

Maturitätsprüfungen 2022 – Englisch schriftlich

Klassen: 4A, 4Ba, 4Be, 4LW, 4MW, 4SI, 4SW, 4SZ, 4Wa, 4Wb, 5KSW

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Prüfungsdauer: 4 Stunden

Erlaubte Hilfsmittel: Teil 1-3: keine; Teil 4 (Essay): ein- oder zweisprachiges Wörterbuch
nach Abgabe der Teile 1-3)

Name: _____

Total credits Part I: Reading Comprehension

21

Total credits Part II: Vocabulary

25

Total credits Part III: Grammar

26

Total credits Parts I-III

72

Mark 1
Parts I-III
(Weighing: 50%)

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Mark 2
Parts IV (Essay)
(Weighing: 50%)

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Final Mark

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(Rounding: Mark 1 & 2 = $\frac{1}{4}$ marks; Final Mark = $\frac{1}{2}$ marks)

Name: _____

Part I: Reading Comprehension

Read the following text and do the tasks below (see p. 6 onwards).

Can Humanity Conquer the Virus?

Evolution has always been indifferent to the myth of inevitable human progress. Now, in the age of COVID-19, it has turned against us.

A mutating virus is destroying a world-view that has ruled governments, business and popular culture for a century or more—a model in which humankind was achieving ever higher levels of control over the planet has shaped much of modern thinking. Evolution has been understood as the ascent from primeval slime to unchallengeable human dominance over all other forms of life.

5 Fundamentally at odds with the theory of natural selection, this was never more than pseudo-science. Yet from the late 19th century onwards it became a ruling paradigm, captivating generations of thinkers and inspiring world-changing political movements. However, today the myth is crumbling. For the first time in history, using genomic sequencing¹, natural selection is being observed, in detail and real time, at the level of genes. Evolution is continuing, rapidly, with
10 the virus as the chief protagonist.

The disintegration of a near-ubiquitous² world-view presents a curious spectacle. While science is providing a clearer picture of evolution at work than ever before, the impact of the pandemic is to reinforce archetypal fantasies in which evils and misfortunes are blamed on hidden forces and secret cabals³. If there is evolution in ideas, it works to propagate some of the worst that
15 human beings have conceived.

With the aid of growing scientific knowledge, human beings can protect themselves from the virus and renew a reasonably secure way of life. Heroic dedication by doctors, nurses and other defenders of public health has been vitally important in coping with the pandemic. But adjusting to the irreversible changes the pandemic brings, will demand clear-headed realism. Clinging to a
20 pseudo-scientific view of evolution is a hindrance to the task ahead, which is adjusting to a world in which the virus is endemic⁴.

In April 2020 I wrote in a *New Statesman* article entitled “Why this crisis is a turning point in history”: “The belief that this crisis can be solved by an unprecedented outbreak of international cooperation is magical thinking in its purest form.” Vaccine wars were wholly predictable, but the
25 same magical thinking is expressed in the slogan that no one will be safe from the virus until everyone is safe.

The Covax system⁵ of international vaccine sharing with low-income countries is under way, with 600,000 doses of the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine produced in India arriving in Ghana last month. But how countries with failed states, capricious tyrants or ongoing civil wars can be
30 expected to vaccinate the majority of their populations is unclear. (It has not been explained how this can be done in the war zones of Yemen or Syria; in Haiti or Libya, where functioning government barely exists; or in Belarus, where Alexander Lukashenko declared that not a single

1 **genomic sequencing (n.):** the process of determining the entire DNA sequence of an organism

2 **ubiquitous (adj.):** omnipresent, universal, pervasive

3 **cabal (n.):** a small group of people involved in plans to gain political power; the plans and intrigues of such a group

4 **endemic (adj.):** found mainly or exclusively in a particular place and characteristic of that that place. A disease, for example, regularly and continually found in a specific region.

5 **covax (n.):** “COVID -19 Vaccines Global Access”, a worldwide initiative that aims to grant all countries and people access to COVID -19 vaccinations

Name: _____

person would die of the disease in his country.) Unless a vaccine can be designed that targets all variants of the virus and works for a lifetime, protecting these and similar populations will not be
35 a one-off operation. Test and trace systems and a steady supply of therapies for those who contract the disease will be needed. While these measures are adopted, social distancing will need to be practised in refugee camps and COVID prophylaxis implemented/maintained in hospitals.

However, obstacles to vaccination are not confined to low-income countries. They exist wherever resistance is correlated with deep political divisions. The US, where the pandemic has
40 become entangled in a culture war, is an obvious example. Estimating rates of infection and the success of vaccination programmes presents another difficulty. Dreams of a global campaign against the virus collide with geopolitical realities that are very difficult to deal with.

In these circumstances it will not be surprising if some countries opt to quarantine themselves from the rest of the world. A powerful motivation for national self-isolation is that it allows safer
45 and more sustainable patterns of human interaction. The psychological and social injuries of lockdown are profound, and increase over time. Loneliness, stress and depression are turning into common chronic conditions. Even putting damage to the economy and livelihoods on one side, this is not a stable condition that can persist indefinitely. If closing their borders enables countries to recover a more tolerable way of life, many of them will do it. Because of the economic losses
50 it causes, national self-sufficiency is not a feasible long-term strategy for many countries. But the current trajectory of events, wherever the pandemic is being effectively managed, is clear. Alongside passionate declarations that all of humankind is in this crisis together, countries that can suppress the virus to levels they consider acceptable, will seal themselves off from those in which it is out of control.

55 Slogans about universal solidarity in face of the pandemic express more than a lack of realism. They embody a category mistake. "Humanity" cannot triumph over the virus, because the human species can't do anything. Species don't have goals or plans. Humans released the zoonotic pathogen⁶ by destroying animal habitats and creating huge factory farms. As a consequence, the virus will go on evolving whatever we do. Evolution is a process in which no one is in charge.

60 Ideologies that assert human dominion over the planet are not science, Darwinian or otherwise. Originating in the speculations of Aristotle and Plato, and beliefs about the creation of life, they imagine a Great Chain of Being in which humans are the most advanced life-form because they are most like God. This picture was absorbed into medieval Christianity and helped form the secular-seeming world-views of modern times.

65 In the half-century after he presented it to the world, the meaning of Charles Darwin's discovery was turned upside down. Evolution occurs through the natural selection of random genetic mutations. Humans are like every other form of life in having come into the world by chance. Evolutionist ideologies, however, reinstate the human animal as the highest form of life to date, and perhaps the aim of evolution all along. From being a theory that removed purpose
70 and direction from the natural world, Darwinism became a rationalist myth in which the human animal is evolution's fortunate destination.

In his *Autobiography*, published in 1887, five years after his death, Darwin stated: "There seems to be no more design in the variability of organic beings and in the action of natural selection, than in the course in which the wind blows." Despite the logic of Darwin's theory, in which natural
75 selection operates without any concern for human values, his canonical text (*On the Origin of Species*,

6 a zoonotic pathogen (n): a microorganism, e.g. a virus that can transmit a disease from animals to humans

Name: _____

published 1859), initiated a fatal confusion of evolution with progress. Evolution came to be understood as a movement to ever higher forms of life. It was forgotten that natural selection, while producing complex organisms, regularly hands them over to extinction.

This confusion was particularly harmful when applied to society, as it was in theories of social evolution. Anyone who thinks evolution is “progress to perfection” will be tempted to accelerate the process. Darwin resisted that impulse, but many of his contemporaries and successors gave in.

Conceptions of progress come and go. For many in the 19th century it meant the supremacy of Europeans throughout the world, a state of affairs that was secured by colonialism but potentially also by “artificial selection”. It was not only the Nazis who used pseudoscience as a rationalisation for eugenics⁷. The project of “speeding up evolution” by reducing the fertility of groups judged to be inferior was a prominent part of early 20th-century progressive thinking.

So, there are different conceptions of how society is evolving, but they have some things in common. All have an ersatz-religious quality. George Bernard Shaw⁸ described his theory of “creative evolution” as “the religion of the future”, while Julian Huxley⁹ marketed his “evolutionary humanism” as a “scientific religion”. All of these ideologues¹⁰ come to the conclusion that a seemingly dominant trend constitutes a single universal end-point, invariably one in which people like themselves come out on top. And all of these end-points have failed to materialise as history stumbled on.

Theories of social evolution are slippery intellectual enterprises. Social systems are not physically identifiable structures like genes, and there is no clear-cut way of telling when or why one is replaced by another. Some such as Richard Dawkins¹¹ have speculated that social evolution operates through memes, units of meaning or information that somehow compete with one another. Supporters of the concept regard memes as cultural analogue to genes: A meme is an idea or behaviour that is passed from one member of society to another, not in the genes but often by people copying the particular idea or behaviour. However, no one knows how memes interact with one another, or what a meme might be. Nothing like the natural selection of genetic accidents has been shown to exist in the realm of ideas. But if it does, its workings are as value-free as they are in the natural world.

“Memetic evolution” is spreading some extremely toxic beliefs. The QAnon¹²-supporting US Republican congress-woman Marjorie Taylor Greene was elected in 2020 despite having suggested two years earlier that California forest fires may have been sparked by a space-laser controlled by a cabal that included the Rothschild family. Yet instances like this illustrate a pattern. Ideas based in fear and hatred are proving highly contagious, and poisonous phrases are infiltrating mainstream discourse. If this is evolution in action, so much the worse for evolution.

This is not the first time a world-view has been destroyed by plague. A series of epidemics in the ancient European world undermined the pagan belief in an impersonal cosmos in which

7 **eugenics (n.):** the study of methods to improve the mental and physical characteristics of the human race by choosing who may become parents

8 **George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950):** Irish writer and political activist who believed in gradual step-by-step change of life and societies. He also promoted the ideology of eugenics

9 **Julian Huxley (1887-1975):** English evolutionary biologist who promoted the concepts of natural selection and eugenics

10 **ideologue (n):** a person who believes very strongly in particular principles and tries to follow them carefully

11 **Richard Dawkins (born 1941):** British evolutionary biologist who maintained that evolutionary processes of selection and mutation are mainly directed by genes (the ‘selfish gene theory’), and are purely left to chance

12 **QAnon:** a far-right cult promoting conspiracy theories

Name: _____

remote and unpredictable gods intervened at their pleasure. As the American sociologist and scholar of comparative religion Rodney Stark showed in his book *The Rise of Christianity* (1996),
115 Christian communities had crucial advantages in treating these epidemics as humanly meaningful events, sent by God to test their devotion to one another and prepare them for immortal life. Today the pandemic is undermining an evolutionist mythology that reproduced the Christian faith in fate.

One of the legacies of evolutionist thinking is the belief that humans in separate regions are
120 converging on the same kind of society. Convergent evolution — in which organisms that exist in separate spaces independently evolve similar traits — is a reality in biology, and may be occurring in some strains of the virus. With regard to large-scale social systems, convergence is rare and usually short-lived. When it does happen, it is often in unexpected ways.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Western capitalism was taking over across the globe,
125 and was supposed to be reproducing itself in China. Instead, Western capitalism is becoming more like Chinese statism, in which the central government controls social and economic affairs. The age of apolitical free markets is over. The state is expanding in many countries, but this is not necessarily leading to global Chinese-style authoritarianism.

Societies based on mass surveillance, thought control and the enslavement of minorities might
130 well be the human future. But Xi Jinping's China is not as stable as it seems. For example, Jack Ma, the mega-billionaire and former chairman of Alibaba, was the chief poster-boy for the Chinese economic model until he disappeared from the public eye after expressing some criticisms of its regulatory regime. A system in which the chief executives of leading companies can be detained by the government is not obviously a long-term winner.

135 All modes of government are being reconfigured by the pandemic. What matters is not their constitutional forms but how flexibly, and quickly, they can adjust to an environment that has been irrevocably altered. Here there are parallels with global warming. Abrupt climate change is already happening and is wired into the planet for generations to come. In each case human beings triggered a planetary shift they cannot control.

140 Humankind's conquest of the natural world was a pyrrhic¹³ victory. Always indifferent, evolution has turned against us. The best defence comes from science and the stream of adaptive technologies it makes possible. Societies that use them intelligently can weather the storm. If they are moved by sympathy and compassion, they can help others that are struggling. The job in hand is making shelters against Darwin's wind, as it blows without design or direction through the
145 human world.

Source: John Gray, in: *The New Statesman*, 03 March 2021 (abridged and edited). Word count: 2280

13 **A pyrrhic victory:** a victory that is not worth winning because too much is lost in the war

1. According to the article, are these statements true or false? Fill the square with T (true) or F (false) and justify your answer by copying the relevant sentence(s), including the line reference. (1/2 credit T/F; 1/2 credit correct line reference)

a. The idea of the supreme position of human beings in the hierarchical structure of life has been challenged by various leading thinkers and political movements since the late 19th century.

b. The author believes that world-wide scientific collaboration will be a realistic solution for human-kind to overcome the crisis.

c. Units of meaning in ideas or behaviours can be delivered from one individual to another, similar to genes but as forms of communication.

d. According to Rodney Stark, the belief that diseases were sent by God to test people's faith helped Christian societies in dealing with epidemics.

e. Chinese statism is a good example of how convergent evolution works in unpredictable ways on the level of societies.

 5

Name: _____

2. Mark the best answer A, B or C. There is only one correct answer each time.

a. Countries that quarantine themselves from the world ...

A ... can focus on their national financial recovery from the pandemic.	B ... will promote the world-wide insight that we are all in this situation together.	C ... can better manage regulations regarding social life within their boundaries.
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b. Popular headlines about universal solidarity in times of covid-19 ignore the fact that ...

A ... the evolution of this virus cannot be altered by the human species.	B ... we need to question our practice of factory farming and destroying natural wild-life habitat.	C ... the more we try to stop it, the more the virus will spread, mutate, and evolve.
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c. The author maintains that ...

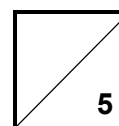
A ... so far, there is no proof that social evolution is similar to biologic evolution.	B ... California forest fires may have been sparked by secret cabals.	C ... cults such as QAnon intentionally use memes in order to spread their ideas.
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d. Jack Ma, former chairman of Alibaba, is an example for...

A ... how the Chinese government interferes with private business.	B ... how authoritarian societies can be successful in the long run.	C ... how successful and prominent entrepreneurs can destabilize authoritarian regimes.
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e. The pandemic has shown that the most important quality of governments is ...

A ... to make quick decisions such as dealing with climate change.	B ... how compassionate and helpful they can be towards other struggling societies.	C ... how agile and quick they will be in adapting tools and knowledge to a new reality.
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Name: _____

3. Answer the questions in full sentences and in your own words. You can score three extra credits for good language use.

a. What is the world-view that has been challenged by the Corona-pandemic as identified by the author? Describe it in your own words. (1 credit)

b. Which types of difficulties does the author identify in the context of the international cooperation in vaccine distribution? Name two types and mention examples. (2 credits)

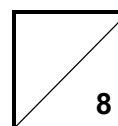
c. What does the author say about the influence of Aristotle and Plato on medieval Christianity? (1 credit)

Name: _____

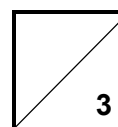
d. How has Charles Darwin's theory about evolution been misinterpreted, according to the author? (2 credits)

e. "Can Humanity 'Conquer' the Virus?" Name and explain one strategy to deal with the pandemic that the author of the article supports. (2 credits)

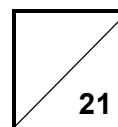
Credits for content in Reading Comprehension 3 a-e:



Credits for use of language in Reading comprehension 3 a-e:



Total credits in Part I: Reading Comprehension



Name: _____

Part II: **Vocabulary**

1. **These words have been taken from the text "Can Humanity Conquer the Virus?"
Give a contextual synonym or explain the meaning of the word in your own words.**

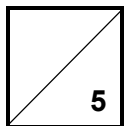
a. misfortunes (l. 13) _____

b. barely (l. 32) _____

c. enables (l. 48) _____

d. random (l. 66) _____

e. reinstate (l. 68) _____



2. **Give a contextual antonym of the following words as they appear in the text
"Can Humanity Conquer the Virus?" Do not use prefixes, nor the word 'not'.**

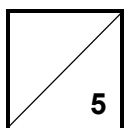
a. crumbling (l. 8): _____

b. losses (l. 49): _____

c. current (l. 51): _____

d. universal (l. 55): _____

e. inferior (l. 87): _____



Name: _____

3. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. Prefixes and suffixes are allowed.

Why There Is No _____ to Our Age of Crisis Without China **SOLVE**

For decades, the West has ignored the significance of China's rise – but we must recognise that it will be instrumental in all our futures.

In the summer of 2021, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is marking its centenary. It has much cause for _____. The most powerful communist party and by far the most powerful political organization in the world, it has presided over the largest surge of economic _____ ever witnessed. This unsettling and unexpected fact defines the early 21st century for both the West and China's neighbours, who experience China's immediacy as both reassuring and threatening. **CELEBRATE**
GROW

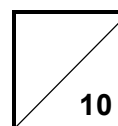
China's rise has undone any _____ that social and economic progress _____ leads to liberalism. Hundreds of millions of people have been lifted out of poverty in 40 years by an authoritarian one-party regime, dedicated to what it calls "Marxism for the 21st century". **ASSUME**
NATURE

Against the backdrop of this _____ development, the CCP is planning its second century. In Europe, the US and Asia, the political classes are scrambling to keep up. American strategists have designated a newly minted world region, the Indo-Pacific, as the arena for a battle royal between democracy and authoritarianism. **TRIUMPH**

Some influential voices on both sides of the Atlantic relish this _____. Others are suffering from a sense of shock. They hanker after the 1990s or early 2000s, when coexistence seemed assured – an era that contemporary hawks play down as a period of naivety when the China-challenge was _____. **CONFRONT**
ESTIMATION

Historical perspective asserts this dismissal, _____ that the era of calm was the exception. After all, the West's sense of historic pre-eminence rests on what in China is known as a century of humiliation. Reversing China's decline has been an ongoing struggle for more than a hundred years, a struggle that has involved commerce, communication, _____ and exchange. It has also involved violence, sometimes of an epic scale, both within China and in battles with foreign powers. **SUGGESTION**
CREATE

Source: Aran Tooze, in: *The New Statesman, September 034, 2021* (adapted and abridged)



Name: _____

4. Read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D, see next page) best fits each gap. Mark the right letter/word in the grid.

I Believe It's A Mental Health (1) _____ : The Rise of Zoom Dysmorphia

Time spent on the 'funhouse mirror' of video-conferencing calls has (2) _____ in a distortion of our self image

The effects of staring at ourselves for hours at a time during video conference calls has resulted in a breakdown of how we (3) _____ our own self image.

The phenomenon has been nicknamed "Zoom dysmorphia" by the dermatologist and Harvard Medical School professor Dr Shadi Kourosh, who has noticed an increase in appointment (4) _____ for appearance-related issues during the pandemic.

"I was concerned that the time spent on these cameras was negatively affecting people's perceptions of their appearance," she says. Kourosh likens the video conference via phone camera to a "funhouse mirror" because, she says: "[People] are not looking at a true reflection of themselves. They don't realise it is a (5) _____ mirror." She says factors such as the angle and how close we are to the camera mask how we really look.

At the start of the pandemic, Kourosh noticed a strange (6) _____ in the types of consultations she was getting. "People were clamouring to get into cosmetic surgeries during a time when people were being encouraged to not take any (7) _____ medical risks," she says. "The preoccupation with how people felt they looked was unusual."

She noted there had been a spike in specific requests for nose jobs and smoothing out forehead wrinkles. And the more Kourosh looked into it the more she wondered in what ways these could be connected to time spent video conferencing. "People were complaining about sagging skin in the lower face and neck. We wondered if that was because people were holding their smartphones at odd angles when they were looking down," she says. In March of this year, British plastic surgeons reported a 70% (8) _____ in consultations.

Kourosh and her team looked more deeply into how cameras on computers and the front-facing type on phones, can distort images. "When you take a photograph at close range you are more in (9) _____ of distorting the image," she explains. "With a front-facing camera, we found that image distortion is worse the closer we are and we tend to take selfies and sit at our laptops at close (10) _____."

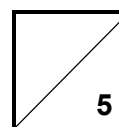
And while Snapchat dysmorphia (selfie filters leading to a rise in botox usage) has existed since 2015 and is connected to so-called "alien face" (big eyes, abnormally raised cheek bones), Zoom dysmorphia is different in a key way. "[With snapchat dysmorphia] patients would come in to see the cosmetic consultant with a photo of themselves that would be heavily filtered, [yet] there's an awareness on the patient's behalf that there's some dysmorphia going on," says Kourosh. "But with Zoom dysmorphia it's unconscious. People don't know about the distortion that is happening with their cameras."

She says lockdown created a "perfect storm" of self-image issues. "As well as looking at themselves for video-conferencing calls, people were living in isolation, spending their spare time looking at heavily distorted images of other people on social media. I believe it's a mental health issue."

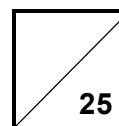
Source: Priya Elan, in: The Guardian, September 01, 2021 (adapted and abridged)

Name: _____

1	A result	B issue	C question	D concern
2	A effected	B resulted	C originated	D finished
3	A identify	B grasp	C perceive	D spot
4	A offers	B questions	C requests	D invitations
5	A colored	B distorted	C twisted	D angled
6	A pattern	B variety	C effect	D sequence
7	A unnecessary	B useless	C unrequired	D irrelevant
8	A progress	B increase	C inflation	D addition
9	A risk	B threat	C danger	D jeopardy
10	A appearance	B thing	C illustration	D range



Total credits in Part II: Vocabulary



Name: _____

Part III: **Grammar**

1. Fill the gaps with an appropriate form of the verbs in brackets. Place the additional words (where given in the brackets) correctly.

'A Role Model': How Sevilla Is Turning Leftover Oranges into Electricity



The cathedral bell tower in Seville. The Spanish city has about 48,000 orange trees. Photograph: Gim42/Getty Images/iStockphoto

In spring, the air in Seville [Example] (be) _____ is _____ sweet with the scent of *azahar*, orange blossom, but the 5.7m kilos of bitter fruit the city's 48,000 trees deposit on the streets in winter are a hazard for pedestrians and a headache for the city's cleaning department.

Now a scheme (1) (launch) _____ to produce an entirely different kind of juice from the unwanted oranges: electricity. The southern Spanish city (2) (begin) _____ a pilot scheme to use the methane produced as the fruit (3) (ferment) _____ to generate clean electricity.

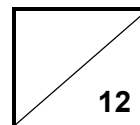
The initial scheme (4) (launch) _____ by Emasesa, the municipal water company, will use 35 tonnes of fruit to generate clean energy to run one of the city's water purification plants. The oranges will go into an existing facility that (5) (already/generate) _____ electricity from organic matter. As the oranges ferment, the methane captured (6) (use) _____ to drive the generator.

Name: _____

While the aim for now is to use the energy to run the water purification plants, the eventual plan is to put surplus electricity back into the grid. The team behind the project argues that, given the vast quantity of fruit that (7) (otherwise/go) _____ into landfill or be used as fertiliser, the potential is huge. They say trials have shown that 1,000kg will produce 50kWh, enough to provide electricity to five homes for one day, and calculate that if all the city's oranges (8) (recycle) _____ and the energy put back into the grid, 73,000 homes (9) (power) _____.

The oranges look pretty while on the tree but once they fall and are squashed under the wheels of cars the streets become sticky with juice and black with flies. The city council employs about 200 people to collect the fruit. The bitter oranges, which (10) (originate) _____ in Asia, (11) (introduce) _____ by the Arabs around 1,000 years ago and (12) (adapt) _____ well to the southern Spanish climate since then.

Source: Stephen Burgen for The Guardian, 23 February 2021 (adapted and abridged)



Name: _____

2. Rewrite the sentences using the word in capitals. Do not change the word.

- a. *Her letter was much shorter than the ones from the internet, but she still felt it was too long.*

THOUGH

She felt that her letter _____
_____ much shorter than the ones from the internet.

- b. *She thought I shouldn't leave the stove on when leaving the apartment.*

ADVISED

She _____
the stove on when leaving the apartment.

- c. *The bus had hardly left the airport when the accident happened.*

SOONER

No _____
accident happened.

- d. *He'd put maple syrup on my pancakes every morning.*

TO

He _____
every morning.

- e. *The purpose of the minister's press conference was to prevent criticism in the media.*

ORDER

The minister held the press conference _____
_____ in the media.

- f. *Although she said that she would sing, I don't think she ever will.*

DESPITE

I don't think she will ever sing _____
_____.

Name: _____

g. *It's a pity you didn't write an article about this.*

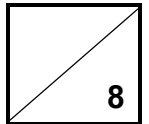
WISH

I _____ .

h. *John gave me a present on my last birthday.*

WAS

I _____
on my last birthday.



Name: _____

3. Read the text below and write the word which best fits in each gap. Use only ONE word in each gap.

Cape Cod: Eight Great White Sharks Seen Feeding on Humpback Whale Carcass

For those aboard a recent whale watching cruise off Cape Cod, the decomposing carcass of [Example] a year-old humpback calf floating in the waters of the Stellwagen Bank national marine sanctuary made for a heartbreaking sight.

But it turned (1) _____ a camera-ready moment, and a rare bonanza for shark researchers, when two large great whites showed up and started feasting on the remains.

A short video clip captured by the crew of Captain John Boats and posted to Facebook shows the apex predators, one estimated to be at least 18ft, devouring (2) _____ one whale expert, Peter Corkeron of the New England Aquarium, called “the biggest smorgasbord a shark could ever dream of”.

“People (3) _____ board were pretty excited,” boat captain John Goggin told the Boston Herald. “There was a lot of yelling: ‘Oh my God! Wow!’”

Over the next two days, eight great whites showed up along with blue sharks and numerous species of seabird, according (4) _____ researchers funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Noaa).

In partnership with the Massachusetts division of marine fisheries, researchers were able to tag five great whites. Six of those (5) _____ turned up to feed were already known to the researchers. (6) _____ two making their first appearances were adult females, the experts said.

The Noaa-funded group posted to Facebook its own extraordinary two-minute video of the mid-August encounter, showing a packed tourist boat in the background. The carcass, they said, would provide nourishment to marine creatures for months.

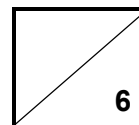
The researchers’ good fortune extended to the whale scientists of the Center for Coastal Studies, a nonprofit from Provincetown, Massachusetts, (7) _____ identified the humpback as an unnamed 2020-born male calf of an adult whale (8) _____ Venom.

“This is an individual who was (9) _____ known to CCS scientists, (10) _____ well as whale watchers off the coast of Massachusetts,” the group said in a Facebook update.

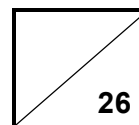
“The cause of his death is not known at this time. (11) _____ it is sad to learn that an individual has died, documenting these events is essential (12) _____ long-term population studies. These efforts are also critical to understand the ongoing humpback whale unusual mortality event along the Atlantic coast.”

Source: Richard Luscombe for The Guardian, 30 August 2021 (adapted and abridged)

Name: _____



Total points in Part III: Grammar



Name: _____

After having completed Parts I-III place all the sheets (pp. 1-18) into the A3 cover and hand them in. You will then get Part IV (the essay topics) and your dictionary.

Part IV: Essay

- 1. Choose one of the four topics below and write an argumentative essay (opinion or for-and-against essay) of 450 to 550 words.**
- 2. Count the words accurately and state the number in the box at the bottom of this sheet.**
- 3. Hand in a fair copy.**

Topic 1:

“Disease is the biggest money maker in our economy.”

— John H. Tobe *

Topic 2:

“It ain’t what you don’t know that gets you into trouble,
it’s what you know for sure that just ain’t so.”

— Mark Twain

Topic 3:

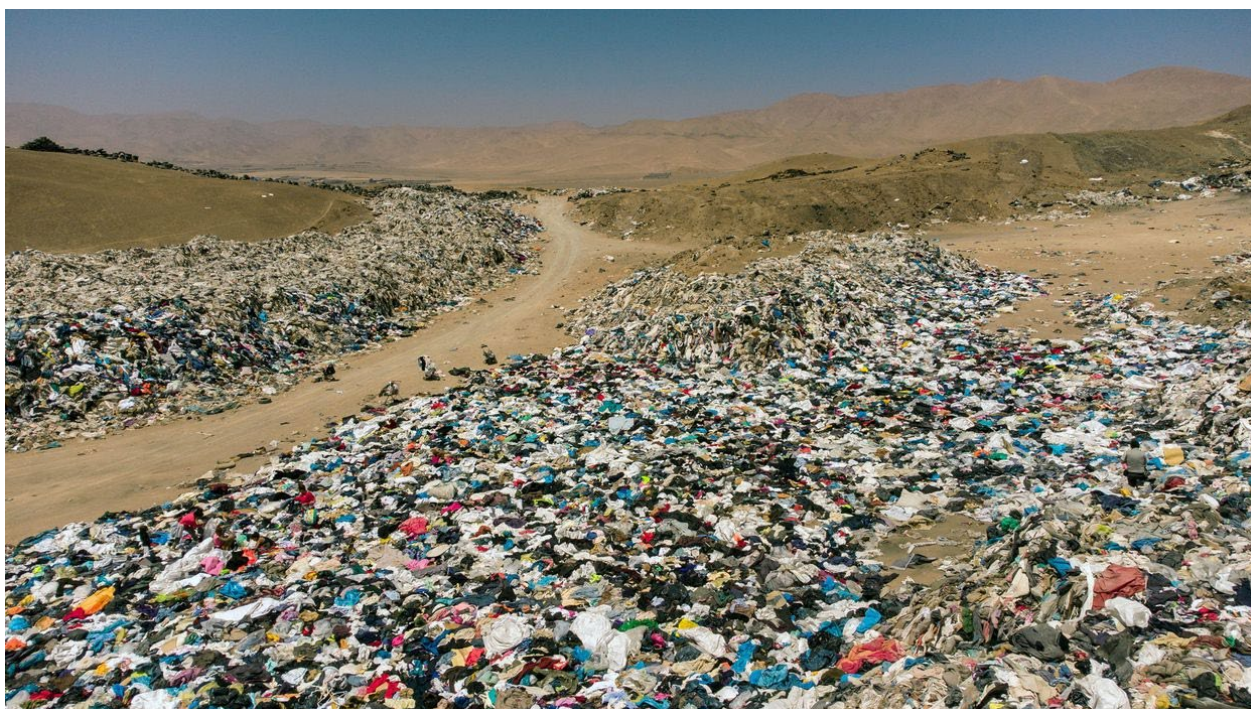
“It’s dangerous to be right, when the government is wrong.”

— Voltaire

Please turn sheet!

Name: _____

Topic 4:



“Chile’s Atacama Desert: Where Fast Fashion Goes to Die” (photograph to article by Tiffany Duong, [EcoWatch](#), November 15, 2021)

Total word count: