1

1. serious illness at home, hit a traffic jam(this time)
2. His supervisor was probably already pacing up and down with a dismissal speech rehearsed. Sam entered the office at 9:35. Sam’s supervisor approached him.
3. “I’m Sam Maynard. I’m applying for a job which I understand became available just minutes ago. Does the early bird get the worm?”It means that he don’t want to lost this job. The room exploded in laughter. The supervisor clamped off a smile and walked back to his office.( Sam Maynard had saved his job — with the only tool that could win, a laugh.)

A lot of us fail in life’s fierce conflicts because we attack it directly. However, a slight humor might help us to achieve success.

Mount -vt. organize and launch

chalk up achieve or register a success

chronic -adj. having had a disease or habit for a long time

clamp -vt. grip or hold sth. Tightly

2.

(1) It can be used for patching up differences, apologizing, saying “no,” criticizing, or getting the other fellow to do what you want without his losing. face. For some jobs, it’s the only tool that can succeed. It is a way to discuss subjects so sensitive that serious dialog may start a riot.

(2) many believe that comedians on television are doing more today for racial and religious tolerance than are people in any other forum.

patch up settle or resolve

riot -n. wild or violent disturbance by a crowd of people

3.

(1) Recently a neighbor of mine had a squabble with his wife as she drove him to the airport. Airborne, he felt miserable, and he knew she did, too.

(2) I apologize

(3) 总分结构

4.

(1) Austerity was de rigueur in England at the time and She knew that anything could happen.

(2) He successfully elbowed the swinging dining-room door, but the backswing knocked the bird onto the dining-room floor.

(3) the hostess smiled at her son. “No harm, Daniel,” she said. “Just pick it up and take it back to the kitchen” — she enunciated clearly so he would think about what she was saying — “and bring in the other one.”

Enlist -vt obtain

Draft -vt. choose people and send them somewhere for a

special task

rooted 无

Escalate -vi. increase or develop by successive stages become more intense

5.

(1) The power of humor to dissolve a hostile confrontation often lies in its unspoken promise: “You let me off the hook, my friend, and I’ll let you off.”

(2) assign friendly motives to your opponent, to smile just a little — but not too much.

……assume that your opponent has friendly motives…..

Assign assume

无

无

6.

(1) One method is the laugh based on national caricatures.

One method is joking about the peculiarities or defects of

respective nations.

7.

(1) Of course, humor is often more than a laughing matter. In its more potent guises, it has a Trojan horse nature: no one goes on guard against a gag; we let it in because it looks like a little wooden toy.

(2) One sample will suffice: that famous story of the woman who was finally extracted from the rubble of her house during the London blitz. Asked, “Where is your husband?” she brushed brick dust off her head and arms and answered, “Fighting in Libya, the bloody coward!”

for instance, that, next to the heroic British RAF, British humor did the most to fend off a German takeover in World War Ⅱ.

Guise-n. assumed appearance or mere semblance

go on guard against be prepared for sth. Unpleasant

fend off

suffice

Suffice -vi. be enough or adequate, as for needs or purposes

8.

(1) Men with giant responsibilities have frequently used this approach to giant problems — often with sweeping effect.

(2) during a particularly hot session, the usually stone-faced Marshall forced a grin. “At least, Mr. President,” he said, “You might stop referring to the Navy as ‘us’ and the Army as ‘them’.”

his Commander in Chief disagreed with him on the aspects that needed the most support

bolster -vt. Support

foster -vt. promote the growth or development of

9.

(1)Occasionally, humor goes beyond saving arguments, saving face or saving jobs; it can save life itself.

(2) Victor E. Frankl was a psychiatrist imprisoned in a German concentration camp during World War Ⅱ.

humor was one of the soul’s best survival weapons,

As the surviving prisoners who lived in worsening conditions became fewer and fewer

无

Contagion -n. the ready transmission or spread of an idea,

defiant -adj. openly opposing or resisting sb. or sth.

无

无