OPTION A

“Lie to me”

Traditionally, lie detection has been done by using the polygraph, first developed in 1921. Now a team of British scientists from the universities of Bradford and Aberystwyth have developed a new computerized system for lie detection through a heat camera. This new device monitors small changes in facial expressions even in real time. This new approach is based on years of research into how we all unconsciously, involuntarily reveal our emotions in slight changes of expression and through the flow of blood to our skin. Emotions can be detected in eye, nose and lip movements, in dilated pupils and even in the way people swallow or breathe. And these are just the visible signs seen by the camera. The thermal sensor can also detect signs which are very difficult to notice, such as changes in blood vessels around our eyes.

Researchers say the system could be a powerful help for security services at airports, helping experienced immigration officers as they conduct their security interviews. The results can then be tested against the verdicts of these officers.

A preliminary study involving 40 volunteers found the system to be 70% precise in identifying liars. However, researchers believe it will eventually be able to detect around 90% of those who are lying, which is similar to the performance of the polygraph, but they also admit that these tests can never be 100% correct. What they detect are emotions, such as distress, fear or distrust, and not the act of lying itself. Fear can sometimes be the fear of not being believed rather than the fear of being caught.

I * COMPREHENSION (4 points: questions 1-3, 1 point each; 4-5, 0.5 points each)
ANSWER QUESTIONS 1-3 ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THE TEXT. USE YOUR OWN WORDS.
1. How does the new lie detection system work?
2. What would be a practical application for this new system?
3. Why can’t a lie detection system be 100% correct?

ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS.
4. With the new system interviews will no longer be needed.
5. The polygraph is not as reliable as the new computerized system.

II * USE OF ENGLISH (3 points; questions 6-9, 0.25 points each; 10-13, 0.5 points each)
6. GIVE A NOUN WITH THE SAME ROOT AS “unconsciously” (adverb).
7. FIND IN THE TEXT ONE SYNONYM FOR “panic” (noun).
8. FIND IN THE TEXT THE WORD WHICH HAS THE FOLLOWING DEFINITION: “an expressed conclusion, judgment or opinion.”
9. FILL IN THE GAP WITH THE CORRECT OPTION: I can’t think of an answer. I give _______ (over / up / out / on)
10. TURN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE INTO THE PASSIVE VOICE: Scientists have developed a new computerized system for lie detection.
11. FILL IN THE GAP WITH A CORRECT FORM OF THE VERB IN BRACKETS: By the time the police arrested Jack, he _______ (steal) nearly £ 2,000 from his boss.
12. GIVE A QUESTION FOR THE UNDERLINED WORDS: Ann was terribly sorry about her mistakes.
13. JOIN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES USING A RELATIVE. MAKE CHANGES IF NECESSARY:
‘Lie to Me’ was a TV series about a team of specialists. They found out the truth by analyzing body language.

III * PRODUCTION (3 points)
14. WRITE A COMPOSITION OF APPROXIMATELY 120 WORDS ABOUT THE TOPIC PROPOSED. YOU MUST FOCUS STRICTLY ON IT:
What’s the biggest lie or fantasy you have ever been told?