

UNIT 3

Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.

1. Students, you need to _____ so you are covering the whole field, and not all in the same place.
 - a. tend to
 - b. lower
 - c. spread out

2. There is a huge _____ of cafés in this part of the city, so we will find a nice one for lunch.
 - a. concentration
 - b. income
 - c. suburb

3. More and more people are moving to _____ areas because there are more facilities in cities and towns.
 - a. urban
 - b. canal
 - c. occasional

4. Dhaka in Bangladesh is a(n) _____ city, with more than 30,000 residents per square kilometer.
 - a. occasional
 - b. dense
 - c. partially

5. We are looking to move to the _____ because we have had enough of living in the busy city.
 - a. suburbs
 - b. aspect
 - c. residents

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Match the words to the definitions.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 6. temporarily ● | ● a. The road is _____ closed because a tree fell last night in the storm, but you can still access it from the south side. |
| 7. partially ● | ● b. There was a(n) _____ storm last night that took off the roofs of some houses. |
| 8. occasional ● | ● c. We have some _____ problems in the class, but generally every student is well behaved. |
| 9. fierce ● | ● d. Selina is _____ working for the company, covering for another member of staff who is on a long break. |
| 10. separated ● | ● e. The cities are _____ by a river. |

Complete the definitions with the correct phrases.

disposable income	income tax	source of income
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11. Where you get your money from, e.g., a salary, investments, etc., is called your _____.
12. The amount of money you have left after paying taxes is your _____.
13. The percentage the government takes from your income in the form of taxes is _____.

Match the words to complete the statements.

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 14. This is an example of a compound adjective with an adjective + participle. ● | ● a. slow moving |
| 15. This is an example of a compound adjective with number + noun. ● | ● b. low-income |
| 16. This is an example of a compound adjective with an adjective + noun. ● | ● c. 10-ton |

Read the passage.**A City Up Against the Wall**

The disastrous flood of November 12, 2019, started out as a gentle flow into Piazza San Marco around 6 a.m. on November 12, 2019. Two hours later, the rising waters fell to about a meter above normal sea level. Ninety percent of the city was still dry. The residents of Venice, Italy, began to relax. It seemed to be just another slightly unpleasant *acqua alta*, or high tide, in the lagoon, but that was just the beginning.

The calm conditions lasted until 4 p.m., just before night fell. Alarms began to go off. Within an hour the ancient squares and narrow walkways along the city's 40 km of canals had vanished under fierce waves of seawater. "This wasn't simply a tide," says Marco Malafonte, who co-owns a property management firm with his wife, Caroline Gucchierato. "It was a colossal wave, something we'd never seen before. A tsunami."

The couple went off in different directions, joining volunteer rescue teams. In the San Marco quarter, Venice's lowest-lying district, Gucchierato helped an elderly French tourist. She was standing up to her neck against a stone wall in the fast-moving flood. She had put her baby grandson on the wall, holding onto him until help arrived. *Vaporettos*, the famous Venetian water buses, "were thrown up onto walkways and bridges like children's toys," recalls Malafonte.

At 8 p.m., the water finally reached its peak at just under 2 meters, with 85 percent of the city underwater. It was the second highest flood tide ever recorded in Venice, just over 20 centimeters above the average height of its residents.

The occasional destructive *acqua alta* used to happen a few times each century before the year 2000. But as sea levels rise around the world, it has become the new normal. Over the last century, 25 *acque alte* in Venice have been 1.5 meters or higher. Of these, more than half have happened since December 2009.

This has convinced Venetian officials to spend billions on a series of moveable walls to block high waters from the city. Formally named the Experimental Electromechanical Model, or Moses in English, the system seems to be working. In effect, Moses temporarily separates Venice from the sea. It closes off the entire Venetian Lagoon from dangerous tides in the stormy Adriatic. The ambitious engineering experiment is a desperate attempt to prevent disaster for one of the world's most beautiful cities.

Work on Moses began back in 1987, and some of Europe's largest construction firms have helped with the project under the direction of the Italian government. The Italian Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport and its partners began making the system's parts in 2003, and on-site work began in 2008. By late 2020 the partially completed barriers were ready for live testing. The long-term goal is to protect Venice until at least the end of the century, when sea levels may have risen another 1.5 meters.

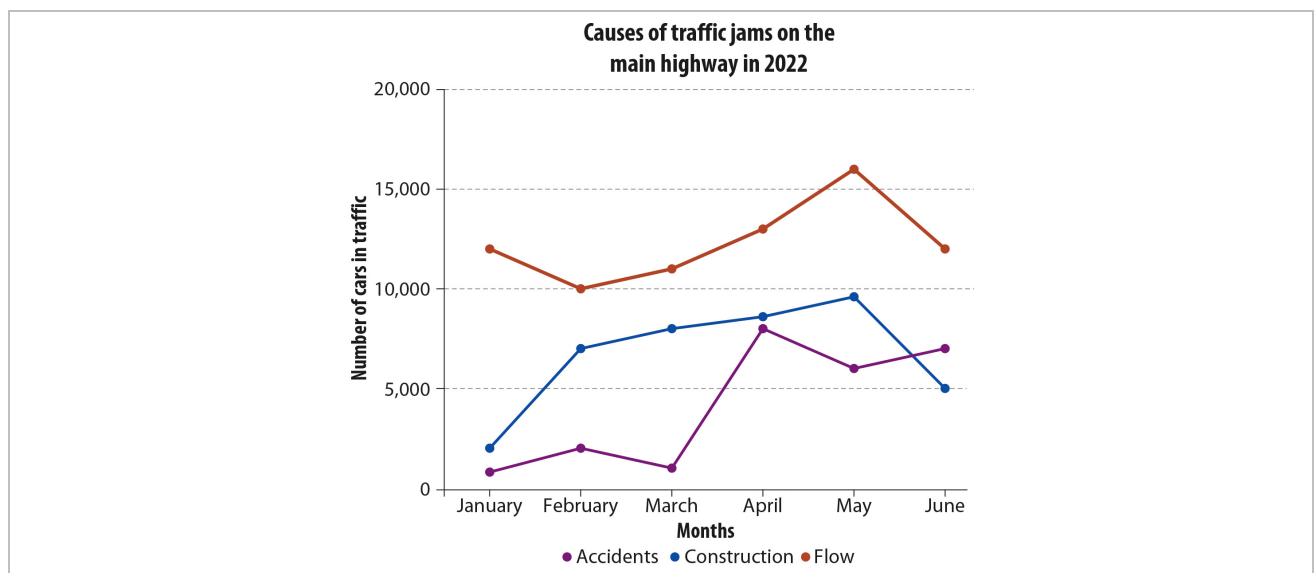
Of course, it is much more than a simple wall. It is more like a dam, made up of 78 hollow barriers that are filled with water and hidden on the sea floor when they are not needed. When a dangerously high tide is expected, water is pumped out of the barriers, which then float to the top. The control center sits on an island that separates the two largest barriers. A team of 100 workers is needed to monitor the control system, perform various tasks in underwater tunnels, and bring workers to and from the control center.

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Choose *True* or *False*.

17. The purpose of the passage is to discuss the issues in a specific city and explain what they are doing to try and stop the problem from happening.
 - a. True
 - b. False
18. The event in 2019 was the worst flood to have ever happened in Venice.
 - a. True
 - b. False
19. The passage says that these events are happening more frequently because of changes in sea levels.
 - a. True
 - b. False
20. The local government has introduced new measures to stop something similar from happening again.
 - a. True
 - b. False
21. The purpose of the final paragraph is to explain the method that other cities can use to prevent flooding.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Read the passage.



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How to make traffic flow smoothly is a problem that city planners around the world struggle with every day. Even when there is no construction or bad weather causing delays, major roads still become congested with vehicles. Some optimists, however, think new technology will finally make traffic move. Others disagree because of the failures from some recent ideas.

Perhaps the most ambitious project belonged to billionaire Elon Musk. Musk proposed a series of underground tunnels that would transport vehicles around Los Angeles and other cities at high speed. In Musk's plan, cars would be lowered onto moving sleds that would carry the vehicles through tunnels to their destinations. Computers would control all movement and transfer cars from one tunnel to another. Once a vehicle reached its destination, it would be raised to the surface and continue its trip in a normal manner on surface roads. Musk claimed that with such a system in place, a trip in crowded Los Angeles that takes 60 minutes could be completed in less than 10.

Musk's idea seemed to have great potential. However, critics were quick to point out problems with the plan, with the price tag being the first one. It was estimated that constructing just 1.6 kilometers of tunnel would require at least \$1 billion (USD). To create a whole system of underground tunnels would be an enormous financial burden for any city or government.

In the past, building more roads and highways did not solve traffic problems in the way city planners had hoped. Instead, as soon as more roads were constructed, more drivers appeared and filled up the extra space. Those skeptical about Musk's plan said the same thing would happen with the high-speed tunnels. Another issue would be so-called "choke-points." Most traffic jams today occur where too many people are trying to get on or off the road at a single narrow point. Like traditional highways, Musk's underground tubes would face the problem of traffic jams at the entrances and exits. Without some major innovations, the high-speed tunnels would have the same major problems.

Musk's system of high-speed tunnels appeared impractical, and in the end, it was. Musk built a one-mile tunnel under Los Angeles to demonstrate his vision, but this has now been removed. He is, however, still building under Las Vegas, in the hopes that his idea will become a success there.

There is also another modern traffic solution that may be possible in the near future. As any driver will admit, it is very frustrating that many traffic jams have no clear cause, or at least no cause that you can notice from your position in the jam. The graph shows the causes of traffic jams from 2022 on a main highway in one particular country, and how many cars were involved in traffic jam in each situation. The highest number is something called "flow." This is when cars simply slow down for a period of time before the road opens up again and traffic returns to a normal speed. Traffic experts have discovered that the main reason for this is that human drivers have difficulty maintaining their flow.

Because drivers can only see a short distance ahead, they tend to brake suddenly in response to changes in speed that occur a few cars in front of them. Now, though, advances in driverless cars may make the problems of maintaining traffic flow a thing of the past. Engineers are already experimenting with driverless cars that can communicate with other such cars on the road, even those far ahead of or behind the driver's own vehicle. With a large number of "smart" cars in constant contact with each other, it will be much easier to maintain a steady flow of traffic and greatly reduce the number of traffic jams. Furthermore, in a driverless-car

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future where computers are in control instead of easily distracted human drivers, it is expected that there would be far fewer crashes as well. This would eliminate another major cause of traffic jams.

Choose *True* or *False*.

22. Most people think technological developments will help reduce traffic on the roads.
 - a. True
 - b. False
23. Elon Musk wanted to make a tunnel underground, which cars could drive through.
 - a. True
 - b. False
24. One of the issues with the project was its potential costs to local governments.
 - a. True
 - b. False
25. Many traffic problems happen where there is not enough space for cars to enter or leave a road.
 - a. True
 - b. False
26. The final paragraph talks about how traffic and accidents could be reduced in the future.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Choose the correct answers.

27. The title of the graph tells me that it shows _____.
 - a. the months of the year with the least cars on the road.
 - b. the causes of traffic jams in different months of the year.
28. The key at the bottom shows _____.
 - a. the number of cars.
 - b. what each colored line represents.

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Choose the correct word(s) to complete each sentence.

29. Jon Sanders _____ around the world three times.
a. sailed
b. has sailed
30. Maria _____ up the company in 2003.
a. set
b. has set
31. Her income _____ when she moved to a new company.
a. increased
b. has increased
32. I _____ many calls from that number in the past, but I never answer it.
a. received
b. have received
33. Before teaching, he _____ in a hospital as a nurse.
a. worked
b. has worked
34. Communication _____ with the rapid development of technology.
a. improved
b. has improved

Read each sentence. Choose *True* or *False*.

35. The first paragraph of an essay contains the thesis statement and general information about the essay.
a. True
b. False
36. The introductory paragraph can also contain your opinion about the topic.
a. True
b. False

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37. You can include a *hook* in your introductory paragraph, which can be a surprising fact, an interesting question, or an imaginary situation related to the topic.
 - a. True
 - b. False
38. A thesis statement is used to explain the advantages and disadvantages of the topic.
 - a. True
 - b. False
39. In an introduction, you should always use the first-person perspective, i.e., using *I*.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Read the text. Decide whether the information is a *Thesis Statement* or a *Hook*.

40.

Imagine you have been waiting for the bus for 30 minutes in the rain, and then one arrives, but it is too full to get on. How would you feel? This is just one of the major issues with a lack of available buses in the city.

 - a. Thesis Statement
 - b. Hook
41.

Life has significantly improved in the city due to improved facilities, housing, and public transportation services.

 - a. Thesis Statement
 - b. Hook
42.

Many people can no longer afford to buy the same quality of food items because costs have risen from both the supplier, and the supermarkets.

 - a. Thesis Statement
 - b. Hook

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43. Each year, the temperature rises more and more, with it rising around two degrees Celsius in the last 200 years.

- a. Thesis Statement
- b. Hook

44. How much should people have to pay in order to receive the same service? Shouldn't it be available to everyone?

- a. Thesis Statement
- b. Hook

You are going to write a problem-solution essay on the following topic.

45. **Discuss your own experiences with one of these two topics.**

Topic 1: Describe a problem with young people using social media. Explain one thing that can be done to solve it.

Topic 2: Describe the problem with more and more people moving to cities. Explain something that can be done to help the issue.

A. OUTLINE Plan an outline for your problem-solution essay.

Include a strong thesis statement and hook.

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Add some details that include facts, examples, and personal experiences to support your main idea.

Add ideas for a concluding sentence that is a prediction or a question.

B. Think of some words and phrases you can use to talk about problems and solutions. Write them in the box.

The words and phrases below can be useful when writing about problems and solutions.

- *temporarily*
- *partially*
- *barrier*
- *tend to*
- *occasional*

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- C. Write your problem-solution essay based on your outline. Use the model to help you. Remember to use the vocabulary you wrote down.

Model:

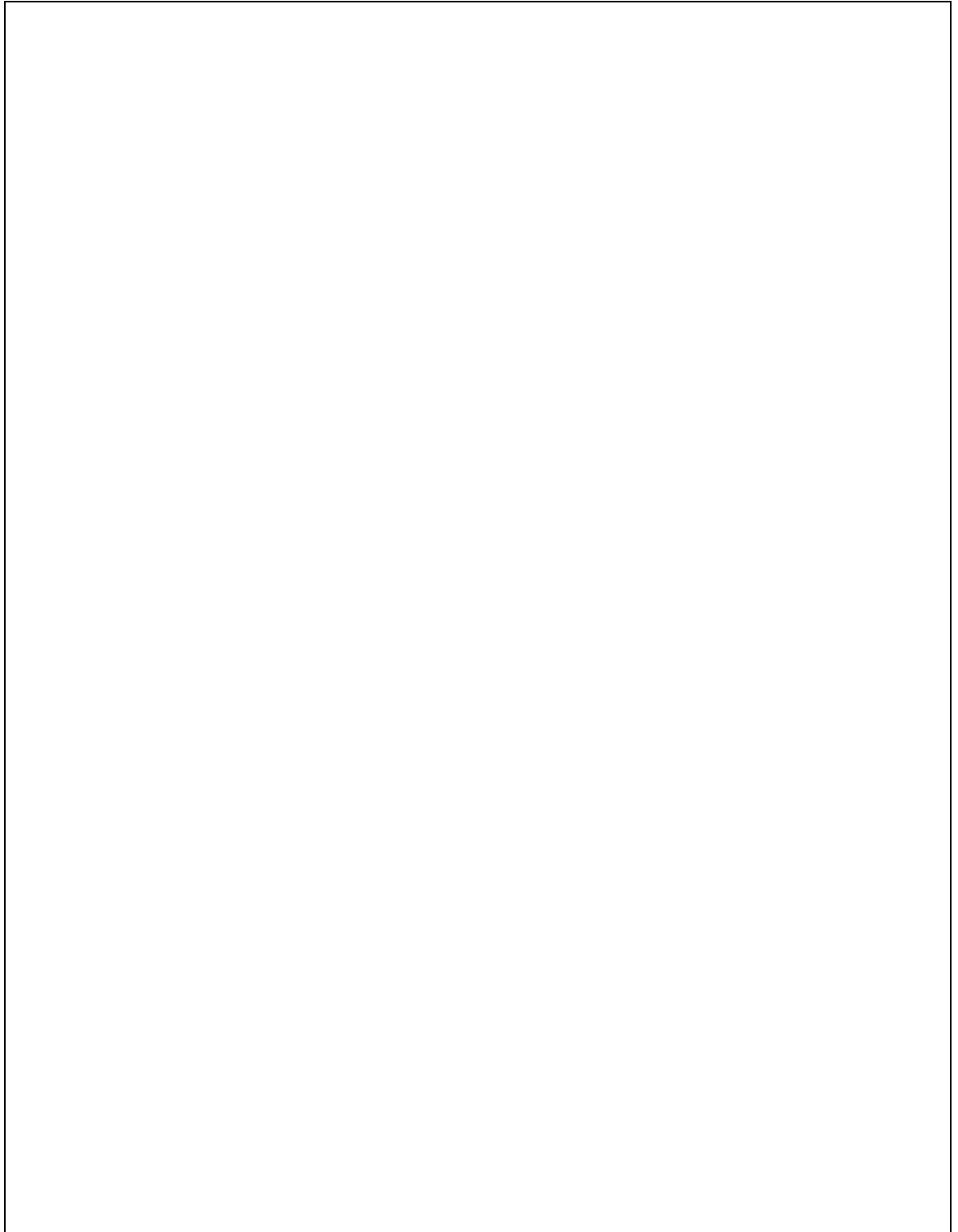
Nowadays, social media is used by almost everyone, everywhere, and particularly by young people. Imagine you are a young person looking on social media, and all you see are perfect beaches, luxury products, and beautiful people. How would you feel? We must solve this problem for young people before it gets worse, by improving the content they are suggested and making sure there are limits to the amount of time spent online.

In recent years, people have been comparing themselves and their lifestyles to those they see online more and more. This is because of social media, and the way in which suggestions are made to young people based on what they've viewed previously. It is the responsibility of social media companies to help recommend useful content and posts to young people who are easily influenced, such as information related to their hobbies and passions rather than posts from influencers or beauty brands.

Another issue is how much time young people are spending online, and on social media. The way in which social media works means that many people often don't realize they've been looking through someone's pictures or posts for an hour or even more, because more and more content will get recommended to them during that time. A solution for this would be to have an alarm or a signal on someone's phone which tells them when they've been on social media for 30 minutes at a time, for example. Although this may not be a perfect solution, it's the first step toward reducing screen time.

In conclusion, it is essential we find ways to help young people use social media for good and avoid making them feel bad about themselves or comparing their lives to others.

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(12 points)