Cancer to be the world's top killer by 2010, WHO says

Cancer will overtake heart disease as the world's top killer by 2010, part of a trend that should more than double global cancer cases and deaths by 2030, international health experts said in a report released Tuesday. Rising tobacco use in developing countries is believed to be a huge reason for the shift, particularly in China and India, where 40 per cent of the world's smokers now live. So is better diagnosing of cancer, along with the downward trend in infectious diseases that used to be the world's leading killers.

Cancer diagnoses around the world have steadily been rising and are expected to hit 12 million this year. Global cancer deaths are expected to reach 7 million, according to the new report by the World Health Organization. An annual rise of 1 per cent in cases and deaths is expected with even larger increases in China, Russia and India. That means new cancer cases will likely mushroom to 27 million annually by 2030, with deaths hitting 17 million.

Underlying all this is an expected expansion of the world's population—there will be more people around to get cancer. By 2030, there could be 75 million people living with cancer around the world, a number that many health care systems are not equipped to handle. "This is going to present an amazing problem at every level in every society worldwide", said Peter Boyle, director of the WHO's International Agency for Research on Cancer.

The "unprecedented" gathering of organizations is an attempt to draw attention to the global threat of cancer, which isn't recognized as a major, growing health problem in some developing countries.

"If we take action, we can keep the numbers from going where they would otherwise go," said John Seffrin, the Cancer Society's chief executive officer. Other groups are also voicing support for more action." Cancer is one of the greatest untold health crises of the developing world," said Dr. Douglas Blayney, president-elect of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. "Few are aware that cancer already kills more people in poor countries than HIV, malaria and tuberculosis combined. And if current smoking trends continue, the problem will get significantly worse," he said in a written statement.

Newsweek, December 10, 2008.

1. Shift (line 4) = Change in direction
2. Steadily (line 7) = regularly, gradually
3. To mushroom (line 11) = to spread or increase in number rapidly
4. Attempt (line 17) = effort.
I / READING COMPREHENSION (08 marks)

A/ Looking for information: List four (4) reasons why cancer will become the world’s top killer by 2010. (2 marks)

1. ...........................................................................................................................................................................
2. ...........................................................................................................................................................................
3. ...........................................................................................................................................................................
4. ...........................................................................................................................................................................

B/ Match the words in column A with their equivalents in column B. (3 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. probably</td>
<td>A. overtake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. conscious</td>
<td>B. global</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. yearly</td>
<td>C. trend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. surpass</td>
<td>D. annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. tendency</td>
<td>E. aware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. worldwide</td>
<td>F. likely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>G. knowledge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5=...........6=...........7=...........8=...........9=...........10=...........

C/ Answer these statements with True or False, and justify your answers with quotations from the text. (3 marks)

11. By 2030, global cancer cases and deaths will be just multiplied by two.
..........................................................................................................................

12. Cancer will spread more rapidly in poor African countries by 2030.
..........................................................................................................................

13. It is commonly known that cancer kills more people than H.I.V, malaria and tuberculosis combined in poor countries.
..........................................................................................................................

II LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (8 marks)

D/ find the questions corresponding to the underlined words (2 marks)

14. “Cancer diagnoses are expected to hit 12 million this year”, (line 7)
(a) .........................................................................................................................................................
(b) .........................................................................................................................................................
E / Use the prompts given to rewrite the sentences without changing their meanings: (3 marks)

15. “Rising tobacco use in developing countries is believed to be a huge reason for the shift” (lines 3-4).
   - People………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
   ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

16. “This is going to present an amazing problem at every level in every society worldwide, (lines14-15).
   Peter Boyle said………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
   ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

17. Cancer will spread considerably if solutions are not found.
   - Unless………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

F/ Find the correct forms of the words in brackets: (2 marks)

18. Many people will……………from cancer by 2010. (death)
19. Keeping people …………………is the ambition of WHO. (health)
20. Cancer ……………………………the whole world. (threat)
21. ………………………………are doing important work on cancer. (research)

G/ Complete these sentences correctly and meaningfully with reference to the text: (1 mark)

22. If nothing is done, cancer…………………………………………………………………………………………..
   ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

23. Many health care systems do not have the required equipments.
   ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

III/ WRITING (4 marks)

Choose ONE of the following topics:

24. A patient has been diagnosed to have an incurable disease. Imagine his / her conversation with someone about it.

25. Smoking is a big concern (=worry) in the world. Why? What are its consequences? What is to be done?