

of reducing petroleum consumption to be unrealistic. What is more, projections by the U.S. Energy Information Administration anticipate further increases in petroleum use — not just in the United States, but worldwide, as developing countries aspire to a higher standard of living. However, some analysts, such as Kevin Knobloch, president of the Union of Concerned Scientists, believe that it is possible to enjoy modern standards of living without overreliance on oil. Since transportation accounts for 70 percent of U.S. petroleum use, the key is a decrease in the amount of petroleum needed to transport people and goods. Knobloch says that a major switch to fuel-efficient, hybrid, or alternative-fuel vehicles “would cut U.S. oil consumption by approximately 3.7 million barrels a day by 2020 and 7.3 million barrels a day by 2030.”

The fact that petroleum is used in many products that end up in food, including pesticides and preservatives, is itself an argument for change. Studies indicate that the petroleum-based chemicals in such products interfere with the body’s endocrine system. Since the endocrine system is responsible for regulating metabolism, growth, and tissue function, this can result in infertility, obesity, depression, and a host of other health problems. As more is learned about the effects of petroleum-based chemicals on human health, Harrison Price and others who find the idea of life without petroleum unthinkable may need to reconsider.

(11)

What can be said of environmentalists' warnings about U.S. dependence on petroleum?

- 1 They have resulted in a small but important shift in public policy over the last 40 years regarding the use of petroleum.
- 2 They have inspired some political leaders to put into effect new policies that have met with surprisingly little resistance.
- 3 They have played an important role in political campaigns over the past four decades but have not been practically addressed.
- 4 They have often been ignored by politicians due to insufficient evidence of widespread environmental harm related to petroleum use.

(12)

What is one point Harrison Price makes in his blog?

- 1 Current laws restricting oil drilling in the United States are influencing attitudes toward oil drilling worldwide.
- 2 Petroleum use could be significantly reduced if people eliminated just some of the unnecessary products in their lives.
- 3 People would buy products that conserve energy and decrease the need for petroleum if such products were widely available.
- 4 Americans should not be expected to give up using petroleum as it allows them to maintain their current lifestyles.

(13)

Analyst Kevin Knobloch argues that

- 1 U.S. dependence on oil can be reduced if there is a large-scale change in the way transportation is powered.
- 2 domestic oil production in the United States needs to increase significantly to meet the demand vehicle owners have for fuel.
- 3 hybrid vehicles are a realistic alternative in the United States, but they have little potential in developing countries.
- 4 attempts to reduce the dependence of developing countries on petroleum will hurt their economic growth.

(14)

According to the author of the passage, what is one consequence of the use of petroleum-based chemicals in products?

- 1 People's acceptance of such chemicals in food preservatives has led to a variety of other unhealthy substances being used in food production.
- 2 The standard of living in wealthy countries has continued to improve because such chemicals are being used in a larger range of products.
- 3 Doctors are finding it increasingly difficult to treat the range of health problems that occur when the body absorbs such chemicals.
- 4 Being exposed to such chemicals has a negative effect on the body's ability to control important physical processes.

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## Listening Test

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<b>Part 1</b> <Dialogues>	1 question each	Multiple-choice
<b>Part 2</b> <Passage>	2 questions	Multiple-choice
<b>Part 3</b> <Real-Life>	1 question	Multiple-choice

### Part 1

CD 16

No. 1

- 1 Study at home more often.
- 2 Get help from a tutor.
- 3 Join the conversation lounge.
- 4 Retake his French tests.

CD 17

No. 2

- 1 Take the books to the bookstore.
- 2 Put the books in the basement.
- 3 Find out how to sell the books online.
- 4 Pack the books in the box.

CD 18

No. 3

- 1 Reschedule the meeting with the boss.
- 2 Arrange another flight for Danielle.
- 3 Send the project information to the boss.
- 4 Give Danielle's presentation for her.