

## 2013 年 6 月六级考试真题 (第二套)

## Part I

## Writing

Directions: For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to write an essay commenting on the remark “Good habits result from resisting temptation.” You can cite examples to illustrate your point. You should write at least **150** words but no more than **200** words.

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## Part II

## Listening Comprehension

## Section A

**Directions:** *In this section, you will hear 8 short conversations and 2 long conversations. At the end of each conversation, one or more questions will be asked about what was said. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After each question there will be a pause. During the pause, you must read the four choices marked A), B), C) and D), and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 1** with a single line through the centre.*

- 1.A) Why his phone had been disconnected.  
B) Why she could not get through to him.  
C) Why he didn't leave her a message.  
D) Why he refused to answer her call.
- 2.A) The houses within his price range are sold out.  
B) Most people in this city want to own a home.  
C) He has difficulty finding affordable housing.  
D) The woman should rent a nicer apartment.
- 3.A) The woman would like the man to take care of her mail.  
B) The woman has put the number into everyone's mailbox.  
C) The new copy machine can meet everyone's needs.  
D) A code number is necessary to run the copy machine.
- 4.A) He will stop work to take care of the baby.  
B) He will find a job near his home next year.  
C) His wife is going to give birth to a baby.  
D) His wife will leave her work soon.
- 5.A) The shopping centre is flooded with people.  
B) They will come to the mall some other day.  
C) Parking in this city is a horrible nightmare.  
D) She will wait for the man at the south gate.
- 6.A) He will be back in a minute to repair the computers.  
B) It will take longer to reconnect the computers to the Net.  
C) He has tackled more complicated problems than this.  
D) A lot of cool stuff will be available online tomorrow.
- 7.A) She forgot to call her mother.  
B) Prof Smith gives lectures regularly on TV.  
C) She did see Prof Smith on TV.  
D) Her mother is a friend of Prof Smith's.
- 8.A) The man has to wait to get his medicine.  
B) The store doesn't have the prescribed medicine.  
C) The man has to go to see his doctor again.  
D) The prescription is not written clearly enough.

**Questions 9 to 11 are based on the conversation you have just heard.**

9. A) It is advertising electronic products.  
B) It is planning to tour East Asia.
10. A) A lot of good publicity.  
B) Talented artists to work for it.
11. A) Promise long-term cooperation with the Company.  
B) Explain frankly their own current financial situation.  
C) Pay for the printing of the performance programme.  
D) Bear the cost of publicising the Company's performance.
- C) It is sponsoring a TV programme.  
D) It is giving performances in town.  
C) Long-term investments.  
D) A decrease in production costs.

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

12. A) He has been seeing doctors and counselors. C) He was caught abusing drugs.

- B) He has found a new way to train his voice.  
 13. A) Singers may become addicted to it.  
 B) It helps singers warm themselves up.  
 14. A) They are eager to become famous.  
 B) Many lack professional training.  
 15. A) Harm to singers done by smoky atmospheres.  
 B) Side effects of some common drugs.  
 C) Voice problems among pop singers.  
 D) Hardships experienced by many young singers.

- D) He might give up concert tours.  
 C) Singers use it to stay away from colds.  
 D) It can do harm to singers' vocal chords.  
 C) Few will become successful.  
 D) They live a glamorous life.

## Section B

**Directions:** *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some 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.*

### Passage One

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

16. A) It has not been very successful.  
 B) It has long become a new trend.  
 17. A) It saves time.  
 B) It increases parking capacity.  
 18. A) Collect money and help new users.  
 B) Maintain the automated system.  
 19. A) They will vary with the size of vehicles.  
 B) They will be discountable to regular customers.  
 C) They will be lower than conventional parking.  
 D) They will be reduced if paid in cash.

- C) It has met with strong resistance.  
 D) It has attracted a lot of users.  
 C) It ensures drivers' safety.  
 D) It reduces car damage.  
 C) Stay alert to any emergency.  
 D) Walk around and guard against car theft.

### Passage Two

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

20. A) Half of the methane in the atmosphere is from animals.  
 B) Methane has become the chief source of greenhouse gas.  
 C) Consumer behaviour may be influenced by the environment.  
 D) Meat consumption has an adverse effect on the environment.  
 21. A) It takes time for the human body to get used to it.  
 B) It lacks the vitamins and minerals essential for health.  
 C) It enhances immunity to certain diseases.  
 D) It helps people to live a much longer life.  
 22. A) Produce green food.  
 B) Waste no food.

- C) Quit eating meats.  
 D) Grow vegetables.

### Passage Three

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

23. A) They do not know any solution.  
 B) They do not give up drunk driving.  
 24. A) To stop them from fighting back.  
 B) To thank them for their hospitality.  
 25. A) Without intervention they will be a headache to the nation.  
 B) With support they can be brought back to a normal life.  
 C) They readily respond to medical treatment.  
 D) They pose a serious threat to social stability.

- C) They do not behave in public places.  
 D) They do not admit being alcohol addicts.  
 C) To teach them the European lifestyle.  
 D) To relieve their pains and sufferings.

## Section C

**Directions:** *In this section, you will hear a passage three times. When the passage is read for the first time, you should listen carefully for its general idea. When the passage is read for the second time, you are required to fill in the blanks with the exact words you have just heard. Finally, when the passage is read for the third time, you should check what you have written.*

Self-image is the picture you have of yourself, the sort of person you believe you are\_\_  
26\_ in our self-image are the categories in which you place yourself, the roles you play, and other\_\_  
27\_ scriptors you use to identify yourself. If you tell an\_ 28\_ you are a grandfather who recently  
lost his wife and who does\_ 29\_ work on weekends, several elements of your self-image are  
brought to light —the roles of grandparent, widower, and\_ 30\_ citizen.

But self-image is more than how you picture yourself; it also involves how others see you.  
Three types of feedback from others\_ 31\_ how they see us: confirmation, rejection, and  
disconfirmation. Confirmation occurs when others treat you in a manner consistent with who you  
believe you are. You believe you have leadership abilities and your boss put you in charge of a new  
work team. On the other hand, rejection occurs when others treat you in a manner that\_ 32\_ your  
self-definition. Pierre Salinger was appointed senator from California but\_ 33\_ lost his first  
election. He thought he was a good public official, but the voters obviously thought otherwise —  
their vote was inconsistent with his\_ 34\_. The third type of feedback is disconfirmation, which  
occurs when others fail to respond to your notion of self by responding neutrally. A student writes  
what he thinks is an excellent composition, but the teacher writes no encouraging remarks. Rather  
than\_ 35\_ how others classify you, consider how you identify yourself. The way in which you  
identify yourself is the best reflection of your self-image.

### Part III

### Reading Comprehension

#### Section A

**Directions:** *In this section, there is a passage with ten blanks. You are required to select one word  
far 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 36 to 45 are based on the following passage.**

Proper street behaviour in the United States requires a nice balance of attention and  
inattention. You are supposed to look at a passerby just enough to show that you are aware of his\_\_  
36\_ If you look too little, you appear *haughty* (目中无人的), too much and you are *inquisitive* (过  
分好奇地). Usually what happens is that people eye each other until they are about eight feet  
apart, at which point both cast down their eyes. Sociologist Erving Goffman describes this as “a  
kind of\_ 37\_ of lights”.

Much of eye behaviour is so\_ 38\_ that we react to it only on the intuitive level. The next time  
you have a conversation with someone who makes you feel liked, notice what he does with his  
eyes. Chances are he looks at you more often than is usual with\_ 39\_ a little longer than the  
normal. You\_ 40\_ this as a sign — a polite one — that he is interested in you as a person rather  
than just in the topic of conversation. Probably you also feel that he is both self-confident and  
sincere.

All this has been demonstrated in\_ 41\_ experiments. Subjects sit and talk in the psychologist’s  
laboratory, \_ 42\_ of the fact that their eye behaviour is being observed from a one way vision  
screen. In one fairly typical experiment, subjects were\_ 43\_ to cheat while performing a task, then  
were interviewed and observed. It was found that those who had cheated met the interviewer’s eyes  
less often than was\_ 44\_, an indication that “shifty eyes” — to use the mystery writers’ stock  
phrase — can\_ 45\_ be a *tip-off* (表明) to an attempt to deceive or to feelings of guilt.

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| A) innocent  | I) actually   |
| B) interpret | J) subtle     |
| C) sights    | K) induced    |
| D) dimming   | L) hiding     |
| E) normal    | M) presence   |
| F) deceived  | N) doubtfully |
| G) glances   | O) elaborate  |
| H) obscure   |               |

#### 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**.

A Nation That's Losing Its Toolbox

- [A] The scene inside the Home Depot on Weyman Avenue here would give the old-time American craftsman pause. In Aisle 34 is precut plastic flooring, the glue already in place. In Aisle 26 are prefabricated windows. Stacked near the checkout counters, and as colourful as a Fisher-Price toy, is a not-so-serious-looking power tool: a battery-operated saw-and-drill combination. And if you don't want to do it yourself, head to Aisle 23 or Aisle 35, where a help desk will arrange for an installer.
- [B] It's all very handy stuff, I guess, a convenient way to be a do-it-yourselfer without being all that good with tools. But at a time when the American factory seems to be a shrinking presence, and when good manufacturing jobs have vanished, perhaps never to return, there is something deeply troubling about this dilution of American craftsmanship.
- [C] This isn't a *lament* (伤感) — or not merely a lament — for bygone times. It's a social and cultural issue, as well as an economic one. The Home Depot approach to craftsmanship — simplify it, dumb it down, hire a contractor — is one signal that mastering tools and working with one's hands is receding in America as a hobby, as a valued skill, as a cultural influence that shaped thinking and behaviour in vast sections of the country.
- [D] That should be a matter of concern in a presidential election year. Yet neither Barack Obama nor Mitt Romney promotes himself as *tool-savvy* (使用工具很在行的) presidential timber, in the mold of a Jimmy Carter, a skilled carpenter and cabinet maker. The Obama administration does worry publicly about manufacturing, a first cousin of craftsmanship. When the Ford Motor Company, for example, recently announced that it was bringing some production home, the White House cheered. "When you see things like Ford moving new production from Mexico to Detroit, instead of the other way around, you know things are changing," says Gene Sperling, director of the National Economic Council.
- [E] Ask the administration or the Republicans or most academics why America needs more manufacturing, and they respond that manufacturing gives birth to innovation, brings down the trade deficit, strengthens the dollar, generates jobs, arms the military and brings about a recovery from recession. But rarely, if ever, do they publicly take the argument a step further, asserting that a growing manufacturing sector encourages craftsmanship and that craftsmanship is, if not a birthright, then a vital ingredient of the American self-image as a can-do, inventive, we-can-make-anything people.
- [F] Traditional vocational training in public high schools is gradually declining, stranding thousands of young people who seek training for a craft without going to college. Colleges, for their part, have since 1985 graduated fewer chemical, mechanical, industrial and *metallurgical* (冶金) engineers, partly in response to the reduced role of manufacturing, a big employer of them. The decline started in the 1950s, when manufacturing generated a sturdy 28% of the national income, or gross domestic product, and employed one-third of the workforce. Today, factory output generates just 12% of GDP and employs barely 9% of the nation's workers.
- [G] Mass layoffs and plant closings have drawn plenty of headlines and public debate over the years, and they still occasionally do. But the damage to skill and craftsmanship — what's needed to build a complex airliner or a tractor, or for a worker to move up from assembler to machinist to supervisor — went largely unnoticed.
- [H] "In an earlier generation, we lost our connection to the land, and now we are losing our connection to the machinery we depend on," says Michael Hout, a sociologist at the University of California, Berkeley. "People who work with their hands," he went on, "are doing things today that we call service jobs, in restaurants and laundries, or in medical technology and the like."
- [I] That's one explanation for the decline in traditional craftsmanship. Lack of interest is another.

The big money is in fields like finance. Starting in the 1980s, skill in finance grew in importance, and, as depicted in the news media and the movies, became a more appealing source of income. By last year, Wall Street traders, bankers and those who deal in real estate generated 21% of the national income, double their share in the 1950s. And Warren Buffett, the good-natured financier, became a homespun folk hero, without the tools and *overalls* (工作服).

- [J] “Young people grow up without developing the skills to fix things around the house,” says Richard Curtin, director of the Thomson Reuters/University of Michigan Surveys of Consumers. “They know about computers, of course, but they don’t know how to build them.”
- [K] Manufacturing’s shrinking presence undoubtedly helps explain the decline in craftsmanship, if only because many of the nation’s assembly line workers were skilled in craft work, if not on the job then in their spare time. In a late 1990s study of blue-collar employees at a General Motors plant (now closed) in Linden, NJ, the sociologist Ruth Milkman of City University of New York found that many line workers, in their off-hours, did home renovation and other skilled work. “I have often thought,” Ms Milkman says, “that these extracurricular jobs were an effort on the part of the workers to regain their dignity after suffering the degradation of repetitive assembly line work in the factory.”
- [L] Craft work has higher status in nations like Germany, which invests in *apprenticeship* (学徒) programmes for high school students. “Corporations in Germany realised that there was an interest to be served economically and patriotically in building up a skilled labour force at home; we never had that *ethos* (风气),” says Richard Sennett, a New York University sociologist who has written about the connection of craft and culture.
- [M] The damage to American craftsmanship seems to parallel the steep slide in manufacturing employment. Though the decline started in the 1970s, it became much steeper beginning in 2000. Since then, some 5.3 million jobs, or one-third of the workforce in manufacturing, have been lost. A stated goal of the Obama administration is to restore a big chunk of this employment, along with the multitude of skills that many of the jobs required.
- [N] As for craftsmanship itself, the issue is how to preserve it as a valued skill in the general population. Ms Milkman, the sociologist, argues that American craftsmanship isn’t disappearing as quickly as some would argue — that it has instead shifted to immigrants. “Pride in craft, it is alive in the immigrant world,” she says.
- [O] Sol Axelrod, 37, the manager of the Home Depot here, fittingly learned to fix his own car as a teenager, even changing the brakes. Now he finds immigrant craftsmen. gathered in abundance outside his store in the early morning, waiting for it to open so they can buy supplies for the day’s work as contractors. Skilled day laborers, also mostly immigrants, wait quietly in hopes of being hired by the contractors. Mr Axelrod also says the recession and persistently high unemployment have forced many people to try to save money by doing more themselves, and Home Depot in response offers classes in fixing water taps and other simple repairs. The teachers are store employees, many of them older and semi-retired from a skilled trade, or laid off. “Our customers may not be building cabinets or outdoor decks; we try to do that for them,” Mr Axelrod says, “but some are trying to build up skill so they can do more for themselves in these hard times.”
46. Mastering tools and working with one’s hands shapes people’s thinking and behaviour.
47. The factor that people can earn more money in fields other than manufacturing contributes to the decline in traditional craftsmanship.
48. According to the author, manufacturing encourages craftsmanship.
49. According to Ruth Milkman, American craftsmanship, instead of disappearing, is being taken up by immigrants.
50. The White House welcomed Ford’s announcement to bring some production back to America.
51. According to Mr Axelrod of Home Depot, people are trying to ride out the recession by doing more themselves.
52. America’s manufacturing in the 1950s constituted 28% of the gross domestic product.
53. In Ruth Milkman’s opinion, many assembly line workers did home renovation and other skilled

- work in their off-hours in order to regain their dignity.
54. The author felt troubled about the weakening of American craftsmanship.
55. Compared with that in America, the status of craft work in Germany is higher.

### 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 56 to 60 are based on the following passage.**

The report from the Bureau of Labour Statistics was just as gloomy as anticipated. Unemployment in January jumped to a 16-year high of 7.6 percent, as 598,000 jobs were slashed from U.S. payrolls in the worst single-month decline since December, 1974. With 1.8 million jobs lost in the last three months, there is urgent desire to boost the economy as quickly as possible. But Washington would do well to take a deep breath before reacting to the grim numbers.

Collectively, we rely on the unemployment figures and other statistics to frame our sense of reality. They are a vital part of an array of data that we use to assess if we're doing well or doing badly, and that in turn shapes government policies and corporate budgets and personal spending decisions. The problem is that the statistics aren't an objective measure of reality; they are simply a best approximation. Directionally, they capture the trends, but the idea that we know precisely how many are unemployed is a myth. That makes finding a solution all the more difficult.

First, there is the way the data is assembled. The official unemployment rate is the product of a telephone survey of about 60,000 homes. There is another survey, sometimes referred to as the "payroll survey", that assesses 400,000 businesses based on their reported payrolls. Both surveys have problems. The payroll survey can easily double-count someone: if you are one person with two jobs, you show up as two workers. The payroll survey also doesn't capture the number of self-employed, and so says little about how many people are generating an independent income.

The household survey has a larger problem. When asked straightforwardly, people tend to lie or shade the truth when the subject is sex, money or employment. If you get a call and are asked if you're employed, and you say yes, you're employed. If you say no, however, it may surprise you to learn that you are only unemployed if you've been actively looking for work in the past four weeks; otherwise, you are "marginally attached to the labour force" and not actually unemployed.

The urge to quantify is embedded in our society. But the idea that statisticians can then capture an objective reality isn't just impossible. It also leads to serious misjudgments. Democrats and Republicans can and will take sides on a number of issues, but a more crucial concern is that both are basing major policy decisions on guesstimates rather than looking at the vast wealth of raw data with a critical eye and an open mind.

56. What do we learn from the first paragraph?

- A) The US economic situation is going from bad to worse.
- B) Washington is taking drastic measures to provide more jobs.
- C) The US government is slashing more jobs from its payrolls.
- D) The recent economic crisis has taken the US by surprise.

57. What does the author think of the unemployment figures and other statistics?

- A) They form a solid basis for policy making.
- B) They represent the current situation.
- C) They signal future economic trends.
- D) They do not fully reflect the reality.

58. One problem with the payroll survey is that

- A) it does not include all the businesses
- B) it fails to count in the self-employed
- C) it magnifies the number of the jobless
- D) it does not treat all companies equally

59. The household survey can be faulty in that

- A) people tend to lie when talking on the phone
- B) not everybody is willing or ready to respond
- C) some people won't provide truthful information
- D) the definition of unemployment is too broad

60. At the end of the passage, the author suggests that .
- A) statisticians improve their data assembling methods
  - B) decision makers view the statistics with a critical eye
  - C) politicians listen more before making policy decisions
  - D) Democrats and Republicans cooperate on crucial issues

### Passage Two

Questions 61 to 65 are based on the following passage.

At some point in 2008, someone, probably in either Asia or Africa, made the decision to move from the countryside to the city. This nameless person pushed the human race over a historic threshold, for it was in that year that mankind became, for the first time in its history, a predominantly urban species.

It is a trend that shows no sign of slowing. *Demographers* (人口统计学家) reckon that three-quarters of humanity could be city-dwelling by 2050, with most of the increase coming in the fast-growing towns of Asia and Africa. Migrants to cities are attracted by plentiful jobs, access to hospitals and education, and the ability to escape the boredom of a farmer's agricultural life. Those factors are more than enough to make up for the *squalor* (肮脏) disease and spectacular poverty that those same migrants must often at first endure when they become urban dwellers.

It is the city that inspires the latest book from Peter Smith. His main thesis is that the buzz of urban life, and the opportunities it offers for cooperation and collaboration, is what attracts people to the city, which in turn makes cities into the engines of art, commerce, science and progress. This is hardly revolutionary, but it is presented in a charming format. Mr Smith has written a breezy guidebook, with a series of short chapters dedicated to specific aspects of urbanity — parks, say, or the various schemes that have been put forward over the years for building the perfect city. The result is a sort of high-quality, unusually rigorous coffee-table book, designed to be dipped into rather than read from beginning to end.

In the chapter on skyscrapers, for example, Mr Smith touches on construction methods, the revolutionary invention of the automatic lift, the practicalities of living in the sky and the likelihood that, as cities become more crowded, apartment living will become the norm. But there is also time for brief diversions onto bizarre ground, such as a discussion of the skyscraper index (which holds that a boom in skyscraper construction is a foolproof sign of an imminent recession).

One obvious criticism is that the price of breadth is depth: many of Mr Smith's essays raise as many questions as they answer. Although that can indeed be frustrating, this is probably the only way to treat so grand a topic. The city is the building block of civilisation and of almost everything people do; a guidebook to the city is really, therefore, a guidebook to how a large and ever-growing chunk of humanity chooses to live. Mr Smith's book serves as an excellent introduction to a vast subject, and will suggest plenty of further lines of inquiry.

61. In what way is the year 2008 historic?
- A) For the first time in history, urban people outnumbered rural people.
  - B) An influential figure decided to move from the countryside to the city.
  - C) It is in this year that urbanisation made a start in Asia and Africa.
  - D) The population increase in cities reached a new peak in Asia and Africa.
62. What does the author say about urbanisation?
- A) Its impact is not easy to predict.
  - B) Its process will not slow down.
  - C) It is a milestone in human progress.
  - D) It aggravates the squalor of cities.
63. How does the author comment on Peter Smith's new book?
- A) It is but an ordinary coffee-table book.
  - B) It is flavoured with humorous stories.
  - C) It serves as a guide to art and commerce.
  - D) It is written in a lively and interesting style.
64. What does the author say in the chapter on skyscrapers?
- A) The automatic lift is indispensable in skyscrapers.
  - B) People enjoy living in skyscrapers with a view.
  - C) Skyscrapers are a sure sign of a city's prosperity.
  - D) Recession closely follows a skyscraper boom.
65. What may be one criticism of Mr Smith's book?

- A) It does not really touch on anything serious.
- B) It is too long for people to read from cover to cover.
- C) It does not deal with any aspect of city life in depth.
- D) It fails to provide sound advice to city dwellers.

#### **Part IV**

#### **Translation**

**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**.*

明朝第三位皇帝朱棣在夺取 (usurp) 帝位后，从南京迁都北京，于 1406 年开始建造紫禁城这座宫殿，至明永乐十八年 (1420 年) 落成。随着 1924 年清朝的最后一位皇帝溥仪退位 (abdication) 后被驱逐出皇宫，它失去了原有的功能。在这五百余年中，共有 24 位皇帝曾在此居住，统治全国。今天，紫禁城是一个博物院，也是世界上最受欢迎的旅游景点之一。游客们可以看到传统的宫殿建筑，可以欣赏保存在宫殿里的珍宝，还可以听到一些关于皇族和朝廷的传说和轶事。