**语法填空专项练习5**

**（A）**

In two days, it will be Christmas. Children all over the world (21) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (look) forward to this day for weeks. People celebrate Christmas with food, decorations, music and more. But for many people, gift-giving is the most exciting part of the holiday.

I have fond memories of Christmas shopping with my family as a child. I enjoyed the challenge of keeping my parents’ gifts a secret. It was hard to buy gifts right (22) \_\_\_\_\_\_ their noses without them seeing. Everyone placed (23) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (wrap) gifts under the Christmas tree until Christmas morning, (24) \_\_\_\_\_\_ we opened them.

Picking a great gift requires (25) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (know) the person you’re giving it to. You need to know the person’s tastes and find something the person doesn’t already have. This can be quite a big challenge. Often it’s wise to provide a receipt (26) \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ the person needs to exchange the gift.

The best gifts are personal. Many Americans don’t feel money constitutes a good gift (27) \_\_\_\_\_\_ it doesn’t require any thought. They prefer something chosen just for the person. If the gift is a high-quality homemade gift, that’s even better.

Gift-giving reflects the reason (28) \_\_\_\_\_\_ people celebrate Christmas. Christians in particular remember the birth of Jesus. When He was born, wise men traveled many miles to visit Him, (29) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (bring) expensive gifts. But the greatest gift wasn’t from the wise men, but from God – the baby Jesus. God gave this gift because everyone needed it. We needed God to forgive our bad actions so that we (30) \_\_\_\_\_\_ live forever with Him. So on Christmas we give presents to imitate God’s action of giving the perfect gift.

**(B) Is sport always fun?**

One afternoon in the last week of term, I saw three children from my son’s school in tears being comforted by teachers. That morning, my 11-year-old had stomach pains and (21) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (throw) up several times when I noticed his sickness. Talking to other mothers, I heard about other children with stomachache or difficulty sleeping the night before.

What caused so much suffering? Sports day — not sports day at a highly competitive independent school, but at a large village primary. (22) \_\_\_\_\_\_ it causes no problem to the children who can fly (23) \_\_\_\_\_\_ the wind, for those who are poorly *coordinated* (动作协调), overweight or just not good at sport, it is terrible. Even for those who enjoy (24) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (run) but who fall halfway down the track in front of the entire school and their parents, it can prove a disaster.

As for the reason (25) \_\_\_\_\_\_ we put our children through this annual suffering, some may say that competition is character-building or it is a tradition of school life; some may assume (26) \_\_\_\_\_\_ really matters is taking part not winning. I just felt great pity for those children in tears or in pain.

Team games at the end of the ‘sports’ were fun (27) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (watch) because they produced some close races, enormous enthusiasm and lots of shouting. More importantly, (28) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (hide) a little from everyone’s gaze, the children who were not so fast or so quick at passing the ball also had the excitement of being on the winning side.

I wish that sports day could (29) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (abandon) and replaced with some other summer event. Perhaps an afternoon of team games, with a few races for those who want them, would be (30) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (stressful) for the children and a lot more fun for the spectators.