A. delivery	B. alternative	C. enormously	D. floating	E. analyzed	F. process
G. determine	H. visible	I. messy	J. disturbingly	K. patterns	

Everyone knows that the Internet has changed how business operate, governments function and people live. However, a new, less __41__ technological trend is just as transformative: "big data." Big data starts with the fact that there is a lot more information __42__ around these days than ever before and it is being put to extraordinary new uses.

Consider language translation, for example. When IBM first started to work on machine translation in the 1990s, it just fed a small number of high-quality translation into a computer and programmed it to infer which word in one language is the best __43__ for another. Although this 44__ revolutionized the task of translation, the result was far from being perfect. Then, in 2006, Google burst in. Instead of millions of pages of texts, the search giant __45__ billions, from corporate websites to documents in every language from the European Union. The result is that its translations are much better than IBM's were and it covers 65 languages. Large amounts of __46 data defeated small amounts of cleaner data.

Another good example of how big data can be __47__ helpful is online shopping. Using data collected from customer shopping habits, today, Amazon can __48__ who is most likely to purchase what and when. Details such as your history and wish list help the company gain a *glimpse* (一瞥) into your interests. Goods will then be dispatched to a *logistics center*(物流中心) near you and get packed before you even order, meaning that when you do make an online purchase, same-day __49__ would be possible.

With big data, instead of trying to understand exactly why an engine breaks down or why a drug's side effect disappears, researchers can instead collect and analyze massive quantities of information about such events and everything that is associated with them, looking for __50__ that might help predict future occurrences.

Big data answers not why but what. Finally, it will mark the moment when the "information society" finally fulfills the promise implied by its name.

A. approval	B. invaders	C. addressed	D. serving	E. impact	
F. response	G. influential	H. rescued	I. mixed	J. potential	K. engaged

The German Chancellor, Angela Merkel has been named TIME's 2015 Person of the Year. She's led Germany since 2005 and is __41__ her third time.

"TIME" has named a person of a year since 1927. The recipient is someone or some group that for better or worse is considered to have had a major __42__ on world events. It is decided by the editors of the __43__ magazine. Last year the title went to Ebola fighters and the year before that, Pope Francis.

TIME Magazine gave a number of reasons why it chose Merkel, from how she's handled Europe's economic crisis, to how she's responded to terrorist attacks in the region, to how she's __44__ the continent's ongoing refugee crisis. Her high __45__ rating in Germany has slipped recently because many Germans don't agree with her __46__ to that crisis. So, the reaction in her home country was __47__.

Nancy Gibbs, the editor of TIME wrote that the Chancellor was awarded the title for "asking more of her country than most politicians would dare, for standing firm against tyranny."

She also praised Merkel, the first woman to be named the title for 29 years, for her leadership during the refugee crisis. "At a moment when much of the world is once more __48__ in a debate about the balance between safety and freedom, the Chancellor is asking a great deal of the German people, and by their example, the rest of us as well. She views refugees as victims to be __49__ rather than __50__ to be repelled..."

A. moderately	B. chances	C. accommodate	D. volume	E. conflicting	F. flow
G. constant	H. tapped	I. instinct	J. seemingly	K. slowing	

There's nothing that will ruin your day faster than being stuck in a traffic jam all morning, and it's even worse when there's (41) _____ no reason for it. There's a lot of interesting science behind traffic, though, and while understanding it might not make sitting in it any better, it can teach you how to avoid some of the mistakes we all make behind the wheel.

1. The way we *merge* (合并) causes problems

Whether you're merging from the left or the right, (42) _____ are good that you're doing it wrong and causing all sorts of problems. When most people see that they need to merge, their first (43) _____ is to do it right away. They brake, slow down, speed up, and change lanes in between oncoming traffic. According to the Minnesota department of Transportation, that's completely wrong. Sudden (44) _____ causes traffic to back up, a problem that's made worse by sudden lane changes and other cars braking to (45) _____ the merging traffic.

So what should you do? Exactly what you probably blame drivers for doing: waiting until the last minute. If you do that, traffic will fall into a more natural pattern called a "zipper merge", meaning there are no surprises, no sudden braking, and a smoother transition from one lane to another, which cuts down on backups. This does, of course, rely on other drivers to let you in at the last minute and be polite enough not to cut you off, which causes all sorts of other problems.

2. You are causing the traffic jams you hate

Traffic jams have long been *chalked up to* (取决于) the (46) _____ of traffic on the roads, but it turns out that even heavy traffic can (47) _____ smoothly if people maintain a (48) _____ speed. The problem is that we can't. Researchers have found that just one person even slightly stepping on their brakes can have a terrible effect on the traffic around them.

On even (49) _____ busy road, it can take only a few minutes for traffic to grind to a complete halt behind someone who (50) _____ their brakes to let another driver merge. The standstill usually occurs several minutes after the braking, well after the person that causes the problem in the first place has gone on his way.