

Total Number of pages = 10 pages (Including the cover page)

PART A
(40 MARKS)
: READING COMPREHENSION, SUMMARISING & PARAPHRASING

INSTRUCTION(S) : Part A consists of **FIVE (5)** sections. Answer **ALL** the questions in the spaces provided.

Driverless cars

- A** Driverless cars may be set to become reality. At least that is, if the executives behind the taxi app, Uber, are to be believed. Currently, Uber is taking its biggest steps yet towards a driver-free world, launching the Uber Advanced Technologies Centre in Pittsburgh. The ultimate goal of this institution is to 'do research and development, primarily in the areas of mapping and vehicle safety and autonomy technology'.
- B** To date, Uber has provided a **chauffeur**-driven taxi service for American clients. Venturing into the realms of driverless cars is therefore a new direction which will require a massive investment. It is indeed a huge leap of faith on Uber's part, since technology has yet to catch up with the idea of a fully autonomous vehicle. On the as well as stay in lane, and maintain a steady cruising speed. In a patchwork fashion such cars could eventually build up to almost full automation and Uber believes that car owners will readily embrace the idea of driverless taxis. In Uber's eyes, current car owners only stand to gain by the introduction of such technology. Hiring a driverless cab means that the client does not have to pay for the cost of the driver in the cab fee. The only cost **incurred** by clients is for fuel, plus wear and tear. It is certainly an attractive proposition. Uber stands to benefit, too, since employees currently working as taxi drivers will be removed from the company's payroll. Apparently for car drivers and Uber, it is a win-win situation.
- C** Not everyone will benefit however from this technology, the car industry being an obvious example. Not surprisingly, the industry views the concept of self-driving cars with a sense of growing alarm. Such technology could well prove the death knell for private car ownership. As a result, the industry is dragging its feet over the manufacture and introduction of fully automated vehicles onto the market, due to commercial issues.
- D** The commercial aspect apart, there is also a safety issue. Whilst a fully automated car could respond to most eventualities in the course of a trip, would it be capable of responding to **unforeseen** events, such as changes in route or unexpected diversions? Evidently legislative authorities are also of this opinion. Currently, no matter how much automation a car has, it still requires a driver with a full licence behind the wheel to drive on public roads. Whilst robot drivers, on the whole, have the upper hand on their human counterparts safety-wise, that still does not guarantee that they will become legal. As a **consortium** of researchers put it, 'self-driving cars cut the roughly 40,000 annual US traffic fatalities in half, the car makers might get not 20,000 thank-you notes, but 20,000 lawsuits.'

E Interestingly, Uber are now undertaking an **aggressive** hiring campaign for taxi drivers to meet the demand for their taxi app. It seems that even Uber is less than confident that driverless taxis will soon become a reality. Whether Uber is backing a doomed campaign or instead is about to bring in a technology that will be universally greeted with positivity and acceptance depends entirely on your viewpoint.

F John Reynolds, a Pittsburgh taxi driver, is angry at Uber's attitude on fully automated technology. 'The complete **disregard** of individual livelihoods, such as mine, as well as those of big car manufacturers in the pursuit of money. Admittedly, things change and we have to roll with the times, but there should be some **safeguards** in place to protect those potentially affected by the introduction of new technologies. I guess I'm **biased**, being a taxi driver myself, but it's difficult to see it objectively.'

G Susie Greenacre, a resident of Pittsburgh, has no such reservations about driverless cars. 'I'm all for it. Driverless cars have my backing, any day! I hate the stress of rush-hour traffic. I think if I could just hop in a driverless car which would take me anywhere I wanted, I would never want to drive again!'

H Jason Steiner, a school teacher in a Pittsburgh secondary school, is inclined to agree with Susie. 'Whilst I'm not **averse** to driving, I would swap the stressful daily **commute** by car to a driverless one if I had the chance! It just takes the pressure off driving. I would be slightly wary though, of completely dependent on a robot-driven car when it comes to having to react to unexpected obstacles in the road.'

Adapted from (<https://ieltsolinetests.com/collection/ielts-mock-test-2018-december>)

SECTION (1)-Labelling Information (2 marks)

INSTRUCTION(S): Read the passage above carefully. The passage has **EIGHT (8)** paragraphs labelled **A - H**. Which paragraph contains the following information? Choose the correct letter **A – H** in the boxes provided.

1. benefits for companies from self-driving cars
2. the many problems that can occur from driverless cars

SECTION (2)-Matching Information (8 marks)

INSTRUCTION(S): Do the following statements agree with the view of the writer? Answer **True**, **False**, or **Not Given** to the following questions.

True	if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer
False	if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer

Not Given	if there is no information on this
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1. Driverless technology will have to overcome legal and safety obstacles to become completely viable. _____
2. Uber has shown nothing but complete self-conviction in its investment in driverless cars. _____
3. The safety issues with driverless technology are likely to be resolved fairly quickly. _____
4. Driverless cars conform to safety regulations. _____
5. Professional circuit racers are no competition for driverless cars. _____
6. There is an obvious market for fully automated cars. _____
7. Jason Steiner is willing to give up control of their vehicle because he appreciates the benefits of fully automated cars. _____
8. New technology of driverless cars will soon make way for pilotless planes. _____

SECTION (3)-Multiple Choice Questions (5 marks)

INSTRUCTION(S): Based on the passage above, circle the correct answer, **A, B, C** or **D**.

SECTION (4)-Matching: Word and Meaning (10 marks)

INSTRUCTION(S): Find a **bold** word from the reading passage to match each description below.

1. not expected or not planned (1 mark)

2. to protect something from harm (1 mark)

3. strongly disliking or opposed to (1 mark)

4. a person employed to drive a private or hired car (1 mark)

5. behaving in an angry and violent way towards another person (1 mark)

6. to make the same journey regularly between work and home (1 mark)

7. the fact of showing no care or respect for something (1 mark)

8. showing an unreasonable like or dislike for a person based on personal opinions (1 mark)

9. to experience something as a result of actions you have taken (1 mark)

10. an organization of several businesses joining together as a group for a shared purpose (1 mark)

SECTION (5) – Summarising & Paraphrasing (15 marks)

INSTRUCTION(S): Based on the reading passage in Part A, summarise and paraphrase the following sentences using your own words.

1. It is indeed a huge leap of faith on Uber's part, since technology has yet to catch up with the idea of a fully autonomous vehicle (3 marks)

2. Not surprisingly, the industry views the concept of self-driving cars with a sense of growing alarm. Such technology could well prove the death knell for private car ownership. (3 marks)

3. Whilst a fully automated car could respond to most eventualities in the course of a trip, would it be capable of responding to unforeseen events, such as changes in route or unexpected diversions? Evidently legislative authorities are also of this opinion . (3 marks)

4. Currently, no matter how much automation a car has, it still requires a driver with a full licence behind the wheel to drive on public roads. Whilst robot drivers, on the whole, have the upper hand on their human counterparts safety-wise, that still does not guarantee that they will become legal.

(3 marks)

5. ‘The complete disregard of individual livelihoods, such as mine, as well as those of big car manufacturers in the pursuit of money. Admittedly things change and we have to roll with the times, but there should be some safeguards in place to protect those potentially affected by the introduction of new technologies ‘ (3 marks)

END OF PART A

PART B : GRAMMAR & ACADEMIC WRITING CONVENTIONS (30 marks)

INSTRUCTION(S) : Part B consists of **THREE (3)** sections. Answer **ALL** the questions in the space provided.

SECTION (1) – Active and Passive Voice (10 marks)

INSTRUCTION(S): Change the active sentences into passive sentences.

1. The teacher tried alternative approaches to the problem. (2 marks)

2. They convicted the wrong man with no corroborative evidence. (2 marks)

3. Joshua rejects the proposal as a matter of principle. (2 marks)

4. The noted testimony will indicate the importance of the statement. (2 marks)

5. The interpretation of the topic has attracted unfavourable responses. (2 marks)

SECTION (2) – Tenses (10 marks)

INSTRUCTION(S): Fill in the blanks with the correct tense forms for verbs: **Simple Past** or **Present Perfect**.

1. The worker (receive) _____ some compensation for the dismissal last month.

2. The editor (design) _____ the pamphlet three times so far with the illustrator.
3. Chef Azrael (derive) _____ a lot of pleasure from cooking since his employment.
4. The new manager (seek) _____ help from the other managers yesterday.
5. The company (publish) _____ seven journals so far for this year.
6. Scientists (attribute) _____ the findings to Stephen Hawking a short time ago.
7. This graph (illustrate) _____ the change in price an hour ago.
8. As predicted, Apple Inc. (increase) _____ the price of the new iPhone for 2021.
9. The students (submit) _____ their final report together to the lecturer last night.
10. Mr Hanson (lead) _____ the departmental meeting since his promotion.

SECTION (3) – Academic Writing Conventions / Formal Language (10 marks)

INSTRUCTION(S): Reconstruct the following sentences into formal forms.

1. Steps must be taken to ensure the survival of risky animals. (2 marks)

2. The committee will call off the project due to a bad reaction. (2 marks)

3. The press should be allowed to publish and tell on all aspects of politics. (2 marks)

4. The chance to do a presentation at the prestigious hall has been put off. (2 marks)
