

الاسم:
الرقم:

مسابقة في مادة اللغة الإنكليزية
المدّة: ساعتان

Part One: Reading Comprehension

(Score: 12/20)

In the following selection, the writer sheds light on the debate over whether artificial intelligence can be used to make art. Read it carefully, and then answer the questions that follow.

Artificial Intelligence Winning an Art Contest

1 Last year, the 2022 Colorado State Fair’s annual art competition gave out prizes in all the usual categories of art. However, one competitor, Jason Allen, did not make his entry with a brush or a piece of clay. He fashioned **it** with Artificial Intelligence (AI), using a program that turns lines of text into hyper-realistic graphics. Although Allen was almost too nervous to enter his first art competition, his award-winning image is now a sparking controversy about whether art can be generated by a computer and what exactly it means to be an artist.

2 Allen, a game designer who lives in Pueblo West, Colorado, won first place in the emerging artist division’s “digital arts/digitally-manipulated photography” category. His winning and innovative image was made with Midjourney, an AI system that can produce detailed images when provided with written prompts, and a \$300 prize accompanied his win. “I am fascinated by this imagery. I love it, and I think everyone should see it. I won, and I did not break any rules,” he said in one of his interviews.

3 Allen’s winning image, titled “Space Opera Theater”, is one of his three images that entered in the competition. In total, 11 people entered 18 pieces of art in the same category in the emerging artist division. The definition for the category in which Allen competed states that digital art refers to works that use digital technology as part of the innovative or presentation process. Allen explained that Midjourney was used to develop his image when he entered the contest.

4 Midjourney is one of a growing number of such AI image generators — others include Google Research’s Imagen and OpenAI’s DALL-E 2. The main advantage of Midjourney is that anyone can use it via its Discord, an instant messaging social platform that enables users to communicate in private chats or as a part of communities. On the other hand, Imagen has not been opened up to users outside Google, and DALL-E 2 requires an invitation. The novelty of these tools, how they are used to produce images, and the gatekeeping for access to some of the most powerful ones have led to debates about whether they can truly make art or assist humans in making art.

5 This came into sharp focus when Allen posted excitedly about his win on Midjourney’s platform, along with pictures of his three entries. It went viral on Twitter days later, with many artists angered by Allen’s win because he used AI system. Although Allen did not use a paintbrush to craft his piece, there was plenty of work involved. “**It** is not like you are just smashing words together and winning competitions,” he clarified. Actually, anyone can write a phrase like “an oil painting of an angry strawberry” to Midjourney and receive several images from the system within seconds, but Allen’s process was not that simple. To get the final three images he entered in the competition, the process took more than 80 hours, as he said.

6 First, he played around with phrasing that led Midjourney to generate images of women in Victorian-style with space themes. Over time and with many slight modifications to his written prompt, he made 900 repetitions of what led to his final three images. He cleaned up those three images in Photoshop, such as by giving one of the female figures in his winning image a head with wavy, dark hair after Midjourney had rendered her headless. After that, he ran the images through another software program called Gigapixel AI that can improve resolution and had the images printed on canvas at a local print shop.

7 Allen is glad that the debate over the use of AI in making art is capturing so much attention. “Rather than criticizing the technology or the people behind it, we need to recognize that it is a powerful tool and we can use it for good so that we can all move forward rather than arguing about it,” he commented.

8 Cal Duran, an artist and art teacher who was one of the judges for the competition, said that while Allen’s piece included a mention of Midjourney, he did not realize that it was generated by AI when judging it. Still, he sticks by his decision to award it first place in its category, calling it a “beautiful

piece”. “I think there is a lot involved in this piece, and I think the AI technology may give more opportunities to people who may not find themselves artists in the conventional way,” he said.

9 Allen has not yet said what the text prompt was behind his winning image. He is planning to keep it a secret until he publishes a larger related work that he hopes will be finished in the coming years.

Questions

A. Answer each of the following questions in 1-4 sentences in your own words.

1. Based on Paragraph 2, in what sense is Allen’s award-winning image innovative? (01)
2. Based on Paragraph 4, what does the comparison and contrast among the AI image generators show? (01)
3. In reference to Paragraphs 5 and 6, explain how Allen’s opinion and work justify his winning in the competition. (01)
4. In reference to Paragraph 8, deduce whether the use of AI technology is promising or not. (01)

B. Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What background information does the introduction provide? (01)
2. What adjective best describes the writer’s tone in Paragraph 9? Justify your answer. (01)
3. Identify two types of evidence used by the writer to achieve credibility. Provide examples. (1.5)
4. Identify two types of audience, other than the general reader, that might be interested in reading the selection. Then state what interest each type finds in it. (1.5)

C. Refer to Paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 to find words that almost have the following meanings. (02)

1. *the quality of being new and unusual*
2. *the activity of trying to control who gets particular resources, power, or opportunities, and who does not*
3. *spreading very quickly through communication from one person to another*
4. *to cause someone or something to be in a particular state*

D. What does each of the following pronouns, bold-typed in the selection, refer to? (01)

1. **it** (Paragraph 1)
2. **It** (Paragraph 5)

Part Two: Writing (Choose ONE of the following prompts.)

(Score: 08/20)

Prompt A: “Technology has brought new art forms to life. Digital art experiences are more popular than ever, and many contemporary artists are finding new and inventive ways to combine technology into their artworks.” **In a well-organized cause-effect essay of 250-300 words, discuss the causes and effects behind the use of technology in any field(s) (art, business, education, medicine, etc.) for developing designs/products/skills.**

Prompt B: “Are we seriously impacting our ability to be creative by completely embracing technology as a part of our everyday lives? With so much being replaced by technology, it seems appropriate to question: how exactly is technology impacting people’s creativity?” **Write a well-organized persuasive essay of 250-300 words in which you convince people who totally depend on technology, and thus suppress/limit their innovative skills, to start using technology as a means that develops their creativity.**

Content and organization of ideas (3.5), language and style (3.5), tidiness and legible handwriting (01)

Artificial Intelligence Winning an Art Contest

Q	Answer Key	Score
I-A-1	Allen's award-winning image is innovative in the sense that it was produced by an AI/technological system, and not in a traditional way (or not with a brush). (deduct 0.25 for language errors)	01
I-A-2	First, the comparison shows that they are all novel tools used in the field of art production. Second, the contrast shows that their use is not always accessible because some generators have restrictions, such as Google Research's Imagen and OpenAI's DALL-E 2. (0.5 for each; deduct 0.25 for language errors)	01
I-A-3	First, Allen's opinion shows that the use of AI system for producing images requires a long process of work. Second, his work included many steps (generating images, making 900 repetitions, cleaning up the images, and using a special software program for completing the images), which shows to what extent the process was demanding and needed special skills. (0.5 for each; deduct 0.25 for language errors)	01
I-A-4	First, Allen's image was not even recognized as the result of AI technology by one of the judges. Second, the opinion of the judge shows that AI technology gives artists the chance to go beyond the traditional ways of art production. As such, the future of AI technology is very promising in the field of art. (One reason is enough; deduct 0.25 for language errors)	01
I-B-1	The introduction provides background information about the event that the selection is based on: <u>the name of the event</u> (Colorado State Fair's annual art competition), <u>date of the competition</u> (2022), <u>place of competition</u> (Colorado), the <u>competitor who won the prize</u> (Jason Allen), and <u>the way he used to produce his winning image</u> (special program of Artificial Intelligence). (Two supporting points are enough; 0.5 for each)	01
I-B-2	The tone is <u>excited/eager/hopeful</u> . The writer reveals Allen's excitement or sense of eagerness by explaining that he has some secrets that might be revealed in his future plans: "not yet said", "behind his winning image", and "keep it a secret". In addition, it is optimistic/hopeful because the future plans of Allen are full of promising things: "larger related work", "hopes", and "coming years". (One tone with its justification is enough; 0.5 for the adjective and 0.5 for its justification; any other accurate adjective with its appropriate justification is accepted)	01

I-B-3	<p>First, the writer uses specific names (events, countries, people, AI generators, etc.): “Colorado State Fair’s annual art competition” (Paragraph 1), “Pueblo West, Colorado” (Paragraph 2), and “Midjourney, Google Research’s Imagen and OpenAI’s DALL-E 2” (Paragraph 4). Second, the writer provides facts on how to use AI system/programs, such as the details provided in Paragraph 6 about the steps followed by Allen to complete his work: “played around with phrasing that led Midjourney to generate images of women in Victorian-style”, “he made 900 repetitions of what led to his final three images”, “cleaned up those three images in Photoshop”, etc. Third, the writer uses numbers: “a \$300 prize” (Paragraph 2), “11 people entered 18 pieces of art” (Paragraph 3), and “he made 900 repetitions” (Paragraph 6).</p> <p>(0.75 for each type with its examples; 0.25 for the type and 0.5 for its examples; two types are required, and any other accurate type with its appropriate example(s) is accepted)</p>	1.5
I-B-4	<p>First, artists/painters might be interested in reading the selection because it provides details and facts on the latest use of AI/technology in the field of art in an innovative and promising way. Second, technologists/scientists (or users of AI image generators) might be interested in reading the selection because it provides them with details on the use of AI generators and systems in new fields and domains and how they help artists achieve winning places in competitions.</p> <p>(0.75 for each type with its interest/explanation: 0.25 for the type and 0.5 for its interest/explanation; any other logical type with its interest is accepted)</p>	1.5
I-C-1	novelty	0.5
I-C-2	gatekeeping	0.5
I-C-3	viral	0.5
I-C-4	render/rendered	0.5
I-D-1	“it” refers to his entry/ Allen’s entry	0.5
I-D-2	“It” refers to the idea of “crafting the piece”	0.5
II-A	Content and organization	3.5
II-B	Language and style	3.5
II-C	Tidiness and handwriting	01