

Listening and Speaking

1.

The function of art is often to 1) appeal to the senses, or to communicate emotions and ideas. The ways in which we use art depend on the type of art in question. We can 2) break down the way that art functions broadly into two groups: motivated and non-motivated. Motivated art is art that has been given an 3) intentional, conscious purpose by the artist or creator, such as popular culture and decorative arts. Non-motivated art functions on an innate human level and does not 4) fulfill a specific external purpose. 5) Creativity and the basic human need for 6) harmony, balance, and rhythm, are examples of non-motivated artistic functions. Popular art usually functions as 7) entertainment for the viewers, such as with a film or video game, but can also be used to 8) influence popular conceptions. Decorative arts include any object that might be used in everyday life, from chairs to ceramics. Typically, their purposes are 9) obvious, and their aesthetic value is often 10) secondary to their utilitarian function.

Text A

Reading Comprehension

1.

A.

1) F 2) O 3) O 4) O 5) F 6) F 7) O

B.

1) (1) The tree serves to connect earth and sky and this could reflect the artist's own thoughts about death — that death is the destination of life's journey.

(2) The cypress tree is usually found in cemeteries and associated with mourning.

2) (1) It has great influence on poetry, fiction and music.

(2) The famous song "Vincent" or "Starry, Starry Night" by Don McLean is focused on The Starry Night.

3) (1) Van Gogh got inspiration from Paul Gauguin.

(2) Firstly, Van Gogh began painting more from memory, as Gauguin had done.

Secondly, his works became more decorative and less accurate like Gauguin's.

4) (1) Van Gogh uses color to convey emotion.

(2) He used white and yellow to create a spiral effect and draw attention to the sky.

2.

1) It is considered Van Gogh's greatest artistic achievement and is one of the most famous and reproduced works in the art world.

2) According to the text, the painting has multifold themes, which include:

(1) nighttime landscape featuring a contrast between the night sky brimming with energy and the silent village below; (2) the belief that even with darkness it is still possible to see light and hope; (3) an understanding of death.

3) The cypress tree symbolizes mourning and a connection between life and death.

4) They symbolize life and death.

5) They symbolize Van Gogh's frame of mind and his search for hope during a time of great illness.

Language in Use

4.

- 1) agitation, agitated

- 2) eternal, eternity

- 3) rival, rivalry

- 4) symbolize, symbolic

- 5) characteristic, characterize

- 6) opt, options
- 7) gloomy, gloom

- 8) interpretation, interpret

5.

- 1) contrasted with

- 2) Hailed as

- 3) refer to

- 4) conjure up

- 5) move away from

- 6) brimming with

- 7) associated with

- 8) perceive as

6.

B.

- 1) fondness for

- 2) compatibility with

- 3) confidence in

- 4) departure from

- 5) addiction to

- 6) conception of

- 7) superiority over

- 8) concentration on

7.

1) His unwise refusal of the offer resulted in his wife's disappointment.

2) Yuan Longping's dedication to hybrid rice has greatly influenced and benefited the world.

3) Some people might resist the new policy because of their preference for the old system.

4) The director was furious at the critics' negative reaction to his film.

5) This paper offered an analysis of and a solution to the security problem on campus.

6) Wolves' invasion into the prairie disturbed the balance of the ecosystem there.

7) It's hard to express my gratitude for your generosity and mercy.

8) Microwave energy's application to everyday life has partly relieved the energy crisis.

8.

- 1) 据说这幅画描绘的是他睡房窗外的景色。
- 2) 在《星夜》这幅画中，梵高笔下的夜空充满能量，与夜空下静谧的村庄形成鲜明反差。
- 3) 他此处描绘的村镇有几分虚构，教堂尖顶则让人联想到他的故乡荷兰。
- 4) 梵高在《星夜》中还画了一棵柏树，这种树在墓地里很常见，让人产生哀思。这颗柏树连天接地，也许反映出梵高对于死亡的理解——死亡是生命之旅的终点。
- 5) 随着《星夜》的创作，梵高摒弃了传统印象派画家写实自然的技法，相反，他表现了一种躁动不安的情感。

9.

Traditional Chinese painting constitutes a unique school of fine art, a school that is distinctly different from any other fine art schools in the world, either in style or in techniques. Traditional Japanese fine art may be the only exception, but there is no doubt that it is heavily influenced by Chinese culture. No other traditional Chinese painting is better known than ink and wash painting. The Chinese do paintings with brushes, dipping their brushes in ink or paint and then skillfully wielding them on the paper. Painters produce pictures with lines and dots — some heavy, some light, some deep, and some pale. In the hands of an outstanding painter, brushes and ink can be highly expressive. Because of this, they are not only treated as tools for drawing pictures, but also as a symbol of artistic pursuit.

Text B

Reading Comprehension

1.

A.

1) F 2) O 3) O 4) O 5) F 6) F 7) F 8) O 9) O 10) F

Language in Use

2.

- 1) offset

- 2) submitted

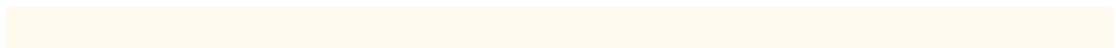


- 3) finite



- 4) towering

- 5) viable



- 6) sponsoring



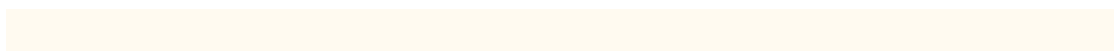
- 7) guaranteed



- 8) illuminating

3.

- 1) All told

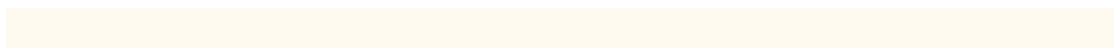


- 2) draw up



- 3) from a ... perspective

- 4) incorporate ... into



- 5) act as



- 6) put out

- 7) by courtesy of

- 8) be tied to

4.

1) It's not that I am unwilling to help you, but I'm tied to work these days.

2) It's not that I don't like your cooking, but I am going on a diet.

3) A growing number of people are obsessed with blind dates, so much so that some matchmaking websites and matchmaking TV programs have emerged in response to it.

4) All the mothers are brimming with affection for their children, so much so that each considers her own child the most beautiful and the most intelligent.

5) Cultural differences between the East and the West are such that it may take great effort to manage a transnational marriage.

Writing

Exercise 1

1) Saving water and slowing down climate change are just two reasons for becoming a vegetarian.

2) saving water, slowing down climate change

3) Topic sentence of the first body paragraph: One environmental benefit of being vegetarian is that it saves a large amount of water.

Topic sentence of the second body paragraph: Another reason to become a vegetarian is that it helps to slow down global warming.

4) In the topic sentence of the first body paragraph: it saves large amounts of water

In the topic sentence of the second body paragraph: it helps to slow down global warming

5) The first supporting sentence states that meat production costs much water. The second supporting sentence gives a contrast between the water cost for producing a kilogram of beef and that for producing the same amount of rice or corn. The last sentence summarizes the paragraph.

6) The first supporting sentence explains the cause and consequence of global warming. The following sentences explain why meat production gives rise to greenhouse gases. The last sentence summarizes the paragraph.

Exercise 2

The following sentences in the three paragraphs should be crossed out:

Paragraph 1

Most of his students were from rich families.

L'Épée also taught religion classes. Another Frenchman, Louis Braille, also lived during this time. He invented a system of reading and writing for blind people, using raised bumps that can be felt with the fingers. In Germany, a man named Samuel Heinicke was another important teacher of the deaf during this time. However, he did not use sign language for instruction. Instead, he preferred to teach the deaf to understand other people by looking carefully at other people's mouths when they spoke. This is called lip or speech reading.

Paragraph 2

The whole paragraph should be crossed out.

Paragraph 3

Not much is known about the use of sign language among deaf people in the United States before the 1800s.

The school, called the American School for the Deaf, still exists in Hartford, Connecticut.

About twenty million people in the United States have hearing problems, and about two million of these are deaf.