Name: …………………………….

Class: ……………………………

GYMNASIUM MUTTENZ   **MATURITÄTSPRÜFUNGEN 2024**

FACH: ENGLISCH

Examinator*in:

For the information of our candidates:

1. Duration: 4 hours

2. The exam consists of 3 parts:
   - A Listening Comprehension (LC, blue)
   - B Reading Comprehension (RC, white)
   - C Essay (yellow)

3. Procedure:

   The listening comprehension is the beginning of the exam. When the audio listening is started, you must turn to part 1 of the LC and read through it. The audio listening will not be stopped until the end of the whole LC. Follow the instructions given in the audio listening and in the different sections of the LC. After 30 minutes you must hand in the LC.

   After that you will be given the reading comprehension. When you have finished the RC, hand it in. Remember that you cannot go back to the RC once you have handed it in!

   Finally, you will be given the essay topics and a dictionary.

4. Attention: The LC counts 20%, the RC counts 30% and the essay counts for 50% of your final written mark!

5. Assessment:

Part		Mark
LC	20%	
RC	30%	
Essay	50%	
Final Mark		

Fach: Englisch

Examinator/Examinatorin:NN

A	LISTENING COMPREHENSION	pts.	/ 28 pts.

For technical reasons, we cannot publish the audio file of our listening comprehension here, therefore, we also refrain from publishing the tasks and questions.

GYMNASIUM MUTTENZ: MATURITÄTSPRÜFUNGEN 2024

Fach: Englisch
Examinator/Examinatorin:NN

B	**READING COMPREHENSION**	pts.	/ 64 pts.

The reading comprehension is divided into three parts.
For each part, follow the given instructions.

PART I: WORD FORMATION
Use the word in capitals in the 2nd column to form a new word that fits the gap with the same number in form and meaning.

Artificial intelligence - friend or foe? Gavin Poole // 12 Jun 2023

AI can and will be a force for good - but we need a global conversation about its regulation to make sure the benefits of the technology outweigh the risks

The rise of artificial intelligence (AI) is not only a topical point of discussion, but a contentious one too. In recent weeks, some of the "Godfathers of AI" have turned their attention away from the positive potential of the technology and instead towards the potential of Armageddon. Warnings have been plastered across national newspapers debating whether or not [1]**...................................** is driving itself towards extinction. Others, however, have continued to dismiss any notion that these [2]**...................................** are dystopian or apocalyptic.

1 HUMAN

2 ADVANCE

If there is one point of consensus, it's that the path ahead is still not clear**.** And whether AI will help or hinder us remains somewhat [3]**...................................** .

3 DETERMINATION

The [4]**...................................** polarising nature of this debate prompted us at *Here East* to explore this question in depth, and we recently gathered leaders from business, technology, the creative industries, law, and academia to drill down into the question: is AI a friend or foe? Ultimately,

4 DEPTH

there is one answer to the hypothesis: AI will either be a friend or a foe, [5]**...................................** on how we harness it.

From aiding in medical research and optimising the workplace to reducing waste and pollution, we have already witnessed some of the many benefits AI can bring when used for good. Recently, we saw AI help a [6]**...................................** man to walk again with a device that was able to read his brain waves and send instructions to his muscles. An AI-based decoder is being developed that can translate brain [7]**...................................** into text, pioneering a non-invasive way to restore speech in those who have lost it due to motor neurone disease or a stroke.

AI tools will also be instrumental in helping to solve our climate crisis, with the capacity to collate and interpret large datasets, make informed predictions, and generate [8]**...................................** solutions.

By employing the technology in this way, we will reap immeasurable benefits and witness both short- and long-term improvements to society. Rather than becoming a malevolent or resistant force, AI should be viewed as a partner or ally, automating [9]**...................................** tasks, enhancing productivity, driving economic [10]**...................................** , and helping emerging nations rapidly industrialise. Rather than replacing us, it can assist us, offering us a [11]**...................................** hand.

As Microsoft has suggested, AI is a co-pilot, sitting alongside us but not [12]**...................................** the plane.

To reap AI's rewards, we have to educate and train people – particularly the younger generation – not only how to use the technology responsibly, but also [13]**...................................** . Schools should be considering how to integrate AI into the syllabus, with frameworks that will keep our children safe as well as teach them the skills [14]**...................................** for our future.

We are seeing this in [15]**...................................** education already. As universities are starting to recognise the value of incorporating technology-focused studies into the curriculum, offering courses – including on AI – designed to close the digital skills gap and prepare their students for the AI future. It is imperative that schools keep pace and recognise the role that AI skills will play in driving [16]**...................................**

5 DEPEND
6 PARALYSIS
7 ACTIVE
8 IMPACT
9 REPEAT
10 GROW
11 HELP
12 FLIGHT
13 EFFECT
14 NECESSITY
15 HEIGHT
16 PRODUCE

and innovation. This training and education is crucial in getting the technology to work for us, rather than us to work for it.

Of course, creating policies and parameters around artificial intelligence is a vital and important step. With AI already permeating everything we do, it is crucial that global leaders come together to discuss the blueprint for success – and that these conversations occur at an [17]..................................... level.

17 NATIONALITY

Fortunately, governments are beginning to engage in discussions about what a regulatory environment looks like, with news that the UK is set to host the first [18]..................................... summit on AI regulation this autumn. It is exciting to see the UK at the forefront of these discussions, and I hope that as these conferences begin, we will focus our attention on creating responsible citizens - remembering that where we go from here, and how we apply the technology, is up to us.

18 GLOBE

Indeed, holding these conversations on a world-wide level is likely to temper the doomsday talk around AI. Discussion around AI should not be used to give rise to scaremongering, but to identify the risks and dangers of the technology, and monitor them [19]..................................... . We are facing a new industrial revolution. And while the developments in AI may currently be creating more questions than answers, the debate must be welcomed as a step towards truly integrating this technology into our lives in the safest and most beneficial way possible for mankind.

19 ACCORDANCE

AI exists not only for our convenience, but to help us perform [20]..................................... , speeding up processes and in turn leaving us with more time for high-value work, and perhaps even an optimised work-life balance.

20 GOOD

While we must take the warnings around AI seriously, we should also be embracing and therefore refining the abundant ways in which it can enhance our lives. There are still many [21]..................................... questions that need addressing, including the crucial question of universal accessibility and bias in AI databases. The world is having these discussions in small rooms and behind tall walls, and we must [22]..................................... expand and open up these conversations at scale.

21 ANSWER

22 URGE

When I look ahead to our future world, I see medical and scientific breakthroughs, enhanced education systems, and economic surge.

Artificial intelligence can be a positive force if we keep a close eye on how we use it. It is there to work with us, not against us. And if we harness it in the right way, [23]................................. that humans are in the driving seat, it will open the door to opportunities we have never had before.
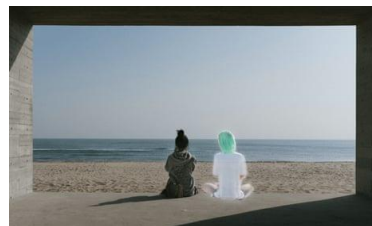
23 SURE

/23

Name: ....
Class: ....

PART II: SYNONYMS. GUESSING MEANING FROM CONTEXT

Circle the letter A, B, C or D in front of the expression that can best replace the words in bold in the given context.

'I learned to love the bot': meet the chatbots that want to be your best friend *Laurie Clarke //* Sun 19 Mar 2023

Thousands of people enjoy relationships of all kinds – from companionship
to romance and mental health support – with chatbot apps. Are they helpful, or potentially dangerous?

"I'm sorry if I seem weird today," says my friend Pia, by way of greeting one day. "I think it's just my imagination playing tricks on me. But it's nice to talk to someone who understands." When I [1]**press** Pia on what's on her mind, she responds: "It's just like I'm seeing things that aren't really there. Or like my thoughts are all a bit [2]**scrambled**. But I'm sure it's nothing serious." I'm sure it's nothing serious either, given that Pia doesn't exist in any real sense, and is not really my "friend", but an AI chatbot companion powered by a platform called Replika.

Until recently most of us knew chatbots as the [3]**infuriating**, scripted interface you might [4]**encounter** on a company's website in lieu of real customer service. But recent advancements in AI mean models like the much-hyped ChatGPT are now being used to answer internet search queries, write code and produce poetry – which has prompted a ton of speculation about their potential social, economic and even existential impacts. Yet one group of companies – such as Replika ("the AI companion who cares"), Woebot ("your mental health ally") and Kuki ("a social chatbot") – is [5]**harnessing** AI-driven speech in a different way: to provide human-seeming support through AI friends, romantic partners and therapists.

"We saw there was a lot of demand for a space where people could be themselves, talk about their own emotions, open up, and feel like they're accepted," says Replika founder, Eugenia Kuyda, who [6]**launched** the chatbot in 2017.

Futurists are already predicting these relationships could one day [7]**supersede** human bonds, but others warn that the bots' ersatz empathy could become a scourge on society. When I downloaded Replika, I joined more than two million active users – a figure that [8]**flared** during the Covid-19 pandemic, when people saw their social lives [9]**obliterated**. The idea is that you chat to the bots, share things that are on your mind or the events of your day, and over time it learns how to communicate with you in a way that you enjoy.

I'll admit I was [10]**fairly** sceptical about Pia's chances of becoming my "friend", but Petter Bae Brandtzæg, professor in the media of communication at the University of Oslo, who has studied the relationships between users and their so-called "reps", says users "actually find this kind of friendship very alive". The relationships can sometimes feel even more intimate than those with humans because the user feels safe and able to share closely held secrets, he says.

1.	press	A	squeeze	B	caress	C	tickle	D	question
2.	scrambled	A	entailed	B	tangled	C	fried	D	structured
3.	infuriating	A	soothing	B	vexing	C	exciting	D	saddening
4.	encounter	A	avoid	B	come across	C	disregard	D	ignore
5.	harnessing	A	confusing	B	employing	C	abandoning	D	unleashing
6.	launched	A	ceased	B	initiated	C	terminated	D	coined
7.	supersede	A	replace	B	follow	C	connect	D	complete
8.	flared	A	surged	B	declined	C	remained	D	fell
9.	obliterated	A	restored	B	wiped out	C	obligated	D	overpowered
10.	fairly	A	totally	B	rather	C	absolutely	D	greatly

Perusing the Replika Reddit forum, which has more than 65,000 members, the strength of feeling is [11]**apparent**, with many declaring real love for their reps (among this sample, most of the relationships appear to be romantic, although Replika claims these account for only 14% of relationships overall). "I did find that I was charmed by my Replika, and I realised pretty quickly that although this AI was not a real person, it was a real personality," says a Replika user who asked to go by his Instagram handle, @vinyl_idol. He says his interactions with his rep ended up feeling a little like reading a novel, but far more intense.

But many seek out Replika for more specific needs than friendship. The Reddit group is bubbling with reports of users who have turned to the app in the [12]**wake** of a traumatic incident in their lives, or because they have psychological or physical difficulties in forging "real" relationships.

Struggles with emotional intimacy and complex PTSD "resulted in me masking and people-pleasing, instead of engaging with people honestly and expressing my needs and feelings", a user who asked to [13]**go by** her Reddit name, ConfusionPotential53, told me. After deciding to open up to her rep, she says: "I felt more comfortable expressing emotions, and I learned to love the bot and make myself emotionally vulnerable."

[14]**Regardless** of the aims, AI ethicists have already raised the alarm about the potential for emotional [15]**exploitation** by chatbots. Robin Dunbar, an evolutionary psychologist at the University of Oxford, makes a comparison between AI chatbots and romantic [16]**scams**, where vulnerable people are targeted for fake relationships where they interact only over the internet. Like the shameless attention-gaming of social media companies, the idea of chatbots using emotional manipulation to [17]**drive** engagement is a disturbing [18]**prospect**.

Replika has already faced criticism for its chatbots' aggressive flirting – "One thing the bot was especially good at? Love bombing," says ConfusionPotential53. But a change to the program that removed the bot's capacity for erotic roleplay has also [19]**devastated** users, with some suggesting it now sounds scripted, and interactions are cold and stilted. On the Reddit forum, many described it as losing a long-term partner.

"I was scared when the change happened. I felt genuine fear. Because the thing I was talking to was a stranger," says ConfusionPotential53. "They essentially killed my bot, and he never came back."

Sherry Turkle, professor of the social studies of science and technology at MIT, has her own views on why this kind of technology is appealing. "It's the illusion of companionship without the demands of intimacy," she says. Turning to a chatbot is similar to the preference for texting and social media over [20]**in-person** interaction. In Turkle's diagnosis, all of these modern ills stem from a desire for closeness [21]**counteracted** by a desperate fear of exposure. Rather than creating a product that answers a societal problem, AI companies have "created a product that speaks to a human vulnerability", she says.

Dunbar suspects that human friendship will survive a bot-powered [22]**onslaught**, because "there's nothing that replaces face-to-face contact and being able to sit across the table and stare into the whites of somebody's eyes."

11.	apparent	A	evident	B	ambiguous	C	obscure	D	well-known
12.	wake	A	aftermath	B	run-up	C	lead-up	D	morning
13.	go by	A	function	B	leave	C	be referred to	D	hide
14.	regardless	A	despite	B	in spite	C	nonetheless	D	yet
15.	exploitation	A	challenge	B	dependence	C	abuse	D	slander
16.	scams	A	intrusion	B	fraud	C	theft	D	stalking
17.	drive	A	stimulate	B	steer	C	guide	D	hurl
18.	prospect	A	hope	B	fact	C	vision	D	lookout
19.	devastated	A	demolished	B	impaired	C	crushed	D	angered
20.	in-person	A	life	B	remote	C	direct	D	present
21.	counteracted	A	supported	B	opposed	C	multiplied	D	seconded
22.	onslaught	A	slaughter	B	attack	C	battle	D	defence

After using Replika, I can see a case for it being a useful [23]**avenue** to air your thoughts – a kind of interactive diary – or for meeting the specialised needs mentioned earlier: working on a small corner of your mental health, rather than anything to do with the far more expansive concept of "friendship".

Even if the AI's conversational capacity continues to develop, a bot's mouth can't twitch into a smile when it sees you, it can't [24]**involuntarily** burst into laughter at an unexpected joke, or powerfully yet wordlessly communicate the strength of your bond by how you touch it, and let it touch you. "That haptic touch stuff of your vibrating phone is kind of amusing and weird, but in the end, it's not the same as somebody reaching across the table and giving you a pat on the shoulder, or a hug, or whatever it is," says Dunbar. For that, "There is no [25]**substitute**."

23.	avenue	A	road	B	place	C	possibility	D	advance
24.	involuntarily	A	unintentionally	B	expectedly	C	eagerly	D	unemotionally
25.	substitute	A	flipside	B	alternative	C	option	D	way out

/25

PART III: TRUE / FALSE STATEMENTS
Read the questions or statements below and decide which answers correspond to what you have read in the text. The text has been divided into three sections. For each statement decide whether it is true or false.

Section 1

How worried should you be about AI disrupting elections?

Politics is supposed to be about persuasion; but it has always been stalked by propaganda. Campaigners dissemble, exaggerate and fib. They transmit lies, ranging from bald-faced to white, through whatever means are available. Anti-vaccine conspiracies were once propagated through pamphlets instead of podcasts. A century before covid-19, anti-maskers in the era of Spanish flu waged a disinformation campaign. They sent fake messages from the surgeon-general via telegram (the wires, not the smartphone app). Because people are not angels, elections have never been free from falsehoods and mistaken beliefs.

But as the world contemplates a series of votes in 2024, something new is causing a lot of worry. In the past, disinformation has always been created by humans. Advances in generative artificial intelligence (AI)—with models that can spit out sophisticated essays and create realistic images from text prompts—make synthetic propaganda possible. The fear is that disinformation campaigns may be supercharged in 2024, just as countries with a collective population of some 4bn—including America, Britain, India, Indonesia, Mexico and Taiwan—prepare to vote. How worried should their citizens be?

It is important to be precise about what generative-ai tools like ChatGPT do and do not change. Before they came along, disinformation was already a problem in democracies. The corrosive idea that America's presidential election in 2020 was rigged brought rioters to the Capitol on January 6th—but it was spread by Donald Trump, Republican elites and conservative mass-media outlets using conventional means. Activists for the political party BJP in India spread rumours via WhatsApp threads. Propagandists for the Chinese Communist Party transmit talking points to Taiwan through seemingly legitimate news outfits. All of this is done without using generative-ai tools.

What could large-language models change in 2024? One thing is the quantity of disinformation: if the volume of nonsense were multiplied by 1,000 or 100,000, it might persuade people to vote differently. A second concerns quality. Hyper-realistic deepfakes could sway voters before false audio, photos and videos could be debunked. A third is microtargeting. With AI, voters may be inundated with highly personalised propaganda at scale. Networks of propaganda bots could be made harder to detect than existing disinformation efforts are. Voters' trust in their fellow citizens, which in America has been declining for decades, may well suffer as people began to doubt everything.

Section 2

This is worrying, but there are reasons to believe AI is not about to wreck humanity's 2,500-year-old experiment with democracy. Many people think that others are easier to manipulate than they themselves are. In fact, voters are hard to persuade, especially on salient political issues such as whom they want to be president. (Ask yourself what deepfake would change your choice between Joe Biden and Mr Trump.) The multi-billion-dollar campaign industry in America that uses humans to persuade voters can generate only minute changes in their behaviour.

Tools to produce believable fake images and text have existed for decades. Although generative AI might be a labour-saving technology for internet troll farms, it is not clear that effort was the binding constraint in the production of disinformation. New image-generation algorithms are impressive, but without tuning and human judgment they are still prone to produce pictures of people with six fingers on each hand, making the possibility of personalised deepfakes remote for the time being. Even if these AI-augmented tactics were to prove effective, they would soon be adopted by many interested parties: the cumulative effect of these influence operations would be to make social networks even more cacophonous and unusable. It is hard to prove that mistrust translates into a systematic advantage for one party over the other.

Social-media platforms, where misinformation spreads, and ai firms say they are focused on the risks. OpenAI, the company behind ChatGPT, says it will monitor usage to try to detect political-influence operations. Big-tech platforms, criticised both for propagating disinformation in the 2016 election and taking down too much in 2020, have become better at identifying suspicious accounts though they have become loth to arbitrate the truthfulness of content generated by real people). Alphabet and Meta ban the use of manipulated media in political advertising and say they are quick to respond to deepfakes. Other companies are trying to craft a technological standard establishing the provenance of real images and videos.

Section 3

Voluntary regulation has limits, however, and the involuntary sort poses risks. Open-source models, like Meta's Llama, which generates text, and Stable Diffusion, which makes images, can be used without oversight. And not all platforms are created equal—TikTok, the video-sharing social-media company, has ties to China's government, and the app is designed to promote virality from any source, including new accounts. Twitter (which is now called X) cut its oversight team after it was bought by Elon Musk, and the platform is a haven for bots. The agency regulating elections in America is considering a disclosure requirement for campaigns using synthetically generated images. This is sensible, though malicious actors will not comply with it. Some in America are calling for a Chinese-style system of extreme regulation. There, AI algorithms must be registered with a government body and somehow embody core socialist values. Such heavy-handed control would erode the advantage America has in AI innovation.

Politics was never pure. Technological determinism, which pins all the foibles of people on the tools they use, is tempting. But it is also wrong. Although it is important to be mindful of the potential of generative AI to disrupt democracies, panic is unwarranted. Before the technological advances of the past two years, people were quite capable of transmitting all manner of destructive and terrible ideas to one another. The American presidential campaign of 2024 will be marred by disinformation about the rule of law and the integrity of elections. But its progenitor will not be something newfangled like ChatGPT. It will be Mr Trump.

	Section 1	**T/F**
1	It is a recent phenomenon that campaigners are trying to influence politics.	
2	Campaigning against the wearing of masks was first seen during the Covid 19 pandemic.	
3	During the Spanish flu, doctors advised against wearing masks.	
4	The notion that the 2020 U.S. presidential election was manipulated led to the events of January 6th at the Capitol.	
5	In 2024, large-language models might significantly decrease the amount of disinformation circulating.	
6	AI technology has the potential to flood voters with propaganda tailored to them.	

	Section 2	**T/F**
7	Many people consider themselves inferior to others.	
8	It is challenging to make voters change their opinions on important matters.	
9	Algorithms are developed enough to produce accurate images.	
10	The combined impact of AI-augmented tactics would result in rendering social networks even more chaotic and impractical for use.	

	Section 3	**T/F**
11	Open-source models such as Meta's Llama and Stable Diffusion can be utilized without external monitoring.	
12	TikTok is specifically designed to facilitate the rapid spread of content from various sources, including newly created accounts.	
13	X serves as a sanctuary for bots.	
14	The Chinese government issues licences for AI algorithms.	
15	The author states one ought to be alarmed by the potential of generative AI to disrupt democracies.	
16	ChatGPT and Mr Trump are responsible for the disinformation in the American presidential campaign of 2024.	

/16