VIDEO COMPREHENSION (10 points)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5thQRIX3Rio

How the Nest Learning Thermostat learns
This video describes the “Nest” energy System by showing how an intelligent thermostat works to save energy.

Choose the right option.

1. The thermostat on your wall:
   • bills you for energy consumption.
   • controls 50% of your energy bill.
   • dictates your consumption.

2. Energy is wasted when:
   • you leave the house.
   • you use heat and AC.
   • systems stay on after you’ve left the house.

3. The problem with programmable thermostats is:
   • they were supposed to help.
   • they are extremely complicated.
   • they are hitched to the problem.

4. According to a study:
   • 90% of programmable thermostats lost their energy star rating.
   • some lost their EPA rating in 2009.
   • 90% of people don’t know how to program them properly.

5. Nest learns when you change the temperature, so:
   • when you turn it up or down you will remember.
   • you will have a reminder of your preferred temperatures.
   • it remembers your temperatures for you.

Fill in the gaps with the word(s) you hear.

1. Nest will remember your temperature __________.
2. and will use an array of sensors, sophisticated algorithms, and the ______________ of a computer.
3. Nest puts all it has learned into a ____________ for your home.
4. You can control Nest from anywhere, using your laptop, smart phone, or ____________.
5. Changing the temperature by just one degree you can reduce your energy use by __________ .
An Archeological discovery in Australia

To the archaeologists, the site by the Jordan River, on the outskirts of present-day Hobart, capital of the Australian island state of Tasmania, did not look particularly promising. But when they began digging, they uncovered an extraordinary trove: millions of artefacts, representing the oldest evidence of human habitation in the southern hemisphere. For more than 40,000 years, the river bank was an important meeting place for Tasmanian Aboriginal people, who converged on a broad floodplain to trade goods and hold ceremonies. The spot was still being used as late as 1828, twenty-five years after Europeans first colonised the island. The dig was ordered after Aboriginal groups came to know about plans to construct a bridge across the Jordan, as part of a new four-lane highway. Although Dr Paton, who led the dig, describes the site as being of 'extremely high scientific significance', the Tasmanian government refuses to give up the project claiming that the bridge will not destroy or disturb it.

While the site is of international significance, it has particular meaning for Tasmanian Aborigines, whose heritage and history were virtually wiped out during the process of European settlement. Much of the Jordan valley was home to Aboriginal people, and three major tribal groups congregated regularly on the floodplain through the millennia. Michael Mansell, legal director of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, said: ‘That’s a place that really strikes at our heart, and is about our identity, our past and our future. There, you can feel the presence of our ancestors’.

Digging eight pits, they found 1,440 artefacts – including tools and spear tips – and concluded that three million objects lie buried. ‘They’re stone artefacts, they’re used for day-to-day living, cutting and sharpening’, Dr Paton said, ‘to get a snapshot of what life was like 40,000 years ago is quite unique, not just for Australia but for sites anywhere in the world’.

With approval for the bridge expected to be granted soon, in an extreme attempt to stop the project, conservationists and Aboriginal groups have appealed to the federal government to intervene and one local politician has called for the site to be National Heritage listed.

Choose the right option.

1. How did the archaeologist feel at the beginning?
   - excited to have located the site.
   - astonished by the appearance of the site.
   - sceptical about what they could find in the site.

2. The millions of artefacts found in the site prove:
   - That the Southern hemisphere was inhabited by Aborigines and European colonisers.
   - That the Southern hemisphere is older than the Northern hemisphere.
   - That the site was the first to be inhabited in the Southern hemisphere.

3. What was the area by the Jordan river used for?
   - It was a place where Tasmanian Aboriginal people built banks to exchange money.
   - It was a place to hide artefacts.
   - It was a place where locals met for business and celebrations.

4. Dr Paton says that the place is of 'extremely high scientific significance', because:
   - building a bridge across the river has a strategic importance.
   - he wants to protect the site.
   - it is he who leads the dig.
5. The Tasmanian government:
   - supports the construction of the bridge despite the cultural importance of the place.
   - agrees with Michael Mansell, director of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre.
   - refused the project once they discovered it could damage the site.

6. The final paragraph implies that:
   - the bridge will be passively accepted by the local Aborigines.
   - the local Aborigines will fight against the project as much as they can.
   - political measures are ineffective.

Find in the text the words that match the following definitions.

1. Find a noun in the text which means: things that are found hidden and whose owner is unknown.
2. Find a noun in the text which means: an area of flat land beside a river that is regularly covered with water when there is too much water in the river.
3. Find a noun in the text which means: excavation.
4. Find a noun in the text which means: the history, traditions and qualities that a country or society has.
5. Find a phrasal verb in the text which means: to destroy or remove somebody/something completely.
6. Find an adjective in the text which means: hidden in the ground.
7. Find a phrasal verb in the text which means: to publicly ask for something to happen.

USE OF ENGLISH (17 points)

OPEN CLOZE (4) Fill in the gap with the appropriate word(s).

1. The Nile is one of ______ longest rivers in the world.
2. This village is ______ to become completely deserted if the people go on moving to the town.
3. ______ fit do you have to be to join a taiko drum group?
4. ______ the end of the game we were the winners.

MULTIPLE CHOICE (5) Choose the right option.

1. Perhaps I’ll talk to my family before we choose / we are choosing a flat.
2. Who’s that guy over there? He looks / He’s been looking at us since we came in.
3. ‘I’ve brought my laptop’. ‘Oh you needn’t bother / needn’t have bothered. There are plenty of computers here’.
4. ‘Liz are you ready?’ ‘Yes, just about. All my luggage is / luggages are here’.
5. Neither of / Neither the two farmhouses is attached to a farm these days: the land has been sold and is managed by somebody in an office.

ERROR CORRECTION (4) Identify the mistake in the following sentence and correct it by writing the right word(s).

1. I am going to the UK next summer for pass my English exam in September.
2. I’ve still got the camera because no one have claimed it.
3. Someone must had changed the time of the meeting.
4. The children are believed to have been hiding from two weeks.

WORD FORMATION (4) Use the term suggested to fill in the gaps with a word deriving from it.

1. This is an introductory course for adults who are _________ (FAMILIAR) with computers and want to learn the basics.
2. I was _________ (LAZY) browsing through the small ads in the local newspaper when I saw an advertisement for a second-hand smart phone which interested me.
3. It was very _________ (THOUGHT) of you to make coffee for everybody else.
4. The _________ (EXPLODE) of the bomb was heard several kilometers away.
WRITING TASK (10 points)

Write a website profile promoting the school you are working as a primary school teacher (words: min 120-max 150; time available: 40 minutes; no dictionaries allowed)
Include:
1. The name of the website.
2. The ‘about us’ section, describing the school.
3. The ‘current projects/ courses’ section, presenting the school offer.
4. The ‘testimonials’ section, with comments of former students/parents.

(Saint George Primary School)

ABOUT US
Located in Rome, Milan, Turin, we are the most important primary school in Italy. Besides the traditional subjects, we’ll help you your children (to) learn foreign languages. Thanks to this school your children can also improve your the knowledge of music by learning to play an instrument. Our teachers are professional, with a good cultural background and with years of experience in the sector. Moreover, this school is very welcoming, because the classrooms and the labs are big, colourful and bright. A wi-fi internet connection offers the chance of running interesting workshops.

CURRENT PROJECTS
In our primary school we are currently running three special language courses of Russian, Arabic and Hindi. We also know that sport is important; for this reason a new gym has been recently built in our school.

TESTIMONIALS
“In my opinion, this school is fantastic! Thanks to this school now I’m able to speak two languages: French and Russian”. (Emily, 11)

Assessment criteria (2 points each):
1. Task achievement (This criterion assesses how appropriately and relevantly the contents fulfil the requirements of the task)
2. Coherence and Cohesion (This criterion refers to the logical organization of ideas and use of logical connectors)
3. Grammar (This criterion refers to the range of vocabulary used and its correctness)
4. Vocabulary (This criterion refers to the range of vocabulary used and its correctness)
5. Accuracy (This criterion refers to the overall accuracy of the text produced, e.g. spelling)

FINAL SCORE: 8 points [2+1+1,5+2+1,5]
KEYS

VIDEO COMPREHENSION

1. controls 50% of your energy bill.
2. systems stay on after you’ve left the house.
3. they are extremely complicated.
4. 90% of people don’t know how to program them properly.
5. it remembers your temperatures for you.

Nest will remember your temperature **adjustments.**
and will use an array of sensors, sophisticated algorithms, and the **processing power** of a computer.
Nest puts all it has learned into a **schedule** for your home.
You can control Nest from anywhere, using your laptop, smart phone, or **tablet.**
Changing the temperature by just one degree you can reduce your energy use by **5%/(five percent)**

READING COMPREHENSION

1. sceptical about what they could find in the site.
2. That the site was the first to be inhabited in the Southern hemisphere.
3. It was a place where locals met for business and celebrations.
4. he wants to protect the site.
5. supports the construction of the bridge despite the cultural importance of the place.
6. the local Aborigines will fight against the project as much as they can.

trove
dig
heritage
(to) wipe out
buried
(to) call for

USE OF ENGLISH

OPEN CLOZE (4)

1. The Nile is one of **THE** longest rivers in the world.
2. This village is **GOING** to become completely deserted if the people go on moving to the town.
3. **HOW** fit do you have to be to join a taiko drum group?
4. **AT** the end of the game we were the winners.

MULTIPLE CHOICE (5)

1. Perhaps I’ll talk to my family before **we choose** a flat.
2. Who’s that guy over there? **He's been looking** at us since we came in.
3. ‘I’ve brought my laptop’. ‘Oh you **needn’t have bothered.** There are plenty of computers here’.
4. ‘Liz are you ready?’. ‘Yes, just about. All my **luggage is** here’.
5. **Neither of** the two farmhouses is attached to a farm these days: the land has been sold and is managed by somebody in an office.

**ERROR CORRECTION (4)**

1. I am going to the UK next summer **for** pass my English exam in September. **TO**
2. I’ve still got the camera because no one **have** claimed it. **HAS**
3. Someone must **had** changed the time of the meeting. **HAVE**
4. The children are believed to have been hiding **from** two weeks. **SINCE**

**WORD FORMATION (4)**

1. This is an introductory course for adults who are **UNFAMILIAR** with computers and want to learn the basics.
2. I was **LAZILY** browsing through the small ads in the local newspaper when I saw an advertisement for a second-hand smart phone which interested me.
3. It was very **THOUGHTFUL** of you to make coffee for everybody else.
4. The **EXPLOSION** of the bomb was heard several kilometers away.