

5 月 17 日 GRE 考试机经

阅读

Passage 64

In the life of Charlotte Bronte(1857), the first and the most celebrated biography of novelist Charlotte Bronte, Elizabeth Gaskell promoted the long-persisting romantic view of Bronte as having no connection with the rest of English society at a time when industrialization was causing much turbulence, but as having sprung naturally, like so much purple heather, out of the English countryside. Gaskell also portrayed Bronte as irreproachably proper, incapable of “unladylike” feelings or dangerous views; this was at variance with the subversive spirit Matthew Arnold accurately discerned, albeit with distance, deep within Bronte’ s fiction. While correcting many of Gaskell’ s errors and omissions at last, even Winifred Gerin’ s Charlotte Bronte: The Evolution of Genius(1967) failed to discard Gaskell’ s viewpoint. Feminist have introduced new interpretations of Bronte’ s life, but it is primarily Juliet Barker who takes into account the larger world that impinged on that life--the changing England in which old divisions of class and gender were under pressure.

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Passage 71

The Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, ratified in 1868,prohibits state governments from denying citizens the “equal protection of the laws.” Although precisely what the framers of the amendment meant by this equal protection clause remains unclear, all interpreters agree that the framers’ immediate objective was to provide a constitutional warrant for the Civil Rights Act of 1866, which guaranteed the citizenship of all persons born in the United States and subject to United States jurisdiction. This declaration, which was echoed in the text of the Fourteenth Amendment, was designed primarily to counter the Supreme Court’s ruling in Dred Scott v. Sandford that Black people in the United States could be denied citizenship. The act was vetoed by President Andrew Johnson, who argued that the Thirteenth Amendment, which abolished slavery, did not provide Congress with the authority to extend citizenship and equal protection to the freed slaves. Although Congress promptly overrode Johnson’s veto, supporters of the act sought to ensure its constitutional foundations with the passage of the Fourteenth Amendment.

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Passage 87

What accounts for the low-lying, flat surface of Mars’s north? On Earth’s surface, higher- and lower-lying areas have different types of crust: one, thin and dense, is pulled toward

Earth's center more strongly by gravity, and the planet's water naturally comes to sit over it, creating oceans. The processes that generate this oceanic crust drive plate tectonics.

Is Mars's north similarly characterized by a sort of crust different from other areas of the planet? Some researchers do see signs of tectonic activity surrounding the northern basin that suggest that it was created through the formation of new crust, like ocean basins on Earth. However, McGill points to Northern bedrock structures that predate the features said to mark the start of the tectonic process. McGill instead believes that through some novel mechanism the ancient surface sank to its current depth as a single unit. This would explain why features around the basin's edge, which would have formed as the surface dropped, seem to be younger than structures at its floor.

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Passage 131

Animals live longer when their calorie intake is restricted to two-thirds of what is considered normal for their species. Animals so restricted are also generally healthier: most disease, including cancer, diabetes, and neurodegenerative illness, are forestalled. **This phenomenon was long attributed to a simple slowing of metabolism** (cells' production of energy from fuel molecules) and consequent reproduction of its toxic by-products in response to less food. In fact, however, calorie restriction does not slow mammalian metabolism, and **in yeast and worms, metabolism is both sped up and altered**. Some scientists now theorize that calorie restriction is a biological stressor that, like natural food scarcity, induces a more complex defensive response, which in mammals includes changes in cellular defenses and repair.

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填空

4-7. Harper Lee's narration in *To Kill a Mockingbird* is _____, mixing an adult's and a child's perspective according to no logic other than the immediate exigencies of the plot.

- A. a paradigm
- B. a hodgepodge
- C. a model
- D. an innovation
- E. a patchwork
- F. an embarrassment

7-4. She was never (i) _____; she was nothing if not discreet, so she (ii) _____ for the present to declare her passion.

A. precipitate	D. pretended
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B. tactful	E. decided
C. thoughtful	F. forbore

7-8. The concert hall's suspended ceiling is two-inch-thick plaster that reflects low-frequency sound energy; similarly, all wall surfaces are angled and shaped to _____ sound from the stage throughout the audience area.

- A. diffuse
- B. amplify
- C. spread
- D. dampen
- E. eclipse
- F. deaden

9-3. The description of Green's scholarship as (i)_____ is grossly misleading: while her research on interstellar particles is not especially novel, the conclusions she draws from her data are (ii)_____.

A. esoteric	D. remarkably pioneering
B. tendentious	E. dubiously supported
C. derivative	F. strangely comforting

16-2. In protoscientific (for example, in ancient Greece), claims about the physical world were often accepted as true if they were reasonable; experimental verification, if thought necessary at all, was _____.

- A. utilitarian
- B. perfunctory
- C. egregious
- D. empirical
- E. inductive

17-5. The building affairs minister rightly recognizes that the current planning system—under which the government controls every aspect of construction—creates disastrous developments, but she is wrong to propose the opposite: the wholesale (i)_____ of the building market. Such a complete (ii)_____ of responsibility on the part of the state can hardly be in the public's interest.

A. liberalization	D. abnegation
B. preservation	E. recapitulation
C. regulation	F. accretion

17-6. Publisher, publicist, and broadcasters love anniversaries, those occasions when historical events become (i)_____ in (ii)_____ culture of celebration. On such occasions patriotic sentiment and national pride are wrapped in the panoply of history to manufacture a mythical past that is serviceable for public (iii)_____.

A. elusive moments	D. an authentic	G. consumption
B. marketable artifacts	E. a commercial	H. scrutiny
C. raging controversies	F. an elitist	I. censure

27-1. Though many avant-garde writers _____ traditional distinctions among literary categories, combining elements of biography and fiction, prose and poetry, this fusion of forms has been slow to catch on with publishers.

- A. flout
- B. presuppose
- C. exploit
- D. imitate
- E. illuminate

45-2. Carmen's affection for her sister, though not _____, was plainly too great to permit a painless departure.

- A. unsteady
- B. ambivalent
- C. careless
- D. unbounded
- E. noticeable

50-3. Partly because of Lee's skill at synthesizing (i)_____ trends drawn from many fields of study, her theories appeared to present, with uncanny aptness, ideas already (ii)_____ in the minds of her contemporaries.

A. superseded	D. discredited
B. irrelevant	E. well established
C. emergent	F. half-formulated

53-3. Knowing how (i)_____ she was at work, her colleagues were surprised at her (ii)_____ throughout the dinner.

A. dependable	D. timidity
B. diffident	E. assertiveness

C. diligent

F. punctiliousness

54-8. In their quest for kinder cutting, physicians increasingly rely on endoscopic surgery, replacing large scalpels and clamps with cameras and _____ tools that snake into the body through tiny holes.

A. flexibility

B. rigidity

C. magnitude

D. suppleness

E. enormity

F. precision

64-1. Discussions of impending water shortages are often couched in apocalyptic rhetoric, yet if the language is somewhat _____, the basic message is sound: water is indeed scarce and growing scarcer.

A. abstract

B. complacent

C. ambiguous

D. unfamiliar

E. overblown

64-5. So (i) _____ is the reputation of the country's police for corruption and other forms of (ii) _____ that it has become a kind of tradition that every newly appointed police chief pledges to (iii) _____ the force.

A. persisted

D. indolence

G. contradict

B. paralyzing

E. incompetence

H. reform

C. unfounded

F. criminality

I. reward

68-4. Research note that wolves' otherwise strongly hierarchical society is marked by occasional displays of populist (i) _____. If a pack leader proves a too-snappish tyrant, subordinate wolves will (ii) _____ the top cur.

A. umbrage

D. collectively overthrow

B. expiation

E. eventually placate

C. torpor

F. quickly appraise

74-3. The novel's heroine shows a remarkable (i)_____ to worship at the altar of youth; in her world, youth is (ii)_____, while age, by contrast, confers competence and wisdom.

A. disinclination	D. incredulous
B. desire	E. sagacious
C. tendency	F. callow

81-7. In its few decades of existence, the field of technology assessment has undergone large changes: its original high ambitions to predict consequences of technology have been _____ if not discarded.

- A. deferred
- B. subverted
- C. abandoned
- D. relinquished
- E. tempered
- F. modulated

83-3. Since he had demonstrated (i)_____ talent as an amateur, several of his acquaintances (ii)_____ a career on the stage, but he followed his parents' wishes, becoming an engineer.

A. an innocuous	D. aided him in pursuing
B. an unremarkable	E. badgered him to pursue
C. the requisite	F. swayed him into pursuing

95-2. In the 1630s, directors of the Dutch West India Company received reports of minor problems from their agents with _____, as the company was wealthy enough not to be overly concerned about small frustrations.

- A. trepidation
- B. consternation
- C. gratitude
- D. equanimity
- E. exhilaration

98-6. One of the fundamental problems with learning mathematics is that while the number sense may be (i)_____, exact calculation requires cultural tools—symbols and algorithms—that are relatively new and must therefore be absorbed by areas of

the brain designed for other purposes, which is easier when what we are learning (ii)_____ our built-in circuitry with an understanding of it we can at least (iii)_____ our teaching methods by reflecting on the constraints it imposes.

A. innate	D. harmonizes with	G. preserve
B. modern	E. intrudes on	H. discard
C. complex	F. goes beyond	I. adapt

103-8. It's true that occasional _____ entries might have been edited without damaging the diary's overall impact, but the very completeness of Clara's eloquent reflections conveys a strong sense of the density of a young woman's experiences.

- A. verbose
- B. redundant
- C. long-winded
- D. curt
- E. mundane
- F. laconic

109-3. Although strikes remain rarer in Britain than in many other European countries, and their economic impact is (i)_____ compared to the great upheavals of the 1970s and 1980s, their number has (ii)_____ after a few years of somewhat greater calm.

A. inconclusive	D. exploded
B. demoralizing	E. declined
C. negligible	F. revived

写作

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