthusiastic	child
fortune	arrogant	courageous	question	logic
expect	improve	obey	protest	natural

1. A demonstration was held to \_\_\_\_\_ against animal testing.
2. She was a \_\_\_\_\_ at the guitar as she only had to hear a song once to learn how to play it.
3. To be a good police officer, you have to expect the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. As a mathematician, he was used to coming up with \_\_\_\_\_ solutions to problems.
5. There was no way that Rosie was going to tell the police anything, she was a tough \_\_\_\_\_.
6. It takes great \_\_\_\_\_ to face your greatest fears.
7. She was sent home as her clothing and behaviour was \_\_\_\_\_.
8. It is difficult to tell the difference between self-confidence and \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The most important attribute a police dog must have is \_\_\_\_\_.
10. After they found the money in his house, it was \_\_\_\_\_ that he had played a part in the bank robbery.
11. It was \_\_\_\_\_ that after weeks of sunshine, it rained on the night of the firework display.
12. He was a very \_\_\_\_\_ boy and found it difficult to speak to other people.
13. To be a good student, you have to not only work hard, but also show \_\_\_\_\_ for your subject.
14. His performance captivated the audience, it was difficult to see how he could have \_\_\_\_\_ it.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ is the period of time in which we learn most and develop our personalities.

B. MC Cloze (12 marks)

Choose the best answer for each of the blanks.

Dan and Margie McIntyre, who enjoy the challenge of high adventure, are about to \_1\_ to the Antarctic but in one of the most \_2\_ places in that \_3\_, Commonwealth Bay. It is here that the famous polar explorer, Douglas Mawson, \_4\_ two years of hardship earlier this century. Mawson almost died because of the \_5\_ weather conditions. His wooden hut still stands and the McIntyres intend to \_6\_ photographs of it. Their own hut, which they are taking with them, is made of fibre-glass and measures 2.5 metres \_7\_ 3.5 metres. It will be fixed to the \_8\_ in order to \_9\_ it from being blown away by the \_10\_ winds, which blow at 300 kph and make it impossible to go out for weeks at a time. The McIntyres will \_11\_ in touch with the outside world via a computer network and hope to \_12\_ their experiences with schoolchildren in many countries.

1	A. set off B. set up C. set down D. set in	2	A. unwelcome B. inhospitable C. inconvenient D. unfriendly	3	A. country B. district C. part D. region
4	A. had B. lasted C. endured D. did	5	A. wild B. severe C. critical D. hard	6	A. make B. record C. have D. take
7	A. by B. times C. from D. of	8	A. site B. soil C. ground D. land	9	A. hold B. prevent C. resist D. strengthen
10	A. fast B. strong C. savage D. furious	11	A. be B. have C. keep D. make	12	A. describe B. give C. share D. teach

C. Form of Words (10 marks)

Fill in each blank with the correct form of the word in the bracket.

- Edison is \_\_\_\_\_ (fame) for inventing the lightbulb.
- After years of living in the Himalayas with the Nepali sherpas, she had an extensive \_\_\_\_\_ (know) of the traditions and customs of the people.
- It's easy to say things you don't mean in the \_\_\_\_\_ (hot) of the moment.
- Steve Jobs was the \_\_\_\_\_ (create) of the Apple brand.
- No matter how difficult life gets, you will always find \_\_\_\_\_ (solve) to your problems.
- He had \_\_\_\_\_ (wise) beyond his years.
- Einstein famously said, 'try not to be a man of \_\_\_\_\_ (succeed), try to be a man of value'.
- When you have a high responsibility job, like being a surgeon, \_\_\_\_\_ (fail) is not an option.
- Many critics have said that \_\_\_\_\_ (proud) is Othello's greatest weakness.
- I might as well admit it, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ (addict) to love.

Part III Proofreading (15 marks)

Correct the mistakes in the numbered lines without change the meaning. Do not make unnecessary changes or changes to punctuation. There is only one mistake in each numbered line. Corrections must be done as follows:

Wrong word: underline the wrong word and write the correct word above it (example a).	
Missing word: mark the position of the missing word with a '^' and write the missing word above it (example b)	
Extra word: delete the extra word with a 'X' (example c)	
proofread	
I have <u>proofread</u> the work.	a
have	
Jessie and Kenneth ^ just finished their dinner.	b
Coming to school early without <del>x</del> having breakfast is...	c
<b>Chinese Lion-Dancing</b>	
The history lion dancing dates back more than a thousand years and has	1
always been an integral part of Chinese culture. The lion itself is regard as a	2
guardian creature to drive away evil spirit, which is why many ancient	3
buildings and palaces you see today, have lion statues guarding entrances.	4
Although there is many stories about how lion dancing came about, most	5
will agree that the dance is said to bring the good luck and prosperity. For	6
this reason, it is very common to see the lion dance being perform on special	7
ocasions, such as festivals, birthdays, weddings, opening of businesses and	8
the Chinese New Year.	
Traditionally, a typical performance usually involves two performer	9
(representing the head and tail of the lion) mimick the movements of the	10
lion, accompanied by the sound of a drum, cymbals and gong. Person	11
responsible for the head portrays the emotions of the lion whilst the tail	
coordinates its movements with the front, and some cases carries out	12
acrobatic stunts.	
Lion dancing has become very popular over the years and practiced within	13
Chinese communities across the world, especially with the younger	
generations. Lion dance competitions have also gained widespreaded	14
popularity and coverage. These performances require dancers jump	15
between poles (or Jong), demonstrating accuracy, coordination and	
acrobatic skills.	