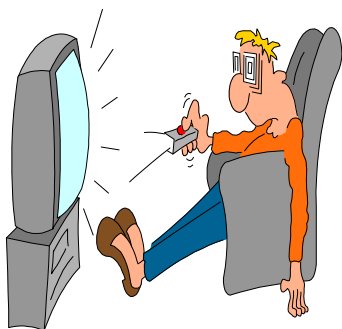


TEST 13

It's a warm summer's day in the school holidays but the Smiths' children are not out playing, they are in a darkened room, glued to the TV set, zapping aliens on their Nintendos or surfing the Internet.

As their friends ride their bikes, go swimming, play football and walk the dog, the only games the Smiths' children play are those on the computer, and their only pet is the mouse.



For thousands of children the computer and the TV now dominate their lives, turning them into electronic junkies

with virtual childhoods where real relationships are replaced by artificial ones.

Many children, too, begin their TV viewing early and finish late.

Programmes designed to entertain young viewers begin in the early morning.

So parents may still be in bed when their children are already up and channel hopping.



According to an American study for the U.S. National Institute of Education, ten hours TV watching a week is a healthy level and any more than that results in under performance at school and an unhealthy lifestyle.



A. Choose the best title for the text: (1 point)

1. The TV and the computer can be dangerous.
2. The Smiths' children ways of entertainment.
3. The benefits of the computer and the TV.

B. Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Justify. (2 points)

1. The Smiths' children spend most of their free time out.
2. Children spend more and more time in front of the TV.

C. Answer the following questions from the text: (3 points)

1. Where do the Smiths' children spend their free time?
2. How much time should students normally spend in front of the TV?
3. What are the disadvantages of watching TV a lot?

D. What do the following words refer to in the text? (2 points)

1. those (paragraph 2)
2. them (paragraph 3)

E. Find words in the text meaning the same as: (2 points)

1. not real (paragraph 3)
2. watching (paragraph 4)