Section A [5 marks]

1 'Our halls are more than just	places	to live in	١.
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Using information from the first two paragraphs, state how NTU halls do this.

NTU's unique Residential Education offers a wealth of experiential learning [1] activities that give you hands-on experience right in the comfort of your own residence on campus.

2 Look at the first photograph on the webpage. How does it illustrate that the halls are 'A home, away from home'?

The picture shows two students playing music comfortably in their dormitory and it illustrates the great comfort they enjoy in the hall which is [1] similar to what they enjoy in their own home.

Description of photo and explain how it depicts the idea of 'A home, away from home'

3 Refer to the section under 'Facilities at your doorstep'.

Identify **two** language features which the writer uses to engage the readers.

Use of imperatives/start sentences with a Verb like 'Pump...' 'Jam..' and 'Or [1] practise...'

Use of pronoun 'Your'

4 We're excited to have you experience a vibrant school life with us.

Make the most of your experience with us.

What is the intended effect of these two statements on the readers?

The readers will feel involved and want to apply to stay in a dormitory [1]

Feelings + Action

Refer to Text 2 on page 3 and 4 of the Insert for Questions 5 – 14.

5 In Paragraph 1, why did Finny win the baseball game? Answer in your own words.

He was extremely skilful/exceptionally adept in playing baseball while the rest were clumsy / unable to play it correctly.

From the text:

he was sensationally good at it, and that the rest of us were more or less bumblers [2] in our different wavs

6 It was just a game. (line 6)

> What does this sentence tell you about the attitude the writer has towards winning the baseball game?

The writer has little/no interest/desire to win the game. OR He views it as [1] insignificant/inconsequential/not important to win the game.

7 The writer mentions that everyone has a moment in history which remains unforgettable. Explain how the language used in Paragraph 2 describes the memorable moment.

Support your ideas with **three** details from Paragraph 2.

i. emotions achieve their most powerful sway over him' / 'unleashed emotions' highlights how his strong feelings had overwhelmed him / suggests that all the strong feelings inside him were released/let out in an uncontrolled manner

ii.'imprinted itself upon him' implies that the moment was etched deeply in his mind / left a permanent impact on him

[3]

iii. 'carries the stamp of that passing moment forever' suggests that he bears a sign/mark/impression of the moment on him

8 'America is not, never has been, and never will be what the songs and poems call it, a land of plenty.' (lines 21 - 22)

What does the writer mean in this sentence?

America never had a lot of resources and this situation persists today with no [2] signs of changing for the future.

America is not a land of plenty in the past, present or future. [1m only]

9 Give **two** contradictions which Americans face in Paragraph 3.

- i. America is known as a land of plenty but nylon, meat, gasoline, and steel are rare.
- ii. There are too many jobs and not enough workers.
- iii. Money is very easy to earn but rather hard to spend, because there isn't very much to buy. (Any 2)

[1]

- **10** What does the puzzle in Paragraph 4 refer to?
 - The puzzle is why adults are slightly impressed and almost intimidated by [1] those who are aged sixteen.
- 11a In Paragraph 5, explain the meaning of the phrase 'the earth seems to lurch from its path' (line 35).

The world becomes unstable / the whole world becomes shaken / everyone is startled / shocked by an extreme / earth shattering moment / historically [1] defining.

- **b** Why is this phrase effectively used?
 - The phrase highlights the strong negative responses of the world / how [1] people could be thrown off when an extreme event happened.
- 12 Why do the people listen to the news broadcasts five or six times every day?

Americans feel that their life is dull and they need to be updated on things, news and events to entertain themselves.

They want to enjoy some pleasure and luxury in different parts of the world which they have little access to.

[2]

13 What is unusual but effective in using the phrase 'a curtain of plastic' (lines 43 – 44)

Unusual	A curtain is usually made of cloth and not plastic				
Effective	It highlights that what the Americans know about the world is limited/unclear and may not be the truth.				

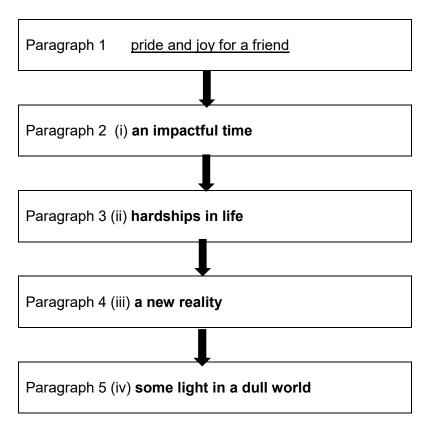
[2]

The structure of the text reflects the stages of events and the writer's feelings. Complete the flow chart by choosing one phrase from the box to summarise his thoughts and feelings in each part of the text. There are some extra phrases you do not need to use.

Stages of events and the writer's feelings

pride and	joy for a friend	feeling lost	hardships in life			
a new reality great sense of disloyalty		some light in a dull world				
an impactful time						

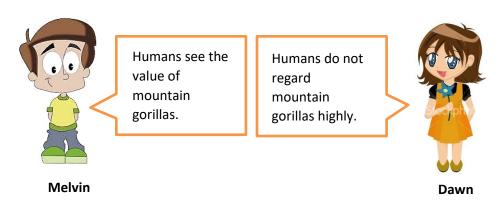
Flow Chart



[4]

Refer to Text 3 on pages 5 and 6 of the Insert for Questions 15 – 22.

- **15** From Paragraph 1, what are the effects of the extinction of mountain gorillas?
 - There will be a significant loss for the wildlife ecosystem, the Central African economy and all of humanity.
- **16** Quote a sentence in Paragraph 2 which shows that animals and plants are important.
 - 'All species are integral parts of the ecosystem in which they live.'
- **17** From Paragraph 3, explain why an abrupt loss of a species may cause an unpredictable chain reaction to the plants and animals.
 - Each ecosystem on our planet has been carefully balanced over tens of thousands or even millions of years so the plants and animals may not be prepared or know how to react.
- 18 'at the root of protecting all life' (line 21). What does 'the root' mean?
 - main/most important
- 19 In Paragraph 4, what are the reasons for the deforestation in the habitat of mountain gorillas?
 - i. Humans want to turn lush forests into productive farmland.
 - ii. Humans need wood to build homes and burn as fuel for cooking.
- Here is a part of a conversation between two students, Melvin and Dawn, who have read about the threats faced by mountain gorillas.



[1]

[1]

[2]

Give **two** pieces of evidence from Paragraph 2 to support Melvin's view. а Mountian gorillas are our closest relatives, so we will have the opportunity to learn from them. We can compare them to our species and other great apes. We can study important aspects of life through these animals. (Any 2) [2] Explain with reference to Paragraph 4 why Dawn feels the way she does. b Humans see the mountain gorilla as a competitor for limited natural resources, rather than something that should be protected. [1] 21 Give a phrase in Paragraph 6 that has the same meaning as 'decimate' (line 47) 'wipe(d) out' [1] 22 Write your summary on the Summary Writing Answer Sheet given separately. Using your own words as far as possible, summarise how and why human actions have threatened the population of mountain gorillas. Use only the material from Paragraphs 5 – 7 of Text 3. Your summary must be in continuous writing (not in note form). It must not be longer than 80 words (not counting the words given to help you begin). [15] One threat faced by the mountain gorillas is ...

As [1] local communities build roads and encroach further and further into national parks in Rwanda and Uganda, it has become easier for humans to also [2] use that land for hunting. Sometimes, that means poaching. Though it is illegal to hunt, trade and eat gorilla and other apes, [3]a lack of resources for law enforcement and anti-poaching makes gorilla hunting difficult to eliminate. The economic payoff is often worth the risk: it is rare, [4]gorilla meat fetches top dollar in urban areas where the delicacy is seen as a symbol of prestige among the wealthy and elite. Gorillas are also poached in attempts to [5] capture infant gorillas for the live animal trade.

Due to [6] their similar DNA to humans, mountain gorillas are at risk of contracting many diseases that affect us without the benefits of our immunities, vaccines or medicines. As humans encroach into what was once an isolated habitat, they [6] bring diseases with them—and gorillas are getting their first exposure to diseases humans have been living with for thousands of years. Just as disease wiped out native human populations when European explorers brought them to the Americas, these diseases can quickly decimate a gorilla population. Tourists, poachers, locals, park rangers and scientists alike all [7] pose threats through direct contact or through contamination by waste and debris left behind.

Though habitat loss, hunting and disease impact many endangered species, the mountain gorilla have also had to struggle [8] with the effects of war. The Rwanda, Uganda, and Congo regions have experienced numerous armed conflicts between the army and militia groups vying for control. While the wars have been a brutal human tragedy, gorillas have equally suffered. They have been caught in crossfire, hunted for meat to feed soldiers or refugees, or [9] shot purely for sport. In addition, the [10]presence of armed militias makes it difficult for park rangers and scientists to undertake the conservation work required to conduct surveys and patrol protected areas.

The actions of humans have threatened the mountain gorillas.

- 1. The locals build roads and encroach into the national parks the habitat of the gorillas
- 2. Hunters and poachers are able to hunt for trade and food due to
- 3. a lack of resources for law enforcements
- 4. Gorilla meat is highly demanded due to its prestige.
- 5. Gorillas are poached when baby gorillas are captured for live animal trade.

- 6. Human presence brings diseases to the animals as they have similar DNA.
- 7. Gorillas have direct human contact and are contaminated by human waste and litter.
- 8. During wars, gorillas are killed and hunted for food or
- 9. shot as a leisure activity
- 10. With armed soldiers in the forests, the conservation work of rangers and scientists becomes challenging.

One threat faced by the mountain gorillas is

the locals build roads and encroach into the habitat of the gorillas. Hunters and poachers hunt for trade and food due to a lack of resources for law enforcements. Gorilla meat is highly demanded due to its prestige. Gorillas are also poached when baby gorillas are captured for live animal trade. Human presence brings diseases to them. They have direct human contact and are contaminated by human waste and litter. During wars, they are killed and hunted for food or shot as a leisure activity. With armed soldiers in the forests, the conservation work of rangers and scientists becomes challenging. [100 words for 10 points]