

英语四级押题密卷 (A)

Part I

Writing

(30 minutes)

Directions: For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to write a short essay on the influences of media and family on children according to the following instruction. You should write at least 120 words but no more than 180 words.

Some think a family has a great influence on children's development, but others believe that the media is a bigger influence. Discuss the two views and give your opinions.

Part II

Listening Comprehension

(25 minutes)

Section A

*Directions: In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D). Then mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 1** with a single line through the centre.*

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. A) The PC market has picked up rapidly in the past months.
B) PCs are sold at lower prices during the shopping season.
C) PC shipments have gone down quickly around the world.
D) PCs have longer lifecycles by upgrading their hardware.
2. A) Rising commodity prices.
B) Competition from mobile devices.
C) Stronger currencies.
D) Social tensions in Southeast Asia.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. A) Steal Amazon users' private account information.
B) Sell individual Amazon user names and passwords.
C) Start an attack on some online shopping websites.
D) Spread a virus on online shopping websites by email.
4. A) To call the Amazon Company.
B) To check the spelling and grammar.
C) To reset passwords frequently.
D) To delete the email directly.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. A) Giving severe punishments to traffic violators.
B) Encouraging people to travel on public buses.
C) Controlling the purchase of private cars.
D) Limiting traffic by an odd-even scheme.
6. A) To relieve its traffic congestion.
B) To lessen its environmental problem.
C) To guarantee drivers' safety on the road.
D) To improve the public transport system.
7. A) Schools were shut during the trial.
B) The pressure of public transport was heavy.
C) Parents could send their children to school.
D) The government required to do this.

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D). Then mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 1** with a single line through the centre.*

Questions 8 to 11 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

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| 8. A) More than twenty minutes. | C) About twelve minutes. |
| B) At least eight minutes. | D) Less than twenty-eight minutes. |
| 9. A) She runs after the taxi in a hurry. | C) She has no idea about how far the museum is. |
| B) She doesn't know when the museum closes. | D) She looks up at the tall buildings. |
| 10. A) The one that is out of town. | C) The one that offers small servings. |
| B) The one that is inexpensive. | D) The one that is near to the museum. |
| 11. A) Talkative and humorous. | C) Warm-hearted and forgetful. |
| B) Talkative and mean. | D) Silent and unfriendly. |

Questions 12 to 15 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

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| 12. A) To help students prepare language for the further study in America. | |
| B) To help students acquire skills in English tests. | |
| C) To help students find a satisfying job after graduating from college. | |
| D) To help students familiarize with the culture in foreign countries. | |
| 13. A) They want to know the students' language levels. | |
| B) They can train applicants before the semester begins. | |
| C) They can process the application and issue the I-20. | |
| D) They can collect the application fees for other use. | |
| 14. A) It's the name of a language program. | C) It's a kind of visa. |
| B) It's the name of a document. | D) It's the code name of a major at university. |
| 15. A) The applicant's nationality. | C) The applicant's language proficiency. |
| B) The applicant's financial state. | D) The applicant's academic performance. |

Section C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear three or four questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D). Then mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 1** with a single line through the centre.*

Questions 16 to 19 are based on the passage you have just heard.

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| 16. A) He was worth respecting. | C) He didn't deserve so much respect. |
| B) He was a lonely man in the mountains. | D) He liked to be played tricks on. |
| 17. A) To examine how wise the man was. | C) To catch a living bird. |
| B) To make fun of the man. | D) To show how clever they were. |
| 18. A) The bird was dead. | C) It's hard to answer the question. |
| B) The bird was alive. | D) He found out the children's trick. |
| 19. A) A person should learn to be moral and respectful. | C) People around are much smarter than us. |
| B) A wise man can't always be wise. | D) Children often make stupid behavior. |

Questions 20 to 22 are based on the passage you have just heard.

20. A) They are both sinking slowly.
B) They are both famous tourist resorts.
C) They are both prosperous in economy.
D) They are both full of sunshine throughout the whole year.
21. A) They'll make residents live in the top part of buildings.
B) They'll call for people to abandon their homes.
C) They'll reclaim land from the sea.
D) They'll replan the local infrastructure.
22. A) Its contamination is primarily due to climate change.
B) It has been moved far away from the west.
C) It needs lots of money to fix.
D) It is polluted by saltwater intrusion.

Questions 23 to 25 are based on the passage you have just heard.

23. A) They are indeed very crazy. C) They are, in fact, reasonable to some extent.
B) They consider their dogs as their babies. D) They can't actually communicate with their dogs.
24. A) Dogs can only understand verbal directions.
B) Dogs can understand humans by interpreting their facial expressions.
C) Some dogs like to gaze at humans while some do not.
D) Dogs have the intelligence of 6-month-old babies.
25. A) They are born with the ability to interact with humans.
B) They are frequently trained by doggy parents.
C) They acquire the ability when sharing their lives with humans.
D) They will pay attention when humans talk to them in a baby-talk voice.

Part III

Reading Comprehension

(40 minutes)

Section A

Directions: In this section, there is a passage with ten blanks. You are required to select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word bank following the passage. Read the passage through carefully before making your choices. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. Please mark the corresponding letter for each item on **Answer Sheet 2** with a single line through the centre. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.

Questions 26 to 35 are based on the following passage.

According to a recent study, the idea of aging might look different through the eyes of little children. A good number of children aged three to five seemed to think that birthday parties were 26 for making people grow older. According to those kids, if people don't have a birthday party, they 27 the same age.

Developmental psychologist Jacqueline Woolley compiled two studies in which they tested children's understanding of aging by telling them stories. The researchers told them a story about a child who had no birthday party. Then, a story about a child who had two birthday parties. After hearing the stories, the children were asked to tell the age of each character.

Woolley's team 28 that 4- and 5-year-olds would do 29 better than 3-year-olds at reporting the age of the character in each story. But for the story, in which a child had two birthday parties, all the kids seemed 30.

The researchers also tested children's 31 about the way adults age by telling a story about a woman who does not want to grow older. Seventy-one percent of three-year-olds responded with 32 answers. The older kids did better on that question, and all of the kids were able to correctly answer the other questions about the woman's age.

Children as young as three understand the idea that living things grow and 33 do not. But birthday parties are a cultural 34. So the researchers set out to study how a piece of culture might 35 the way children think about an idea that overlaps culture and biology.

A) affect
B) beliefs
C) confused
D) exert
E) expected

F) extremely
G) guilty
H) mention
I) negative
J) objects

K) practice
L) positive
M) remain
N) responsible
O) significantly

Section B

Directions: In this section, you are going to read a passage with ten statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter. Answer the questions by marking the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 2**.

Collagen (胶原蛋白) supplements

- A) Any soup maker worth their salt knows that a good, full-bodied stock is semisolid and unstable when chilled, and the essential ingredient to make that happen is plenty of bones. It's why my grandmother, and now I, consider chicken feet the secret ingredient in our soups, and it explains some of the appeal of today's bone soup craze. It turns out that bones—from meat, poultry or fish—provide more than just luxurious texture; they also provide a type of protein that has become a major trend in the supplement market: collagen.
- B) Collagen is the main structural protein of connective tissue in animals, found not only in bones but also skin, *cartilage* (软骨) and *tendons* (肌腱). When collagen is heated in water, as in soup making, it results in *gelatin* (明胶), which explains that desirable jellylike texture after refrigeration. And yes, that is where the powder in those little gelatin packets used for desserts and other dishes comes from. When we eat it, gelatin is digested like any other protein—it is broken down into individual *amino acids* (氨基酸) that our bodies can use to build whatever protein it needs—including our own collagen. As we age, however, our bodies' collagen production becomes less efficient, and the tissues that depend on it, such as our skin and joints, don't get repaired the way they used to, which explains, at least in part, why our skin starts to wrinkle and we have more aches and pains as the years tick by.
- C) That's where the supplements come in. Manufacturers have found a way to apply *enzymes* (酶) to gelatin to create protein chains called collagen *hydrolysates* (水解物). These small collagen chains may be absorbed by the body to be used directly in the tissues. Predictably, there are a lot of exaggerated claims around these supplements, but there is also a lot of promising, genuine research pointing to benefits, particularly for more youthful-looking skin and help with joint pain.

- D) Several studies show improved skin flexibility and hydration and reduced formation of deep wrinkles after taking collagen hydrolysate supplements for six weeks or more, with participants older than 30 seeing the biggest improvement.
- E) A 2016 study in the *Journal of Agriculture and Food Chemistry* showed that collagen hydrolysates can be transferred through the bloodstream directly to the skin, which explains the probable pathway for these effects. The supplements may also help improve brittle nails, according to a small study published in 2017 in the *Journal of Cosmetic Dermatology* in which participants took the supplements for 24 weeks.
- F) Collagen hydrolysates have also been shown to help with joint pain in athletes and those suffering from osteoarthritis, with participants in the greatest pain getting the most relief. A 2018 meta-analysis published in the *British Journal of Sports Medicine* that examined various supplements used for osteoarthritis identified collagen as one “demonstrating clinically important effects for pain reduction in the medium term.” However, over the long term, the supplements didn’t help any more than a comfort.
- G) Besides the fact that observed benefits have mostly involved short-term studies—there is not enough evidence that the effects are anything more than fleeting—there are several other things to consider before you run out and buy collagen supplements. Although the science is building, it is relatively new and there is still a lot to learn, particularly in identifying what types of collagen chains work with different conditions. Also, although side effects appear minimal, there have been reports of digestive problems when supplements are taken in large amounts.
- H) On top of that, the bulk and cost of the supplements may be prohibitive. Supplements in pill form require swallowing six a day to get a six-gram dose. (The doses used in the studies generally ranged from five to 12 grams a day.) Powders, which can be dissolved in hot or cold liquids, are perhaps less burdensome but are roughly double the price, running from about \$15 to more than \$40 for a month’s supply. Also noteworthy: If you are looking for a general protein supplement, collagen alone would not be the best choice because it is not a complete protein—it lacks the essential amino acid.
- I) Considering that those who benefited most from collagen supplements in the studies were those who generally ate the least amount of meat and were possibly, therefore, not getting enough quality protein, it’s worthwhile, whether you decide to try a supplement or not, to turn your attention to *optimizing* (使尽可能完善) your body’s own collagen-making machinery. That means getting adequate protein overall, from meat, poultry, fish and plant proteins such as beans, nuts, seeds and grains. And you need to get enough vitamin C—found in foods such as citrus fruits, berries, bell peppers and green, leafy vegetables—which is also essential for collagen production.
- J) It’s also worth noting that, although it’s not in hydrolysate form, one cup of chicken stock or bone broth offers about six grams of collagen—rich protein in a tasty and satisfying way.
- K) This is a classic response to research that found nutrients or supplements had a benefit. Instead of recommending that people imitate the research to take the nutrient or supplement that the research found to be beneficial, the recommendation is virtually always “eat a balanced diet”—the practice that people were following before they benefited from the nutrient or supplement.
- L) The standard American diet contains too much protein. This has been known for decades. The excess protein in the standard American diet causes or contributes to many diseases. As Americans who overdose on protein, many of their “sudden” health problems, which have been developing for decades, can be traced in whole or in part to all that cheese, chicken, bacon, beef, cream sauce and other dietary excesses and misinformation resulting in obesity, Type-2 diabetes, and other preventable diseases.
- M) So a dietician perpetuates the myth that “those who ate the least meat” might not be getting enough “quality protein.” However, meat eaters have many problems from their diet, one of which is protein levels that are too high. Protein is in everything, and they’d have to eat a pathetically non-nutritious diet to compensate.

36. The price of the collagen supplements may set obstacles to their popularity.
37. The reduction of collagen is partly responsible for our wrinkles and pains.
38. Meat eaters usually have high protein levels and need to take non-nutritious food to balance them.
39. Citrus fruits and leafy vegetables are important to get collagen.
40. A 2017 study shows that the collagen supplements can improve the situation of breakable nails.
41. If taken too much, the supplements may have some side effects.
42. Americans intake too much protein from their greasy diet, which leads to many avoidable diseases.
43. In the long run, the supplements functioned only as a comfort to the joint pain.
44. Bones produce collagen—a popular protein in the supplement market.
45. The collagen hydrolysate supplements may benefit the participants who are older than 30 most.

Section C

Directions: *There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 2** with a single line through the centre.*

Passage One

Questions 46 to 50 are based on the following passage.

It often seems that some possess superhuman eating powers, allowing them to down an entire pizza while remaining rail-thin. Others only need to think of a slice and gain five pounds. Now one doctor says there's evidence that genetics could be behind some of these differences. Regardless of how much you eat, your weight may be out of your hands.

Vann Bennett, a biochemist at Duke University and his team led a new investigation and discovered why this happens. They engineered mice to have several common modifications of the gene found in humans. They observed that mice who had mutations of ankyrin-B took more *glucose* (葡萄糖) into their fat cells, which in turn made more fat. Typically, the cell *membrane* (膜) acts as a barrier to prevent glucose from entering these cells; the alteration kept the gate open.

The change may serve a useful purpose. "Probably this is not always a bad thing," Bennett told *Newsweek*. "It could help people survive famines in the past. But today we have so much food that it probably is a bad thing." Our modern diets of fast food drive-thru windows and aisles of packaged snacks make the alteration work against us.

Dieters have long been told to watch their calories and exercise more, but this new finding suggests that a blanket approach doesn't work for everyone. And the study illustrates a common problem for people: increased weight gain as a function of age. Our metabolism naturally slows with age, making it harder to maintain the weight of our 30-year-old selves when we're 50. Now add an unruly ankyrin-B gene, and it may seem impossible to stay slim.

The mice in the study gained more weight when on high-fat diets. Bennett believes this is because once the fat cells received the glucose and start making more fat, they become sensitive to other fat. Despite being studied in mice, the researchers believe further research on this gene, and possibly others, could potentially create a field of customized diets and health plans based on genetics. Bennett envisions such assessments being performed at birth one day. For now, frustrated dieters can take comfort with one saying: It's not you, it's your genes.

46. According to a doctor, what makes people different in weight?

- A) The amount of food they take in.
- B) The amount of time they spend on exercise.

- C) The genes in their body.
 - D) The different lifestyles.
47. How did a mouse gain weight with mutations of ankyrin-B?
- A) The fat cells in the mouse would take more glucose to create more fat.
 - B) The cell membrane in the mouse could open the gate of fat into the mouse.
 - C) The glucose could function as a barrier to prevent the fat from reducing.
 - D) The ankyrin-B could make the mouse eat more.
48. What was the effect of the alteration in the past?
- A) It could help people to absorb more ingredients.
 - B) It could help people to get through the starvation.
 - C) It could help people to avoid fast food.
 - D) It could help people to enjoy more delicious snacks.
49. Why is it more difficult to stay slim when we are older?
- A) Because we all lack exercise.
 - B) Because we watch our calories less.
 - C) Because we have ankyrin-B genes.
 - D) Because our metabolism slows down.
50. What is the prospect of further research?
- A) It may help people to maintain the perfect weight.
 - B) It may change many new-born babies' gene arrangement.
 - C) It may present human beings with a series of health plans.
 - D) It may provide more comfort for the frustrated dieters.

Passage Two

Questions 51 to 55 are based on the following passage.

Women make up only 14 percent of full professors in U. S. economics departments. In stark contrast to other social sciences where women typically receive over 60 percent of doctoral degrees, women in economics receive only 35 percent of doctorates.

Women have made significant progress in certain STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields traditionally dominated by men. But economics is not one of them. Startlingly, evidence suggests little progress in bringing women into economics since 2000.

Those advocating for gender equality presume that women economists need to be included when research is being conducted and when policy is being debated because they bring a different perspective than men. Women economists, for example, are more likely to favor government intervention over market solutions. Male economists not only show a greater willingness to rely on markets, they are more likely to see problems from interfering with them.

If men are the majority of full professors, younger female academics may find it harder to have their research seen as valuable. If men are the majority of editors of economics journals, it is not difficult to understand why it takes women six months longer to go through the review process for publishing in some of the top economics journals. Of course, even acknowledging the barriers to women's progress in economics, some may be convinced that the arc of history will eventually bring more women into the discipline, along with younger male economists more open to diversity. Unfortunately, there is growing reason to question that assumption. As Alice Wu's analysis of the *Economics Job Market Rumors* forum demonstrates, some of the biases that have contributed to the gender imbalance appear alive and well among those entering the profession.

The governing board of the American Economic Association, at its January meeting, responded to the issues raised by the job forum. But leaders in the profession and economists throughout the world must begin to reflect upon the many factors that have produced the gender imbalance and how to address them constructively. The profession must understand that the lack of gender parity in economics is a systemic problem that will not fix itself.

51. What can we learn about the situation of women in economics?
- A) They receive the same respect as women in other fields.
 - B) Their situation has already changed a lot since 2000.
 - C) They only occupy a small fraction in this man-dominated field.
 - D) They master higher degrees than men in this field.
52. Why are women economists important?
- A) Because they are better at economics than men.
 - B) Because they may analyze the situations in detail.
 - C) Because they are the essential part of the society.
 - D) Because they can provide different opinions.
53. What is the male economists' attitude to the market?
- A) They will let the government deal with the market.
 - B) They prefer to depend on the market itself.
 - C) They want to witness the market change in person.
 - D) They like to solve the market problems in the academic way.
54. What will happen to the gender imbalance according to the author?
- A) It will remain in the profession for a long time.
 - B) It will disappear from the profession in no time.
 - C) The profession will allow more women to enter the field.
 - D) The profession will help women get the respect they deserve.
55. What should leaders do to deal with gender imbalance?
- A) They should call on the public to face it together.
 - B) They should make public speech to spread it.
 - C) They should think about this problem and try to solve it.
 - D) They should hire more female economists.

Part IV

Translation

(30 minutes)

Directions: For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to translate a passage from Chinese into English. You should write your answer on **Answer Sheet 2**.

登山(mountaineering)是指在特定要求下,运动员徒手或使用专门装备,从低海拔地形向高海拔山峰进行攀登的一项体育活动。与其他运动项目不同,登山运动的竞技性,不是表现为运动员之间的比赛和对抗,而是表现为运动员与自然环境的抗争,是人的生命力(vitality)之体现。经常参加登山野营活动对人体有很多好处,如体内多余脂肪的消耗、延缓人体衰老等。

英语四级押题卷 (A) 答案

Part I Writing

Children's growth is always accompanied by their family, but nowadays the media plays a more and more important role in their daily life. Therefore, the topic on which of them influences children more greatly sparks a heated debate.

Some think a family has a subtle influence on children's personality, the outlook on life and the way of doing things because of the kinship and domestic intercourse. But others believe that the media is a bigger influence on the three aspects above because the mass media are more frequently exposed to children in their daily life, such as TV shows and Internet, which provide almost all kinds of information.

As far as I am concerned, I would like to take the side of the former for two more reasons. One is that parents help children with refining what is real and valuable from the tremendous amount of information from the mass media. The second is that compared with the mass media, face-to-face communication proved to be the most direct and efficient way of promoting emotions of children. Thus, family can influence the children in the way that media cannot.

Part II Listening Comprehension

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|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. C) | 2. B) | 3. A) | 4. D) | 5. D) | 6. B) | 7. A) | 8. C) | 9. D) | 10. B) |
| 11. A) | 12. A) | 13. C) | 14. B) | 15. B) | 16. C) | 17. A) | 18. D) | 19. A) | 20. A) |
| 21. D) | 22. D) | 23. C) | 24. B) | 25. C) | | | | | |

Part III Reading Comprehension

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|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 26. N) | 27. M) | 28. E) | 29. O) | 30. C) | 31. B) | 32. L) | 33. J) | 34. K) | 35. A) |
| 36. H) | 37. B) | 38. M) | 39. D) | 40. E) | 41. G) | 42. L) | 43. F) | 44. A) | 45. D) |
| 46. C) | 47. A) | 48. B) | 49. D) | 50. C) | 51. C) | 52. D) | 53. B) | 54. A) | 55. C) |

Part IV Translation

Mountaineering is a sport in which the sportsmen, under specific requirements, climb from low altitude areas to high altitude peaks with the help of specialized equipment or only through their hands. Different from other sport events, the competitiveness of mountaineering lies not in the competition and combat among athletes but the athletes' contending against nature, which is a symbol of human's vitality. It is of many benefits for people to participate in mountain climbing and camping frequently, such as the consumption of superfluous fat in the body and the delay of human body aging.