

2020 年全国攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试英语一试题

Text1

(第一段) A group of labour MPs, among them Yvette Cooper, are bringing in the new year with a call to institute a UK “town of culture” award.

The proposal is that it should sit alongside the existing city of culture title, which was held by Hull in 2017 and has been awarded to Coventry for 2021.

Cooper and her colleagues argue that the success of the crown for Hull, where it brought in £220m of investment and an avalanche of arts, ought not to be confined to cities.

Britain’s towns, it is true, are not prevented from applying, but they generally lack the resources to put together a bid to beat their bigger competitors.

A town of culture award could, it is argued, become an annual event, attracting

funding and creating jobs.

(第二段)Some might see the proposal as a booby prize for the fact that Britain is no longer be able to apply for the much more prestigious title of European capital of culture, a sought-after award bagged by Glasgow in 1990 and Liverpool in 2008.

A cynic might speculate that the UK is on the verge of disappearing into an endless fever of self-celebration in its desperation to reinvent itself for the post-Brexit world: after town of culture, who knows that will follow—village of culture? Suburb of culture? Hamlet of culture?

(第三段)It is also wise to recall that such titles are not a cure-all. A badly run “year of culture” washes in and out of a place like the tide, bringing prominence for a spell but leaving no lasting benefits to the community.

The really successful holders of such titles are those that do a great deal more than fill hotel bedrooms and bring in high-profile arts events and good press for a year.

They transform the aspirations of the people who live there; they nudge the self-image of the city into a bolder and more optimistic light.

It is hard to get right, and requires a remarkable degree of vision, as well as cooperation between city authorities, the private sector, community groups and cultural organisations.

But it can be done: Glasgow's year as European capital of culture can certainly be seen as one of complex series of factors that have turned the city into the power of art, music and theatre that it remains today.

(第四段)A “town of culture” could be not just about the arts but about honouring a town’s peculiarities-helping sustain its high street, supporting local facilities and above all celebrating its people and turn it into action.

21.Cooper and her colleagues argue that a “town of culture” award could__.

- [A] consolidate the town-city ties in Britain.
- [B] promote cooperation among Britain’s towns.
- [C] increase the economic strength of Britain’s towns.
- [D] focus Britain’s limited resources on cultural events.

22.According to Paragraph 2, the proposal might be regarded by some as__.

- [A]a sensible compromise.
- [B]a self-deceiving attempt
- [C]an eye-cotching bonus.
- [D]an inaccessible target

23.The author suggests that a title holder is successful only if it__.

- [A]endeavours to maintain its image.
- [B]meets the aspirations of its people
- [C]brings its local arts to prominence
- [D]commits to its long-term growth

24.Glasgow is mentioned in Paragraph 3 to present__.

[A]a contrasting case [B]a supporting example.

[C]a background story [D]a related topic

25.What is the author' s attitude towards the proposal?

[A]Skeptical [B]Objective [C]Favourable [D]Critical

Text2

(第一段)Scientific publishing has long been a licence to print money. Scientists need journals in which to publish their research, so they will supply the articles without monetary reward.

Other scientists perform the specialised work of peer review also for free, because it is a central element in the acquisition of status and the production of scientific knowledge.

(第二段)With the content of papers secured for free, the publisher needs only find a market for its journal.

Until this century, university libraries were not very price sensitive. Scientific publishers routinely report profit margins approaching 40% on their operations, at a time when the rest of the publishing industry is in an existential crisis.

(第三段)The Dutch giant Elsevier, which claims to publish 25% of the scientific papers produced in the world, made profits of more than £ 900m last year, while UK universities alone spent more than £ 210m in 2016 to enable researchers to access their own publicly funded research: both figures seem to rise unstoppably despite increasingly desperate efforts to change them.

(第四段)The most drastic, and thoroughly illegal, reaction has been the emergence of Sci-Hub, a kind of global photocopier for scientific papers, set up in

2012, which now claims to offer access to every paywalled article published since 2015.

The success of Sci-Hub, which relies on researchers passing on copies they have themselves legally accessed, shows the legal ecosystem has lost legitimacy among its users and must be transformed so that it works for all participants.

(第五段)In Britain the move towards open access publishing has been driven by funding bodies.

In some ways it has been very successful. More than half of all British scientific research is now published under open access terms: either freely available from the moment of publication, or paywalled for a year or more so that the publishers can make a profit before being placed on general release.

(第六段) Yet the new system has not worked out any cheaper for the universities. Publishers have responded to the demand that they make their product free to readers by charging their writers fees to cover the costs of preparing an article.

These range from around £ 500 to \$5,000. A report last year pointed out that the costs both of subscriptions and of these “article preparation costs” had been steadily rising at a rate above inflation.

In some ways the scientific publishing model resembles the economy of the social internet: labour is provided free in exchange for the hope of status, while huge profits are made by a few big firms who run the market places. In both cases, we need a rebalancing of power.

26. Scientific publishing is seen as “a licence to print money” partly because ____.

- [A] its content acquisition costs nothing
- [B] its marketing strategy has been successful
- [C] its payment for peer review is reduced
- [D] its funding has enjoyed a steady increase

27. According to Paragraphs 2 and 3, scientific publishers Elsevier have ____.

- [A] financed researchers generously
- [B] gone through an existential crisis
- [C] revived the publishing industry
- [D] thrived mainly on university libraries

28. How does the author feel about the success of Sci-Hub?

- [A] Relieved
- [B] Concerned
- [C] Puzzled
- [D] Encouraged

29. It can be learned from Paragraphs 5 and 6 that open access terms ____.

- [A] free universities from financial burdens
- [B] render publishing much easier for scientists
- [C] reduce the cost of publication substantially
- [D] allow publishers some room to make money

30. Which of the following characterises the scientific publishing model?

[A] Trial subscription is offered

[B] Labour triumphs over status

[C] The few feed on the many

[D] Costs are well controlled

Text3

(第一段)Progressives often support diversity mandates as a path to equality and a way to level the playing field.

But all too often such policies are an insincere form of virtue-signaling that benefits only the most privileged and does little to help average people.

(第二段)A pair of bills sponsored by Massachusetts state Senator Jason Lewis and House Speaker Pro Tempore Patricia Haddad, to ensure “gender parity” on boards and commissions, provide a case in point.

(第三段)Haddad and Lewis are concerned that more than half the state-government boards are less than 40 percent female. In order to ensure that elite women have more such opportunities.

they have proposed imposing government quotas. If the bills become law, state boards and commissions will be required to set aside 50 percent of board seats for women by 2022.

(第四段)The bills are similar to a measure recently adopted in California, which last year became the first state to require gender quotas for private companies.

In signing the measure. California Governor Jerry Brown admitted that the law, which expressly classifies people on the basis of sex, is probably unconstitutional.

(第五段)The US Supreme Court frowns on sex-based classifications unless they

are designed to address an “important” policy interest, Because the California law applies to all boards, even where there is no history of prior discrimination, courts are likely to rule that the law violates the constitutional guarantee of “equal protection”.

(第六段)But are such government mandates even necessary? Female participation on corporate boards may not currently mirror the percentage of women in the general population. but so what?

(第七段)The number of women on corporate boards has been steadily increasing without government interference.

According to a study by Catalyst, between 2010 and 2015 the share of women on the boards of global corporations increased by 54 percent.

(第八段) Requiring companies to make gender the primary qualification for board membership will inevitably lead to less experienced private sector boards.

That is exactly what happened when Norway adopted a nationwide corporate gender quota.

(第九段) Writing in *The New Republic*, Alice Lee notes that increasing the number of opportunities for board membership without increasing the pool of qualified women to serve on such boards has led to a “golden skirt” phenomenon, where the same elite women scoop up multiple seats on a variety of boards.

(第十段) Next time somebody pushes corporate quotas as a way to promote gender equity, remember that such policies are largely self-serving measures that make their sponsors feel good but do little to help average women.

31. The author believes that the bills sponsored by Lewis and Haddad will ____

- [A] help little to reduce gender bias
- [B] pose a threat to the state government
- [C] raise women's position in politics
- [D] greatly broaden career options

32. Which of the following is true of the California measure?

- [A] It has irritated private business owners
- [B] It is welcomed by the Supreme Court
- [C] It may go against the Constitution
- [D] It will settle the prior controversies

33. The author mentions the study by Catalyst to illustrate ____

- [A] the harm from arbitrary board decision
- [B] the importance of constitutional guarantees
- [C] the pressure on women in global corporations.
- [D] the needlessness of government interventions

34. Norway's adoption of a nationwide corporate gender quota has led to ____.

- [A] the underestimation of elite women's role.
- [B] the objection to female participation on boards.
- [C] the entry of unqualified candidates into the board.

[D] the growing tension between labor and management.

35. Which of the following can be inferred from the text?

[A] Women's need in employment should be considered.

[B] Feasibility should be a prime concern in policymaking.

[C] Everyone should try hard to promote social justice.

[D] Major social issues should be the focus of legislation.

Text4

(第一段)Last Thursday, the French Senate passed a digital services tax, which would impose an entirely new tax on large multinationals that provide digital services to consumers or users in France.

Digital services include everything from providing a platform for selling goods and services online to targeting advertising based on user data, and the tax applies to gross revenue from such services.

Many French politicians and media outlets have referred to this as a “GAFA tax,” meaning that it is designed to apply primarily to companies such as Google, Apple, Facebook and Amazon—in other words, multinational tech companies based in the United States.

(第二段)The digital services tax now awaits the signature of President Emmanuel Macron, who has expressed support for the measure, and it could go into effect within the next few weeks.

But it has already sparked significant controversy, with the United States trade representative opening an investigation into whether the tax discriminates against American companies, which in turn could lead to trade sanctions against France.

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(第四段)The French tax is not just a unilateral move by one country in need of revenue.

Instead, the digital services tax is part of a much larger trend, with countries over the past few years proposing or putting in place an alphabet soup of new international tax provisions.

These have included Britain's DPT (diverted profits tax), Australia's MAAL (multinational antiavoidance law), and India's SEP (significant economic presence) test, to name but a few.

At the same time, the European Union, Spain, Britain and several other countries have all seriously contemplated digital services taxes.

(第五段)These unilateral developments differ in their specifics, but they are all designed to tax multinationals on income and revenue that countries believe they should have a right to tax, even if international tax rules do not grant them that right.

In other words, they all share a view that the international tax system has failed to

keep up with the current economy.

(第六段)In response to these many unilateral measures, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is currently working with 131 countries to reach a consensus by the end of 2020 on an international solution.

Both France and the United States are involved in the organization's work, but France's digital services tax and the American response raise questions about what the future holds for the international tax system.

(第七段)France's planned tax is a clear warning: Unless a broad consensus can be reached on reforming the international tax system, other nations are likely to follow suit, and American companies will face a cascade of different taxes from

dozens of nations that will prove burdensome and costly.

36. The French Senate has passed a bill to_____.

- [A] regulate digital services platforms.
- [B] protect French companies' interests
- [C] impose a levy on tech multinationals
- [D] curb the influence of advertising

37. It can be learned from Paragraph 2 that the digital services tax_____.

- [A] may trigger countermeasures against France
- [B] is apt to arouse criticism at home and abroad
- [C] aims to ease international trade tensions
- [D] will prompt the tech giants to quit France

38. The countries adopting the unilateral measures share the opinion that_____.

- [A] redistribution of tech giants' revenue must be ensured.
- [B] the current international tax system needs upgrading.
- [C] tech multinationals' monopoly should be prevented.
- [D] all countries ought to enjoy equal taxing rights.

39. It can be learned from Para 5 that the OECD's current work_____.

[A] is being resisted by US companies

[B] needs to be readjusted immediately

[C] is faced with uncertain prospects

[D] needs to involve more countries

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

[A] France Is Confronted with Trade Sanctions

[B] France leads the charge on Digital Tax

[C] France Says "NO" to Tech Multinationals

[D] France Demands a Role in the Digital Economy