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# 2010年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

## Section I Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

①In 1924 America’s National Research Council sent two engineers to supervise a series of industrial experiments at a telephone-parts factory called the Hawthorne Plant near Chicago. ②It hoped they would learn how shop-floor lighting 1 workers’ productivity. ③Instead, the studies ended 2 giving their name to the “Hawthorne effect”, the extremely influential idea that the very 3 of being experimented upon changes subjects’ behavior.

①The idea arose because of the 4 behavior of the women in the plant. ②According to 5 of the experiments, their hourly output rose when lighting was increased, but also when it was dimmed. ③It did not 6 what was done in the experiment; 7 something was changed, productivity rose. ④A(n) 8 that they were being experimented upon seemed to be 9 to alter workers’ behavior 10 itself.

①After several decades, the same data were 11 to econometric analysis. ②The Hawthorne experiments had another surprise in store. ③ 12 the descriptions on record, no systematic 13 was found that levels of productivity were related to changes in lighting.

①It turns out that the peculiar way of conducting the experiments may have led to 14 interpretations of what happened. ② 15 , lighting was always changed on a Sunday. ③When work started again on Monday, output 16 rose compared with the previous Saturday and 17 to rise for the next couple of days. ④ 18 , a comparison with data for weeks when there was no experimentation showed that output always went up on Mondays. ⑤Workers 19 to be diligent for the first few days of the week in any case, before 20 a plateau and then slackening off. ⑥This suggests that the alleged “Hawthorne effect” is hard to pin down. (285 words)

1. [A] affected [B] achieved [C] extracted [D] restored

2. [A] at  [B] up [C] with      [D] off

3. [A] truth   [B] sight    [C] act   [D] proof

4. [A] controversial   [B] perplexing   [C] mischievous  [D] ambiguous

5. [A] requirements     [B] explanations   [C] accounts   [D] assessments

6. [A] conclude    [B] matter [C] indicate     [D] work

7. [A] as far as     [B] for fear that   [C] in case that    [D] so long as

8. [A] awareness [B] expectation  [C] sentiment     [D] illusion

9. [A] suitable [B] excessive    [C] enough  [D] abundant

10. [A] about     [B] for [C] on    [D] by

11. [A] compared  [B] shown  [C] subjected   [D] conveyed

12. [A] Contrary to  [B] Consistent with [C] Parallel with   [D] Peculiar to

13. [A] evidence [B] guidance      [C] implication   [D] source

14. [A] disputable [B] enlightening   [C] reliable    [D] misleading

15. [A] In contrast     [B] For example   [C] In consequence [D] As usual

16. [A] duly     [B] accidentally   [C] unpredictably  [D] suddenly

17. [A] failed       [B] ceased      [C] started     [D] continued

18. [A] Therefore       [B] Furthermore  [C] However     [D] Meanwhile

19. [A] attempted       [B] tended      [C] chose     [D] intended

20. [A] breaking [B] climbing  [C] surpassing     [D] hitting

## Section Ⅱ  Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

**Text 1**

Of all the changes that have taken place in English-language newspapers during the past quarter-century, perhaps the most far-reaching has been the inexorable decline in the scope and seriousness of their arts coverage.

①It is difficult to the point of impossibility for the average reader under the age of forty to imagine a time when high-quality arts criticism could be found in most big-city newspapers. ②Yet a considerable number of the most significant collections of criticism published in the 20th century consisted in large part of newspaper reviews. ③To read such books today is to marvel at the fact that their learned contents were once deemed suitable for publication in general-circulation dailies.

①We are even farther removed from the unfocused newspaper reviews published in England between the turn of the 20th century and the eve of World War II, at a time when newsprint was dirt-cheap and stylish arts criticism was considered an ornament to the publications in which it appeared. ②In those far-off days, it was taken for granted that the critics of major papers would write in detail and at length about the events they covered. ③Theirs was a serious business, and even those reviewers who wore their learning lightly, like George Bernard Shaw and Ernest Newman, could be trusted to know what they were about. ④These men believed in journalism as a calling, and were proud to be published in the daily press. ⑤“So few authors have brains enough or literary gift enough to keep their own end up in journalism,” Newman wrote, “that I am tempted to define ‘journalism’ as ‘a term of contempt applied by writers who are not read to writers who are’ .”

①Unfortunately, these critics are virtually forgotten. ②Neville Cardus, who wrote for the *Manchester Guardian* from 1917 until shortly before his death in 1975, is now known solely as a writer of essays on the game of cricket. ③During his lifetime, though, he was also one of England’s foremost classical-music critics, and a stylist so widely admired that his *Autobiography* (1947) became a best-seller. ④He was knighted in 1967, the first music critic to be so honored. ⑤Yet only one of his books is now in print, and his vast body of writings on music is unknown save to specialists.

①Is there any chance that Cardus’s criticism will enjoy a revival? ②The prospect seems remote. ③Journalistic tastes had changed long before his death, and postmodern readers have little use for the richly upholstered Vicwardian prose in which he specialized. ④Moreover, the amateur tradition in music criticism has been in headlong retreat. (428 words)

21. It is indicated in Paragraphs 1 and 2 that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] arts criticism has disappeared from big-city newspapers

[B] English-language newspapers used to carry more arts reviews

[C] high-quality newspapers retain a large body of readers

[D] young readers doubt the suitability of criticism on dailies

22. Newspaper reviews in England before World War II were characterized by \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] free themes

[B] casual style

[C] elaborate layout

[D] radical viewpoints

23. Which of the following would Shaw and Newman most probably agree on?

[A] It is writers’ duty to fulfill journalistic goals.

[B] It is contemptible for writers to be journalists.

[C] Writers are likely to be tempted into journalism.

[D] Not all writers are capable of journalistic writing.

24. What can be learned about Cardus according to the last two paragraphs?

[A] His music criticism may not appeal to readers today.

[B] His reputation as a music critic has long been in dispute.

[C] His style caters largely to modern specialists.

[D] His writings fail to follow the amateur tradition.

25. What would be the best title for the text?

[A] Newspapers of the Good Old Days

[B] The Lost Horizon in Newspapers

[C] Mournful Decline of Journalism

[D] Prominent Critics in Memory

**Text 2**

①Over the past decade, thousands of patents have been granted for what are called business methods. ②Amazon.com received one for its “one-click” online payment system. ③Merrill Lynch got legal protection for an asset allocation strategy. ④One inventor patented a technique for lifting a box.

①Now the nation’s top patent court appears completely ready to scale back on business-method patents, which have been controversial ever since they were first authorized 10 years ago. ②In a move that has intellectual-property lawyers abuzz, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit said it would use a particular case to conduct a broad review of business-method patents. ③*In re Bilski*, as the case is known , is “a very big deal”, says Dennis D. Crouch of the University of Missouri School of Law. ④It “has the potential to eliminate an entire class of patents.”

①Curbs on business-method claims would be a dramatic about-face, because it was the Federal Circuit itself that introduced such patents with its 1998 decision in the so-called State Street Bank case, approving a patent on a way of pooling mutual-fund assets. ②That ruling produced an explosion in business-method patent filings, initially by emerging Internet companies trying to stake out exclusive rights to specific types of online transactions. ③Later, more established companies raced to add such patents to their files, if only as a defensive move against rivals that might beat them to the punch. ④In 2005, IBM noted in a court filing that it had been issued more than 300 business-method patents, despite the fact that it questioned the legal basis for granting them. ⑤Similarly, some Wall Street investment firms armed themselves with patents for financial products, even as they took positions in court cases opposing the practice.

①The Bilski case involves a claimed patent on a method for hedging risk in the energy market. ②The Federal Circuit issued an unusual order stating that the case would be heard by all 12 of the court’s judges, rather than a typical panel of three, and that one issue it wants to evaluate is whether it should “reconsider” its State Street Bank ruling.

①The Federal Circuit’s action comes in the wake of a series of recent decisions by the Supreme Court that has narrowed the scope of protections for patent holders. ②Last April, for example, the justices signaled that too many patents were being upheld for “inventions” that are obvious. ③The judges on the Federal Circuit are “reacting to the anti-patent trend at the Supreme Court”, says Harold C. Wegner, a patent attorney and professor at George Washington University Law School.（430 words）

26. Business-method patents have recently aroused concern because of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] their limited value to businesses

[B] their connection with asset allocation

[C] the possible restriction on their granting

[D] the controversy over their authorization

27. Which of the following is true of the Bilski case?

[A] Its ruling complies with the court decisions.

[B] It involves a very big business transaction.

[C] It has been dismissed by the Federal Circuit.

[D] It may change the legal practices in the U.S.

28. The word “about-face” (Line 1, Para 3) most probably means\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] loss of good will [B] increase of hostility

[C] change of attitude [D] enhancement of dignity

29. We learn from the last two paragraphs that business-method patents\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] are immune to legal challenges

[B] are often unnecessarily issued

[C] lower the esteem for patent holders

[D] increase the incidence of risks

30. Which of the following would be the subject of the text?

[A] A looming threat to business-method patents.

[B] Protection for business-method patent holders.

[C] A legal case regarding business-method patents.

[D] A prevailing trend against business-method patents.

**Text 3**

①In his book *The Tipping Point*, Malcolm Gladwell argues that “social epidemics” are driven in large part by the actions of a tiny minority of special individuals, often called influentials, who are unusually informed, persuasive, or well connected. ②The idea is intuitively compelling, but it doesn’t explain how ideas actually spread.

①The supposed importance of influentials derives from a plausible**-**sounding but largely untested theory called the “two-step flow of communication” : Information flows from the media to the influentials and from them to everyone else. ②Marketers have embraced the two-step flow because it suggests that if they can just find and influence the influentials, those selected people will do most of the work for them. ③The theory also seems to explain the sudden and unexpected popularity of certain looks, brands, or neighborhoods. ④In many such cases, a cursory search for causes finds that some small group of people was wearing, promoting, or developing whatever it is before anyone else paid attention. ⑤Anecdotal evidence of this kind fits nicely with the idea that only certain special people can drive trends.

①In their recent work, however, some researchers have come up with the finding that influentials have far less impact on social epidemics than is generally supposed. ②In fact, they don't seem to be required at all.

①The researchers' argument stems from a simple observation about social influence: With the exception of a few celebrities like Oprah Winfrey—whose outsize presence is primarily a function of media, not interpersonal, influence—even the most influential members of a population simply don’t interact with that many others. ②Yet it is precisely these non-celebrity influentials who, according to the two-step-flow theory, are supposed to drive social epidemics, by influencing their friends and colleagues directly. ③For a social epidemic to occur, however, each person so affected, must then influence his or her own acquaintances, who must in turn influence theirs, and so on; and just how many others pay attention to each of *these* people has little to do with the initial influential. ④ If people in the network just two degrees removed from the initial influential prove resistant, for example, the cascade of change won't propagate very far or affect many people.

①Building on the basic truth about interpersonal influence, the researchers studied the dynamics of social influence by conducting thousands of computer simulations of populations, manipulating a number of variables relating to people’s ability to influence others and their tendency to be influenced. ②They found that the principal requirement for what is called “global cascades” — the widespread propagation of influence through networks — is the presence not of a few influentials but, rather, of a critical mass of easily influenced people. (442 words)

31. By citing the book *The Tipping Point*, the author intends to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] analyze the consequences of social epidemics

[B] discuss influentials’ function in spreading ideas

[C] exemplify people's intuitive response to social epidemics

[D] describe the essential characteristics of influentials

32. The author suggests that the "two-step-flow theory"\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] serves as a solution to marketing problems

[B] has helped explain certain prevalent trends

[C] has won support from influentials

[D] requires solid evidence for its validity

33. What the researchers have observed recently shows that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the power of influence goes with social interactions

[B] interpersonal links can be enhanced through the media

[C] influentials have more channels to reach the public

[D] most celebrities enjoy wide media attention

34. The underlined phrase “*these* people” in paragraph 4 refers to the ones who\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] stay outside the network of social influence

[B] have little contact with the source of influence

[C] are influenced and then influence others

[D] are influenced by the initial influential

35. What is the essential element in the dynamics of social influence?

[A] The eagerness to be accepted.

[B] The impulse to influence others.

[C] The readiness to be influenced.

[D] The inclination to rely on others.

**Text 4**

①Bankers have been blaming themselves for their troubles in public. ②Behind the scenes, they have been taking aim at someone else: the accounting standard-setters. ③Their rules, moan the banks, have forced them to report enormous losses, and it’s just not fair. ④These rules say they must value some assets at the price a third party would pay, not the price managers and regulators would like them to fetch.

①Unfortunately, banks’ lobbying now seems to be working. ②The details may be unknowable, but the independence of standard-setters, essential to the proper functioning of capital markets, is being compromised. ③And, unless banks carry toxic assets at prices that attract buyers, reviving the banking system will be difficult.

①After a bruising encounter with Congress, America’s Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) rushed through rule changes. ②These gave banks more freedom to use models to value illiquid assets and more flexibility in recognizing losses on long-term assets in their income statements. ③Bob Herz, the FASB’s chairman, cried out against those who “question our motives.” ④Yet bank shares rose and the changes enhance what one lobbying group politely calls “the use of judgment by management.”

①European ministers instantly demanded that the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) do likewise. ②The IASB says it does not want to act without overall planning, but the pressure to fold when it completes its reconstruction of rules later this year is strong. ③Charlie McCreevy, a European commissioner, warned the IASB that it did “not live in a political vacuum” but “in the real world” and that Europe could yet develop different rules.

①It was banks that were on the wrong planet, with accounts that vastly overvalued assets. ②Today they argue that market prices overstate losses, because they largely reflect the temporary illiquidity of markets, not the likely extent of bad debts. ③The truth will not be known for years. ④But banks’ shares trade below their book value, suggesting that investors are skeptical. ⑤And dead markets partly reflect the paralysis of banks which will not sell assets for fear of booking losses, yet are reluctant to buy all those supposed bargains.

①To get the system working again, losses must be recognized and dealt with. ②America’s new plan to buy up toxic assets will not work unless banks mark assets to levels which buyers find attractive. ③Successful markets require independent and even combative standard-setters. ④The FASB and IASB have been exactly that, cleaning up rules on stock options and pensions, for example, against hostility from special interests. ⑤But by giving in to critics now they are inviting pressure to make more concessions. (430words)

36. Bankers complained that they were forced to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] follow unfavorable asset evaluation rules

[B] collect payments from third parties

[C] cooperate with the price managers

[D] reevaluate some of their assets

37. According to the author , the rule changes of the FASB may result in\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the diminishing role of management

[B] the revival of the banking system

[C] the banks’ long-term asset losses

[D] the weakening of its independence

38. According to Paragraph 4, McCreevy objects to the IASB’s attempt to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] keep away from political influences

[B] evade the pressure from their peers

[C] act on their own in rule-setting

[D] take gradual measures in reform

39. The author thinks the banks were “on the wrong planet” in that they\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] misinterpreted market price indicators

[B] exaggerated the real value of their assets

[C] neglected the likely existence of bad debts

[D] denied booking losses in their sale of assets

40. The author’s attitude towards standard-setters is one of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] satisfaction [B] skepticism [C] objectiveness [D] sympathy

**Part B**

**Directions:**

For Questions 41-45, choose the most suitable paragraphs from the list A-G and fill them into the numbered boxes to form a coherent text. Paragraph E has been correctly placed. There is one paragraph which does not fit in with the text. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

[A] The first and more important is the consumer’s growing preference for eating out: the consumption of food and drink in places other than homes has risen from about 32 percent of total consumption in 1995 to 35 percent in 2000 and is expected to approach 38 percent by 2005. This development is boosting wholesale demand from the food service segment by 4 to 5 percent a year across Europe, compared with growth in retail demand of 1 to 2 percent. Meanwhile, as the recession is looming large, people are getting anxious. They tend to keep a tighter hold on their purse and consider eating at home a realistic alternative.

[B] Retail sales of food and drink in Europe’s largest markets are at a standstill, leaving European grocery retailers hungry for opportunities to grow. Most leading retailers have already tried e-commerce, with limited success, and expansion abroad. But almost all have ignored the big, profitable opportunity in their own backyard: the wholesale food and drink trade, which appears to be just the kind of market retailers need.

[C] Will such variations bring about a change in the overall structure of the food and drink market? Definitely not. The functioning of the market is based on flexible trends dominated by potential buyers. In other words, it is up to the buyer, rather than the seller, to decide what to buy. At any rate, this change will ultimately be acclaimed by an ever-growing number of both domestic and international consumers, regardless of how long the current consumer pattern will take hold.

[D] All in all, this clearly seems to be a market in which big retailers could profitably apply their gigantic scale, existing infrastructure, and proven skills in the management of product ranges, logistics, and marketing intelligence. Retailers that master the intricacies of wholesaling in Europe may well expect to rake in substantial profits thereby. At least, that is how it looks as a whole. Closer inspection reveals important differences among the biggest national markets, especially in their customer segments and wholesale structures, as well as the competitive dynamics of individual food and drink categories. Big retailers must understand these differences before they can identify the segments of European wholesaling in which their particular abilities might unseat smaller but entrenched competitors. New skills and unfamiliar business models are needed too.

[E] Despite variations in detail, wholesale markets in the countries that have been closely examined—France, Germany, Italy, and Spain—are made out of the same building blocks. Demand comes mainly from two sources: independent mom-and-pop grocery stores which, unlike large retail chains, are too small to buy straight from producers, and food service operators that cater to consumers when they don’t eat at home. Such food service operators range from snack machines to large institutional catering ventures, but most of these businesses are known in the trade as “horeca”: hotels, restaurants, and cafés. Overall, Europe’s wholesale market for food and drink is growing at the same sluggish pace as the retail market, but the figures, when added together, mask two opposing trends.

[F] For example, wholesale food and drink sales came to $268 billion in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom in 2000—more than 40 percent of retail sales. Moreover, average overall margins are higher in wholesale than in retail; wholesale demand from the food service sector is growing quickly as more Europeans eat out more often; and changes in the competitive dynamics of this fragmented industry are at last making it feasible for wholesalers to consolidate.

[G] However, none of these requirements should deter large retailers (and even some large food producers and existing wholesalers) from trying their hand, for those that master the intricacies of wholesaling in Europe stand to reap considerable gains.

41. →42. →43. →44. → E →45.

**Part C**

**Directions:**

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written carefully on ANSWER SHEET 2. (10 points)

One basic weakness in a conservation system based wholly on economic motives is that most members of the land community have no economic value. Yet these creatures are members of the biotic community and, if its stability depends on its integrity, they are entitled to continuance.

When one of these noneconomic categories is threatened and, if we happen to love it, we invent excuses to give it economic importance. At the beginning of century songbirds were supposed to be disappearing. (46) Scientists jumped to the rescue with some distinctly shaky evidence to the effect that insects would eat us up if birds failed to control them. The evidence had to be economic in order to be valid.

It is painful to read these roundabout accounts today. We have no land ethic yet, (47) but we have at least drawn nearer the point of admitting that birds should continue as a matter of intrinsic right, regardless of the presence or absence of economic advantage to us.

A parallel situation exists in respect of predatory mammals and fish-eating birds. (48) Time was when biologists somewhat overworked the evidence that these creatures preserve the health of game by killing the physically weak, or that they prey only on “worthless” species. Here again, the evidence had to be economic in order to be valid. It is only in recent years that we hear the more honest argument that predators are members of the community, and that no special interest has the right to exterminate them for the sake of a benefit, real or fancied, to itself.

Some species of tree have been “read out of the party” by economics-minded foresters because they grow too slowly, or have too low a sale value to pay as timber crops. (49) In Europe, where forestry is ecologically more advanced, the noncommercial tree species are recognized as members of the native forest community, to be preserved as such, within reason. Moreover, some have been found to have a valuable function in building up soil fertility. The interdependence of the forest and its constituent tree species, ground flora, and fauna is taken for granted.

To sum up: a system of conservation based solely on economic self-interest is hopelessly lopsided. (50) It tends to ignore, and thus eventually to eliminate, many elements in the land community that lack commercial value, but that are essential to its healthy functioning. It assumes, falsely, that the economic parts of the biotic clock will function without the uneconomic parts.

## Section Ⅲ Writing

**Part A**

51. **Directions:**

You are supposed to write for the Postgraduates’ Association a notice to recruit volunteers for an international conference on globalization. The notice should include the basic qualifications for applicants and the other information which you think is relevant.

You should write about 100 words. Do not sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use “Postgraduates’ Association” instead. (10 points)

**Part B**

**52. Directions:**

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following drawing. In your essay, you should

1) describe the drawing briefly,

2) explain its intended meaning, and then

3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on ANSWER SHEET 2. (20 points)



# 2011年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

## Section I Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

①Ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle viewed laughter as “a bodily exercise precious to health.” ②But 1 some claims to the contrary, laughing probably has little influence on physical fitness. ③Laughter does 2 short-term changes in the function of the heart and its blood vessels, 3 heart rate and oxygen consumption. ④But because hard laughter is difficult to 4 , a good laugh is unlikely to have 5 benefits the way, say, walking or jogging does.

① 6 , instead of straining muscles to build them, as exercise does, laughter apparently accomplishes the 7 . ②Studies dating back to the 1930s indicate that laughter 8 muscles, decreasing muscle tone for up to 45 minutes after the laugh dies down.

①Such bodily reaction might conceivably help 9 the effects of psychological stress. ②Anyway, the act of laughing probably does produce other types of 10 feedback that improve an individual’s emotional state. ③ 11 one classical theory of emotion, our feelings are partially rooted 12 physical reactions. ④It was argued at the end of the 19th century that humans do not cry 13 they are sad but that they become sad when the tears begin to flow.

①Although sadness also 14 tears, evidence suggests that emotions can flow 15 muscular responses. ②In an experiment published in 1988, social psychologist Fritz Strack of the University of Würzburg in Germany asked volunteers to 16 a pen either with their teeth—thereby creating an artificial smile—or with their lips, which would produce a（n） 17 expression. ③Those forced to exercise their smiling muscles 18 more enthusiastically to funny cartoons than did those whose mouths were contracted in a frown, 19 that expressions may influence emotions rather than just the other way around. ④ 20 , the physical act of laughter could improve mood. （295 words）

1. [A] among [B] except [C] despite [D] like

2. [A] reflect [B] demand [C] indicate [D] produce

3. [A] stabilizing [B] boosting [C] impairing [D] determining

4. [A] transmit [B] sustain [C] evaluate [D] observe

5. [A] measurable [B] manageable [C] affordable [D] renewable

6. [A] In turn [B] In fact [C] In addition [D] In brief

7. [A] opposite [B] impossible [C] average [D] expected

8. [A] hardens [B] weakens [C] tightens [D] relaxes

9. [A] aggravate [B] generate [C] moderate [D] enhance

10. [A] physical [B] mental [C] subconscious [D] internal

11. [A] Except for [B] According to [C] Due to [D] As for

12. [A] with [B] on [C] in [D] at

13. [A] unless [B] until [C] if [D] because

14. [A] exhausts [B] follows [C] precedes [D] suppresses

15. [A] into [B] from [C] towards [D] beyond

16. [A] fetch [B] bite [C] pick [D] hold

17. [A] disappointed [B] excited [C] joyful [D] indifferent

18. [A] adapted [B] catered [C] turned [D] reacted

19. [A] suggesting [B] requiring [C] mentioning [D] supposing

20. [A] Eventually [B] Consequently [C] Similarly [D] Conversely

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

**Text 1**

①The decision of the New York Philharmonic to hire Alan Gilbert as its next music director has been the talk of the classical-music world ever since the sudden announcement of his appointment in 2009. ②For the most part, the response has been favorable, to say the least. ③“Hooray! At last!” wrote Anthony Tommasini, a sober-sided classical-music critic.

①One of the reasons why the appointment came as such a surprise, however, is that Gilbert is comparatively little known. ②Even Tommasini, who had advocated Gilbert’s appointment in the Times, calls him“an unpretentious musician with no air of the formidable conductor about him.” ③As a description of the next music director of an orchestra that has hitherto been led by musicians like Gustav Mahler and Pierre Boulez, that seems likely to have struck at least some Times readers as faint praise.

①For my part, I have no idea whether Gilbert is a great conductor or even a good one. ②To be sure, he performs an impressive variety of interesting compositions, but it is not necessary for me to visit Avery Fisher Hall, or anywhere else, to hear interesting orchestral music. ③All I have to do is to go to my CD shelf, or boot up my computer and download still more recorded music from iTunes.

①Devoted concertgoers who reply that recordings are no substitute for live performance are missing the point. ②For the time, attention, and money of the art-loving public, classical instrumentalists must compete not only with opera houses, dance troupes, theater companies, and museums, but also with the recorded performances of the great classical musicians of the 20th century. ③These recordings are cheap, available everywhere, and very often much higher in artistic quality than today’s live performances; moreover, they can be “consumed” at a time and place of the listener’s choosing. ④The widespread availability of such recordings has thus brought about a crisis in the institution of the traditional classical concert.

①One possible response is for classical performers to program attractive new music that is not yet available on record. ②Gilbert’s own interest in new music has been widely noted: Alex Ross, a classical-music critic, has described him as a man who is capable of turning the Philharmonic into “a markedly different, more vibrant organization.” ③But what will be the nature of that difference? ④Merely expanding the orchestra’s repertoire will not be enough. ⑤If Gilbert and the Philharmonic are to succeed, they must first change the relationship between America’s oldest orchestra and the new audience it hopes to attract.

21. We learn from Paragraph 1 that Gilbert’s appointment has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] incurred criticism [B] raised suspicion

[C] received acclaim [D] aroused curiosity

22. Tommasini regards Gilbert as an artist who is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] influential [B] modest

[C] respectable [D] talented

23. The author believes that the devoted concertgoers \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] ignore the expenses of live performances

[B] reject most kinds of recorded performances

[C] exaggerate the variety of live performances

[D] overestimate the value of live performances

24. According to the text, which of the following is true of recordings?

[A] They are often inferior to live concerts in quality.

[B] They are easily accessible to the general public.

[C] They help improve the quality of music.

[D] They have only covered masterpieces.

25. Regarding Gilbert’s role in revitalizing the Philharmonic, the author feels \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] doubtful [B] enthusiastic

[C] confident [D] puzzled

**Text 2**

①When Liam McGee departed as president of Bank of America in August, his explanation was surprisingly straight up. ②Rather than cloaking his exit in the usual vague excuses, he came right out and said he was leaving “to pursue my goal of running a company.” ③Broadcasting his ambition was “very much my decision,” McGee says. ④Within two weeks, he was talking for the first time with the board of Hartford Financial Services Group, which named him CEO and chairman on September 29.

①McGee says leaving without a position lined up gave him time to reflect on what kind of company he wanted to run. ②It also sent a clear message to the outside world about his aspirations. ③And McGee isn’t alone. ④In recent weeks the No. 2 executives at Avon and American Express quit with the explanation that they were looking for a CEO post. ⑤As boards scrutinize succession plans in response to shareholder pressure, executives who don’t get the nod also may wish to move on. ⑥A turbulent business environment also has senior managers cautious of letting vague pronouncements cloud their reputations.

①As the first signs of recovery begin to take hold, deputy chiefs may be more willing to make the jump without a net. ②In the third quarter, CEO turnover was down 23% from a year ago as nervous boards stuck with the leaders they had, according to Liberum Research. ③As the economy picks up, opportunities will abound for aspiring leaders.

①The decision to quit a senior position to look for a better one is unconventional. ②For years executives and headhunters have adhered to the rule that the most attractive CEO candidates are the ones who must be poached. ③Says Korn/Ferry senior partner Dennis Carey: “I can’t think of a single search I’ve done where a board has not instructed me to look at sitting CEOs first.”

①Those who jumped without a job haven’t always landed in top positions quickly. ②Ellen Marram quit as chief of Tropicana a decade ago, saying she wanted to be a CEO. ③It was a year before she became head of a tiny Internet-based commodities exchange. ④Robert Willumstad left Citigroup in 2005 with ambitions to be a CEO. ⑤He finally took that post at a major financial institution three years later.

①Many recruiters say the old disgrace is fading for top performers. ②The financial crisis has made it more acceptable to be between jobs or to leave a bad one. ③“The traditional rule was it’s safer to stay where you are, but that’s been fundamentally inverted,” says one headhunter. ④“The people who’ve been hurt the worst are those who’ve stayed too long.”

26. When McGee announced his departure, his manner can best be described as being \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] arrogant [B] frank

[C] self-centered [D] impulsive

27. According to Paragraph 2, senior executives’ quitting may be spurred by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] their expectation of better financial status

[B] their need to reflect on their private life

[C] their strained relations with the boards

[D] their pursuit of new career goals

28. The word “poached” （Line 3, Paragraph 4） most probably means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] approved of [B] attended to

[C] hunted for [D] guarded against

29. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] top performers used to cling to their posts

[B] loyalty of top performers is getting out-dated

[C] top performers care more about reputations

[D] it’s safer to stick to the traditional rules

30. Which of the following is the best title for the text?

[A] CEOs: Where to Go?

[B] CEOs: All the Way Up?

[C] Top Managers Jump without a Net

[D] The Only Way Out for Top Performers

**Text 3**

①The rough guide to marketing success used to be that you got what you paid for. ②No longer. ③While traditional “paid” media—such as television commercials and print advertisements—still play a major role, companies today can exploit many alternative forms of media. ④Consumers passionate about a product may create “earned” media by willingly promoting it to friends, and a company may leverage “owned” media by sending e-mail alerts about products and sales to customers registered with its Web site. ⑤The way consumers now approach the process of making purchase decisions means that marketing’s impact stems from a broad range of factors beyond conventional paid media.

①Paid and owned media are controlled by marketers promoting their own products. ②For earned media, such marketers act as the initiator for users’ responses. ③But in some cases, one marketer’s owned media become another marketer’s paid media—for instance, when an e-commerce retailer sells ad space on its Web site. ④We define such sold media as owned media whose traffic is so strong that other organizations place their content or e-commerce engines within that environment. ⑤This trend, which we believe is still in its infancy, effectively began with retailers and travel providers such as airlines and hotels and will no doubt go further. ⑥Johnson & Johnson, for example, has created BabyCenter, a stand-alone media property that promotes complementary and even competitive products. ⑦Besides generating income, the presence of other marketers makes the site seem objective, gives companies opportunities to learn valuable information about the appeal of other companies’ marketing, and may help expand user traffic for all companies concerned.

①The same dramatic technological changes that have provided marketers with more （and more diverse） communications choices have also increased the risk that passionate consumers will voice their opinions in quicker, more visible, and much more damaging ways. ②Such hijacked media are the opposite of earned media: an asset or campaign becomes hostage to consumers, other stakeholders, or activists who make negative allegations about a brand or product. ③Members of social networks, for instance, are learning that they can hijack media to apply pressure on the businesses that originally created them.

①If that happens, passionate consumers would try to persuade others to boycott products, putting the reputation of the target company at risk. ②In such a case, the company’s response may not be sufficiently quick or thoughtful, and the learning curve has been steep. ③Toyota Motor, for example, alleviated some of the damage from its recall crisis earlier this year with a relatively quick and well-orchestrated social-media response campaign, which included efforts to engage with consumers directly on sites such as Twitter and the social-news site Digg. （443 words）

31. Consumers may create “earned” media when they are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] obsessed with online shopping at certain Web sites

[B] inspired by product-promoting e-mails sent to them

[C] eager to help their friends promote quality products

[D] enthusiastic about recommending their favorite products

32. According to Paragraph 2, sold media feature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] a safe business environment [B] random competition

[C] strong user traffic [D] flexibility in organization

33. The author indicates in Paragraph 3 that earned media \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] invite constant conflicts with passionate consumers

[B] can be used to produce negative effects in marketing

[C] may be responsible for fiercer competition

[D] deserve all the negative comments about them

34. Toyota Motor’s experience is cited as an example of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] responding effectively to hijacked media

[B] persuading customers into boycotting products

[C] cooperating with supportive consumers

[D] taking advantage of hijacked media

35. Which of the following is the text mainly about?

[A] Alternatives to conventional paid media.

[B] Conflict between hijacked and earned media.

[C] Dominance of hijacked media.

[D] Popularity of owned media.

**Text 4**

①It’s no surprise that Jennifer Senior’s insightful, provocative magazine cover story, “I love My Children, I Hate My Life,” is arousing much chatter—nothing gets people talking like the suggestion that child rearing is anything less than a completely fulfilling, life-enriching experience. ②Rather than concluding that children make parents either happy or miserable, Senior suggests we need to redefine happiness: instead of thinking of it as something that can be measured by moment-to-moment joy, we should consider being happy as a past-tense condition. ③Even though the day-to-day experience of raising kids can be soul-crushingly hard, Senior writes that “the very things that in the moment dampen our moods can later be sources of intense gratification and delight.”

①The magazine cover showing an attractive mother holding a cute baby is hardly the only Madonna-and-child image on newsstands this week. ②There are also stories about newly adoptive—and newly single—mom Sandra Bullock, as well as the usual “Jennifer Aniston is pregnant” news. ③Practically every week features at least one celebrity mom, or mom-to-be, smiling on the newsstands.

①In a society that so persistently celebrates procreation, is it any wonder that admitting you regret having children is equivalent to admitting you support kitten-killing? ②It doesn’t seem quite fair, then, to compare the regrets of parents to the regrets of the childless. ③Unhappy parents rarely are provoked to wonder if they shouldn’t have had kids, but unhappy childless folks are bothered with the message that children are the single most important thing in the world: obviously their misery must be a direct result of the gaping baby-size holes in their lives.

①Of course, the image of parenthood that celebrity magazines like Us Weekly and People present is hugely unrealistic, especially when the parents are single mothers like Bullock. ②According to several studies concluding that parents are less happy than childless couples, single parents are the least happy of all. ③No shock there, considering how much work it is to raise a kid without a partner to lean on; yet to hear Sandra and Britney tell it, raising a kid on their “own” （read: with round-the-clock help） is a piece of cake.

①It’s hard to imagine that many people are dumb enough to want children just because Reese and Angelina make it look so glamorous: most adults understand that a baby is not a haircut. ②But it’s interesting to wonder if the images we see every week of stress-free, happiness-enhancing parenthood aren’t in some small, subconscious way contributing to our own dissatisfactions with the actual experience, in the same way that a small part of us hoped getting “the Rachel” might make us look just a little bit like Jennifer Aniston. （447 words）

36. Jennifer Senior suggests in her article that raising a child can bring \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] temporary delight

[B] enjoyment in progress

[C] happiness in retrospect

[D] lasting reward

37. We learn from Paragraph 2 that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] celebrity moms are a permanent source for gossip

[B] single mothers with babies deserve greater attention

[C] news about pregnant celebrities is entertaining

[D] having children is highly valued by the public

38. It is suggested in Paragraph 3 that childless folks \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] are constantly exposed to criticism

[B] are largely ignored by the media

[C] fail to fulfill their social responsibilities

[D] are less likely to be satisfied with their life

39. According to Paragraph 4, the message conveyed by celebrity magazines is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] soothing [B] ambiguous

[C] compensatory [D] misleading

40. Which of the following can be inferred from the last paragraph?

[A] Having children contributes little to the glamour of celebrity moms.

[B] Celebrity moms have influenced our attitude towards child rearing.

[C] Having children intensifies our dissatisfaction with life.

[D] We sometimes neglect the happiness from child rearing.

**Part B**

**Directions:**

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For Questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent text by choosing from the list A-G to filling them into the numbered boxes. Paragraphs E and G have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

[A] No disciplines have seized on professionalism with as much enthusiasm as the humanities. You can, Mr Menand points out, become a lawyer in three years and a medical doctor in four. But the regular time it takes to get a doctoral degree in the humanities is nine years. Not surprisingly, up to half of all doctoral students in English drop out before getting their degrees.

[B] His concern is mainly with the humanities: literature, languages, philosophy and so on. These are disciplines that are going out of style: 22% of American college graduates now major in business compared with only 2% in history and 4% in English. However, many leading American universities want their undergraduates to have a grounding in the basic canon of ideas that every educated person should possess. But most find it difficult to agree on what a “general education” should look like. At Harvard, Mr Menand notes, “the great books are read because they have been read”—they form a sort of social glue.

[C] Equally unsurprisingly, only about half end up with professorships for which they entered graduate school. There are simply too few posts. This is partly because universities continue to produce ever more PhDs. But fewer students want to study humanities subjects: English departments awarded more bachelor’s degrees in 1970-71 than they did 20 years later. Fewer students require fewer teachers. So, at the end of a decade of thesis-writing, many humanities students leave the profession to do something for which they have not been trained.

[D] One reason why it is hard to design and teach such courses is that they cut across the insistence by top American universities that liberal-arts education and professional education should be kept separate, taught in different schools. Many students experience both varieties. Although more than half of Harvard undergraduates end up in law, medicine or business, future doctors and lawyers must study a non-specialist liberal-arts degree before embarking on a professional qualification.

[E] Besides professionalising the professions by this separation, top American universities have professionalised the professor. The growth in public money for academic research has speeded the process: federal research grants rose fourfold between 1960 and 1990, but faculty teaching hours fell by half as research took its toll. Professionalism has turned the acquisition of a doctoral degree into a prerequisite for a successful academic career: as late as 1969 a third of American professors did not possess one. But the key idea behind professionalisation, argues Mr Menand, is that “the knowledge and skills needed for a particular specialisation are transmissible but not transferable.” So disciplines acquire a monopoly not just over the production of knowledge, but also over the production of the producers of knowledge.

[F] The key to reforming higher education, concludes Mr Menand, is to alter the way in which “the producers of knowledge are produced.” Otherwise, academics will continue to think dangerously alike, increasingly detached from the societies which they study, investigate and criticise. “Academic inquiry, at least in some fields, may need to become less exclusionary and more holistic.” Yet quite how that happens, Mr Menand does not say.

[G] The subtle and intelligent little book The Marketplace of Ideas: Reform and Resistance in the American University should be read by every student thinking of applying to take a doctoral degree. They may then decide to go elsewhere. For something curious has been happening in American universities, and Louis Menand, a professor of English at Harvard University, captured it skillfully.

G →41. →42. →E →43. →44. →45.

**Part C**

**Directions:**

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written carefully on ANSWER SHEET 2. (10 points)

With its theme that “Mind is the master weaver,” creating our inner character and outer circumstances, the book As a Man Thinketh by James Allen is an in-depth exploration of the central idea of self-help writing.

（46） Allen’s contribution was to take an assumption we all share—that because we are not robots we therefore control our thoughts—and reveal its erroneous nature. Because most of us believe that mind is separate from matter, we think that thoughts can be hidden and made powerless; this allows us to think one way and act another. However, Allen believed that the unconscious mind generates as much action as the conscious mind, and （47） while we may be able to sustain the illusion of control through the conscious mind alone, in reality we are continually faced with a question: “Why cannot I make myself do this or achieve that? ”

Since desire and will are damaged by the presence of thoughts that do not accord with desire, Allen concluded: “We do not attract what we want, but what we are.” Achievement happens because you as a person embody the external achievement; you don’t “get” success but become it. There is no gap between mind and matter.

Part of the fame of Allen’s book is its contention that “Circumstances do not make a person, they reveal him.”（48） This seems a justification for neglect of those in need, and a rationalization of exploitation, of the superiority of those at the top and the inferiority of those at the bottom.

This, however, would be a knee-jerk reaction to a subtle argument. Each set of circumstances, however bad, offers a unique opportunity for growth. If circumstances always determined the life and prospects of people, then humanity would never have progressed. In fact, （49） circumstances seem to be designed to bring out the best in us, and if we feel that we have been “wronged” then we are unlikely to begin a conscious effort to escape from our situation. Nevertheless, as any biographer knows, a person’s early life and its conditions are often the greatest gift to an individual.

The sobering aspect of Allen’s book is that we have no one else to blame for our present condition except ourselves. （50） The upside is the possibilities contained in knowing that everything is up to us; where before we were experts in the array of limitations, now we become authorities of what is possible. （405 words）

## Section Ⅲ Writing

**Part A**

51. **Directions:**

Write a letter to a friend of yours to

1） recommend one of your favorite movies and

2） give reasons for your recommendation.

You should write about 100 words on ANSWER SHEET 2.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use “Li Ming” instead.

Do not write the address. （10 points）

**Part B**

**52. Directions:**

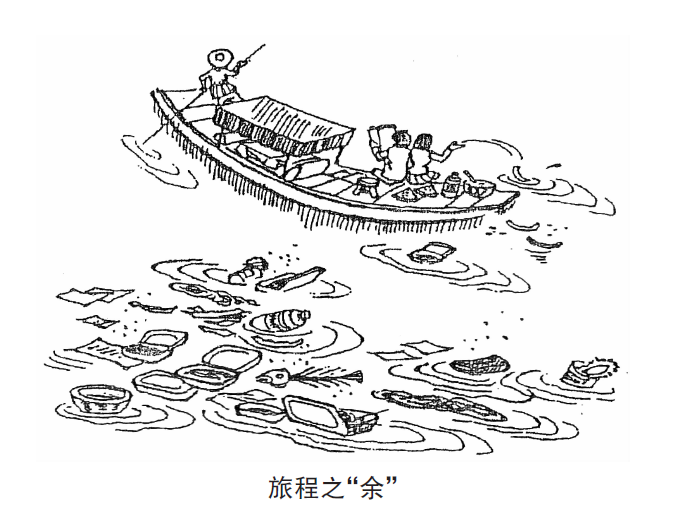
Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following drawing. In your essay, you should

1） describe the drawing briefly,

2） explain it’s intended meaning, and

3） give your comments.

You should write neatly on ANSWER SHEET 2. （20 points）



2012年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

## Section I Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

①The ethical judgments of the Supreme Court justices have become an important issue recently. ②The court cannot 1 its legitimacy as guardian of the rule of law 2 justices behave like politicians. ③Yet, in several instances, justices acted in ways that 3 the court’s reputation for being independent and impartial.

①Justice Antonin Scalia, for example, appeared at political events. ②That kind of activity makes it less likely that the court’s decisions will be 4 as impartial judgments. ③Part of the problem is that the justices are not 5 by an ethics code. ④At the very least, the court should make itself 6 to the code of conduct that 7 to the rest of the federal judiciary.

①This and other similar cases 8 the question of whether there is still a 9 between the court and politics.

①The framers of the Constitution envisioned law 10 having authority apart from politics. ②They gave justices permanent positions 11 they would be free to 12 those in power and have no need to 13 political support. ③Our legal system was designed to set law apart from politics precisely because they are so closely 14 .

①Constitutional law is political because it results from choices rooted in fundamental social 15 like liberty and property. ②When the court deals with social policy decisions, the law it 16 is inescapably political — which is why decisions split along ideological lines are so easily 17 as unjust.

①The justices must 18 doubts about the court’s legitimacy by making themselves 19 to the code of conduct. ②That would make their rulings more likely to be seen as separate from politics and, 20 , convincing as law.

1. [A] emphasize [B] maintain [C] modify [D] recognize

2. [A] when [B] lest [C] before [D] unless

3. [A] restored [B] weakened [C] established [D] eliminated

4. [A] challenged [B] compromised [C] suspected [D] accepted

5. [A] advanced [B] caught [C] bound [D] founded

6. [A] resistant [B] subject [C] immune [D] prone

7. [A] resorts [B] sticks [C] leads [D] applies

8. [A] evade [B] raise [C] deny [D] settle

9. [A] line [B] barrier [C] similarity [D] conflict

10. [A] by [B] as [C] through [D] towards

11. [A] so [B] since [C] provided [D] though

12. [A] serve [B] satisfy [C] upset [D] replace

13. [A] confirm [B] express [C] cultivate [D] offer

14. [A] guarded [B] followed [C] studied [D] tied

15. [A] concepts [B] theories [C] divisions [D] conceptions

16. [A] excludes [B] questions [C] shapes [D] controls

17. [A] dismissed [B] released [C] ranked [D] distorted

18. [A] suppress [B] exploit [C] address [D] ignore

19. [A] accessible [B] amiable [C] agreeable [D] accountable

20. [A] by all means [B] at all costs [C] in a word [D] as a result

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

****Text 1****

①Come on—Everybody’s doing it. ②That whispered message, half invitation and half forcing, is what most of us think of when we hear the words *peer pressure*. ③It usually leads to no good—drinking, drugs and casual sex. ④But in her new book, *Join the Club*, Tina Rosenberg contends that peer pressure can also be a positive force through what she calls the social cure, in which organizations and officials use the power of group dynamics to help individuals improve their lives and possibly the world.

①Rosenberg, the recipient of a Pulitzer Prize, offers a host of examples of the social cure in action: In South Carolina, a state-sponsored antismoking program called Rage Against the Haze sets out to make cigarettes uncool. ②In South Africa, an HIV-prevention initiative known as LoveLife recruits young people to promote safe sex among their peers.

①The idea seems promising，and Rosenberg is a perceptive observer. ②Her critique of the lameness of many public-health campaigns is spot-on: they fail to mobilize peer pressure for healthy habits, and they demonstrate a seriously flawed understanding of psychology. ③ “Dare to be different, please don’t smoke!” pleads one billboard campaign aimed at reducing smoking among teenagers—*teenagers*, who desire nothing more than fitting in. ④Rosenberg argues convincingly that public-health advocates ought to take a page from advertisers, so skilled at applying peer pressure.

①But on the general effectiveness of the social cure, Rosenberg is less persuasive. ②*Join the Club* is filled with too much irrelevant detail and not enough exploration of the social and biological factors that make peer pressure so powerful. ③The most glaring flaw of the social cure as it’s presented here is that it doesn’t work very well for very long. ④Rage Against the Haze failed once state funding was cut. ⑤Evidence that the LoveLife program produces lasting changes is limited and mixed.

①There’s no doubt that our peer groups exert enormous influence on our behavior. ②An emerging body of research shows that positive health habits—as well as negative ones—spread through networks of friends via social communication. ③This is a subtle form of peer pressure: we unconsciously imitate the behavior we see every day.

①Far less certain, however, is how successfully experts and bureaucrats can select our peer groups and steer their activities in virtuous directions. ②It’s like the teacher who breaks up the troublemakers in the back row by pairing them with better-behaved classmates. ③The tactic never really works. ④And that’s the problem with a social cure engineered from the outside: in the real world, as in school, we insist on choosing our own friends.

21. According to the first paragraph, peer pressure often emerges as \_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] a supplement to the social cure

　　[B] a stimulus to group dynamics

　　[C] an obstacle to social progress

　　[D] a cause of undesirable behaviors

22. Rosenberg holds that public-health advocates should \_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] recruit professional advertisers

　　[B] learn from advertisers’ experience

　　[C] stay away from commercial advertisers

　　[D] recognize the limitations of advertisements

23. In the author’s view, Rosenberg’s book fails to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] adequately probe social and biological factors

　　[B] effectively evade the flaws of the social cure

　　[C] illustrate the functions of state funding

　　[D] produce a long-lasting social effect

24. Paragraph 5 shows that our imitation of behaviors \_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] is harmful to our networks of friends

　　[B] will mislead behavioral studies

　　[C] occurs without our realizing it

　　[D] can produce negative health habits

25. The author suggests in the last paragraph that the effect of peer pressure is \_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] harmful　　 [B] desirable　 　[C] profound　 　[D] questionable

****Text 2****

　　①A deal is a deal—except, apparently, when Entergy is involved. ②The company, a major energy supplier in New England, provoked justified outrage in Vermont last week when it announced it was reneging on a longstanding commitment to abide by the strict nuclear regulations.

　　①Instead, the company has done precisely what it had long promised it would not：challenge the constitutionality of Vermont’s rules in federal court, as part of a desperate effort to keep its Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant running. ②It’s a stunning move.

　　①The conflict has been surfacing since 2002, when the corporation bought Vermont’s only nuclear power plant, an aging reactor in Vernon. ②As a condition of receiving state approval for the sale, the company agreed to seek permission from state regulators to operate past 2012. ③In 2006, the state went a step further, requiring that any extension of the plant’s license be subject to the Vermont legislature’s approval. ④Then, too, the company went along.

　　①Either Entergy never really intended to live by those commitments, or it simply didn’t foresee what would happen next. ②A string of accidents, including the partial collapse of a cooling tower in 2007 and the discovery of an underground pipe system leakage, raised serious questions about both Vermont Yankee’s safety and Entergy’s management—especially after the company made misleading statements about the pipe.③Enraged by Entergy’s behavior, the Vermont Senate voted 26 to 4 last year against allowing an extension.

　　①Now the company is suddenly claiming that the 2002 agreement is invalid because of the 2006 legislation, and that only the federal government has regulatory power over nuclear issues. ②The legal issues in the case are obscure: whereas the Supreme Court has ruled that states do have some regulatory authority over nuclear power, legal scholars say the Vermont case will offer a precedent-setting test of how far those powers extend. ③Certainly, there are valid concerns about the patchwork regulations that could result if every state sets its own rules. ④But had Entergy kept its word, that debate would be beside the point.

　　①The company seems to have concluded that its reputation in Vermont is already so damaged that it has nothing left to lose by going to war with the state. ②But there should be consequences. ③Permission to run a nuclear plant is a public trust. ④Entergy runs 11 other reactors in the United States, including Pilgrim Nuclear station in Plymouth. ⑤Pledging to run Pilgrim safely, the company has applied for federal permission to keep it open for another 20 years. ⑥But as the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reviews the company’s application, it should keep in mind what promises from Entergy are worth.

26. The phrase “reneging on”(Line 3.para.1) is closest in meaning to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] condemning　　[B] reaffirming　　[C] dishonoring [D] securing

27. By entering into the 2002 agreement, Entergy intended to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] obtain protection from Vermont regulators

　　[B] seek favor from the federal legislature

[C] acquire an extension of its business license

[D] get permission to purchase a power plant

28. According to Paragraph 4, Entergy seems to have problems with its\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] managerial practices

[B] technical innovativeness

[C] financial goals

[D] business vision

29. In the author’s view, the Vermont case will test\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] Entergy’s capacity to fulfill all its promises

　　[B] the nature of states’ patchwork regulations

　　[C] the federal authority over nuclear issues

　　[D] the limits of states’ power over nuclear issues

30. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] Entergy’s business elsewhere might be affected

　　[B] the authority of the NRC will be defied

　　[C] Entergy will withdraw its Plymouth application

　　[D] Vermont’s reputation might be damaged

**Text 3**

①In the idealized version of how science is done, facts about the world are waiting to be observed and collected by objective researchers who use the scientific method to carry out their work. ②But in the everyday practice of science, discovery frequently follows an ambiguous and complicated route. ③We aim to be objective, but we cannot escape the context of our unique life experience. ④Prior knowledge and interest influence what we experience, what we think our experiences mean, and the subsequent actions we take. ⑤Opportunities for misinterpretation, error, and self-deception abound.

①Consequently, discovery claims should be thought of as protoscience. ②Similar to newly staked mining claims, they are full of potential. ③But it takes collective scrutiny and acceptance to transform a discovery claim into a mature discovery. ④This is the credibility process, through which the individual researcher’s *me, here, now* becomes the community’s *anyone, anywhere, anytime*. ⑤Objective knowledge is the goal, not the starting point.

①Once a discovery claim becomes public, the discoverer receives intellectual credit. ②But, unlike with mining claims, the community takes control of what happens next. ③Within the complex social structure of the scientific community, researchers make discoveries; editors and reviewers act as gatekeepers by controlling the publication process; other scientists use the new finding to suit their own purposes; and finally, the public (including other scientists) receives the new discovery and possibly accompanying technology. ④As a discovery claim works its way through the community, the interaction and confrontation between shared and competing beliefs about the science and the technology involved transforms an individual’s discovery claim into the community’s credible discovery.

①Two paradoxes exist throughout this credibility process. ②First, scientific work tends to focus on some aspect of prevailing knowledge that is viewed as incomplete or incorrect. ③Little reward accompanies duplication and confirmation of what is already known and believed. ④The goal is new-search, not re-search. ⑤Not surprisingly, newly published discovery claims and credible discoveries that appear to be important and convincing will always be open to challenge and potential modification or refutation by future researchers. ⑥Second, novelty itself frequently provokes disbelief. ⑦Nobel Laureate and physiologist Albert Szent-Györgyi once described discovery as “seeing what everybody has seen and thinking what nobody has thought.” ⑧But thinking what nobody else has thought and telling others what they have missed may not change their views. ⑨Sometimes years are required for truly novel discovery claims to be accepted and appreciated.

①In the end, credibility “happens” to a discovery claim – a process that corresponds to what philosopher Annette Baier has described as the commons of the mind. ②“We reason together, challenge, revise, and complete each other’s reasoning and each other’s conceptions of reason.”

31. According to the first paragraph, the process of discovery is characterized by its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] uncertainty and complexity

[B] misconception and deceptiveness

[C] logicality and objectivity

[D] systematicness and regularity

32. It can be inferred from Paragraph 2 that the credibility process requires \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] strict inspection 　 [B] shared efforts

[C] individual wisdom [D] persistent innovation

33. Paragraph 3 shows that a discovery claim becomes credible after it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] has attracted the attention of the general public

[B] has been examined by the scientific community

[C] has received recognition from editors and reviewers

[D] has been frequently quoted by peer scientists

34. Albert Szent-Györgyi would most likely agree that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] scientific claims will survive challenges

[B] discoveries today inspire future research

[C] efforts to make discoveries are justified

[D] scientific work calls for a critical mind

35. Which of the following would be the best title of the test?

[A] Novelty as an Engine of Scientific Development.

[B] Collective Scrutiny in Scientific Discovery.

[C] Evolution of Credibility in Doing Science.

[D] Challenge to Credibility at the Gate to Science.

**Text 4**

　　①If the trade unionist Jimmy Hoffa were alive today, he would probably represent civil servant. ②When Hoffa’s Teamsters were in their prime in 1960, only one in ten American government workers belonged to a union; now 36% do. ③In 2009 the number of unionists in America’s public sector passed that of their fellow members in the private sector. ④In Britain, more than half of public-sector workers but only about 15% of private-sector ones are unionized.

　　①There are three reasons for the public-sector unions’ thriving. ②First, they can shut things down without suffering much in the way of consequences. ③Second, they are mostly bright and well-educated. ④A quarter of America’s public-sector workers have a university degree. ⑤Third, they now dominate left-of-centre politics. ⑥Some of their ties go back a long way. ⑦Britain’s Labor Party, as its name implies, has long been associated with trade unionism. ⑧Its current leader, Ed Miliband, owes his position to votes from public-sector unions.

　　①At the state level their influence can be even more fearsome. ②Mark Baldassare of the Public Policy Institute of California points out that much of the state’s budget is patrolled by unions. ③The teachers’ unions keep an eye on schools, the CCPOA on prisons and a variety of labor groups on health care.

　　①In many rich countries average wages in the state sector are higher than in the private one. ②But the real gains come in benefits and work practices. ③Politicians have repeatedly “backloaded” public-sector pay deals, keeping the pay increases modest but adding to holidays and especially pensions that are already generous.

　　①Reform has been vigorously opposed, perhaps most notoriously in education, where charter schools, academies and merit pay all faced drawn-out battles. ②Even though there is plenty of evidence that the quality of the teachers is the most important variable, teachers’ unions have fought against getting rid of bad ones and promoting good ones.

　　①As the cost to everyone else has become clearer, politicians have begun to clamp down. ②In Wisconsin the unions have rallied thousands of supporters against Scott Walker, the hardline Republican governor. ③But many within the public sector suffer under the current system, too.

①John Donahue at Harvard’s Kennedy School points out that the norms of culture in Western civil services suit those who want to stay put but is bad for high achievers. ②The only American public-sector workers who earn well above $250,000 a year are university sports coaches and the president of the United States. ③Bankers’ fat pay packets have attracted much criticism, but a public-sector system that does not reward high achievers may be a much bigger problem for America.

36. It can be learned from the first paragraph that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　 [A] Teamsters still have a large body of members

　 [B] Jimmy Hoffa used to work as a civil servant

　 [C] unions have enlarged their public-sector membership

　 [D] the government has improved its relationship with unionists

37. Which of the following is true of Paragraph 2?

　 [A] Public-sector unions are prudent in taking actions.

　 [B] Education is required for public-sector union membership.

　 [C] Labor Party has long been fighting against public-sector unions.

　 [D] Public-sector unions seldom get in trouble for their actions.

38. It can be learned from Paragraph 4 that the income in the state sector is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　 [A] illegally secured

　 [C] excessively increased

　 [B] indirectly augmented

　 [D] fairly adjusted

39. The example of the unions in Wisconsin shows that unions\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　 [A] often run against the current political system

　 [B] can change people’s political attitudes

　 [C] may be a barrier to public-sector reforms

　 [D] are dominant in the government

40. John Donahue’s attitude towards the public-sector system is one of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　 [A] disapproval

　 [B] appreciation

　 [C] tolerance

　 [D] indifference

**Part B**

**Directions:**

In the following text, some sentences have been removed. For Questions 41-45, choose the most suitable one from the list A-G to fit into each of the numbered blanks. There are two extra choices, which do not fit in any of the blanks. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET1. (10 points)

　　Think of those fleeting moments when you look out of an aeroplane window and realise that you are flying, higher than a bird. Now think of your laptop, thinner than a brown-paper envelope, or your cellphone in the palm of your hand. Take a moment or two to wonder at those marvels. You are the lucky inheritor of a dream come true.

　　The second half of the 20th century saw a collection of geniuses, warriors, entrepreneurs and visionaries labour to create a fabulous machine that could function as a typewriter and printing press, studio and theatre, paintbrush and gallery, piano and radio, the mail as well as the mail carrier. (41)

　　The networked computer is an amazing device, the first media machine that serves as the mode of production, means of distribution, site of reception, and place of praise and critique. The computer is the 21st century's culture machine.

　　But for all the reasons there are to celebrate the computer, we must also tread with caution. (42) I call it a secret war for two reasons. First, most people do not realise that there are strong commercial agendas at work to keep them in passive consumption mode. Second, the majority of people who use networked computers to upload are not even aware of the significance of what they are doing.

　　All animals download, but only a few upload. Beavers build dams and birds make nests. Yet for the most part, the animal kingdom moves through the world downloading. Humans are unique in their capacity to not only make tools but then turn around and use them to create superfluous material goods—paintings, sculpture and architecture—and superfluous experiences—music, literature, religion and philosophy. (43)

　　For all the possibilities of our new culture machines, most people are still stuck in download mode. Even after the advent of widespread social media, a pyramid of production remains, with a small number of people uploading material, a slightly larger group commenting on or modifying that content, and a huge percentage remaining content to just consume. (44)

　　Television is a one-way tap flowing into our homes. The hardest task that television asks of anyone is to turn the power off after he has turned it on.

　　(45)

What counts as meaningful uploading? My definition revolves around the concept of "stickiness" —creations and experiences to which others adhere.

　　[A] Of course, it is precisely these superfluous things that define human culture and ultimately what it is to be human. Downloading and consuming culture requires great skills, but failing to move beyond downloading is to strip oneself of a defining constituent of humanity.

　　[B] Applications like tumblr.com, which allow users to combine pictures, words and other media in creative ways and then share them, have the potential to add stickiness by amusing, entertaining and enlightening others.

　　[C] Not only did they develop such a device but by the turn of the millennium they had also managed to embed it in a worldwide system accessed by billions of people every day.

　　[D] This is because the networked computer has sparked a secret war between downloading and uploading—between passive consumption and active creation—whose outcome will shape our collective future in ways we can only begin to imagine.

　　[E] The challenge the computer mounts to television thus bears little similarity to one format being replaced by another in the manner of record players being replaced by CD players.

　　[F] One reason for the persistence of this pyramid of production is that for the past half-century, much of the world's media culture has been defined by a single medium—television —and television is defined by downloading.

[G]The networked computer offers the first chance in 50 years to reverse the flow, to encourage thoughtful downloading and, even more importantly, meaningful uploading.

**Part C**

**Directions:**

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written carefully on ANSWER SHEET 2. (10 points)

Since the days of Aristotle, a search for universal principles has characterized the scientific enterprise. In some ways, this quest for commonalities defines science. Newton’s laws of motion and Darwinian evolution each bind a host of different phenomena into a single explicatory framework.

（46）In physics, one approach takes this impulse for unification to its extreme, and seeks a theory of everything — a single generative equation for all we see. It is becoming less clear, however, that such a theory would be a simplification, given the dimensions and universes that it might entail. Nonetheless, unification of sorts remains a major goal.

This tendency in the natural sciences has long been evident in the social sciences too. （47）Here, Darwinism seems to offer justification, for if all humans share common origins, it seems reasonable to suppose that cultural diversity could also be traced to more constrained beginnings. Just as the bewildering variety of human courtship rituals might all be considered to be forms of sexual selection, perhaps the world’s languages, music, social and religious customs and even history are governed by universal features. （48）To filter out what is unique from what is shared might enable us to understand how complex cultural behaviour arose and what guides it in evolutionary or cognitive terms.

That, at least, is the hope. But a comparative study of linguistic traits published online today supplies a reality check. Russell Gray at the University of Auckland and his colleagues consider the evolution of grammars in the light of two previous attempts to find universality in language.

The most famous of these efforts was initiated by Noam Chomsky, who suggested that humans are born with an innate language-acquisition capacity that dictates a universal grammar. A few generative rules are then sufficient to unfold the entire fundamental structure of a language, which is why children can learn it so quickly.

（49）The second, by Joshua Greenberg, takes a more empirical approach to universality, identifying traits (particularly in word order) shared by many languages, which are considered to represent biases that result from cognitive constraints.

Gray and his colleagues have put them to the test by examining four family trees that between them represent more than 2,000 languages. （50）Chomsky’s grammar should show patterns of language change that are independent of the family tree or the pathway tracked through it, whereas Greenbergian universality predicts strong co-dependencies between particular types of word-order relations. Neither of these patterns is borne out by the analysis, suggesting that the structures of the languages are lineage-specific and not governed by universals.

## Section Ⅲ Writing

**Part A**

51. **Directions:**

　　Some international students are coming to your university. Write them an email in the name of the Students’ Union to

　　1) extend your welcome and

　　2) provide some suggestions for their campus life here.

　　You should write about 100 words on ANSWER SHEET2.Do not sign your name at the end of the letter. Use “Li Ming” instead.

Do not write the address. (10 points)

**Part B**

52. **Directions:**

write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following drawing. In your essay you should

　　1) describe the drawing briefly,

　　2) explain its intended meaning, and

　　3) give your comments.

　　You should write neatly on ANSWER SHEET2. (20 points)



# 2013年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

## Section I   Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

①People are, on the whole, poor at considering background information when making individual decisions. ②At first glance this might seem like a strength that 1 the ability to make judgments which are unbiased by 2 factors. ③But Dr Uri Simonsohn speculated that an inability to consider the big 3 was leading decision-makers to be biased by the daily samples of information they were working with. ④ 4 , he theorised that a judge 5 of appearing too soft 6 crime might be more likely to send someone to prison 7 he had already sentenced five or six other defendants only to forced community service on that day.

①To 8 this idea, he turned to the university-admissions process. ②In theory, the 9 of an applicant should not depend on the few others 10 randomly for interview during the same day, but Dr Simonsohn suspected the truth was 11 .

①He studied the results of 9,323 MBA interviews 12 by 31 admissions officers. ②The interviewers had 13 applicants on a scale of one to five. ③This scale 14 numerous factors into consideration. ④The scores were 15 used in conjunction with an applicant’s score on the Graduate Management Admission Test, or GMAT, a standardised exam which is 16 out of 800 points, to make a decision on whether to accept him or her.

①Dr Simonsohn found if the score of the previous candidate in a daily series of interviewees was 0.75 points or more higher than that of the one 17 that, then the score for the next applicant would 18 by an average of 0.075 points. ②This might sound small, but to 19 the effects of such a decrease a candidate would need 30 more GMAT points than would otherwise have been 20 .

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | [A] grants | [B] submits | [C] transmits | [D] delivers |
| 2. | [A] minor | [B] objective | [C] crucial | [D] external |
| 3. | [A] issue | [B] vision | [C] picture | [D] moment |
| 4. | [A] For example | [B] On average | [C] In principle | [D] Above all |
| 5. | [A] fond | [B] fearful | [C] capable | [D] thoughtless |
| 6. | [A] in | [B] on | [C] to | [D] for |
| 7. | [A] if | [B] until | [C] though | [D] unless |
| 8. | [A] promote | [B]emphasize | [C] share | [D] test |
| 9. | [A] decision | [B] quality | [C] status | [D] success |
| 10. | [A] chosen | [B] studied | [C] found | [D] identified |
| 11. | [A] exceptional | [B] defensible | [C] replaceable | [D] otherwise |
| 12. | [A] inspired | [B] expressed | [C] conducted | [D] secured |
| 13. | [A] assigned | [B] rated | [C] matched | [D] arranged |
| 14. | [A] put | [B] got | [C] gave | [D] took |
| 15. | [A] instead | [B] then | [C] ever | [D] rather |
| 16. | [A] selected | [B] passed | [C] marked | [D] introduced |
| 17. | [A] before | [B] after | [C] above | [D] below |
| 18. | [A] jump | [B] float | [C] drop | [D] fluctuate |
| 19. | [A] achieve | [B] undo | [C] maintain | [D] disregard |
| 20. | [A] promising | [B] possible | [C] necessary | [D] helpful |

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

Directions：Read the following four texts. Answer the questions after each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

**Text 1**

①In the 2006 film version of *The Devil Wears Prada*, Miranda Priestly, played by Meryl Streep, scolds her unattractive assistant for imagining that high fashion doesn’t affect her. ②Priestly explains how the deep blue color of the assistant’s sweater descended over the years from fashion shows to departments stores and to the bargain bin in which the poor girl doubtless found her garment.

①This top-down conception of the fashion business couldn’t be more out of date or at odds with the feverish world described in *Overdressed,* Elizabeth Cline’s three-year indictment of “fast fashion”. ②In the last decade or so, advances in technology have allowed mass-market labels such as Zara, H&M, and Uniqlo to react to trends more quickly and anticipate demand more precisely. ③Quicker turnarounds mean less wasted inventory, more frequent release, and more profit. ④These labels encourage style-conscious consumers to see clothes as disposable—meant to last only a wash or two, although they don’t advertise that—and to renew their wardrobe every few weeks. ⑤By offering on-trend items at dirt-cheap prices, Cline argues, these brands have hijacked fashion cycles, shaking an industry long accustomed to a seasonal pace.

①The victims of this revolution, of course, are not limited to designers. ②For H&M to offer a $5.95 knit miniskirt in all its 2,300-plus stores around the world, it must rely on low-wage overseas labor, order in volumes that strain natural resources, and use massive amounts of harmful chemicals.

①*Overdressed* is the fashion world’s answer to consumer-activist bestsellers like Michael Pollan’s *The Omnivore’s Dilemma*. ②“Mass-produced clothing, like fast food, fills a hunger and need, yet is non-durable and wasteful,” Cline argues. ③Americans, she finds, buy roughly 20 billion garments a year—about 64 items per person—and no matter how much they give away, this excess leads to waste.

①Towards the end of *Overdressed*, Cline introduced her ideal, a Brooklyn woman named Sarah Kate Beaumont, who since 2008 has made all of her own clothes—and beautifully. ②But as Cline is the first to note, it took Beaumont decades to perfect her craft; her example can’t be knocked off.

①Though several fast-fashion companies have made efforts to curb their impact on labor and the environment—including H&M, with its green Conscious Collection line—Cline believes lasting change can only be effected by the customer. ②She exhibits the idealism common to many advocates of sustainability, be it in food or in energy. ③Vanity is a constant; people will only start shopping more sustainably when they can’t afford not to.

21.  Priestly criticizes her assistant for her\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] poor bargaining skill

[B] insensitivity to fashion

[C] obsession with high fashion

[D] lack of imagination

 22. According to Cline, mass-market labels urge consumers to\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] combat unnecessary waste

[B] shut out the feverish fashion world

[C] resist the influence of advertisements

[D] shop for their garments more frequently

 23. The word “indictment” (Line 3, Para. 2) is closest in meaning to\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] accusation [B] enthusiasm [C] indifference [D] tolerance

 24. Which of the following can be inferred from the last paragraph?

[A] Vanity has more often been found in idealists.

[B] The fast-fashion industry ignores sustainability.

[C] People are more interested in unaffordable garments.

[D] Pricing is vital to environment-friendly purchasing.

 25. What is the subject of the text?

[A] Satire on an extravagant lifestyle.

[B] Challenge to a high-fashion myth.

[C] Criticism of the fast-fashion industry.

[D] Exposure of a mass-market secret.

**Text 2**

①An old saying has it that half of all advertising budgets are wasted—the trouble is, no one knows which half. ②In the internet age, at least in theory, this fraction can be much reduced. ③ By watching what people search for, click on and say online, companies can aim “behavioral” ads at those most likely to buy.

①In the past couple of weeks a quarrel has illustrated the value to advertisers of such fine-grained information: Should advertisers assume that people are happy to be tracked and sent behavioral ads? Or should they have explicit permission?

①In December 2010 America’s Federal Trade Commission (FTC) proposed adding a “do not track”(DNT) option to internet browsers, so that users could tell advertisers that they did not want to be followed. ②Microsoft’s Internet Explorer and Apple’s Safari both offer DNT; Google’s Chrome is due to do so this year. ③In February the FTC and Digital Advertising Alliance (DAA) agreed that the industry would get cracking on responding to DNT requests.

①On May 31st Microsoft set off the row. ②It said that Internet Explorer 10, the version due to appear with Windows 8, would have DNT as a default.

①Advertisers are horrified. ②Human nature being what it is, most people stick with default settings. ③Few switch DNT on now, but if tracking is off it will stay off. ④Bob Liodice, the chief executive of the Association of National Advertisers, one of the groups in the DAA, says consumers will be worse off if the industry cannot collect information about their preferences. ⑤People will not get fewer ads, he says. ⑥“They’ll get less meaningful, less targeted ads.”

①It is not yet clear how advertisers will respond. ②Getting a DNT signal does not oblige anyone to stop tracking, although some companies have promised to do so. ③Unable to tell whether someone really objects to behavioral ads or whether they are sticking with Microsoft’s default, some may ignore a DNT signal and press on anyway.

①Also unclear is why Microsoft has gone it alone. ②After all, it has an ad business too, which it says will comply with DNT requests, though it is still working out how. ③If it is trying to upset Google, which relies almost wholly on advertising, it has chosen an indirect method: there is no guarantee that DNT by default will become the norm. ④DNT does not seem an obviously huge selling point for Windows 8—though the firm has compared some of its other products favorably with Google’s on that count before. ⑤Brendon Lynch, Microsoft’s chief privacy officer, blogged: “We believe consumers should have more control.” ⑥Could it really be that simple?

26. It is suggested in Paragraph 1 that “behavioral” ads help advertisers to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] ease competition among themselves

[B] lower their operational costs

[C] avoid complaints from consumers

[D] provide better online services

27. “the industry” (Line 4, Para.3) refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] online advertisers

[B] e-commerce conductors

[C] digital information analysts

[D] internet browser developers

28. Bob Liodice holds that setting DNT as a default \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] may cut the number of junk ads

[B] fails to affect the ad industry

[C] will not benefit consumers

[D] goes against human nature

29. Which of the following is true according to Paragraph 6?

[A] DNT may not serve its intended purpose.

[B] Advertisers are willing to implement DNT.

[C] DNT is losing its popularity among consumers.

[D] Advertisers are obliged to offer behavioral ads.

30. The author’s attitude towards what Brendon Lynch said in his blog is one of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] indulgence

[B] understanding

[C] appreciation

[D] skepticism

****Text 3****

①Up until a few decades ago, our visions of the future were largely—though by no means uniformly—glowingly positive. ②Science and technology would cure all the ills of humanity, leading to lives of fulfillment and opportunity for all.

①Now utopia has grown unfashionable, as we have gained a deeper appreciation of the range of threats facing us, from asteroid strike to epidemic flu and to climate change. ②You might even be tempted to assume that humanity has little future to look forward to.

①But such gloominess is misplaced. ②The fossil record shows that many species have endured for millions of years—so why shouldn't we? ③Take a broader look at our species' place in the universe, and it becomes clear that we have an excellent chance of surviving for tens, if not hundreds, of thousands of years. ④Look up *Homo sapiens* in the “Red List” of threatened species of the International Union for the Conversation of Nature (IUCN), and you will read: “Listed as Least Concern as the species is very widely distributed, adaptable, currently increasing, and there are no major threats resulting in an overall population decline.”

①So what does our deep future hold? ②A growing number of researchers and organisations are now thinking seriously about that question. ③For example, the Long Now Foundation has as its flagship project a mechanical clock that is designed to still be marking time thousands of years hence.

①Perhaps willfully, it may be easier to think about such lengthy timescales than about the more immediate future. ②The potential evolution of today's technology, and its social consequences, is dazzlingly complicated, and it's perhaps best left to science fiction writers and futurologists to explore the many possibilities we can envisage. ③That's one reason why we have launched *Arc*, a new publication dedicated to the near future.

①But take a longer view and there is a surprising amount that we can say with considerable assurance. ②As so often, the past holds the key to the future: we have now identified enough of the long-term patterns shaping the history of the planet, and our species, to make evidence-based forecasts about the situations in which our descendants will find themselves.

①This long perspective makes the pessimistic view of our prospects seem more likely to be a passing fad. ②To be sure, the future is not all rosy. ③But we are now knowledgeable enough to reduce many of the risks that threatened the existence of earlier humans, and to improve the lot of those to come.

31. Our vision of the future used to be inspired by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] our desire for lives of fulfillment

[B] our faith in science and technology

[C] our awareness of potential risks

[D] our belief in equal opportunity

32. The IUCN’s “Red List” suggest that human being are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] a sustained species

[B] a threat to the environment

[C] the world’s dominant power

[D] a misplaced race

33.  Which of the following is true according to Paragraph 5?

[A] Arc helps limit the scope of futurological studies.

[B] Technology offers solutions to social problem.

[C] The interest in science fiction is on the rise.

[D] Our immediate future is hard to conceive.

34. To ensure the future of mankind, it is crucial to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] explore our planet’s abundant resources

[B] adopt an optimistic view of the world

[C] draw on our experience from the past

[D] curb our ambition to reshape history

35.  Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

[A] Uncertainty about Our Future

[B] Evolution of the Human Species

[C] The Ever-bright Prospects of Mankind

[D] Science, Technology and Humanity

**Text 4**

①On a five to three vote, the Supreme Court knocked out much of Arizona’s immigration law Monday—a modest policy victory for the Obama Administration. ②But on the more important matter of the Constitution, the decision was an 8-0 defeat for the Administration’s effort to upset the balance of power between the federal government and the states.

　　①In *Arizona v. United States*, the majority overturned three of the four contested provisions of Arizona’s controversial plan to have state and local police enforce federal immigration law. ②The Constitutional principles that Washington alone has the power to “establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization” and that federal laws precede state laws are noncontroversial. ③Arizona had attempted to fashion state policies that ran parallel to the existing federal ones.

　　①Justice Anthony Kennedy, joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and the Court’s liberals, ruled that the state flew too close to the federal sun. ②On the overturned provisions the majority held that Congress had deliberately “occupied the field” and Arizona had thus intruded on the federal’s privileged powers.

　　①However, the Justices said that Arizona police would be allowed to verify the legal status of people who come in contact with law enforcement. ②That’s because Congress has always envisioned joint federal-state immigration enforcement and explicitly encourages state officers to share information and cooperate with federal colleagues.

　　①Two of the three objecting Justice—Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas—agreed with this Constitutional logic but disagreed about which Arizona rules conflicted with the federal statute. ②The only major objection came from Justice Antonin Scalia, who offered an even more robust defense of state privileges going back to the Alien and Sedition Acts.

　　①The 8-0 objection to President Obama turns on what Justice Samuel Alito describes in his objection as “a shocking assertion of federal executive power”. ②The White House argued that Arizona’s laws conflicted with its enforcement priorities, even if state laws complied with federal statutes to the letter. ③In effect, the White House claimed that it could invalidate any otherwise legitimate state law that it disagrees with.

　　①Some powers do belong exclusively to the federal government, and control of citizenship and the borders is among them. ②But if Congress wanted to prevent states from using their own resources to check immigration status, it could. ③It never did so. ④The administration was in essence asserting that because it didn’t want to carry out Congress’s immigration wishes, no state should be allowed to do so either. ⑤Every Justice rightly rejected this remarkable claim.

36.  Three provisions of Arizona’s plan were overturned because they\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] deprived the federal police of Constitutional powers

[B] disturbed the power balance between different states

[C] overstepped the authority of federal immigration law

[D] contradicted both the federal and state policies

37.  On which of the following did the Justices agree, according to Paragraph 4?

[A] Federal officers’ duty to withhold immigrants’ information.

[B] States’ independence from federal immigration law.

[C] States’ legitimate role in immigration enforcement.

[D] Congress’s intervention in immigration enforcement.

38.   It can be inferred from Paragraph 5 that the Alien and Sedition Acts\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]  violated the Constitution

[B]  undermined the states’ interests

[C]  supported the federal statute

[D]  stood in favor of the states

39.  The White House claims that its power of enforcement\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] outweighs that held by the states

[B] is dependent on the states’ support

[C] is established by federal statutes

[D] rarely goes against state laws

40.   What can be learned from the last paragraph?

[A] Immigration issues are usually decided by Congress.

[B] Justices intended to check the power of the Administration.

[C] Justices wanted to strengthen its coordination with Congress.

[D] The Administration is dominant over immigration issues.

**Part B**

**Directions:**

In the following article, some sentences have been removed. For Questions 41-45, choose the most suitable one from the list A-G to fit into each of the numbered blanks. There are two extra choices, which do not fit in any of the blanks. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

The social sciences are flourishing. As of 2005, there were almost half a million professional social scientists from all fields in the world, working both inside and outside academia. According to the *World Social Science Report 2010*, the number of social-science students worldwide has swollen by about 11% every year since 2000.

Yet this enormous resource is not contributing enough to today’s global challenges including climate change, security, sustainable development and health. (41)\_\_\_\_\_\_Humanity has the necessary agro-technological tools to eradicate hunger, from genetically engineered crops to artificial fertilizers. Here, too, the problems are social: the organization and distribution of food, wealth and prosperity.

(42)\_\_\_\_This is a shame — the community should be grasping the opportunity to raise its influence in the real world. To paraphrase the great social scientist Joseph Schumpeter: there is no radical innovation without creative destruction.

Today, the social sciences are largely focused on disciplinary problems and internal scholarly debates, rather than on topics with external impact. Analyses reveal that the number of papers including the keywords “environmental change” or “climate change” have increased rapidly since 2004. (43)\_\_\_\_

When social scientists do tackle practical issues, their scope is often local: Belgium is interested mainly in the effects of poverty on Belgium, for example. And whether the community’s work contributes much to an overall accumulation of knowledge is doubtful.

The problem is not necessarily the amount of available funding. (44)\_\_\_\_This is an adequate amount so long as it is aimed in the right direction. Social scientists who complain about a lack of funding should not expect more in today’s economic climate. The trick is to direct these funds better. The European Union Framework funding programs have long had a category specifically targeted at social scientists. This year, it was proposed that the system be changed: Horizon 2020, a new program to be enacted in 2014, would not have such a category. This has resulted in protests from social scientists. But the intention is not to neglect social science; rather, the complete opposite. (45)\_\_\_\_That should create more collaborative endeavors and help to develop projects aimed directly at solving global problems.

[A] It could be that we are evolving two communities of social scientists: one that is discipline-oriented and publishing in highly specialized journals, and one that is problem-oriented and publishing elsewhere, such as policy briefs.

[B] However, the numbers are still small: in 2010, about 1,600 of the 100,000 social-sciences papers published globally included one of these keywords.

[C] The idea is to force social scientists to integrate their work with other categories, including health and demographic change; food security; marine research and the bio-economy; clean, efficient energy; and inclusive, innovative and secure societies.

[D] The solution is to change the mindset of the academic community, and what it considers to be its main goal. Global challenges and social innovation ought to receive much more attention from scientists, especially the young ones.

[E] These issues all have root causes in human behavior: all require behavioral change and social innovations, as well as technological development. Stemming climate change, for example, is as much about changing consumption patterns and promoting tax acceptance as it is about developing clean energy.

[F] Despite these factors, many social scientists seem reluctant to tackle such ***problems***. And in Europe, some are up in arms over a proposal to drop a specific funding category for social-science research and to integrate it within cross-cutting topics of sustainable development.

[G] During the late 1990s, national spending on social sciences and the humanities as a percentage of all research and development funds — including government, higher education, non-profit and corporate — varied from around 4% to 25%; in most European nations, it is about 15%.

**Part C**

**Directions:**

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written clearly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

It is speculated that gardens arise from a basic need in the individuals who made them: the need for creative expression. There is no doubt that gardens evidence an impossible urge to create, express, fashion, and beautify and that self-expression is a basic human urge; (46) yet when one looks at the photographs of the garden created by the homeless, it strikes one that, for all their diversity of styles, these gardens speak of various other fundamental urges, beyond that of decoration and creative expression.

One of these urges has to do with creating a state of peace in the midst of turbulence, a “still point of the turning world,” to borrow a phrase from T. S. Eliot. (47) A sacred place of peace, however crude it may be, is a distinctly human need, as opposed to shelter, which is a distinctly animal need. This distinction is so much so that where the latter is lacking, as it is for these unlikely gardeners, the former becomes all the more urgent. Composure is a state of mind made possible by the structuring of one’s relation to one’s environment. (48) The gardens of the homeless, which are in effect homeless gardens, introduce *form* into an urban environment where it either didn’t exist or was not discernible as such. In so doing they give composure to a segment of the inarticulate environment in which they take their stand.

Another urge or need that these gardens appear to respond to, or to arise from, is so intrinsic that we are barely ever conscious of its abiding claims on us. When we are deprived of green, of plants, of trees, (49) most of us give in to a demoralization of spirit which we usually blame on some psychological conditions, until one day we find ourselves in a garden and feel the oppression vanish as if by magic. In most of the homeless gardens of New York City the actual cultivation of plants is unfeasible, yet even so the compositions often seem to represent attempts to conjure up the spirit of plant and animal life, if only symbolically, through a clumplike arrangement of materials, an introduction of colors, small pool of water, and a frequent presence of petals or leaves as well as of stuffed animals. On display here are various fantasy elements whose reference, at some basic level, seems to be the natural world. (50) It is this implicit or explicit reference to nature that fully justifies the use of the word *garden,* though in a “liberated” sense, to describe these synthetic constructions. In them we can see biophilia—a yearning for contact with nonhuman life—assuming uncanny representational forms.

## Section III Writing

**Part A**

**51. Directions:**

Write an e-mail of about 100 words to a foreign teacher in your college, inviting him/her to be a judge for the upcoming English speech contest.

You should include the details you think necessary.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

**Do not** sign your own name at the end of the e-mail. Use “Li Ming” instead.

**Do not** write the address. (10 points)

**Part B**

**52. Directions:**

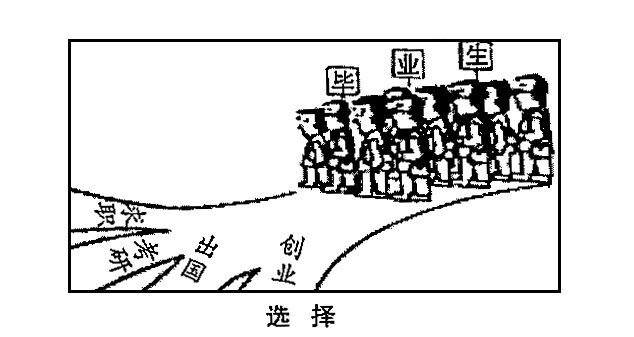
Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following drawing. In your essay, you should

1) describe the drawing briefly,

2) explain its intended meaning, and

3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



# 2014年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

## SectionⅠ Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

As many people hit middle age, they often start to notice that their memory and mental clarity are not what they used to be. We suddenly can’t remember \_\_\_1\_\_\_ we put the keys just a moment ago, or an old acquaintance’s name, or the name of an old band we used to love. As the brain \_\_\_2\_\_\_, we refer to these occurrences as “senior moments.” \_\_\_3\_\_\_ seemingly innocent, this loss of mental focus can potentially have a(n) \_\_\_4\_\_\_ impact on our professional, social, and personal \_\_\_5\_\_\_.

Neuroscientists, experts who study the nervous system, are increasingly showing that there’s actually a lot that can be done. It \_\_\_6\_\_\_out that the brain needs exercise in much the same way our muscles do, and the right mental \_\_\_7\_\_\_ can significantly improve our basic cognitive \_\_\_8\_\_\_. Thinking is essentially a \_\_\_9\_\_\_ of making connections in the brain. To a certain extent, our ability to \_\_\_10\_\_\_ in making the connections that drive intelligence is inherited. \_\_\_11\_\_\_, because these connections are made through effort and practice, scientists believe that intelligence can expand and fluctuate \_\_\_12\_\_\_ mental effort.

Now, a new Web-based company has taken it a step \_\_\_13\_\_\_ and developed the first “brain training program” designed to actually help people improve and regain their mental \_\_\_14\_\_\_.

The Web-based program \_\_\_15\_\_\_ you to systematically improve your memory and attention skills. The program keeps \_\_\_16\_\_\_ of your progress and provides detailed feedback \_\_\_17\_\_\_ your performance and improvement. Most importantly, it \_\_\_18\_\_\_ modifies and enhances the games you play to \_\_\_19\_\_\_ on the strengths you are developing—much like a(n) \_\_\_20\_\_\_ exercise routine requires you to increase resistance and vary your muscle use.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. [A] where | [B] when | [C] that | [D] why |
| 2. [A] improves | [B] fades | [C] recovers | [D] collapses |
| 3. [A] If | [B] Unless | [C] Once | [D] While |
| 4. [A] uneven | [B] limited | [C] damaging | [D] obscure |
| 5. [A] wellbeing | [B] environment | [C] relationship | [D] outlook |
| 6. [A] turns | [B] finds | [C] points | [D] figures |
| 7. [A] roundabouts | [B] responses | [C] workouts | [D] associations |
| 8. [A] genre | [B] functions | [C] circumstances | [D] criterion |
| 9. [A] channel | [B] condition | [C] sequence | [D] process |
| 10. [A] persist | [B] believe | [C] excel | [D] feature |
| 11. [A] Therefore | [B] Moreover | [C] Otherwise | [D] However |
| 12. [A] according to | [B] regardless of | [C] apart from | [D] instead of |
| 13. [A] back | [B] further | [C] aside | [D] around |
| 14. [A] sharpness | [B] stability | [C] framework | [D] flexibility |
| 15. [A] forces | [B] reminds | [C] hurries | [D] allows |
| 16. [A] hold | [B] track | [C] order | [D] pace |
| 17. [A] to | [B] with | [C] for | [D] on |
| 18. [A] irregularly | [B] habitually | [C] constantly | [D] unusually |
| 19. [A] carry | [B] put | [C] build | [D] take |
| 20. [A] risky | [B] effective | [C] idle | [D] familiar |

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions：**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (40 points)

**Text 1**

In order to “change lives for the better” and reduce “dependency,” George Osborne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, introduced the “upfront work search” scheme. Only if the jobless arrive at the jobcentre with a CV, register for online job search, and start looking for work will they be eligible for benefit—and then they should report weekly rather than fortnightly. What could be more reasonable?

More apparent reasonableness followed. There will now be a seven-day wait for the jobseeker’s allowance. “Those first few days should be spent looking for work, not looking to sign on,” he claimed. “We’re doing these things because we know they help people stay off benefits and help those on benefits get into work faster.” Help? Really? On first hearing, this was the socially concerned chancellor, trying to change lives for the better, complete with “reforms” to an obviously indulgent system that demands too little effort from the newly unemployed to find work, and subsidises laziness. What motivated him, we were to understand, was his zeal for “fundamental fairness”—protecting the taxpayer, controlling spending and ensuring that only the most deserving claimants received their benefits.

Losing a job is hurting: you don’t skip down to the jobcentre with a song in your heart, delighted at the prospect of doubling your income from the generous state. It is financially terrifying, psychologically embarrassing and you know that support is minimal and extraordinarily hard to get. You are now not wanted; you are now excluded from the work environment that offers purpose and structure in your life. Worse, the crucial income to feed yourself and your family and pay the bills has disappeared. Ask anyone newly unemployed what they want and the answer is always: a job.

But in Osborneland, your first instinct is to fall into dependency—permanent dependency if you can get it—supported by a state only too ready to indulge your falsehood. It is as though 20 years of ever-tougher reforms of the job search and benefit administration system never happened. The principle of British welfare is no longer that you can insure yourself against the risk of unemployment and receive unconditional payments if the disaster happens. Even the very phrase “jobseeker’s allowance” is about redefining the unemployed as a “jobseeker” who had no fundamental right to a benefit he or she has earned through making national insurance contributions. Instead, the claimant receives a time-limited “allowance,” conditional on actively seeking a job; no entitlement and no insurance, at £71.70 a week, one of the least generous in the EU.

21. George Osborne’s scheme was intended to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] provide the unemployed with easier access to benefits.

[B] encourage jobseekers’ active engagement in job seeking.

[C] motivate the unemployed to report voluntarily.

[D] guarantee jobseekers’ legitimate right to benefits.

22. The phrase “to sign on” (Line 3, Para. 2) most probably means \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] to check on the availability of jobs at the jobcentre.

[B] to accept the government’s restrictions on the allowance.

[C] to register for an allowance from the government.

[D] to attend a governmental job-training program.

23. What promoted the chancellor to develop his scheme?

[A] A desire to secure a better life for all.

[B] An eagerness to protect the unemployed.

[C] An urge to be generous to the claimants.

[D] A passion to ensure fairness for taxpayers.

24. According to Paragraph 3, being unemployed makes one feel \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] uneasy.

[B] enraged.

[C] insulted.

[D] guilty.

25. To which of the following would the author most probably agree?

[A] The British welfare system indulges jobseekers’ laziness.

[B] Osborne’s reforms will reduce the risk of unemployment.

[C] The jobseekers’ allowance has met their actual needs.

[D] Unemployment benefits should not be made conditional.

**Text 2**

All around the world, lawyers generate more hostility than the members of any other profession—with the possible exception of journalism. But there are few places where clients have more grounds for complaint than America.

During the decade before the economic crisis, spending on legal services in America grew twice as fast as inflation. The best lawyers made skyscrapers-full of money, tempting ever more students to pile into law schools. But most law graduates never get a big-firm job. Many of them instead become the kind of nuisance-lawsuit filer that makes the tort system a costly nightmare.

There are many reasons for this. One is the excessive costs of a legal education. There is just one path for a lawyer in most American states: a four-year undergraduate degree in some unrelated subject, then a three-year law degree at one of 200 law schools authorized by the American Bar Association and an expensive preparation for the bar exam. This leaves today’s average law-school graduate with $100,000 of debt on top of undergraduate debts. Law-school debt means that they have to work fearsomely hard.

Reforming the system would help both lawyers and their customers. Sensible ideas have been around for a long time, but the state-level bodies that govern the profession have been too conservative to implement them. One idea is to allow people to study law as an undergraduate degree. Another is to let students sit for the bar after only two years of law school. If the bar exam is truly a stern enough test for a would-be lawyer, those who can sit it earlier should be allowed to do so. Students who do not need the extra training could cut their debt mountain by a third.

The other reason why costs are so high is the restrictive guild-like ownership structure of the business. Except in the District of Columbia, non-lawyers may not own any share of a law firm. This keeps fees high and innovation slow. There is pressure for change from within the profession, but opponents of change among the regulators insist that keeping outsiders out of a law firm isolates lawyers from the pressure to make money rather than serve clients ethically.

In fact, allowing non-lawyers to own shares in law firms would reduce costs and improve services to customers, by encouraging law firms to use technology and to employ professional managers to focus on improving firms’ efficiency. After all, other countries, such as Australia and Britain, have started liberalizing their legal professions. America should follow.

26. A lot of students take up law as their profession due to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the growing demand from clients.

[B] the increasing pressure of inflation.

[C] the prospect of working in big firms.

[D] the attraction of financial rewards.

27. Which of the following adds to the costs of legal education in most American states?

[A] Higher tuition fees for undergraduate studies.

[B] Admissions approval from the bar association.

[C] Pursuing a bachelor’s degree in another major.

[D] Receiving training by professional associations.

28. Hindrance to the reform of the legal system originates from \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] lawyers’ and clients’ strong resistance

[B] the rigid bodies governing the profession

[C] the stern exam for would-be lawyers

[D] non-professionals’ sharp criticism

29. The guild-like ownership structure is considered “restrictive” partly because it \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] bans outsiders’ involvement in the profession.

[B] keeps lawyers from holding law-firm shares.

[C] aggravates the ethical situation in the trade.

[D]prevents lawyers from gaining due profits.

30. In this text, the author mainly discusses \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] flawed ownership of America’s law firms and its causes

[B] the factors that help make a successful lawyer in America

[C] a problem in America’s legal profession and solutions to it

[D] the role of undergraduate studies in America’s legal education

**Text 3**

The US$3-million Fundamental Physics Prize is indeed an interesting experiment, as Alexander Polyakov said when he accepted this year’s award in March. And it is far from the only one of its type. As a News Feature article in *Nature* discusses, a string of lucrative awards for researchers have joined the Nobel Prizes in recent years. Many, like the Fundamental Physics Prize, are funded from the telephone-number-sized bank accounts of Internet entrepreneurs. These benefactors have succeeded in their chosen fields, they say, and they want to use their wealth to draw attention to those who have succeeded in science.

What’s not to like? Quite a lot, according to a handful of scientists quoted in the News Feature. You cannot buy class, as the old saying goes, and these upstart entrepreneurs cannot buy their prizes the prestige of the Nobels. The new awards are an exercise in self-promotion for those behind them, say scientists. They could distort the achievement-based system of peer-review-led research. They could cement the status quo of peer-reviewed research. They do not fund peer-reviewed research. They perpetuate the myth of the lone genius.

The goals of the prize-givers seem as scattered as the criticism. Some want to shock, others to draw people into science, or to better reward those who have made their careers in research.

As *Nature* has pointed out before, there are some legitimate concerns about how science prizes — both new and old — are distributed. The Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, launched this year, takes an unrepresentative view of what the life sciences include. But the Nobel Foundation’s limit of three recipients per prize, each of whom must still be living, has long been outgrown by the collaborative nature of modern research — as will be demonstrated by the inevitable row over who is ignored when it comes to acknowledging the discovery of the Higgs boson. The Nobels were, of course, themselves set up by a very rich individual who had decided what he wanted to do with his own money. Time, rather than intention, has given them legitimacy.

As much as some scientists may complain about the new awards, two things seem clear. First, most researchers would accept such a prize if they were offered one. Second, it is surely a good thing that the money and attention come to science rather than go elsewhere. It is fair to criticize and question the mechanism — that is the culture of research, after all — but it is the prize-givers’ money to do with as they please. It is wise to take such gifts with gratitude and grace.

31. The Fundamental Physics Prize is seen as \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] a symbol of the entrepreneurs’ wealth.

[B] a possible replacement of the Nobel Prizes.

[C] an example of bankers’ investments.

[D] a handsome reward for researchers.

32. The critics think that the new awards will most benefit \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the profit-oriented scientists.

[B] the founders of the awards.

[C] the achievement-based system.

[D] peer-review-led research.

33. The discovery of the Higgs boson is a typical case which involves \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] controversies over the recipients’ status.

[B] the joint effort of modern researchers.

[C] legitimate concerns over the new prizes.

[D] the demonstration of research findings.

34. According to Paragraph 4, which of the following is true of the Nobels?

[A] Their endurance has done justice to them.

[B] Their legitimacy has long been in dispute.

[C] They are the most representative honor.

[D] History has never cast doubt on them.

35. The author believes that the new awards are \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] acceptable despite the criticism.

[B] harmful to the culture of research.

[C] subject to undesirable changes.

[D] unworthy of public attention.

**Text 4**

“The Heart of the Matter,” the just-released report by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAAS), deserves praise for affirming the importance of the humanities and social sciences to the prosperity and security of liberal democracy in America. Regrettably, however, the report’s failure to address the true nature of the crisis facing liberal education may cause more harm than good.

In 2010, leading congressional Democrats and Republicans sent letters to the AAAS asking that it identify actions that could be taken by “federal, state and local governments, universities, foundations, educators, individual benefactors and others” to “maintain national excellence in humanities and social scientific scholarship and education.” In response, the American Academy formed the Commission on the Humanities and Social Sciences. Among the commission’s 51 members are top-tier-university presidents, scholars, lawyers, judges, and business executives, as well as prominent figures from diplomacy, filmmaking, music and journalism.

The goals identified in the report are generally admirable. Because representative government presupposes an informed citizenry, the report supports full literacy; stresses the study of history and government, particularly American history and American government; and encourages the use of new digital technologies. To encourage innovation and competition, the report calls for increased investment in research, the crafting of coherent curricula that improve students’ ability to solve problems and communicate effectively in the 21st century, increased funding for teachers and the encouragement of scholars to bring their learning to bear on the great challenges of the day. The report also advocates greater study of foreign languages, international affairs and the expansion of study abroad programs.

Unfortunately, despite 2½ years in the making, “The Heart of the Matter” never gets to the heart of the matter: the illiberal nature of liberal education at our leading colleges and universities. The commission ignores that for several decades America’s colleges and universities have produced graduates who don’t know the content and character of liberal education and are thus deprived of its benefits. Sadly, the spirit of inquiry once at home on campus has been replaced by the use of the humanities and social sciences as vehicles for publicizing “progressive,” or left-liberal propaganda.

Today, professors routinely treat the progressive interpretation of history and progressive public policy as the proper subject of study while portraying conservative or classical liberal ideas — such as free markets or self-reliance — as falling outside the boundaries of routine, and sometimes legitimate, intellectual investigation.

The AAAS displays great enthusiasm for liberal education. Yet its report may well set back reform by obscuring the depth and breadth of the challenge that Congress asked it to illuminate.

36. According to Paragraph 1, what is the author’s attitude toward the AAAS’s report?

[A] Critical.

[B] Appreciative.

[C] Contemptuous.

[D] Tolerant.

37. Influential figures in the Congress required that the AAAS report on how to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] retain people’s interest in liberal education.

[B] define the government’s role in education.

[C] keep a leading position in liberal education.

[D] safeguard individuals’ rights to education.

38. According to Paragraph 3, the report suggests \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] an exclusive study of American history.

[B] a greater emphasis on theoretical subjects.

[C] the application of emerging technologies.

[D] funding for the study of foreign languages.

39. The author implies in Paragraph 5 that professors are \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] supportive of free markets.

[B] cautious about intellectual investigation.

[C] conservative about public policy.

[D] biased against classical liberal ideas.

40. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

[A] Ways to Grasp “The Heart of the Matter”

[B] Illiberal Education and “The Heart of the Matter”

[C] The AAAS’s Contribution to Liberal Education

[D] Progressive Policy vs. Liberal Education

**Part B**

**Directions：**

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For Questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent text by choosing from the list A-G and filling them into the numbered boxes. **Paragraphs A and E** have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

[A] Some archaeological sites have always been easily observable — for example, the Parthenon in Athens, Greece; the pyramids of Giza in Egypt; and the megaliths of Stonehenge in southern England. But these sites are exceptions to the norm. Most archaeological sites have been located by means of careful searching, while many others have been discovered by accident. Olduvai Gorge, an early hominid site in Tanzania, was found by a butterfly hunter who literally fell into its deep valley in 1911. Thousands of Aztec artifacts came to light during the digging of the Mexico City subway in the 1970s.

[B] In another case, American archaeologists René Million and George Cowgill spent years systematically mapping the entire city of Teotihuacan in the Valley of Mexico near what is now Mexico City. At its peak around AD 600, this city was one of the largest human settlements in the world. The researchers mapped not only the city’s vast and ornate ceremonial areas, but also hundreds of simpler apartment complexes where common people lived.

[C] How do archaeologists know where to find what they are looking for when there is nothing visible on the surface of the ground? Typically, they survey and *sample* (make test excavations on) large areas of terrain to determine where excavation will yield useful information. Surveys and test samples have also become important for understanding the larger landscapes that contain archaeological sites.

[D] Surveys can cover a single large settlement or entire landscapes. In one case, many researchers working around the ancient Maya city of Copán, Honduras, have located hundreds of small rural villages and individual dwellings by using aerial photographs and by making surveys on foot. The resulting settlement maps show how the distribution and density of the rural population around the city changed dramatically between AD 500 and 850, when Copán collapsed.

[E] To find their sites, archaeologists today rely heavily on systematic survey methods and a variety of high-technology tools and techniques. Airborne technologies, such as different types of radar and photographic equipment carried by airplanes or spacecraft, allow archaeologists to learn about what lies beneath the ground without digging. Aerial surveys locate general areas of interest or larger buried features, such as ancient buildings or fields.

[F] Most archaeological sites, however, are discovered by archaeologists who have set out to look for them. Such searches can take years. British archaeologist Howard Carter knew that the tomb of the Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamun existed from information found in other sites. Carter sifted through rubble in the Valley of the Kings for seven years before he located the tomb in 1922. In the late 1800s British archaeologist Sir Arthur Evans combed antique dealers’ stores in Athens, Greece. He was searching for tiny engraved seals attributed to the ancient Mycenaean culture that dominated Greece from the 1400s to 1200s BC. Evans’s interpretations of these engravings eventually led him to find the Minoan palace at Knossos (Knossós), on the island of Crete, in 1900.

[G] Ground surveys allow archaeologists to pinpoint the places where digs will be successful. Most ground surveys involve a lot of walking, looking for surface clues such as small fragments of pottery. They often include a certain amounts of digging to test for buried materials at selected points across a landscape. Archaeologists also may locate buried remains by using such technologies as ground radar, magnetic-field recording, and metal detectors. Archaeologists commonly use computers to map sites and the landscapes around sites. Two- and three-dimensional maps are helpful tools in planning excavations, illustrating how sites look, and presenting the results of archaeological research.

41. → A → 42. → E → 43. → 44. → 45.

**Part C**

**Directions:**

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Music means different things to different people and sometimes even different things to the same person at different moments of his life. It might be poetic, philosophical, sensual, or mathematical, but in any case it must, in my view, have something to do with the soul of the human being. Hence it is metaphysical; but the means of expression is purely and exclusively physical: sound. I believe it is precisely this permanent coexistence of metaphysical message through physical means that is the strength of music. (46) It is also the reason why when we try to describe music with words, all we can do is articulate our reactions to it, and not grasp music itself.

Beethoven’s importance in music has been principally defined by the revolutionary nature of his compositions. He freed music from hitherto prevailing conventions of harmony and structure. Sometimes I feel in his late works a will to break all signs of continuity. The music is abrupt and seemingly disconnected, as in the last piano sonata. In musical expression, he did not feel restrained by the weight of convention. (47) By all accounts he was a freethinking person, and a courageous one, and I find courage an essential quality for the understanding, let alone the performance, of his works.

This courageous attitude in fact becomes a requirement for the performers of Beethoven’s music. His compositions demand the performer to show courage, for example in the use of dynamics. (48) Beethoven’s habit of increasing the volume with an extreme intensity and then abruptly following it with a sudden soft passage was only rarely used by composers before him.

Beethoven was a deeply political man in the broadest sense of the word. He was not interested in daily politics, but concerned with questions of moral behavior and the larger questions of right and wrong affecting the entire society. (49) Especially significant was his view of freedom, which, for him, was associated with the rights and responsibilities of the individual: he advocated freedom of thought and of personal expression.

Beethoven’s music tends to move from chaos to order as if order were an imperative of human existence. For him, order does not result from forgetting or ignoring the disorders that plague our existence; order is a necessary development, an improvement that may lead to the Greek ideal of spiritual elevation. It is not by chance that the Funeral March is not the last movement of the Eroica Symphony, but the second, so that suffering does not have the last word. (50) One could interpret much of the work of Beethoven by saying that suffering is inevitable, but the courage to fight it renders life worth living.

## Section III Writing

**Part A**

**51. Directions:**

Write a letter of about 100 words to the president of your university, suggesting how to improve students’ physical condition.

You should include the details you think necessary.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

**Do not** sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use “Li Ming” instead.

**Do not** write the address. (10 points)

**Part B**

**52. Directions:**

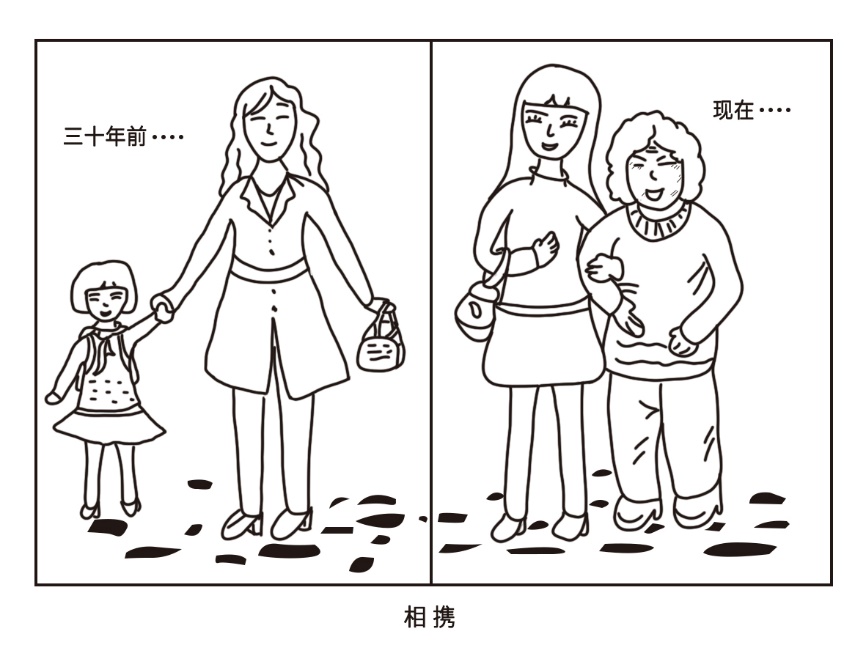
Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following drawing. In your essay, you should

1）describe the drawing briefly,

2）interpret its intended meaning, and

3）give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



# 2015年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

## Section I   Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

①Though not biologically related, friends are as “related” as fourth cousins, sharing about 1% of genes. ②That is 1 a study, published from the University of California and Yale University in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, has 2 .

①The study is a genome-wide analysis conducted 3 1,932 unique subjects which 4 pairs of unrelated friends and unrelated strangers. ②The same people were used in both 5 .

①While 1% may seem 6 , it is not so to a geneticist. ②As James Fowler, professor of medical genetics at UC San Diego, says, “Most people do not even 7 their fourth cousins but somehow manage to select as friends the people who 8 our kin.”

　　①The study 9 found that the genes for smell were something shared in friends but not genes for immunity. ②Why this similarity exists in smell genes is difficult to explain, for now. ③ 10 , as the team suggests, it draws us to similar environments but there is more 11 it. ④There could be many mechanisms working together that 12 us in choosing genetically similar friends 13 “functional kinship” of being friends with 14 !

　　①One of the remarkable findings of the study was that the similar genes seem to be evolving 15 than other genes. ②Studying this could help 16 why human evolution picked pace in the last 30,000 years, with social environment being a major 17 factor.

①The findings do not simply explain people’s 18 to befriend those of similar 19 backgrounds, say the researchers. ②Though all the subjects were drawn from a population of European extraction, care was taken to 20 that all subjects, friends and strangers were taken from the same population.

1. [A] what [B] why [C] how [D] when
2. [A] defended [B] concluded [C] withdrawn [D] advised
3. [A] for [B] with [C] by [D] on
4. [A] separated [B] sought [C] compared [D] connected
5. [A] tests [B] objects [C] samples [D] examples
6. [A] insignificant [B] unexpected [C] unreliable [D] incredible
7. [A] visit [B] miss [C] know [D] seek
8. [A] surpass [B] influence [C] favor [D] resemble
9. [A] again [B] also [C] instead [D] thus
10. [A] Meanwhile [B] Furthermore [C] Likewise [D] Perhaps
11. [A] about [B] to [C] from [D] like
12. [A] limit [B] observe [C] confuse [D] drive
13. [A] according to [B] rather than [C] regardless of [D] along with
14. [A] chances [B] responses [C] benefits [D] missions
15. [A] faster [B] slower [C] later [D] earlier
16. [A] forecast [B] remember [C] express [D] understand
17. [A] unpredictable [B] contributory [C] controllable [D] disruptive
18. [A] tendency [B] decision [C] arrangement [D] endeavor
19. [A] political [B] religious [C] ethnic [D] economic
20. [A] see [B] show [C] prove [D] tell

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

Directions：Read the following four texts. Answer the questions after each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

**Text 1**

①King Juan Carlos of Spain once insisted “kings don’t abdicate, they die in their sleep.” ②But embarrassing scandals and the popularity of the republican left in the recent Euro-elections have forced him to eat his words and stand down. ③So, does the Spanish crisis suggest that monarchy is seeing its last days? ④Does that mean the writing is on the wall for all European royals, with their magnificent uniforms and majestic lifestyles?

①The Spanish case provides arguments both for and against monarchy. ②When public opinion is particularly polarised, as it was following the end of the Franco regime, monarchs can rise above “mere” politics and “embody” a spirit of national unity.

①It is this apparent transcendence of politics that explains monarchs’ continuing popularity as heads of states. ②And so, the Middle East excepted, Europe is the most monarch-infested region in the world, with 10 kingdoms (not counting Vatican City and Andorra). ③But unlike their absolutist counterparts in the Gulf and Asia, most royal families have survived because they allow voters to avoid the difficult search for a non-controversial but respected public figure.

①Even so, kings and queens undoubtedly have a downside. ②Symbolic of national unity as they claim to be, their very history—and sometimes the way they behave today—embodies outdated and indefensible privileges and inequalities. ③At a time when Thomas Piketty and other economists are warning of rising inequality and the increasing power of inherited wealth, it is bizarre that wealthy aristocratic families should still be the symbolic heart of modern democratic states.

①The most successful monarchies strive to abandon or hide their old aristocratic ways. ②Princes and princesses have day-jobs and ride bicycles, not horses (or helicopters). ③Even so, these are wealthy families who party with the international 1%, and media intrusiveness makes it increasingly difficult to maintain the right image.

　　While Europe’s monarchies will no doubt be smart enough to strive for some time to come, it is the British royals who have most to fear from the Spanish example.

①It is only the Queen who has preserved the monarchy’s reputation with her rather ordinary (if well-heeled) granny style. ②The danger will come with Charles, who has both an expensive taste of lifestyle and a pretty hierarchical view of the world. ③He has failed to understand that monarchies have largely survived because they provide a service—as non-controversial and non-political heads of state. ④Charles ought to know that as English history shows, it is kings, not republicans, who are the monarchy’s worst enemies.

21. According to the first two paragraphs, King Juan Carlos of Spain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] used to enjoy high public support

　　[B] was unpopular among European royals

　　[C] eased his relationship with his rivals

[D] ended his reign in embarrassment

22. Monarchs are kept as heads of state in Europe mostly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] owing to their undoubted and respectable status

　　[B] to achieve a balance between tradition and reality

　　[C] to give voters more public figures to look up to

[D] due to their everlasting political embodiment

23. Which of the following is shown to be odd, according to Paragraph 4?

[A] Aristocrats’ excessive reliance on inherited wealth.

[B] The role of the nobility in modern democracies.

[C] The simple lifestyle of the aristocratic families.

[D] The nobility’s adherence to their privileges.

24. The British royals “have most to fear” because Charles \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] takes a tough line on political issues

[B] fails to change his lifestyle as advised

[C] takes republicans as his potential allies

[D] fails to adapt himself to his future role

25. Which of the following is the best title of the text?

[A] Carlos, Glory and Disgrace Combined

[B] Charles, Anxious to Succeed to the Throne

[C] Carlos, a Lesson for All European Monarchs

[D] Charles, Slow to React to the Coming Threats

**Text 2**

①Just how much does the Constitution protect your digital data? ②The Supreme Court will now consider whether police can search the contents of a mobile phone without a warrant if the phone is on or around a person during an arrest.

①California has asked the justices to refrain from a sweeping ruling, particularly one that upsets the old assumptions that authorities may search through the possessions of suspects at the time of their arrest. ②It is hard, the state argues, for judges to assess the implications of new and rapidly changing technologies.

①The court would be recklessly modest if it followed California’s advice. ②Enough of the implications are discernable, even obvious, so that the justices can and should provide updated guidelines to police, lawyers and defendants.

①They should start by discarding California’s lame argument that exploring the contents of a smart phone—a vast storehouse of digital information—is similar to, say, going through a suspect’s purse. ②The court has ruled that police don’t violate the Fourth Amendment when they go through the wallet or pocketbook of an arrestee without a warrant. ③But exploring one’s smartphone is more like entering his or her home. ④A smartphone may contain an arrestee’s reading history, financial history, medical history and comprehensive records of recent correspondence. ⑤The development of “cloud computing,” meanwhile, has made that exploration so much the easier.

①Americans should take steps to protect their digital privacy. ②But keeping sensitive information on these devices is increasingly a requirement of normal life. ③Citizens still have a right to expect private documents to remain private and protected by the Constitution’s prohibition on unreasonable searches.

①As so often is the case, stating that principle doesn’t ease the challenge of line-drawing. ②In many cases, it would not be overly burdensome for authorities to obtain a warrant to search through phone contents. ③They could still invalidate Fourth Amendment protections when facing severe, urgent circumstances, and they could take reasonable measures to ensure that phone data are not erased or altered while waiting for a warrant. ④The court, though, may want to allow room for police to cite situations where they are entitled to more freedom.

①But the justices should not swallow California’s argument whole. ②New, disruptive technology sometimes demands novel applications of the Constitution’s protections. ③Orin Kerr, a law professor, compares the explosion and accessibility of digital information in the 21st century with the establishment of automobile use as a virtual necessity of life in the 20th: The justices had to specify novel rules for the new personal domain of the passenger car then; they must sort out how the Fourth Amendment applies to digital information now.

26. The Supreme Court will work out whether, during an arrest, it is legitimate to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] prevent suspects from deleting their phone contents

[B] search for suspects’ mobile phones without a warrant

[C] check suspects’ phone contents without being authorized

[D]prohibit suspects from using their mobile phones  
27. The author’s attitude toward California’s argument is one of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] disapproval

[B] indifference

[C] tolerance

[D]cautiousness

28. The author believes that exploring one’s phone contents is comparable to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] getting into one’s residence

[B] handling one’s historical records

[C] scanning one’s correspondences

[D] going through one’s wallet

29. In Paragraphs 5 and 6, the author shows his concern that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] principles are hard to be clearly expressed

[B] the court is giving police less room for action

[C] citizens’ privacy is not effectively protected

[D] phones are used to store sensitive information

30. Orin Kerr’s comparison is quoted to indicate that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the Constitution should be implemented flexibly

[B] new technology requires reinterpretation of the Constitution

[C]California’s argument violates principles of the Constitution

[D]principles of the Constitution should never be altered

**Text 3**

①The journal *Science* is adding an extra round of statistical checks to its peer-review process, editor-in-chief Marcia McNutt announced today. ②The policy follows similar efforts from other journals, after widespread concern that basic mistakes in data analysis are contributing to the irreproducibility of many published research findings.

① “Readers must have confidence in the conclusions published in our journal,” writes McNutt in an editorial. ②Working with the American Statistical Association, the journal has appointed seven experts to a statistics board of reviewing editors (SBoRE).③ Manuscript will be flagged up for additional scrutiny by the journal’s internal editors, or by its existing Board of Reviewing Editors or by outside peer reviewers. ④The SBoRE panel will then find external statisticians to review these manuscripts.

①Asked whether any particular papers had impelled the change, McNutt said: “The creation of the ‘statistics board’ was motivated by concerns broadly with the application of statistics and data analysis in scientific research and is part of *Science*’s overall drive to increase reproducibility in the research we publish.”

①Giovanni Parmigiani, a biostatistician at the Harvard School of Public Health, a member of the SBoRE group, says he expects the board to “play primarily an advisory role.” ② He agreed to join because he “found the foresight behind the establishment of the SBoRE to be novel, unique and likely to have a lasting impact. ③This impact will not only be through the publications in *Science* itself, but hopefully through a larger group of publishing places that may want to model their approach after *Science*.”

①John Ioannidis, a physician who studies research methodology, says that the policy is “a most welcome step forward” and “long overdue.”② “Most journals are weak in statistical review, and this damages the quality of what they publish. ③I think that, for the majority of scientific papers nowadays, statistical review is more essential than expert review,” he says. ④ But he noted that biomedical journals such as *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *the Journal of the American Medical Association* and *The Lancet* pay strong attention to statistical review.

①Professional scientists are expected to know how to analyze data, but statistical errors are alarmingly common in published research, according to David Vaux, a cell biologist. ②Researchers should improve their standards, he wrote in 2012, but journals should also take a tougher line, “engaging reviewers who are statistically literate and editors who can verify the process”. ③Vaux says that *Science*’s idea to pass some papers to statisticians “has some merit, but a weakness is that it relies on the board of reviewing editors to identify ‘the papers that need scrutiny’ in the first place”.

31. It can be learned from Paragraph 1 that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] *Science* intends to simplify its peer-review process

[B] journals are strengthening their statistical checks

[C] few journals are blamed for mistakes in data analysis

[D] lack of data analysis is common in research projects

32. The phrase “flagged up” (Para. 2) is the closest in meaning to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] found

[B] marked

[C] revised

[D] stored

33. Giovanni Parmigiani believes that the establishment of the SBoRE may \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] pose a threat to all its peers

[B] meet with strong opposition

[C] increase *Science*’s circulation

[D] set an example for other journals

34. David Vaux holds that what *Science* is doing now \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] adds to researchers’ workload

[B] diminishes the role of reviewers

[C] has room for further improvement

[D] is to fail in the foreseeable future

35. Which of the following is the best title of the text?

[A] *Science* Joins Push to Screen Statistics in Papers

[B] Professional Statisticians Deserve More Respect

[C] Data Analysis Finds Its Way onto Editors’ Desks

[D] Statisticians Are Coming Back with *Science*

**Text 4**

①Two years ago, Rupert Murdoch’s daughter, Elisabeth, spoke of the “unsettling dearth of integrity across so many of our institutions”. ②Integrity had collapsed, she argued, because of a collective acceptance that the only “sorting mechanism” in society should be profit and the market. ③But “it’s us, human beings, we the people who create the society we want, not profit”.

①Driving her point home, she continued: “It’s increasingly apparent that the absence of purpose, of a moral language within government, media or business could become one of the most dangerous goals for capitalism and freedom.” ②This same absence of moral purpose was wounding companies such as News International, she thought, making it more likely that it would lose its way as it had with widespread illegal telephone hacking .

①As the hacking trial concludes—finding guilty one ex-editor of the *News of the World*, Andy Coulson, for conspiring to hack phones, and finding his predecessor, Rebekah Brooks, innocent of the same charge—the wider issue of dearth of integrity still stand. ②Journalists are known to have hacked the phones of up to 5,500 people. ③This is hacking on an industrial scale, as was acknowledged by Glenn Mulcaire, the man hired by the *News of the World* in 2001 to be the point person for phone hacking. ④Others await trial. ⑤This long story still unfolds.

①In many respects, the dearth of moral purpose frames not only the fact of such widespread phone hacking but the terms on which the trial took place. ②One of the astonishing revelations was how little Rebekah Brooks knew of what went on in her newsroom, how little she thought to ask and the fact that she never inquired how the stories arrived. ③The core of her successful defence was that she knew nothing.

①In today’s world, it has become normal that well-paid executives should not be accountable for what happens in the organizations that they run. ②Perhaps we should not be so surprised. ③For a generation, the collective doctrine has been that the sorting mechanism of society should be profit. ④The words that have mattered are efficiency, flexibility, shareholder value, business-friendly, wealth generation, sales, impact and, in newspapers, circulation. ⑤Words degraded to the margin have been justice, fairness, tolerance, proportionality and accountability.

①The purpose of editing the *News of the World* was not to promote reader understanding, to be fair in what was written or to betray any common humanity. ②It was to ruin lives in the quest for circulation and impact. ③Ms Brooks may or may not have had suspicions about how her journalists got their stories, but she asked no questions, gave no instructions—nor received traceable, recorded answers.

36. According to the first two paragraphs, Elisabeth was upset by\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the consequences of the current sorting mechanism

[B] companies’ financial loss due to immoral practices

[C] governmental ineffectiveness on moral issues

[D]the wide misuse of integrity among institutions

37. It can be inferred from Paragraph 3 that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] Glem Mulcaire may deny phone hacking as a crime

[B] more journalists may be found guilty of phone hacking

[C] Andy Coulson should be held innocent of the charge

[D] phone hacking will be accepted on certain occasions

38. The author believes that Rebekah Brooks’s defence\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] revealed a cunning personality

[B] centered on trivial issues

[C] was hardly convincing

[D] was part of a conspiracy

39. The author holds that the current collective doctrine shows\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] generally distorted values

[B] unfair wealth distribution

[C] a marginalized lifestyle

[D] a rigid moral code

40. Which of the following is suggested in the last paragraph?  
　　[A] The quality of writing is of primary importance.

[B] Common humanity is central in news reporting.

[C] Moral awareness matters in editing a newspaper.

[D] Journalists need stricter industrial regulations.

**Part B**

**Directions:**

In the following article, some sentences have been removed. For Questions 41-45, choose the most suitable one from the list A-G to fit into each of the numbered blanks. There are two extra choices, which do not fit in any of the blanks. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

How does your reading proceed? Clearly you try to comprehend, in the sense of identifying meanings for individual words and working out relationships between them, drawing on your implicit knowledge of English grammar. (41) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ You begin to infer a context for the text, for instance, by making decisions about what kind of speech event is involved: Who is making the utterance, to whom, when and where？

The ways of reading indicated here are without doubt kinds of comprehension. But they show comprehension to consist not just of passive assimilation but of active engagement in inference and problem-solving. You infer information you feel the writer has invited you to grasp by presenting you with specific evidence and clues. (42) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Conceived in this way, comprehension will not follow exactly the same track for each reader. What is in question is not the retrieval of an absolute, fixed or “true” meaning that can be read off and checked for accuracy, or some timeless relation of the text to the world. (43) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Such background material inevitably reflects who we are. (44) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ This doesn’t, however, make interpretation merely relative or even pointless. Precisely because readers from different historical periods, places and social experiences produce different but overlapping readings of the same words on the page—including for texts that engage with fundamental human concerns—debates about texts can play an important role in social discussion of beliefs and values.

How we read a given text also depends to some extent on our particular interest in reading it. (45)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Such dimensions of reading suggest—as others introduced later in the book will also do—that we bring an implicit (often unacknowledged) agenda to any act of reading. It doesn’t then necessarily follow that one kind of reading is fuller, more advanced or more worthwhile than another. Ideally, different kinds of reading inform each other, and act as useful reference points for and counterbalances to one another. Together, they make up the reading component of your overall literacy, or relationship to your surrounding textual environment.

[A] Are we studying that text and trying to respond in a way that fulfils the requirement of a given course? Reading it simply for pleasure? Skimming it for information? Ways of reading on a train or in bed are likely to differ considerably from reading in a seminar room.

[B] Factors such as the place and period in which we are reading, our gender, ethnicity, age and social class will encourage us towards certain interpretations but at the same time obscure or even close off others.

[C] If you are unfamiliar with words or idioms, you guess at their meaning, using clues presented in the context. On the assumption that they will become relevant later, you make a mental note of discourse entities as well as possible links between them.

[D] In effect, you try to reconstruct the likely meanings or effects that any given sentence, image or reference might have had: These might be the ones the author intended.

[E] You make further inferences, for instance, about how the text may be significant to you, or about its validity—inferences that form the basis of a personal response for which the author will inevitably be far less responsible.

[F] In plays, novels and narrative poems, characters speak as constructs created by the author, not necessarily as mouthpieces for the author’s own thoughts.

[G] Rather, we ascribe meanings to texts on the basis of interaction between what we might call textual and contextual material: between kinds of organization or patterning we perceive in a text’s formal structures (so especially its language structures) and various kinds of background, social knowledge, belief and attitude that we bring to the text.

**Part C**

**Directions:**

*Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written clearly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)*

Within the span of a hundred years, in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, a tide of emigration—one of the great folk wanderings of history—swept from Europe to America. (46) This movement, driven by powerful and diverse motivations, built a nation out of a wilderness and, by its nature, shaped the character and destiny of an uncharted continent.

(47) The United States is the product of two principal forces—the immigration of European peoples with their varied ideas, customs, and national characteristics and the impact of a new country which modified these traits. Of necessity, colonial America was a projection of Europe. Across the Atlantic came successive groups of Englishmen, Frenchmen, Germans, Scots, Irishmen, Dutchmen, Swedes, and many others who attempted to transplant their habits and traditions to the new world. (48) But the force of geographic conditions peculiar to America, the interplay of the varied national groups upon one another, and the sheer difficulty of maintaining old-world ways in a raw, new continent caused significant changes. These changes were gradual and at first scarcely visible. But the result was a new social pattern which, although it resembled European society in many ways, had a character that was distinctly American.

(49)The first shiploads of immigrants bound for the territory which is now the United States crossed the Atlantic more than a hundred years after the 15th-and-16th-century explorations of North America. In the meantime, thriving Spanish colonies had been established in Mexico, the West Indies, and South America. These travelers to North America came in small, unmercifully overcrowded craft. During their six- to twelve-week voyage, they survived on barely enough food allotted to them. Many of the ships were lost in storms, many passengers died of disease, and infants rarely survived the journey. Sometimes storms blew the vessels far off their course, and often calm brought unbearably long delay.

To the anxious travelers the sight of the American shore brought almost inexpressible relief. Said one recorder of events, “The air at twelve leagues’ distance smelt as sweet as a new-blown garden.” The colonists’ first glimpse of the new land was a sight of dense woods. (50)The virgin forest with its richness and variety of trees was a real treasure-house which extended from Maine all the way down to Georgia. Here was abundant fuel and lumber. Here was the raw material of houses and furniture, ships and potash, dyes and naval stores.

## Section III Writing

**Part A**

**51. Directions:**

You are going to host a club reading session. Write an email of about 100 words recommending a book to the club members.

You should state reasons for your recommendation.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

**Do not** sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use “Li Ming” instead.

**Do not** write the address (10 points)

**Part B**

**52. Directions:**

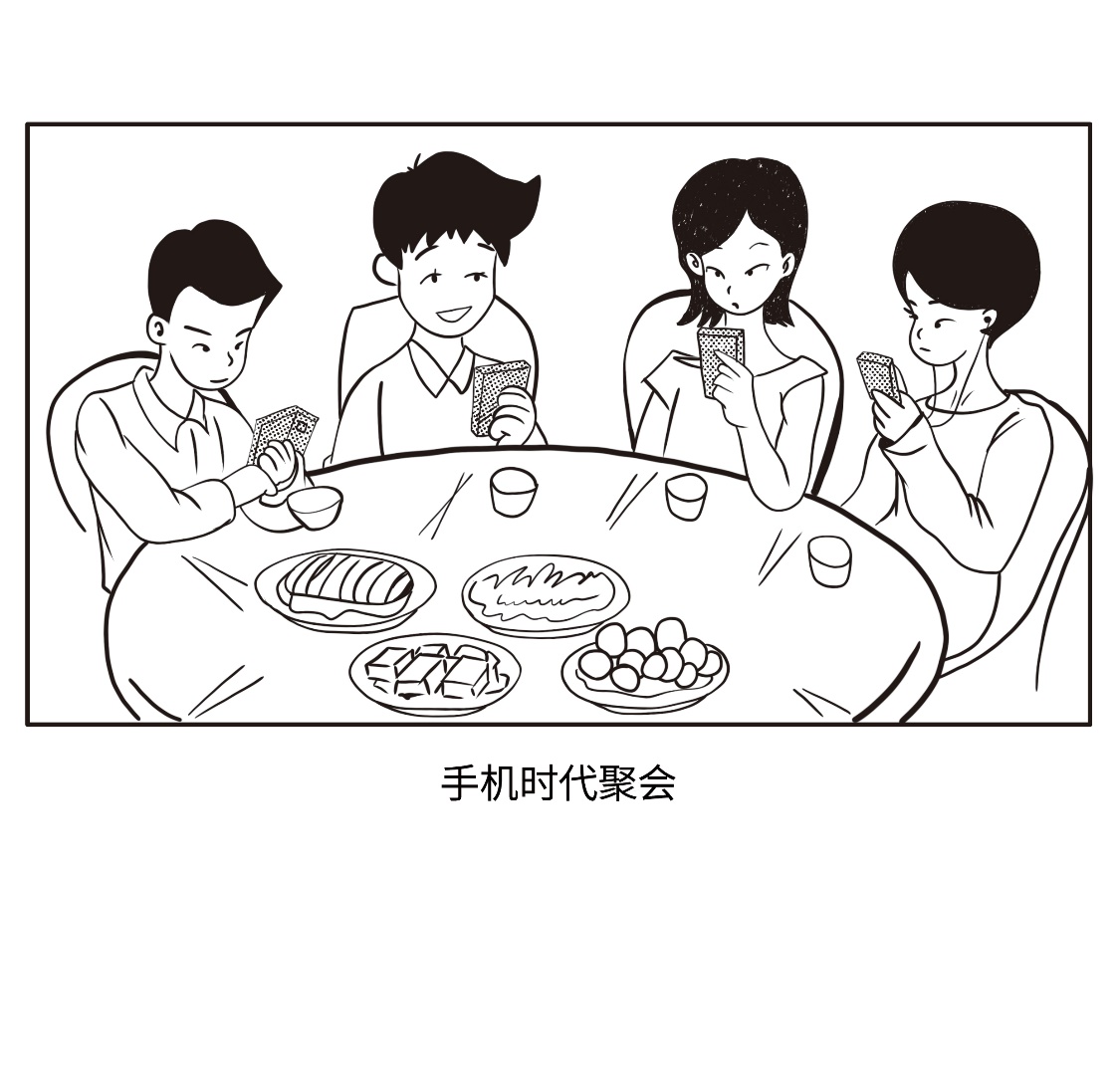
　　Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following picture. In your essay, you should

1) describe the picture briefly,

2) interpret its intended meaning, and

3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



# 2016年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

## Section I   Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

①In Cambodia, the choice of a spouse is a complex one for the young male. ②It may involve not only his parents and his friends, 1 those of the young woman, but also a matchmaker. ③A young man can 2 a likely spouse on his own and then ask his parents to 3 the marriage negotiations, or the young man’s parents may make the choice of a spouse, giving the child little to say in the selection.④ 4 , a girl may veto the spouse her parents have chosen.⑤ 5 a spouse has been selected, each family investigates the other to make sure its child is marrying 6 a good family.

①The traditional wedding is a long and colorful affair. ②Formerly it lasted three days, 7 by the 1980s it more commonly lasted a day and a half.③Buddhist priests offer a short sermon and 8 prayers of blessing. ④Parts of the ceremony involve ritual hair cutting, 9 cotton threads soaked in holy water around the bride’s and groom’s wrists, and 10 a candle around a circle of happily married and respected couples to bless the 11 . ⑤Newlyweds traditionally move in with the wife’s parents and may 12 with them up to a year, 13 they can build a new house nearby.

①Divorce is legal and easy to 14 , but not common. ②Divorced persons are 15 with some disapproval.③ Each spouse retains 16 property he or she 17 into the marriage, and jointly-acquired property is 18 equally. ④Divorced persons may remarry, but a gender prejudice 19 up: The divorced male doesn’t have a waiting period before he can remarry 20 the woman must wait ten months.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | [A]by way of | [B]on behalf of | [C]as well as | [D]with regard to |
| 2. | [A]adapt to | [B]provide for | [C]compete with | [D]decide on |
| 3. | [A]close | [B]renew | [C]arrange | [D]postpone |
| 4. | [A]Above all | [B]In theory | [C]In time | [D]For example |
| 5. | [A]Although | [B]Lest | [C]After | [D]Unless |
| 6. | [A]into | [B]within | [C]from | [D]through |
| 7. | [A]since | [B]but | [C]or | [D]so |
| 8. | [A]copy | [B]test | [C]recite | [D]create |
| 9. | [A]folding | [B]piling | [C]wrapping | [D]tying |
| 10. | [A]passing | [B]lighting | [C]hiding | [D]serving |
| 11. | [A]meeting | [B]collection | [C]association | [D]union |
| 12. | [A]grow | [B]part | [C]deal | [D]live |
| 13. | [A]whereas | [B]until | [C]if | [D]for |
| 14. | [A]obtain | [B]follow | [C]challenge | [D]avoid |
| 15. | [A]isolated | [B]persuaded | [C]viewed | [D]exposed |
| 16. | [A]whatever | [B]however | [C]whenever | [D]wherever |
| 17. | [A]changed | [B]brought | [C]shaped | [D]pushed |
| 18. | [A]withdrawn | [B]invested | [C]donated | [D]divided |
| 19. | [A]breaks | [B]warms | [C]shows | [D]clears |
| 20. | [A]so that | [B]while | [C]once | [D]in that |

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

*Directions：Read the following four texts. Answer the questions after each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)*

****Text 1****

①France, which prides itself as the global innovator of fashion, has decided its fashion industry has lost an absolute right to define physical beauty for women. ②Its lawmakers gave preliminary approval last week to a law that would make it a crime to employ ultra-thin models on runways. ③The parliament also agreed to ban websites that “incite excessive thinness” by promoting extreme dieting.

①Such measures have a couple of uplifting motives. ②They suggest beauty should not be defined by looks that end up impinging on health. ③That’s a start. ④And the ban on ultra-thin models seems to go beyond protecting models from starving themselves to death — as some have done. ⑤It tells the fashion industry that it must take responsibility for the signal it sends women, especially teenage girls, about the social tape-measure they must use to determine their individual worth.

①The bans, if fully enforced, would suggest to women (and many men) that they should not let others be arbiters of their beauty. ②And perhaps faintly, they hint that people should look to intangible qualities like character and intellect rather than dieting their way to size zero or wasp-waist physiques.

①The French measures, however, rely too much on severe punishment to change a culture that still regards beauty as skin-deep — and bone-showing. ②Under the law, using a fashion model that does not meet a government-defined index of body mass could result in a $85,000 fine and six months in prison.

①The fashion industry knows it has an inherent problem in focusing on material adornment and idealized body types. ②In Denmark, the United States, and a few other countries, it is trying to set voluntary standards for models and fashion images that rely more on peer pressure for enforcement.

①In contrast to France’s actions, Denmark’s fashion industry agreed last month on rules and sanctions regarding the age, health, and other characteristics of models. ②The newly revised Danish Fashion Ethical Charter clearly states: “We are aware of and take responsibility for the impact the fashion industry has on body ideals, especially on young people.” ③The charter’s main tool of enforcement is to deny access for designers and modeling agencies to Copenhagen Fashion Week (CFW), which is run by the Danish Fashion Institute. ④But in general it relies on a name-and-shame method of compliance.

①Relying on ethical persuasion rather than law to address the misuse of body ideals may be the best step. ②Even better would be to help elevate notions of beauty beyond the material standards of a particular industry.

21. According to the first paragraph, what would happen in France?

[A]New runways would be constructed.

[B]Physical beauty would be redefined.

[C]Websites about dieting would thrive.

[D]The fashion industry would decline.

22. The phrase “impinging on” (Line 2, Para. 2) is closest in meaning to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]heightening the value of.

[B]indicating the state of.

[C]losing faith in.

[D]doing harm to.

23. Which of the following is true of the fashion industry?

[A]New standards are being set in Denmark.

[B]The French measures have already failed.

[C]Models are no longer under peer pressure.

[D]Its inherent problems are getting worse.

24. A designer is most likely to be rejected by CFW for\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]pursuing perfect physical conditions.

[B]caring too much about models’ character.

[C]showing little concern for health factors.

[D]setting a high age threshold for models.

25. Which of the following may be the best title of the text?

[A]A Challenge to the Fashion Industry’s Body Ideals

[B]A Dilemma for the Starving Models in France

[C]Just Another Round of Struggle for Beauty

[D]The Great Threats to the Fashion Industry

**Text 2**

①For the first time in history more people live in towns than in the country. ②In Britain this has had a curious result. ③While polls show Britons rate “the countryside” alongside the royal family, Shakespeare and the National Health Service (NHS) as what makes them proudest of their country, this has limited political support.

①A century ago Octavia Hill launched the National Trust not to rescue stylish houses but to save “the beauty of natural places for everyone forever.” ②It was specifically to provide city dwellers with spaces for leisure where they could experience “a refreshing air.” ③Hill’s pressure later led to the creation of national parks and green belts. ④They don’t make countryside any more, and every year concrete consumes more of it.⑤ It needs constant guardianship.

①At the next election none of the big parties seem likely to endorse this sentiment. ②The Conservatives’ planning reform explicitly gives rural development priority over conservation, even authorizing “off-plan” building where local people might object. ③The concept of sustainable development has been defined as profitable. ④Labour likewise wants to discontinue local planning where councils oppose development. ⑤The Liberal Democrats are silent. ⑥Only Ukip, sensing its chance, has sided with those pleading for a more considered approach to using green land. ⑦Its Campaign to Protect Rural England struck terror into many local Conservative parties.

①The sensible place to build new houses, factories and offices is where people are, in cities and towns where infrastructure is in place. ②The London agents Stirling Ackroyd recently identified enough sites for half a million houses in the London area alone, with no intrusion on green belt. ③What is true of London is even truer of the provinces.

①The idea that “housing crisis” equals “concreted meadows” is pure lobby talk. ②The issue is not the need for more houses but, as always, where to put them. ③Under lobby pressure, George Osborne favours rural new-build against urban renovation and renewal. ④He favours out-of-town shopping sites against high streets. ⑤This is not a free market but a biased one. ⑥Rural towns and villages have grown and will always grow. ⑦They do so best where building sticks to their edges and respects their character. ⑧We do not ruin urban conservation areas. ⑨Why ruin rural ones?

①Development should be planned, not let rip. ②After the Netherlands, Britain is Europe’s most crowded country. ③Half a century of town and country planning has enabled it to retain an enviable rural coherence, while still permitting low-density urban living. ④There is no doubt of the alternative — the corrupted landscapes of southern Portugal, Spain or Ireland. ⑤Avoiding this rather than promoting it should unite the left and right of the political spectrum.

26. Britain’s public sentiment about the countryside\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]didn’t start till the Shakespearean age.

[B]has brought much benefit to the NHS.

[C]is fully backed by the royal family.

[D]is not well reflected in politics.

27. According to Paragraph 2, the achievements of the National Trust are now being\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]gradually destroyed.

[B]effectively reinforced.

[C]largely overshadowed.

[D]properly protected.

28. Which of the following can be inferred from Paragraph 3?

[A]Labour is under attack for opposing development.

[B]The Conservatives may abandon “off-plan” building.

[C]The Liberal Democrats are losing political influence.

[D]Ukip may gain from its support for rural conservation.

29. The author holds that George Osborne’s preference\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]highlights his firm stand against lobby pressure.

[B]shows his disregard for the character of rural areas.

[C]stresses the necessity of easing the housing crisis.

[D]reveals a strong prejudice against urban areas.

30. In the last paragraph, the author shows his appreciation of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]the size of population in Britain.

[B]the political life in today’s Britain.

[C]the enviable urban lifestyle in Britain.

[D]the town-and-country planning in Britain.

**Text 3**

① “There is one and only one social responsibility of business,” wrote Milton Friedman, a Nobel prize-winning economist, “That is, to use its resources and engage in activities designed to increase its profits.” ② But even if you accept Friedman’s premise and regard corporate social responsibility (CSR) policies as a waste of shareholders’ money, things may not be absolutely clear-cut. ③New research suggests that CSR may create monetary value for companies — at least when they are prosecuted for corruption.

①The largest firms in America and Britain together spend more than $15 billion a year on CSR, according to an estimate by EPG, a consulting firm. ②This could add value to their businesses in three ways. ③First, consumers may take CSR spending as a “signal” that a company’s products are of high quality. ④Second, customers may be willing to buy a company’s products as an indirect way to donate to the good causes it helps. ⑤And third, through a more diffuse “halo effect,” whereby its good deeds earn it greater consideration from consumers and others.

①Previous studies on CSR have had trouble differentiating these effects because consumers can be affected by all three. ②A recent study attempts to separate them by looking at bribery prosecutions under America’s Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). ③It argues that since prosecutors do not consume a company’s products as part of their investigations, they could be influenced only by the halo effect.

①The study found that, among prosecuted firms, those with the most comprehensive CSR programmes tended to get more lenient penalties. ②Their analysis ruled out the possibility that it was firms’ political influence, rather than their CSR stand, that accounted for the leniency: Companies that contributed more to political campaigns did not receive lower fines.

①In all, the study concludes that whereas prosecutors should only evaluate a case based on its merits, they do seem to be influenced by a company’s record in CSR. ②“We estimate that either eliminating a substantial labour-rights concern, such as child labour, or increasing corporate giving by about 20% results in fines that generally are 40% lower than the typical punishment for bribing foreign officials,” says one researcher.

①Researchers admit that their study does not answer the question of how much businesses ought to spend on CSR. ②Nor does it reveal how much companies are banking on the halo effect, rather than the other possible benefits, when they decide their do-gooding policies. ③But at least they have demonstrated that when companies get into trouble with the law, evidence of good character can win them a less costly punishment.

31. The author views Milton Friedman’s statement about CSR with\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] tolerance.

[B] skepticism.

[C] uncertainty.

[D] approval.

32. According to Paragraph 2, CSR helps a company by\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] winning trust from consumers.

[B] guarding it against malpractices.

[C] protecting it from being defamed.

[D] raising the quality of its products.

33. The expression “more lenient” (Line 2, Para. 4) is closest in meaning to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[Al more effective.

[B] less controversial.

[C] less severe.

[D] more lasting.

34. When prosecutors evaluate a case, a company’s CSR record\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[Al has an impact on their decision.

[B] comes across as reliable evidence.

[C]increases the chance of being penalized.

[D] constitutes part of the investigation.

35. Which of the following is true of CSR, according to the last paragraph?

[A] Its negative effects on businesses are often overlooked.

[B]The necessary amount of companies’ spending on it is unknown.

[C] Companies’ financial capacity for it has been overestimated.

[D] It has brought much benefit to the banking industry.

**Text 4**

①There will eventually come a day when The New York Times ceases to publish stories on newsprint. ②Exactly when that day will be is a matter of debate.③ “Sometime in the future,” the paper’s publisher said back in 2010.

①Nostalgia for ink on paper and the rustle of pages aside, there’s plenty of incentive to ditch print. ②The infrastructure required to make a physical newspaper — printing presses, delivery trucks — isn’t just expensive; it’s excessive at a time when online-only competitors don’t have the same set of financial constraints. ③Readers are migrating away from print anyway.④ And though print ad sales still dwarf their online and mobile counterparts, revenue from print is still declining.

①Overhead may be high and circulation lower, but rushing to eliminate its print edition would be a mistake ,says BuzzFeed CEO Jonah Peretti.

①Peretti says the Times shouldn’t waste time getting out of the print business, but only if they go about doing it the right way. ② “Figuring out a way to accelerate that transition would make sense for them,” he said, “but if you discontinue it, you’re going to have your most loyal customers really upset with you.”

①Sometimes that’s worth making a change anyway. ②Peretti gives the example of Netflix discontinuing its DVD-mailing service to focus on streaming. ③ “It was seen as a blunder,” he said. ④The move turned out to be foresighted. ⑤And if Peretti were in charge at the Times?⑥ “I wouldn’t pick a year to end print,” he said.⑦ “I would raise prices and make it into more of a legacy product.”

①The most loyal customers would still get the product they favor, the idea goes, and they’d feel like they were helping sustain the quality of something they believe in. ② “So if you’re overpaying for print, you could feel like you were helping,” Peretti said. ③ “Then increase it at a higher rate each year and essentially try to generate additional revenue.” ④ In other words, if you’re going to make a print product, make it for the people who are already obsessed with it. ⑤Which may be what the Times is doing already. ⑥Getting the print edition seven days a week costs nearly $500 a year — more than twice as much as a digital-only subscription.

① “It’s a really hard thing to do and it’s a tremendous luxury that BuzzFeed doesn’t have a legacy business,” Peretti remarked. ② “But we’re going to have questions like that where we have things we’re doing that don’t make sense when the market changes and the world changes. ③In those situations, it’s better to be more aggressive than less aggressive.”

36. The New York Times is considering ending its print edition partly due to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]the high cost of operation.

[B]the pressure from its investors.

[C]the complaints from its readers.

[D]the increasing online ad sales.

37. Peretti suggests that, in face of the present situation, the Times should\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]seek new sources of readership.

[B]end the print edition for good.

[C]aim for efficient management.

[D]make strategic adjustments.

38. It can be inferred form Paragraphs 5 and 6 that a “legacy product”\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]helps restore the glory of former times.

[B]is meant for the most loyal customers.

[C]will have the cost of printing reduced.

[D]expands the popularity of the paper.

39. Peretti believes that, in a changing world, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]legacy businesses are becoming outdated.

[B]cautiousness facilitates problem-solving.

[C]aggressiveness better meets challenges.

[D]traditional luxuries can stay unaffected.

40. Which of the following would be the best title of the text?

[A]Shift to Online Newspapers All at Once

[B]Cherish the Newspapers Still in Your Hand

[C]Make Your Print Newspaper a Luxury Good

[D]Keep Your Newspapers Forever in Fashion

**Part B**

**Directions:**

Read the following text and answer the questions by choosing the most suitable subheading from the list A—G for each of the numbered paragraphs (41—45). There are two extra subheadings. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

[A] Create a new image of yourself

[B] Have confidence in yourself

[C] Decide if the time is right

[D] Understand the context

[E] Work with professionals

[F] Mark it efficient

[G] Know your goals

No matter how formal or informal the work environment, the way you present yourself has an impact. This is especially true in first impressions. According to research from Princeton University, people assess your competence, trustworthiness, and likeability in just a tenth of a second, solely based on the way you look.

The different between today’s workplace and the “dress for success” era is that the range of options is so much broader. Norms have evolved and fragmented. In some settings, red sneakers or dress T-shirts can convey status; in others not so much. Plus, whatever image we present is magnified by social-media services like LinkedIn. Chances are, your headshots are seen much more often now than a decade or two ago. Millennials, it seems, face the paradox of being the least formal generation yet the most conscious of style and personal branding. It can be confusing.

So how do we navigate this? How do we know when to invest in an upgrade? And what’s the best way to pull off one that enhances our goals? Here are some tips:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 41. |  |

As an executive coach, I’ve seen image upgrades be particularly helpful during transitions — when looking for a new job, stepping into a new or more public role, or changing work environments. If you’re in a period of change or just feeling stuck and in a rut, now may be a good time. If you’re not sure, ask for honest feedback from trusted friends, colleagues and professionals. Look for cues about how others perceive you. Maybe there’s no need for an upgrade and that’s OK.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 42. |  |

Get clear on what impact you’re hoping to have. Are you looking to refresh your image or pivot it? For one person, the goal may be to be taken more seriously and enhance their professional image. For another, it may be to be perceived as more approachable, or more modern and stylish. For someone moving from finance to advertising, maybe they want to look more “SoHo.” (It’s OK to use characterizations like that.)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 43. |  |

Look at your work environment like an anthropologist. What are the norms of your environment? What conveys status? Who are your most important audience? How do the people you respect and look up to present themselves? The better you understand the cultural context, the more control you can have over your impact.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 44. |  |

Enlist the support of professionals and share with them your goals and context. Hire a personal stylist, or use the free styling service of a store like J. Crew. Try a hair stylist instead of a barber. Work with a professional photographer instead of your spouse or friend. It’s not as expensive as you might think.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 45. |  |

The point of a style upgrade isn’t to become more vain or to spend more time fussing over what to wear. Instead, use it as an opportunity to reduce decision fatigue. Pick a standard work uniform or a few go-to opinions. Buy all your clothes at once with a stylist instead of shopping alone, one article of clothing at a time.

**Part C**

**Directions:**

*Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written clearly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)*

Mental health is our birthright. (46) We don’t have to learn how to be mentally healthy; it is built into us in the same way that our bodies know how to heal a cut or mend a broken bone. Mental health can’t be learned, only reawakened. It is like the immune system of the body, which under stress or through lack of nutrition or exercise can be weakened, but which never leaves us. When we don’t understand the value of mental health and we don’t know how to gain access to it, mental health will remain hidden from us. (47) Our mental health doesn’t really go anywhere; like the sun behind a cloud, it can be temporarily hidden from view, but it is fully capable of being restored in an instant.

Mental health is the seed that contains self-esteem — confidence in ourselves and an ability to trust in our common sense. It allows us to have perspective on our lives — the ability to not take ourselves too seriously, to laugh at ourselves, to see the bigger picture, and to see that things will work out. It’s a form of innate or unlearned optimism. (48) Mental health allows us to view others with sympathy if they are having troubles, with kindness if they are in pain, and with unconditional love no matter who they are. Mental health is the source of creativity for solving problems, resolving conflict, making our surroundings more beautiful, managing our home life, or coming up with a creative business idea or invention to make our lives easier. It gives us patience for ourselves and toward others as well as patience while driving, catching a fish, working on our car, or raising a child. It allows us to see the beauty that surrounds us each moment in nature, in culture, in the flow of our daily lives.

(49)Although mental health is the cure-all for living our lives, it is perfectly ordinary as you will see that it has been there to direct you through all your difficult decisions. It has been available even in the most mundane of life situations to show you right from wrong, good from bad, friend from foe. Mental health has commonly been called conscience, instinct, wisdom, common sense, or the inner voice. We think of it simply as a healthy and helpful flow of intelligent thought. (50) As you will come to see, knowing that mental health is always available and knowing to trust it allow us to slow down to the moment and live life happily.

## Section III Writing

**Part A**

51. **Directions:**

Suppose you are a librarian in your university. Write a notice of about 100 words, providing the newly-enrolled international students with relevant information about the library.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

**Do not** sign your own name at the end of the notice. Use “Li Ming” instead.

**Do not** write the address. (10 points)

**Part B**

52. **Directions:**

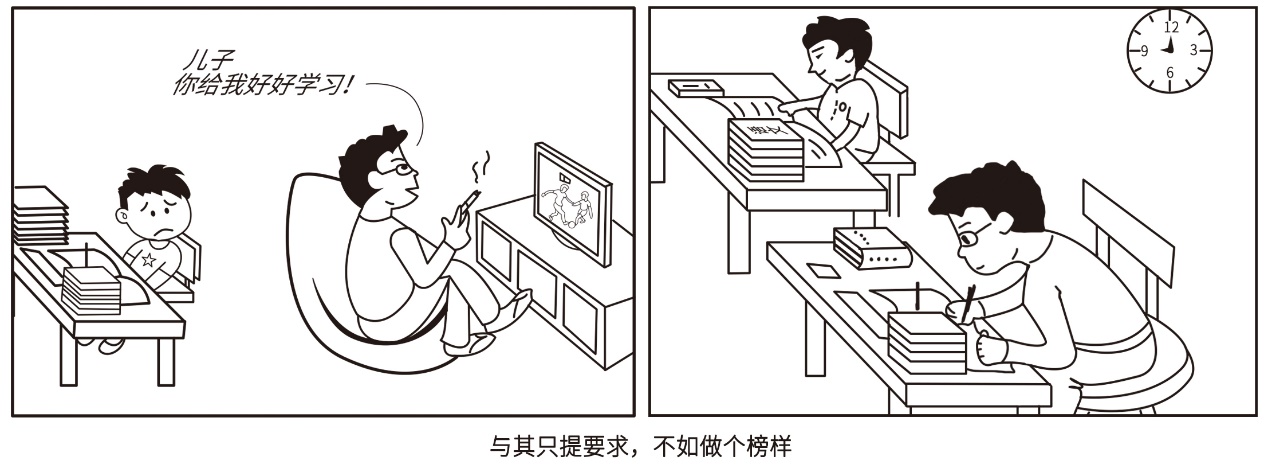
Write an essay of 160—200 words based on the following pictures. In your essay, you should

1) describe the pictures briefly,

2) interpret the meaning, and

3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



# 2017年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

## Section Ⅰ Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10points）

Could a hug a day keep the doctor away? The answer may be a resounding "yes!" 1 helping you feel close and 2 to people you care about, it turns out that hugs can bring a 3 of health benefits to your body and mind. Believe it or not, a warm embrace might even help you 4 getting sick this winter.

In a recent study 5 over 400 healthy adults, researchers from Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania examined the effects of perceived social support and the receipt of hugs 6 the participants' susceptibility to developing the common cold after being 7 to the virus. People who perceived greater social support were less likely to come 8 with a cold, and the researchers 9 that the stress-reducing effects of hugging 10 about 32 percent of that beneficial effect. 11 among those who got a cold, the ones who felt greater social support and received more frequent hugs had less severe 12 .

"Hugging protects people who are under stress from the 13 risk for colds that's usually 14 with stress," notes Sheldon Cohen, a professor of psychology at Carnegie. Hugging "is a marker of intimacy and helps 15 the feeling that others are there to help 16 difficulty."

Some experts 17 the stress-reducing, health-related benefits of hugging to the release of oxytocin, often called "the bonding hormone" 18 it promotes attachment in relationships, including that between mothers and their newborn babies. Oxytocin is made primarily in the central lower part of the brain, and some of it is released into the bloodstream. But some of it 19 in the brain, where it 20 mood, behavior and physiology.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | [A]Besides | [B]Unlike | [C]Throughout | [D]Despite |
|  | [A]equal | [B]restricted | [C]connected | [D]inferior |
|  | [A]view | [B]host | [C]lesson | [D]choice |
|  | [A]avoid | [B]forget | [C]recall | [D]keep |
|  | [A]collecting | [B]affecting | [C]guiding | [D]involving |
|  | [A]on | [B]in | [C]at | [D]of |
|  | [A]devoted | [B]attracted | [C]lost | [D]exposed |
|  | [A]along | [B]across | [C]down | [D]out |
|  | [A]imagined | [B]denied | [C]doubted | [D]calculated |
|  | [A]served | [B]restored | [C]explained | [D]required |
|  | [A]Thus | [B]Still | [C]Rather | [D]Even |
|  | [A]defeats | [B]symptoms | [C]errors | [D]tests |
|  | [A]highlighted | [B]increased | [C]controlled | [D]minimized |
|  | [A]presented | [B]equipped | [C]associated | [D]compared |
|  | [A]assess | [B]generate | [C]moderate | [D]record |
|  | [A]in the name of | [B] in the form of | [C] in the face of | [D] in the way of |
|  | [A]attribute | [B]commit | [C]transfer | [D]return |
|  | [A]unless | [B]because | [C]though | [D]until |
|  | [A]remains | [B]emerges | [C]vanishes | [D]decreases |
|  | [A]experiences | [B]combines | [C]justifies | [D]influences |

## SectionⅡ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (40points)

**Text 1**

First two hours, now three hours — this is how far in advance authorities are recommending people show up to catch a domestic flight, at least at some major U.S. airports with increasingly massive security lines.

Americans are willing to tolerate time-consuming security protocols in return for increased safety. The crash of Egypt Air Flight 804, which terrorists may have downed over the Mediterranean Sea, provides another tragic reminder of why. But demanding too much of air travelers or providing too little security in return undermines public support for the process. And it should: Wasted time is a drag on Americans' economic and private lives, not to mention infuriating.

Last year, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) found in a secret check that undercover investigators were able to sneak weapons — both fake and real — past airport security nearly every time they tried. Enhanced security measures since then, combined with a rise in airline travel due to the improving economy and low oil prices, have resulted in long waits at major airports such as Chicago's O'Hare International. It is not yet clear how much more effective airline security has become — but the lines are obvious.

Part of the issue is that the government did not anticipate the steep increase in airline travel, so the TSA is now rushing to get new screeners on the line. Part of the issue is that airports have only so much room for screening lanes. Another factor may be that more people are trying to overpack their carry-on bags to avoid checked-baggage fees, though the airlines strongly dispute this.

There is one step the TSA could take that would not require remodeling airports or rushing to hire: Enroll more people in the PreCheck program. PreCheck is supposed to be a win-win for travelers and the TSA. Passengers who pass a background check are eligible to use expedited screening lanes. This allows the TSA to focus on travelers who are higher risk, saving time for everyone involved. TSA wants to enroll 25 million people in PreCheck.

It has not gotten anywhere close to that, and one big reason is sticker shock: Passengers must pay $85 every five years to process their background checks. Since the beginning, this price tag has been PreCheck's fatal flaw. Upcoming reforms might bring the price to a more reasonable level. But Congress should look into doing so directly, by helping to finance PreCheck enrollment or to cut costs in other ways.

The TSA cannot continue diverting resources into underused PreCheck lanes while most of the traveling public suffers in unnecessary lines. It is long past time to make the program work.

21. The crash of EgyptAir Flight 804 is mentioned to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] explain American’s tolerance of current security checks.

[B] stress the urgency to strengthen security worldwide.

[C] highlight the necessity of upgrading major U.S. airports.

[D] emphasize the importance of privacy protection.

22. Which of the following contributes to long waits at major airports?

[A] New restrictions on carry-on bags.

[B] The declining efficiency of the TSA.

[C] An increase in the number of travellers.

[D] Frequent unexpected secret checks.

23. The word “expedited” (Liner 4, Para. 5) is closet in meaning to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] quieter.

[B] cheaper.

[C] wider.

[D] faster.

24. One problem with the PreCheck program is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] a dramatic reduction of its scale.

[B] its wrongly-directed implementation.

[C] the government’s reluctance to back it.

[D] an unreasonable price for enrollment.

25. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

[A] Less Screening for More Safety

[B] PreCheck – a Belated Solution

[C] Getting Stuck in Security Lines

[D] Underused PreCheck Lanes

**Text 2**

“The ancient Hawaiians were astronomers,” wrote Queen Liliuokalani, Hawaii's last reigning monarch, in 1897. Star watchers were among the most esteemed members of Hawaiian society. Sadly, all is not well with astronomy in Hawaii today. Protests have erupted over construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT), a giant observatory that promises to revolutionize humanity's view of the cosmos.

At issue is the TMT's planned location on Mauna Kea, a dormant volcano worshiped by some Hawaiians as the piko, that connects the Hawaiian Islands to the heavens. But Mauna Kea is also home to some of the world's most powerful telescopes. Rested in the Pacific Ocean, Mauna Kea's peak rises above the bulk of our planet's dense atmosphere, where conditions allow telescopes to obtain images of unsurpassed clarity.

Opposition to telescopes on Mauna Kea is nothing new. A small but vocal group of Hawaiians and environmentalists have long viewed their presence as disrespect far sacred land and a painful reminder of the occupation of what was once a sovereign nation.

Some blame for the current controversy belongs to astronomers. In their eagerness to build bigger telescopes, they forgot that science is not the only way of understanding the world. They did not always prioritize the protection of Mauna Kea's fragile ecosystems or its holiness to the islands' inhabitants. Hawaiian culture is not a relic of the past; it is a living culture undergoing a renaissance today.

Yet science has a cultural history, too, with roots going back to the dawn of civilization. The same curiosity to find what lies beyond the horizon that first brought early Polynesians to Hawaii's shores inspires astronomers today to explore the heavens. Calls to disassemble all telescopes on Mauna Kea or to ban future development there ignore the reality that astronomy and Hawaiian culture both seek to answer big questions about who we are, where we come from and where we are going. Perhaps that is why we explore the starry skies, as if answering a primal calling to know ourselves and our true ancestral homes.

The astronomy community is making compromises to change its use of Mauna Kea. The TMT site was chosen to minimize the telescope’s visibility around the island and to avoid archaeological and environmental impact. To limit the number of telescopes on Mauna Kea, old ones will be removed at the end of their lifetimes and their sites returned to a natural state. There is no reason why everyone cannot be welcomed on Mauna Kea to embrace their cultural heritage and to study the stars.

26. Queen Liliuokalani’s remark in Paragraph 1 indicates\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] her conservative view on the historical role of astronomy.

[B] the importance of astronomy in ancient Hawaiian society.

[C]the regrettable decline of astronomy in ancient times.

[D] her appreciation of star watchers’ feats in her time.

27. Mauna Kea is deemed as an ideal astronomical site due to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] its geographical features.

[B] its protective surroundings.

[C] its religious implications.

[D] its existing infrastructure.

28. The construction of the TMT is opposed by some locals partly because\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] it may risk ruining their intellectual life.

[B] it reminds them of a humiliating history.

[C] their culture will lose a chance of revival.

[D] they fear losing control of Mauna Kea.

29. It can be inferred from Paragraph 5 that progress in today’s astronomy\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] is fulfilling the dreams of ancient Hawaiians.

[B] helps spread Hawaiian culture across the world.

[C] may uncover the origin of Hawaiian culture.

[D] will eventually soften Hawaiians’ hostility.

30. The author’s attitude toward choosing Mauna Kea as the TMT site is one of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] severe criticism.

[B] passive acceptance.

[C] slight hesitancy.

[D] full approval.

**Text 3**

Robert F. Kennedy once said that a country's GDP measures “everything except that which makes life worthwhile.” With Britain voting to leave the European Union, and GDP already predicted to slow as a result, it is now a timely moment to assess what he was referring to.

The question of GDP and its usefulness has annoyed policymakers for over half a century. Many argue that it is a flawed concept. It measures things that do not matter and misses things that do. By most recent measures, the UK’s GDP has been the envy of the Western world, with record low unemployment and high growth figures. If everything was going so well, then why did over 17 million people vote for Brexit, despite the warnings about what it could do to their country’s economic prospects?

A recent annual study of countries and their ability to convert growth into well-being sheds some light on that question. Across the 163 countries measured, the UK is one of the poorest performers in ensuring that economic growth is translated into meaningful improvements for its citizens. Rather than just focusing on GDP, over 40 different sets of criteria from health, education and civil society engagement have been measured to get a more rounded assessment of how countries are performing.

While all of these countries face their own challenges, there are a number of consistent themes. Yes, there has been a budding economic recovery since the 2008 global crash, but in key indicators in areas such as health and education, major economies have continued to decline. Yet this isn’t the case with all countries. Some relatively poor European countries have seen huge improvements across measures including civil society, income equality and environment.

This is a lesson that rich countries can learn: When GDP is no longer regarded as the sole measure of a country’s success, the world looks very different.

So what Kennedy was referring to was that while GDP has been the most common method for measuring the economic activity of nations, as a measure, it is no longer enough. It does not include important factors such as environmental quality or education outcomes – all things that contribute to a person's sense of well-being.

The sharp hit to growth predicted around the world and in the UK could lead to a decline in the everyday services we depend on for our well-being and for growth. But policymakers who refocus efforts on improving well-being rather than simply worrying about GDP figures could avoid the forecasted doom and may even see progress.

31. Robert F. Kennedy is cited because he\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] praised the UK for its GDP.

[B] identified GDP with happiness.

[C] misinterpreted the role of GDP.

[D] had a low opinion of GDP.

32. It can be inferred from Paragraph 2 that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the UK is reluctant to remold its economic pattern.

[B] the UK will contribute less to the world economy.

[C] GDP as the measure of success is widely defied in the UK.

[D] policymakers in the UK are paying less attention to GDP.

33. Which of the following is true about the recent annual study?

[A] It excludes GDP as an indicator.

[B] It is sponsored by 163 countries.

[C] Its criteria are questionable.

[D] Its results are enlightening.

34. In the last two paragraphs, the author suggests that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the UK is preparing for an economic boom.

[B] high GDP foreshadows an economic decline.

[C] it is essential to consider factors beyond GDP.

[D] it requires caution to handle economic issues.

35. Which of the following is the best title for the text?

[A] High GDP But Inadequate Well-being, a UK lesson

[B] GDP figures, a Window on Global Economic Health

[C] Robert F. Kennedy, a Terminator of GDP

[D] Brexit, the UK’s Gateway to Well-being

**Text 4**

In a rare unanimous ruling, the US Supreme Court has overturned the corruption conviction of a former Virginia governor, Robert McDonnell. But it did so while holding its nose at the ethics of his conduct, which included accepting gifts such as a Rolex watch and a Ferrari Automobile from a company seeking access to government.

The high court’s decision said the judge in Mr. McDonnell’s trail failed to tell a jury that it must look only at his “official acts,” or the former governor’s decisions on “specific” and “unsettled” issues related to his duties.

Merely helping a gift-giver gain access to other officials, unless done with clear intent to pressure those officials, is not corruption, the justices found.

The court did suggest that accepting favors in return for opening doors is “distasteful” and “nasty.” But under anti-bribery laws, proof must be made of concrete benefits, such as approval of a contract or regulation. Simply arranging a meeting, making a phone call, or hosting an event is not an “official act.”

The court’s ruling is legally sound in defining a kind of favoritism that is not criminal. Elected leaders must be allowed to help supporters deal with bureaucratic problems without fear of prosecution of bribery. “The basic compact underlying representative government,” wrote Chief Justice John Roberts for the court, “assumes that public officials will hear from their constituents and act on their concerns.”

But the ruling reinforces the need for citizens and their elected representatives, not the courts, to ensure equality of access to government. Officials must not be allowed to play favorites in providing information or in arranging meetings simply because an individual or group provides a campaign donation or a personal gift. This type of integrity requires well-enforced laws in government transparency, such as records of official meetings, rules on lobbying, and information about each elected leader’s source of wealth.

Favoritism in official access can fan public perceptions of corruption. But it is not always corruption. Rather officials must avoid double standards, or different types of access for average people and the wealthy. If connections can be bought, a basic premise of democratic society – that all are equal in treatment by government- is undermined. Good government rests on an understanding of the inherent worth of each individual.

The court’s ruling is a step forward in the struggle against both corruption and official favoritism.

36. The underlined sentence (Para. 1) most probably shows that the court\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] avoided defining the extent of McDonnell’s duties.

[B] made no compromise in convicting McDonnell.

[C] was contemptuous of McDonnell’s conduct.

[D] refused to comment on McDonnell’s ethics.

37. According to Paragraph 4, an official act is deemed corruptive only if it involves\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] concrete returns for gift-givers.

[B] sizable gains in the form of gifts.

[C] leaking secrets intentionally.

[D] breaking contracts officially.

38. The court’s ruling is based on the assumption that public officials are\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] allowed to focus on the concerns of their supporters.

[B] qualified to deal independently with bureaucratic issues.

[C] justified in addressing the needs of their constituents.

[D] exempt from conviction on the charge of favoritism.

39. Well-enforced laws in government transparency are needed to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] awaken the conscience of officials.

[B] guarantee fair play in official access.

[C] allow for certain kinds of lobbying.

[D] inspire hopes in average people.

40. The author’s attitude toward the court’s ruling is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] sarcastic.

[B] tolerant.

[C] skeptical.

[D] supportive.

**Part B**

**Directions:**

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent text by choosing from the list A-G and filling them into the numbered boxes. **Paragraphs B and D** have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET.（10 points）

[A] The first published sketch, “A Dinner at Polar Walk” brought tears to Dickens’s eyes when he discovered it in the pages of *The Monthly Magazine* From then on his sketches, which appeared under the pen name “Boz” in *The Evening Chronicle*, earned him a modest reputation.

[B] The runaway success of *The Pickwick Papers*, as it is generally known today, secured Dickens’s fame. There were Pickwick coats and Pickwick cigars, and the plump, spectacled hero, Samuel Pickwick, because a national figure.

[C] Soon after *Sketches by Boz* appeared, a publishing firm approached Dickens to write a story in monthly installments, as a backdrop for a series of woodcuts by the then-famous artist Robert Seymour, who had originated the idea for the story. With characteristic confidence, Dickens successfully insisted that Seymour’s pictures illustrate his own story instead. After the first installment, Dickens wrote to the artist and asked him to correct a drawing Dickens felt, was not faithful enough to his prose. Seymour made the change, went into his backyard, and expressed his displeasure by committing suicide. Dickens and his publishers simply pressed on with a new artist. The comic novel, *The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club*, appeared serially in 1836 and 1837 and was first published in book form in 1837.

[D] Charles Dickens is probably the best-known and, to many people, the greatest English novelist of the 19th century. A moralist, satirist, and social reformer, Dickens crafted complex plots and striking characters that capture the panorama of English society.

[E] Soon after his father’s release from prison, Dickens got a better job as errand boy in law offices. He taught himself shorthand to get an even better job later as a court stenographer and as a reporter in Parliament. At the same time, Dickens, who had a reporter’s eye for transcribing the life around him, especially anything comic or odd, submitted short sketches to obscure magazines.

[F] Dickens was born in Portsmouth, on England's southern coast. His father was a clerk in the British Navy Pay office — a respectable position, but with little social status. His paternal grandparents, a steward and a housekeeper, possessed even less status, having been servants, and Dickens later concealed their background. Dickens’s mother supposedly came from a more respectable family. Yet two years before Dickens’s birth, his mother’s father was caught stealing and fled to Europe, never to return. The family's increasing poverty forced Dickens out of school at age 12 to work in Warren’s Blacking Warehouse, a shoe-polish factory, where the other working boys mocked him as "the young gentleman." His father was then imprisoned for debt. The humiliations of his father’s imprisonment and his labor in the blacking factory formed Dickens’s greatest wound and became his deepest secret. He could not confide them even to his wife, although they provide the unacknowledged foundation of his fiction.

[G] After *Pickwick*, Dickens plunged into a bleaker world. In *Oliver Twist*, he traces an orphan's progress from the workhouse to the criminal slums of London. *Nicholas Nickleby*, his next novel, combines the darkness of *Oliver Twist* with the sunlight of *Pickwick*. The popularity of these novels consolidated Dickens’ as a nationally and internationally celebrated man of letters.

D 41. 42. 43. 44. B 45.

**Part C**

**Directions:**

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

The growth of the use of English as the world's primary language for international communication has obviously been continuing for several decades. (46) but even as the number of English speakers expands further there are signs that the global predominance of the language may fade within the foreseeable future.

Complex international, economic, technological and cultural changes could start to diminish the leading position of English as the language of the world market, and UK interests which enjoy advantage from the breadth of English usage would consequently face new pressures. Those realistic possibilities are highlighted in the study presented by David Graddol. (47) His analysis should therefore end any self-contentedness among those who may believe that the global position of English is so stable that the young generations of the United Kingdom do not need additional language capabilities.

David Graddol concludes that monoglot English graduates face a bleak economic future as qualified multilingual youngsters from other countries are proving to have a competitive advantage over their British counterparts in global companies and organisations. Alongside that, (48) many countries are introducing English into the primary-school curriculum but British schoolchildren and students do not appear to be gaining greater encouragement to achieve fluency in other languages.

If left to themselves, such trends will diminish the relative strength of the English language in international education markets as the demand for educational resources in languages, such as Spanish, Arabic or Mandarin grows and international business process outsourcing in other languages such as Japanese, French and German, spreads

( 49 ) The changes identified by David Graddol all present clear and major challenges to the UK's providers of English language teaching to people of other countries and to broader education business sectors. The English language teaching sector directly earns nearly £1.3 billion for the UK in invisible exports and our other education related exports earn up to £10 billion a year more . As the International education market expands, the recent slowdown in the numbers of international students studying in the main English-speaking countries is likely to continue, especially if there are no effective strategic policies to prevent such slippage.

The anticipation of possible shifts in demand provided by this study is significant; (50) It gives a basis to all organisations which seek to promote the learning and use of English, a basis for planning to meet the possibilities of what could be a very different operating environment. That is a necessary and practical approach. In this as in much else, those who wish to influence the future must prepare for it.

## Section III Writing

**Part A**

51. **Directions:**

You are to write an email to James Cook, a newly-arrived Australian professor, recommending some tourist attractions in your city. Please give reasons for your recommendation.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

**Do not** sign your own name at the end of the email. Use “Li Ming” instead.

**Do not** write the address. (10 points)

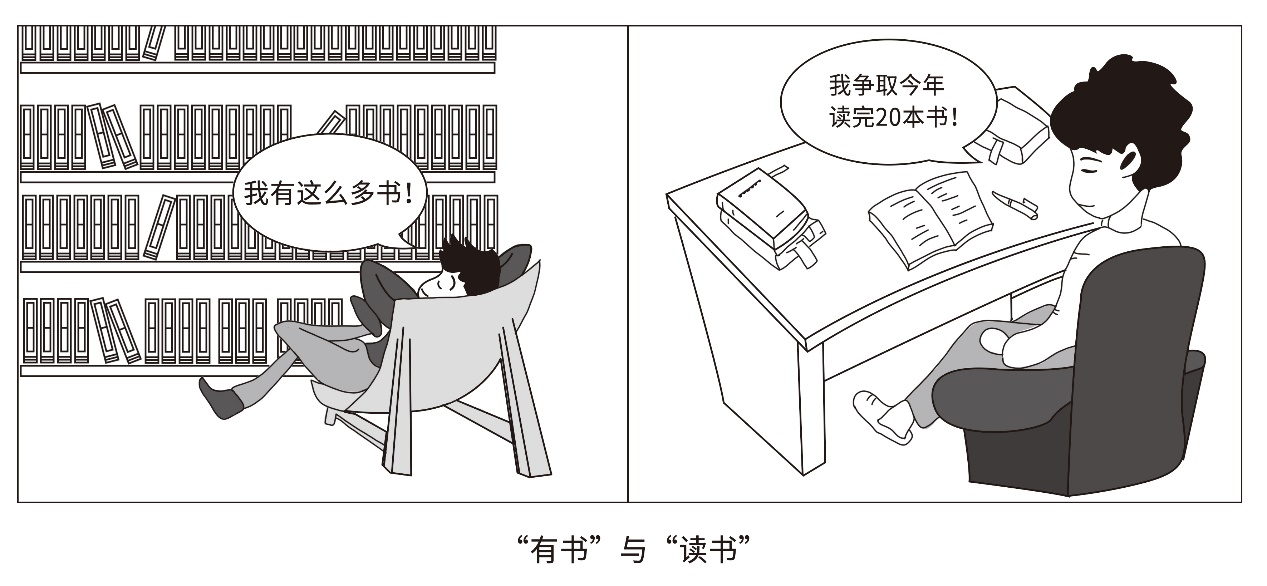
**Part B**

52. **Directions:**

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following pictures. In your essay, you should

1. describe the pictures briefly,
2. interpret the meaning, and
3. give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



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# 2018年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

## Section Ⅰ Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10points）

①Trust is a tricky business. ②On the one hand, it's a necessary condition 1 many worthwhile things: child care, friendships, etc. ③On the other hand, putting your 2 in the wrong place often carries a high 3 .

① 4 , why do we trust at all? ②Well, because it feels good. ③5 people place their trust in an individual or an institution, their brains release oxytocin, a hormone that 6 pleasurable feelings and triggers the herding instinct that prompts humans to 7 with one another. ④Scientists have found that exposure 8 this hormone puts us in a trusting 9 : ⑤In a Swiss study, researchers sprayed oxytocin into the noses of half the subjects; those subjects were ready to lend significantly higher amounts of money to strangers than were their 10 who inhaled something else.

① 11 for us, we also have a sixth sense for dishonesty that may 12 us. ②A Canadian study found that children as young as 14 months can differentiate 13 a credible person and a dishonest one. ③Sixty toddlers were each 14 to an adult tester holding a plastic container. ④The tester would ask, “What’s in here?” before looking into the container, smiling, and exclaiming, “Wow!” ⑤ Each subject was then invited to look 15 . ⑥Half of them found a toy; the other half 16 the container was empty — and realized the tester had 17 them.

①Among the children who had not been tricked, the majority were 18 to cooperate with the tester in learning a new skill, demonstrating that they trusted his leadership. ② 19 , only five of the 30 children paired with the “ 20 ”tester participated in a follow-up activity.

　　1. [A] on [B] like [C] for [D] from

　　2. [A] faith [B] concern [C] attention [D] interest

　　3. [A] benefit [B] debt [C] hope [D] price

　　4. [A] Therefore [B] Then [C] Instead [D] Again

　　5. [A] Until [B] Unless [C] Although [D] When

　　6. [A] selects [B] produces [C] applies [D] maintains

　　7. [A] consult [B] compete [C] connect [D] compare

　　8. [A] at [B] by [C]of [D] to

　　9. [A] context [B] mood [C] period [D] circle

　　10.[A] counterparts [B] substitutes [C] colleagues [D] supporters

　　11.[A] Funny [B] Lucky [C] Odd [D] Ironic

　　12.[A] monitor [B] protect [C] surprise [D] delight

　　13.[A] between [B] within [C] toward [D] over

　　14.[A] transferred [B] added [C] introduced [D] entrusted

　　15.[A] out [B] back [C] around [D] inside

　　16.[A] discovered [B] proved [C] insisted [D] remembered

　　17.[A] betrayed [B]wronged [C] fooled [D] mocked

　　18.[A] forced [B] willing [C] hesitant [D] entitled

　　19.[A] In contrast [B] As a result [C] On the whole [D] For instance

　　20.[A] inflexible [B] incapable [C] unreliable [D] unsuitable

## SectionⅡ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (40points)

**Text 1**

　　①Among the annoying challenges facing the middle class is one that will probably go unmentioned in the next presidential campaign: What happens when the robots come for their jobs?

　　①Don't dismiss that possibility entirely. ②About half of U.S. jobs are at high risk of being automated, according to a University of Oxford study, with the middle class disproportionately squeezed. ③Lower-income jobs like gardening or day care don't appeal to robots. ④But many middle-class occupations — trucking, financial advice, software engineering — have aroused their interest, or soon will. ⑤he rich own the robots, so they will be fine.

　　①This isn't to be alarmist. ②Optimists point out that technological upheaval has benefited workers in the past. ③The Industrial Revolution didn't go so well for Luddites whose jobs were displaced by mechanized looms, but it eventually raised living standards and created more jobs than it destroyed. ④Likewise, automation should eventually boost productivity, stimulate demand by driving down prices, and free workers from hard, boring work. ⑤But in the medium term, middle-class workers may need a lot of help adjusting.

　　①The first step, as Erik Brynjolfsson and Andrew McAfee argue in *The Second Machine Age*, should be rethinking education and job training. ②Curriculums — from grammar school to college — should evolve to focus less on memorizing facts and more on creativity and complex communication. ③Vocational schools should do a better job of fostering problem-solving skills and helping students work alongside robots. ④Online education can supplement the traditional kind. ⑤It could make extra training and instruction affordable. ⑥Professionals trying to acquire new skills will be able to do so without going into debt.

　　①The challenge of coping with automation underlines the need for the U.S. to revive its fading business dynamism: Starting new companies must be made easier. ②In previous eras of drastic technological change, entrepreneurs smoothed the transition by dreaming up ways to combine labor and machines. ③The best uses of 3D printers and virtual reality haven't been invented yet. ④The U.S. needs the new companies that will invent them.

　　①Finally, because automation threatens to widen the gap between capital income and labor income, taxes and the safety net will have to be rethought. ②Taxes on low-wage labor need to be cut, and wage subsidies such as the earned income tax credit should be expanded: This would boost incomes, encourage work, reward companies for job creation, and reduce inequality.

①Technology will improve society in ways big and small over the next few years, yet this will be little comfort to those who find their lives and careers upended by automation. ②Destroying the machines that are coming for our jobs would be nuts. ③But policies to help workers adapt will be indispensable.

21. Who will be most threatened by automation?

　　[A] Leading politicians.

　　[B] Low-wage laborers.

　　[C] Robot owners.

　　[D] Middle-class workers.

22. Which of the following best represent the author’s view?

　　[A] Worries about automation are in fact groundless.

　　[B] Optimists' opinions on new tech find little support.

　　[C] Issues arising from automation need to be tackled

　　[D] Negative consequences of new tech can be avoided

23. Education in the age of automation should put more emphasis on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] creative potential

　　[B] job-hunting skills

　　[C] individual needs

　　[D] cooperative spirit

24. The author suggests that tax policies be aimed at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] encouraging the development of automation

　　[B] increasing the return on capital investment

　　[C] easing the hostility between rich and poor

　　[D] preventing the income gap from widening

25. In this text, the author presents a problem with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] opposing views on it

　　[B] possible solutions to it

　　[C] its alarming impacts

[D] its major variations

**Text 2**

①A new survey by Harvard University finds more than two-thirds of young Americans disapprove of President Trump’s use of Twitter. ②The implication is that Millennials prefer news from the White House to be filtered through other source, not a president’s social media platform.

　　①Most Americans rely on social media to check daily headlines. ②Yet as distrust has risen toward all media, people may be starting to beef up their media literacy skills. ③Such a trend is badly needed. ④During the 2016 presidential campaign, nearly a quarter of web content shared by Twitter users in the politically critical state of Michigan was fake news, according to the University of Oxford. ⑤And a survey conducted for BuzzFeed News found 44 percent of Facebook users rarely or never trust news from the media giant.

　　①Young people who are digital natives are indeed becoming more skillful at separating fact from fiction in cyberspace. ②A Knight Foundation focus-group survey of young people between ages 14 and 24 found they use “distributed trust” to verify stories. ③They cross-check sources and prefer news from different perspectives — especially those that are open about any bias. ④“Many young people assume a great deal of personal responsibility for educating themselves and actively seeking out opposing viewpoints,” the survey concluded.

　　①Such active research can have another effect. ②A 2014 survey conducted in Australia, Britain, and the United States by the University of Wisconsin-Madison found that young people’s reliance on social media led to greater political engagement.

　　①Social media allows users to experience news events more intimately and immediately while also permitting them to re-share news as a projection of their values and interests. ②This forces users to be more conscious of their role in passing along information. ③A survey by Barna research group found the top reason given by Americans for the fake news phenomenon is “reader error,” more so than made-up stories or factual mistakes in reporting. ④About a third say the problem of fake news lies in “misinterpretation or exaggeration of actual news” via social media. ⑤In other words, the choice to share news on social media may be the heart of the issue. ⑥“This indicates there is a real personal responsibility in counteracting this problem,” says Roxanne Stone, editor in chief at Barna Group.

①So when young people are critical of an over-tweeting president, they reveal a mental discipline in thinking skills — and in their choices on when to share on social media.

26. According to Paragraphs 1 and 2, many young Americans cast doubts on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] the justification of the news-filtering practice

　　[B] people’s preference for social media platforms

　　[C] the administration’s ability to handle information

　　[D] social media as a reliable source of news

27. The phrase “beef up” (Line 2, Para. 2) is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] sharpen

　　[B] define

　　[C] boast

　　[D] share

28. According to the knight foundation survey, young people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] tend to voice their opinions in cyberspace

　　[B] verify news by referring to diverse sources

　　[C] have a strong sense of social responsibility

　　[D] like to exchange views on “distributed trust”

29. The Barna survey found that a main cause for the fake news problem is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] readers outdated values

　　[B] journalists’ biased reporting

　　[C] readers’ misinterpretation

　　[D] journalists’ made-up stories

30. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

　　[A] A Rise in Critical Skills for Sharing News Online

　　[B] A Counteraction Against the Over-tweeting Trend

　　[C] The Accumulation of Mutual Trust on Social Media.

　　[D] The Platforms for Projection of Personal Interests.

**Text 3**

①Any fair-minded assessment of the dangers of the deal between Britain's National Health Service (NHS) and DeepMind must start by acknowledging that both sides mean well. ②DeepMind is one of the leading artificial intelligence (AI) companies in the world. ③The potential of this work applied to healthcare is very great, but it could also lead to further concentration of power in the tech giants. ④It is against that background that the information commissioner, Elizabeth Denham, has issued her damning verdict against the Royal Free hospital trust under the NHS, which handed over to DeepMind the records of 1.6 million patients in 2015 on the basis of a vague agreement which took far too little account of the patients' rights and their expectations of privacy.

①DeepMind has almost apologized. ②The NHS trust has mended its ways. ③Further arrangements — and there may be many — between the NHS and DeepMind will be carefully scrutinised to ensure that all necessary permissions have been asked of patients and all unnecessary data has been cleaned. ④There are lessons about informed patient consent to learn. ⑤But privacy is not the only angle in this case and not even the most important. ⑥Ms Denham chose to concentrate the blame on the NHS trust, since under existing law it “controlled” the data and DeepMind merely “processed" it. ⑦But this distinction misses the point that it is processing and aggregation, not the mere possession of bits, that gives the data value.

①The great question is who should benefit from the analysis of all the data that our lives now generate. ②Privacy law builds on the concept of damage to an individual from identifiable knowledge about them. ③That misses the way the surveillance economy works. ④The data of an individual there gains its value only when it is compared with the data of countless millions more.

①The use of privacy law to curb the tech giants in this instance feels slightly maladapted. ②This practice does not address the real worry. ③It is not enough to say that the algorithms DeepMind develops will benefit patients and save lives. ④What matters is that they will belong to a private monopoly which developed them using public resources. ⑤If software promises to save lives on the scale that drugs now can, big data may be expected to behave as big pharma has done. ⑥We are still at the beginning of this revolution and small choices now may turn out to have gigantic consequences later. ⑦A long struggle will be needed to avoid a future of digital feudalism. ⑧Ms Denham's report is a welcome start.

31. What is true of the agreement between the NHS and DeepMind ?

　　[A] It caused conflicts among tech giants.

　　[B] It failed to pay due attention to patient’s rights.

　　[C] It fell short of the latter's expectations

　　[D] It put both sides into a dangerous situation.

32. The NHS trust responded to Denham's verdict with \_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] empty promises

　　[B] tough resistance

　　[C] necessary adjustments

　　[D] sincere apologies

33. The author argues in Paragraph 2 that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] privacy protection must be secured at all costs

　　[B] leaking patients' data is worse than selling it

　　[C] making profits from patients' data is illegal

　　[D] the value of data comes from the processing of it

34. According to the last paragraph, the real worry arising from this deal is \_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] the vicious rivalry among big pharmas

　　[B] the ineffective enforcement of privacy law

　　[C] the uncontrolled use of new software

　　[D] the monopoly of big data by tech giants

35. The author's attitude toward the application of AI to healthcare is \_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　[A] ambiguous

　　[B] cautious

　　[C] appreciative

[D] contemptuous

**Text 4**

①The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) continues to bleed red ink. ②It reported a net loss of $5.6 billion for fiscal 2016, the 10th straight year its expenses have exceeded revenue. ③Meanwhile, it has more than $120 billion in unfunded liabilities, mostly for employee health and retirement costs. ④There are many reasons this formerly stable federal institution finds itself at the verge of bankruptcies. ⑤Fundamentally, the USPS is in a historic squeeze between technological change that has permanently decreased demand for its bread-and-butter product, first-class mail, and a regulatory structure that denies management the flexibility to adjust its operations to the new reality.

　　①And interest groups ranging from postal unions to greeting-card makers exert self-interested pressure on the USPS’s ultimate overseer — Congress — insisting that whatever else happens to the Postal Service, aspects of the status quo they depend on get protected. ②This is why repeated attempts at reform legislation have failed in recent years, leaving the Postal Service unable to pay its bills except by deferring vital modernization.

　　①Now comes word that everyone involved — Democrats, Republicans, the Postal Service, the unions and the system's heaviest users — has finally agreed on a plan to fix the system. ②Legislation is moving through the House that would save USPS an estimated $28.6 billion over five years, which could help pay for new vehicles, among other survival measures. ③Most of the money would come from a penny-per-letter permanent rate increase and from shifting postal retirees into Medicare. ④The latter step would largely offset the financial burden of annually pre-funding retiree health care, thus addressing a long-standing complaint by the USPS and its union.

①If it clears the House, this measure would still have to get through the Senate — where someone is bound to point out that it amounts to the bare, bare minimum necessary to keep the Postal Service afloat, not comprehensive reform. ②There’s no change to collective bargaining at the USPS, a major omission considering that personnel accounts for 80 percent of the agency’s costs. ③Also missing is any discussion of eliminating Saturday letter delivery. ④That common-sense change enjoys wide public support and would save the USPS $2 billion per year. ⑤But postal special-interest groups seem to have killed it, at least in the House. ⑥The emerging consensus around the bill is a sign that legislators are getting frightened about a politically embarrassing short-term collapse at the USPS. ⑦It is not, however, a sign that they’re getting serious about transforming the postal system for the 21st century.

36. The financial problem with the USPS is caused partly by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] its unbalanced budget

[B] its rigid management

[C] the cost for technical upgrading

[D] the withdrawal of bank support

37. According to Paragraph 2, the USPS fails to modernize itself due to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the interference from interest groups

[B] the inadequate funding from Congress

[C] the shrinking demand for postal service

[D] the incompetence of postal unions

38. The long-standing complaint by the USPS and its unions can be addressed by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] removing its burden of retiree health care

[B] making more investment in new vehicles

[C] adopting a new rate-increase mechanism

[D] attracting more first-class mail users

39. In the last paragraph, the author seems to view legislators with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] respect

[B] tolerance

[C] discontent

[D] gratitude

40. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

[A] The USPS Starts to Miss Its Good Old Days

[B] The Postal Service: Keep Away from My Cheese

[C] The USPS: Chronic Illness Requires a Quick Cure

[D] The Postal Service Needs More than a Band-Aid

**Part B**

**Directions:**

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For Questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent article by choosing from the list A-G and filling them into the numbered boxes. Paragraphs C and F have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

[A] In December of 1869, Congress appointed a commission to select a site and prepare plans and cost estimates for a new State Department Building. The commission was also to consider possible arrangements for the War and Navy Departments. To the horror of some who expected a Greek Revival twin of the Treasury Building to be erected on the other side of the White House, the elaborate French Second Empire style design by Alfred Mullett was selected, and construction of a building to house all three departments began in June of 1871.

[B] Completed in 1875, the State Department's south wing was the first to be occupied, with its elegant four-story library (completed in 1876), Diplomatic Reception Room, and Secretary's office decorated with carved wood, Oriental rugs, and stenciled wall patterns. The Navy Department moved into the east wing in 1879, where elaborate wall and ceiling stenciling and marquetry floors decorated the office of the Secretary.

[C] The State, War, and Navy Building, as it was originally known, housed the three Executive Branch Departments most intimately associated with formulating and conducting the nation's foreign policy in the last quarter of the nineteenth century and the first quarter of the twentieth century — the period when the United States emerged as an international power. The building has housed some of the nation's most significant diplomats and politicians and has been the scene of many historic events.

[D] Many of the most celebrated national figures have participated in historical events that have taken place within the EEOB's granite walls. Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Lyndon B. Johnson, Gerald Ford, and George H. W. Bush all had offices in this building before becoming President. It has housed 16 Secretaries of the Navy, 21 Secretaries of War, and 24 Secretaries of State. Winston Churchill once walked its corridors and Japanese emissaries met here with Secretary of State Cordell Hull after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

[E] The Eisenhower Executive Office Building (EEOB) commands a unique position in both the national history and the architectural heritage of the United States. Designed by Supervising Architect of the Treasury, Alfred B. Mullett, it was built from 1871 to 1888 to house the growing staffs of the State, War, and Navy Departments, and is considered one of the best examples of French Second Empire architecture in the country.

[F] Construction took 17 years as the building slowly rose wing by wing. When the EEOB was finished, it was the largest office building in Washington, with nearly 2 miles of black and white tiled corridors. Almost all of the interior detail is of cast iron or plaster; the use of wood was minimized to insure fire safety. Eight monumental curving staircases of granite with over 4,000 individually cast bronze balusters are capped by four skylight domes and two stained glass rotundas.

[G] The history of the EEOB began long before its foundations were laid. The first executive offices were constructed between 1799 and 1820. A series of fires (including those set by the British in 1814) and overcrowded conditions led to the construction of the existing Treasury Building. In 1866, the construction of the North Wing of the Treasury Building necessitated the demolition of the State Department building.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 41. | C | 42. | 43. | F | 44. | 45. |

**Part C**

**Directions:**

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Shakespeare’s life time was coincident with a period of extraordinary activity and achievement in the drama. (46) By the date of his birth Europe was witnessing the passing of the religious drama, and the creation of new forms under the incentive of classical tragedy and comedy. These new forms were at first mainly written by scholars and performed by amateurs, but in England, as everywhere else in western Europe, the growth of a class of professional actors was threatening to make the drama popular, whether it should be new or old, classical or medieval, literary or farcical. Court, school organizations of amateurs, and the traveling actors were all rivals in supplying a widespread desire for dramatic entertainment; and (47) no boy who went a grammar school could be ignorant that the drama was a form of literature which gave glory to Greece and Rome and might yet bring honor to England.

When Shakespeare was twelve years old, the first public playhouse was built in London. For a time literature showed no interest in this public stage. Plays aiming at literary distinction were written for school or court, or for the choir boys of St. Paul’s and the royal chapel, who, however, gave plays in public as well as at court. (48) But the professional companies prospered in their permanent theaters, and university men with literary ambitions were quick to turn to these theaters as offering a means of livelihood. By the time that Shakespeare was twenty-five, Lyly, Peele, and Greene had made comedies that were at once popular and literary; Kyd had written a tragedy that crowded the pit; and Marlowe had brought poetry and genius to triumph on the common stage — where they had played no part since the death of Euripides. (49)A native literary drama had been created, its alliance with the public playhouses established, and at least some of its great traditions had been begun.

The development of the Elizabethan drama for the next twenty-five years is of exceptional interest to students of literary history, for in this brief period we may trace the beginning, growth, blossoming, and decay of many kinds of plays, and of many great careers. We are amazed today at the mere number of plays produced, as well as by the number of dramatists writing at the same time for this London of two hundred thousand inhabitants. (50)To realize how great was the dramatic activity, we must remember further that hosts of plays have been lost, and that probably there is no author of note whose entire work has survived.

## Section III Writing

**Part A**

51. **Directions:**

Write an email to all international experts on campus, inviting them to attend the graduation ceremony. In your email, you should include the time, place and other relevant information about the ceremony.

You should write about 100 words neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not use your own name at the end of the email. Use "Li Ming" instead.

Do not write the address. (10 points)

**Part B**

52. **Directions:**

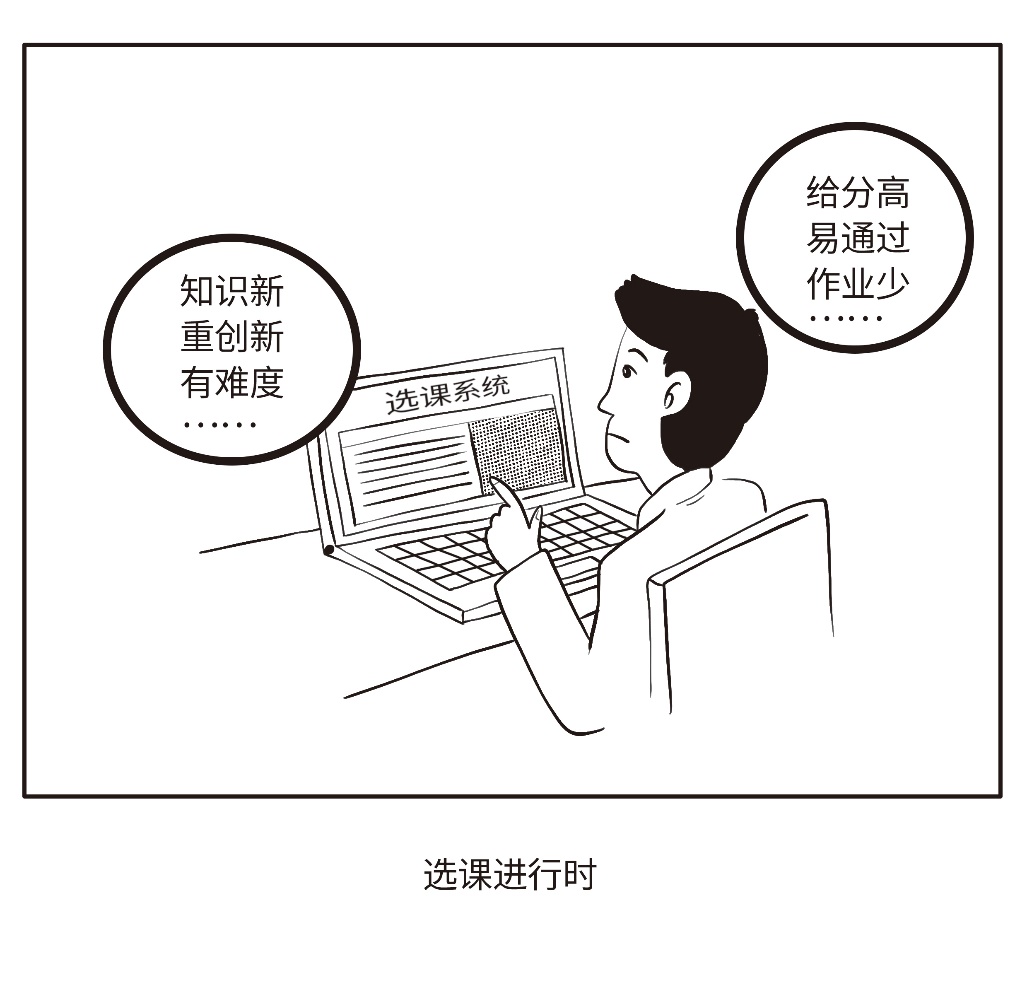
Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following drawing. In your essay, you should

1) describe the drawing briefly,

2) interpret the meaning, and

3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



# 2019年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

## Section Ⅰ Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10points）

①Today we live in a world where GPS systems, digital maps, and other navigation apps are all available on our smartphones. ② 1 of us just walk straight into the woods without a phone. ③But phones 2 on batteries, and batteries can die faster than we realize. ④ 3  you get lost without a phone or a compass, and you 4 can’t find north, a few tricks may help you navigate 5 to civilization, one of which is to follow the land.

①When you find yourself 6  a trail, but not in a completely 7 area of land, you have to answer two questions: Which 8 is downhill, in this particular area? And where is the nearest water source? ②Humans overwhelmingly live in valleys, and on supplies of fresh water. ③ 9 if you head downhill, and follow any H2O you find, you should 10 see signs of people.

①If you’ve explored the area before, keep an eye out for familiar sights—you may be 11 how quickly identifying a distinctive rock or tree can restore your bearings.

①Another 12 : Climb high and look for signs of human habitation. ② 13 , even in dense forest, you should be able to 14 gaps in the tree line due to roads, train tracks, and other paths people carve 15 the woods. ③Head toward these 16  to find a way out. ④At night, scan the horizon for 17 light sources, such as fires and streetlights, then walk toward the glow of light pollution.

① 18 , assuming you’re lost in an area humans tend to frequent, look for the 19 we leave on the landscape. ②Trail blazes, tire tracks, and other features can 20 you to civilization.

1.  [A] Some [B] Most [C] Few [D] All

2.  [A] put [B] take [C] run [D] come

3.  [A] Since [B] If [C] Though [D] Until

4.  [A] formally [B] relatively [C] gradually [D] literally

5.  [A] back [B] next [C] around [D] away

6.  [A] onto [B] off [C] across [D] along

7.  [A] unattractive [B] uncrowded [C] unchanged [D] unfamiliar

8.  [A] site [B] point [C] way [D] place

9.  [A] So [B] Yet [C] Instead [D] Besides

10. [A] immediately [B] intentionally [C] unexpectedly [D] eventually

11. [A] surprised [B] annoyed [C] frightened [D] confused

12. [A] problem [B] option [C] view [D] result

13. [A] Above all [B] In contrast [C] On average [D] For example

14. [A] bridge [B] avoid [C] spot [D] separate

15. [A] from [B] through [C] beyond [D] under

16. [A] posts [B] links [C] shades [D] breaks

17. [A] artificial [B] mysterious [C] hidden  [D] limited

18. [A] Finally [B] Consequently  [C] Incidentally [D] Generally

19. [A] memories  [B] marks  [C] notes [D] belongings

20. [A] restrict [B] adapt [C] lead [D] expose

## SectionⅡ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (40points)

**Text 1**

①Financial regulators in Britain have imposed a rather unusual rule on the bosses of big banks. ②Starting next year, any guaranteed bonus of top executives could be delayed 10 years if their banks are under investigation for wrongdoing. ③The main purpose of this “clawback” rule is to hold bankers accountable for harmful risk-taking and to restore public trust in financial institutions. ④Yet officials also hope for a much larger benefit: more long term decision-making not only by banks but also by all corporations, to build a stronger economy for future generations.

①“Short-termism” or the desire for quick profits, has worsened in publicly traded companies, says the Bank of England’s top economist, Andrew Haldane. ②He quotes a giant of classical economics, Alfred Marshall, in describing this financial impatience as acting like “children who pick the plums out of their pudding to eat them at once” rather than putting them aside to be eaten last.

①The average time for holding a stock in both the United States and Britain, he notes, has dropped from seven years to seven months in recent decades. ②Transient investors, who demand high quarterly profits from companies, can hinder a firm’s efforts to invest in long-term research or to build up customer loyalty. ③This has been dubbed “quarterly capitalism”.

①In addition, new digital technologies have allowed more rapid trading of equities, quicker use of information, and thus shorter attention spans in financial markets. ②“There seems to be a predominance of short-term thinking at the expense of long-term investing,” said Commissioner Daniel Gallagher of the US Securities and Exchange Commission in speech this week.

①In the US, *the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002* has pushed most public companies to defer performance bonuses for senior executives by about a year, slightly helping reduce “short-termism.” ②In its latest survey of CEO pay, The Wall Street Journal finds that “a substantial part” of executive pay is now tied to performance.

①Much more could be done to encourage “long-termism,” such as changes in the tax code and quicker disclosure of stock acquisitions. ②In France, shareholders who hold onto a company investment for at least two years can sometimes earn more voting rights in a company.

①Within companies, the right compensation design can provide incentives for executives to think beyond their own time at the company and on behalf of all stakeholders. ②Britain’s new rule is a reminder to bankers that society has an interest in their performance, not just for the short term but for the long term.

21. According to Paragraph 1, one motive in imposing the new rule is to\_\_\_\_.

[A] enhance banker’s sense of responsibility

[B] help corporations achieve larger profits

[C] build a new system of financial regulation

[D] guarantee the bonuses of top executives

22. Alfred Marshall is quoted to indicate\_\_\_\_.

[A] the conditions for generating quick profits

[B] governments’ impatience in decision-making

[C] the solid structure of publicly traded companies

[D] “short-termism” in economic activities

23. It is argued that the influence of transient investment on public companies can be\_\_\_\_.

[A] indirect

[B] adverse

[C] minimal

[D] temporary

24. The US and France examples are used to illustrate\_\_\_\_.

[A] the obstacles to preventing “short-termism”

[B] the significance of long-term thinking

[C] the approaches to promoting “long-termism”

[D] the prevalence of short-term thinking

25. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

[A] Failure of Quarterly Capitalism

[B] Patience as a Corporate Virtue

[C] Decisiveness Required of Top Executives

[D] Frustration of Risk-taking Bankers

**Text 2**

①Grade inflation—the gradual increase in average GPAs (Grade-point averages) over the past few decades—is often considered a product of a consumer era in higher education, in which students are treated like customers to be pleased. ②But another, related force — a policy often buried deep in course catalogs called grade forgiveness—is helping raise GPAs.

①Grade forgiveness allows students to retake a course in which they received a low grade, and the most recent grade or the highest grade is the only one that counts in calculating a student's overall GPA.

①The use of this little-known practice has accelerated in recent years, as colleges continue to do their utmost to keep students in school (and paying tuition) and improve their graduation rates. ②When this practice first started decades ago, it was usually limited to freshmen, to give them a second chance to take a class in their first year if they struggled in their transition to college-level courses. ③But now most colleges, save for many selective campuses, allow all undergraduates, and even graduate students, to get their low grades forgiven.

①College officials tend to emphasize that the goal of grade forgiveness is less about the grade itself and more about encouraging students to retake courses critical to their degree program and graduation without incurring a big penalty. ②“Ultimately,” said Jack Miner, Ohio State University’s registrar, “we see students achieve more success because they retake a course and do better in subsequent contents or master the content that allows them to graduate on time.”

①That said, there is a way in which grade forgiveness satisfies colleges’ own needs as well.② For public institutions, state funds are sometimes tied partly to their success on metrics such as graduation rates and student retention—so better grades can, by boosting figures like those, mean more money. ③And anything that raises GPAs will likely make students—who, at the end of the day, are paying the bill — feel they’ve gotten a better value for their tuition dollars, which is another big concern for colleges.

①Indeed, grade forgiveness is just another way that universities are responding to consumers’ expectations for higher education. ②Since students and parents expect a college degree to lead to a job, it is in the best interest of a school to turn out graduates who are as qualified as possible-or at least appear to be. ③On this, students’ and colleges’ incentives seem to be aligned.

26. What is commonly regarded as the cause of grade inflation?

[A] The change of course catalogs

[B] Students’ indifference to GPAs

[C] Colleges’ neglect of GPAs

[D] The influence of consumer culture

27. What was the original purpose of grade forgiveness?

[A] To help freshmen adapt to college learning

[B] To maintain colleges’ graduation rates

[C]To prepare graduates for a challenging future

[D]To increase universities’ income from tuition

28. According to Paragraph 5, grade forgiveness enables colleges to\_\_\_.

[A] obtain more financial support

[B] boost their student enrollments

[C]improve their teaching quality

[D] meet local governments needs

29. What does the phrase “to be aligned” (Line 5, Para. 6) most probably mean?

[A] To counterbalance each other

[B] To complement each other

[C] To be identical with each other

[D]To be contradictory to each other

30. The author examines the practice of grade forgiveness by\_\_\_.

[A] assessing its feasibility

[B] analyzing the causes behind it

[C] comparing different views on it

[D] listing its long-run effects

**Text 3**

①This year marks exactly two centuries since the publication of “Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus”, by Mary Shelley. ②Even before the invention of the electric light bulb, the author produced a remarkable work of speculative fiction that would foreshadow many ethical questions to be raised by technologies yet to come.

①Today the rapid growth of artificial intelligence (AI) raises fundamental questions: “What is intelligence, identify, or consciousness? What makes humans humans?”

①What is being called artificial general intelligence, machines that would imitate the way humans think, continues to evade scientists. ②Yet humans remain fascinated by the idea of robots that would look, move, and respond like humans, similar to those recently depicted on popular sci-fi TV series such as “Westworld” and “Humans”.

①Just *how* people think is still far too complex to be understood, let alone reproduced, says David Eagleman, a Stanford University neuroscientist. ②“We are just in a situation where there are no good theories explaining what consciousness actually is and how you could ever build a machine to get there.”

①But that doesn’t mean crucial ethical issues involving AI aren’t at hand. ②The coming use of autonomous vehicles, for example, poses thorny ethical questions. ③Human drivers sometimes must make split-second decisions. ④Their reactions may be a complex combination of instant reflexes, input from past driving experiences, and what their eyes and ears tell them in that moment. ⑤AI “vision” today is not nearly as sophisticated as that of humans. ⑥And to anticipate every imaginable driving situation is a difficult programming problem.

①Whenever decisions are based on masses of data, “you quickly get into a lot of ethical questions,” notes Tan Kiat How, chief executive of a Singapore-based agency that is helping the government develop a voluntary code for the ethical use of AI. ②Along with Singapore, other governments and mega-corporations are beginning to establish their own guidelines. ③Britain is setting up a data ethics center. ④India released its AI ethics strategy this spring.

①On June 7 Google pledged not to “design or deploy AI” that would cause “overall harm,” or to develop AI-directed weapons or use AI for surveillance that would violate international norms. ②It also pledged to not deploy AI whose use would violate international laws or human rights.

①While the statement is vague, it represents one starting point. ②So does the idea that decisions made by AI systems should be explainable, transparent, and fair.

①To put it another way: How can we make sure that the thinking of intelligent machines reflects humanity’s highest values? ②Only then will they be useful servants and not Frankenstein’s out-of-control monster.

31. Mary Shelley’s novel Frankenstein is mentioned because it\_\_\_\_.

[A] fascinates AI scientists all over the world

[B]has remained popular for as long as 200 years

[C] involves some concerns raised by AI today

[D] has sparked serious ethical controversies

32. In David Eagleman’s opinion, our current knowledge of consciousness\_\_\_\_.

[A] helps explain artificial intelligence

[B] can be misleading to robot making

[C] inspires popular sci-fi TV series

[D] is too limited for us to reproduce it

33. The solution to the ethical issues brought by autonomous vehicles\_\_\_\_.

[A] can hardly ever be found

[B] is still beyond our capacity

[C] causes little public concern

[D] has aroused much curiosity

34. The author’s attitude toward Google’s pledge is one of\_\_\_\_.

[A] affirmation

[B] skepticism'

[C] contempt

[D] respect

35. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

[A] AI’s Future: In the Hands of Tech Giants

[B] Frankenstein, the Novel Predicting the Age of AI

[C] The Conscience of AI: Complex But Inevitable

[D] AI Shall Be Killers Once Out of Control

**Text 4**

①States will be able to force more people to pay sales tax when they make online purchases under a Supreme Court decision Thursday that will leave shoppers with lighter wallets but is a big financial win for states.

①The Supreme Court’s opinion Thursday overruled a pair of decades-old decisions that states said cost them billions of dollars in lost revenue annually. ②The decisions made it more difficult for states to collect sales tax on certain online purchases.

①The cases the court overturned said that if a business was shipping a customer’s purchase to a state where the business didn’t have a physical presence such as a warehouse or office, the business didn’t have to collect sales tax for the state. ②Customers were generally responsible for paying the sales tax to the state themselves if they weren’t charged it, but most didn’t realize they owed it and few paid.

①Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote that the previous decisions were flawed. ②“Each year the physical presence rule becomes further removed from economic reality and results in significant revenue losses to the States,” he wrote in an opinion joined by four other justices. ③Kennedy wrote that the rule “limited States’ ability to seek long-term prosperity and has prevented market participants from competing on an even playing field.”

①The ruling is a victory for big chains with a presence in many states, since they usually collect sales tax on online purchases already. ②Now, rivals will be charging sales tax where they hadn’t before. ③Big chains have been collecting sales tax nationwide because they typically have physical stores in whatever state a purchase is being shipped to. ④Amazon.com, with its network of warehouses, also collects sales tax in every state that charges it, though third-party sellers who use the site don’t have to.

①Until now, many sellers that have a physical presence in only a single state or a few states have been able to avoid charging sales taxes when they ship to addresses outside those states. ②Sellers that use eBay and Etsy, which provide platforms for smaller sellers, also haven’t been collecting sales tax nationwide. ③Under the ruling Thursday, states can pass laws requiring out-of-state sellers to collect the state’s sales tax from customers and send it to the state.

①Retail trade groups praised the ruling, saying it levels the playing field for local and online businesses. ②The losers, said retail analyst Neil Saunders, are online-only retailers, especially smaller ones. ③Those retailers may face headaches complying with various state sales tax laws. ④The Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council advocacy group said in a statement, “Small businesses and internet entrepreneurs are not well served at all by this decision.”

36. The Supreme Court decision Thursday will \_\_\_\_.

[A] better business’ relations with states

[B] put most online business in a dilemma

[C] make more online shoppers pay sales tax

[D] forces some states to cut sales tax

37. It can be learned from paragraphs 2 and 3 that the overruled decisions \_\_\_\_.

[A] have led to the dominance of e-commerce

[B] have cost consumers a lot over the years

[C] were widely criticized by online purchases

[D] were considered unfavorable by states

38. According to Justice Anthony Kennedy, the physical presence rule has \_\_\_\_.

[A] hindered economic development

[B] brought prosperity to the country

[C] harmed fair market competition

[D] boosted growth in states revenue

39. Who are most likely to welcome the Supreme Court ruling \_\_\_\_.

[A] Internet entrepreneurs

[B] Big-chain owners

[C] Third-party sellers

[D] Small retailers

40. In dealing with the Supreme Court decision Thursday, the author \_\_\_\_.

[A] gives a factual account of it and discusses its consequences

[B] describes the long and complicated process of its making

[C] presents its main points with conflicting views on them

[D] cites some cases related to it and analyzes their implications

**Part B**

**Directions:**

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For Questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent article by choosing from the list A-G and filling them into the numbered boxes. Paragraph C and F have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

A. These tools can help you win every argument—not in the unhelpful sense of beating your opponents but in the better sense of learning about the issues that divide people, learning why they disagree with us and learning to talk and work together with them. If we readjust our view of arguments—from a verbal fight or tennis game to a reasoned exchange through which we all gain mutual respect and understanding—then we change the very nature of what it means to “win” an argument.

B. Of course, many discussions are not so successful. Still, we need to be careful not to accuse opponents of bad arguments too quickly. We need to learn how to evaluate them properly. A large part of evaluation is calling out bad arguments, but we also need to admit good arguments by opponents and to apply the same critical standards to ourselves. Humility requires you to recognize weaknesses in your own arguments and sometimes also to accept reasons on the opposite side.

C. None of this will be easy but you can start even if others refuse to. Next time you state your position, formulate an argument for what you claim and honestly ask yourself whether your argument is any good. Next time you talk with someone who takes a stand, ask them to give you a reason for their view. Spell out their argument fully and charitably. Assess its strength impartially. Raise objections and listen carefully to their replies.

D. Carnegie would be right if arguments were fights, which is how we often think of them. Like physical fights, verbal fights can leave both sides bloodied. Even when you win, you end up no better off. Your prospects would be almost as dismal if arguments were even just competitions—like, say, tennis games. Paris of opponents hit the ball back and forth until one winner emerges from all who entered. Everybody else loses. This kind of thinking is why so many people try to avoid arguments, especially about politics and religion.

E. In his 1936 work *How to Win Friends and Influence People* , Dale Carnegie wrote: “There is only one way…to get the best of an argument—and that is to avoid it. “This aversion to arguments is common, but it depends on a mistaken view of arguments that causes profound problems for our personal and social lives- and in many ways misses the point of arguing in the first place.

F. These views of arguments also undermine reason. If you see a conversation as a fight or competition, you can win by cheating as long as you don’t get caught. You will be happy to convince people with bad arguments. You can call their views stupid, or joke about how ignorant they are. None of these tricks will help you understand them, their positions or the issues that divide you, but they can help you win—in one way.

G. There is a better way to win arguments. Imagine that you favor increasing the minimum wage in our state, and I do not. If you yell, “Yes,” and I yell. “No,” neither of us learns anything. We neither understand nor respect each other, and we have no basis for compromise or cooperation. In contrast, suppose you give a reasonable argument: that full-time workers should not have to live in poverty. Then I counter with another reasonable argument: that a higher minimum wage will force businesses to employ fewer people for less time. Now we can understand each other’s positions and recognize our shared values, since we both care about needy workers.

**41→42→F→43→44→C→45**

**Part C**

**Directions:**

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

It was only after I started to write a weekly column about the medical journals, and began to read scientific papers from beginning to end, that I realised just how bad much of the medical literature frequently was. I came to recognise various signs of a bad paper: the kind of paper that purports to show that people who eat more than one kilo of broccoli a week were 1.17 times more likely than those who eat less to suffer late in life from pernicious anemia. (46) There is a great deal of this kind of nonsense in the medical journals which, when taken up by broadcasters and the lay press, generates both health scares and short-lived dietary enthusiasms.

Why is so much bad science published? A recent paper, titled ‘The Natural Selection of Bad Science’, published on the Royal Society’s open science website, attempts to answer this intriguing and important question. It says that the problem is not merely that people do bad science, but that our current system of career advancement positively encourages it. What is important is not truth, but publication, which has become almost an end in itself. There has been a kind of inflationary process at work: (47) nowadays anyone applying for a research post has to have published twice the number of papers that would have been required for the same post only 10 years ago. Never mind the quality, then, count the number.

(48) Attempts have been made to curb this tendency, for example, by trying to incorporate some measure of quality as well as quantity into the assessment of an applicant’s papers. This is the famed citation index, that is to say the number of times a paper has been quoted elsewhere in the scientific literature, the assumption being that an important paper will be cited more often than one of small account. (49) This would be reasonable if it were not for the fact that scientists can easily arrange to cite themselves in their future publications, or get associates to do so for them in return for similar favours.

Boiling down an individual’s output to simple metrics, such as number of publications or journal impacts, entails considerable savings in time, energy and ambiguity. Unfortunately, the long-term costs of using simple quantitative metrics to assess researcher merit are likely to be quite great. (50) If we are serious about ensuring that our science is both meaningful and reproducible, we must ensure that our institutions encourage that kind of science.

## Section III Writing

**Part A**

51. **Directions:**

Suppose you are working for the “Aiding Rural Primary School” project of your university. Write an email to answer the inquiry from an international student volunteer, specifying details of the project.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the email. Use “Li Ming” instead.

Do not write the address. (10 points)

**Part B**

52. **Directions:**

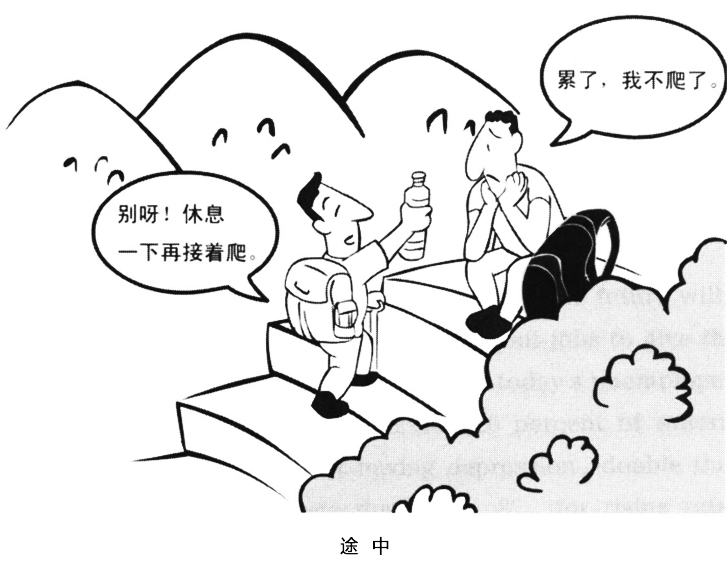
Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the picture below. In your essay, you should

1) describe the drawing briefly,

2) interpret the implied meaning, and

3)give your comments.

You should write neatly on ANSWER SHEET 2. (20 points)



# 2010年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（二）试题

## Section I Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

①The outbreak of swine flu that was first detected in Mexico was declared a global epidemic on June 11, 2009. ②It is the first worldwide epidemic\_\_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_\_ by the World Health Organization in 41 years.

①The heightened alert \_\_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_\_an emergency meeting with flu experts in Geneva that convened after a sharp rise in cases in Australia, and rising\_\_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_\_in Britain, Japan, Chile and elsewhere.

①But the epidemic is "\_\_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_\_" in severity, according to Margaret Chan, the organization's director general, \_\_\_\_\_5\_\_\_\_\_ the overwhelming majority of patients experiencing only mild symptoms and a full recovery, often in the \_\_\_\_\_6\_\_\_\_\_ of any medical treatment.

①The outbreak came to global\_\_\_\_\_7\_\_\_\_\_in late April 2009, when Mexican authorities noted an unusually large number of hospitalizations and deaths\_\_\_\_\_8\_\_\_\_\_healthy adults. ②As much of Mexico City shut down at the height of a panic, cases began to \_\_\_\_\_9\_\_\_\_\_in New York City, the southwestern United States and around the world.

①In the United States, new cases seemed to fade\_\_\_\_\_10\_\_\_\_\_warmer weather arrived. ②But in late September 2009, officials reported there was \_\_\_\_\_11\_\_\_\_\_flu activity in almost every state and that virtually all the\_\_\_\_\_12\_\_\_\_\_tested are the new swine flu, also known as (A) H1N1, not seasonal flu.③In the U.S., it has\_\_\_\_\_13\_\_\_\_\_more than one million people, and caused more than 600 deaths and more than 6,000 hospitalizations.

①Federal health officials\_\_\_\_\_14\_\_\_\_\_Tamiflu for children from the national stockpile and began\_\_\_\_\_15\_\_\_\_\_orders from the states for the new swine flu vaccine. ②The new vaccine, which is different from the annual flu vaccine, is \_\_\_\_16\_\_\_\_\_ ahead of expectations. ③More than three million doses were to be made available in early October 2009, though most of those \_\_\_\_\_17\_\_\_\_\_doses were of the FluMist nasal spray type, which is not\_\_\_\_\_18\_\_\_\_\_for pregnant women, people over 50 or those with breathing difficulties, heart disease or several other \_\_\_\_\_19\_\_\_\_\_. ④But it was still possible to vaccinate people in other high-risk group: health care workers, people \_\_\_\_\_20\_\_\_\_\_infants and healthy young people.

1 [A] criticized [B] appointed [C]commented [D] designated

2 [A] proceeded [B] activated [C] followed [D] prompted

3 [A] digits [B] numbers [C] amounts [D] sums

4 [A] moderate [B] normal [C] unusual [D] extreme

5 [A] with [B] in [C] from [D] by

6 [A] progress [B] absence [C] presence [D] favor

7 [A] reality [B] phenomenon [C] concept [D] notice

8. [A]over [B] for [C] among [D] to

9 [A] stay up [B] crop up [C] fill up [D] cover up

10 [A] as [B] if [C] unless [D] until

11 [A] excessive [B] enormous [C] significant [D]magnificent

12 [A]categories [B] examples [C] patterns [D] samples

13 [A] imparted [B] immersed [C] injected [D] infected

14 [A] released [B] relayed [C] relieved [D] remained

15 [A] placing [B] delivering [C] taking [D] giving

16 [A] feasible [B] available [C] reliable [D] applicable

17 [A] prevalent [B] principal [C] innovative [D] initial

18 [A] presented [B] restricted [C] recommended [D] introduced

19 [A] problems [B] issues [C] agonies [D] sufferings

20 [A] involved in [B] caring for [C] concerned with [D] warding off

## Section II Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions blow each text by choosing A, B, C, or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

**Text 1**

①The longest bull run in a century of art-market history ended on a dramatic note with a sale of 56 works by Damien Hirst, *Beautiful Inside My Head Forever*,at Sotheby’s in London on September 15th 2008. ②All but two pieces sold, fetching more than ￡70m, a record for a sale by a single artist. ③It was a last victory. ④As the auctioneer called out bids, in New York one of the oldest banks on Wall Street, Lehman Brothers, filed for bankruptcy.

①The world art market had already been losing momentum for a while after rising bewilderingly since 2003. ②At its peak in 2007 it was worth some $65 billion, reckons Clare McAndrew, founder of Arts Economics, a research firm—double the figure five years earlier. ③Since then it may have come down to $50 billion. ④But the market generates interest far beyond its size because it brings together great wealth, enormous egos, greed, passion and controversy in a way matched by few other industries.

①In the weeks and months that followed Mr. Hirst’s sale, spending of any sort became deeply unfashionable. ②In the art world that meant collectors stayed away from galleries and salerooms. ③Sales of contemporary art fell by two-thirds, and in the most overheated sector, they were down by nearly 90% in the year to November 2008. ④Within weeks the world’s two biggest auction houses, Sotheby’s and Christie’s, had to pay out nearly $200m in guarantees to clients who had placed works for sale with them.

①The current downturn in the art market is the worst since the Japanese stopped buying Impressionists at the end of 1989. ②This time experts reckon that prices are about 40% down on their peak on average, though some have been far more fluctuant. ③But Edward Dolman, Christie’s chief executive, says: “I’m pretty confident we’re at the bottom.”

①What makes this slump different from the last, he says, is that there are still buyers in the market. ②Almost everyone who was interviewed for this special report said that the biggest problem at the moment is not a lack of demand but a lack of good work to sell.③The three Ds—death, debt and divorce—still deliver works of art to the market. ④But anyone who does not have to sell is keeping away, waiting for confidence to return.

21. In the first paragraph, Damien Hirst’s sale was referred to as “a last victory” because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the art market had witnessed a succession of victories

[B] the auctioneer finally got the two pieces at the highest bids

[C] *Beautiful Inside My Head Forever* won over all masterpieces

[D] it was successfully made just before the world financial crisis

22. By saying “spending of any sort became deeply unfashionable” (Para. 3), the author suggests that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] collectors were no longer actively involved in art-market auctions

[B] people stopped every kind of spending and stayed away from galleries

[C] art collection as a fashion had lost its appeal to a great extent

[D] works of art in general had gone out of fashion so they were not worth buying

23. Which of the following statements is NOT true?

[A] Sales of contemporary art fell dramatically from 2007 to 2008.

[B] The art market surpassed many other industries in momentum.

[C] The art market generally went downward in various ways.

[D] Some art dealers were awaiting better chances to come.

24. The three Ds mentioned in the last paragraph are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] auction houses’ favorites

[B] contemporary trends

[C] factors promoting artwork circulation

[D] styles representing Impressionists

25. The most appropriate title for this text could be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] Fluctuation of Art Prices

[B] Up-to-date Art Auctions

[C] Art Market in Decline

[D] Shifted Interest in Arts

**Text 2**

①I was addressing a small gathering in a suburban Virginia living room—a women's group that had invited men to join them. ②Throughout the evening, one man had been particularly talkative, frequently offering ideas and anecdotes, while his wife sat silently beside him on the couch. ③Toward the end of the evening, I commented that women frequently complain that their husbands don't talk to them. ④This man quickly nodded in agreement. ⑤He gestured toward his wife and said, “She’s the talker in our family.” ⑥The room burst into laughter; the man looked puzzled and hurt. ⑦“It's true,” he explained. ⑧“When I come home from work, I have nothing to say. ⑨If she didn't keep the conversation going, we’d spend the whole evening in silence.”

①This episode crystallizes the irony that although American men tend to talk more than women in public situations, they often talk less at home. ②And this pattern is wreaking havoc with marriage.

①The pattern was observed by political scientist Andrew Hacker in the late 1970s. ②Sociologist Catherine Kohler Riessman reports in her new book *Divorce Talk* that most of the women she interviewed — but only a few of the men — gave lack of communication as the reason for their divorces. ③Given the current divorce rate of nearly 50 percent, that amounts to millions of cases in the United States every year — a virtual epidemic of failed conversation.

①In my own research, complaints from women about their husbands most often focused not on tangible inequities such as having given up the chance for a career to accompany a husband to his, or doing far more than their share of daily life-support work like cleaning, cooking and social arrangements. ②Instead, they focused on communication: “He doesn't listen to me.” “He doesn't talk to me.” ③I found, as Hacker observed years before, that most wives want their husbands to be, first and foremost, conversational partners, but few husbands share this expectation of their wives.

①In short, the image that best represents the current crisis is the stereotypical cartoon scene of a man sitting at the breakfast table with a newspaper held up in front of his face, while a woman glares at the back of it, wanting to talk.

26. What is most wives’ main expectation of their husbands?

[A] Talking to them.

[B] Trusting them.

[C] Supporting their careers.

[D] Sharing housework.

27. Judging from the context, the phrase “wreaking havoc” (Line 3, Para. 2) most probably means \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] generating motivation

[B] exerting influence

[C] causing damage

[D] creating pressure

28. All of the following are true EXCEPT\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] men tend to talk more in public than women

[B] nearly 50 percent of recent divorces are caused by failed conversation

[C] women attach much importance to communication between couples

[D] a female tends to be more talkative at home than her spouse

29. Which of the following can best summarize the main idea of this text?

[A] The moral decaying deserves more research by sociologists.

[B] Marriage break-up stems from sex inequalities.

[C] Husband and wife have different expectations from their marriage.

[D] Conversational patterns between man and wife are different.

30. In the following part immediately after this text, the author will most probably focus

on \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] a vivid account of the new book *Divorce Talk*

[B] a detailed description of the stereotypical cartoon

[C] other possible reasons for a high divorce rate in the U.S.

[D] a brief introduction to the political scientist Andrew Hacker

**Text 3**

①Over the past decade, many companies had perfected the art of creating automatic behaviors—habits—among consumers. ②These habits have helped companies earn billions of dollars when customers eat snacks or wipe counters almost without thinking, often in response to a carefully designed set of daily cues.

①“There are fundamental public health problems, like hand washing with soap, that remain killers only because we can’t figure out how to change people’s habits,” said Dr. Curtis, the director of the Hygiene Center at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.②“We wanted to learn from private industry how to create new behaviors that happen automatically.”

①The companies that Dr. Curtis turned to—Procter & Gamble, Colgate-Palmolive and Unilever—had invested hundreds of millions of dollars finding the subtle cues in consumers’ lives that corporations could use to introduce new routines.

①If you look hard enough, you’ll find that many of the products we use every day—chewing gums, skin moisturizers, disinfecting wipes, air fresheners, water purifiers, health snacks, teeth whiteners, fabric softeners, vitamins—are results of manufactured habits. ②A century ago, few people regularly brushed their teeth multiple times a day. ③Today, because of shrewd advertising and public health campaigns, many Americans habitually give their pearly whites a cavity-preventing scrub twice a day, often with Colgate, Crest or one of the other brands.

①A few decades ago, many people didn’t drink water outside of a meal. ②Then beverage companies started bottling the production of far-off springs, and now office workers unthinkingly sip bottled water all day long. ③Chewing gum, once bought primarily by adolescent boys, is now featured in commercials as a breath freshener and teeth cleanser for use after a meal. ④Skin moisturizers are advertised as part of morning beauty rituals, slipped in between hair brushing and putting on makeup.

①“Our products succeed when they become part of daily or weekly patterns,” said Carol Berning, a consumer psychologist who recently retired from Procter & Gamble, the company that sold $76 billion of Tide, Crest and other products last year. ②“Creating positive habits is a huge part of improving our consumers’ lives, and it’s essential to making new products commercially viable.”

①Through experiments and observation, social scientists like Dr. Berning have learned that there is power in tying certain behaviors to habitual cues through ruthless advertising. ②As this new science of habit has emerged, controversies have erupted when the tactics have been used to sell questionable beauty creams or unhealthy foods.

31. According to Dr. Curtis, habits like hand washing with soap\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] should be further cultivated

[B] should be changed gradually

[C] are deeply rooted in history

[D] are basically private concerns

32. Bottled water, chewing gum and skin moisturizers are mentioned in Paragraph 5 so as to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] reveal their impact on people’s habits

[B] show the urgent need of daily necessities

[C] indicate their effect on people’s buying power

[D] manifest the significant role of good habits

33. Which of the following does NOT belong to products that help create people’s habits?

[A] Tide [B] Crest [C] Colgate [D] Unilever

34. From the text we know that some of consumer’s habits are developed due to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] perfected art of products

[B] automatic behavior creation

[C] commercial promotions

[D] scientific experiments

35. The author’s attitude toward the influence of advertisement on people’s habits is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] indifferent

[B] negative

[C] positive

[D] biased

**Text 4**

①Many Americans regard the jury system as a concrete expression of crucial democratic values, including the principles that all citizens who meet minimal qualifications of age and literacy are equally competent to serve on juries; that jurors should be selected randomly from a representative cross section of the community; that no citizen should be denied the right to serve on a jury on account of race, religion, sex, or national origin; that defendants are entitled to trial by their peers; and that verdicts should represent the conscience of the community and not just the letter of the law. ②The jury is also said to be the best surviving example of direct rather than representative democracy. ③In a direct democracy, citizens take turns governing themselves, rather than electing representatives to govern for them.

①But as recently as in 1968, jury selection procedures conflicted with these democratic ideals. ②In some states, for example, jury duty was limited to persons of supposedly superior intelligence, education, and moral character. ③Although the Supreme Court of the United States had prohibited intentional racial discrimination in jury selection as early as the 1880 case of *Strauder v. West Virginia*, the practice of selecting so-called elite or blue-ribbon juries provided a convenient way around this and other anti-discrimination laws.

①The system also failed to regularly include women on juries until the mid-20th century. ②Although women first served on state juries in Utah in 1898, it was not until the 1940s that a majority of states made women eligible for jury duty. ③Even then several states automatically exempted women from jury duty unless they personally asked to have their names included on the jury list. ④This practice was justified by the claim that women were needed at home, and it kept juries unrepresentative of women through the 1960s.

①In 1968, the Congress of the United States passed the Jury Selection and Service Act, ushering in a new era of democratic reforms for the jury. ②This law abolished special educational requirements for federal jurors and required them to be selected at random from a cross section of the entire community. ③In the landmark 1975 decision *Taylor v. Louisiana*, the Supreme Court extended the requirement that juries be representative of all parts of the community to the state level. ④The Taylor decision also declared sex discrimination in jury selection to be unconstitutional and ordered states to use the same procedures for selecting male and female jurors.

36. From the principles of the U.S. jury system, we learn that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] both literate and illiterate people can serve on juries

[B] defendants are immune from trial by their peers

[C] no age limit should be imposed for jury service

[D] judgment should consider the opinion of the public

37. The practice of selecting so-called elite jurors prior to 1968 showed\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the inadequacy of anti-discrimination laws

[B] the prevalent discrimination against certain races

[C] the conflicting ideals in jury selection procedures

[D] the arrogance common among the Supreme Court judges

38. Even in the 1960s, women were seldom on the jury list in some states because\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] they were automatically banned by state laws

[B] they fell far short of the required qualifications

[C] they were supposed to perform domestic duties

[D] they tended to evade public engagement

39. After the Jury Selection and Service Act was passed, \_\_\_\_\_.

[A] sex discrimination in jury selection was unconstitutional and had to be abolished

[B] educational requirements became less rigid in the selection of federal jurors

[C] jurors at the state level ought to be representative of the entire community

[D] states ought to conform to the federal court in reforming the jury system

40. In discussing the U.S. jury system, the text centers on\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] its nature and problems

[B] its characteristics and tradition

[C] its problems and their solutions

[D] its tradition and development

**Part B**

Read the following text and decide whether each of the statements is true or false. Choose T if the statement is true or F if the statement is not true. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

**Copying Birds May Save Aircraft Fuel**

①Both Boeing and Airbus have trumpeted the efficiency of their newest aircraft, the 787 and A350 respectively. ②Their clever designs and lightweight composites certainly make a difference. ③But a group of researchers at Stanford University, led by Ilan Kroo, has suggested that airlines could take a more naturalistic approach to cutting jet-fuel use, and it would not require them to buy new aircraft.

①The answer, says Dr Kroo, lies with birds. ②Since 1914, scientists have known that birds flying in formation—a V-shape, echelon or otherwise—expend less energy. ③The air flowing over a bird’s wings curls upwards behind the wingtips, a phenomenon known as upwash. ④Other birds flying in the upwash experience reduced drag, and spend less energy propelling themselves. ⑤Peter Lissaman, an aeronautics expert who was formerly at Caltech and the University of Southern California, has suggested that a formation of 25 birds might enjoy a range increase of 71%.

①When applied to aircraft, the principles are not substantially different. ②Dr Kroo and his team modeled what would happen if three passenger jets departing from Los Angeles, San Francisco and Las Vegas were to assemble over Utah, assume an inverted V-formation, occasionally change places so all could have a turn in the most favourable positions, and proceed to London. ③They found that the aircraft consumed as much as 15% less fuel (coupled with a reduction in carbon-dioxide output). ④Nitrogen-oxide emissions during the cruising portions of the flight fell by around a quarter.

①There are, of course, knots to be worked out. ②One consideration is safety, or at least the perception of it. ③Would passengers feel comfortable travelling in companion? ④Dr Kroo points out that the aircraft could be separated by several nautical miles, and would not be in the intimate groupings favoured by display teams like the Red Arrows. ⑤A passenger peering out of the window might not even see the other planes. ⑥Whether the separation distances involved would satisfy air-traffic-control regulations is another matter, although a working group at the International Civil Aviation Organisation has included the possibility of formation flying in a blueprint for new operational guidelines.

①It remains to be seen how weather conditions affect the air flows that make formation flight more efficient. ②In zones of increased turbulence, the planes’ wakes will decay more quickly and the effect will diminish. ③Dr Kroo says this is one of the areas his team will investigate further. ④It might also be hard for airlines to co-ordinate the departure times and destinations of passenger aircraft in a way that would allow them to gain from formation flight. ⑤Cargo aircraft, in contrast, might be easier to reschedule, as might routine military flights.

①As it happens, America’s armed forces are on the case already. ②Earlier this year the country’s Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency announced plans to pay Boeing to investigate formation flight, though the programme has yet to begin. ③There are reports that some military aircraft flew in formation when they were low on fuel during the second world war, but Dr Lissaman says they are unsubstantiated. ④“My father was an RAF pilot and my cousin the skipper of a Lancaster lost over Berlin,” he adds. ⑤So he should know.

41. Findings of the Stanford University researchers will promote the sales of new Boeing and Airbus aircraft.

42. The upwash experience may save propelling energy as well as reducing resistance.

43. Formation flight is more comfortable because passengers can not see the other planes.

44. The role that weather plays in formation flight has not yet been clearly defined.

45. It has been documented that during World War II, America’s armed forces once tried formation flight to save fuel.

## Section Ⅲ Translation

**46. Directions:** Translate the following text from English into Chinese. Write your translation on ANSWER SHEET 2. (15 points)

“Sustainability” has become a popular word these days, but to Ted Ning, the concept will always have personal meaning. Having endured a painful period of unsustainability in his own life made it clear to him that sustainability-oriented values must be expressed through everyday action and choice.

Ning recalls spending a confusing year in the late 1990s selling insurance. He’d been through the dot-com boom and burst and, desperate for a job, signed on with a Boulder agency.

It didn’t go well. “It was a really bad move because that’s not my passion,” says Ning, whose dilemma about the job translated, predictably, into a lack of sales. “I was miserable, I had so much anxiety that I would wake up in the middle of the night and stare at the ceiling. I had no money and needed the job. Everyone said, ‘Just wait, you’ll turn the corner, give it some time.’ ”

## Section IV   Writing

**Part A**

**47. Directions**

You have just come back from the U.S. as a member of a Sino-American cultural exchange program. Write a letter to your American colleague to

1) express your thanks for his/her warm reception;

2) welcome him/her to visit China in due course.

You should write about 100 words on ANSWER SHEET 2.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use “Zhang Wei” instead.

Do not write your address. (10 points)

**Part B**

**48. Directions**

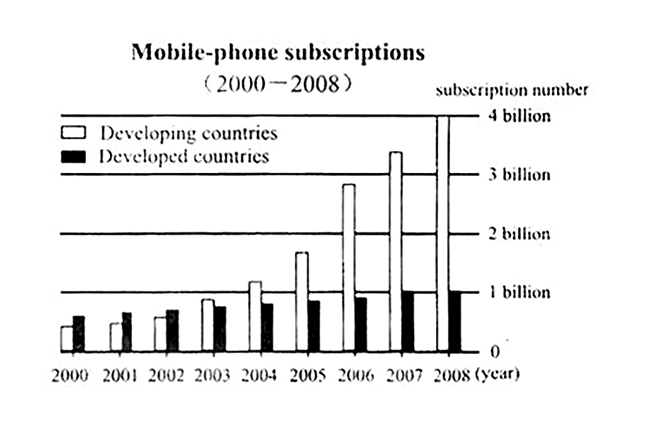
In this section, you are asked to write an essay based on the following chart. In your writing, you should

1) interpret the chart and

2) give your comments.

You should write at least 150 words.

Write your essay on ANSWER SHEET 2. (15 points)



# 2011年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（二）试题

## Section I Use of English

**Direction:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

①The Internet affords anonymity to its users, a blessing to privacy and freedom of speech. ②But that very anonymity is also behind the explosion of cyber-crime that has  1   across the Web.

①Can privacy be preserved   2   bringing safety and security to a world that seems increasingly  3    ?

①Last month, Howard Schmidt, the nation’s cyber-czar, offered the federal government a  4   to make the Web a safer place — a “voluntary trusted identity” system that would be the high-tech   5  of a physical key, a fingerprint and a photo ID card, all rolled  6   one. ②The system might use a smart identity card, or a digital credential  7  to a specific computer, and would authenticate users at a range of online services.

①The idea is to  8  a federation of private online identity systems. ②Users could   9   which system to join, and only registered users whose identities have been authenticated could navigate those systems. ③The approach contrasts with one that would require an Internet driver’s license  10  by the government.

①Google and Microsoft are among companies that already have these “single sign-on” systems that make it possible for users to   11  just once but use many different services.

① 12 , the approach would create a “walled garden” in cyberspace, with safe “neighborhoods” and bright “streetlights” to establish a sense of a   13   community.

①Mr. Schmidt described it as a “voluntary ecosystem” in which “individuals and organizations can complete online transactions with  14 , trusting the identities of each other and the identities of the infrastructure   15   which the transaction runs”.

①Still, the administration’s plan has  16  privacy rights activists. ②Some applaud the approach; others are concerned.③ It seems clear that such a scheme is an initiative push toward what would  17   be a compulsory Internet “driver’s license” mentality.

①The plan has also been greeted with  18  by some computer security experts, who worry that the “voluntary ecosystem” envisioned by Mr. Schmidt would still leave much of the Internet  19   . ②They argue that all Internet users should be  20  to register and identify themselves, in the same way that drivers must be licensed to drive on public roads.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | [A] swept | [B] skipped | [C] walked | [D] ridden |
| 2. | [A] for | [B] within | [C] while | [D] though |
| 3. | [A] careless | [B] lawless | [C] pointless | [D] helpless |
| 4. | [A] reason | [B] reminder | [C] compromise | [D] proposal |
| 5. | [A] information | [B] interference | [C] entertainment | [D] equivalent |
| 6. | [A] by | [B] into | [C] from | [D] over |
| 7. | [A] linked | [B] directed | [C] chained | [D] compared |
| 8. | [A] dismiss | [B] discover | [C] create | [D] improve |
| 9. | [A] recall | [B] suggest | [C] select | [D] realize |
| 10. | [A] released | [B] issued | [C] distributed | [D] delivered |
| 11. | [A] carry on | [B] linger on | [C] set in | [D] log in |
| 12. | [A] In vain | [B] In effect | [C] In return | [D] In contrast |
| 13. | [A] trusted | [B] modernized | [C] thriving | [D] competing |
| 14. | [A] caution | [B] delight | [C] confidence | [D] patience |
| 15. | [A] on | [B] after | [C] beyond | [D] across |
| 16. | [A] divided | [B] disappointed | [C] protected | [D] united |
| 17. | [A] frequently | [B] incidentally | [C] occasionally | [D] eventually |
| 18. | [A] skepticism | [B] tolerance | [C] indifference | [D] enthusiasm |
| 19. | [A] manageable | [B] defendable | [C] vulnerable | [D] invisible |
| 20. | [A] invited | [B] appointed | [C] allowed | [D] forced |

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions blow each text by choosing A, B, C, or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

**Text 1**

①Ruth Simmons joined Goldman Sachs’s board as an outside director in January 2000; a year later she became president of Brown University. ②For the rest of the decade she apparently managed both roles without attracting much criticism. ③But by the end of 2009 Ms. Simmons was under fire for having sat on Goldman’s compensation committee; how could she have let those enormous bonus payouts pass unremarked? ④By February the next year Ms. Simmons had left the board. ⑤The position was just taking up too much time, she said.

①Outside directors are supposed to serve as helpful, yet less biased, advisers on a firm’s board. ②Having made their wealth and their reputations elsewhere, they presumably have enough independence to disagree with the chief executive’s proposals. ③If the sky, and the share price, is falling, outside directors should be able to give advice based on having weathered their own crises.

①The researchers from Ohio University used a database that covered more than 10,000 firms and more than 64,000 different directors between 1989 and 2004. ②Then they simply checked which directors stayed from one proxy statement to the next. ③The most likely reason for departing a board was age, so the researchers concentrated on those “surprise” disappearances by directors under the age of 70. ④They found that after a surprise departure, the probability that the company will subsequently have to restate earnings increases by nearly 20%. ⑤The likelihood of being named in a federal class-action lawsuit also increases, and the stock is likely to perform worse. ⑥The effect tended to be larger for larger firms. ⑦Although a correlation between them leaving and subsequent bad performance at the firm is suggestive, it does not mean that such directors are always jumping off a sinking ship. ⑧Often they “trade up,” leaving riskier, smaller firms for larger and more stable firms.

①But the researchers believe that outside directors have an easier time of avoiding a blow to their reputations if they leave a firm before bad news breaks, even if a review of history shows they were on the board at the time any wrongdoing occurred. ② Firms who want to keep their outside directors through tough times may have to create incentives. ③Otherwise outside directors will follow the example of Ms. Simmons, once again very popular on campus.

1. According to Paragraph 1, Ms. Simmons was criticized for \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]gaining excessive profits

[B]failing to fulfill her duty

[C]refusing to make compromises

[D]leaving the board in tough times

22. We learn from Paragraph 2 that outside directors are supposed to be \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]generous investors

[B]unbiased executives

[C]share price forecasters

[D]independent advisers

23. According to the researchers from Ohio University, after an outside director’s surprise departure, the firm is likely to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]become more stable

[B]report increased earnings

[C]do less well in the stock market

[D]perform worse in lawsuits

24. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that outside directors \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]may stay for the attractive offers from the firm

[B]have often had records of wrongdoings in the firm

[C]are accustomed to stress-free work in the firm

[D]will decline incentives from the firm

25. The author’s attitude toward the role of outside directors is \_\_\_\_\_\_.       .

[A]permissive

[B]positive

[C]scornful

[D]critical

**Text 2**

①Whatever happened to the death of newspapers?②A year ago the end seemed near.③The recession threatened to remove the advertising and readers that had not already fled to the internet. ④Newspapers like *the* *San Francisco Chronicle* were chronicling their own doom.⑤America’s Federal Trade Commission launched a round of talks about how to save newspapers.⑥Should they become charitable corporations?⑦Should the state subsidize them?⑧It will hold another meeting soon.⑨But the discussions now seem out of date.

①In much of the world there is little sign of crisis.②German and Brazilian papers have shrugged off the recession. ③Even American newspapers, which inhabit the most troubled corner of the global industry, have not only survived but often returned to profit. ④Not the 20% profit margins that were routine a few years ago, but profit all the same.

①It has not been much fun.②Many papers stayed afloat by pushing journalists overboard. ③The American Society of News Editors reckons that 13,500 newsroom jobs have gone since 2007. ④Readers are paying more for slimmer products. ⑤Some papers even had the nerve to refuse delivery to distant suburbs. ⑥Yet these desperate measures have proved the right ones and, sadly for many journalists, they can be pushed further.

①Newspapers are becoming more balanced businesses, with a healthier mix of revenues from readers and advertisers. ②American papers have long been highly unusual in their reliance on ads. ③Fully 87% of their revenues came from advertising in 2008, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD). ④In Japan the proportion is 35%. ⑤Not surprisingly, Japanese newspapers are much more stable.

①The whirlwind that swept through newsrooms harmed everybody, but much of the damage has been concentrated in areas where newspapers are least distinctive. ②Car and film reviewers have gone. ③So have science and general business reporters. ④Foreign bureaus have been savagely cut off. ⑤Newspapers are less complete as a result. ⑥But completeness is no longer a virtue in the newspaper business.

1. By saying “Newspapers like …their own doom” (Line 3, Para. 1), the author indicates that newspapers \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]neglected the sign of crisis

[B]failed to get state subsidies

[C]were not charitable corporations

[D]were in a desperate situation

27. Some newspapers refused delivery to distant suburbs probably because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]readers threatened to pay less

[B]newspapers wanted to reduce costs

[C]journalists reported little about these areas

[D]subscribers complained about slimmer products

28. Compared with their American counterparts, Japanese newspapers are much more stable because they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]have more sources of revenue

[B]have more balanced newsrooms

[C]are less dependent on advertising

[D]are less affected by readership

29. What can be inferred from the last paragraph about the current newspaper business?

[A]Distinctiveness is an essential feature of newspapers.

[B]Completeness is to blame for the failure of newspaper.

[C]Foreign bureaus play a crucial role in the newspaper business.

[D]Readers have lost their interest in car and film reviews.

30. The most appropriate title for this text would be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]American Newspapers: Struggling for Survival

[B]American Newspapers: Gone with the Wind

[C]American Newspapers: A Thriving Business

[D]American Newspapers: A Hopeless Story

**Text 3**

①We tend to think of the decades immediately following World War II as a time of prosperity and growth, with soldiers returning home by the millions, going off to college on the G. I. Bill and lining up at the marriage bureaus.

①But when it came to their houses, it was a time of common sense and a belief that less could truly be more. ②During the Depression and the war, Americans had learned to live with less, and that restraint, in combination with the postwar confidence in the future, made small, efficient housing positively stylish.

①Economic condition was only a stimulus for the trend toward efficient living. ②The phrase “less is more” was actually first popularized by a German, the architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, who like other people associated with the Bauhaus, a school of design, emigrated to the United States before World War II and took up posts at American architecture schools. ③These designers came to exert enormous influence on the course of American architecture, but none more so than Mies.

①Mies’s signature phrase means that less decoration, properly organized, has more impact than a lot. ②Elegance, he believed, did not derive from abundance. ③Like other modern architects, he employed metal, glass and laminated wood—materials that we take for granted today but that in the 1940s symbolized the future. ④Mies’s sophisticated presentation masked the fact that the spaces he designed were small and efficient, rather than big and often empty.

①The apartments in the elegant towers Mies built on Chicago’s Lake Shore Drive, for example, were smaller—two-bedroom units under 1,000 square feet—than those in their older neighbors along the city’s Gold Coast. ②But they were popular because of their airy glass walls, the views they afforded and the elegance of the buildings’ details and proportions, the architectural equivalent of the abstract art so popular at the time.

①The trend toward “less” was not entirely foreign. ②In the 1930s Frank Lloyd Wright started building more modest and efficient houses—usually around 1,200 square feet—than the spreading two-storey ones he had designed in the 1890s and the early 20thcentury.

①The “Case Study Houses” commissioned from talented modern architects by *California Arts & Architecture* magazine between 1945 and 1962 were yet another homegrown influence on the “less is more” trend. ②Aesthetic effect came from the landscape, new materials and forthright detailing. ③In his Case Study House, Ralph Rapson may have mispredicted just how the mechanical revolution would impact everyday life—few American families acquired helicopters, though most eventually got clothes dryers—but his belief that self-sufficiency was both desirable and inevitable was widely shared.

31. The postwar American housing style largely reflected the Americans’\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]prosperity and growth

[B]efficiency and practicality

[C]restraint and confidence

[D]pride and faithfulness

32. Which of the following can be inferred from Paragraph 3 about the Bauhaus?

[A]It was founded by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe.

[B]Its designing concept was affected by World War II.

[C]Most American architects used to be associated with it.

[D]It had a great influence upon American architecture.

33. Mies held that elegance of architectural design \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]was related to large space

[B]was identified with emptiness

[C]was not reliant on abundant decoration

[D]was not associated with efficiency

34. What is true about the apartments Mies built on Chicago’s Lake Shore Drive?

[A]They ignored details and proportions.

[B]They were built with materials popular at that time.

[C]They were more spacious than neighboring buildings.

[D]They shared some characteristics of abstract art.

35. What can we learn about the design of the “Case Study House”?

[A]Mechanical devices were widely used.

[B]Natural scenes were taken into consideration.

[C]Details were sacrificed for the overall effect.

[D]Eco-friendly materials were employed.

**Text 4**

①Will the European Union make it? ② The question would have sounded strange not long ago. ③Now even the project’s greatest cheerleaders talk of a continent facing a “Bermuda triangle” of debt, population decline and lower growth.

①As well as those chronic problems, the EU face an acute crisis in its economic core, the 16 countries that use the single currency. ②Markets have lost faith that the euro zone’s economies, weaker or stronger, will one day converge thanks to the discipline of sharing a single currency, which denies uncompetitive members the quick fix of devaluation.

①Yet the debate about how to save Europe’s single currency from disintegration is stuck. ②It is stuck because the euro zone’s dominant powers, France and Germany, agree on the need for greater harmonization within the euro zone, but disagree about what to harmonize.

①Germany thinks the euro must be saved by stricter rules on borrowing, spending and competitiveness, backed by quasi-automatic sanctions for governments that do not obey. ②These might include threats to freeze EU funds for poorer regions and EU mega-projects, and even the suspension of a country’s voting rights in EU ministerial councils. ③It insists that economic co-ordination should involve all 27 members of the EU club, among whom there is a small majority for free-market liberalism and economic rigour; in the inner core alone, Germany fears, a small majority favour French interference.

①A “southern” camp headed by France wants something different: “European economic government”within an inner core of euro-zone members. ②Translated, that means politicians intervening in monetary policy and a system of redistribution from richer to poorer members, via cheaper borrowing for governments through common Eurobonds or complete fiscal transfers. ③Finally, figures close to the French government have murmured, euro-zone members should agree to some fiscal and social harmonization: e.g., curbing competition in corporate-tax rates or labour costs.

①It is too soon to write off the EU. ②It remains the world’s largest trading block. ③At its best, the European project is remarkably liberal: built around a single market of 27 rich and poor countries, its internal borders are far more open to goods, capital and labour than any comparable trading area. ④It is an ambitious attempt to blunt the sharpest edges of globalization, and make capitalism benign.

36. The EU is faced with so many problems that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] it has more or less lost faith in markets

[B] even its supporters begin to feel concerned

[C] some of its member countries plan to abandon euro

[D] it intends to deny the possibility of devaluation

37. The debate over the EU’s single currency is stuck because the dominant powers \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.        .

[A] are competing for the leading position

[B] are busy handling their own crises

[C] fail to reach an agreement on harmonization

[D] disagree on the steps towards disintegration

38. To solve the euro problem, Germany proposed that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] EU funds for poor regions be increased

[B] stricter regulations be imposed

[C] only core members be involved in economic co-ordination

[D] voting rights of the EU members be guaranteed

39. The French proposal of handling the crisis implies that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] poor countries are more likely to get funds

[B]strict monetary policy will be applied to poor countries

[C]loans will be readily available to rich countries

[D]rich countries will basically control Eurobonds

40. Regarding the future of the EU, the author seems to feel \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A]pessimistic

[B]desperate

[C]conceited

[D]hopeful

**Part B**

**Directions:**

Read the following text and answer the questions by finding information from the right column that corresponds to each of the marked details given in the left column. There are two extra choices in the right column. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

①Leading doctors today weigh in on the debate over the government’s role in promoting public health by demanding that ministers impose “fat taxes” on unhealthy food and introduce cigarette-style warnings to children about the dangers of a poor diet.

①The demands follow comments last week by the health secretary, Andrew Lansley, who insisted the government could not force people to make healthy choices and promised to free businesses from public health regulations.

①But senior medical figures want to stop fast-food outlets opening near schools, restrict advertising of products high in fat, salt or sugar, and limit sponsorship of sports events by fast-food producers such as McDonald’s.

①They argue that government action is necessary to curb Britain’s addiction to unhealthy food and help halt spiraling rates of obesity, diabetes and heart disease. ②Professor Terence Stephenson, president of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, said that the consumption of unhealthy food should be seen to be just as damaging as smoking or excessive drinking.

① “Thirty years ago, it would have been inconceivable to have imagined a ban on smoking in the workplace or in pubs, and yet that is what we have now. ②Are we willing to be just as courageous in respect of obesity? ③I would suggest that we should be,” said the leader of the UK’s children’s doctors.

①Lansley has alarmed health campaigners by suggesting he wants industry rather than government to take the lead. ② He said that manufacturers of crisps and candies could play a central role in the Change4Life campaign, the centrepiece of government efforts to boost healthy eating and fitness. ③He has also criticized the celebrity chef Jamie Oliver’s high-profile attempt to improve school lunches in England as an example of how “lecturing” people was not the best way to change their behaviour.

①Stephenson suggested potential restrictions could include banning TV advertisements for foods high in fat, salt or sugar before 9 p.m. and limiting them on billboards or in cinemas. ② “If we were really bold, we might even begin to think of high-calorie fast food in the same way as cigarettes--by setting strict limits on advertising, product placement and sponsorship of sports events, ” he said.

①Such a move could affect firms such as McDonald’s, which sponsors the youth coaching scheme run by the Football Association. ②Fast-food chains should also stop offering “inducements” such as toys, cute animals and mobile phone credit to lure young customers, Stephenson said.

①Professor Dinesh Bhugra, president of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, said:“If children are taught about the impact that food has on their growth, and that some things can harm, at least information is available up front.”

①He also urged councils to impose “fast-food-free zones” around school and hospitals--areas within which takeaways cannot open.

①A Department of Health spokesperson said:“We need to create a new vision for public health where all of society works together to get healthy and live longer. ②This includes creating a new ‘responsibility deal’ with business, built on social responsibility, not state regulation. ③Later this year, we will publish a white paper setting out exactly how we will achieve this.”

①The food industry will be alarmed that such senior doctors back such radical moves, especially the call to use some of the tough tactics that have been deployed against smoking over the last decade.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | [A] “fat taxes” should be imposed on fast-food producers such as McDonald’s. |
| 41.Andrew Lansley held that | [B] the government should ban fast-food outlets in the neighborhood of schools. |
| 42.Terence Stephenson agreed  that | [C] “lecturing” was an effective way to improve school lunches in England. |
| 43.Jamie Oliver seemed to  believe that | [D] cigarette-style warnings should be introduced to children about the dangers of a poor diet. |
| 44.Dinesh Bhugra suggested  that | [E] the producers of crisps and candies could contribute significantly to the Change4Life campaign. |
| 45.A Department of Health  Spokesperson proposed that | [F] parents should set good examples for their children by keeping a healthy diet at home. |
|  | [G] the government should strengthen the sense of responsibility among businesses. |

## Section Ⅲ Translation

**46. Directions:**

Translate the following text from English into Chinese. Write your translation on ANSWER SHEET 2. (15 points)

Who would have thought that, globally, the IT industry produces about the same volume of greenhouse gases as the world’s airlines do—roughly 2 percent of all CO2 emissions?

Many everyday tasks take a surprising toll on the environment. A Google search can leak between 0.2 and 7.0 grams of CO2, depending on how many attempts are needed to get the “right” answer. To deliver results to its users quickly, then, Google has to maintain vast data centres around the world, packed with powerful computers. While producing large quantities of CO2, these computers emit a great deal of heat, so the centres need to be well air-conditioned, which uses even more energy.

However, Google and other big tech providers monitor their efficiency closely and make improvements. Monitoring is the first step on the road to reduction, but there is much more to be done, and not just by big companies.

## Section IV   Writing

**Part A**

1. **Directions**

Suppose your cousin Li Ming has just been admitted to a university. Write him/her a letter to

1) congratulate him/her, and

2) give him/her suggestions on how to get prepared for university life.

You should write about 100 words on ANSWER SHEET 2.

**Do not** sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use“Zhang Wei”instead.

**Do not** write the address. (10 points)

**Part B**

1. **Directions**

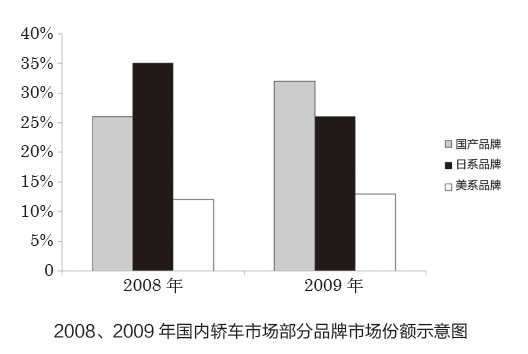
Write an essay based on the following chart. In your writing, you should

1) interpret the chart and

2) give your comments.

You should write at least 150 words.

Write your essay on ANSWER SHEET 2. (15points)



# 2012年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（二）试题

## Section I Use of English

**Directions：**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A，B，C or D on **ANSWER SHEET**. (10 points)

①Millions of Americans and foreigners see G.I. Joe as a mindless war toy, the symbol of American military adventurism, but that’s not how it used to be. ②To the men and women who 1 in World War II and the people they liberated, the G.I. was the 2 man grown into hero, the poor farm kid torn away from his home, the guy who 3 all the burdens of battle, who slept in cold foxholes, who went without the 4 of food and shelter, who stuck it out and drove back the Nazi reign of murder. ③This was not a volunteer soldier, not someone well paid, 5 an average guy, up 6 the best trained, best equipped, fiercest, most brutal enemies seen in centuries.

①His name isn’t much. ②*G.I.* is just a military abbreviation 7 Government Issue, and it was on all of the articles 8 to soldiers. ③And Joe? ④A common name for a guy who never 9 it to the top. ⑤Joe Blow, Joe Palooka, Joe Magrac … a working class name. ⑥The United States has 10 had a president or vice-president or secretary of state Joe.

①G.I. Joe had a 11 career fighting German, Japanese, and Korean troops. ②He appears as a character, or a 12 of American personalities, in the 1945 movie *The Story of G.I. Joe*, based on the last days of war correspondent Ernie Pyle. ③Some of the soldiers Pyle 13 portrayed themselves in the film. ④Pyle was famous for covering the 14 side of the war, writing about the dirt-snow-and-mud soldiers, not how many miles were 15 or what towns were captured or liberated. ⑤His reports 16 the “Willie” cartoons of famed *Stars and Stripes* artist Bill Maulden. ⑥Both men 17 the dirt and exhaustion of war, the 18 of civilization that the soldiers shared with each other and the civilians: coffee, tobacco, whiskey, shelter, sleep. ⑦ 19 Egypt, France, and a dozen more countries, G.I. Joe was any American soldier, 20 the most important person in their lives.

1. [A]performed   [B]served    [C]rebelled    [D]betrayed

2. [A]actual   [B]common    [C]special    [D]normal

3. [A]bore    [B]eased    [C]removed [D]loaded

4. [A]necessities    [B]facilities    [C]commodities  [D]properties

5. [A]and    [B]nor   [C]but    [D]hence

6. [A]for    [B]into   [C]form  [D]against

7. [A]meaning    [B]implying    [C]symbolizing   [D]claiming

8. [A]handed out    [B]turned over    [C]brought back  [D]passed down

9. [A]pushed    [B]got   [C]made  [D]managed

10.[A]ever    [B]never    [C]either   [D]neither

11.[A]disguised    [B]disturbed    [C]disputed    [D]distinguished

12.[A]company    [B]collection    [C]community    [D]colony

13.[A]employed    [B]appointed    [C]interviewed    [D]questioned

14.[A]ethical    [B]military    [C]political    [D]human

15.[A]ruined    [B]commuted    [C]patrolled    [D]gained

16.[A]paralleled    [B]counteracted  [C]duplicated   [D]contradicted

17.[A]neglected    [B]avoided    [C]emphasized   [D]admired

18.[A]stages    [B]illusions    [C]fragments    [D]advances

19.[A]With    ` [B]To   [C]Among   [D]Beyond

20.[A]on the contrary [B] by this means  [C]from the outset  [D]at that point

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:** Read the following four texts. Answer the questions after each text by choosing [A], [B], [C] or [ D]. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1.(40 points)

**Text 1**

①Homework has never been terribly popular with students and even many parents, but in recent years it has been particularly scorned. ②School districts across the country, most recently Los Angeles Unified, are revising their thinking on this educational ritual. ③Unfortunately, L.A. Unified has produced an inflexible policy which mandates that with the exception of some advanced courses, homework may no longer count for more than 10% of a student’s academic grade.

①This rule is meant to address the difficulty that students from impoverished or chaotic homes might have in completing their homework. ②But the policy is unclear and contradictory. ③Certainly, no homework should be assigned that students cannot complete on their own or that they cannot do without expensive equipment. ④But if the district is essentially giving a pass to students who do not do their homework because of complicated family lives, it is going riskily close to the implication that standards need to be lowered for poor children.

①District administrators say that homework will still be a part of schooling；teachers are allowed to assign as much of it as they want. ②But with homework counting for no more than 10% of their grades, students can easily skip half their homework and see very little difference on their report cards. ③Some students might do well on state tests without completing their homework, but what about the students who performed well on the tests and did their homework? ④It is quite possible that the homework helped. ⑤Yet rather than empowering teachers to find what works best for their students, the policy imposes a flat, across-the-board rule.

①At the same time, the policy addresses none of the truly thorny questions about homework. ②If the district finds homework to be unimportant to its students’ academic achievement, it should move to reduce or eliminate the assignments, not make them count for almost nothing. ③Conversely, if homework matters，it should account for a significant portion of the grade. ④Meanwhile, this policy does nothing to ensure that the homework students receive is meaningful or appropriate to their age and the subject，or that teachers are not assigning more than they are willing to review and correct.

①The homework rules should be put on hold while the school board, which is responsible for setting educational policy, looks into the matter and conducts public hearings. ②It is not too late for L.A. Unified to do homework right.

21. It is implied in paragraph 1 that nowadays homework\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] is receiving more criticism

[B] is gaining more preferences

[C] is no longer an educational ritual

[D] is not required for advanced courses

22. L.A. Unified has made the rule about homework mainly because poor students\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] tend to have moderate expectations for their education

[B] have asked for a different educational standard

[C] may have problems finishing their homework

[D] have voiced their complaints about homework

23. According to Paragraph 3, one problem with the policy is that it may\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] result in students' indifference to their report cards

[B] undermine the authority of state tests

[C] restrict teachers' power in education

[D] discourage students from doing homework

24. As mentioned in Paragraph 4, a key question unanswered about homework is whether\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] it should be eliminated

[B] it counts much in schooling

[C] it places extra burdens on teachers

[D] it is important for grades

25. A suitable title for this text could be\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] A Faulty Approach to Homework

[B] A Welcomed Policy for Poor Students

[C] Thorny Questions about Homework

[D] Wrong Interpretation of an Educational Policy

**Text 2**

①Pretty in pink: adult women do not remember being so obsessed with the colour, yet it is pervasive in our young girls’ lives. ②It is not that pink is intrinsically bad, but it is such a tiny slice of the rainbow and, though it may celebrate girlhood in one way, it also repeatedly and firmly fuses girls’ identity to appearance. ③Then it presents that connection, even among two-year-olds, between girls as not only innocent but as evidence of innocence. ④Looking around, I despaired at the singular lack of imagination about girls’ lives and interests.

①Girls’ attraction to pink may seem unavoidable, somehow encoded in their DNA, but according to Jo Paoletti, an associate professor of American Studies, it is not. ②Children were not colour-coded at all until the early 20th century: in the era before domestic washing machines all babies wore white as a practical matter, since the only way of getting clothes clean was to boil them. ③What’s more, both boys and girls wore what were thought of as gender-neutral dresses. ④When nursery colours were introduced, pink was actually considered the more masculine colour, a pastel version of red, which was associated with strength. ⑤Blue, with its intimations of the Virgin Mary, constancy and faithfulness, symbolised femininity. ⑥It was not until the mid-1980s, when amplifying age and sex differences became a dominant children’s marketing strategy, that pink fully came into its own, when it began to seem inherently attractive to girls, part of what defined them as female, at least for the first few critical years.

①I had not realised how profoundly marketing trends dictated our perception of what is natural to kids, including our core beliefs about their psychological development. ②Take the toddler. ③I assumed that phase was something experts developed after years of research into children’s behaviour: wrong. ④Turns out, according to Daniel Cook, a historian of childhood consumerism, it was popularised as a marketing trick by clothing manufacturers in the 1930s.

①Trade publications counseled department stores that, in order to increase sales, they should create a “third stepping stone” between infant wear and older kids’ clothes. ②It was only after “toddler” became a common shoppers’ term that it evolved into a broadly accepted developmental stage. ③Splitting kids, or adults, into ever-tinier categories has proved a sure-fire way to boost profits. ④And one of the easiest ways to segment a market is to magnify gender differences – or invent them where they did not previously exist.

26. By saying "it is...the rainbow" (Para. 1), the author means pink\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] cannot explain girls' lack of imagination

[B] should not be associated with girls' innocence

[C] should not be the sole representation of girlhood

[D] cannot influence girls' lives and interests

27. According to Paragraph 2, which of the following is true of colours？

[A] Colours are encoded in girls' DNA.

[B] Blue used to be regarded as the colour for girls.

[C] White is preferred by babies.

[D] Pink used to be a neutral colour in symbolising genders.

28. The author suggests that our perception of children's psychological development was much influenced by\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the observation of children's nature

[B] the marketing of products for children

[C] researches into children's behaviour

[D] studies of childhood consumption

29. We may learn from Paragraph 4 that department stores were advised to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] classify consumers into smaller groups

[B] attach equal importance to different genders

[C] focus on infant wear and older kids' clothes

[D] create some common shoppers' terms

30. It can be concluded that girls' attraction to pink seems to be\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] fully understood by clothing manufacturers

[B] clearly explained by their inborn tendency

[C] mainly imposed by profit-driven businessmen

[D] well interpreted by psychological experts

**Text 3**

①In 2010, a federal judge shook America's biotech industry to its core. ②Companies had won patents for isolated DNA for decades – by 2005 some 20% of human genes were patented. ③But in March 2010 a judge ruled that genes were unpatentable. ④Executives were violently agitated. ⑤The Biotechnology Industry Organisation (BIO)，a trade group，assured members that this was just a “preliminary step” in a longer battle.

①On July 29th they were relieved, at least temporarily. ②A federal appeals court overturned the prior decision, ruling that Myriad Genetics could indeed hold patents to two genes that help forecast a woman's risk of breast cancer. ③The chief executive of Myriad, a company in Utah，said the ruling was a blessing to firms and patients alike.

①But as companies continue their attempts at personalised medicine，the courts will remain rather busy. ②The Myriad case itself is probably not over. ③Critics make three main arguments against gene patents：a gene is a product of nature，so it may not be patented；gene patents suppress innovation rather than reward it; and patents’ monopolies restrict access to genetic tests such as Myriad’s. ④A growing number seem to agree. ⑤Last year a federal task-force urged reform for patents related to genetic tests. ⑥In October the Department of Justice filed a brief in the Myriad case, arguing that an isolated DNA molecule “is no less a product of nature... than are cotton fibres that have been separated from cotton seeds.”

①Despite the appeals court's decision，big questions remain unanswered. ②For example，it is unclear whether the sequencing of a whole genome violates the patents of individual genes within it. ③The case may yet reach the Supreme Court.

①As the industry advances, however, other suits may have an even greater impact. ②Companies are unlikely to file many more patents for human DNA molecules — most are already patented or in the public domain. ③Firms are now studying how genes interact, looking for correlations that might be used to determine the causes of disease or predict a drug’s efficacy. ④Companies are eager to win patents for “connecting the dots”, explains Hans Sauer, a lawyer for the BIO.

①Their success may be determined by a suit related to this issue, brought by the Mayo Clinic, which the Supreme Court will hear in its next term. ②The BIO recently held a convention which included sessions to coach lawyers on the shifting landscape for patents. ③Each meeting was packed.

31. It can be learned from Paragraph 1 that the biotech companies would like\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] genes to be patentable

[B] the BIO to issue a warning

[C] their executives to be active

[D] judges to rule out gene patenting

32. Those who are against gene patents believe that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] genetic tests are not reliable

[B] only man-made products are patentable

[C] patents on genes depend much on innovations

[D] courts should restrict access to genetic tests

33. According to Hans Sauer, companies are eager to win patents for\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] discovering gene interactions

[B] establishing disease correlations

[C] drawing pictures of genes

[D] identifying human DNA

34．By saying “Each meeting was packed” (Para. 6), the author means that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the supreme court was authoritative

[B] the BIO was a powerful organization

[C] gene patenting was a great concern

[D] lawyers were keen to attend conventions

35. Generally speaking, the author’s attitude toward gene patenting is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] critical [B] supportive [C] scornful [D] objective

**Text 4**

①The great recession may be over, but this era of high joblessness is probably beginning. ②Before it ends, it will likely change the life course and character of a generation of young adults. ③And ultimately, it is likely to reshape our politics, our culture, and the character of our society for years.

①No one tries harder than the jobless to find silver linings in this national economic disaster. ②Many said that unemployment, while extremely painful, had improved them in some ways: they had become less materialistic and more financially prudent; they were more aware of the struggles of others. ③In limited respects, perhaps the recession will leave society better off. ④At the very least, it has awoken us from our national fever dream of easy riches and bigger houses, and put a necessary end to an era of reckless personal spending.

①But for the most part, these benefits seem thin, uncertain, and far off. ②In *The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth*, the economic historian Benjamin Friedman argues that both inside and outside the U.S., lengthy periods of economic stagnation or decline have almost always left society more mean-spirited and less inclusive, and have usually stopped or reversed the advance of rights and freedoms. ③Anti-immigrant sentiment typically increases, as does conflict between races and classes.

①Income inequality usually falls during a recession, but it has not shrunk in this one. ②Indeed, this period of economic weakness may reinforce class divides, and decrease opportunities to cross them—especially for young people. ③The research of Till Von Wachter, the economist at Columbia University, suggests that not all people graduating into a recession see their life chances dimmed: those with degrees from elite universities catch up fairly quickly to where they otherwise would have been if they had graduated in better times; it is the masses beneath them that are left behind.

①In the Internet age, it is particularly easy to see the resentment that has always been hidden within American society. ②More difficult, in the moment , is discerning precisely how these lean times are affecting society’s character. ③In many respects, the U.S. was more socially tolerant entering this recession than at any time in its history, and a variety of national polls on social conflict since then have shown mixed results. ④We will have to wait and see exactly how these hard times will reshape our social fabric. ⑤But they certainly will reshape it, and all the more so the longer they extend.

36. By saying “to find silver linings”（Para.2）the author suggests that the jobless try to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] seek subsidies from the government

[B] make profits from the troubled economy

[C] explore reasons for the unemployment

[D] look on the bright side of the recession

37. According to Paragraph 2, the recession has made people\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] struggle against each other

[B] realize the national dream

[C] challenge their prudence

[D] reconsider their lifestyle

38. Benjamin Friedman believes that economic recessions may\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] impose a heavier burden on immigrants

[B] bring out more evils of human nature

[C] promote the advance of rights and freedoms

[D] ease conflicts between races and classes

39. The research of Till Von Wachter suggests that in the recession graduates from elite universities tend to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] lag behind the others due to decreased opportunities

[B] catch up quickly with experienced employees

[C] see their life chances as dimmed as the others’

[D] recover more quickly than the others

40. The author thinks that the influence of hard times on society is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] trivial

[B] positive

[C] certain

[D] destructive

**Part B**

**Directions:** Read the following text and answer the questions by finding information from the right column that corresponds to each of the marked details given in the left column. There are two extra choices in the right column. Mark your answer on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

“Universal history, the history of what man has accomplished in this world, is at bottom the History of the Great Men who have worked here,” wrote the Victorian sage Thomas Carlyle. Well, not any more it is not.

Suddenly, Britain looks to have fallen out with its favourite historical form. This could be no more than a passing literary craze, but it also points to a broader truth about how we now approach the past: less concerned with learning from forefathers and more interested in feeling their pain. Today, we want empathy, not inspiration.

From the earliest days of the Renaissance, the writing of history meant recounting the exemplary lives of great men. In 1337, Petrarch began work on his rambling writing *De Viris Illustribus – On Famous Men*, highlighting the *virtus* (or virtue) of classical heroes. Petrarch celebrated their greatness in conquering fortune and rising to the top. This was the biographical tradition which Niccolo Machiavelli turned on its head. In *The Prince*, he championed cunning, ruthlessness, and boldness, rather than virtue, mercy and justice, as the skills of successful leaders.

Over time, the attributes of greatness shifted. The Romantics commemorated the leading painters and authors of their day, stressing the uniqueness of the artist’s personal experience rather than public glory. By contrast, the Victorian author Samuel Smiles wrote *Self-Help* as a catalogue of the worthy lives of engineers, industrialists and explorers. “The valuable examples which they furnish of the power of self-help, of patient purpose, resolute working，and steadfast integrity, issuing in the formation of truly noble and manly character, exhibit,” wrote Smiles, "what it is in the power of each to accomplish for himself.” His biographies of James Watt, Richard Arkwright and Josiah Wedgwood were held up as beacons to guide the working man through his difficult life.

This was all a bit bourgeois for Thomas Carlyle, who focused his biographies on the truly heroic lives of Martin Luther, Oliver Cromwell and Napoleon Bonaparte. These epochal figures represented lives hard to imitate, but to be acknowledged as possessing higher authority than mere mortals.

Not everyone was convinced by such bombast. “The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggle,” wrote Marx and Engels in *The Communist Manifesto*. For them, history did nothing, it possessed no immense wealth nor waged battles: “It is man, real, living man who does all that.” And history should be the story of the masses and their record of struggle. As such, it needed to appreciate the economic realities, the social contexts and power relations in which each epoch stood. For: “Men make their own history, but they do not make it just as they please; they do not make it under circumstances chosen by themselves, but under circumstances directly found, given and transmitted from the past.”

This was the tradition which revolutionised our appreciation of the past. In place of Thomas Carlyle, Britain nurtured Christopher Hill, EP Thompson and Eric Hobsbawm. History from below stood alongside biographies of great men. Whole new realms of understanding — from gender to race to cultural studies — were opened up as scholars unpicked the multiplicity of lost societies. And it transformed public history too: downstairs became just as fascinating as upstairs.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | [A] emphasized the virtue of  classical heroes. |
| 41. Petrarch | [B] highlighted the public glory of  the leading artists. |
| 42. Niccolo Machiavelli | [C] focused on epochal figures whose  lives were hard to imitate. |
| 43. Samuel Smiles | [D] opened up new realms of understanding  the great men in history. |
| 44. Thomas Carlyle | [E] held that history should be the story  of the masses and their record of struggle. |
| 45. Marx and Engels | [F] dismissed virtue as unnecessary for  successful leaders. |
|  | [G] depicted the worthy lives of engineers,  industrialists and explorers. |

## Section Ⅲ Translation

**46. Directions:** Translate the following text from English into Chinese. Write your translation on ANSWER SHEET 2. (15 points)

When people in developing countries worry about migration, they are usually concerned at the prospect of their best and brightest departure to Silicon Valley or to hospitals and universities in the developed world. These are the kind of workers that countries like Britain, Canada and Australia try to attract by using immigration rules that privilege college graduates.

Lots of studies have found that well-educated people from developing countries are particularly likely to emigrate. A big survey of Indian households in 2004 found that nearly 40% of emigrants had more than a high-school education, compared with around 3.3% of all Indians over the age of 25. This “brain drain” has long bothered policymakers in poor countries. They fear that it hurts their economies, depriving them of much-needed skilled workers who could have taught at their universities, worked in their hospitals and come up with clever new products for their factories to make.

## Section IV   Writing

**Part A**

1. **Directions**

Suppose you have found something wrong with the electronic dictionary that you bought from an online store the other day. Write an email to the customer service center to

1) make a complaint, and

2) demand a prompt solution.

You should write about 100 words on ANSERE SHEET 2.

**Do not** sign your own name at the end of the letter, Use “Zhang Wei” instead.

**Do not** write the address. (10 points)

**Part B**

**48.** Write an essay based on the following table. In your writing, you should

1) describe the table, and

2) give your comments.

You should write at least 150 words.

Write your essay on ANSERE SHEET 2. (15 points)

**某公司员工工作满意度调查**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 满意度  年龄组 | 满意 | 不清楚 | 不满意 |
| ≤40岁 | 16.7% | 50.0% | 33.3% |
| 41~50岁 | 0.0% | 36.0% | 64.0% |
| ＞50岁 | 40.0% | 50.0% | 10.0% |

2013年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（二）试题

## Section I     Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

①Given the advantages of electronic money, you might think that we would move quickly to the cashless society in which all payments are made electronically. ② 1  a true cashless society is probably not around the corner. ③Indeed, predictions have been 2 for two decades but have not yet come to fruition. ④For example, *Business Week* predicted in 1975 that electronic means of payment would soon “revolutionize the very  3  of money itself,” only to  4  itself several years later. ⑤Why has the movement to a cashless society been so  5  in coming?

①Although e-money might be more convenient and may be more efficient than a payments system based on paper, several factors work  6  the disappearance of the paper system. ②First, it is very  7  to set up the computer, card reader, and telecommunications networks necessary to make electronic money the  8  form of payment. ③Second, paper checks have the advantage that they  9  receipts, something that many consumers are unwilling to  10  . ④Third, the use of paper checks gives consumers several days of “float”—it takes several days  11  a check is cashed and funds are  12  from the issuer’s account, which means that the writer of the check can earn interest on the funds in the meantime. ⑤  13  electronic payments are immediate, they eliminate the float for the consumer. ⑥Fourth, electronic means of payment may  14  security and privacy concerns. ⑦We often hear media reports that an unauthorized hacker has been able to access a computer database and to alter information  15  there.

①The fact that this is not an 16 occurrence means that dishonest persons might be able to access bank accounts in electronic payments systems and  17  from someone else’s accounts. ②The  18  of this type of fraud is no easy task, and a new field of computer science is developing to 19  security issues. ③A further concern is that the use of electronic means of payment leaves an electronic  20  that contains a large amount of personal data. ④There are concerns that government, employers, and marketers might be able to access these data, thereby violating our privacy.

1. [A] However [B] Moreover [C] Therefore [D] Otherwise

2. [A] off [B] back [C] over [D] around

3. [A] power [B] concept [C] history [D] role

4. [A] reward [B] resist [C] resume [D] reverse

5. [A] silent [B] sudden [C] slow [D] steady

6. [A] for [B] against [C]with [D] on

7. [A] imaginative [B] expensive [C] sensitive [D] productive

8. [A] similar [B] original [C] temporary [D] dominant

9. [A] collect [B] provide [C] copy [D] print

10. [A] give up [B] take over [C] bring back [D] pass down

11. [A] before [B] after [C] since [D] when

12. [A] kept [B] borrowed [C] released [D] withdrawn

13. [A] Unless [B] Until [C] Because [D] Though

14. [A] hide [B] express [C] raise [D]ease

15. [A] analyzed [B] shared [C] stored [D] displayed

16. [A] unsafe [B] unnatural [C] uncommon [D] unclear

17. [A] steal [B] choose [C] benefit [D] return

18. [A] consideration [B] prevention [C] manipulation [D] justification

19. [A] cope with [B] fight against [C] adapt to [D] call for

20. [A] chunk [B] chip [C] path [D] trail

## Section II  Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

**Text 1**

①In an essay entitled “Making It in America”, the author Adam Davidson relates a joke from cotton country about just how much a modern textile mill has been automated: ②The average mill has only two employees today, “ a man and a dog. ③The man is there to feed the dog, and the dog is there to keep the man away from the machines.”

①Davidson’s article is one of a number of pieces that have recently appeared making the point that the reason we have such stubbornly high unemployment and declining middle-class incomes today is largely because of the bid drop in demand because of the Great Recession, but it is also because of the advances in both globalization and the information technology revolution, which are more rapidly than ever replacing labor with machines or foreign workers.

①In the past, workers with average skills, doing an average job, could earn an average lifestyle. ②But, today, average is officially over. ③Being average just won’t earn you what it used to. ④It can’t when so many more employers have so much more access to so much more above average cheap foreign labor, cheap robotics, cheap software, cheap automation and cheap genius. ⑤Therefore, everyone needs to find their extra—their unique value contribution that makes them stand out in whatever is their field of employment.

①Yes, new technology has been eating jobs forever, and always will. ②But there’s been an acceleration. ③As Davidson notes, “ In the 10 years ending in 2009, [U.S.] factories shed workers so fast that they erased almost all the gains of the previous 70 years; roughly one out of every three manufacturing jobs—about 6 million in total —disappeared.”

①There will always be change—new jobs, new products, new services. ②But the one thing we know for sure is that with each advance in globalization and the I. T. revolution, the best jobs will require workers to have more and better education to make themselves above average.

①In a world where average is officially over, there are many things we need to do to support employment, but nothing would be more important than passing some kind of G. I. Bill for the 21st century that ensures that every American has access to post-high school education.

21. The joke in Paragraph 1 is used to illustrate\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the impact of technological advances

[B] the alleviation of job pressure

[C] the shrinkage of textile mills

[D] the decline of middle-class incomes

22. According to Paragraph 3, to be a successful employee, one has to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] work on cheap software

[B] ask for a moderate salary

[C] adopt an average lifestyle

[D] contribute something unique

23. The quotation in Paragraph 4 explains that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] gains of technology have been erased

[B] job opportunities are disappearing at a high speed

[C] factories are making much less money than before

[D] new jobs and services have been offered

24. According to the author, to reduce unemployment, the most important is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 [A] to accelerate the I. T. revolution

 [B] to ensure more education for people

 [C] to advance economic globalization

 [D] to pass more bills in the 21st century

25. Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the text?

 [A] New Law Takes Effect

 [B] Technology Goes Cheap

 [C] Average Is Over

 [D] Recession Is Bad

**Text 2**

①A century ago, the immigrants from across the Atlantic included settlers and sojourners. ②Along with the many folks looking to make a permanent home in the United States came those who had no intention to stay, and who would make some money and then go home. ③Between 1908 and 1915, about 7 million people arrived while about 2 million departed. ④About a quarter of all Italian immigrants, for example, eventually returned to Italy for good. ⑤They even had an affectionate nickname, “uccelli di passaggio,” birds of passage.

①Today, we are much more rigid about immigrants. ②We divide newcomers into two categories: legal or illegal, good or bad. ③We hail them as Americans in the making, or brand them as aliens fit for deportation. ④That framework has contributed mightily to our broken immigration system and the long political paralysis over how to fix it. ⑤We don’t need more categories, but we need to change the way we think about categories. ⑥We need to look beyond strict definitions of legal and illegal. ⑦To start, we can recognize the new birds of passage, those living and thriving in the gray areas. ⑧We might then begin to solve our immigration challenges.

① Crop pickers, violinists, construction workers, entrepreneurs, engineers, home health-care aides and physicists are among today’s birds of passage. ②They are energetic participants in a global economy driven by the flow of work, money and ideas. ③They prefer to come and go as opportunity calls them. ④They can manage to have a job in one place and a family in another.

 ①With or without permission, they straddle laws, jurisdictions and identities with ease. ②We need them to imagine the United States as a place where they can be productive for a while without committing themselves to staying forever. ③We need them to feel that home can be both here and there and that they can belong to two nations honorably.

 ①Accommodating this new world of people in motion will require new attitudes on both sides of the immigration battle. ②Looking beyond the culture war logic of right or wrong means opening up the middle ground and understanding that managing immigration today requires multiple paths and multiple outcomes, including some that are not easy to accomplish legally in the existing system.

26. “Birds of passage” refers to those who\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] immigrate across the Atlantic

[B] leave their home countries for good

[C] stay in a foreign country temporarily

[D] find permanent jobs overseas

27. It is implied in paragraph 2 that the current immigration system in the U. S. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] needs new immigrant categories

[B] has loosened control over immigrants

[C] should be adapted to meet challenges

[D] has been fixed via political means

28. According to the author, today’s birds of passage want\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] financial incentives

[B] a global recognition

[C] opportunities to get regular jobs

[D] the freedom to stay and leave

29. The author suggests that the birds of passage today should be treated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] as faithful partners

[B] with economic favors

[C] with legal tolerance

[D] as mighty rivals

30. Which is the best title for the passage?

[A] Come and Go: Big Mistake.

[B] Living and Thriving: Great Risk.

[C] With or Without: Great Risk.

[D] Legal or Illegal: Big mistake.

**Text 3**

①Scientists have found that although we are prone to snap overreactions, if we take a moment and think about how we are likely to react, we can reduce or even eliminate the negative effects of our quick, hard-wired responses.

①Snap decisions can be important defense mechanisms; if we are judging whether someone is dangerous, our brains and bodies are hard-wired to react very quickly, within milliseconds. ②But we need more time to assess other factors. ③To accurately tell whether someone is sociable, studies show, we need at least a minute, preferably five. ④It takes a while to judge complex aspects of personality, like neuroticism or open-mindedness.

①But snap decisions in reaction to rapid stimuli aren’t exclusive to the interpersonal realm. ②Psychologists at the University of Toronto found that viewing a fast-food logo for just a few milliseconds primes us to read 20 percent faster, even though reading has little to do with eating. ③We unconsciously associate fast food with speed and impatience and carry those impulses into whatever else we’re doing. ④Subjects exposed to fast-food flashes also tend to think a musical piece lasts too long.

①Yet we can reverse such influences. ②If we know we will overreact to consumer products or housing options when we see a happy face (one reason good sales representatives and real estate agents are always smiling), we can take a moment before buying. ③If we know female job screeners are more likely to reject attractive female applicants, we can help screeners understand their biases—or hire outside screeners.

①John Gottman, the marriage expert, explains that we quickly “thin slice” information reliably only after we ground such snap reactions in “thick sliced” long-term study. ②When Dr. Gottman really wants to assess whether a couple will stay together, he invites them to his island retreat for a much longer evaluation: two days, not two seconds.

①Our ability to mute our hard-wired reactions by pausing is what differentiates us from animals: dogs can think about the future only intermittently or for a few minutes. ②But historically we have spent about 12 percent of our days contemplating the longer term. ③Although technology might change the way we react, it hasn’t changed our nature. ④We still have the imaginative capacity to rise above temptation and reverse the high-speed trend.

31. The time needed in making decisions may\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] vary according to the urgency of the situation

[B] prove the complexity of our brain reaction

[C] depend on the importance of the assessment

[D] predetermine the accuracy of our judgment

 32. Our reaction to a fast-food logo shows that snap decisions\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] can be associative

[B] are not unconscious

[C] can be dangerous

[D] are not impulsive

33. To reverse the negative influences of snap decisions, we should\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] trust our first impression

[B] do as people usually do

[C] think before we act

[D] ask for expert advice

34. John Gottman says that reliable snap reactions are based on\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] critical assessment

[B] “thin sliced” study

[C] sensible explanation

[D] adequate information

35. The author’s attitude toward reversing the high-speed trend is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] tolerant

[B] uncertain

[C] optimistic

[D] doubtful

**Text 4**

①Europe is not a gender-equality heaven. ②In particular, the corporate workplace will never be completely family-friendly until women are part of senior management decisions, and Europe’s top corporate-governance positions remain overwhelmingly male. ③Indeed, women hold only 14 percent of positions on Europe corporate boards.

   ①The European Union is now considering legislation to compel corporate boards to maintain a certain proportion of women—up to 60 percent. ②This proposed mandate was born of frustration. ③Last year, European Commission Vice President Viviane Reding issued a call to voluntary action. ④Reding invited corporations to sign up for gender balance goals of 40 percent female board membership. ⑤But her appeal was considered a failure: only 24 companies took it up.

   ①Do we need quotas to ensure that women can continue to climb the corporate ladder fairly as they balance work and family?

①“Personally, I don’t like quotas,” Reding said recently. ②“But I like what the quotas do.” ③Quotas get action: they “open the way to equality and they break through the glass ceiling,” according to Reding, a result seen in France and other countries with legally binding provisions on placing women in top business positions.

①I understand Reding’s reluctance — and her frustration. ②I don’t like quotas either; they run counter to my belief in meritocracy (governance by the capable). ③But, when one considers the obstacles to achieving the meritocratic ideal, it does look as if a fairer world must be temporarily ordered.

①After all, four decades of evidence has now shown that corporations in Europe as well as the US are evading the meritocratic hiring and promotion of women to top position — no matter how much “soft pressure” is put upon them. ②When women do break through to the summit of corporate power — as, for example, Sheryl Sandberg recently did at Facebook — they attract massive attention precisely because they remain the exception to the rule.

①If appropriate public policies were in place to help all women — whether CEOs or their children’s caregivers — and all families, Sandberg would be no more newsworthy than any other highly capable person living in a more just society.

36. In the European corporate workplace, generally\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] women take the lead

[B] men have the final say

[C] corporate governance is overwhelmed

[D] senior management is family-friendly

37. The European Union’s intended legislation is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 [A] a reflection of gender balance

 [B] a reluctant choice

 [C] a response to Reding’s call

 [D] a voluntary action

38. According to Reding, quotas may help women \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] get top business positions

[B] see through the glass ceiling

[C] balance work and family

[D] anticipate legal results

39. The author’s attitude toward Reding’s appeal is one of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] skepticism

[B] objectiveness

[C] indifference

[D] approval

40. Women entering top management become headlines due to the lack of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] more social justice

[B] massive media attention

[C] suitable public policies

[D] greater “soft pressure”

**Part B**

**Directions:**

You are going to read a list of headings and a text. Choose the most suitable heading from the list A-F for each numbered paragraph (41-45). Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

[A] Live like a peasant

[B] Balance your diet

[C] Shopkeepers are your friends

[D] Remember to treat yourself

[E] Stick to what you need

[F] Planning is everything

[G] Waste not, want not

①The hugely popular blog the Skint Foodie chronicles how Tony balances his love of good food with living on benefits. ②After bills, Tony has £60 a week to spend, £40 of which goes on food, but 10 years ago he was earning £130,000 a year working in corporate communications and eating at London’s best restaurants at least twice a week. ③Then his marriage failed, his career burned out and his drinking became serious. ④“The community mental health team saved my life. ⑤And I felt like that again, to a certain degree, when people responded to the blog so well. ⑥It gave me the validation and confidence that I’d lost. ⑦But it’s still a day-by-day thing.” ⑧Now he’s living in a council flat and fielding offers from literary agents. ⑨He’s feeling positive, but he’ll carry on blogging—not about eating as cheaply as you can—“there are so many people in a much worse state, with barely any money to spend on food”—but eating well on a budget. ⑩Here’s his advice for economical foodies.

41.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

①Impulsive spending isn’t an option, so plan your week’s menu in advance, making shopping lists for your ingredients in their exact quantities. ②I have an Excel template for a week of breakfast, lunch and dinner. ③Stop laughing: it’s not just cost effective but helps you balance your diet. ④It’s also a good idea to shop daily instead of weekly, because, being human, you’ll sometimes change your mind about what you fancy.

42.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

①This is where supermarkets and their anonymity come in handy. ②With them, there’s not the same embarrassment as when buying one carrot in a little greengrocer. ③And if you plan properly, you’ll know that you only need, say, 350g of shin of beef and six rashers of bacon, not whatever weight is pre-packed in the supermarket chiller.

43.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

①You may proudly claim to only have frozen peas in the freezer—that’s not good enough. ②Mine is filled with leftovers, bread, stock, meat and fish. ③Planning ahead should eliminate wastage, but if you have surplus vegetables you’ll do a vegetable soup, and all fruits threatening to “go off” will be cooked or juiced.

44.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

①Everyone says this, but it really is a top tip for frugal eaters. ②Shop at butchers, delis and fish-sellers regularly, even for small things, and be super friendly. ③Soon you’ll feel comfortable asking if they’ve any knuckles of ham for soups and stews, or beef bones, chicken carcasses and fish heads for stock which, more often than not, they will let you have for free.

45.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

①You won’t be eating out a lot, but save your pennies and once every few months treat yourself to a set lunch at a good restaurant—£1.75 a week for three months gives you £21—more than enough for a three-course lunch at Michelin-starred Arbutus. ②It’s £16.95 there—or £12.99 for a large pizza from Domino’s: I know which I’d rather eat.

## Section III  Translation

46. **Directions:**

Translate the following text from English into Chinese. Write your translation on ANSWER SHEET 2. (15 points)

I can pick a date from the past 53 years and know instantly where I was, what happened in the news and even the day of the week. I’ve been able to do this since I was four.

 I never feel overwhelmed with the amount of information my brain absorbs. My mind seems to be able to cope and the information is stored away neatly. When I think of a sad memory, I do what everyone does—try to put it to one side. I don’t think it’s harder for me just because my memory is clearer. Powerful memory doesn’t make my emotions any more acute or vivid. I can recall the day my grandfather died and the sadness I felt when we went to the hospital the day before. I also remember that the musical play *Hair* opened on Broadway on the same day—they both just pop into my mind in the same way.

## Section IV  Writing

**Part A**

47. **Directions:**

Suppose your class is to hold a charity sale for kids in need of help. Write your classmates an email to

1) inform them about the details and

2) encourage them to participate.

You should write about 100 words on ANSWER SHEET 2.

**Do not** sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use “Li Ming” instead.

**Do not** write the address. (10 points)

**Part B**

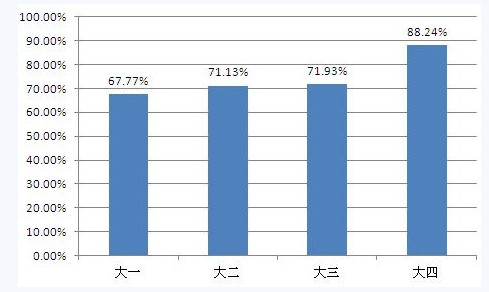
48. **Directions:**

Write an essay based on the following chart. In your writing, you should

1) interpret the chart and

2) give your comments.

You should write about 150 words on ANSWER SHEET 2. (15 points)



某高校学生兼职情况

2014年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（二）试题

## Section I     Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

①Thinner isn’t always better. ②A number of studies have 1  that normal-weight people are in fact at higher risk of some diseases compared to those who are overweight. ③And there are health conditions for which being overweight is actually 2  . ④For example, heavier women are less likely to develop calcium deficiency than thin women. ⑤ 3  , among the elderly, being somewhat overweight is often an 4  of good health.

①Of even greater 5  is the fact that obesity turns out to be very difficult to define. ②It is often defined 6  body mass index, or BMI. ③BMI 7  body mass divided by the square of height. ④An adult with a BMI of 18 to 25 is often considered to be normal weight. ⑤Between 25 and 30 is overweight. ⑥And over 30 is considered obese. ⑦Obesity, 8  , can be divided into moderately obese, severely obese, and very severely obese.

①While such numerical standards seem 9  , they are not. ②Obesity is probably less a matter of weight than body fat. ③Some people with a high BMI are in fact extremely fit, 10  others with a low BMI may be in poor 11  . ④For example, many collegiate and professional football players 12  as obese, though their percentage body fat is low. ⑤Conversely, someone with a small frame may have high body fat but a 13  BMI.

①Today we have a(an) 14  to label obesity as a disgrace. ②The overweight are sometimes 15  in the media with their faces covered. ③Stereotypes 16  with obesity include laziness, lack of will power, and lower prospects for success. ④Teachers, employers, and health professionals have been shown to harbor biases against the obese. ⑤ 17  very young children tend to look down on the overweight, and teasing about body build has long been a problem in schools.

①Negative attitudes toward obesity, 18  in health concerns, have stimulated a number of anti-obesity 19  . ②My own hospital system has banned sugary drinks from its facilities. ③Many employers have instituted weight loss and fitness initiatives. ④Michelle Obama has launched a high-visibility campaign 20  childhood obesity, even claiming that it represents our greatest national security threat.

1. [A] denied [B] conduced [C] doubted [D] ensured

2. [A] protective [B] dangerous [C] sufficient [D]troublesome

3. [A] Instead [B] However [C] Likewise [D] Therefore

4. [A] indicator [B] objective [C] origin [D] example

5. [A] impact [B] relevance [C] assistance [D] concern

6. [A] in terms of [B] in case of [C] in favor of [D] in of

7. [A] measures [B] determines [C] equals [D] modifies

8. [A] in essence [B] in contrast [C] in turn [D] in part

9. [A] complicated [B] conservative [C] variable [D] straightforward

10. [A] so [B] while [C] since [D] unless

11. [A] shape [B] spirit [C] balance [D] taste

12. [A] start [B] qualify [C] retire [D] stay

13. [A] strange [B] changeable [C] normal [D] constant

14. [A] option [B] reason [C] opportunity [D] tendency

15. [A] employed [B] pictured [C] imitated [D] monitored

16. [A]compared [B] combined [C] settled [D] associated

17. [A] Even [B] Still [C] Yet [D] Only

18. [A] despised [B] corrected [C] ignored [D] grounded

19. [A] discussions [B] businesses [C] policies [D] studies

20. [A] for [B] against [C] with [D] without

## Section II  Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

**Text 1**

①What would you do with $590m? ②This is now a question for Gloria MacKenzie, an 84-year-old widow who recently emerged from her small, tin-roofed house in Florida to collect the biggest undivided lottery jackpot in history. ③If she hopes her new-found fortune will yield lasting feelings of fulfilment, she could do worse than read “Happy Money” by Elizabeth Dunn and Michael Norton.

①These two academics use an array of behavioural research to show that the most rewarding ways to spend money can be counterintuitive.②Fantasies of great wealth often involve visions of fancy cars and extravagant homes.③Yet satisfaction with these material purchases wears off fairly quickly. ④What was once exciting and new becomes old-hat; regret creeps in. ⑤It is far better to spend money on experiences, say Ms Dunn and Mr Norton, like interesting trips, unique meals or even going to the cinema. ⑥These purchases often become more valuable with time—as stories or memories—particularly if they involve feeling more connected to others.

①This slim volume is packed with tips to help wage slaves as well as lottery winners get the most “happiness bang for your buck.” ②It seems most people would be better off if they could shorten their commutes to work, spend more time with friends and family and less of it watching television (something the average American spends a whopping two months a year doing, and is hardly jollier for it).③Buying gifts or giving to charity is often more pleasurable than purchasing things for oneself, and luxuries are most enjoyable when they are consumed sparingly.④This is apparently the reason MacDonald’s restricts the availability of its popular McRib—a marketing trick that has turned the pork sandwich into an object of obsession.

①Readers of “Happy Money” are clearly a privileged lot, anxious about fulfilment, not hunger. ②Money may not quite buy happiness, but people in wealthier countries are generally happier than those in poor ones. ③Yet the link between feeling good and spending money on others can be seen among rich and poor people around the world, and scarcity enhances the pleasure of most things for most people. ④Not everyone will agree with the authors’ policy ideas, which range from mandating more holiday time to reducing tax incentives for American homebuyers. ⑤But most people will come away from this book believing it was money well spent.

21. According to Dunn and Norton, which of the following is the most rewarding purchase?

[A] A big house.

[B] A special tour.

[C] A stylish car.

[D] A rich meal.

22. The author’s attitude toward Americans’ watching TV is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] critical

[B] supportive

[C] sympathetic

[D] ambiguous

23. McRib is mentioned in Paragraph 3 to show that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] consumers are sometimes irrational

[B] popularity usually comes after quality

[C] marketing tricks are often effective

[D] rarity generally increases pleasure

24. According to the last paragraph, “Happy Money” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] has left much room for readers’ criticism

[B] may prove to be a worthwhile purchase

[C] has predicted a wider income gap in the U.S.

[D] may give its readers a sense of achievement

25. This text mainly discusses how to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] balance feeling good and spending money

[B] spend large sums of money won in lotteries

[C] obtain lasting satisfaction from money spent

[D] become more reasonable in spending on luxuries

**Text 2**

①An article in *Scientific America* has pointed out that empirical research says that, actually, you think you’re more beautiful than you are. ②We have a deep-seated need to feel good about ourselves and we naturally employ a number of self-enhancing strategies to achieve this. ③Social psychologists have amassed oceans of research into what they call the “above average effect”, or “illusory superiority,” and shown that, for example, 70% of us rate ourselves as above average in leadership, 93% in driving and 85% at getting on well with others—all obviously statistical impossibilities.

①We rose-tint our memories and put ourselves into self-affirming situations. ②We become defensive when criticised, and apply negative stereotypes to others to boost our own esteem. ③We stalk around thinking we’re hot stuff.

①Psychologist and behavioural scientist Nicholas Epley oversaw a key study into self-enhancement and attractiveness. ②Rather than have people simply rate their beauty compared with others, he asked them to identify an original photograph of themselves from a lineup including versions that had been altered to appear more and less attractive. ③Visual recognition, reads the study, is “an automatic psychological process occurring rapidly and intuitively with little or no apparent conscious deliberation”. ④If the subjects quickly chose a falsely flattering image—which most did—they genuinely believed it was really how they looked.

①Epley found no significant gender difference in responses. ②Nor was there any evidence that those who self-enhanced the most (that is, the participants who thought the most positively doctored pictures were real) were doing so to make up for profound insecurities. ③In fact, those who thought that the images higher up the attractiveness scale were real directly corresponded with those who showed other markers for having higher self-esteem. ④“I don’t think the findings that we have are any evidence of personal delusion,” says Epley. “It’s a reflection simply of people generally thinking well of themselves.”⑤ If you are depressed, you won’t be self-enhancing.

①Knowing the results of Epley’s study, it makes sense that people hate photographs of themselves so viscerally—on one level, they don’t even recognise the person in the picture as themselves. ②Facebook therefore, is a self-enhancer’s paradise, where people can share only the most flattering photos, the cream of their wit, style, beauty, intellect and lifestyle. ③It’s not that people’s profiles are dishonest, says Catalina Toma of Wisconsin-Madison university, “but they portray an idealised version of themselves.”

26. According to the first paragraph, social psychologists have found that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] our self-ratings are unrealistically high

[B] illusory superiority is a baseless effect

[C] our needs for leadership is unnatural

[D] self-enhancing strategies are ineffective

27. Visual recognition is believed to be people’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] rapid watching

[B] conscious choice

[C] intuitive response

[D] automatic self-defence

28. Epley found that people with higher self-esteem tended to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] underestimate their insecurities

[B] believe in their attractiveness

[C] cover up their depressions

[D] oversimplify their illusions

29. The word “viscerally” (Line 2, Para. 5) is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] instinctively

[B] occasionally

[C] particularly

[D] aggressively

30. It can be inferred that Facebook is self-enhancer’s paradise because people can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] present their dishonest profiles

[B] define their traditional life styles

[C] share their intellectual pursuits

[D] withhold their unflattering sides

**Text 3**

The concept of *man versus machine* is at least as old as the industrial revolution, but this phenomenon tends to be most acutely felt during economic downturns and fragile recoveries. And yet, it would be a mistake to think we are right now simply experiencing the painful side of a boom and bust cycle. Certain jobs have gone away for good, outmoded by machines. Since technology has such an insatiable appetite for eating up human jobs, this phenomenon will continue to restructure our economy in ways we cannot immediately foresee.

When there is rapid improvement in the price and performance of technology, jobs that were once thought to be immune from automation suddenly become threatened. This argument has attracted a lot of attention, via the success of the book Race Against the Machine, by Erik Brynjolfsson and Andrew McAfee, who both hail from MIT’s Center for Digital Business.

This is a powerful argument, and a scary one. And yet, John Hagel, author of The Power of Pull and other books, says Brynjolfsson and McAfee miss the reason why these jobs are so vulnerable to technology in the first place.

Hagel says we have designed jobs in the U. S. that tend to be “tightly scripted” and “highly standardized” ones that leave no room for “individual initiative or creativity”. In short, these are the types of jobs that machines can perform much better at than human beings. That is how we have put a giant target sign on the backs of American workers, Hagel says.

It’s time to reinvent the formula for how work is conducted, since we are still relying on a very 20th century notion of work, Hagel says. In our rapidly changing economy, we more than ever need people in the workplace who can take initiative and exercise their imagination “to respond to unexpected events.” That’s not something machines are good at. They are designed to perform very predictable activities.

As Hagel notes, Brynjolfsson and McAfee indeed touched on this point in their book. We need to reframe race against the machine as race with the machine. In other words, we need to look at the ways in which machines can augment human labor rather than replace it. So then the problem is not really about technology, but rather, “how do we innovate our institutions and our work practices?”

31. According to the first paragraph, economic downturns would \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[ A ]ease the competition of man vs. machine

[ B ] highlight machines’ threat to human jobs

[ C ] provoke a painful technological revolution

[ D ] outmode our current economic structure

32. The authors of Race Against the Machine argue that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[ A ]technology is diminishing man’s job opportunities

[ B ] automation is accelerating technological development

[ C ] certain jobs will remain intact after automation

[ D ] man will finally win the race against machine

33. Hagel argues that jobs in the U.S. are often \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[ A ]performed by innovative minds

[ B ] scripted with an individual style

[ C ] standardized without a clear target

[ D ] designed against human creativity

34. According to the last paragraph, Brynjolfsson and McAfee discussed \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[ A ]the predictability of machine behavior in practice

[ B ] the formula for how work is conducted efficiently

[ C ] the ways machines replace human labor in modem times

[ D ] the necessity of human involvement in the workplace

35. Which of the following could be the most appropriate title for the text?

[ A] How to Innovate Our Work Practices?

[ B ] Machines will Replace Human Labor

[ C ] Can We Win the Race Against Machines?

[ D ] Economic Downtums Stimulate Innovations

**Text 4**

①When the government talks about infrastructure contributing to the economy the focus is usually on roads, railways, broadband and energy. ②Housing is seldom mentioned.

①Why is that? ②To some extent the housing sector must shoulder the blame. ③We have not been good at communicating the real value that housing can contribute to economic growth. ④Then there is the scale of the typical housing project. ⑤It is hard to shove for attention among multibillion-pound infrastructure projects, so it is inevitable that the attention is focused elsewhere. ⑥But perhaps the most significant reason is that the issue has always been so politically charged.

①Nevertheless, the affordable housing situation is desperate. ②Waiting lists increase all the time and we are simply not building enough new homes.

①The comprehensive spending review offers an opportunity for the government to help rectify this.②It needs to put historical prejudices to one side and take some steps to address our urgent housing need.

①There are some indications that it is preparing to do just that. ②The communities minister, Don Foster, has hinted that George Osborne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, may introduce more flexibility to the current cap on the amount that local authorities can borrow against their housing stock debt. ③Evidence shows that 60,000 extra new homes could be built over the next five years if the cap were lifted, increasing GDP by 0.6%.

①Ministers should also look at creating greater certainty in the rental environment, which would have a significant impact on the ability of registered providers to fund new developments from revenues.

①But it is not just down to the government.②While these measures would be welcome in the short term, we must face up to the fact that the existing ￡4.5 bn programme of grants to fund new affordable housing, set to expire in 2015, is unlikely to be extended beyond then.③The Labour party has recently announced that it will retain a large part of the coalition’s spending plans if it returns to power.④The housing sector needs to accept that we are very unlikely to ever return to the era of large-scale public grants.⑤We need to adjust to this changing climate.

While the government's commitment to long-term funding may have changed, the very pressing need for more affordable housing is real and is not going away.

36. The author believes that the housing sector \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] has attracted much attention

[B] involves certain political factors

[C] shoulders too much responsibility

[D] has lost its real value in economy

37. It can be learned that affordable housing has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] increased its home supply

[B] offered spending opportunities

[C] suffered government biases

[D] disappointed the government

38. According to Paragraph 5, George Osborne may \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] allow greater government debt for housing

[B] stop local authorities from building homes

[C] prepare to reduce housing stock debt

[D] release a lifted GDP growth forecast

39. It can be inferred that a stable rental environment would \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] lower the costs of registered providers

[B] lessen the impact of government interference

[C] contribute to funding new developments

[D] relieve the ministers of responsibilities

40. The author believes that after 2015, the government may \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] implement more policies to support housing

[B] review the need for large-scale public grants

[C] renew the affordable housing grants programme

[D] stop generous funding to the housing sector

**Part B**

**Directions:**

Read the following text and answer the questions by finding information from the right column that corresponds to each of the marked details given in the left column. (10 points)

Uncommon Ground—Land Art in Britain

①The term Land Art brings to mind epic interventions in the land such as Robert Smithson’s Spiral Jetty, 6,500 tons of basalt, earth and salt projecting into Utah’s Great Salt Lake, or Roden Crater, an extinct volcano in Arizona, which James Turrell has been transforming into an immense naked-eye observatory since 1979.

①Richard Long’s A Line Made By Walking, however, involved nothing more strenuous than a 20-minute train ride from Waterloo. ②Having got off somewhere in suburbia, the artist walked backwards and forwards over a piece of grass until the squashed turf formed a line, a kind of drawing on the land.

①Emerging in the late Sixties and reaching a peak in the Seventies, Land Art was one of a range of new forms, including Body Art, Performance Art, Action Art and Installation Art, which pushed art beyond the traditional confines of the studio and gallery. ②Rather than portraying landscape, land artists used the physical substance of the land itself as their medium.

①The British land art, typified by Long’s piece, was not only more domestically scaled, but a lot quirkier than its American counterpart. ②Indeed, while you might assume that an exhibition of Land Art would consist only of records of works rather than the works themselves, Long’s photograph of his work is the work. ③Since his “action” is in the past the photograph is its sole embodiment.

①That might seem rather an obscure point, but it sets the tone for an exhibition that contains a lot of black-and-white photographs and relatively few natural objects.

①Long is Britain’s best-known Land Artist and his Stone Circle, a perfect ring of purplish rocks from Portishead beach laid out on the gallery floor, represents the elegant, rarefied side of the form. ②The Boyle Family, on the other hand, stand for its dirty, urban aspect. ③Comprising artists Mark Boyle and Joan Hills and their children, they recreated random sections of the British landscape on gallery walls. ④Their Olaf Street Study, a square of brick-strewn waste ground, is one of the few works here to embrace the commonplaceness that characterises most of our experience of the landscape most of the time.

①Parks feature, particularly in the earlier works, such as John Hilliard’s very funny Across the Park, in which a long-haired stroller is variously smiled at by a pretty girl and unwittingly assaulted in a sequence of images that turn out to be different parts of the same photograph.

①Generally however British land artists preferred to get away from towns, gravitating towards landscapes that are traditionally considered beautiful such as the Lake District or the Wiltshire Downs. ②While it probably wasn’t apparent at the time, much of this work is permeated by a spirit of romantic escapism that the likes of Wordsworth would have readily understood. ③Derek Jarman’s yellow-tinted film Towards Avebury, a collection of long, mostly still shots of the Wiltshire landscape, evokes a tradition of English landscape painting stretching from Samuel Palmer to Paul Nash.

①In the case of Hamish Fulton, you can’t help feeling that the Scottish artist has simply found a way of making his love of walking pay. ②A typical work, such as Seven Days, consists of a single beautiful black-and-white photograph taken on an epic walk, with the mileage and number of days taken listed beneath. ③British Land Art as shown in this well selected, but relatively modestly scaled exhibition wasn’t about imposing on the landscape, more a kind of landscape-orientated light conceptual art created passing through. ④It had its origins in the great outdoors, but the results were as gallery-bound as the paintings of Turner and Constable.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 41. Stone Circle  42. Olaf Street Study  43. Across the Park  44. Towards Avebury  45. Seven days | [A] originates from a long walk that the artist took  [B] illustrates a kind of landscape-orientated light conceptual art  [C] reminds people of the English landscape painting tradition  [D] represents the elegance of the British land art  [E] depicts the ordinary side of the British land art  [F] embodies a romantic escape into the Scottish outdoors  [G] contains images from different parts of the same photograph |

## Section III  Translation

46. **Directions:**

Translate the following text from English into Chinese. Write your translation on ANSWER SHEET 2. (15 points)

Most people would define optimism as being endlessly happy, with a glass that’s perpetually half full. But that’s exactly the kind of false cheerfulness that positive psychologists wouldn’t recommend. “Healthy optimism means being in touch with reality,” says Tal Ben-Shahar, a Harvard professor. According to Ben-Shahar, realistic optimists are those who make the best of things that happen, but not those who believe everything happens for the best.

Ben-Shahar uses three optimistic exercises. When he feels down—say, after giving a bad lecture—he grants himself permission to be human. He reminds himself that not every lecture can be a Nobel winner; some will be less effective than others. Next is reconstruction. He analyzes the weak lecture, learning lessons for the future about what works and what doesn’t. Finally, there is perspective, which involves acknowledging that in the grand scheme of life, one lecture really doesn’t matter.

## Section IV  Writing

**Part A**

47. **Directions:**

Suppose you are going to study abroad and share an apartment with John, a local student. Write him an email to

1) tell him about your living habits, and

2) ask for advice about living there.

You should write about 100 words on ANSWER SHEET 2.

**Do not** sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use “Li Ming” instead.

**Do not** write the address. (10 points)

**Part B**

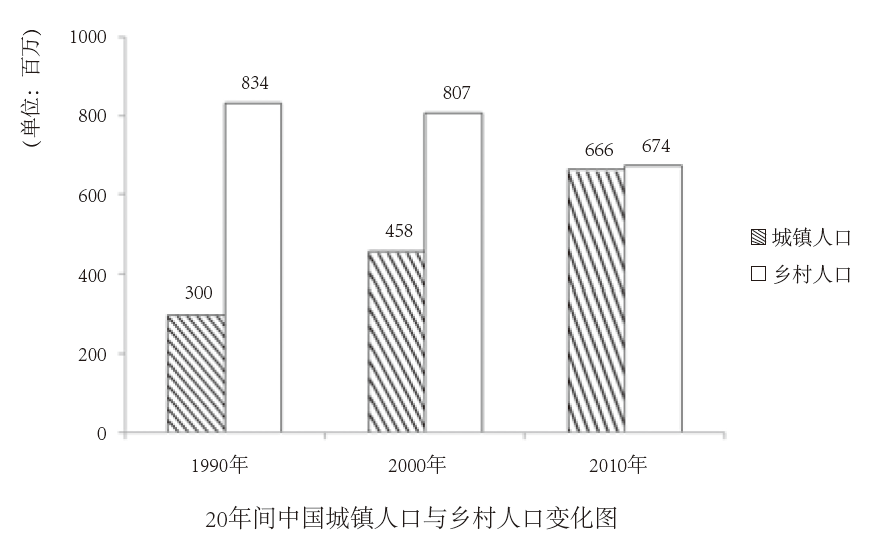
48. **Directions:**

Write an essay based on the following chart. In your writing, you should

1) interpret the chart and

2) give your comments.

You should write about 150 words on ANSWER SHEET 2. (15 points)



2015年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（二）试题

## Section I Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

In our contemporary culture, the prospect of communicating with — or even looking at — a stranger is virtually unbearable. Everyone around us seems to agree by the way they cling to their phones, even without a 1 on a subway.

It’s a sad reality — our desire to avoid interacting with other human beings — because　　there’s 2 to be gained from talking to the stranger standing by you. But you wouldn’t know it, 3 into your phone. This universal protection sends the 4 : “Please don’t approach me.”

What is it that makes us feel we need to hide 5 our screens?

One answer is fear, according to Jon Wortmann, an executive mental coach. We fear rejection, or that our innocent social advances will be 6 as “weird.” We fear we’ll be 7 . We fear we’ll be disruptive.

Strangers are inherently 8 to us, so we are more likely to feel 9 when communicating with them compared with our friends and acquaintances. To avoid this uneasiness, we 10 to our phones. “Phones become our security blanket,” Wortmann says. “They are our happy glasses that protect us from what we perceive is going to be more 11 .”

But once we rip off the band-aid, tuck our smartphones in our pockets and look up, it doesn't 12 so bad. In one 2011 experiment, behavioral scientists Nicholas Epley and Juliana Schroeder asked commuters to do the unthinkable: Start a 13 . They had Chicago train commuters talk to their fellow 14 . “When Dr. Epley and Ms. Schroeder asked other people in the same train station to 15 how they would feel after talking to a stranger, the commuters thought their 16 would be more pleasant if they sat on their own,” *The New York Times* summarizes. Though the participants didn't expect a positive experience, after they 17 with the experiment, "not a single person reported having been embarrassed."

18 , these commutes were reportedly more enjoyable compared with those without communication, which makes absolute sense, 19 human beings thrive off of social connections. It's that 20 : Talking to strangers can make you feel connected.

1. [A] ticket [B] permit [C] signal [D] record

2. [A] nothing [B] little [C] another [D] much

3. [A] beaten [B] guided [C] plugged [D] brought

4. [A] message [B] code [C] notice [D] sign

5. [A] under [B] beyond [C] behind [D] from

6. [A] misinterpreted [B] misapplied [C] misadjusted [D] mismatched

7. [A] fired [B] judged [C] replaced [D] delayed

8. [A] unreasonable [B] ungrateful [C] unconventional [D] unfamiliar

9. [A] comfortable [B] anxious [C] confident [D] angry

10. [A] attend [B] point [C] take [D] turn

11. [A] dangerous [B] mysterious [C] violent [D] boring

12. [A] hurt [B] resist [C] bend [D] decay

13. [A] lecture [B] conversation [C] debate [D] negotiation

14. [A] trainees [B] employees [C] researchers [D] passengers

15. [A] reveal [B] choose [C] predict [D] design

16. [A] voyage [B] flight [C] walk [D] ride

17. [A] went through [B] did away [C] caught up [D] put up

18. [A] In turn [B] In particular [C] In fact [D] In consequence

19. [A] unless [B] since [C] if [D] whereas

20. [A] funny [B] simple [C] logical [D] rare

## Section II  Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

**Text 1**

A new study suggests that contrary to most surveys, people are actually more stressed at home that at work. Researchers measured people’s cortisol, which is a stress marker, while they were at work and while they were at home and found it higher at what is supposed to be a place of refuge.

“Further contradicting conventional wisdom, we found that women as well as men have lower levels of stress at work than at home,” writes one of the researchers, Sarah Damaske. In fact women even say they feel better at work, she notes. “It is men, not women, who report being happier at home than at work.” Another surprise is that the findings hold true for both those with children and without, but more so for nonparents. This is why people who work outside the home have better health.

What the study doesn’t measure is whether people are still doing work when they’re at home, whether it is household work or work brought home from the office. For many men, the end of the workday is a time to kick back. For women who stay home, they never get to leave the office. And for women who work outside the home, they often are playing catch-up-with-household tasks. With the blurring of roles, and the fact that the home front lags well behind the workplace in making adjustments for working women, it’s not surprising that women are more stressed at home.

But it’s not just a gender thing. At work, people pretty much know what they’re supposed to be doing: working, making money, doing the tasks they have to do in order to draw an income. The bargain is very pure: Employee puts in hours of physical or mental labor and employee draws out life-sustaining moola.

On the home front, however, people have no such clarity. Rare is the household in which the division of labor is so clinically and methodically laid out. There are a lot of tasks to be done, there are inadequate rewards for most of them. Your home colleagues — your family — have no clear rewards for their labor; they need to be talked into it, or if they’re teenagers, threatened with complete removal of all electronic devices. Plus, they’re your family. You cannot fire your family. You never really get to go home from home.

So it’s not surprising that people are more stressed at home. Not only are the tasks apparently infinite, the co-workers are much harder to motivate.

21. According to Paragraph 1, most previous surveys found that home\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] was an unrealistic place for relaxation

[B] generated more stress than the workplace

[C] was an ideal place for stress measurement

[D] offered greater relaxation than the workplace

22. According to Damaske, who are likely to be the happiest at home?

[A] Working mothers.

[B] Childless husbands.

[C] Childless wives.

[D] Working fathers.

23. The blurring of working women’s roles refers to the fact that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] they are both bread winners and housewives

[B] their home is also a place for kicking back

[C] there is often much housework left behind

[D] it is difficult for them to leave their office

24. The word “moola” (Line 4, Para 4) most probably means\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] energy

[B] skills

[C] earnings

[D] nutrition

25. The home front differs from the workplace in that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] home is hardly a cozier working environment

[B] division of labor at home is seldom clear-cut

[C] household tasks are generally more motivating

[D] family labor is often adequately rewarded

**Text 2**

For years, studies have found that first-generation college students — those who do not have a parent with a college degree — lag other students on a range of education achievement factors. Their grades are lower and their dropout rates are higher. But since such students are most likely to advance economically if they succeed in higher education, colleges and universities have pushed for decades to recruit more of them. This has created “a paradox” in that recruiting first-generation students, but then watching many of them fail, means that higher education has “continued to reproduce and widen, rather than close” an achievement gap based on social class, according to the depressing beginning of a paper forthcoming in the journal *Psychological Science.*

But the article is actually quite optimistic, as it outlines a potential solution to this problem, suggesting that an approach (which involves a one-hour, next-to-no-cost program) can close 63 percent of the achievement gap (measured by such factors as grades) between first-generation and other students.

The authors of the paper are from different universities, and their findings are based on a study involving 147 students (who completed the project) at an unnamed private university. First generation was defined as not having a parent with a four-year college degree. Most of the first-generation students (59.1 percent) were recipients of Pell Grants, a federal grant for undergraduates with financial need, while this was true only for 8.6 percent of the students with at least one parent with a four-year degree.

Their thesis — that a relatively modest intervention could have a big impact — was based on the view that first-generation students may be most lacking not in potential but in practical knowledge about how to deal with the issues that face most college students. They cite past research by several authors to show that this is the gap that must be narrowed to close the achievement gap.

Many first-generation students “struggle to navigate the middle-class culture of higher education, learn the ‘rules of the game,’ and take advantage of college resources,” they write. And this becomes more of a problem when collages don’t talk about the class advantages and disadvantages of different groups of students. “Because US colleges and universities seldom acknowledge how social class can affect students’ educational experiences, many first-generation students lack insight about why they are struggling and do not understand how students ‘like them’ can improve. ”

26. Recruiting more first-generation students has\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] reduced their dropout rates

[B] narrowed the achievement gap

[C] missed its original purpose

[D] depressed college students

27. The author of the research article are optimistic because\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the problem is solvable

[B] their approach is costless

[C] the recruiting rate has increased

[D] their findings appeal to students

28. The study suggests that most first-generation students\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] study at private universities

[B] are from single-parent families

[C] are in need of financial support

[D] have failed their collage

29. The authors of the paper believe that first-generation students\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] are actually indifferent to the achievement gap

[B] can have a potential influence on other students

[C] may lack opportunities to apply for research projects

[D] are inexperienced in handling their issues at college

30. We may infer from the last paragraph that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] universities often reject the culture of the middle-class

[B] students are usually to blame for their lack of resources

[C] social class greatly helps enrich educational experiences

[D] colleges are partly responsible for the problem in question

**Text 3**

Even in traditional offices, “the *lingua franca* of corporate America has gotten much more emotional and much more right-brained than it was 20 years ago,” said Harvard Business School professor Nancy Koehn. She started spinning off examples. “If you and I parachuted back to Fortune 500 companies in 1990, we would see much less frequent use of terms like *journey*, *mission*, *passion*. There were goals, there were strategies, there were objectives, but we didn’t talk about *energy*; we didn’t talk about *passion*.”

Koehn pointed out that this new era of corporate vocabulary is very “team”-oriented—and not by coincidence. “Let’s not forget sports—in male-dominated corporate America, it’s still a big deal. It’s not explicitly conscious; it’s the idea that I’m a coach, and you’re my team, and we’re in this together. There are lots and lots of CEOs in very different companies, but most think of themselves as coaches and this is their team and they want to win.”

These terms are also intended to infuse work with meaning—and, as Rakesh Khurana, another professor, points out, increase allegiance to the firm. “You have the importation of terminology that historically used to be associated with non-profit organizations and religious organizations: Terms like vision, values, passion, and purpose,” said Khurana.

This new focus on personal fulfillment can help keep employees motivated amid increasingly loud debates over *work-life balance*. The “mommy wars” of the 1990s are still going on today, prompting arguments about why women still can’t have it all and books like Sheryl Sandberg’s *Lean In*, whose title has become a buzzword in its own right. Terms like *unplug*, *offline*, *life-hack*, *bandwidth*, and *capacity* are all about setting boundaries between the office and the home. But if your work is your “passion,” you’ll be more likely to devote yourself to it, even if that means going home for dinner and then working long after the kids are in bed.

But this seems to be the irony of officespeak: Everyone makes fun of it, but managers love it, companies depend on it, and regular people willingly absorb it. As a linguist once said, “You can get people to think it’s nonsense at the same time that you buy into it.” In a workplace that’s fundamentally indifferent to your life and its meaning, officespeak can help you figure out how you relate to your work—and how your work defines who you are.

31. According to Nancy Koehn, office language has become \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] more emotional

[B] more objective

[C] less energetic

[D] less strategic

32. “Team”-oriented corporate vocabulary is closely related to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] historical incidents

[B] gender difference

[C] sports culture

[D] athletic executives

33. Khurana believes that the importation of terminology aims to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] revive historical terms

[B] promote company image

[C] foster corporate cooperation

[D] strengthen employee loyalty

34. It can be inferred that *Lean In* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] voices for working women

[B] appeals to passionate workaholics

[C] triggers debates among mommies

[D] praises motivated employees

35. Which of the following statements is true about officespeak?

[A] Managers admire it but avoid it.

[B] Linguists believe it to be nonsense.

[C] Companies find it to be fundamental.

[D] Regular people mock it but accept it.

**Text 4**

Many people talked of the 288,000 new jobs the Labor Department reported for June, along with the drop in the unemployment rate to 6.1 percent, as good news. And they were right. For now it appears the economy is creating jobs at a decent pace. We still have a long way to go to get back to full employment, but at least we are now finally moving forward at a faster pace.

However, there is another important part of the jobs picture that was largely overlooked. There was a big jump in the number of people who report voluntarily working part-time. This figure is now 830,000 (4.4 percent) above its year ago level.

Before explaining the connection to the Obamacare, it is worth making an important distinction. Many people who work part-time jobs actually want full-time jobs. They take part-time work because this is all they can get. An increase in involuntary part-time work is evidence of weakness in the labor market and it means that many people will be having a very hard time making ends meet.

There was an increase in involuntary part-time in June, but the general direction has been down. Involuntary part-time employment is still far higher than before the recession, but it is down by 640,000 (7.9 percent) from its year ago level.

We know the difference between voluntary and involuntary part-time employment because people tell us. The survey used by the Labor Department asks people if they worked less than 35 hours in the reference week. If the answer is “yes,” they are classified as working part-time. They survey then asks whether they worked less than 35 hours in that week because they wanted to work less than full time or because they had no choice. They are only classified as voluntary part-time workers if they tell the survey taker they chose to work less than 35 hours a week.

The issue of voluntary part-time relates to Obamacare because one of the main purposes was to allow people to get insurance outside of employment. For many people, especially those with serious health conditions or family members with serious health conditions, before Obamacare the only way to get insurance was through a job that provided health insurance.

However, Obamacare has allowed more than 12 million people to either get insurance through Medicaid or the exchanges. These are people who may previously have felt the need to get a full-time job that provided insurance in order to cover themselves and their families. With Obamacare there is no longer a link between employment and insurance.

36. Which part of the jobs picture was neglected?

[A] The prospect of a thriving job market.

[B] The increase of voluntary part-time jobs.

[C] The possibility of full employment.

[D] The acceleration of job creation.

37. Many people work part-time because they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] prefer part-time jobs to full-time jobs

[B] feel that is enough to make ends meet

[C] cannot get their hands on full-time jobs

[D] haven’t seen the weakness of the market

38. Involuntary part-time employment in the US \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] is harder to acquire than one year ago

[B] shows a general tendency of decline

[C] satisfies the real need of the jobless

[D] is lower than before the recession

39. It can be learned that with Obamacare, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] it is no longer easy for part-timers to get insurance

[B] employment is no longer a precondition to get insurance

[C] it is still challenging to get insurance for family members

[D] full-time employment is still essential for insurance.

40. The text mainly discusses \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] employment in the U.S.

[B] part-timer classification

[C] insurance through Medicaid

[D] Obamacare’s trouble

**Part B**

**Directions:**

Read the following text and answer the questions by choosing the most suitable subheading from the list A-G for each numbered paragraph (41-45). There are two extra subheadings which you do not need to use. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

[A] You are not alone

[B] Don’t fear responsibility for your life

[C] Pave your own unique path

[D] Most of your fears are unreal

[E] Think about the present moment

[F] Experience helps you grow

[G] There are many things to be grateful for

**Some Old Truths to Help You Overcome Tough Times**

Unfortunately, life is not a bed of roses. We are going through life facing sad experiences. Moreover, we are grieving various kinds of loss: a friendship, a romantic relationship or a house. Hard times may hold you down at what usually seems like the most inopportune time, but you should remember that they won’t last forever.

When our time of mourning is over, we press forward, stronger with a greater understanding and respect for life. Furthermore, these losses make us mature and eventually move us toward future opportunities for growth and happiness. I want to share these old truths I’ve learned along the way.

41.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Fear is both useful and harmful. This normal human reaction is used to protect us by signaling danger and preparing us to deal with it. Unfortunately, people create inner barriers with a help of exaggerating fears. My favorite actor Will Smith once said, “Fear is not real. It is a product of thoughts you create. Do not misunderstand me. Danger is very real. But fear is a choice.” I do completely agree that fears are just the product of our luxuriant imagination.

42.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you are surrounded by problems and cannot stop thinking about the past, try to focus on the present moment. Many of us are weighed down by the past or anxious about the future. You may feel guilt over your past, but you are poisoning the present with the things and circumstances you cannot change. Value the present moment and remember how fortunate you are to be alive. Enjoy the beauty of the world around and keep the eyes open to see the possibilities before you. Happiness is not a point of future and not a moment from the past, but a mindset that can be designed into the present.

43.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sometimes it is easy to feel bad because you are going through tough times. You can be easily caught up by life problems that you forget to pause and appreciate the things you have. Only strong people prefer to smile and value their life instead of crying and complaining about something.

44.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

No matter how isolated you might feel and how serious the situation is, you should always remember that you are not alone. Try to keep in mind that almost everyone respects and wants to help you if you are trying to make a good change in your life, especially your dearest and nearest people. You may have a circle of friends who provide constant good humor, help and companionship. If you have no friends or relatives, try to participate in several online communities, full of people who are always willing to share advice and encouragement.

45.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Today many people find it difficult to trust their own opinion and seek balance by gaining objectivity from external sources. This way you devalue your opinion and show that you are incapable of managing your own life. When you are struggling to achieve something important you should believe in yourself and be sure that your decision is the best. You live in your skin, think your own thoughts, have your own values and make your own choices.

## Section III  Translation

46. **Directions:**

Translate the following text from English into Chinese. Write your translation on ANSWER SHEET. (15 points)

Think about driving a route that’s very familiar. It could be your commute to work, a trip into town or the way home. Whichever it is, you know every twist and turn like the back of your hand. On these sorts of trips it’s easy to lose concentration on the driving and pay little attention to the passing scenery. The consequence is that you perceive that the trip has taken less time than it actually has.

This is the well-travelled road effect: People tend to underestimate the time it takes to travel a familiar route.

The effect is caused by the way we allocate our attention. When we travel down a well-known route, because we don’t have to concentrate much, time seems to flow more quickly. And afterwards, when we come to think back on it, we can’t remember the journey well because we didn’t pay much attention to it. So we assume it was shorter.

## Section IV  Writing

**Part A**

47. **Directions:**

Suppose your university is going to host a summer camp for high school students. Write a notice to

1) briefly introduce the camp activities, and

2) call for volunteers.

You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

**Do not** use your name or the name of your university.

**Do not** write your address. (10 points)

**Part B**

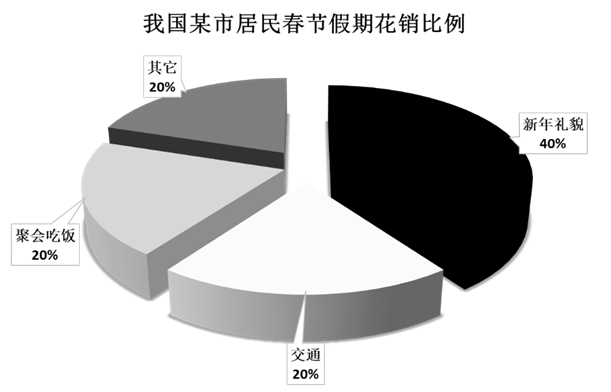
48. **Directions:**

Write an essay based on the following chart. In your writing, you should

1) interpret the chart, and

2) give your comments.

You should write about 150 words on the ANSWER SHEET. (15 points)



2016年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（二）试题

## Section I   Use of English

**Directions:**

*Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)*

①Happy people work differently. ②They’re more productive, more creative, and willing to take greater risks. ③And new research suggest that happiness might influence 1 firms work, too.

①Companies located in places with happier people invest more, according to a recent research paper. ② 2 , firms in happy places spend more on R&D ( research and development ). ③That’s because happiness is linked to the kind of longer-term thinking 3 for making investments for the future.

①The researchers wanted to know if the 4 and inclination for risk-taking that come with happiness would 5 the way companies invested. ②So they compared U.S. cities’ average happiness 6 by Gallup polling with the investment activity of publicly traded firms in those areas.

① 7 enough, firms’ investment and R&D intensity were correlated with the happiness of the area in which they were 8 . ②But is it really happiness that’s linked to investment, or could something else about happier cities 9 why firms there spend more on R&D? ③To find out, the researchers controlled for various 10 that might make firms more likely to invest – like size, industry, and sales – and for indicators that a place was 11 to live in, like growth in wages or population. ④The link between happiness and investment generally 12 even after accounting for these things.

①The correlation between happiness and investment was particularly strong for younger firms, which the authors 13 to “less codified decision making process”and the possible presence of “younger and less 14 managers who are more likely to be influenced by sentiment.” ②The relationship was 15 stronger in places where happiness was spread more 16 . ③Firms seem to invest more in places where most people are relatively happy, rather than in places with happiness inequality.

① 17 this doesn’t prove that happiness causes firms to invest more or to take a longer-term view, the authors believe it at least 18 at that possibility. ②It’s not hard to imagine that local culture and sentiment would help 19 how executives think about the future. ③“It surely seems plausible that happy people would be more forward-thinking and creative and 20 R&D more than the average,” said one researcher.

1 [A] why [B] where [C] how [D] when  
2 [A] In return [B] In particular [C] In contrast [D] In conclusion  
3 [A] sufficient [B] famous [C] perfect [D] necessary  
4 [A] individualism [B] modernism [C] optimism [D] realism  
5 [A] echo [B] miss [C] spoil [D] change  
6 [A] imagined [B] measured [C] invented [D] assumed  
7 [A] Sure [B] Odd [C] Unfortunate [D] Often  
8 [A] advertised [B] divided [C] overtaxed [D] headquartered  
9 [A] explain [B] overstate [C] summarize [D] emphasize  
10 [A] stages [B] factors [C] levels [D] methods  
11 [A] desirable [B] sociable [C] reputable [D] reliable  
12 [A] resumed [B] held [C]emerged [D] broke  
13 [A] attribute [B] assign [C] transfer [D]compare  
14 [A] serious [B] civilized [C] ambitious [D]experienced  
15 [A] thus [B] instead [C] also [D] never  
16 [A] rapidly [B] regularly [C] directly [D] equally  
17 [A] After [B] Until [C] While [D] Since  
18 [A] arrives [B] jumps [C] hints [D] strikes  
19 [A] shape [B] rediscover [C] simplify [D] share  
20 [A] pray for [B] lean towards [C] give away [D] send out

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:** Read the following four texts. Answer the questions after each text by choosing [A], [B], [C] or [ D]. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

****Text 1****

　　It’s true that high-school coding classes aren't essential for learning computer science in college. Students without experience can catch up after a few introductory courses, said Tom Cortina, the assistant dean at Carnegie Mellon’s School of Computer Science.

　　However, Cortina said, early exposure is beneficial. When younger kids learn computer science, they learn that it’s not just a confusing, endless string of letters and numbers — but a tool to build apps, or create artwork, or test hypotheses. It's not as hard for them to transform their thought processes as it is for older students. Breaking down problems into bite-sized chunks and using code to solve them becomes normal. Giving more children this training could increase the number of people interested in the field and help fill the jobs gap, Cortina said.

　　Students also benefit from learning something about coding before they get to college, where introductory computer-science classes are packed to the brim, which can drive the less-experienced or -determined students away.

　　The Flatiron School, where people pay to learn programming, started as one of the many coding bootcamps that’s become popular for adults looking for a career change. The high-schoolers get the same curriculum, but “we try to gear lessons toward things they’re interested in,” said Victoria Friedman, an instructor. For instance, one of the apps the students are developing suggests movies based on your mood.

　　The students in the Flatiron class probably won't drop out of high school and build the next Facebook. Programming languages have a quick turnover, so the “Ruby on Rails” language they learned may not even be relevant by the time they enter the job market. But the skills they learn — how to think logically through a problem and organize the results — apply to any coding language, said Deborah Seehorn, an education consultant for the state of North Carolina.

　　Indeed, the Flatiron students might not go into IT at all. But creating a future army of coders is not the sole purpose of the classes. These kids are going to be surrounded by computers — in their pockets, in their offices, in their homes — for the rest of their lives. The younger they learn how computers think, how to coax the machine into producing what they want — the earlier they learn that they have the power to do that — the better.

21. Cortina holds that early exposure to computer science makes it easier to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] complete future job training

[B] remodel the way of thinking

[C] formulate logical hypotheses

[D] perfect artwork production

22. In delivering lessons for high-schoolers, Flatiron has considered their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] experience

[B] interest

[C] career prospects

[D] academic backgrounds

23. Deborah Seehorn believes that the skills learned at Flatiron will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] help students learn other computer languages

[B] have to be upgraded when new technologies come

[C] need improving when students look for jobs

[D] enable students to make big quick money

24. According to the last paragraph, Flatiron students are expected to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　 [A] bring forth innovative computer technologies

[B] stay longer in the information technology industry

[C] become better prepared for the digitalized world

[D] compete with a future army of programmers

25. The word "coax"(Line 4, Para. 6) is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] persuade

[B] frighten

[C] misguide

[D] challenge

****Text 2****

　　Biologists estimate that as many as 2 million lesser prairie chickens — a kind of bird living on stretching grasslands — once lent red to the often grey landscape of the midwestern and southwestern United States. But just some 22,000 birds remain today, occupying about 16% of the species’ historic range.

　　The crash was a major reason the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) decided to formally list the bird as threatened. "The lesser prairie chicken is in a desperate situation," said USFWS Director Daniel Ashe. Some environmentalists, however, were disappointed. They had pushed the agency to designate the bird as "endangered," a status that gives federal officials greater regulatory power to crack down on threats. But Ashe and others argued that the "threatened" tag gave the federal government flexibility to try out new, potentially less confrontational conservation approaches. In particular, they called for forging closer collaborations with western state governments, which are often uneasy with federal action, and with the private landowners who control an estimated 95% of the prairie chicken's habitat.

　　Under the plan, for example, the agency said it would not prosecute landowner or businesses that unintentionally kill, harm, or disturb the bird, as long as they had signed a range-wide management plan to restore prairie chicken habitat. Negotiated by USFWS and the states, the plan requires individuals and businesses that damage habitat as part of their operations to pay into a fund to replace every acre destroyed with 2 new acres of suitable habitat. The fund will also be used to compensate landowners who set aside habitat, USFWS also set an interim goal of restoring prairie chicken populations to an annual average of 67,000 birds over the next 10 years. And it gives the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA), a coalition of state agencies, the job of monitoring progress. Overall, the idea is to let "states remain in the driver’s seat for managing the species," Ashe said.

　　Not everyone buys the win-win rhetoric. Some Congress members are trying to block the plan, and at least a dozen industry groups, four states, and three environmental groups are challenging it in federal court. Not surprisingly, industry groups and states generally argue it goes too far; environmentalists say it doesn't go far enough. "The federal government is giving responsibility for managing the bird to the same industries that are pushing it to extinction," says biologist Jay Lininger.

26. The major reason for listing the lesser prairie chicken as threatened is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] its drastically decreased population

[B] the underestimate of the grassland acreage

[C] a desperate appeal from some biologists

[D] the insistence of private landowners

27. The "threatened" tag disappointed some environmentalists in that it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] was a give-in to governmental pressure

[B] would involve fewer agencies in action

[C] granted less federal regulatory power

[D] went against conservation policies

28. It can be learned from Paragraph 3 that unintentional harm-doers will not be prosecuted if they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] agree to pay a sum for compensation

[B] volunteer to set up an equally big habitat

[C] offer to support the WAFWA monitoring job

[D] promise to raise funds for USFWS operations

29. According to Ashe, the leading role in managing the species is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the federal government

[B] the wildlife agencies

[C] the landowners

[D] the states

30. Jay Lininger would most likely support \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] industry groups

[B] the win-win rhetoric

[C] environmental groups

[D] the plan under challenge

****Text 3****

　　That everyone’s too busy these days is a cliché. But one specific complaint is made especially mournfully: There’s never any time to read.

　　What makes the problem thornier is that the usual time-management techniques don't seem sufficient. The web’s full of articles offering tips on making time to read: “Give up TV” or “Carry a book with you at all times.” But in my experience, using such methods to free up the odd 30 minutes doesn’t work. Sit down to read and the flywheel of work-related thoughts keeps spinning — or else you're so exhausted that a challenging book's the last thing you need. The modern mind, Tim Parks, a novelist and critic, writes, “is overwhelmingly inclined toward communication…It is not simply that one is interrupted; it is that one is actually *inclined* to interruption.” Deep reading requires not just time, but a special kind of time which can't be obtained merely by becoming more efficient.

　　In fact, “becoming more efficient” is part of the problem. Thinking of time as a resource to be maximised means you approach it instrumentally, judging any given moment as well spent only in so far as it advances progress toward some goal. Immersive reading, by contrast, depends on being willing to risk inefficiency, goallessness, even time-wasting. Try to slot it in as a to-do list item and you'll manage only goal-focused reading — useful, sometimes, but not the most fulfilling kind. “The future comes at us like empty bottles along an unstoppable and nearly infinite conveyor belt,” writes Gary Eberle in his book *Sacred Time*, and “we feel a pressure to fill these different-sized bottles (days, hours, minutes) as they pass, for if they get by without being filled, we will have wasted them.” No mind-set could be worse for losing yourself in a book.

　　So what does work? Perhaps surprisingly, scheduling regular times for reading. You'd think this might fuel the efficiency mind-set, but in fact, Eberle notes, such ritualistic behaviour helps us “step outside time's flow” into “soul time.” You could limit distractions by reading only physical books, or on single-purpose e-readers. “Carry a book with you at all times” can actually work, too— providing you dip in often enough, so that reading becomes the default state from which you temporarily surface to take care of business, before dropping back down. On a really good day, it no longer feels as if you’re “making time to read,” but just reading, and making time for everything else.

31. The usual time-management techniques don't work because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] what they can offer does not ease the modern mind

[B] what challenging books demand is repetitive reading

[C] what people often forget is carrying a book with them

[D] what deep reading requires cannot be guaranteed

32. The "empty bottles" metaphor illustrates that people feel a pressure to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] update their to-do lists

[B] make passing time fulfilling

[C] carry their plans through

[D] pursue carefree reading

33. Eberle would agree that scheduling regular times for reading helps \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] encourage the efficiency mind-set

[B] develop online reading habits

[C] promote ritualistic reading

[D] achieve immersive reading

34. "Carry a book with you at all times" can work if \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] reading becomes your primary business of the day

[B] all the daily business has been promptly dealt with

[C] you are able to drop back to business after reading

[D] time can be evenly split for reading and business

35. The best title for this text could be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] How to Enjoy Easy Reading

[B] How to Find Time to Read

[C] How to Set Reading Goals

[D] How to Read Extensively

****Text 4****

　　Against a backdrop of drastic changes in economy and population structure, younger Americans are drawing a new 21st-century road map to success, a latest poll has found.

　　Across generational lines, Americans continue to prize many of the same traditional milestones of a successful life, including getting married, having children, owning a home, and retiring in their sixties. But while young and old mostly agree on what constitutes the finish line of a fulfilling life, they offer strikingly different paths for reaching it.

　　Young people who are still getting started in life were more likely than older adults to prioritize personal fulfillment in their work, to believe they will advance their careers most by regularly changing jobs, to favor communities with more public services and a faster pace of life, to agree that couples should be financially secure before getting married or having children, and to maintain that children are best served by two parents working outside the home, the survey found.

　　From career to community and family, these contrasts suggest that in the aftermath of the searing Great Recession, those just starting out in life are defining priorities and expectations that will increasingly spread through virtually all aspects of American life, from consumer preferences to housing patterns to politics.

　　Young and old converge on one key point: Overwhelming majorities of both groups said they believe it is harder for young people today to get started in life than it was for earlier generations. While younger people are somewhat more optimistic than their elders about the prospects for those starting out today, big majorities in both groups believe those "just getting started in life" face a tougher climb than earlier generations in reaching such signpost achievements as securing a good-paying job, starting a family, managing debt, and finding affordable housing.

　　Pete Schneider considers the climb tougher today. Schneider, a 27-year-old auto technician from the Chicago suburbs, says he struggled to find a job after graduating from college. Even now that he is working steadily, he said, “I can't afford to pay my monthly mortgage payments on my own, so I have to rent rooms out to people to make that happen.” Looking back, he is struck that his parents could provide a comfortable life for their children even though neither had completed college when he was young. “I still grew up in an upper middle-class home with parents who didn't have college degrees,” Schneider said. “I don't think people are capable of that anymore.”

36. One cross-generation mark of a successful life is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] trying out different lifestyles

[B] having a family with children

[C] working beyond retirement age

[D] setting up a profitable business

37. It can be learned from Paragraph 3 that young people tend to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] favor a slower life pace

[B] hold an occupation longer

[C] attach importance to pre-marital finance

[D] give priority to childcare outside the home

38. The priorities and expectations defined by the young will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] become increasingly clear

[B] focus on materialistic issues

[C] depend largely on political preferences

[D] reach almost all aspects of American life

39. Both young and old agree that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] good-paying jobs are less available

[B] the old made more life achievements

[C] housing loans today are easy to obtain

[D] getting established is harder for the young

40. Which of the following is true about Schneider?

[A] He found a dream job after graduating from college.

[B] His parents believe working steadily is a must for success.

[C] His parents' good life has little to do with a college degree.

[D] He thinks his job as a technician quite challenging.

****Part B****

****Directions:****

　　Read the following text and answer the questions by choosing the most suitable subheading from the list A-G for each numbered paragraphs (41-45). There are two extra subheadings which you do not need to use. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

[A] Be silly

　　[B] Have fun

　　[C] Ask for help

　　[D] Express your emotions

　　[E] Don't overthink it

　　[F] Be easily pleased

　　[G] Notice things

**Act Your Shoe Size, Not Your Age**

As adults, it seems that we're constantly pursuing happiness, often with mixed results. Yet children appear to have it down to an art — and for the most part they don't need self-help books or therapy. Instead, they look after their wellbeing instinctively and usually more effectively than we do as grownups. Perhaps it's time to learn a few lessons from them.

　　41\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

What does a child do when he's sad? He cries. When he's angry? He shouts. Scared? Probably a bit of both. As we grow up, we learn to control our emotions so they are manageable and don't dictate our behaviours, which is in many ways a good thing. But too often we take this process too far and end up suppressing emotions, especially negative ones. That's about as effective as brushing dirt under a carpet and can even make us ill. What we need to do is find a way to acknowledge and express what we feel appropriately and then — again, like children-move on.

　　42\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　A couple of Christmases ago, my youngest stepdaughter, who was nine years old at the time, got a Superman T-shirt for Christmas. It cost less than a fiver but she was overjoyed, and couldn’t stop talking about it. Too often we believe that a new job, bigger house or better car will be the magic silver bullet that will allow us to finally be content, but the reality is these things have very little lasting impact on our happiness levels. Instead, being grateful for small things every day is a much better way to improve wellbeing.

　　43\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　Have you ever noticed how much children laugh? If we adults could indulge in a bit of silliness and giggling, we would reduce the stress hormones in our bodies, increase good hormones like endorphins, improve blood flow to our hearts and ever have a greater chance of fighting off infection. All of which would, of course, have a positive effect on our happiness levels.

　　44\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

　　The problem with being a grownup is that there's an awful lot of serious stuff to deal with — work, mortgage payments, figuring out what to cook for dinner. But as adults we also have the luxury of being able to control our own diaries and it's important that we schedule in time to enjoy the things we love. Those things might be social, sporting, creative or completely random (dancing around the living room, anyone?) — it doesn't matter, so long as they're enjoyable, and not likely to have negative side effects, such as drinking too much alcohol or going on a wild spending spree if you're on a tight budget.

　　45\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Having said all of the above, it's important to add that we shouldn't try too hard to be happy. Scientists tell us this can backfire and actually have a negative impact on our wellbeing. As the Chinese philosopher Chuang Tzu is reported to have said: "Happiness is the absence of striving for happiness." And in that, once more, we need to look to the example of our children, to whom happiness is not a goal but a natural byproduct of the way they live.

## Section III  Translation

46. **Directions:**

Translate the following text from English into Chinese. Write your translation on ANSWER SHEET. (15 points)

The supermarket is designed to lure customers into spending as much time as possible within its doors. The reason for this is simple: The longer you stay in the store, the more stuff you’ll see, and the more stuff you see, the more you’ll buy. And supermarkets contain alot of stuff. The average supermarket, according to the Food Marketing Institute, carries some 44,000 different items, and many carry tens of thousands more. The sheer volume of available choice is enough to send shoppers into a state of information overload. According to brain-scan experiments, the demands of so much decision-making quickly become too much for us. After about 40 minutes of shopping, most people stop struggling to be rationally selective, and instead begin shopping emotionally — which is the point at which we accumulate the 50 percent of stuff in our cart that we never intended buying.

## Section IV  Writing

**Part A**

47. **Directions:**

　　Suppose you won a translation contest and your friend, Jack, wrote an email to congratulate you and ask for advice on translation. Write him a reply to

　　1) thank him, and

　　2) give you advice

　　You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

　　Do not sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use Li Ming instead.

　　Do not write the address. (10 points)

**Part B**

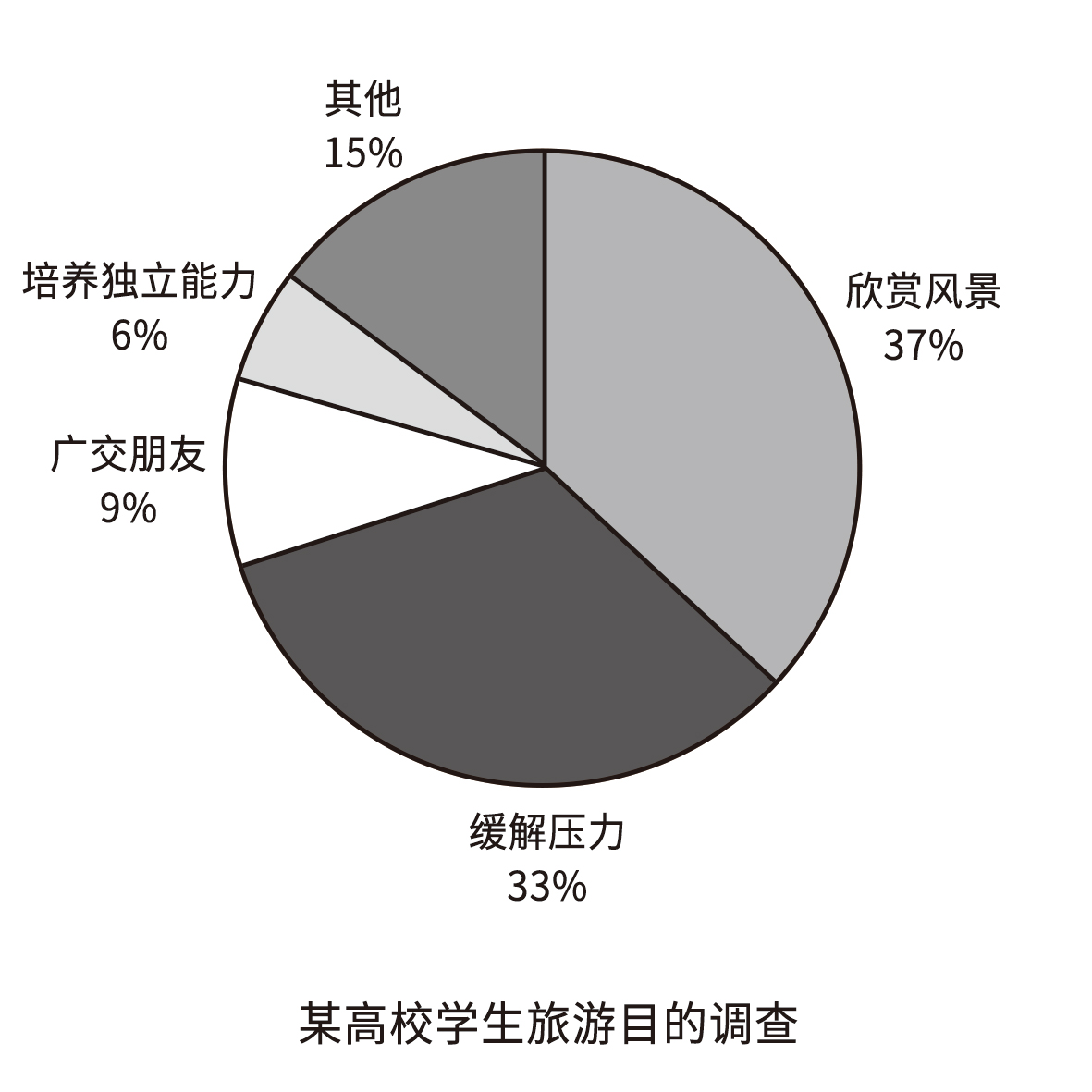
48. **Directions:**

　　Write an essay based on the chart below. In your writing, you should

　　1) interpret the chart, and

　　2) give your comments.

You should write about 150 words on the ANSWER SHEET. (15 points)



2017年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（二）试题

## Section I   Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

①People have speculated for centuries about a future without work. ②Today is no different, with academics, writers, and activists once again 1 that technology is replacing human workers. ③Some imagine that the coming work-free world will be defined by 2. ④A few wealthy people will own all the capital, and the masses will struggle in an impoverished wasteland.

①A different and not mutually exclusive 3holds that the future will be a wasteland of a different sort, one4 by purposelessness: Without jobs to give their lives 5, people will simply become lazy and depressed. ②6, today’s unemployed don’t seem to be having a great time. ③ One Gallup poll found that 20 percent of Americans who have been unemployed for at least a year report having depression, double the rate for 7 Americans. ④Also, some research suggests that the 8 for rising rates of mortality, mental-health problems, and addiction 9 poorly-educated, middle-aged people is shortage of well-paid jobs. ⑤Perhaps this is why many 10 the agonizing dullness of a jobless future.

①But it doesn’t 11 follow from findings like these that a world without work would be filled with unease. ②Such visions are based on the 12 of being unemployed in a society built on the concept of employment. ③In the 13 of work, a society designed with other ends in mind could 14 strikingly different circumstances for the future of labor and leisure. ④Today, the 15 of work may be a bit overblown. ⑤“Many jobs are boring, degrading, unhealthy, and a waste of human potential,” says John Danaher, a lecturer at the National University of Ireland in Galway.

①These days, because leisure time is relatively 16 for most workers, people use their free time to counterbalance the intellectual and emotional 17 of their jobs. ②“When I come home from a hard day’s work, I often feel 18,” Danaher says, adding, “In a world in which I don’t have to work, I might feel rather different”—perhaps different enough to throw himself 19 a hobby or a passion project with the intensity usually reserved for 20 matters.

1. [A] boasting [B] denying [C] warning [D] ensuring

2. [A] inequality [B] instability [C] unreliability [D] uncertainty

3. [A] policy [B] guideline [C] resolution [D] prediction

4. [A] characterized [B] divided [C] balanced [D] measured

5. [A] wisdom [B] meaning [C] glory [D] freedom

6. [A] Instead [B] Indeed [C] Thus [D] Nevertheless

7. [A] rich [B] urban [C] working [D] educated

8. [A] explanation [B] requirement [C] compensation [D] substitute

9. [A] under [B] beyond [C] alongside [D] among

10. [A] leave behind [B] make up [C] worry about [D] set aside

11. [A] statistically [B] occasionally [C] necessarily [D] economically

12. [A] chances [B] downsides [C] benefits [D] principles

13. [A] absence [B] height [C] face [D] course

14. [A] disturb [B] restore [C] exclude [D] yield

15. [A] model [B] practice [C] virtue [D] hardship

16. [A] tricky [B] lengthy [C] mysterious [D] scarce

17. [A] demands [B] standards [C] qualities [D] threats

18. [A] ignored [B] tired [C] confused [D] starved

19. [A] off [B] against [C] behind [D] into

20. [A] technological [B] professional [C] educational [D] interpersonal

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:** Read the following four texts. Answer the questions after each text by choosing [A],[B],[C] or[ D]. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

**Text 1**

①Every Saturday morning, at 9 am, more than 50,000 runners set off to run 5km around their local park. ②The Parkrun phenomenon began with a dozen friends and has inspired 400 events in the UK and more abroad. ③Events are free, staffed by thousands of volunteers. ④Runners range from four years old to grandparents; their times range from Andrew Baddeley’s world record 13 minutes 48 seconds up to an hour.

①Parkrun is succeeding where London’s Olympic “legacy” is failing. ②Ten years ago on Monday, it was announced that the Games of the 30th Olympiad would be in London. ③Planning documents pledged that the great legacy of the Games would be to lever a nation of sport lovers away from their couches. ④The population would be fitter, healthier and produce more winners. It has not happened. ⑤The number of adults doing weekly sport did rise, by nearly 2 million in the run-up to 2012—but the general population was growing faster. ⑥Worse, the numbers are now falling at an accelerating rate. ⑦The opposition claims primary school pupils doing at least two hours of sport a week have nearly halved. ⑧Obesity has risen among adults and children. ⑨Official retrospections continue as to why London 2012 failed to “inspire a generation.” ⑩The success of Parkrun offers answers.

①Parkrun is not a race but a time trial: Your only competitor is the clock. ②The ethos welcomes anybody. ③There is as much joy over a puffed-out first-timer being clapped over the line as there is about top talent shining. ④The Olympic bidders, by contrast, wanted to get more people doing sport and to produce more elite athletes. ⑤The dual aim was mixed up: The stress on success over taking part was intimidating for newcomers.

①Indeed, there is something a little absurd in the state getting involved in the planning of such a fundamentally “grassroots” concept as community sports associations. ②If there is a role for government, it should really be getting involved in providing common goods—making sure there is space for playing fields and the money to pave tennis and netball courts, and encouraging the provision of all these activities in schools. ③But successive governments have presided over selling green spaces, squeezing money from local authorities and declining attention on sport in education. ④Instead of wordy, worthy strategies, future governments need to do more to provide the conditions for sport to thrive. ⑤Or at least not make them worse.

21. According to Paragraph1, Parkrun has

[A] gained great popularity.

[B] created many jobs.

[C] strengthened community ties.

[D] become an official festival.

22. The author believes that London’s Olympic “legacy” has failed to

[A] boost population growth.

[B] promote sport participation.

[C] improve the city’s image.

[D] increase sport hours in schools.

23. Parkrun is different from Olympic games in that it

[A] aims at discovering talents.

[B] focuses on mass competition.

[C] does not emphasize elitism.

[D] does not attract first-timers.

24. With regard to mass sport, the author holds that governments should

[A] organize “grassroots” sports events.

[B] supervise local sports associations.

[C] increase funds for sports clubs.

[D] invest in public sports facilities.

25. The author’s attitude to what UK governments have done for sports is

[A] tolerant.

[B] critical.

[C] uncertain.

[D] sympathetic.

**Text 2**

①With so much focus on children’s use of screens, it’s easy for parents to forget about their own screen use. ②“Teck is designed to really suck on you in,” says Jenny Radesky in her study of digital play, “and digital products are there to promote maximal engagement. ③It makes it hard to disengage, and leads to a lot of bleed-over into the family routine.

①Radesky has studied the use of mobile phones and tablets at mealtimes by giving mother–child pairs a food-testing exercise.②She found that mothers who used devices during the exercise started 20 percent fewer verbal and 39 percent fewer nonverbal interactions with their children. ③During a separate observation, she saw that phones became a source of tension in the family. ④Parents would be looking at their emails while the children would be making excited bids for their attention.

①Infants are wired to look at parents’ faces to try to understand their world, and if those faces are blank and unresponsive—as they often are when absorbed in a device—it can be extremely disconcerting for the children. ②Radesky cites the “still face experiment” devised by developmental psychologist Ed Tronick in the 1970s. ③In it, a mother is asked to interact with her child in a normal way before putting on a blank expression and not giving them any visual social feedback: The child becomes increasingly distressed as she tries to capture her mother’s attention. ④“Parents don’t have to be exquisitely present at all times, but there needs to be a balance and parents need to be responsive and sensitive to a child’s verbal or nonverbal expressions of an emotional need,” says Radesky.

①On the other hand, Tronick himself is concerned that the worries about kids’ use of screens are born out of an “oppressive ideology that demands that parents should always be interacting” with their children: “It’s based on a somewhat fantasized, very white, very upper-middle-class ideology that says if you’re failing to expose your child to 30,000 words you are neglecting them.” ②Tronick believes that just because a child isn’t learning from the screen doesn’t mean there’s no value to it—particularly if it gives parents time to have a shower, do housework or simply have a break from their child. ③Parents, he says, can get a lot out of using their devices to speak to a friend or get some work out of the way. ④This can make them feel happier, which lets them be more available to their child the rest of the time.

26. According to Jenny Radesky, digital products are designed to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] simplify routine matters

[B] absorb user attention

[C] better interpersonal relations

[D] increase work efficiency

27. Radesky’s food-testing exercise shows that mothers’ use of devices \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] takes away babies’ appetite

[B] distracts children’s attention

[C] slows down babies’ verbal development

[D] reduces mother-child communication

28. Radesky cites the “still face experiment” to show that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] it is easy for children to get used to blank expressions

[B] verbal expressions are unnecessary for emotional exchange

[C] children are insensitive to changes in their parents’ mood

[D] parents need to respond to children’s emotional needs

29. The oppressive ideology mentioned by Tronick requires parents to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] protect kids from exposure to wild fantasies

[B] teach their kids at least 30,000 words a year

[C] ensure constant interaction with their children

[D] remain concerned about kid’s use of screens

30. According to Tronick, kid’s use of screens may\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] give their parents some free time

[B] make their parents more creative

[C] help them with their homework

[D] help them become more attentive

**Text 3**

①Today, widespread social pressure to immediately go to college in conjunction with increasingly high expectations in a fast-moving world often causes students to completely overlook the possibility of taking a gap year. ②After all, if everyone you know is going to college in the fall, it seems silly to stay back a year, doesn’t it? ③And after going to school for 12 years, it doesn’t feel natural to spend a year doing something that isn’t academic.

①But while this may be true, it’s not a good enough reason to condemn gap years. ②There’s always a constant fear of falling behind everyone else on the socially perpetuated “race to the finish line,” whether that be toward graduate school, medical school or lucrative career. ③But despite common misconceptions, a gap year does not hinder the success of academic pursuits—in fact, it probably enhances it.

①Studies from the United States and Australia show that students who take a gap year are generally better prepared for and perform better in college than those who do not. ②Rather than pulling students back, a gap year pushes them ahead by preparing them for independence, new responsibilities and environmental changes—all things that first-year students often struggle with the most. ③Gap year experiences can lessen the blow when it comes to adjusting to college and being thrown into a brand new environment, making it easier to focus on academics and activities rather than acclimation blunders.

①If you’re not convinced of the inherent value in taking a year off to explore interests, then consider its financial impact on future academic choices. ②According to the National Center for Education Statistics, nearly 80 percent of college students end up changing their majors at least once. ③This isn’t surprising, considering the basic mandatory high school curriculum leaves students with a poor understanding of the vast academic possibilities that await them in college. Many students find themselves listing one major on their college applications, but switching to another after taking college classes. ④It’s not necessarily a bad thing, but depending on the school, it can be costly to make up credits after switching too late in the game. ⑤At Boston College, for example, you would have to complete an extra year were you to switch to the nursing school from another department. ⑥Taking a gap year to figure things out initially can help prevent stress and save money later on.

31. One of the reasons for high-school graduates not taking a gap year is that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] they think it academically misleading

[B] they have a lot of fun to expect in college

[C] it feels strange to do differently from others

[D] it seems worthless to take off-campus courses

32. Studies from the US and Australia imply that taking a gap year helps \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] keep students from being unrealistic

[B] lower risks in choosing careers

[C] ease freshmen’s financial burdens

[D] relieve freshmen of pressures

33. The word “acclimation” (Line 8, Para. 3) is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] adaptation

[B] application

[C] motivation

[D] competition

34. A gap year may save money for students by helping them \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] avoid academic failures

[B] establish long-term goals

[C] switch to another college

[D] decide on the right major

35. The most suitable title for this text would be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] In Favor of the Gap Year

[B] The ABCs of the Gap Year

[C] The Gap Year Comes Back

[D] The Gap Year: A Dilemma

**Text 4**

①Though often viewed as a problem for western states, the growing frequency of wildfires is a national concern because of its impact on federal tax dollars, says Professor Max Moritz, a specialist in fire ecology and management.

①In 2015, the US Forest Service for the first time spent more than half of its $5.5 billion annual budget fighting fires – nearly double the percentage it spent on such efforts 20 years ago. ②In conservation, watershed and cultural resources management, and infrastructure upkeep — that affect the lives of all Americans.

①Another nationwide concern is whether public funds from other agencies are going into construction in fire prone districts. ②As Moritz puts it, how often are federal dollars building homes that are likely to be lost to a wildfire?

①“It’s already a huge problem from a public expenditure perspective for the whole country,” he says. ②We need to take a magnifying glass to that, like “Wait a minute, is this OK?” ③“Do we want instead to redirect those funds to concentrate on lower-hazard parts of the landscape?”

①Such a view would require a corresponding shift in the way US society today views fire, researchers say.

①For one thing, conversations about wildfires need to be more inclusive. ②Over the past decade, the focus has been on climate change — how the warning of the Earth from greenhouse gases is leading to conditions that worsen fires.

①While climate is a key element, Moritz says, it shouldn’t come at the expense of the rest of the equation.

①“The human systems and the landscapes we live on are linked, and the interactions go both ways,” he says. ②Falling to recognize that, he notes, leads to “an overly simplified view of what the solutions might be”. ③Our perception of the problem and of what the solution is becomes very limited.”

①At the same time, people continue to treat fire as an event that needs to be wholly controlled and unleashed only out of necessity, says Professor Balch at the University of Colorado. ②But acknowledging fire’s inevitable presence in human life is an attitude crucial to developing the laws, policies, and practices that make it as safe as possible, she says.

①“We’ve disconnected ourselves from living with fire,” Balch says. ”It is really important to understand and try and tease out what is the human connection with fire today.”

36. More frequent wildfires have become a national concern because in 2015 they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. exhausted unprecedented management efforts

B. consumed a record-high percentage of budget

C. severely damaged the ecology of western states

D. caused a huge rise of infrastructure expenditure

37. Moritz calls for the use of “a magnifying glass” to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. raise more funds for fire-prone areas

B. avoid the redirection of federal money

C. find wildfire-free parts of the landscape

D. guarantee safer spending of public funds

38. While admitting that climate is a key element, Moritz notes that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. public debates have not settled yet

B. fire-fighting conditions are improving

C. other factors should not be overlooked

D. a shift in the view of fire has taken place

39. The overly simplified view Moritz mentions is a result of failing to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. discover the fundamental makeup of nature

B. explore the mechanism of the human systems

C. maximize the role of landscape in human life

D. understand the interrelations of man and nature

40. Professor Balch points out that fire is something man should \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. do away with

B. come to terms with

C. pay a price for

D. keep away from

**Part B**

**Directions:**

Read the following text and match each of the numbered items in the left column to its corresponding information in the right column. There are two extra choices in the right column. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

The decline in American manufacturing is a common refrain, particularly from Donald Trump. “We don’t make anything anymore,” he told Fox News, while defending his own made-in-Mexico clothing line.

Without question, manufacturing has taken a significant hit during recent decades, and further trade deals raise questions about whether new shocks could hit manufacturing.

But there is also a different way to look at the data.

Across the country, factory owners are now grappling with a new challenge: instead of having too many workers, they may end up with too few. Despite trade competition and outsourcing, American manufacturing still needs to replace tens of thousands of retiring boomers every year. Millennials may not be that interested in taking their place, other industries are recruiting them with similar or better pay.

For factory owners, it all adds up to stiff competition for workers – and upward pressure on wages. “They’re harder to find and they have job offers,” says Jay Dunwell, president of Wolverine Coil Spring, a family-owned firm. “They may be coming [into the workforce], but they’ve been plucked by other industries that are also doing as well as manufacturing,” Mr. Dunwell has begun bringing high school juniors to the factory so they can get exposed to its culture.

At RoMan Manufacturing, a maker of electrical transformers and welding equipment that his father cofounded in 1980, Robert Roth keeps a close eye on the age of his nearly 200 workers, five are retiring this year. Mr. Roth has three community-college students enrolled in a work-placement program, with a starting wage of $13 an hour that rises to $17 after two years.

At a worktable inside the transformer plant, young Jason Stenquist looks flustered by the copper coils he’s trying to assemble and the arrival of two visitors. It’s his first week on the job. Asked about his choice of career, he says at high school he considered medical school before switching to electrical engineering. “I love working with tools. I love creating,” he says.

But to win over these young workers, manufacturers have to clear another major hurdle: parents, who lived through the worst US economic downturn since the Great Depression, telling them to avoid the factory. Millennials “remember their father and mother both were laid off. They blame it on the manufacturing recession,” says Birgit Klohs, chief executive of The Right Place, a business development agency for western Michigan.

These concerns aren’t misplaced: Employment in manufacturing has fallen from 17 million in 1970 to 12 million in 2015. When the recovery began, worker shortages first appeared in the high-skilled trades. Now shortages are appearing at the mid-skill levels.

“The gap is between the jobs that take no skills and those that require a lot of skill,” says Rob Spohr, a business professor at Montcalm Community College. “There’re enough people to fill the jobs at McDonalds and other places where you don’t need to have much skill. It’s that gap in between, and that’s where the problem is.”

Julie Parks of Grand Rapids Community College points to another key to luring Millennials into manufacturing: a work/life balance. While their parents were content to work long hours, young people value flexibility. “Overtime is not attractive to this generation. They really want to live their lives,” she says.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | [A] says that he switched to electrical engineering because he loves working with tools. |
| 41. Jay Dunwell | [B] points out that there are enough people to fill the jobs that don’t need much skill. |
| 42. Jason Stenquist | [C] points out that the US doesn’t manufacture anything anymore. |
| 43. Birgit Klohs | [D] believes that it is important to keep a close eye on the age of his workers. |
| 44. Rob Spohr | [E] says that for factory owners, workers are harder to find because of stiff competition. |
| 45. Julie Parks | [F] points out that a work / life balance can attract young people into manufacturing. |
|  | [G] says that the manufacturing recession is to blame for the lay-off the young people’s parents. |

## Section Ⅲ Translation

**46. Directions:** Translate the following text from English into Chinese. Write your translation on  ANSWER SHEET 2.(15 points)

My dream has always been to work somewhere in an area between fashion and publishing. Two years before graduating from secondary school, I took a sewing and design course thinking that I would move on to a fashion design course. However, during that course I realized I was not good enough in this area to compete with other creative personalities in the future, so I decided that it was not the right path for me. Before applying for university I told everyone that I would study journalism, because writing was, and still is, one of my favourite activities. But, to be honest, I said it, because I thought that fashion and me together was just a dream — I knew that no one could imagine me in the fashion industry at all! So I decided to look for some fashion-related courses that included writing. This is when I noticed the course “Fashion Media & Promotion.”

## Section IV   Writing

**Part A**

1. **Directions**

Suppose you are invited by Professor Williams to give a presentation about Chinese culture to a group of international students. Write a reply to

　　1) accept the invitation, and

　　2) introduce the key points of your presentation

　　You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

　　Don’t use your own name, use “Li Ming” instead.

　　Don’t write your address. (10 points)

**Part B**

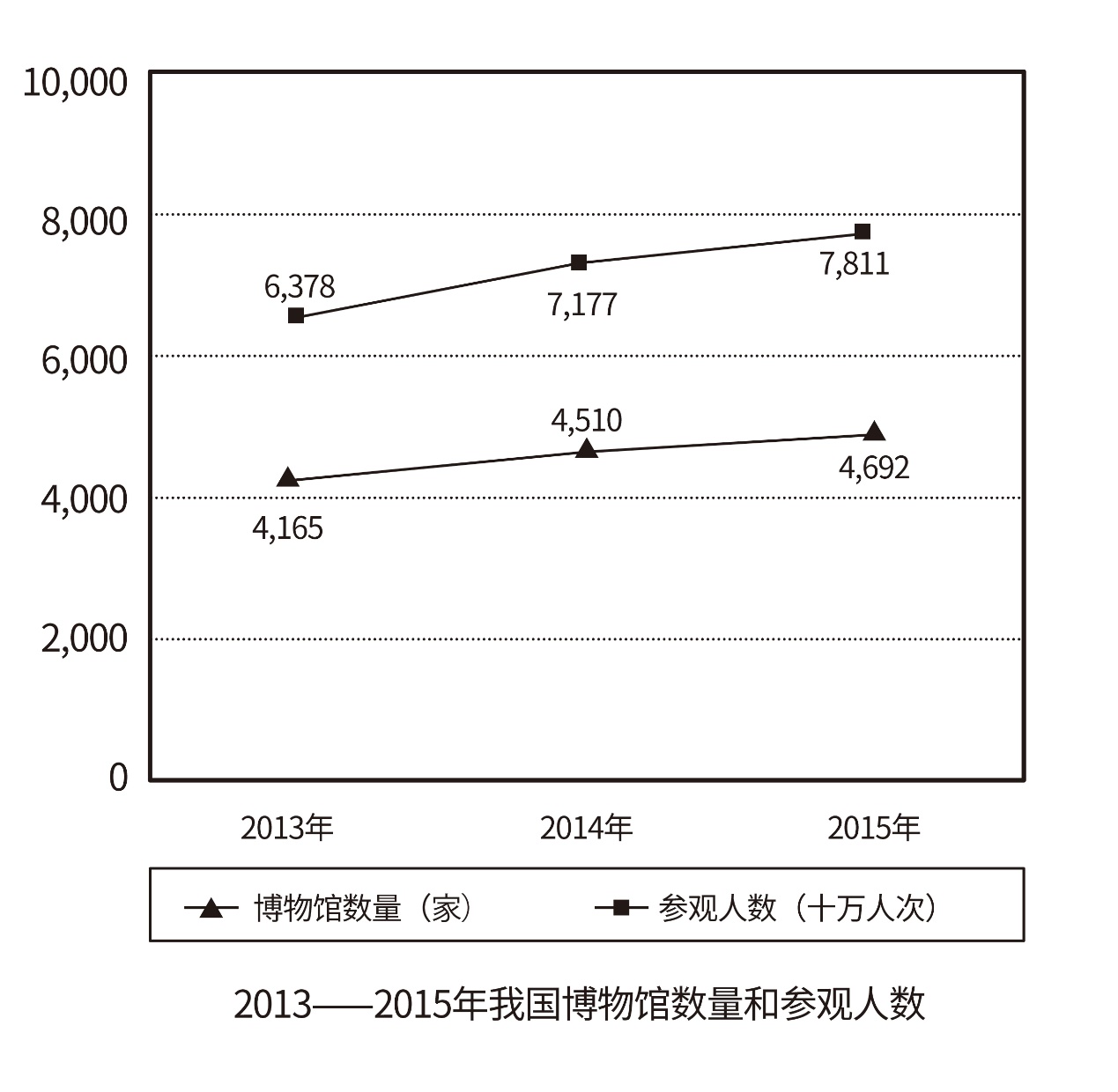
**Directions:**

Write an essay based on the following chart. In your essay, you should

1)interpret the chart, and

2)give your comments.

You should write about 150 words neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (15 points)



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# 2018年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（二）试题

## Section I Use of English

**Direction:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

①Why do people read negative Internet comments and do other things that will obviously be painful? ②Because humans have an inherent need to\_\_\_1\_\_\_ uncertainty, according to a recent study in *Psychological Science*. ③The new research reveals that the need to know is so strong that people will \_\_\_2\_\_ to satisfy their curiosity even when it is clear the answer will \_\_\_3\_\_\_.

①In a series of four experiments, behavioral scientists at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and the Wisconsin School of Business tested students' willingness to \_\_\_4\_\_\_ themselves to unpleasant stimuli in an effort to satisfy curiosity. ②For one \_\_\_5\_\_\_, each participant was shown a pile of pens that the researcher claimed were from a previous experiment. ③The twist? ④Half of the pens would \_\_\_6\_\_\_ an electric shock when clicked.

①Twenty-seven students were told which pens were electrified; another twenty-seven were told only that some were electrified. ②\_\_\_7\_\_\_ left alone in the room, the students who did not know which ones would shock them clicked more pens and incurred more shocks than the students who knew what would \_\_\_8\_\_\_. ③Subsequent experiments reproduced this effect with other stimuli, \_\_\_9\_\_\_ the sound of fingernails on a chalkboard and photographs of disgusting insects.

①The drive to \_\_\_10\_\_\_ is deeply rooted in humans, much the same as the basic drives for \_\_\_11\_\_\_ or shelter, says Christopher Hsee of the University of Chicago. ②Curiosity is often considered a good instinct — it can \_\_\_\_12 \_\_\_ new scientific advances, for instance — but sometimes such \_\_ 13\_\_\_\_ can backfire. ③The insight that curiosity can drive you to do \_\_\_\_14\_\_\_\_ things is a profound one.

①Unhealthy curiosity is possible to \_\_\_15\_\_\_, however. ②In a final experiment, participants who were encouraged to \_\_\_16\_\_\_ how they would feel after viewing an unpleasant picture were less likely to \_\_\_17\_\_\_\_ to see such an image. ③These results suggest that imagining the \_\_\_18\_ \_ of following through on one's curiosity ahead of time can help determine\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_ it is worth the endeavor. ④“Thinking about long-term \_\_\_20\_\_\_ is key to reducing the possible negative effects of curiosity,” Hsee says. ⑤In other words, don't read online comments.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. A. ignore | B. protect | C. discuss | D. resolve |
| 2. A. refuse | B. seek | C. wait | D. regret |
| 3. A. rise | B. last | C. hurt | D. mislead |
| 4. A. alert | B. expose | C. tie | D. treat |
| 5. A. trial | B. message | C. review | D. concept |
| 6. A. remove | B. deliver | C. weaken | D. interrupt |
| 7. A. Unless | B. If | C. When | D. Though |
| 8. A. change | B. continue | C. disappear | D. happen |
| 9. A. such as | B. rather than | C. regardless of | D. owing to |
| 10. A. disagree | B. forgive | C. discover | D. forget |
| 11. A. pay | B. food | C. marriage | D. schooling |
| 12. A. begin with | B. rest on | C. lead to | D. learn from |
| 13. A. inquiry | B. withdrawal | C. persistence | D. diligence |
| 14. A. self-deceptive | B. self-reliant | C. self-evident | D. self-destructive |
| 15. A. trace | B. define | C. replace | D. resist |
| 16. A. conceal | B. overlook | C. design | D. predict |
| 17. A. choose | B. remember | C. promise | D. pretend |
| 18. A. relief | B. outcome | C. plan | D. duty |
| 19. A. how | B. why | C. where | D. whether |
| 20. A. limitations | B. investments | C. consequences | D. strategies |

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:** Read the following four texts. Answer the questions after each text by choosing [A],[B],[C] or[ D]. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

**Text 1**

①It is curious that Stephen Koziatek feels almost as though he has to justify his efforts to give his students a better future.

①Mr. Koziatek is part of something pioneering. ②He is a teacher at a New Hampshire high school where learning is not something of books and tests and mechanical memorization, but practical.③When did it become accepted wisdom that students should be able to name the 13th president of the United States but be utterly overwhelmed by a broken bike chain?

①As Koziatek knows, there is learning in just about everything. ②Nothing is necessarily gained by forcing students to learn geometry at a graffitied desk stuck with generations of discarded chewing gum. ③They can also learn geometry by assembling a bicycle.

①But he’s also found a kind of insidious prejudice. ②Working with your hands is seen as almost a mark of inferiority. ③Schools in the family of vocational education “have that stereotype ... that it’s for kids who can’t make it academically,” he says.

①On one hand, that viewpoint is a logical product of America’s evolution. ②Manufacturing is not the economic engine that it once was. ③The job security that the US economy once offered to high school graduates has largely evaporated. ④More education is the new principle. ⑤We want more for our kids, and rightfully so.

①But the headlong push into bachelor’s degrees for all — and the subtle devaluing of anything less — misses an important point: That’s not the only thing the American economy needs. ②Yes, a bachelor's degree opens more doors. ③But even now, 54 percent of the jobs in the country are middle-skill job, such as construction and high-skill manufacturing. ④But only 44 percent of workers are adequately trained.

①In other words, at a time when the working class has turned the country on its political head, frustrated that the opportunity that once defined America is vanishing, one obvious solution is staring us in the face. ②There is a gap in working-class jobs, but the workers who need those jobs most aren't equipped to do them. ③Koziatek's Manchester School of Technology High School is trying to fill that gap.

①Koziatek's school is a wake-up call. ②When education becomes one-size-fits-all, it risks overlooking a nation's diversity of gifts.

21. A broken bike chain is mentioned to show student’s lack of\_\_\_\_\_.

A. academic training

B. practical ability

C. pioneering spirit

D. mechanical memorization

22. There exists the prejudice that vocational education is for kids who \_\_\_\_\_.

A. have a stereotyped mind

B. have no career motivation

C. are financially disadvantaged

D. are not academically successful

23. We can infer from Paragraph 5 that high school graduates\_\_\_\_\_.

A. used to have more job opportunities

B. used to have big financial concerns

C. are entitled to more educational privileges

D. are reluctant to work in manufacturing

24. The headlong push into bachelor’s degrees for all\_\_\_\_\_.

A. helps create a lot of middle-skill jobs

B. may narrow the gap in working-class jobs

C. indicates the overvaluing of higher education

D. is expected to yield a better-trained workforce

25. The author’s attitude toward Koziatek’s school can be described as\_\_\_\_\_.

A. tolerant

B. cautious

C. supportive

D. disappointed

**Text 2**

①While fossil fuels — coal, oil, gas — still generate roughly 85 percent of the world’s energy supply, it’s clearer than ever that the future belongs to renewable sources such as wind and solar. ②The move to renewables is picking up momentum around the world: They now account for more than half of new power sources going on line.

①Some growth stems from a commitment by governments and farsighted businesses to fund cleaner energy sources. ②But increasingly the story is about the plummeting prices of renewables, especially wind and solar. ③The cost of solar panels has dropped by 80 percent and the cost of wind turbines by close to one-third in the past eight years.

①In many parts of the world renewable energy is already a principal energy source. ②In Scotland, for example, wind turbines provide enough electricity to power 95 percent of homes. ③While the rest of the world takes the lead, notably China and Europe, the United States is also seeing a remarkable shift. ④In March, for the first time, wind and solar power accounted for more than 10 percent of the power generated in the US, reported the US Energy Information Administration.

①President Trump has underlined fossil fuels — especially coal — as the path to economic growth. ②In a recent speech in Iowa, he dismissed wind power as an unreliable energy source. ③But that message did not play well with many in Iowa, where wind turbines dot the fields and provide 36 percent of the state’s electricity generation — and where tech giants like Microsoft are being attracted by the availability of clean energy to power their data centers.

①The question “what happens when the wind doesn’t blow or the sun doesn’t shine?” has provided a quick put-down for skeptics. ②But a boost in the storage capacity of batteries is making their ability to keep power flowing around the clock more likely.

①The advance is driven in part by vehicle manufacturers, who are placing big bets on battery-powered electric vehicles. ②Although electric cars are still a rarity on roads now, this massive investment could change the picture rapidly in coming years.

①While there’s a long way to go, the trend lines for renewables are spiking. ②The pace of change in energy sources appears to be speeding up — perhaps just in time to have a meaningful effect in showing climate change.③ What Washington does — or doesn’t do — to promote alternative energy may mean less and less at a time of a global shift in thought.

26. The word “plummeting” (Line 3, Para. 2) is closest in meaning to\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. stabilizing

B. changing

C. falling

D. rising

27. According to Paragraph 3, the use of renewable energy in America \_\_\_\_\_.

A. is progressing notably

B. is as extensive as in Europe

C. faces many challenges

D. has proved to be impractical

28. It can be learned that in Iowa, \_\_\_\_.

A. wind is a widely used energy source.

B. wind energy has replaced fossil fuels

C. tech giants are investing in clean energy

D. there is a shortage of clean energy supply

29. Which of the following is true about clean energy according to Paragraphs 5 & 6?

A. Its application has boosted battery storage.

B. It is commonly used in car manufacturing.

C. Its continuous supply is becoming a reality.

D. Its sustainable exploitation will remain difficult.

30. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that renewable energy \_\_\_\_.

A. will bring the US closer to other countries

B. will accelerate global environmental change

C. is not really encouraged by the US government

D. is not competitive enough with regard to its cost

**Text 3**

①The power and ambition of the giants of the digital economy is astonishing – Amazon has just announced the purchase of the upmarket grocery chain Whole Foods for $13.5bn, but two years ago Facebook paid even more than that to acquire the WhatsApp messaging service, which doesn’t have any physical product at all. ②What WhatsApp offered Facebook was an intricate and finely detailed web of its users’ friendships and social lives.

①Facebook promised the European commission then that it would not link phone numbers to Facebook identities, but it broke the promise almost as soon as the deal went through.②Even without knowing what was in the messages, the knowledge of who sent them and to whom was enormously revealing and still could be. ③What political journalist, what party whip, would not want to know the makeup of the WhatsApp groups in which Theresa May’s enemies are currently plotting? ④It may be that the value of Whole Food to Amazon is not so much the 460 shops it owns, but the records of which customers have purchased what.

　　①Competition law appears to be the only way to address these imbalances of power. ②But it is clumsy. ③For one thing, it is very slow compared to the pace of change within the digital economy. ④By the time a problem has been addressed and remedied it may have vanished in the marketplace, to be replaced by new abuses of power.⑤ But there is a deeper conceptual problem, too. ⑥Competition law as presently interpreted deals with financial disadvantage to consumers and this is not obvious when the users of these services don’t pay for them. ⑦The users of their services are not their customers. ⑧That would be the people who buy advertising from them – and Facebook and Google, the two virtual giants, dominate digital advertising to the disadvantage of all other media and entertainment companies.

　　①The product they’re selling is data, and we, the users, convert our lives to data for the benefit of the digital giants. ②Just as some ants farm the bugs called aphids for the honeydew they produce when they feed, so Google farms us for the data that our digital lives yield. ③Ants keep predatory insects away from where their aphids feed; Gmail keeps the spammers out of our inboxes. ④It doesn’t feel like a human or democratic relationship, even if both sides benefit.

31. According to Paragraph1, Facebook acquired WhatsApp for its \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. digital products

B. user information

C. physical assets

D. quality service

32. Linking phone numbers to Facebook identities may \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. worsen political disputes

B. mess up customer records

C. pose a risk to Facebook users

D. mislead the European commission

33. According to the author, competition law \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. should serve the new market powers

B. may worsen the economic imbalance

C. should not provide just one legal solution

D. cannot keep pace with the changing market

34. Competition law as presently interpreted can hardly protect Facebook users because \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. they are not defined as customers

B. they are not financially reliable

C. the services are generally digital

D. the services are paid for by advertisers

35. The ants analogy is used to illustrate \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. a win-win business model between digital giants

B. a typical competition pattern among digital giants

C. the benefits provided for digital giants’ customers

D. the relationship between digital giants and their users

**Text 4**

To combat the trap of putting a premium on being busy, Cal Newport, author of *Deep Work: Rules for Focused Success in a Distracted World*, recommends building a habit of “deep work” — the ability to focus without distraction.

①There are a number of approaches to mastering the art of deep work — be it lengthy retreats dedicated to a specific task; developing a daily ritual; or taking a “journalistic” approach to seizing moments of deep work when you can throughout the day. ②Whichever approach, the key is to determine your length of focus time and stick to it.

①Newport also recommends “deep scheduling” to combat constant interruptions and get more done in less time.②“At any given point, I should have deep work scheduled for roughly the next month. ③Once on the calendar I protect this time like I would a doctor's appointment or important meeting”, he writes.

①Another approach to getting more done in less time is to rethink how you prioritise your day — in particular how we craft our to-do lists. ②Tim Harford, author of *Messy: The Power of Disorder to Transform Our Lives*, points to a study in the early 1980s that divided undergraduates into two groups: some were advised to set out monthly goals and study activities; others were told to plan activities and goals in much more detail, day by day.

①While the researchers assumed that the well-structured daily plans would be most effective when it came to the execution of tasks, they were wrong: the detailed daily plans demotivated students. ②Harford argues that inevitable distractions often render the daily to-do list ineffective, while leaving room for improvisation in such a list can reap the best results.

In order to make the most of our focus and energy, we also need to embrace downtime, or as Newport suggests, “be lazy.”

①“Idleness is not just a vacation, an indulgence or a vice; it is as indispensable to the brain as vitamin D is to the body… ②[idleness] is, paradoxically, necessary to getting any work done,” he argues.

①Srini Pillay, an assistant professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, believes this counterintuitive link between downtime and productivity may be due to the way our brains operate. ②When our brains switch between being focused and unfocused on a task, they tend to be more efficient.

“What people don't realise is that in order to complete these tasks they need to use both the focus and unfocus circuits in their brain,” says Pillay.

36. The key to mastering the art of deep work is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] keep to your focus time

[B] list your immediate tasks

[C] make specific daily plans

[D] seize every minute to work

37. The study in the early 1980s cited by Harford shows that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] distractions may actually increase efficiency

[B] daily schedules are indispensable to studying

[C] students are hardly motivated by monthly goals

[D] detailed plans many not be as fruitful as expected

38. According to Newport, idleness is \_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] a desirable mental state for busy people

[B] a major contributor to physical health

[C] an effective way to save time and energy

[D] an essential factor in accomplishing any work.

39. Pillay believes that our brains’ shift between being focused and unfocused \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] can result in psychological well-being

[B] can bring about greater efficiency

[C] is aimed at a better balance in work

[D] is driven by task urgency

40. This text is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[A] ways to relieve the tension of busy life

[B] approaches to getting more done in less time

[C] the key to eliminating distractions

[D] the cause of the lack of focus time

**Part B**

**Directions:** Read the following text and answer the questions by choosing the most suitable subheading from the list A-G for each of the numbered paragraphs (41-45). There are two extra subheadings which you do not need to use. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

A. Be present

B. Just say it

C. Ask for an opinion

D. Name, places, things

E. Find the “me too”s

F. Pay a unique compliment

G. Skip the small talk

**Five ways to make conversation with anyone**

Conversations are links, which means when you have a conversation with a new person a link gets formed and every conversation you have after that moment will strengthen the link.

You meet new people every day: the grocery worker, the cab driver, new people at work or the security guard at the door. Simply starting a conversation with them will form a link.

Here are five simple ways that you can make the first move and start a conversation with strangers.

41.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Suppose you are in a room with someone you don’t know and something within you says “I want to talk with this person” — this is something the mostly happens with all of us. You wanted to say something — the first word — but it just won't come out. It feels like it is stuck somewhere. I know the feeling and here is my advice: just get it out.

Just think: what is the worst that could happen? They won't talk with you? Well, they are not talking with you now!

I truly believe that once you get that first word out everything else will just flow. So keep it simple: “Hi”, “Hey” or “Hello” — do the best you can to gather all of the enthusiasm and energy you can, put on a big smile and say “Hi”.

42.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

It’s a problem all of us face: you have limited time with the person that you want to talk with and you want to make this talk memorable.

Honestly, if we got stuck in the rut of “hi”, “hello”, “how are you?” and “what's going on?”, you will fail to give the initial jolt to the conversation that can make it so memorable.

So don't be afraid to ask more personal questions. Trust me, you’ll be surprised to see how much people are willing to share if you just ask.

43.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

When you meet a person for the first time, make an effort to find the things which you and that person have in common so that you can build the conversation from that point. When you start conversation from there and then move outwards, you’ll find all of a sudden that the conversation becomes a lot easier.

44.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Imagine you are pouring your heart out to someone and they are just busy on their phone, and if you ask for their attention, you get the response “I can multitask”.

So when someone tries to communicate with you, just be in that communication wholeheartedly. Make eye contact, you can feel the conversation.

45.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You all came into a conversation where you first met the person, but after some time you may have met again and have forgotten their names. Isn't that awkward!

So remember the little details of the people you met or you talked with: perhaps the places they have been to, the places they want to go, the things they like, the things they hate — whatever you talk about.

When you remember such thing you can automatically become investor in their wellbeing. So they feel a responsibility to you to keep that relationship going.

That's it. Five amazing ways that you can make conversation with almost anyone. Every person is a really good book to read, or to have a conversation with!

## Section Ⅲ Translation

46. **Directions:** Translate the following text from English into Chinese. Write your  translation on  ANSWER SHEET 2.(15 points)

A fifth grader gets a homework assignment to select his future career path from a list of occupations. He ticks “astronaut” but quickly adds “scientist” to the list and selects it as well. The boy is convinced that if he reads enough, he can explore as many career paths as he likes. And so he reads — everything from encyclopaedias to science fiction novels. He reads so fervently that his parents have to institute a “no reading policy” at the dinner table.

That boy was Bill Gates, and he hasn’t stopped reading yet — not even after becoming one of the most successful people on the planet. Nowadays, his reading material has changed from science fiction and reference books: recently, he revealed that he reads at least 50 nonfiction books a year. Gates chooses nonfiction titles because they explain how the world woks. “Each book opens up new avenues of knowledge to explore,” Gates says.

## Section IV   Writing

**Part A**

**Directions:**

Suppose you have to cancel your travel plan and will not be able to visit Professor Smith. Write him an email to

1) apologize and explain the situation, and

2) suggest a future meeting.

　　You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

Don’t use your own name at the end of the email. Use “Li Ming” instead. (10 points)

**Part B**

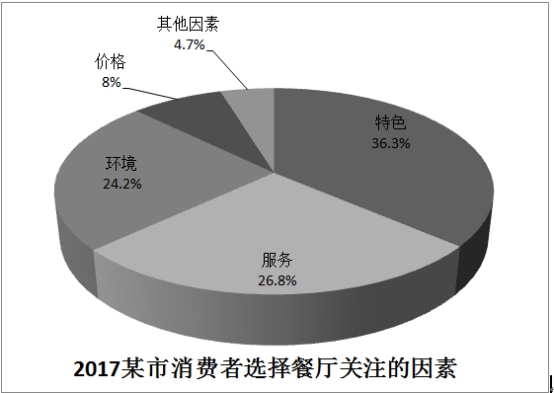
**Directions:**

Write an essay based on the following chart. In your essay, you should

1) interpret the chart, and

2) give your comments.

You should write about 150 words neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (15 points)



# 2019年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（二）试题

## Section I Use of English

**Direction:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Weighing yourself regularly is a wonderful way to stay aware of any significant weight fluctuations. 1 , when done too often, this habit can sometimes hurt more than it 2 .

As for me，weighing myself every day caused me to shift my focus from being generally healthy and physically active to focusing 3 on the scale. That was bad to my overall fitness goals. I had gained weight in the form of muscle mass, but thinking only of 4 the number on the scale, I altered my training program. That conflicted with how I needed to train to 5 my goals.

I also found that weighing myself daily did not provide an accurate 6 of the hard work and progress I was making in the gym. It takes about three weeks to a month to notice any significant changes in your weight 7 altering your training program. The most 8 changes will be observed in skill level, strength and inches lost.

For these 9 , I stopped weighing myself every day and switched to a bimonthly weighing schedule 10 . Since weight loss is not my goal, it is less important for me to 11 my weight each week. Weighing every other week allows me to observe and 12 any significant weight changes. That tells me whether I need to 13 my training program.

I use my bimonthly weigh-in 14 to get information about my nutrition as well. If my training intensity remains the same，but I’m constantly 15 and dropping weight，this is a 16 that I need to increase my daily caloric intake.

The 17 to stop weighing myself every day has done wonders for my overall health, fitness and well-being. I’m experiencing increased zeal for working out since I no longer carry the burden of a 18 morning weigh-in. I’ve also experienced greater success in achieving my specific fitness goals, 19 I’m training according to those goals, not the numbers on a scale.

Rather than 20 over the scale, turn your focus to how you look, feel how your clothes fit and your overall energy level.

1.[A] Therefore [B]Otherwise [C]However [D]Besides

2.[A] cares [B] warns [C] reduces [D] helps

3.[A]solely [B]occasionally [C]formally [D]initially

4.[A]lowering [B]explaining [C] accepting [D] recording

5.[A]set [B]review [C]reach [D]modify

6.[A]depiction [B]distribution [C]prediction [D] definition

7.[A]regardless of [B]aside from [C]along with [D]due to

8.[A]rigid [B]precise [C]immediate [D]orderly

9.[A]judgments [B]reasons [C]methods [D]claims

10.[A]though [B]again [C]indeed [D]instead

11.[A]track [B] overlook [C]conceal [D]report

12.[A]approve of [B]hold onto [C] account for [D]depend on

13.[A]share [B]adjust [C]confirm [D]prepare

14.[A]features [B]rules [C]tests [D]results

15.[A]anxious [B]hungry [C]sick [D]bored

16.[A]secret [B]belief [C]sign [D]principle

17.[A]necessity [B]decision [C]wish [D]request

18.[A]surprising [B]restricting [C]consuming [D]disappointing

19.[A] because [B]unless [C]until [D]if

20.[A]dominating [B]puzzling [C]triumphing [D]obsessing

## Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension

**Part A**

**Directions:** Read the following four texts. Answer the questions after each text by choosing [A],[B],[C] or[ D]. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1.(40 points)

**Text 1**

Unlike so-called basic emotions such as sadness, fear, and anger, guilt emerges a little later, in conjunction with a child’s growing grasp of social and moral norms. Children aren’t born knowing how to say “I’m sorry”; rather, they learn over time that such statements appease parents and friends—and their own consciences. This is why researchers generally regard so-called moral guilt, in the right amount, to be a good thing.

In the popular imagination, of course, guilt still gets a bad rap. It is deeply uncomfortable — it’s the emotional equivalent of wearing a jacket weighted with stones. Yet this understanding is outdated. “There has been a kind of revival or a rethinking about what guilt is and what role guilt can serve,” says Amrisha Vaish, a psychology researcher at the University of Virginia, adding that this revival is part of a larger recognition that emotions aren’t binary-feelings that may be advantageous in one context may be harmful in another. Jealousy and anger, for example, may have evolved to alert us to important inequalities. Too much happiness can be destructive.

And guilt, by prompting us to think more deeply about our goodness, can encourage humans to atone for errors and fix relationships. Guilt, in other words, can help hold a cooperative species together. It is a kind of social glue.

Viewed in this light, guilt is an opportunity. Work by Tina Malti, a psychology professor at the University of Toronto, suggests that guilt may compensate for an emotional deficiency. In a number of studies, Malti and others have shown that guilt and sympathy may represent different pathways to cooperation and sharing. Some kids who are low in sympathy may make up for that shortfall by experiencing more guilt, which can rein in their nastier impulses. And vice versa: High sympathy can substitute for low guilt.

In a 2014 study, for example, Malti and a colleague looked at 244 children. Using caregiver assessments and the children’s self-observations, she rated each child’s overall sympathy level and his or her tendency to feel negative emotions after moral transgressions. Then the kids were handed stickers and chocolate coins, and given a chance to share them with an anonymous child. For the low-sympathy kids, how much they shared appeared to turn on how inclined they were to feel guilty. The guilt-prone ones shared more, even though they hadn’t magically become more sympathetic to the other child’s deprivation.

“That’s good news,” Malti says. “We can be prosocial because of our empathetic proclivity, or because we caused harm and we feel regret.”

21. Researchers think that guilt can be a good thing because it may help \_\_\_\_.

A. regulate a child’s basic emotions

B. improve a child’s intellectual ability

C. intensify a child’s positive feelings

D. foster a child’s moral development

22. According to Paragraph 2, many people still consider guilt to be \_\_\_\_.

A. deceptive

B. addictive

C. burdensome

D. inexcusable

23. Vaish holds that the rethinking about guilt comes from an awareness that \_\_\_\_.

A. an emotion can play opposing roles

B. emotions are socially constructive

C. emotional stability can benefit health

D. emotions are context-independent

24. Malti and others have shown that cooperation and sharing \_\_\_\_.

A. may help correct emotional deficiencies

B. can bring about emotional satisfaction

C. can result from either sympathy or guilt

D. may be the outcome of impulsive acts

25. The word “transgressions” (Line 4, Para.5) is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_.

A. wrongdoings

B. discussions

C. restrictions

D. teachings

**Text 2**

Forests give us shade, quiet and one of the harder challenges in the fight against climate change. Even as we humans count on forests to soak up a good share of the carbon dioxide we produce, we are threatening their ability to do so. The climate change we are hastening could one day leave us with forests that emit more carbon than they absorb.

Thankfully, there is a way out of this trap - but it involves striking a subtle balance. Helping forests flourish as valuable “carbon sinks” long into the future may require reducing their capacity to sequester carbon now. California is leading the way, as it does on so many climate efforts, in figuring out the details.

The state’s proposed Forest Carbon Plan aims to double efforts to thin out young trees and clear brush in parts of the forest, including by controlled burning. This temporarily lowers carbon-carrying capacity. But the remaining trees draw a greater share of the available moisture, so they grow and thrive, restoring the forest’s capacity to pull carbon from the air. Healthy trees are also better able to fend off bark beetles. The landscape is rendered less easily burnable. Even in the event of a fire, fewer trees are consumed.

The need for such planning is increasingly urgent. Already, since 2010, drought and beetles have killed more than 100 million trees in California, most of them in 2016 alone, and wildfires have scorched hundreds of thousands of acres.

California plan to treat 35,000 acres of forest a year by 2020, and 60,000 by 2030 - financed from the proceeds of the state’s emissions-permit auctions. That's only a small share of the total acreage that could benefit, an estimated half a million acres in all, so it will be important to prioritize areas at greatest risk of fire or drought.

The strategy also aims to ensure that carbon in woody material removed from the forests is locked away in the form of solid lumber, burned as biofuel in vehicles that would otherwise run on fossil fuels. New research on transportation biofuels is already under way.

State governments are well accustomed to managing forests, but traditionally they’ve focused on wildlife, watersheds and opportunities for recreation. Only recently have they come to see the vital part forests will have to play in storing carbon. California’s plan, which is expected to be finalized by the governor next year, should serve as a model.

26. By saying “one of the harder challenges,” the author implies that\_\_\_\_ .

A. forests may become a potential threat

B. people may misunderstand global warming

C. extreme weather conditions may arise

D. global climate change may get out of control

27. To maintain forests as valuable “carbon sinks,” we may need to\_\_\_\_.

A. lower their present carbon-absorbing capacity

B. accelerate the growth of young trees

C. strike a balance among different plants

D. preserve the diversity of species in them

28. California’s Forest Carbon Plan endeavors to\_\_\_\_.

A. cultivate more drought-resistant trees

B. find more effective ways to kill insects

C. reduce the density of some of its forests

D. restore its forests quickly after wildfires

29. What is essential to California’s plan according to Paragraph 5?

A. To carry it out before the year of 2020.

B. To handle the areas in serious danger first.

C. To perfect the emissions-permit auctions.

D. To obtain enough financial support.

30. The author’s attitude to California’s plan can best be described as\_\_\_\_.

A. ambiguous

B. tolerant

C. cautious

D. supportive

**Text 3**

American farmers have been complaining of labor shortages for several years now. The complaints are unlikely to stop without an overhaul of immigration rules for farm workers.

Congress has obstructed efforts to create a more straightforward visa for agricultural workers that would let foreign workers stay longer in the U.S. and change jobs within the industry. If this doesn’t change, American businesses, communities, and consumers will be the losers.

Perhaps half of U.S. farm laborers are undocumented immigrants. As fewer such workers enter the country, the characteristics of the agricultural workforce are changing. Today’s farm laborers, while still predominantly born in Mexico, are more likely to be settled rather than migrating and more likely to be married than single. They’re also aging. At the start of this century, about one-third of crop workers were over the age of 35. Now more than half are. And crop picking is hard on older bodies. One oft-debated cure for this labor shortage remains as implausible as it has been all along: Native U.S. workers won’t be returning to the farm.

Mechanization isn’t the answer either — not yet, at least. Production of corn, cotton, rice, soybeans, and wheat have been largely mechanized, but many high-value, labor-intensive crops, such as strawberries, need labor. Even dairy farms, where robots do a small share of milking, have a long way to go before they’re automated.

As a result, farms have grown increasingly reliant on temporary guest workers using the H-2A visa to fill the gaps in the workforce. Starting around 2012, requests for the visas rose sharply; from 2011 to 2016 the number of visas issued more than doubled.

The H-2A visa has no numerical cap, unlike the H-2B visa for nonagricultural work, which is limited to 66,000 annually. Even so, employers complain that they aren’t given all the workers they need. The process is cumbersome, expensive and unreliable. One survey found that bureaucratic delays led the average H-2A workers to arrive on the job 22 days late. The shortage is compounded by federal immigration raids, which remove some workers and drive others underground.

In a 2012 survey, 71 percent of tree-fruit growers and nearly 80 percent of raisin and berry growers said they were short of labor. Some western growers have responded by moving operations to Mexico. From 1998 to 2000, 14.5 percent of the fruit Americans consumed was imported. Little more than a decade later, the share of imported fruit had increased to 25.8 percent.

In effect, the U.S. can import food or it can import the workers who pick it.

31. What problem should be addressed according to the first two paragraphs?

A. Discrimination against foreign workers in the U.S.

B. Biased laws in favor of some American businesses.

C. Flaws in U.S. immigration rules for farm workers.

D. Decline of job opportunities in U.S. agriculture.

32. One trouble with U.S. agricultural workforce is\_\_\_\_.

A. the rising number of illegal immigrants

B. the high mobility of crop workers

C. the lack of experienced laborers

D. the aging of immigrant farm workers

33. What is the much-argued solution to the labor shortage in U.S. farming?

A. To attract younger laborers to farm work.

B. To get native U.S. workers back to farming.

C. To use more robots to grow high-value crops.

D. To strengthen financial support for farmers

34. Agricultural employers complain about the H-2A visa for its\_\_\_\_.

A. slow granting procedures

B. limit on duration of stay

C. tightened requirements

D. control of annual admissions

35. Which of the following could be the best title for this text?

A. U.S. Agriculture in Decline?

B. Import Food or Labor?

C. America Saved by Mexico?

D. Manpower vs. Automation?

**Text 4**

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Dia Mirza and Adrian Grenier have a message for you: It’s easy to beat plastic. They’re part of a bunch of celebrities starring in a new video for World Environment Day — encouraging you, the consumer, to swap out your single-use plastic staples to combat the plastics crisis.

The key messages that have been put together for World Environment Day do include a call for governments to enact legislation to curb single-use plastics. But the overarching message is directed at individuals.

My concern with leaving it up to the individual, however, is our limited sense of what needs to be achieved. On their own, taking our own bags to the grocery store or quitting plastic straws, for example, will accomplish little and require very little of us. They could even be harmful, satisfying a need to have “done our bit” without ever progressing onto bigger, bolder, more effective actions — a kind of “moral licensing” that eases our concerns and stops us doing more and asking more of those in charge.

While the conversation around our environment and our responsibility toward it remains centered on shopping bags and straws, we're ignoring the balance of power that implies that as “consumers” we must shop sustainably, rather than as “citizens” hold our governments and industries to account to push for real systemic change.

It's important to acknowledge that the environment isn't everyone's priority — or even most people's. We shouldn't expect it to be. In her latest book, *Why Good People Do Bad Environmental Things*, Elizabeth R. DeSombre argues that the best way to collectively change the behavior of large numbers of people is for the change to be structural.

This might mean implementing policy such as a plastic tax that adds a cost to environmentally problematic action, or banning single-use plastics altogether. India has just announced it will “eliminate all single-use plastic in the country by 2022.” There are also incentive-based ways of making better environmental choices easier, such as ensuring recycling is at least as easy as trash disposal.

DeSombre isn't saying people should stop caring about the environment. It's just that individual actions are too slow, she says, for that to be the only, or even primary, approach to changing widespread behavior.

None of this is about writing off the individual. It's just about putting things into perspective. We don't have time to wait. We need progressive policies that shape collective action, alongside engaged citizens pushing for change.

36. Some celebrities star in a new video to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. demand new laws on the use of plastics

B. urge consumers to cut the use of plastics

C. invite public opinion on the plastics crisis

D. disclose the causes of the plastics crisis

37. The author is concerned that “moral licensing” may \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. mislead us into doing worthless things

B. prevent us from making further efforts

C. weaken our sense of accomplishment

D. suppress our desire for success

38. By pointing out our identity as “citizens,” the author indicates that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. our focus should be shifted to community welfare

B. our relationship with local industries is improving

C. We have been actively exercising our civil rights

D. We should press our government to lead the combat

39. DeSombre argues that the best way for a collective change should be \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. a win-win arrangement

B. a self-driven mechanism

C. a cost-effective approach

D. a top down process

40.The author concludes that individual efforts \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. can be too aggressive

B. can be too inconsistent

C. are far from sufficient

D. are far from rational

**Part B**

**Directions:**

Read the following text and match each of the numbered in the left column to its corresponding information in the right column. There are two extra choices in the right column. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET.(10points)

**How seriously should parents take kid’s opinions when searching for a home?**

In choosing a new home, Camille McClain’s kids have a single demand: a backyard.

McClain’s little ones aren’t the only kids who have an opinion when it comes to housing, and in many cases youngsters’ views weigh heavily on parents’ real estate decisions, according to a 2018 Harris Poll survey of more than 2,000 U.S. adults.

While more families buck an older-generation proclivity to leave kids in the dark about real estate decisions, realty agents and psychologists have mixed views about the financial, personal and long-term effects kids’ opinions may have.

The idea of involving children in a big decision is a great idea because it can help them feel a sense of control and ownership in what can be an overwhelming process, said Ryan Hooper, a clinical psychologist in Chicago.

“Children may face serious difficulties in coping with significant moves, especially if it removes them from their current school or support system,” he said.

Greg Jaroszewski, a real estate brokers with Gagliardo Realty Associates, said he’s not convinced that kids should be involved in selecting a home—but their opinions should be considered in regards to proximity to friends and social activities, if possible.

Younger children should feel like they’re choosing their home— without actually getting a choice in the matter, said Adam Bailey, a real estate attorney based in New York.

Asking them questions about what they like about the backyard of a potential home will make them feel like they’re being included in the decision-making process, Bailey said.

Many of the aspects of homebuying aren’t a consideration for children, said Tracey Hampson, a real estate agent based in Santa Clarita, Calif. And placing too much emphasis on their opinions can ruin a fantastic home purchase.

“Speaking with your children before you make a real estate decision is wise. But I wouldn’t base the purchasing decision solely on their opinions.” Hampson said.

The other issue is that many children—especially older ones—may base their real estate knowledge on HGTV shows, said Aaron Norris of The Norris Group in Riverside, Calif.

“They love Chip and Joanna Gaines just as much as the rest of us,” he said.“HGTV has seriously changed how people view real estate. It’s not shelter, it’s a lifestyle. With that mindset change come some serious money consequences. ”

Kids tend to get stuck in the features and the immediate benefits to them personally, Norris said.

Parents need to remind their children that their needs and desires may change over time, said Julie Gurner, a real estate analyst with Fit Small Business. com.

“Their opinions can change tomorrow.” Gurner said.“Harsh as it may be to say, that decision should likely not be made contingent on a child’s opinions but rather made for them with great consideration into what home can meet their needs best—and give them an opportunity to customize it a bit and make it their own.”

This advice is more relevant now than ever before, even as more parents want to embrace the ideas of their children, despite the current housing crunch.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. [A] notes that aspects like children’s friends and social activities should be considered upon homebuying. |
| 41. Ryan Hooper | 1. [B] believes that homebuying decisions should be based on children’s needs rather than their opinions. |
| 42. Adam Bailey | 1. [C] assumes that many children’s views on real estate are influenced by the media. |
| 43. Tracey Hampson | 1. [D] remarks that significant moves may pose challenges to children. |
| 44. Aaron Norris | 1. [E] says that it is wise to leave kids in the dark about real estate decisions. |
| 45. Julie Gurner | 1. [F] advises that home purchases should not be based only on children’s opinions. |
|  | 1. [G] thinks that children should be given a sense of involvement in homebuying decisions. |

## Section Ⅲ Translation

**46. Directions:**

Translate the following text into Chinese. Write your translation on the ANSWER SHEET.(15 points)

It is easy to underestimate English writer James Heriot. He had such a pleasant, readable style that one might think that anyone could imitate it. How many times have I heard people say, “I could write a book. I just haven’t the time.” Easily said. Not so easily done. James Herriot, contrary to popular opinion, did not find it easy in his early days of, as he put it, “having a go at the writing game”. While he obviously had an abundance of natural talent, the final, polished work that he gave to the world was the result of years of practising, re-writing and reading. Like the majority of authors, he had to suffer many disappointments and rejections along the way, but these made him all the more determined to succeed. Everything he achieved in life was earned the hard way and his success in the literary field was no exception.

## Section IV   Writing

**Part A**

47. **Directions:**

Suppose Professor Smith asked you to plan a debate on the theme of city traffic. Write him an email to

1) suggest a specific topic with your reasons, and

2) tell him about your arrangements.

You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

**Do not** use your own name. Use “Li Ming” instead. (10 points)

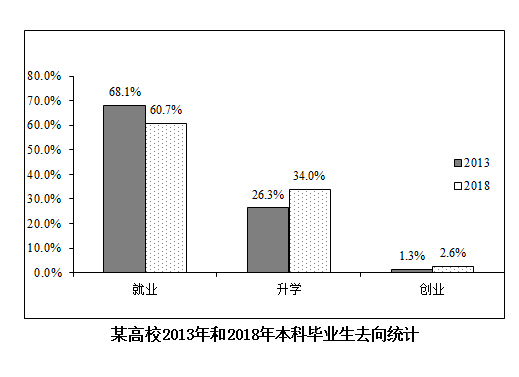
**Part B**

**48. Directions:**

Write an essay based on the chart below. In your writing, you should

1. interpret the chart, and
2. give your comments.

You should write about 150 words on the ANSWER SHEET. (15 points)



# 2010年考研英语真题答案

# **Section I: Use of English (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. A | 2. B | 3. C | 4. B | 5. C |
| 6. B | 7. D | 8. A | 9. C | 10. D |
| 11. C | 12. A | 13. A | 14. D | 15. B |
| 16. A | 17. D | 18. C | 19. B | 20. D |

**Section II: Reading Comprehension (60 points)**

**Part A (40 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 21. B | 22. A | 23. D | 24. A | 25. B |
| 26. C | 27. D | 28. C | 29. B | 30. A |
| 31. B | 32. D | 33. A | 34. C | 35. C |
| 36. A | 37. D | 38. C | 39. B | 40. D |

**Part B (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 41. B | 42. F | 43. D | 44. G | 45. A |

**Part C (10 points)**

　　46. 科学家们急忙用一些明显站不住脚的证据介入营救，其大意是，如果鸟类无法控制昆虫，那么昆虫会吃光我们人类。

　　47. 但是，至少我们近乎承认，不管对于我们是否存在经济优势，继续生存都是鸟类的固有权利。

　　48. 曾几何时，生物学家们多少滥用这一证据，即：这些生物通过捕食体弱者维系物种的健康，或者，它们只猎杀没有价值的物种。

　　49. 在欧洲，生态林业较为发达，那些无商业价值的树种被视为天然森林群落的成员，应该得到合理保护。

　　50. 这种保护系统往往忽视陆地群落中诸多缺乏商业价值、但对陆地群落健康运行至关重要的物种，而最终导致它们的灭绝。

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

51. 参考范文

Notice

Dec. 25, 2010

　　International Conference on Globalization, from March 3rd to 10th, will be held at Tsinghua University. We, the Postgraduates’ Association, are entitled to organize this conference. Thus, we are badly in need of volunteers to assist us in organizing the relevant affairs, including reception, distribution of documents, technical support, etc.

　　Students who have previous experience as volunteers are preferred. Basic knowledge in computer, fluent oral English and an amicable personality are some of the qualities we desire. Volunteers shall be available for at least 3 days without absence during the conference.

　　If you are interested and willing to have a whole new experience in this semester, please do not hesitate to send your resume to liming@hotmail.com before Jan. 20th. Your applications are welcomed.

　　Postgraduates’ Association

**Part B (20 points)**

52. 参考范文

　　As is vividly portrayed in the drawing above, a hotpot is boiling with various forms of both domestic and alien cultures, which could be categorized as literature, moral values and performing arts. What is indicated in the drawing does reflect a fact and is most thought-provoking.

　　The connotation of the drawing can be interpreted as following. China launched Reform and Opening-up in 1978, which has promoted the rapid growth of national economy. The development of economy has brought about the great changes of culture, especially the traditional culture. At present, Chinese and Western cultures conflict with each other but also merge into a unique form to a certain degree. In the highly-integrated world today, no country is an isolated island. Every nation is faced with miscellaneous alien culture. China needs to assimilate a good deal of foreign progressive culture.

　　As far as I am concerned, some necessary measures should be taken. On one hand, more efforts must be made to popularize cultures worldwide. On the other hand, a nationwide education campaign should be launched among people, especially the young, so as to cultivate an appropriate sense of cultural concept. Only in these ways can we make greater contributions to the world cultural heritage.

# 

# 2011年考研英语真题答案

**Section I: Use of English (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. C | 2. D | 3. B | 4. B | 5. A |
| 6. B | 7. A | 8. D | 9. C | 10. A |
| 11. B | 12. C | 13. D | 14. C | 15. B |
| 16. D | 17. A | 18. D | 19. A | 20. C |

**Section II: Reading Comprehension (60 points)**

**Part A (40 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 21. C | 22. B | 23. D | 24. B | 25. A |
| 26. B | 27. D | 28. C | 29. A | 30. C |
| 31. D | 32. C | 33. B | 34. A | 35. A |
| 36. C | 37. D | 38. A | 39. D | 40. B |

**Part B (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 41. B | 42. D | 43. A | 44. C | 45. F |

**Part C (10 points)**

1. 艾伦的贡献在于采取了我们都认同的假设，即：因为我们不是机器人，因此我们能够控制我们的思想，并且，揭露了这一假设的错误本质。
2. 虽然我们可以单凭意识维持控制的幻想，但实际上我们一直面临着一个问题：为什么我不能完成这件事情或实现那一目标呢？
3. 这似乎是忽视需要帮助之人的合理解释，也似乎合理化了剥削、上层人士的优越和底层人士的卑微。
4. 环境似乎旨在激发我们的最大潜能，如果我们感觉自己遭受“不公对待”，那么便不太可能自觉努力摆脱当下的局面。
5. （这个观点的）积极的一面在于，既然我们知道一切取决于自己，那么我们就拥有无限的可能；以前我们可以熟练应付种种局限，而现在我们则主宰各种可能。

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

51. 参考范文

Dear friends，

I’m writing to you to recommend my favorite movie *Avatar，*a very hot movie this year. For starters, it’s a great story and has a fantastic plot. This film captivated me from beginning to end. The fast-paced, exciting story line kept me on the edge of my seat all the way through. What’s more, the special effects are breathtaking. The directing is absolutely neat. And last but not least, it’s an educational movie. It teaches us about dedication, discipline, loyalty and love. I am sure you will enjoy the movie.

Yours sincerely,

Li Ming

**Part B (20 points)**

52. 参考范文

What an impressive picture it is! Two young men sitting on the boat are throwing rubbish into the lake, with all kinds of garbage floating on the surface. What is conveyed in the picture is both realistic and thought-provoking.

Clearly, we can deduce from the picture that with the rapid development of economy, tourism as a form of enterprise brings China a lot of benefits, but the environment is being polluted tremendously. In public places people have no awareness that they are doing something damaging the environment, the only environment we have. They cause inconvenience and discomfort to other tourists, and also degrade China’s image as a nation.

What can we do then? First, I think that government should issue severe regulations, punishing any behavior that damages the environment. Second, the environment protection awareness of the public should be enforced. People should know how closely the clean environment is related to their personal lives. Let’s hope we will have a cleaner and more beautiful world in the near future.

# 2012年考研英语真题答案

**Section I: Use of English (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. B | 2. A | 3. B | 4. D | 5. C |
| 6. B | 7. D | 8. B | 9. A | 10. B |
| 11. A | 12. C | 13. C | 14. D | 15. A |
| 16. C | 17. A | 18. C | 19. D | 20. D |

**Section II: Reading Comprehension (60 points)**

**Part A (40 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 21. D | 22. B | 23. A | 24. C | 25. D |
| 26. C | 27. D | 28. A | 29. D | 30. A |
| 31. A | 32. B | 33. B | 34. D | 35. C |
| 36. C | 37. D | 38. B | 39. C | 40. A |

**Part B (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 41. C | 42. D | 43. A | 44. F | 45. G |

**Part C (10 points)**

46. 在物理学中，有一种方法将这种追求统一的冲动发挥到了极致，它寻找一种万有理论，即一种单一的能够解释我们所看到的一切的通用公式。

47. 在此，达尔文主义似乎提供了合理解释，因为如果整个人类具有相同起源，那么我们便有理由假设，文化多样性也能够追溯到更为具体的开端。

48. 从共性中筛选出特性，也许能够让我们理解复杂文化行为如何产生，以及在进化或认知层面，什么指导着这一行为。

49. 第二个为此作出努力的人是乔舒亚•格林伯格，采用一种更加经验主义的方法研究普遍性，确认多种多种语言共有的特征（尤其在词序方面），这些特征被认为代表着由认知局限导致的偏见。

50. 乔姆斯基的语法本应体现不受语系树谱图或其演变路径影响的语言变化模式，而格林伯格的普遍性理论则应可以推测出某些特殊语序关系之间有极强的相互依赖性。

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

51. 参考范文

Dear All,

I am writing on behalf of our Student’s Association to send our warm welcome. And in order to make you adjust life in China, I am making some constructive advice with regard to the life in our university.

To begin with, you’d better grasp the basic communicating vocabulary as much as possible so as to freely express yourself. In addition, you can read some books on Chinese customs and daily life styles in case you feel uneasy once join a completely strange context. Finally, relax yourself and feel confident toward your future life.

I hope you will find these proposals useful, and I would be ready to discuss this matter with you about further details.

Sincerely yours,

Li Ming

**Part B (20 points)**

52. 参考范文

In recent years, there have been great concerns over the life attitude of the youngsters. As is depicted in the picture above, facing a bottle with most the wine spilled out on the ground, one man is sighing the tragedy, whereas the other rejoices over the remained wine in the bottle.

The real implications of the picture lies in that different attitudes leads to completely diverse results. For optimistic people, they could find the happiness even facing the most difficult situation. And life is a comedy. Conversely, for people with pessimistic attitude, troubles are everywhere and always exist. Their lives is filled with one after another tragedies.

To my best understanding, the story of Deng Yaping could be the best illustration of this point. If she kept upset by her stature, she could not have achieved so much in table tennis. All in all, young people should bear in mind that“it is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness”

# 2013年考研英语真题答案

**Section I: Use of English (10 points)**

1. A 2. D 3. C 4. A 5. B 6. B 7. A 8. D 9. D 10. A

11. D 12. C 13. B 14. D 15. B 16. C 17. A 18. C 19.B 20. C

**Section II: Reading Comprehension (60 points)**

**Part A (40 points)**

21. B 22. D 23. A 24. D 25. C 26. B 27. D 28. C 29. A 30. D

31. B 32. A 33. D 34. C 35. C 36. C 37. C 38. D 39. A 40. D

**Part B (10 points)**

41. E 42. F 43.B 44. G 45. C

**Part C (10 points)**

46. 然而，看着无家可归者绘制出的花园图片时，人们会突然意识到，尽管这些花园风格多样，它们都显示了人类除了装饰和创造性表达之外的其他各种基本诉求。

47.  那是一片宁静的圣土，无论多么粗陋，都是人类特有的需求，它不同于遮风挡雨的栖息之所，那是动物特有的需求。

 48. 无家可归者描绘的花园实质上是无所依附的，这些花园把一种形式引入城市环境中，而这样的城市环境中，这一形式要么根本不存在， 要么就完全不是以这种明显的方式存在。

49. 我们大多数人会深陷于精神萎靡的状态，并常常将此归咎为一些心理原因，直到某天我们发现自己置身花园中，感到如魔法般烦闷尽消。

50. 正是对自然的这种或隐晦含蓄或清晰直白的提及，充分证实，即便有着词义延伸的意味，用“花园”一词描述这些人造建筑也合乎情理。

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

51. 参考范文

Dear Prof. Smith,

On behalf of Students’ Union, I am writing this letter to invite you to be a judge for the speech contest which will be held in Students’ Union Hall on Monday, January 21.

As an internationally acclaimed scholar in English language and culture, your participation will bring us the pleasure. What’s more, since you have been teaching for a long time and you enjoy a great popularity among all teachers and students, we firmly believe that you can offer us valuable suggestions on improving our students’ oral and writing abilities.

It would be a great honor if you could accept this invitation. We are looking forward to your favorable early reply.

Sincerely yours,

Li Ming

**Part B (20 points)**

52. 参考范文

As is shown above, this simple picture represents a vigorous situation that nearly every graduate student will face: hunting for a job, further studying, starting a business or going aboard. Which one should they choose? Without exception, everyone has to make choices in life, no matter concerning school, career, or love. While some choices are easy, one cannot avoid the task of making difficult decisions.

There is sufficient evidence showing that choices are often directly related to one’s happiness. University students, face a hard and crucial decision upon graduating. Many students have difficulty in deciding whether to continue studying or begin a career. As is known to all, every individual is different, and one must take the factors of one‘s personal life into consideration. In addition to an awareness of specific circumstances, however, making the right choice also depends on correct appraisal of oneself.

It is without doubt that in order to choose correctly, therefore, one must be both realistic and self-aware. Furthermore, there is other aspect to be taken into consideration. Once having made a decision, one should seriously accept and pursue the path one has chosen, and strive towards the realization of one’s goal with spirit.

# 2014年考研英语真题答案

**Section I: Use of English (10 points)**

1. A 2. B 3. D 4. C 5. A 6. A 7. C 8. B 9. D 10. C

11. D 12. A 13. B 14. A 15. D 16. B 17. D 18. C 19. C 20. B

**Section II: Reading Comprehension (60 points)**

**Part A (40 points)**

21. B 22. C 23. D 24. A 25. D 26. D 27. C 28. B 29. A 30. C

31. D 32. B 33. B 34. A 35. A 36. A 37. C 38. C 39. D 40. B

**Part B (10 points)**

41. C 42. F 43. G 44. D 45. B

**Part C (10 points)**

46. 这也是为什么当我们试图用语言来描述音乐时，我们只能明确表达我们对于音乐的感受，而不能完全理解音乐本身。

47. 人们普遍认为，他（贝多芬）是个思想自由、充满勇气的人，我发现勇气这一品质，是理解他作品的关键，更是演出其作品的关键。

48. 多芬习惯用极大力度增高音量，然后突然跟上轻柔的乐段，在他之前，作曲家很少使用这种方式。

49. 尤为重要的是贝多芬对于自由的看法，他认为，这种自由是与个人的权利和责任联系起来的：他倡导思想自由和个人言论自由。

50. 我们可以这样解释贝多芬的大部分作品：苦难是不可避免的，但是与痛苦抗争的勇气使得生命值得继续。

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

1. 参考范文

Dear Mr. President，

I am a student of our university. And I am writing this letter to bring forward some effective suggestions to our college students about how to improve their body health.

Initially, exercising, though not a student's first priority in his/her daily life, should be stressed by all of us as well as our university, because it is vital to not only our physical health but mental health as well. Furthermore, developing a regular and healthy diet, which provides vitamins and other nutrients to our body, would undoubtedly benefit our body.

I hope that you will find my suggestions useful and propaganda be launched among the students. I am looking forward to your earlier response.

Yours sincerely,

Li Ming

**Part B (20 points)**

1. 参考范文

As is vividly described in the left part of the drawing, thirty years ago, there stood a delicate mother, holding the tiny hand of a lovely girl, who wore a red scarf. On the contrary, the right part of the picture illustrates that with time flying quickly, the little girl, who has already grown up as a gorgeous lady, is supporting her old mother. We are informed: accompanying.

　　It is without saying that the old and the young are two indispensable parts in society. On the one hand, what we have and enjoy now was created by our parents in the early days. As the old Chinese saying goes, "One generation plants tress under whose shade another generation rests". On the other hand, all of us are supposed to take good care of the youngsters, too. It is children who make us see the future of our state, for they are the future builders of our country.

　　The young should consider it a moral obligation respecting and taking care of old parents. Meanwhile, it is also the duty of the parents to protect, educate and look after the youths. Let's bear this in mind and cultivate that virtue together, because only by doing so, can we feel as if we were living in a happy and harmonious family.

# 2015年考研英语真题答案

**Section I: Use of English (10 points)**

1. A 2. B 3. D 4. C 5. C 6. A 7. C 8. D 9. B 10. D

11. B 12. D 13. B 14. C 15. A 16.D 17. B 18. A 19. C 20. A

**Section II: Reading Comprehension (60 points）**

**Part A (40 points)**

21. D 22. A 23. B 24. D 25. C 26. C 27. A 28. A 29. C 30. B

31. B 32. B 33. D 34. C 35. A 36. A 37. B 38. C 39. A 40. C

**Part B (10 points)**

41. C 42. E 43. G 44. B 45. A

**Part C (10 points)**

46. 这场移民运动由各种强大的动机所推动，在一片荒野之中创立了一个国家，并且，就其本质而言，它也塑造了一个未知大陆的性格和决定了它的命运。

47. 美国是两种主要力量结合的产物：一个是思想、习俗和民族特征各不相同的欧洲移民，另一个是这个新国家在融合上述特征之后所带来的影响。

48. 但是美国独特的地理条件，不同种族之间的相互影响，以及在这个原始的新大陆维持原有生活方式的极大难度，引起了巨大的变化。

49.十五和十六世纪的探索发现了北美洲，过了一百多年之后，第一批满载移民的船只越过了大西洋，驰往现在被称为美国的那片土地。

50. 这片原始森林中有数不清的树木且种类繁多，从缅因州一直绵延至乔治亚州，是一座名副其实的宝库。

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

1. 参考范文

Dear Friends，

I am writing to tell you about a fantastic book I have just read, as we always share the same taste of books.

The book is called Journey to the West, which tells us a story that four monks conquered multiple handicaps to achieve their final goal. Besides the touching and thrilling plot, the book also features humorous languages, thanks to the talented author.

So I recommend it to all of you as one of the favorite books that I have ever read. I am sure you will love it as much as I do. I am looking forward to discussing more with you after you read it.

Yours sincerely,

Li Ming

**Part B (20 points)**

1. 参考范文

This is a simple but enlightening cartoon: beside a table sit four youngsters, focusing all eyesight on their smart cell phones and sharing photos of their dinner on Wechat or weibo, with tasty dishes uneaten. Although they gather for the purpose of friendship, scarcely do these guys chat with each other.

Such a scenario, apparently, can be associated with the excessive use of cell phones among teenagers. As a matter of fact, cell phones have constituted an obstacle that hinders the normal communication in life. A case in point is that a host of youngsters, like the guys in the picture, spend much time on mobile phones to surf the Internet, chat with friends or comment others’ Wechats. This trend is particularly worth concern for the background that they are addicted to the virtual world, ignoring the real life. It is cell phones that make our communication convenient, but it is cell phones that do not enable youngsters to spend adequate time in caring friends, families and other significant matters.

Do bear in mind: cell phones are just our tools. As a cell phone user, I am convinced that it is not advisable for youngsters to be the slave of cell phones. Accordingly, youngsters should be educated, advocated and encouraged to take a rational attitude toward modern technologies, including the Internet, cell phones, TV and computers.

# 2016年考研英语真题答案

**Section I Use of English**

1. C 2. D 3. C 4. B 5. C 6. A 7. B 8. C 9. D 10. A

11. D 12. D 13. B 14. A 15. C 16.A 17. B 18. D 19. C 20. B

**Section II Reading Comprehension**

**Part A**

21. B 22. D 23. A 24. C 25. A 26. D 27. A 28. D 29. B 30. D

31. B 32. A 33. C 34. A 35. B 36. A 37. D 38. B 39. C 40. C

**Part B**

1. C 42. G 43. D 44. E 45. F

**Part C**

【参考翻译】

46. 我们无需学习怎样才能保持精神健康；这种能力根植于我们自身，就好像我们的身体知道如何让伤口痊愈，或者让断骨长好一样。

47. 我们的精神健康并未离开；就好像云朵背后的太阳，精神健康可能暂时看不见，但完全能在一瞬间被恢复。

48. 精神健康让我们在他人身陷麻烦时充满同情；在他人痛苦不堪时心怀善意；无论他们是谁，我们都能给予无条件的爱。

49.尽管精神健康是生活的万灵药，但它却极其平常，因为你会发现，它一直都在，指引你度过艰难，做出选择。

50.你会逐渐意识到，懂得精神健康一直与你相伴，懂得去信任它，会让我们放慢脚步，活在当下，幸福生活。

**Section III Writing**

**Part A (10 points)**

47.参考范文

Notice

　　For better serving the international students, a notice is released here to provide the necessary information about the library.

　　The university library opens at 8 a.m. and closes at 10 p.m. from Monday to Friday, but from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekends. If you need to borrow books, please follow the following steps. First, bring your student card and register first at the librarian’s office. At most six books can be borrowed once from the library. You should keep in mind the days that you can keep the book(s) you borrow. Three months is the longest period. If you exceed the limited time, some fines should be paid.

　　If you have any questions or suggestions about borrowing or returning books, telephone 010-8248119 or send an email to university@163.com. We sincerely hope you all enjoy the study and life in our university.

　　University Library

　　December 26, 2015

**Part B (20 points)**

48.参考范文

(When the issue of teaching and learning / education / role model arouses wide concern from the public, can we still stand there, hesitating for what occurs?) As we can see from the depiction, a father, sitting in front of a television which broadcasts some kinds of soap operas, is appreciating nuts and bolts of these invariable plots, without any caring about his kids. Actually, it is a Morning Call to send us a message that we adults always perform something wasting much of precious time, thus spoiling youth as every second elapses.

　　(But my own worry today is less that of the overwhelming problem of common housewives or househusbands than it is of the slightly more luxurious agony of the decline in time-managing ability even of the educated teenagers.) Several factors could weigh heavily for this degeneration, yet, suspended at the top of the list are the following two aspects. To begin with, habit is habit. We parents are good at giving ourselves sufficient excuses to support what we always do in our daily life. If one example is needed, I could not but mention the following well-known scientist, whose name is Freud, illuminating that a kind of habit, representing a sense of spiritual existence, can never be changed as long as continuing for 47 days, nor is this kind of negative model behaviors. Furthermore, externally, our society is witnessing an overwhelming number of low-level TV programs, ranging from entertaining shows, TV talk shows and TV series to some other inferior products, which differ in forms as well as broadcasting time but never in their contents. Then, the consequence is distinct. It goes with no exaggeration to say that soap opera ruins the concept of “Like father, like son”.

　　Fortunately, that is not the Day of Judgment. It is, undoubtedly, the very time that we should take some available methods to end up these inappropriate behaviors, including laying down the effective regulations to arrange family time, shaping a moderate education / family outlook and guaranteeing more rational lifestyles.

# 

# 2017年考研英语真题答案

**Section Ⅰ Use of English** (10 points)

1.A 2.C 3.B 4.A 5.D 6.A 7. D 8.C 9. D 10. C

11. D 12. B 13.B 14.C 15B 16. C 17. A 18. B 19. A 20. D

**Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension** (60 points)

**Part A** (40 points)

21. A 22. C 23. D 24. D 25. C

26. B 27. A 28.B 29.A 30. D

31. D 32. C 33.D 34.C 35.A

36. C 37. A 38.C 39.B 40.D

**Part B** (10 points)

41. F 42. E 43. A 44. C 45. G

**Part C**

**【参考翻译】**

46.但是即使说英语的人数还在进一步扩大，仍有迹象表明，英语的全球主导地位在不久的将来可能会逐渐消失。

47.因此，对于那些可能认为英语的全球地位很稳定、英国的年轻人不需要会额外的语言的人而言，他的分析会消除他们的自满情绪。

48. 很多国家正把英语纳入小学课程，但是英国的大、中、小学生似乎没有得到更多的鼓励去熟练地掌握其他语言。

49.大卫·格兰多指出的这些变化给向其他国家的人民提供英语语言教学的英国个人、机构以及更广泛的教育行业部门带来了显而易见的重大挑战。

50.这为所有寻求推动英语学习和使用的机构提供了依据，借此可以做出规划，来应对未来截然不同的运营环境里可能出现的情况。

**Section Ⅲ Writing** (30 points)

**Part A**

Dear Professor Cook,

I am glad to hear that you are in China now, and I am writing this email to recommend you some wonderful tourist attractions in Beijing.

Beijing, as the capital city, boasts many historical relics, such as the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace and other scenic spots and historical sites. And I highly recommend the Forbidden City which served as the emperors’ dwelling and imperial palace of both Ming and Qing Dynasties. It is the perfect place where some millions of preserved historical relics have been collected, displayed in a site that has kept its original splendid architecture for the pleasure of millions of tourists visiting the old city every year.

I do hope my recommendation is helpful to you. Have a good time here!

Yours sincerely,

Li Ming

**Part B**

“Possessing books or reading books” – the caption accurately conveys the crucial information of the cartoon. Relaxing in a chair and leaning against the backrest, the boy on the left looks satisfied with his book collection, yet does not show any willingness to read any of them. And he says, “I have collected such an abundance of books”. Apparently, his ignorance hinders him from acquiring knowledge. On the contrary, the other boy sitting in front of his desk plans to read 20 books this year, which, in my view, is a feasible plan.

“Reading makes one’s mind bright and clear,” says Voltaire. It means the books nurture readers’ mind and develop their intelligence. Without being read, untouched books are merely dried wood-pulp. The picture servers as the best revelation of people’s different attitudes towards books and reading: some individuals misunderstand, intentionally or unintentionally, knowledge as possession of books, leading to their vanity; on the contrary, those wise readers thirsty for knowledge, treat books as the origin of intelligence and reading as the process of getting treasure of knowledge.

As college students, when facing the fast-paced society, we definitely need the nutrients from books to build our mind and to broaden our horizon. The best and shortest way to get

knowledge is reading books, rather than simply collecting books.

# 2018年考研英语真题答案

**Section Ⅰ Use of English (10 points)**

1. C 2. A 3.D 4.B 5.D 6.B 7.C 8.D 9.B 10. A

11. B 12. B 13.A 14.C 15.D 16.A 17.C 18.B 19.A 20. C

**Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension (60 points)**

**Part A (40 points)**

21. D 22.C 23.A 24.D 25.B 26.D 27.A 28.B 29.C 30. A

31. B 32. C 33.D 34.D 35.B 36.B 37.A 38.A 39.C 40. D

**Part B (10 points)**

1. E 42. G 43.A 44.B 45. D

**Part C (10 points)**

**【参考翻译】**

46. 莎士比亚出生之时，欧洲宗教戏剧正在消逝，在古典悲剧和戏剧的推动下，很多新的戏剧形式应运而生。

47. 任何文法学校的学生都知道戏剧是一种文学形式，它曾给希腊和罗马带来荣耀，也许同样会给英格兰带来殊荣。

48. 但是专业公司的永久性剧院却兴旺起来，于是高校一些有着文学抱负的人迅速抓住机遇，将其作为一个谋生手段。

49. 一种本土文学戏剧形式诞生了，它与公共剧院结成联盟，至少它的一些优良传统开始登上历史舞台了。

50.要领略戏剧活动多么伟大，我们就必须要进一步认识到，很多戏剧已经不复存在，而名家之作或许也难以完整留存。

**Section Ⅲ Writing** (30 points)

**Part A**

Dear professors,

I, on behalf of the Students’ Union, am writing this letter to invite all of you to attend the graduation ceremony.

The ceremony will be held in the Sports Hall of our university on this Friday morning, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. The details about the ceremony are as follows. First and foremost, the president will make a speech for the graduates, blessing them to have a bright future. In addition, several experts will be invited to issuing certificates to all the graduates.

It would be a great honor for us to have the accompany of all of you in the graduation ceremony. Therefore, we all hope that you can spare your time to attend it and we are looking forward to your reply to tell us whether you can attend it or not on that day.

Your sincerely,

Li Ming

**Part B**

Exhibited in the cartoon is a sarcastic scene that sitting before a computer, a college student is choosing his optional class, wondering and pondering whether he should choose an easier course or a tougher but creative course. Simple as the picture is, the symbolic meaning it conveys is profound and thought-provoking.

It is beyond doubt that the painter aims to tell us that everyone, especially college students, should have the spirit of creation and innovation. To put it another way, innovation is an essential and indispensable role for anyone who wants to succeed. This can be directly attributed to the fact that one may be caught in dilemma, at least once in life. Such a dilemma may coincidentally be most difficult period in his life. Then there are two choices before him: making a creative choice or an easier one. If he chooses the former and tries to break through the barrier, difficult as it will be, success will be the result one day. However, although it seems to be much easier for him at the moment, the latter choice may kill off his dream and ambition, and such choice then will be a pity all his life.

As college student, definitely, we are facing or will face many difficulties. At such moment, we should bear in mind that creation is a necessary and indispensable quality in our life, a

positive attitude to life and an approach to success. Keep the spirit of innovation, and we will win a better life.

# 2019年考研英语真题答案

**Section Ⅰ Use of English** (10 points)

1-5 C C B D A

6-10 B D C A D

11-15 A B D C B

16-20 D A A B C

**Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension** (60 points)

**Part A** (40 points)

21-25 ADBCB

26-30 DAACB

31-15 CDBAC

36-40 CDCBA

**Part B** (10 points)

1. E 42.D 43. G 44. B 45. A

**Part C** (10 points) **Translation**

46.在其他医学期刊中，存在大量诸如此类的无稽之谈，经广播公司和非专业媒体报道后，既会引发大众对健康方面的恐慌，也会导致短期食疗热潮。

47. 如今，任何人申请研究职位所需发表的论文数量，相当于十年前所需数量的两倍。

48. 人们已经试图遏制这种趋向，例如，尝试将质量以及数量作为某种衡量标准，纳入对申请人发表论文的评估之中。

49. 若科学家们不轻易在未来出版物中引用自己的论文，或让同事这样做以换取类似的好处，那么该索引将是合理的。

50. 若严格确保科研成果既有意义，又具有再生能力，就必须确保我们的体制对此类科学研究进行鼓励。

**Section Ⅲ Writing**

1. Part A （10 points）

Dear Friend,

　　As one member working for the “Aiding Rural Primary School Project” of our university, I would be glad to receive your inquiry and inform you of some details about this project.

　　First, this project aims at aiding those poor kids living in some poverty-stricken families in some Chinese western rural areas aging from 9 to 12 years old. Second, as a volunteer, your primary task is to participate in our annual teaching activities organized on every summer vacation lasting for about two weeks. Finally, those children would be thrilled if you could bring some gifts from overseas representing cultures and customs abroad.

　　Once again, thank you for your time and attention. It is my sincere hope that you could contribute more to this project and if you have any further question, please feel free to contact with us. Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

　　Yours sincerely,

　　Li Ming

1. Part B （20 points）

There are, as is symbolically and explicitly demonstrated in the cartoon above, two individuals climbing a mountain, with one guy on the left wearing a bag on the back and a beaming smile on the face who is encouraging the other one, unexpectedly, sitting on the half way and wanting to give up, which indicates the importance of persistence.

　　Obviously, these two guys directly epitomize a prevailing social phenomenon that is in life’s journey. Some people with keen eyesight can stick to their dreams, while others, on the contrary, may easily give up despite there is encouragement and accompaniment from their teammates. Hence, we cannot overemphasize the significance of persistence, with which we can overcome all adversities and hardships in long-term life’s journey. Otherwise, we would end up in failure and live in despair. Taking basketball player Yao Ming for example, he can slam-dunk smartly because he does his utmost in pursuing his dreams and never gives his ideal up.

　　From the preceding discussion, it is readily apparent that persistence is a pre-requisite on our way to success, since life is a long journey, while sticking to why we start is a must to the destination. Only by making constant efforts and never stopping making progress can we expect a bright and promising future!

# 2010年考研英语（二）真题答案

**Section I: Use of English (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. D | 2. C | 3. B | 4. A | 5. A |
| 6. B | 7. D | 8. C | 9. B | 10. A |
| 11. C | 12. D | 13. D | 14. A | 15. C |
| 16. B | 17. D | 18. C | 19. A | 20. B |

**Section II: Reading Comprehension (60 points）**

**Part A (40 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 21. D | 22. A | 23. B | 24. C | 25. C |
| 26. A | 27. C | 28. B | 29. D | 30. B |
| 31. A | 32. A | 33. D | 34. C | 35. B |
| 36. D | 37. A | 38. C | 39. B | 40. D |

**Part B (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 41. F | 42. T | 43. F | 44. T | 45. F |

**Section II: Translation (15 points)**

46.

“坚持不懈”如今已成一个流行词汇，但对泰德·宁而言，他对其含义有自己亲身的体会，在生活中，经历了一段无法承受的痛苦时期后，他十分清楚，以坚持为导向的价值观必须通过日常行为和选择得以表达。

宁回忆起20世纪90年代末期卖保险的那段迷茫时光，他经历了互联网时代的兴衰，并且与博尔德代理机构签了合约。

事情进展并不顺利，泰德·宁说：“那真是个糟糕的选择，因为我对此没有激情，”不出所料，这种进退两难最终导致了业绩不佳。宁说：“我很痛苦，焦虑万分，以至于半夜醒来，盯着天花板发呆。我身无分文，亟需一份工作。” 每个人都说，“等等吧，给点时间，你会遇到转机。”

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

1. 参考范文

Dear Joe,

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to you for your warm hospitality when I participated in an exchange program in USA.

Your generosity helped to make my stay in USA a memorable memory and gave me a good chance to know American cultures better. Besides, I think it is really an honor for me to make friends with you and I will cherish the friendship forever. I do hope that you will come to China one day, so that I could have the opportunity to repay your kindness and refresh our friendship.

Please allow me to give my sincere appreciations to you again. And wish to see you in China soon.

Yours sincerely,

Zhang Wei

**Part B (15 points)**

48.参考范文

This bar chart shows mobile-phone subscriptions in developing countries and developed countries, measured in billions, for the years 2000 to 2008.

The mobile-phone subscriptions in both developing countries and developed countries enjoyed increase in different speed over time. In this chart, the mobile-phone subscription in developed countries maintained a continual and steady increase from 2000 to 2007 and remained constant in 2008. Meanwhile, the mobile-phone subscription in developing countries has undergone a slow increase from 2000 to 2004 and then saw a great surge from 2005 to 2007. This trend increased to a peak about 4 billion in 2008.

Based on different national situations, the reasons leading to this trend can be summarized into two points. First, the developed countries have a limited number of population, which decides that the demand for mobile-phone service is also limited and will soon be saturated. Second, as for the developing countries, they have a large population and also a large demand for mobile-phone service. And as the mobile-phone becomes more available and more affordable, there is an increasing number of people buying their mobile phones.

In my view, this trend that the number of mobile-phone subscription continues to grow in developing countries will be constant for a while in the future. And this trend would also benefit most of the mobile users both in the developing countries and developed countries.

# 2011年考研英语（二）真题答案

**Section I: Use of English (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. A | 2. C | 3. B | 4. D | 5. D |
| 6. B | 7. A | 8. C | 9. C | 10. B |
| 11. D | 12. B | 13. A | 14. C | 15. A |
| 16. A | 17. D | 18. A | 19. C | 20. D |

**Section II: Reading Comprehension (60 points）**

**Part A (40 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 21. B | 22. D | 23. C | 24. A | 25. B |
| 26. D | 27. B | 28. C | 29. A | 30. A |
| 31. C | 32. D | 33. C | 34. D | 35. B |
| 36. B | 37. C | 38. B | 39. A | 40. D |

**Part B (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 41. E | 42. D | 43. C | 44. B | 45. G |

**Section II: Translation (15 points)**

46.

谁会想到全球信息技术行业所产生的温室气体总量会与航空业不相上下——约占全球二氧化碳排放量的2%？

信息技术行业的许多日常工作都对环境造成了意想不到的破坏。每用谷歌搜索一次就会释放出0.2至7.0克二氧化碳，释放量的多少取决于使用者需要搜索多少次才能得到“正确”答案。为了把搜索结果迅速传输给用户，谷歌不得不在全世界范围内建立大型数据中心，并配备大功率计算机。这些计算机在产生大量二氧化碳的同时还会释放许多热量，因此数据中心还需要良好的空调环境，而这又会消耗更多的能量。

不过，谷歌和其他大的技术供应商都在密切监控其数据中心的工作效率并做出改进。监控只是减排的第一步，需要做的还有很多，而且这不仅仅是大公司的事情。

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

47.参考范文

Dear Li Ming,

I am writing this letter to convey my heartfelt congratulations to you for your being successfully admitted to Peking University. I know the competition this year was intense, and your hard work and perseverance eventually paid off and we are so proud of you.

I would like to give you some practical suggestions on how to make good preparations for your forthcoming university life. Firstly, you’d better make a careful plan for your study and leisure life, so that you will feel neither under pressure nor boring. What’s more, I would recommend you to continue studying English and be equipped with computer skills in your spare time, which will lay a solid foundation for your future.

I hope you will find my proposals useful and I wish you a brilliant future. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any problem.

Yours sincerely, Zhang Wei

**Part B (15 points)**

48.参考范文

It can be observed from the chart that some changes have taken place in terms of the market share of certain brands in the domestic automobile market from 2008 to 2009. Market share of Chinese brands increased substantially from 25% to 33% and the American brands also had a little increase. However, market share of Japanese brands decreased by 10% from 35% to 25%.

It’s no difficulty for us to come up with some possible factors to account for this trend.For one thing, Chinese auto producers had narrowed the technology gap between themselves and foreign competitors, and cleverly switched their promotion strategies to satisfy Chinese customers’ appetite for a bargain. For another, the drop in the number of Japanese cars in China is a natural consequence caused by frequent quality complaints.

Taking into account what has been argued, we can conclude that quality is the soul of products. Chinese automobile industry should spare no efforts to perfect their brand image by improving quality.

# 2012年考研英语（二）真题答案

**Section Ⅰ Use of English (10 points)**

1. B 2. B 3. A 4. A 5. C 6. D 7. A 8. A 9. C 10. B

11. D 12. B 13. C 14. D 15. D 16. A 17. C 18. C 19. B 20. D

**Section II Reading Comprehension(50 points)**

**Part A(40 points)**

21. A 22. C 23. D 24. B 25. A 26. C 27. B 28. B 29. A 30. C

31. A 32. B 33. A 34. C 35.D 36.D 37. D 38. B 39. D 40. C

**Part B(10 points)**

41. A 42. F 43. G 44. C 45. E

**Section Ⅲ Translation(15 points)**

当发展中国家人们考虑移民时，他们通常关心的是到硅谷或发达国家的医院和大学里工作这样最美好最光明的前景。这些人正是英国、加拿大以及澳大利亚等国家试图通过对大学毕业生实施的优惠移民政策来吸引的人才。

诸多研究表明，发展中国家受过良好教育的人极有可能选择移居他国。2004年对印度家庭进行的一次广泛调查表明，移居国外的印度人中有约40％的人受过高中以上的教育，相比之下，在所有25岁以上的印度人中，这一比例仅为3.3%。这种“人才外流”现象长期困扰着贫穷国家的决策者。他们担心这会伤害本国经济的发展，使他们失去亟需的技术型人才，而这些人本应留在自己国家，在大学里任教，在医院里工作，以及研发新奇产品供工厂生产。

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

47.参考范文

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to make a complaint about the flaws in the electronic dictionary I bought from your online store the other day.

I received the dictionary this morning. Unfortunately, there were several problems with it. Firstly, I noticed there were some scratches on its surface. In addition, what annoys me even more is that the pronunciation key on the keyboard does not work at all. I wondered if you had sent me a used one by mistake.

I strongly demand that you deal with my complaint seriously. Either a replacement or a refund will be acceptable to me. I am looking forward to your solution without delay.

Yours sincerely,

Zhang Wei

**Part B (15 points)**

48.参考范文

# This is a table showing the employees’ job satisfaction of three age groups in a company. As can be seen from the table, more than 33% of the staff aged 40 and under are dissatisfied with their jobs, and 16.7% of them feel satisfied. The staff between the ages of 41 to 50 get the highest degree of dissatisfaction and none of them feel contented. In comparison, the staff over 50 years old share the highest degree of satisfaction, with the percentage reaching up to 40%.

# From my perspective, the following reasons may explain the difference. Firstly, the people aged from 41 to 50 are under the greatest pressure from both work and family life, so they have higher expectations for the jobs, like more generous salaries and more opportunities for development. Besides, the people over 50 years old have basically achieved their career goals, and therefore they may feel much more relaxed about their jobs and life.

# In a word, the people who are the most discontent with the work situation is the middle-age group, whose conditions deserve the attention from both the company and the whole society.

# 2013年考研英语（二）真题答案

**Section Ⅰ Use of English (10 points)**

1. A 2. D 3.B 4.D 5.C 6.B 7.B 8.D 9.B 10.A

11.A 12.D 13. C 14. C 15.C 16.C 17. A 18. B 19.A 20. D

**Section II Reading Comprehension(50 points)**

**Part A(40 points)**

21. A 22. D 23.B 24.B 25.C 26.C 27. C 28.D 29.C 30. D

31. A 32. A 33.C 34.D 35.C36.B 37. B 38.A 39.D 40. C

**Part B(10 points)**

41. F 42. E 43.G 44.C 45.D

**Section Ⅲ Translation(15 points)**

从过去的53年中任意选出一天，我都能迅速地想起当天我在哪儿，那天新闻中报道了哪些事情，甚至当天是星期几。自4岁起，我就拥有这种能力了。

我从未因大脑能吸收如此多的信息而被压垮。我的思维似乎能够从容应对，大脑中的信息也被条理地储存起来。当回想起悲伤的事情来，我就会像大家一样——努力对其置之不理。我认为这并没有因为我的记忆比别人的清楚而更难做到。强大的记忆力并未使我的情感变得比别人更加敏锐和强烈。我能够回想起祖父去世的那一天，也记得他去世前一天我们赶往医院时心里的悲伤。我同样记得那天音乐剧《长发》在百老汇上演——这些记忆都只不过以同样的方式突然出现在我的脑海。

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

47.参考范文

Dear classmates,

I am writing this letter to inform that our class is going to hold a charity sale for the needy children in rural area of our province who have dropped out of school because their parents cannot afford their education. This activity will be held on our school’s playground on next Monday, January 22.

It is universally acknowledged that children are regarded as flowers and future of our nation; however, because of poverty, a growing number of kids in remote villages lost their learning opportunities which are not only crucial for their personal growth, but also essential for the sound development of the whole society. Consequently, there is no doubt that it is a noble cause to donate money to needy children through charity sale.

I really appeal to all the students to take part in this event and I will be grateful if you could come and give your donation.

Yours sincerely,

Li Ming

**Part B (15 points)**

48.参考范文

What can be seen from the chart is the proportion change of students having part-time jobs during the four years’ college study. The proportion increases slightly from the first year to the third year; however, the fourth year has witnessed a dramatic increase, surging to 88.24%.

There is no denying the fact that this trend is very pervasive in current colleges and, to some extent, quite proper. It is not difficult to come up with some possible factors accounting for this trend. To begin with, the major jobs of freshman and sophomore are to study, and to lay a solid foundation for their future work. What’s more, when students are going to step out of school and enter into society, they have to master lots of practical skills, for example, how to deal with challenges outside, so they have to take part in some part-time jobs. Apparently, doing part time job has many advantages. On the one hand, students can learn how to get along well with others and know the society more profoundly. On the other hand, to take a part-time job provides students with a valuable opportunity to put what they have learned from books into practice and make some money, which helps to reduce their families’ financial burden.

Due to the analysis above, this trend will continue for quite a while in the future. And it should be pointed out that study is the major task for college students though work experience is valuable. Students have to strike a balance between their study and part-time jobs.

# 2014年考研英语（二）真题答案

**Section I: Use of English (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. B | 2. A | 3. C | 4. A | 5. D |
| 6. A | 7. C | 8. C | 9. D | 10. B |
| 11. A | 12. B | 13. C | 14. D | 15. B |
| 16. D | 17. A | 18. D | 19. C | 20. B |

**Section II: Reading Comprehension (60 points）**

**Part A (40 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 21. B | 22. A | 23. D | 24. B | 25. C |
| 26. A | 27. C | 28. B | 29. A | 30. D |
| 31. B | 32. A | 33. D | 34. D | 35. C |
| 36. B | 37. C | 38. A | 39. C | 40. D |

**Part B (10 points)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 41. D | 42. E | 43. G | 44. C | 45. A |

**Section II: Translation (15 points)**

46.

大多数人将乐观定义为无穷尽的快乐，总感觉杯子里的水还有一半。但这正是那种积极心理学家并不提倡的虚假的快乐。哈佛大学教授塔尔·本-沙哈尔说道：“健康的乐观是与现实联系在一起的。”他认为现实的乐观主义者会积极把事情做到，而不会盲目相信一切事情有最好的结果。

本-沙哈尔运用三种方法保持乐观。当他心情低落时（比方说，一次课没讲好），他宽慰自己这是人之常情。他提醒自己并非每堂课都能达到获得诺贝尔奖的标准，总有些课的效果会差一些。第二种方法是回顾。他会分析这次讲得不好的课，哪些地方可取，哪些地方不可取，为以后的课积累经验。最后一个阶段是展望，我们要认识到在生命的宏伟蓝图中，一堂课根本算不上什么。

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

47.参考范文

Dear John,

I am Li Ming, your future roommate who come from China and is going for further education. I am writing to introduce myself and ask for some suggestions for my future life in America as well.

Firstly, I am a quiet person so that silent environment would be highly appreciated. Secondly, I like cooking and I wonder whether it is convenient for you to allow me to cook Chinese dish at home, because the preparation for Chinese cuisine may produce much smoke. Thirdly, I want to buy a car but I know nothing about traffic rules in America. Would you please give me a lesson about traffic laws in U.S.?

Wish you reply soon.

Faithfully yours,

Zhang Wei

**Part B (15 points)**

48.参考范文

As is clearly illustrated in the bar chart, the number of rural and urban population varied at different rate during the past two decades. To be specific, from 1990 to 2010, the number of rural population increased sharply from 300 million to nearly 750 million. Meanwhile, the figures of urban population decreased steadily from above 840 million to around 780 million. Isolated as the figures seem to be, they are connected to one another closely.

This graph does mirror a not uncommon social phenomenon: rural workers flood into big cities. A number of factors might contribute to this tendency, but the following one might be the critical one. First and foremost, along with the development of big cites, the number of rural citizens has been soaring in the past years, which in turn contributes to the development of urbanization. In addition, the government has worked out a series of effective policies to attract rural citizens. For example, more highly praised jobs have been offered to them. Consequently, people in mounting numbers flood into modern cities.

In a word, this chart is a perfect index of China’s fast expanding economy, especially the living quality in big cities, which attracted an expanding number of rural workers in recent decade. Meanwhile, it is reasonable for us to believe that the waves of rural citizens will definitely contribute to our nation’s development.

# 2015年考研英语（二）真题答案

**Section Ⅰ Use of English** (10 points)

1. C 2. D 3. C 4. A 5. C 6. A 7. B 8. D 9. B 10. D

11. A 12. A 13. B 14.D 15. C 16.D 17. A 18. C 19. B 20. B

**Section II Reading Comprehension**(50 points)

**Part A**(40 points)

21. D 22. B 23. A 24. C 25. B 26. C 27. A 28. C 29. D 30. D

31. A 32. C 33. D 34.A 35.D 36.B 37. C 38. B 39. B 40. A

**Part B**(10 points)

41. D 42. E 43. G 44. A 45. C

**Section Ⅲ Translation**(15 points)

假想一下你正行驶在一条熟悉的路上。这可能是你上下班的路，也可能是你进城的路，或者是你回家的路。不管是哪条路，你对路上的每一处转弯都了如指掌。在这样的路上行驶，你不会全神贯注于驾驶，也不会太多关注于沿途的风景。其结果就是你会认为路途之上所花的时间要少于其实际所用的时间。

这就是熟悉路径效应：人们总会低估熟悉的路途上所花费的时间。

这种效应是由我们分配注意力的方式所引起的。由于不必过于集中精力，当我们在熟知的路上行驶时，时间似乎过得较快。并且，之后当我们回想这段旅程时，由于我们当时并没有怎么留意，因此对其也没有什么印象，我们从而觉得这段旅程更短。

**Section III: Writing (30 points)**

**Part A (10 points)**

47.参考范文

Notice

June 5, 2014

In order to promote the awareness of British and American culture for high school students and enrich their vocation life, a summer camp will be hosted in our university. The camp will last for 10 days from June 20 to June 30, and a wide diversity of activities will be given during this period including English speech contest, campus tours, youth forum, learning strategies lectures, and so on. Therefore, 20 volunteers are needed to assist us in organizing those relative activities. They are expected to be open-minded and have a good command of English, and those with related experience are preferred.

Anyone who is interested please sent the résumé to [studentunion@pku.edu.com](mailto:studentunion@pku.edu.com) before June 10. Please do not hesitate to contact us at 60208888 if you have any further questions or suggestions.

Student Union

**Part B (15 points)**

48.参考范文

The pie chart above presents an expenditure structure of the residents during the Spring Festival in a Chinese city. Of all the expenses, money spent on gifts occupies as much as 40%, taking up the largest share. By comparison, that on transportation and on gathering dinners makes up 20% respectively. And miscellaneous cost accounts for the remaining 20%.

China is a nation that highly values courtesy and etiquette since ancient times, so it is not surprising that people spend more money on gifts than on other parts. As is known to all, Spring Festival is an important occasion in China for people to strengthen their personal relationships, during which most people will purchase and send gifts to their relatives and friends. In addition, the economic boom has brought increasing wealth to Chinese people, so they can afford those gifts they once thought too expensive to extend their best wishes and sincerest greetings to the people they cherish.

Although the consumption pattern shown in the pie chart conforms fully with Chinese traditional belief of valuing personal relationships, it is not a rational behaviour to spend so much on gifts, which will be inevitably becoming a burden to those with low income. Therefore, it is advisable to enhance people’s awareness of moderate consumption and encourage an alternative way of celebrating the Spring Festival.

# 2016年考研英语（二）真题答案

**Section Ⅰ Use of English**

1. C 2. B 3.D 4.C 5.D 6.B 7.A 8. D 9.A 10.B

11. A 12. B 13.A 14.D 15.C 16.D 17. C 18.C 19.A 20. B

**Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension**

**Part A**

21-25 BBACA

26-30 ACADC

31-35 DBDAB

36-40 BCDDC

**Part B**

41-45 DFABE

**Section III Translation**

超市的设计是为了吸引消费者在里面待得尽可能久。原因很简单：顾客在超市待的时间越长，看到的商品越多，看的商品越多，买的也就越多。超市里商品琳琅满目。根据美国食品营销研究院（Food Marketing Institute）的资料，一个普通超市大约有44,000种不同商品，许多超市的商品种类还多出好几万。过多的选择足以让消费者处于信息超负荷状态。大脑扫描实验表明，短时间内做出过多决定对我们来说要求太高。在购物大约40分钟之后，大部分消费者已不愿费力进行理性选择，转而开始感性消费——此时，我们会往购物车里堆放商品，而其中一半在之前根本没打算够买。

**Section III Writing**

**Part A**

Dear Jack,

How have you been doing recently? I am writing here to express my heartfelt appreciation to you for your congratulations and give you some advice on translation.

Firstly, as a non-English-major, you should spend more time in enlarging your English vocabulary to lay a solid foundation for translation. Secondly, reading foreign authentic magazines and newspapers is also an effective way to expand your knowledge scope, which is essential to translation. Lastly, just as the saying goes, “Practice makes perfect”. You need to persist in doing translation exercises.

Thank you again for your congratulations, and I really hope my suggestions can be helpful to you. If you still need any further information, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Li Ming

**Part B**

The pie chart above presents different proportions of students’ travelling purposes in a certain university. To be specific, the percentage of sightseeing, pressure relief, making friends, cultivating independence and others is 41%, 33%, 10%, 6% and 15% respectively. To our surprise, the two important ones are the proportions of sightseeing and relieving stress.

In fact, this chart is a miniature of a prevalent phenomenon. An increasing number of college students are travelling, either for sightseeing or stress relief. I can think of no better reasons than the following ones. On one hand, coverage of mass media, such as radio, television and Internet might propagate the benefits and low cost of travelling, which lead most of college students choose this way to relax during holidays. On the other hand, under the pressure of overload study or low employment rate, it is an easy way for college students toget away from study or city. Therefore, the problem mentioned above tends to be an increasingly depressing issue.

Anyhow, whether it is positive or negative, one thing is certain that there is a growing tendency for the youth to spend time and money on traveling, which I believe will not change in a short time.

# 

# 2017年考研英语（二）真题答案

**Section Ⅰ Use of English**

1-5 C A D A B

6-10 B C A D C

11-15 C B A D C

16-20 D A B D B

**Section Ⅱ Reading Comprehension**

**Part A**

21-25 ABCDB

26-30 BDDCA

31-35 CDADA

36-40 BDCDB

**Part B**

41-45 EAGBF

**Section III Translation**

我曾经的梦想一直以来都是为时尚界和出版界的某些方面工作。中学毕业前两年，我参加了缝纫与设计的课程，当时我认为我还能继续参加时尚设计的课程。然而，在读这些课程的时候，我意识到未来在该领域，我没有足够的能力与其他具有创新精神的人竞争，所以我意识到这条路并不适合我。在申请大学前，我告诉每一个人，我准备读新闻专业，因为写作曾经是、现在也一样是我最喜欢的活动之一。但是，说实话，我这样说是因为我觉得我进入到时尚界仅仅是一个梦想—我明白所有人都完全无法想象我在时尚圈工作！所以我决定去寻找一些既包含写作，又设计时尚的课程。而这时候，我注意到了这门课程：时尚媒体与营销。

**Section III Writing**

**Part A**

Dear Professor William,

It is my great honor to be invited to give a presentation as to Chinese culture to foreign students. I am writing to provide the specific contents of my presentation.

My presentation consists of three parts. Firstly, I will give a brief introduction about the origin and history of China’s civilization. Secondly, I will focus on the background information and relevant activities of some main festivals such as Spring Festival and Mid- Autumn in China. Finally, I will talk about Master Confucius and the Analects of Confucius, which is the symbol of traditional culture of China.

Words fail me for your invitation. I sincerely hope that my presentation would help the foreign students have a better understanding of the Chinese culture.

Yours sincerely,

Li Ming

**Part B**

The line chart given above reveals the changes as to the statistics of museums and visitors in China from the years 2013 to 2015. Specifically speaking, there has been an increase in the number of museums, ascending from 4165 to 5692. And meanwhile, the number of visitors visiting to museums has also kept an upward trend, surging by approximately 150 million from 637 million to 781 million. Obviously, it is concluded that citizens in China are more likely to visit museums in the past three years .

Several factors could account for this variation, with the following ones being the foremost. To begin with, along with the rapid increase of working pace, citizens have more willingness to choose relatively simple and easy relaxing way to get relaxed during their leisure time, which makes it possible for increasing people to visit museums. Besides, visiting museums can widen people’s horizon, increase knowledge and deepen cultural deposites and therefore increasing museums are founded. Additionally, supported bygovernmental and public funding , with preferential policy, increasing museums are free to the public, so more and more people have access to museums.

To sum up, the established trend presented in the line chart is positive and therefore acceptable. Besides, it is concluded that this the trend of visiting museums will continue in the coming few years.

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# 2018年考研英语（二）真题答案

**Section Ⅰ Use of English(10 points)**

1. D 2. B 3.C 4.B 5.A 6.B 7.C 8.D 9.A 10.C

11. B 12.C 13.A 14.D 15.D 16.D 17. A 18. B 19.D 20. C

**Section II Reading Comprehension(50 points)**

**Part A(40 points)**

21. B 22. D 23.A 24.C 25.C 26.C 27. A 28.A 29.C 30. C

31. B 32. C 33.D 34.A 35.D 36.A 37. D 38.D 39.B 40. B

**Part B(10 points)**

41. B 42. G 43.E 44.A 45. D

**Section III Translation**

一个五年级学生要完成一项家庭作业，从职业列表中选出自己未来的职业发展方向。他在“宇航员”旁边打了勾，但很快又在表中加上“科学家”这一项，也将其选中。他深信，如果多多读书，他就可以随心所欲地尝试各种职业。所以他博览群书，从百科全书到科幻小说，无所不读。他对读书太过痴迷，父母不得不规定他上桌吃饭时“不许读书”。

这个男孩正是比尔·盖茨，他迄今也未停止阅读的脚步，哪怕已身居世界上最成功的人士之列。如今，他的阅读范围已不再局限于科幻作品和工具书：最近，他透露自己一年至少阅读50本非虚构类书籍，因为这些书揭示了世界的运行方式。比尔·盖茨说：“每一本书都开创了探索知识的新路径。”

**Section III Writing**

**Part A**

Dear Prof. Smith,

I am sorry to tell you that I have to cancel my travel plan to your city for some reasons, thus I am afraid that I couldn’t visit you according to the due course. So I am writing for the purpose of extending my sincere apology to you.

Actually, I miss you very much, but I received a notice suddenly that I have to attend an exam if I would love to apply for an opportunity for further study abroad. Nevertheless I haven’t prepared for it very well Hence I have to spend more time and energy on it.

Please accept my heartfelt apology again! I am really sorry for any inconvenience I caused. And I am honorable to ask if I could make an another appointment with you. I am looking forward to your response at your earliest convenience. Regards !

Yours faithfully,

Li Ming

**Part B**

The pie chart above evidently illustrates various target elements in terms of consumers’ choosing restaurants in a certain city in 2017. To be specific, distinguishing feature took a lion’s share, accounting for approximately 36.3%. While service and surroundings made up around 26.8% and 24.2% respectively. However, the least proportions were price and other factors, occupying roughly 8% and 4.7%.

What triggers this phenomenon? Maybe at least two reasons can be identified to contribute to this matter. But the most important is that along with the development of economy, people’s living standards have been improved remarkably, as a consequence of which, an increasing amount of individuals focus on superior service and favorable surroundings when they choose restaurants rather than price. Simultaneously, there is another essential factor that after resolving the issue of food and clothing, quite a few consumers’ food conception has transformed dramatically, to the extent that they increasingly pursue spiritual consumption, which should be also taken into account.

Based on what has been discussed above: a conclusion can be drawn safely that more up-scale food services will be prevailing in modern food market. And it is predictable that those restaurants with favorable service: distinctive features and excellent circumstances will be beloved by more customers in some years ahead. However, it is advisable for the public to consume rationally, avoiding extravagance and waste.

# 2019年考研英语（二）真题答案

**Section Ⅰ Use of English**(10 points)

1-5 C D A A C

6-10 A D C B D

11-15 A C B D B

16-20 C B D A D

**Section II Reading Comprehension**(50 points)

**Part A**(40 points)

21-15 D C A C A

26-30 A A C B D

31-35 C D B A B

36-40 B B D D C

**Part B**(10 points)

41. D 42. G 43. F 44. C 45. B

**Section Ⅲ Translation**(15 points)

人们很容易低估英国作家吉米·哈利(James Herriot)。他的作品如此通俗易懂，以至于有人或许认为这种风格，人人皆可模仿。我不止一次听人说：“我也能写书。我只是没有时间。”说起来容易，做起来难。与普遍的看法相反，吉米·哈利在他称之为“初涉写作”的早年，就认为写作并非易事。他天赋横溢，尽管这是显而易见的，但他呈献给世界的、最终炉火纯青的作品仍然是多年练习、重写和阅读的结果。就像大多数的作家一样，吉米·哈利一路走来，常常经历失望，四处碰壁，但这使他更加坚定了成功的信念。吉米·哈利一生的成就来之不易，他在文学领域的成功也不例外。

**Section Ⅳ Writing**

**Part A (10 points)**

Dear Professor Smith,

I am writing to express my heartfelt thanks for giving me the chance to plan the upcoming debate. I suggest that the topic of the debate be “Is Infrastructure the main reason for traffic congestion?” . The reason why I chose this topic is that many people blame the problematic infrastructure for traffic jams in recent years.

The arrangement of the debate is listed as follows. For one thing, the debate will be held in the auditorium at 2:00pm next Friday. For another, every student of our school welcome to the sign up for the debate.

Many thanks for giving me this chance! I am looking forward to your reply at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Li Ming

**Part B (15 points)**

A survey is conducted to analyze graduates’ choices in a certain university between 2013 and2018. As can be revealed in the bar graph, the percentage of students who prefer to seek a job declines from 68.1% to 60.7%, while the proportion of those who choose to pursue further studies surges from 26.3% to 34%. Furthermore, the percentage of graduates who hope to start their own business increases slightly from 1.3% to 2.6%. This phenomenon, indeed, is worth our attention.

Why should this phenomenon take place? Generally, several factors may account for it. One of the major contributing factors for this is that with the improved quality of life, college students nowadays were born in a relatively well-off family. Most of them do not have to relieve the financial pressure of their family by taking a job upon graduation. Therefore, an increasing number of college graduates would rather pursue further studies. Also playing a part is that graduates are confronted with fierce competition in the job market. A higher degree, in a sense, is the guarantee of a decent job. As a result, more and more students prefer to pursue advanced studies to enhance their competitiveness.

In a nutshell, for the above-mentioned reasons, it is not difficult to reach a conclusion that college graduates are faced with various choices upon graduation. Therefore, it may be predicted that this phenomenon will continue in the immediate future.