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SUBJECT:	<b>English</b>
DATE:	31 <sup>st</sup> August 2020
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 7:05 p.m.

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Answer **ALL** sections. You are advised to spend about 1 hour on each task.

**SECTION A: WRITTEN**

**Choose ONE title and write 450 (+/- 10%) words.**

1. As part of an effort to promote a healthy lifestyle, a sports magazine encourages amateur sportspersons to write about their participation in a special sporting event. Describe your experience during a 10Km charity fun run.
2. A local non-governmental organisation is inviting writers to contribute to the 'Humour Corner' project which encourages young people to have a positive outlook on life. Keeping the aim of the 'Humour Corner' in mind, write a humorous story for this project.
3. 'Today's youths need real opportunities to participate in political processes and contribute to practical solutions that advance development' (National Democratic Institute). Discuss.
4. In this digital age, one cybercrime that is on the rise is identity theft. What are some of the dangers of identity theft and what may be done to limit the problem?
5. You have recently attended an orientation course aimed at young people interested in becoming voluntary workers at a home for the elderly.

Write a report addressed to the chief executive officer of the organisation that has run the course. In the report you might consider focusing on:

- the positive and negative aspects of the orientation course;
  - the difference between your expectations prior to the course and what was delivered;
  - how the organisation can improve future courses.
6. The host of a popular television programme has recently expressed the opinion that the best way of solving Malta's traffic problem is to increase the driving age to 21. This view has been gaining a lot of support on the media since then. Write a formal email addressed to the editor of one of the country's main newspapers expressing your views on the matter. Your email will be published in one of this week's issues of the newspaper.

Sender's details:

*Use this fictional name:* Alice Cilia

Recipient's details:

*Use this email address:* editor@dailyvoice.co.mt

**(Total: 30 marks)**

**SECTION B: READING AND LANGUAGE AWARENESS**

**Read the following passage and answer the questions given below.**

**Lab-grown food will soon destroy farming – and save the planet**

George Monbiot is a Guardian columnist



Illustration by Matt Kenyon

It sounds like a miracle, but no great technological leaps were required. In a commercial lab on the outskirts of Helsinki, I watched scientists turn water into food. Through a porthole in a metal tank, I could see a yellow froth churning. It's a primordial soup of bacteria, taken from the soil and multiplied in the laboratory, using hydrogen extracted from water as its energy source. When the froth was siphoned through a tangle of pipes and squirted on to heated rollers, it turned into a rich yellow flour.

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This flour is not yet licensed for sale. But the scientists, working for a company called Solar Foods, were allowed to give me some while filming our documentary *Apocalypse Cow*. I asked them to make me a pancake: I would be the first person on Earth, beyond the lab staff, to eat such a thing. They set up a frying pan in the lab, mixed the flour with oat milk, and I took my small step for man. It tasted...just like a pancake.

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But pancakes are not the intended product. Such flours are likely soon to become the feedstock for almost everything. In their raw state, they can replace the fillers now used in thousands of food products. When the bacteria are modified they will create the specific proteins needed for lab-grown meat, milk and eggs. Other tweaks can produce omega-3 fatty acids that we normally get from fish. The carbohydrates that remain when proteins and fats have been extracted could replace everything from pasta flour to potato crisps.

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The first commercial factory built by Solar Foods should be running next year. Creating this 'food' in giant containers is efficient and the company estimates that producing the same amount of food on land would require 20,000 times more space. Everyone on Earth could be handsomely fed, and using a tiny fraction of its surface. If, as the company intends, the water used in the process (which is much less than required by farming) is charged with solar power, the best places to build these plants will be deserts.

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25 We are on the cusp of the biggest economic transformation, of any kind, for 200 years. While  
arguments rage about plant- versus meat-based diets, new technologies will soon make them  
irrelevant. Before long, most of our food will come neither from animals nor plants, but from  
unicellular life. After 12,000 years of feeding humankind, all farming except fruit and veg production  
is likely to be replaced by brewing microbes through precision fermentation. This means multiplying  
30 particular micro-organisms, to produce particular products, in factories. I know some people will be  
horrified by this prospect. I can see some drawbacks. But I believe it comes in the nick of time.

Several impending disasters are converging on our food supply, any of which could be  
catastrophic. Climate breakdown threatens to cause what scientists call "multiple breadbasket  
failures" (a failure in areas in the world with rich soil), through heatwaves and other impacts. The  
UN forecasts that by 2050 feeding the world will require a 20% expansion in agriculture's global  
35 water use. But water use is already maxed out in many places: underground water supplies are  
vanishing, rivers are failing to reach the sea. The glaciers that supply half the population of Asia are  
rapidly retreating. Inevitable global heating – due to greenhouse gases already released – is likely  
to reduce dry season rainfall in critical areas, turning fertile plains into dustbowls. It is hard to see  
how farming can feed us all even until 2050, let alone to the end of the century and beyond.

40 Food production is ripping the living world apart. Fishing and farming are, by a long way, the  
greatest cause of extinction and loss of the diversity and abundance of wildlife. Farming is a major  
cause of climate breakdown, the biggest cause of river pollution and a hefty source of air pollution.  
Across vast tracts of the world's surface, it has replaced complex wild ecosystems with simplified  
human food chains. Industrial fishing is driving ecological collapse in seas around the world. Eating  
45 is now a moral minefield, as almost everything we put in our mouths – from beef to avocados,  
cheese to chocolate, almonds to tortilla chips, salmon to peanut butter – has an insupportable  
environmental cost.

But just as hope appeared to be evaporating, the new technologies I call farmfree food create  
astonishing possibilities to save both people and planet. Farmfree food will allow us to hand back  
50 vast areas of land and sea to nature. It means an end to the exploitation of animals, an end to most  
deforestation, a massive reduction in the use of pesticides and fertiliser, the end of trawlers and  
their long fishing nets. It's our best hope of stopping what some have called the "sixth great  
extinction", but I prefer to call the great extermination. And, if it's done right, it means cheap and  
abundant food for everyone.

55 Research suggests that proteins from precision fermentation will be around 10 times cheaper  
than animal protein by 2035. The result, it says, will be the near-complete collapse of the livestock  
industry. The new food economy will "replace an extravagantly inefficient system that requires  
enormous quantities of inputs and produces huge amounts of waste with one that is precise,  
targeted, and tractable". Using tiny areas of land, with a massively reduced requirement for water  
60 and nutrients, it "presents the greatest opportunity for environmental restoration in human history".

Not only will food be cheaper, it will also be healthier. Because farmfree foods will be built up  
from simple ingredients, unhealthy components can be screened out. Meat will still be meat, though  
it will be grown in factories, rather than in the bodies of animals. Starch will still be starch, fats will  
still be fats. But food is likely to be better, cheaper and much less damaging to the living planet.

65 Farmfree production promises a far more stable and reliable food supply that can be grown  
anywhere, even in countries without farmland. It could be crucial to ending world hunger. But there  
is a hitch: a clash between consumer and producer interests. Many millions of people, working in  
farming and food processing, will eventually lose their jobs. Because the new processes are so  
efficient, the employment they create won't match the employment they destroy. For example,  
70 research suggests that because of farmfree 'food', dairy farming in the United States could be

bankrupt by 2030. The same research also shows that the American beef industry's revenues will fall by 90% by 2035.

75 While farmfree 'food' may be the future, we can't afford to wait passively for technology to save us. Over the next few years we could lose almost everything, as magnificent habitats such as the rainforests of Madagascar, West Papua and Brazil are felled to produce cattle, soya or palm oil. By temporarily shifting towards a plant-based diet with the lowest possible impacts (no avocados or out-of-season asparagus), we can help buy the necessary time to save magnificent species and places while these new technologies mature. But farmfree 'food' offers hope where hope was missing. We will soon be able to feed the world without devouring it.

*(Adapted from: www.theguardian.com)*

**Answer all the questions. With the exception of Questions 1, 2 and 8, use your own words at all times. Write accurately and with clarity.**

1. 'This flour is not yet licensed for sale' (line 7).  
Name the word class (part of speech) of each of the two underlined words. (2)
2. 'It sounds like a miracle but no great technological leaps were required' (line 1).
  - a. Identify the **subjects** in this sentence.
  - b. What type of conjunction is 'but'? (2)
3. How does the illustration by Matt Kenyon direct readers' attention to three of the ideas concerning food production mentioned in the text by George Monbiot? (3)
4. Which **ONE** of the following organisational patterns best describes the text?
  - a. Compare and Contrast
  - b. Descriptive Process
  - c. Situation-Problem-Solution
  - d. A sequence of events (1)
5. Monbiot introduces the description of a process in the first paragraph (lines 1-6) by using the expression: 'It sounds like a miracle'.
  - a. What does he mean by the expression: 'It sounds like a miracle'?
  - b. How does the writer use language to present it as a miracle? (3)
6. What are **FOUR** environmental advantages of farmfree 'food'? (2)
7. Why does Monbiot suggest that eating has now become a 'moral minefield' (lines 45-46)? (3)
8. With close reference to the text, briefly discuss the writer's voice, tone and style. (4)
9. Limiting your answer to the last four paragraphs (lines 56-82) of the text, summarise in a single paragraph of between 80 and 100 words Monbiot's concluding ideas. (10)

**(Total: 30 marks)**

### SECTION C: LITERARY AWARENESS

Choose only ONE question. The response must amount to a total of 500 words (+/- 10%).

#### EITHER

1. In an essay on 'How to Write a Short Story', Douglas Glover describes the short story as a narrative involving conflict. Discuss the idea of internal and external conflict with close reference to 'The Teddy Bear's Picnic' and 'The Drover's Wife'. (30)

#### OR

2. 'It may be because he's an only child,' she said to Ivan one evening when she came down from putting Daniel to bed.

'And likely to remain one,' said Ivan, 'in the circumstances.'

He kept his voice low. Charlotte had stayed late at work but she was home now, taking off her raincoat in the hall. Because Charlotte was there Nell made no reply to this cryptic remark of Ivan's. She tried to smile in a reproachful way but failed. Charlotte went upstairs to say good night to Daniel and in a little while Ivan went up too. Alone, Nell thought how handsome Ivan was and how there was something very masterful, not to say ruthless, about him. The idea of Ivan's ruthlessness made her feel quite excited. Charlotte was the sort of woman people call 'attractive', without meaning that they or any others in particular, were attracted by her. Nell guessed that she was quite a lot older than Ivan or perhaps she just looked older.

'I wish I'd met you four years ago,' Ivan said one afternoon when Charlotte was at work and he had taken the day off. He had been married nearly four years. Nell had seen the cards he and Charlotte got for their third wedding anniversary.

'I was only seventeen then,' she said. 'I was still at school.'

'What difference does that make?'

Daniel was pushing a miniature Land Rover along the windowsill and along the skirting board and up the side of the doorframe, saying, 'Brrm, brrm'. He got up on to a chair, fell off and started screaming. Nell picked him up and held him in her arms.

'You look so lovely,' said Ivan. 'You look like a Murillo Madonna.'

- a. Limiting your answer to the given passage, explain how Ruth Rendell uses language to present the developing relationship between Ivan and Nell. (13)
- b. With reference to the whole story, explain how Ruth Rendell explores the theme of history repeating itself. (17)

**(Total: 30 marks)**