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Final Mark: 94/100 --- 9 (nine)

Level: C2

Company: Accenture

Vocabulary (20pts total) – 20 points

For questions 1–10, read the text below. Use the word given in CAPITALS at the end of each line to form a word that fits the gap. (20 points – 2 points each) – 20 points

In today's fast-paced working environment, the ability to deal with several tasks simultaneously is often regarded as a sign of (1) **efficiency** (EFFICIENT). Yet there is growing evidence that this widespread assumption may be fundamentally (2) **misleading** (LEAD). Although people may feel productive when they move rapidly from one task to another, their constant (3) **switching** (SHIFT) between activities can actually reduce the quality of their work.

The human brain is simply not designed for the (4) **continuous** (CONTINUE) processing of unrelated streams of information. Each time we switch our attention, there is a brief period of mental (5) **adjustment** (ADJUST) during which our focus has to be redirected. Over the course of a working day, these apparently (6) **insignificant** (SIGNIFY) interruptions can accumulate, resulting in a considerable loss of concentration.

What is particularly (7) **concerning** (CONCERN) is that technology has made multitasking easier and more tempting than ever. Notifications are designed to attract our attention, often with little (8) **consideration** (CONSIDER) for whether the interruption is actually important. As a result, people may become increasingly (9) **dependent** (DEPEND) on checking their devices, even when doing so interferes with what they are trying to accomplish.

Perhaps the solution is not to work harder, but to recognise the (10) **limitations** (LIMIT) of our attention and organise our working habits accordingly.

Grammar (40pts total) – 36 points

- 1) Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets. Use an appropriate **future form**. (12 points – 2 points each) – 12 points
 - a. By the time the new regulations come into effect, most companies **will already have already adapted** ___ (already / adapt) their internal procedures.
 - b. I can't meet you at six tomorrow because I **will be giving** _ (give) a presentation to the board at that time.
 - c. Don't worry about contacting Sarah. I'm **going to speak** (speak) to her later today, so I'll mention it to her then.
 - d. By the end of this decade, artificial intelligence ___ **will have transformed** ___ (transform) the way we approach many aspects of professional life.
 - e. The company has announced that it **is going to launch** (launch) its new platform in September, although several technical issues still need to be resolved.
 - f. If current trends continue, more people **will be working** _ _ _ _ _ (work) remotely on a permanent basis within the next few years.
- 2) Each sentence contains **one mistake in the conditional structure**. Find the mistake and rewrite the sentence correctly. (14 points – 2 points each) – 12 points
 - a. If I would have known about the changes, I would have prepared differently.
If I had known about the changes, I would have prepared differently.
 - b. If I had realised how complicated the process was, I wouldn't agree to take responsibility for it.
If I had realised how complicated the process was, I wouldn't have agreed to take responsibility for it.
 - c. If she would listen to the advice she receives, she might avoid making the same mistakes.
If she listened to the advice she receives, she might avoid making the same mistakes
 - d. You could have avoided the problem if you would have checked the figures more carefully before submitting the report.

You could have avoided the problem if you had checked the figures more carefully before submitting the report.

- e. If we had left earlier, we wouldn't have been stuck in traffic now.

If we had left earlier, we wouldn't be stuck in traffic now

- f. Unless you don't change your approach, the situation is unlikely to improve.

*Unless you don't change your approach, the situation will unlikely to improve –
Unless you change your approach, the situation is unlikely to improve*

- g. If the company would have invested more in training, it wouldn't be facing these difficulties now.

If the company had invested more in training, it wouldn't be facing these difficulties now.

- 3) Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given. Use between three and six words.** (14 points – 2 points each – 12 points)

1. We had been waiting for over an hour when they finally announced the cancellation.

ALREADY

By the time they announced the cancellation we ~~have already been waiting for~~ **had already been waiting** for over an hour.

2. She started working for the organisation five years ago and is still there.

BEEN

She **has been working** for the organisation for five years.

3. The last time I visited the city was in 2019.

SINCE

I **have not visited the city since** 2019.

4. When I arrived, the presentation had already started.

BEFORE

The presentation **had already started before** I arrived.

5. He had never experienced such a difficult situation before.

FIRST

It was _____ **the first time** _____ he had experienced such a difficult situation.

6. I was halfway through writing the report when the computer stopped working.

WHILE

The computer stopped working _____ **while I was writing** _____ the report.

7. The negotiations had been going on for several hours when they finally reached an agreement.

AFTER

They finally reached an agreement _____ **after they had been negotiating** -- for several hours.

Reading (20 points) – 20 points

Choose the correct option (A or B) to complete each gap (20 points – 4 points each) – **20 points**

The Power of First Impressions

First impressions are often formed within seconds, and they can influence how we perceive someone long after the initial meeting. Although we like to believe that our opinions are based on careful observation, research suggests that our first judgement is often **(1) influenced** by factors such as appearance, tone of voice and body language.

This does not necessarily mean that first impressions are always accurate. People can **(2) give off** misleading signals without realising it, and observers may interpret the same behaviour in completely different ways. Nevertheless, once an opinion has been formed, we tend to look for information that **(3) confirms** our original judgement rather than information that contradicts it.

Being aware of this tendency can help us make more objective decisions. Instead of **(4) relying on** our initial reaction, we can deliberately give ourselves time to reconsider our assumptions. This is particularly important when first impressions influence decisions about employment, relationships or other situations in which an inaccurate judgement can have significant **(5) consequences**.

- 1) A **influenced**
B **inspiring**

- 2) A **give off**
B **take over**
- 3) A **confirms**
B **opposes**
- 4) A **relying on**
B **depending from**
- 5) A **consequences**
B **occurrences**

Listening (20pts total) – 18 points

Listen to the audio and choose the correct answer (A, B or C) (20 points – 2 points each). –
18 points

1. What is Chris Svensson's new book about?
 - ☐ A. Finding a new job
 - ☒ B. Work-life balance
 - ☐ C. Technology at work
2. In traditional workplaces, people used to work...
 - ☐ A. from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - ☐ B. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 - ☒ C. from 9 a.m. to 5 or 6 p.m.
3. What is it called when people stay late at work?
 - ☐ A. Flexible working
 - ☒ B. Working overtime
 - ☐ C. Remote working
4. According to Chris, people in traditional jobs did NOT usually...
 - ☐ A. spend time with family.
 - ☒ B. work at weekends or on holiday.
 - ☐ C. have hobbies.
5. What can most people access on their mobile phones today?
 - ☐ A. Their office computer
 - ☐ B. Social media only
 - ☒ C. Their work emails
6. Why do many people reply to emails in the evening or at weekends?
 - ☐ A. Because it is required every day.
 - ☒ B. Because it is easy to access their work.
 - ☐ C. Because they enjoy working all the time.
7. According to Chris, what is one advantage of modern technology?
 - ☒ A. People work fewer hours.
 - ☐ B. Offices close earlier.
 - ☐ C. People can work more flexibly.
8. If someone leaves the office early to be with their family, they can...

- ☐ A. finish the work the next week.
 - ☐ B. ask a colleague to do it.
 - ☒ C. catch up on work later from home.
- 9. What does the presenter say about the new situation at first?
 - ☐ A. It is perfect for everyone.
 - ☒ B. It sounds like all work and no balance.
 - ☐ C. It is worse than traditional jobs.
- 10. What is Chris's final conclusion?
 - ☐ A. People should never work from home.
 - ☐ B. Traditional working hours are becoming longer.
 - ☒ C. Employees now have more freedom to work from different places and at different times.

