

ENGLISH TESTPART ONE: READING (40 points)

Still strangers to the easy life after two decades of "national prosperity", millions of Japan's loyal corporate workers are pushing themselves or are being pushed by their companies to work too hard.

5 The Japanese have dangerously become addicted to overwork. Some die of it. The most dangerous case is that of a 26-year-old employee of an electronics firm who suffers from an extreme case of "techno-dependency".

He spends all his waking hours either working with computers in his office or tinkering with them in his gadget-crammed room in his parent's home. There's nothing else in this man's life. He works on Saturdays and Sundays, and is always at his desk on bank holidays.

10 An only child, he was pushed by his parents to work very hard at school from the age of about four. He attended cramming lessons after school hours, and extra tuition hours during the holidays. In his spare time he played with computers. He did well, entered one of the best Tokyo Universities and, on his graduation, joined a big firm.

15 The company was delighted to have such a hard working new employee, but after a couple of years he was still refusing to take holidays and to stop working overtime. Reluctant to delegate any work, he gradually withdrew into a world plundered of humanity in which his only companion was his technology. He has virtually no friends but he thinks he is having a relationship with his computer.

20 The patient believes there is no point talking to humans because they are irrational and emotional. He feels computers are better because they are always accurate. He communicates with his office colleagues through computerized messages and is under such a degree of stress that the computer has become a kind of tranquilizer.

25 In a country where almost every small boy can dash off a computer program, and spend his daily half-hour of spare time playing video toy computer games, the potential for techno-stress seems considerable. While the predicament of this particular patient is extreme, the circumstances that produced it are common to millions of young Japanese.

Many other patients fit a disturbing pattern. They do not drink, smoke, gamble, take any exercise or mix with their peers. Most live with their parents, but keep to themselves, inhabiting rooms filled, like airplane cockpits, with the winking red lights of computers.

The Times, April 3, 1992.



**A/ VOCABULARY CHECK:** The words in Column A are underlined in the text. Match them with their synonyms or definitions in Column B. Example: 4- overtime = a- beyond the usual time needed.

COLUMN A	COLUMN B
1- addicted to	a- beyond the usual time needed
2- tinkering	b- without any mistakes
3- delighted	c- model
4- overtime	d- invent quickly
5- reluctant	e- deprived, not having
6- withdrew	f- dependent on
7- plundered	g- difficult situation
8- accurate	h- happy, glad
9- dash off	i- not very willing to do something
10- predicament	j- making small changes
11- pattern	k- moved back

**B/ COMPREHENSION CHECK:** Answer these questions from your understanding of the text.

- 1- How are millions of Japanese workers endangering their lives?
- 2- What is "techno-dependency"?
- 3- What does "techno-dependency" consist in?
- 4- What kind of childhood did the young Japanese have?
- 5- Is the young Japanese himself responsible for his situation? Why? Or why not?
- 6- What provokes techno-stress?
- 7- What is the cause of the increase of the potential of techno-stress?
- 8- To what degree is computer important to the young Japanese?
- 9- What kind of relationship does the young Japanese have with his peers?
- 10- What are the common characteristics of people suffering from this kind of addiction?

## **PART TWO LANGUAGE IN USE ( 20 points)**

**A/ Choose the correct expression from the box to replace each word or phrase in brackets.**

Number 11 is an example : 11 – televise it

Intensify, Localized, verified, identified it, immunize, televise it, dramatize, notified publicize, mobilize, emphasize, modernize it, purify

Mr. BAMBA: This new epidemic. Have we (1- *found out what it is*)?

Ms KACOU: Yes. It's cholera, as I thought. I have just (2- *checked*) this with the hospital. They have (3- *informed*) all the necessary authorities.

Mr. BAMBA: How widespread is it?

Ms KACOU: Fortunately, it's (4- *restricted to a small area*).

Mr. BAMBA: Good. Then we can prevent it spreading if we (5- *get the active support of*) the media and use them to (6- *make known to the public*) the ways of avoiding the illness.

Ms KACOU: Yes. It will be more important to (7- *stress*) the need for hygiene and clean water than (8- *give immunity to*) people by vaccinating them. We must (9- *increase*) our public health education.

Mr. BAMBA: Why don't we (10- *make a drama of*) good and bad hygiene and ways of getting and using water? We could make a film and then (11- *show it on television*).

Ms KACOU: Good idea! Perhaps this will be the start of a new career for you in broadcasting.

B/ choose the correct answer in each case and write your answer like this: 1 -went.

1. Julien promised that when he.....to England, he would speak no French at all. (has been- went- goes- is going)

2. Isn't it annoying! They.....long ago. (should arrive-must arrive -could be arriving- should have arrived)

3. After a few minutes, the whole house was.....fire. (at-in-to-on)

4. She has felt much better since she.....operated on last year. (has been-was being-had-was)

5. I couldn't help.....when I heard the story. (laugh- having laughed-laughing)

6. Stop making that noise! Do you want me.....mad? (going- to go- go- that I go)

7. The decision doesn't depend.....me. (from-out- on -of)

8. He should.....his TV set repaired yesterday. (have- have made-make-have had)

9.....Some water on the table. (it should be - they ought to be-there must be- they can't be)

10. What.....for a living? I'm a taxi driver. (are you going to do- there you done- do you do- did you do)

11. She hopes.....on holiday shortly. (to go- going- about going - for going)

### PART THREE WRITTING (40 points)

Write a letter to Lee, the young Japanese to warn him about what he is doing, and change his opinion about it.