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**PHẦN TRẮC NGHIỆM (5 điểm)**

**Passage 1: Read the passage and answer the questions.**

**THE SHAPE OF AFRICA**
**by Jared Diamond**

The hope for Africa's future lies with its abundant human and natural resources.

**A**
Ask someone to tell you quickly what they associate with Africa and the answers you'll get will probably range from "cradle of humankind" and "big animals" to "poverty" and
"tribalism." How did one continent come to embody such extremes?
**B**
Geography and history go a long way toward providing the explanations. Geographically,
Africa resembles a bulging sandwich. The sole continent to span both the north and south
temperate zones, it has a thick tropical core lying between one thin temperate zone in the
north and another in the south. That simple geographic reality explains a great deal about
Africa today.
**C**
As to its human history, this is the place where - some seven million years ago - the
evolutionary lines of apes and protohumans diverged. It remained the only continent our
ancestors inhabited until around two million years ago, when *Homo erectus* expanded out
of Africa into Europe and Asia. Over the next 1.5 million years, the populations of those
three continents followed such different evolutionary courses that they became distinct
species. Europe's became the Neandertals, Asia's remained *Homo erectus*, but Africa's
evolved into our own species, *Homo sapiens*. Sometime between 100,000 and 50,000 years ago, our African ancestors underwent some further profound change. Whether it was the development of complex speech or something else, such as a change in brain wiring, we aren't sure. Whatever it was, it transformed those early *Homo sapiens* into what paleoanthropologists call "behaviorally modern" *Homo sapiens*. Those people, probably with brains similar to our own, expanded again into Europe and Asia. Once there, they exterminated or replaced or interbred with Neandertals and Asia's hominins and became the dominant human species throughout the world.
**D**
In effect, Africans enjoyed not just one but three huge head starts over humans on other
continents. That makes Africa's economic struggles today, compared with the successes of other continents, particularly puzzling. It's the opposite of what one would expect from the runner first off the block. Here again, geography and history give us answers.
**E**
It turns out that the rules of the competitive race among the world's humans changed
radically about 10,000 years ago, with the origins of agriculture. The domestication of wild plants and animals meant our ancestors could grow their own food instead of having to hunt or gather it in the wild. That allowed people to settle in permanent villages, to increase their populations, and to feed specialists - inventors, soldiers, and kings - who did not produce food. With domestication came other advances, including the first metal tools, writing, and state societies.
**F**
The problem is that only a tiny minority of wild plants and animals lend themselves to
domestication, and those few are concentrated in about half a dozen parts of the world. As every schoolchild learns, the world's earliest and most productive farming arose in the
Fertile Crescent of southwestern Asia, where wheat, barley, sheep, cattle, and goats were
domesticated. While those plants and animals spread east and west in Eurasia, in Africa
they were stopped by the continent's north-south orientation. Crops and livestock tend to
spread much more slowly from north to south than from east to west because different
latitudes require adaptation to different climates, seasonalities, day lengths, and diseases.
Africa's own native plant species - sorghum, oil palm, coffee, millets, and yams - weren't
domesticated until thousands of years after Asia and Europe had agriculture. And Africa's
geography kept oil palm, yams, and other crops of equatorial Africa from spreading into
southern Africa's temperate zone. While South Africa today boasts the continent's richest
agricultural lands, the crops grown there are mostly northern temperate crops, such as
wheat and grapes, brought directly on ships by European colonists. Those same crops never succeeded in spreading south through the thick tropical core of Africa.
**G**
The domesticated sheep and cattle of Fertile Crescent origins took about 5,000 years to
spread from the Mediterranean down to the southern tip of Africa. The continent's own
native animals - with the exception of guinea fowl and possibly donkeys and one breed of
cattle - proved impossible to domesticate. History might have turned out differently if
African armies, fed by barnyard-giraffe meat and backed by waves of cavalry mounted on huge rhinos, had swept into Europe to overrun its mutton-fed soldiers mounted on puny horses. That this didn't happen was no fault of the Africans; it was because of the kinds of wild animals available to them.
**H**
Ironically, the long human presence in Africa is probably the reason the continent's species of big animals survive today. African animals coevolved with humans for millions of years, as human hunting prowess gradually progressed from the basic skills of our early ancestors. That gave the animals time to learn a healthy fear of man and, with it, a healthy avoidance of human hunters. In contrast, North and South America and Australia were settled by humans only within the last tens of thousands of years. To the misfortune of the big animals of those continents, the first humans they encountered were already fully modern people, with modern brains and hunting skills. Most of those animals - woolly mammoths, saber-toothed cats, and, in Australia, marsupials as big as rhinoceroses - disappeared soon after humans arrived. Entire species may have been exterminated before they had time to learn to beware of hunters.
**I**
Unfortunately, the long human presence in Africa also encouraged something else to thrive - diseases. The continent has a well-deserved reputation for having spawned some of our nastiest ones: malaria, yellow fever, East African sleeping sickness, and AIDS. These and many other human illnesses arose when microbes causing disease in animals crossed species lines to evolve into a human disease. For a microbe already adapted to one species, to adapt to another can be difficult and require a lot of evolutionary time. Much more time has been available in Africa, cradle of humankind, than in any other part of the planet. That's half the answer to Africa's disease burden; the other half is that the animal species most closely related to humans - those whose microbes required the least adaptation to jump species - are the African great apes and monkeys.
**J**

Africa continues to be shaped in other ways by its long history and its geography. Of
mainland Africa's ten richest countries - the only ones with annual per capita gross domestic products over $3,300 - eight lie partly or entirely within its temperate zones:
Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, and Algeria in the north; and Angola, South Africa, Botswana, and
Namibia in the south. Gabon and Equatorial Guinea are Africa's only tropical countries to
make the list. In addition, nearly a third of the countries of mainland Africa (15 out of 47)
are landlocked, and the only African river navigable from the ocean for long distances
inland is the Nile. Since waterways provide the cheapest way to transport cumbersome
goods, geography again thwarts Africa's progress.
**K**
All these factors can lead to the question: "Is the continent, or at least its big tropical core,
doomed eternally to wars, poverty, and devastating diseases?" I'd answer, "Absolutely not." On my own visits to Africa, I've been struck by how harmoniously ethnic groups live together in many countries - far better than they do in many other parts of the globe.
Tensions arise in Africa, as they do elsewhere, when people see no other way out of
poverty except to fight their neighbors for dwindling resources. But many areas of Africa
have an abundance of resources: The rivers of central Africa are great generators of
hydroelectric power; the big animals are a major source of ecotourism revenue in eastern
and southern Africa; and the forests in the wetter regions, if managed and logged
sustainably, would be renewable and lucrative sources of income.
**L**
As for Africa's health problems, they can be greatly alleviated with the right planning and
funding. Within the past half century, several formerly poor countries in Asia recognized
that tropical diseases were a major drain on their economies. By investing in public health measures, they have successfully curbed those diseases, and the increased health of their people has led to far healthier economies. Within Africa itself, some international mining and oil companies have been funding successful public health programs throughout their concession areas because they realized that protecting the health of their workers was an excellent business investment for them.
**M**
What's the best case for Africa's future? If the continent can overcome its health problems
and the corruption that plagues many of its governments and institutions, then it could take advantage of today's globalized, technological world in much the same way that China and India are now doing. Technology could give Africa the connections that its geography, particularly its rivers, long denied it. Nearly half of all African countries are English speaking - an advantage in trade relations - and an educated, English-speaking workforce could well attract service jobs to many African countries.
**N**
If Africa is to head into a bright future, outside investment will continue to be needed, at
least for a time. The cost of perpetual aid to or military intervention in Africa is thousands of times more expensive than solving health problems and supporting local development, thereby heading off conflicts. Not only Africans but the rest of us will be healthier and safer if Africa's nations increasingly take their places as peaceful and prospering members of the world community

1. If someone travels from the northernmost part of Africa to the southernmost, one would experience \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
**A.** a moderate climate, then a hot climate, then a moderate climate again
**B.** a hot climate and then gradually cooler temperatures
**C.** a moderate climate, then a very cold one
**D.** very hot climate, then a moderate climate, then a hot climate again

ANSWER: A

2. What is the main idea of paragraph A?
**A**. There are several divergent opinions about Africa.
**B.** Most people have very little information about Africa.

**C.** Most people have incorrect impressions of Africa.
**D.** The author agrees with two of these opinions about Africa**.**

ANSWER: A

3. Which of the following is NOT true?
**A.** "Behaviorally modern" *Homo sapiens* originated in Asia**.**

**B.** *Homo erectus* originated in Africa**.**
**C.** *Homo sapiens* originated in Africa**.**
**D.** Neandertals originated in Europe.
ANSWER: A

4. In the last sentence of paragraph C, the word *they* refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
**A.** "behaviorally modern" *Homo sapiens*

**B.** paleoanthropologists
**C.** Neandertals
**D.** Asia's hominins

ANSWER: A

5. In paragraph E, which of these is NOT mentioned as a result of the beginning of agriculture?
**A.** people started to learn how to avoid diseases

**B.** people no longer needed to hunt their own food
**C.** people were able to develop specialized skills
**D.** people could settle in one place

ANSWER: A

6. Why did the crops grown in southwestern Asia spread to Europe but not Africa?
**A.** It is more difficult for crops to spread south than it is east or west.
**B.** European colonists brought the crops home after visiting Asia**.**
**C.** African farmers preferred to grow Africa's own native plant species.
**D.** The distance to Africa was much further.

ANSWER: A

7. The author implies that African armies might have defeated European armies if \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
**A.** African animals were easier to domesticate
**B.** African soldiers were mounted on horses
**C.** sheep and cattle had been native to Africa
**D.** African soldiers had metal weapons

ANSWER: A

8. According to paragraph J, which of the following is true?
**A.** Most of the more prosperous countries are in Africa's temperate zones.

**B.** Most of Africa's ten richest countries are in the north of the continent.
**C.** Most countries in Africa have no coastline.
**D.** Of Africa's ten richest countries, none are from the tropical region.
ANSWER: A

9. The word *dwindling* in paragraph K is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
**A.** shrinking

**B.** evolving
**C.** developing
**D.** increasing
ANSWER: A

10. What is the main idea of this entire passage?
**A.** The geography and history of Africa has shaped its development.
**B.** Tropical diseases have been an enormous drain on Africa's economy.
**C.** The spread of species from east to west was faster than the spread from north to south.
**D.** Investments in Africa may halt conflicts and help development.

ANSWER: A

**Passage 2: Read the passage and decide whether each statement below is TRUE, FALSE, or NOT GIVEN.**

**WHY CAPE TOWN IS RUNNING OUT OF WATER**
**by Craig Welch, March 2018**

By summer, four million people in the city of Cape Town - one of Africa's most affluent
metropolises - may have to stand in line surrounded by armed guards to collect rations of the region's most precious commodity: drinking water.

Population growth and a record drought, perhaps exacerbated by climate change, is sparking one of the world's most dramatic urban water crises, as South African leaders warn that residents are increasingly likely to face "Day Zero." That's the day, previously projected for mid-April but now mid-July, when the city says it will be forced to shut off taps to homes and businesses because reservoirs have gotten perilously low - a possibility officials now consider almost inevitable.

"The question that dominates my waking hours now is: When Day Zero arrives, how do we make water accessible and prevent anarchy?" says Helen Zille, former Cape Town mayor and the current premier of South Africa's Western Cape province. For years, a shutdown of this magnitude in such a cosmopolitan city had been almost inconceivable. But as overdevelopment, population growth, and climate change upset the balance between water use and supply, urban centers around the world increasingly face threats of severe drinking-water shortages.

Nowhere has that threat seemed to come on faster and catch more by surprise than it has in Cape Town. The situation seems to be worsening by the day.

The city is preparing 200 emergency water stations outside groceries and other gathering spots. Each would have to serve almost 20,000 residents. Cape Town officials are making plans to store emergency water at military installations, and have declared that using taps to fill pools, water gardens, or wash cars is now illegal. Just this week, authorities stepped up water-theft patrols at natural springs where fights broke out, according to local press reports. They're being asked to crack down on "unscrupulous traders" who have driven up the price of bottled water.

For months, citizens have been urged to consume less, but more than half of residents ignored those volunteer restrictions. So earlier in January, the city requested even steeper cuts, asking residents to consume just 50 liters per day - less than one-sixth of what the average American uses. If consumption doesn't drop steeply and quickly, city officials warned this week, everyone will be forced into Day Zero, where all will have to live on far less - about 25 liters a day, less than typically used in four minutes of showering.
"I'm not sure if we'll be able to avert Day Zero," says Kevin Winter, lead researcher at an urban water group at the University of Cape Town. "We're using too much water, and we can't contain it. It's tragic."

Much like southern California, South Africa is arid, but Cape Town's most recognizable land mass, Table Mountain, traps onshore breezes coming off warm ocean waters, creating local rains that power rivers and fill underground aquifers. It is an oasis with a Mediterranean climate surrounded by desert. Its beauty has driven populations skyward and brought increasing wealth and prosperity. There are pools and water parks and wineries and lush gardens, though even as the city modernized, hundreds of thousands still live in impoverished settlements. Unemployment tops 25 percent.

Over the last 20 years, the city recognized some of the increased threat. It made strides in
reducing water use from its six major reservoirs, which hold up to 230 billion gallons of water. "Per capita consumption declined, the city reduced leaks, it forced large users to pay more, and generally promoted water efficiency," says Winter. Cape Town won several international water management awards. It even tries to shame top water users by publishing their names. But officials also made an increasingly common mistake: They assumed future rainfall patterns would resemble the past, or at least not change too quickly.

In the end, the dangers came suddenly. In 2014, the six dams were full, but then came three straight years of drought - the worst in more than a century. Now, according to NASA data, reservoirs stand at 26 percent of capacity, with the single largest, which provides half the city's water, in the worst shape. City officials plan to cut the taps when the reservoirs hit 13.5 percent.

While it's not clear how much of the current dry spell is driven by natural variability as opposed to climate change, "it's clear our current system is no longer reliable enough," says David Olivier of Witwatersrand University. "We may not have another drought like this for a few decades. But extreme events are only going to become more common."

"People believed that this would be a short-term drought and that things would return to normal at some point," says resource-management expert Anthony Turton. "But climate change is a factor now, and it's only begun to dawn on them how much the demand for water will just keep increasing."

For the moment, the region is scrambling to bring new supplies on line. Four
new desalination plants are under construction. New water wells are being drilled. Most of those projects are more than half completed. All but one, however, is behind schedule, as city leaders push to at least get something up and running soon.

Magalie Bourblanc, a resource management specialist at South Africa's University of Pretoria, says, "I think people are realizing very quickly just how bad the situation could be."

11. Cape Town is one of Africa's wealthiest cities. \_\_

**A.** TRUE

**B.** FALSE

**C.** NOT GIVEN

ANSWER: A

12. "Day Zero" refers to the day when people in Cape Town will no longer have running water.
**A.** TRUE

**B.** FALSE

**C.** NOT GIVEN

ANSWER: A

13. Helen Zille believes climate change is the main cause of the water shortage. \_

**A.** NOT GIVEN

**B.** FALSE

**C.** TRUE

ANSWER: A

14. At the time the article was written, it was illegal for people to use tap water to wash their cars in Cape Town.

**A.** TRUE

**B.** FALSE

**C.** NOT GIVEN

ANSWER: A

15. Some traders are selling bottled water at increased prices.

**A.** TRUE

**B.** FALSE

**C.** NOT GIVEN

ANSWER: A

16. Before January of the year this article was written, the majority of Cape Town residents were carefully following the restrictions on water use.\_

**A.** FALSE

**B.** TRUE

**C.** NOT GIVEN

ANSWER: A

17. After Day Zero, Cape Town residents will be able to use only 25 liters of water a day.

**A.** TRUE

**B.** FALSE

**C.** NOT GIVEN

ANSWER: A

18. One reason why Cape Town is experiencing a drought is that the off-shore breezes have died down or stopped completely.

**A.** NOT GIVEN

**B.** FALSE

**C.** TRUE

ANSWER: A

19. When the article was written, the largest reservoir near Cape Town had less than 26% of its full water capacity.

**A.** TRUE

**B.** FALSE

**C.** NOT GIVEN

ANSWER: A

20. When the article was written, the construction of the new desalination plants and wells had just been completed.

**A.** FALSE

**B.** TRUE

**C.** NOT GIVEN

ANSWER: A

**PHẦN TỰ LUẬN (5 điểm)**

Câu hỏi (5 điểm):

**Write an essay (at least 250 words) to answer the following question.**

**Choose one type of pollution. What are the causes or effects of this type of pollution on the environment?**

*Ngày biên soạn: 23/10/ 2021*

**Giảng viên biên soạn đề thi:** Lương Thị Kim Phụng

*Ngày kiểm duyệt: 24/10/2021*

**Phó trưởng Bộ môn kiểm duyệt đề thi: Lê Quang Thảo**