

Part II Text A

Comprehension

Text Organization

Parts	Paragraphs	Main Ideas
Part One	Para. 1	<u>It is soccer that captures my heart and soul.</u>
Part Two	Paras. 2–8	<u>How I have evolved from a couch potato into an esteemed member of a college soccer team.</u>
Part Three	Paras. 9–10	<u>Soccer has made a huge difference in my life and my love for it will never diminish.</u>

Grasping the Main Idea

- 1) His parents signed him up for soccer because they didn't want him to be a couch potato.
- 2) He didn't enjoy it. For one thing, there were too many concepts that were unfamiliar to him. For another, he was frustrated because he was not as good as other children.
- 3) He was irritated by the overall duration of each inning and the entire game. And speed, thrill, intensity and fun were missing.
- 4) He didn't become good at soccer until he was much older and after having tried other sports.
- 5) He has evolved from a shy and timid person into a strong player and a man.
- 6) He has gained from playing soccer honors, skills, experiences with different people and cultures, and a change in his personality for the better.

Interpreting Difficult Sentences

1. B 2. A 3. A 4. B 5. B

Language Sense Enhancement

That all changed when I tried out and made the Monroe Township Middle School Boys' Soccer team during the fall of my eighth-grade year. Immediately, I was 1) catapulted into a whole new world of soccer that 2) exceeded the wildest of my imaginations. The culture was 3) incredible, and I was 4) surrounded by players who already played for state and regionally ranked clubs. The constant discussions about tactics 5) took my

young mind by storm. I wanted to reach and surpass the level of play my middle school teammates were at. After that fall 2008 season, I 6) committed myself to improving as a player. I contacted multiple teams to try out for, practiced soccer in my house (much to the chagrin of my parents) and 7) registered for a number of camps and clinics for my age and up. Throughout the beginning of this newfound experience in soccer, what I was searching for became apparent — love. The respect I had for the game turned into 8) admiration, and that admiration, into love.

Language Focus

Vocabulary

I. Basic Practice

1.

- 1) She suffered multiple injuries after jumping out of a fifth floor window.
- 2) As with much good music, you need to listen to it a few times before you can fully appreciate it.
- 3) Ten years can wear down a romantic relationship, or it can make love blossom.
- 4) Despite my persistent efforts to persuade him to give up smoking, he never made up his mind.
- 5) Her bright and cheerful personality made her one of the most popular girls in her school.
- 6) Tuesday was the last day to register for classes for the spring semester.
- 7) Good, a concept with a profound theoretical foundation, is one of the values pursued by Buddhism.
- 8) I stopped in front of the jewelry just to have a look. I had not the least intention of buying anything.
- 9) If you are certain you're going to see your friend's band play, you can inform him that you'll definitely be there.
- 10) Recent discoveries of corruption within the company have done serious damage to its reputation.
- 11) If you know someone else who takes roughly the same route as you each day, do a car share, and share the costs.
- 12) No matter how people's view of marriage may change, we still cling to the idea that marriage should be a lifetime commitment.
- 13) When you visit a gym, it's easy to get convinced by a very fit salesperson to sign up right away for a membership.

- 14) Being able to talk openly about fears, anxiety, frustration, and doubts can be very helpful in dealing with problems in one's life.
- 15) We have always taken great pride in the talent we have been able to attract, and we value each and every one of our employees.

2.

- 1) The drugs, the divorce, and the depression — it is an episode in his life that he wants to forget.
- 2) These paintings capture the essence of working life at the turn of the last century.
- 3) These statistics speak volumes for the mutually beneficial nature of China-US economic and trade relations.
- 4) If your income drops, you won't be able to keep up with the interest payments, let alone pay off those loans.
- 5) Kenya's long distance runners have taken the athletics world by storm.
- 6) At UPS, hundreds of thousands of international packages are processed on a daily basis.
- 7) Whether dotcom companies will continue to thrive in the long term is still unclear.
- 8) The global economy seems to be on the road to recovery, thanks to government stimulus plans worldwide.

3.

- 1) The Harrison is a romantic bed and breakfast built in 1867, renovated to include the highest level of modern amenities, while keeping its unique Victorian charm that exceeds all your expectations. Thanks to its Victorian elegance, present-day luxuries and incredible service, it delivers a guest experience that is second to none.
- 2) It is evident that workplace competence, job satisfaction and efficiency are a virtuous circle. Competent workers — those who approach their work with energy, commitment, and focus — are more open to new information, more productive, and more willing to go the extra mile. Moreover, competent workers take immediate actions to change their work environments in order to stay competent.
- 3) Launched on Oct. 6, 2010, Instagram now has 1 billion monthly active users. Over the years the Instagram community has evolved from a place to share photos to so much more — a global community of interests sharing more than 80 million photos and videos on a daily basis. While it was originally only available through its mobile app, it is now possible to sign up for it online without the app.

II. Usage

- 1) I was looking for a birthday present for my mother, but I didn't find anything suitable.
- 2) Apart from the bus arriving late, everything else seemed to be going according to plan.
- 3) Indeed, there is nothing new in his speech today because it is just a repetition of what he said in his previous speeches.
- 4) This book is so rare that you can't find it anywhere else.
- 5) What most parents can do in these situations is ask themselves, "Did we do everything possible to prevent it from happening?"
- 6) How do you know if someone sees you as someone special when you first meet? Here are some signs experts say to look out for.
- 7) I still remember the first question our professor asked on the first day of class. "Can you tell us something interesting about yourself?"
- 8) As a child with parents who scarcely cared about her, she remembers distinctly what she yearned for — to be somewhere safe with someone good.

III. Words with Multiple Meanings

- 1) I just made a few phone calls.
- 2) Mama made him clean up the plates.
- 3) What made you change your mind?
- 4) I think every business's goal is to make money.
- 5) He works for a company that makes furniture.
- 6) He made the basketball team as a freshman.
- 7) Peter and Jane certainly make a perfect couple.
- 8) She could hardly make herself understood in French.

Comprehensive Exercises

I. Cloze

Soccer is a way of life for millions of people. Regardless of religion, ethnicity, or skin color, soccer brings people together in ways that 1) exceed your wildest dreams. It can 2) take entire cities and countries by storm for one single game.

What makes soccer so popular is that you can play it almost anywhere, even without having to spend a single penny. Kids in Africa who can't get a real ball to play with make soccer balls out of tied-up plastic bags, banana leaves, strips of cloth and so on 3) and so

Soccer is easy to learn and is 4) definitely a safer sport to play than football, basketball and baseball. It is unlikely that adults will be harmed while playing so long as they have good control of their bodies, are able to keep 5) frustration in check, and know how to avoid causing injuries.

International competition is a key part of soccer. The World Cup and the European Cup are shown on TV to billions of people worldwide. These events can stimulate national pride and give cultures 6) subject to profound differences something to bond over.

Playing soccer well is an art. Passing, shooting for a goal, keeping the ball moving on the grass and in the air, weaving between opponents, and avoiding tackles all demand a high level of prowess. Being able to plot a 7) route from one end of the field to the other, knowing who to pass to, and spotting the best opportunity to shoot — it is 8) incredibly exciting watching players do all this for 90 minutes at a time.

II. Translation

In competitive sports, the success of an athlete can be credited to their arduous training and tenacious personality. Lin Dan, the best-known Chinese badminton player, is definitely a case in point.

Long-time monotonous and high intensity training almost wore him down at one point. Troubled by chronic pain and his failure at the 2004 Athens Olympic Games, it was once his intention to give up playing badminton, the sport he had played since childhood.

In order to break away from frustration and depression, Lin Dan subjected himself to rigorous and productive training on a daily basis, constantly exceeding his physical limits. Since then, Lin Dan has won two Olympic championships. In his 20-year career, Lin Dan has won 20 World Championships and is the only player in badminton history to win Double Grand Slam.

True, success has brought Lin Dan fortune and reputation. However, his tenacity and hard work have gone beyond the purpose of sports to become the embodiment of the essence of the human spirit.

Part III Text B

Comprehension Check

1. B 2. D 3. A 4. C 5. D 6. A