

# 四级考前冲刺训练营

Justin 王泓锦

## 阅读

A new batch of young women—members of the so-called Millennial (千禧的) generation—has been entering the workforce for the past decade. At the starting line of their careers, they are better educated than their mothers and grandmothers had been—or than their young male counterparts are now. But when they look ahead, they see roadblocks to their success. They believe that women are paid less than men for doing the same job. They think it's easier for men to get top executive jobs than it is for them. And they assume that if and when they have children, it will be even harder for them to advance in their careers.

While the public sees greater workplace equality between men and women now than it did 20-30 years ago, most believe more change is needed. Among Millennial women, 75% say this country needs to continue making changes to achieve gender equality in the workplace, compared with 57% of Millennial men. Even so, relatively few young women (15%) say they have been discriminated against at work because of their gender.

As Millennial women come of age they share many of the same views and values about work as their male counterparts. They want jobs that provide security and flexibility, and they place relatively little importance on high pay. At the same time, however, young working women are less likely than men to aim at top management jobs: 34% say they're not interested in becoming a boss or top manager; only 24% of young men say the same. The gender gap on this question is even wider among working adults in their 30s and 40s, when many women face the trade-offs that go with work and motherhood.

These findings are based on a new Pew Research Center survey of 2,002 adults, including 810 Millennials (ages 18-32), conducted Oct. 7-27, 2013. The survey finds that, in spite of the dramatic gains women have made in educational attainment and labor force participation in recent decades, young women view this as a man's world—just as middle-aged and older women do.

51. What do we learn from the first paragraph about Millennial women starting their careers?

- A. They can get ahead only by striving harder.
- B. They expect to succeed just like Millennial men.
- C. They are generally quite optimistic about their future.
- D. They are better educated than their male counterparts.

52. How do most Millennial women feel about their treatment in the workplace?

- A. They are the target of discrimination.
- B. They find it satisfactory on the whole.
- C. They think it needs further improving.
- D. They find their complaints ignored.

53. What do Millennial women value most when coming of age?

- A. A sense of accomplishment.
- B. Job stability and flexibility.
- C. Rewards and promotions.
- D. Joy derived from work.

54. What are women in their 30s and 40s concerned about?

- A. The welfare of their children.
- B. The narrowing of the gender gap.
- C. The fulfillment of their dreams in life.
- D. The balance between work and family.

55. What conclusion can be drawn about Millennial women from the 2013 survey?

- A. They still view this world as one dominated by males.
- B. They account for half the workforce in the job market.
- C. They see the world differently from older generations.
- D. They do better in work than their male counterparts.

### **Some College Students Are Angry That They Have to Pay to Do Their Homework**

A) Digital learning systems now charge students for access codes needed to complete coursework, take quizzes, and turn in homework. As universities go digital, students are complaining of a new hit to their finances that's replacing—and sometimes joining—expensive textbooks: pricey online access codes that are required to complete coursework and submit assignments.

B) The codes—which typically range in price from \$ 80 to \$ 155 per course—give students online access to systems developed by education companies like McGraw Hill and Pearson. These companies, which long reaped big profits as textbook publishers, have boasted that their new online offerings, when pushed to students through universities they partner with, represent the future of the industry.

C) But critics say the digital access codes represent the same profit-seeking ethos (观念) of the textbook business, and are even harder for students to opt out of. While they could once buy second-hand textbooks, or share copies with friends, the digital systems are essentially impossible to avoid.

D) "When we talk about the access code we see it as the new face of the textbook monopoly (垄断), a new way to lock students around this system," said Ethan Senack, the higher education advocate for the U.S. Public Interest Research Group, to BuzzFeed News. "Rather than \$250 (for a print textbook) you're paying \$ 120," said Senack. "But because it's all digital it eliminates the used book market and eliminates any sharing and because homework and tests are through an access code, it eliminates any ability to opt out."

E) Sarina Harpet, a 19-year-old student at Virginia Tech, was faced with a tough dilemma when she first started college in 2015—pay rent or pay to turn in her chemistry homework. She told BuzzFeed

News that her freshman chemistry class required her to use Connect, a system provided by McGraw Hill where students can submit homework, take exams and track their grades. But the code to access the program cost \$ 120—a big sum for Harper, who had already put down \$ 450 for textbooks, and had rent day approaching.

F) She decided to wait for her next work-study paycheck, which was typically \$ 150- \$ 200, to pay for the code. She knew that her chemistry grade may take a dive as a result. "It's a balancing act," she said. "Can I really afford these access codes now?" She didn't hand in her first two assignments for chemistry, which started her out in the class with a failing grade.

G) The access codes may be another financial headache for students, but for textbook businesses, they're the future. McGraw Hill, which controls 21% of the higher education market, reported in March that its digital content sales exceeded print sales for the first time in 2015. The company said that 45% of its \$ 140 million revenue in 2015 "was derived from digital products."

H) A Pearson spokesperson told BuzzFeed News that "digital materials are less expensive and a good investment" that offer new features, like audio texts, personalized knowledge checks and expert videos. Its digital course materials save students up to 60% compared to traditional printed textbooks, the company added. McGraw Hill didn't respond to a request for comment, but its CEO David Levin told the Financial Times in August that "in higher education, the era of the printed textbook is now over."

I) The textbook industry insists the online systems represent a better deal for students. "These digital products aren't just mechanisms for students to submit homework, they offer all kinds of features," David Anderson, the executive director of higher education with the Association of American Publishers, told BuzzFeed News. "It helps students understand in a way that you can't do with print homework assignments."

J) David Hunt, an associate professor in sociology at Augusta University, which has rolled out digital textbooks across its math and psychology departments, told BuzzFeed News that he understands the utility of using systems that require access codes. But he doesn't require his students to buy access to a learning program that controls the class assignments. "I try to make things as inexpensive as possible," said Hunt, who uses free digital textbooks for his classes but designs his own curriculum. "The online systems may make my life a lot easier but I feel like I'm giving up control. The discussions are the things where my expertise can benefit the students most."

K) A 20-year-old junior at Georgia Southern University told BuzzFeed News that she normally spends \$ 500-\$ 600 on access codes for class. In one case, the professor didn't require students to buy a textbook, just an access code to turn in homework. This year she said she spent \$ 900 on access codes to books and programs. "That's two months of rent," she said. "You can't sell any of it back. With a traditional textbook you can sell it for \$ 30 - \$ 50 and that helps to pay for your new semester's books. With an access code, you're out of that money. "

L) Benjamin Wolverton, a 19-year-old student at the University of South Carolina, told BuzzFeed News that "it's ridiculous that after paying tens of thousands in tuition we have to pay for all these access codes to do our homework." Many of the access codes he's purchased have been required simply to complete homework or quizzes. "Often it's only 10% of your grade in class," he said. "You're paying so much money for something that hardly affects your grade—but if you didn't have it, it would affect your grades enough. It would be bad to start out at a B or C." Wolverton said he spent \$ 500 on access codes for digital books and programs this semester.

M) Harper, a poultry (家禽) science major, is taking chemistry again this year and had to buy a new access code to hand in her homework. She rented her economics and statistics textbooks for about \$ 20 each. But her access codes for homework, which can't be rented or bought second-hand, were her most expensive purchases: \$ 120 and \$ 85.

N) She still remembers the sting of her first experience skipping an assignment due to the high prices. "We don't really have a missed assignment policy," she said. "If you miss it, you just miss it. I just got zeros on a couple of first assignments. I managed to pull everything back up. But as a scared freshman looking at their grades, it's not fun."

36. A student's yearly expenses on access codes may amount to their rent for two months.

37. The online access codes may be seen as a way to tie the students to the digital system.

38. If a student takes a course again, they may have to buy a new access code to submit their assignments.

39. McGraw Hill accounts for over one-fifth of the market share of college textbooks.

40. Many traditional textbook publishers are now offering online digital products, which they believe will be the future of the publishing business.

41. One student complained that they now had to pay for access codes in addition to the high tuition.

42. Digital materials can cost students less than half the price of traditional printed books according to a publisher.

43. One student decided not to buy her access code until she received the pay for her part-time job.

44. Online systems may deprive teachers of opportunities to make the best use of their expertise for their students.

45. Digital access codes are criticized because they are profit-driven just like the textbook business.

## 翻译

近年来，中国有越来越多的城市开始建设地铁。发展地铁有助于减少城市的交通拥堵和空气污染。地铁具有安全、快捷和舒适的优点。越来越多的人选择地铁作为每天上班或上学的主要交通工具。如今，在中国乘坐地铁正变得越来越方便。在有些城市里，乘客只需用卡或手机就可以乘坐地铁。许多当地老年市民还可以免费乘坐地铁。

In recent years, more and more cities in China have begun to build subways. The development of

subway helps to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution in cities. The subway has the advantages of safety, speed and comfort. More and more people choose the subway as the main means of transportation to work or go to school every day. Nowadays, it is becoming more and more convenient to take the subway in China. In some cities, passengers can take the subway with a card or cell phone. Many elderly local citizens can also take the subway free of charge.

过去，乘飞机出行对大多数中国人来说是难以想象的。如今，随着经济的发展和水平的提高，越来越多的中国人包括许多农民和外出务工人员都能乘飞机出行。他们可以乘飞机到达所有大城市，还有很多城市也在筹建机场。航空服务不断改进，而且经常会有廉价机票。近年来，节假日期间选择乘飞机外出旅游的人数在不断增加。

In the past, it was unthinkable for most Chinese to travel by air. Nowadays, with the development of economy and the improvement of living standard, more and more Chinese people, including many farmers and migrant workers, can travel by air. They can fly to all the big cities, and many more are building airports. Air services are improving and there are often cheap tickets. In recent years, the number of people who choose to travel by air during holidays is increasing.

公交车曾是中国人出行的主要交通工具。近年来，由于私家车数量不断增多，城市的交通问题越来越严重。许多城市为了鼓励更多人乘坐公交车出行，一直在努力改善公交车的服务质量。车辆的设施不断更新，车速也有了显著提高。然而，公交车的票价却依然相当低廉。现在，在大多数城市，许多当地老年市民都可以免费乘坐公交车。

Buses used to be the main means of transportation for Chinese people. In recent years, because of the increasing number of private cars, traffic problems have become more and more serious in cities. In order to encourage more people to travel by bus, many cities have been trying to improve the quality of the bus service. The facilities of the vehicles are constantly updated and the speed has been significantly improved. However, bus fares are still fairly cheap. Nowadays, in most cities, many elderly citizens can take buses for free.

# 听力

## Section A

Directions: In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report 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.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1.

- A) Annoyed.
- B) Scared.
- C) Confused.
- D) Offended.

2.

- A) It crawled over the woman's hands.
- B) It wound up on the steering wheel.
- C) It was killed by the police on the spot.
- D) It was covered with large scales.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3.

- A) A study of the fast-food service.
- B) Fast food customer satisfaction.
- C) McDonald's new business strategies.
- D) Competition in the fast-food industry.

4.

- A) Customers' higher demands.
- B) The inefficiency of employees.
- C) Increased variety of products.
- D) The rising number of customers.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5.

- A) International treaties regarding space travel programs.
- B) Legal issues involved in commercial space exploration.
- C) U.S. government's approval of private space missions.
- D) Competition among public and private space companies.

6.

- A) Deliver scientific equipment to the moon.
- B) Approve a new mission to travel into outer space.
- C) Work with federal agencies on space programs.
- D) Launch a manned spacecraft to Mars.

7.

- A) It is significant.
- B) It is promising.
- C) It is unpredictable.
- D) It is unprofitable.

## **Section B**

Directions: In this section, you will hear two long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation 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.

Questions 8 to 11 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

8.

- A) Visiting her family in Thailand.
- B) Showing friends around Phuket.
- C) Swimming around a Thai island.
- D) Lying in the sun on a Thai beach.

9.

- A) She visited a Thai orphanage.
- B) She met a Thai girl's parents.
- C) She learned some Thai words.
- D) She sunbathed on a Thai beach.

10.

- A) His class will start in a minute.
- B) He has got an incoming phone call.
- C) Someone is knocking at his door.
- D) His phone is running out of power.

11.

- A) He is interested in Thai artworks.
- B) He is going to open a souvenir shop.
- C) He collects things from different countries.
- D) He wants to know more about Thai culture.

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

12.

- A) Buying some fitness equipment for the new gym.
- B) Opening a gym and becoming personal trainers.
- C) Signing up for a weight-loss course.
- D) Trying out a new gym in town.

13.

- A) Professional personal training.
- B) Free exercise for the first week.
- C) A discount for a half-year membership.
- D) Additional benefits for young couples.

14.

- A) The safety of weight-lifting.
- B) The high membership fee.
- C) The renewal of his membership.
- D) The operation of fitness equipment.

15.

- A) She wants her invitation renewed.
- B) She used to do 200 sit-ups every day.
- C) She knows the basics of weight-lifting.
- D) She used to be the gym's personal trainer.

### Section C

Directions: In this section, you will hear three passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear three or four 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.

Questions 16 to 18 are based on the passage you have just heard.

16.

- A) They tend to be nervous during interviews.
- B) They often apply for a number of positions.
- C) They worry about the results of their applications.
- D) They search extensively for employers' information.

17.

- A) Get better organized.
- B) Edit their references.
- C) Find better-paid jobs.
- D) Analyze the searching process.

18.

- A) Provide their data in detail.
- B) Personalize each application.
- C) Make use of better search engines.
- D) Apply for more promising positions.



Questions 19 to 21 are based on the passage you have just heard.

19.

- A) If kids did not like school, real learning would not take place.
- B) If not forced to go to school, kids would be out in the streets.
- C) If schools stayed the way they are, parents were sure to protest.
- D) If teaching failed to improve, kids would stay away from school.

20.

- A) Allow them to play interesting games in class.
- B) Try to stir up their interest in lab experiments.
- C) Let them stay home and learn from their parents.
- D) Design activities they now enjoy doing on holidays.

21.

- A) Allow kids to learn at their own pace.
- B) Encourage kids to learn from each other.
- C) Organize kids into various interest groups.
- D) Take kids out of school to learn at first hand.

Questions 22 to 25 are based on the passage you have just heard.

22.

- A) It is especially popular in Florida and Alaska.
- B) It is a major social activity among the young.
- C) It is seen almost anywhere and on any occasion.
- D) It is even more expressive than the written word.

23.

- A) It is located in a big city in Iowa.
- B) It is really marvelous to look at.
- C) It offers free dance classes to seniors.
- D) It offers people a chance to socialize.

24.

- A) Their state of mind improved.
- B) They became better dancers.
- C) They enjoyed better health.
- D) Their relationship strengthened.

25.

- A) It is fun.
- B) It is life.
- C) It is exhausting.
- D) It is rhythmical.