

《专业英语》作业 3-期中检测-参考答案

英译汉如下英语材料，注意事项：

- 1) 用 A4 纸或相当大小的纸完成作业，在作业纸的顶部写明“班级 姓名 学号”；
- 2) 作业必须手写，不接收打印件与电子文件；
- 3) 可借助工具查询单词，但勿采用工具翻译，尤其是图像识别翻译；
- 4) 下次上课时由各班学习委员收集纸质作业，并按学号排序交给老师。

One basic weakness in a conservation system based wholly on economic motives is that most members of the land community have no economic value. Yet these creatures are members of the biotic community and, if its stability depends on its integrity, they are entitled to continuance.

When one of these noneconomic categories is threatened and, if we happen to love it, we invent excuses to give it economic importance. At the beginning of the century songbirds were supposed to be disappearing. (46) Scientists jumped to the rescue with some distinctly shaky evidence to the effect that insects would eat us up if birds failed to control them. The evidence had to be economic in order to be valid.

It is painful to read these roundabout accounts today. We have no land ethic yet, (47) but we have at least drawn nearer the point of admitting that birds should continue as a matter of intrinsic right, regardless of the presence or absence of economic advantage to us.

A parallel situation exists in respect of predatory mammals and fish-eating birds. (48) Time was when biologists somewhat overworked the evidence that these creatures preserve the health of game by killing the physically weak, or that they prey only on “worthless” species. Here again, the evidence had to be economic in order to be valid. It is only in recent years that we hear the more honest argument that predators are members of the community, and that no special interest has the right to exterminate them for the sake of a benefit, real or fancied, to itself.

Some species of trees have been “read out of the party” by economics-minded foresters because they grow too slowly, or have too low a sale value to pay as timber crops. (49) In Europe, where forestry is ecologically more advanced, the noncommercial tree species are recognized as members of the native forest community, to be preserved as such, within reason. Moreover, some have been found to have a valuable function in building up soil fertility. The interdependence of the forest and its constituent tree species, ground flora, and fauna is taken for granted.

To sum up: a system of conservation based solely on economic self-interest is hopelessly lopsided. (50) It tends to ignore, and thus eventually to eliminate, many elements in the land community that lack commercial value, but that are essential to its healthy functioning. It assumes, falsely, that the economic parts of the biotic clock will function without the uneconomic parts.

完全基于经济动机的环保体系的一个根本弱点是,陆地上的种群大多数都没有经济价值。但是,这些生物是生物群落的成员。如果生物的稳定性的取决于其完整性,那么他们有资格继续存在下去。

当一类没有经济价值的生物受到威胁,而我们又恰好喜欢这类生物时,我们会编造借口赋予它经济价值。本世纪初,鸣禽原本会消失。(46)科学家们急忙介入,但提供的证据显然站不住脚,其大意是,如果鸟类不能控制昆虫的数量,昆虫便会吞噬人类。证据必须有经济价值,才能发挥效力。

今天再来读这些拐弯抹角的解释,真是一件痛苦的事。我们缺乏土地伦理观,(47)但是我们至少近乎承认,无论鸟类能否带给我们经济价值,他们自有权利生存下去。

食肉型哺乳动物和食鱼鸟类的情况类似。(48)曾经有段时间,生物学家或多或少滥用了一些证据,即这些生物通过杀死体弱者来保持种群的健康,或者说他们仅仅捕食没有经济价值的物种。这再一次说明,证据必须有经济价值才能发挥效力。直到近几年,我们才听到更中肯的说法:食肉动物也是生物群落的成员,不管我们的利益是真是还是虚幻,我们都无权为了利益去灭绝这些动物。

有经济头脑的林业学家把一些树种“赶出了群落”,因为这些树种生长缓慢或作为木材售价太低。(49)在林业生态系统更为发达的欧洲,没有商业价值的树种被合理地看做是当地森林群落的成员,并得到相应的保护。此外,已经发现有些树种能增强土壤的肥沃度。所以,人们理所当然的认为森林、森林中的树种、地表植被和动物群相互依存。

总之,完全基于自身经济利益的保护系统是失衡的。(50)这种保护系统的往往忽视陆地群落中诸多缺乏商业价值,但对其健康运行至关重要的物种,而最终导致它们的灭绝。它们错误地认为生态系统中即便没有非经济类生物,经济类生物仍然能够产生价值。