2012 年 12 月大学英语四级真题(2)

Part I Writing (30 minutes)

注意:此部分试题在答题卡1上,请在答题卡1上作答。

Direction: For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to write a composition entitled **Education Pays** based on the statistics provided in the chart below (Weekly earnings of 2010).

Please write at least **120** words but no more than **180** words.

Education: A Worthy Investment

Weekly earnings in 2010(\$)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics **Education Pays**

Part II Reading Comprehension (Skimming and Scanning) (15 minutes) Directions: In this part, you will have 15 minutes to go over the passage quickly and answer the questions on Answer sheet 1. For questions 1-7, choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D). For questions 8-10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.

The Magician

The revolution that Steve Jobs led is only just beginning

When it came to putting on a show, nobody else in the computer industry, or any other industry for that matter, could match Steve Jobs. His product launches, at which he would stand alone on a black stage and produce as if by magic an "incredible" new electronic *gadget* (小器具) in front of an amazed crowd, were the performances of a master showman. All computers do is fetch and work with numbers, he once explained, but do it fast enough and "the results appear to

be magic". Mr Jobs, who died recently aged 56, spent his life packaging that magic into elegantly designed, easy-to-use products.

The reaction to his death, with people leaving candles and flowers outside Apple stores and politicians singing praises on the internet, is proof that Mr Jobs had become something much more significant than just a clever money-maker. He stood out in three ways-as a technologist, as a *corporate* (公司的) leader and as somebody who was able to make people love what had previously been impersonal, functional gadgets. Strangely, it is this last quality that may have the deepest effect on the way people live. The era of personal technology is in many ways just beginning.

As a technologist, Mr Jobs was different because he was not an engineer-and that was his great strength. Instead he was keenly interested in product design and *aesthetics* (美学), and in making advanced technology simple to use. He repeatedly took an existing but half-formed idea-the mouse-driven computer, the digital music player, the smartphone, the *tablet computer* (平板电脑)— and showed the rest of the industry how to do it properly. Rival firms competed with each other to follow where he led. In the process he brought about great changes in computing, music, telecoms and the news business that were painful for existing firms but welcomed by millions of consumers.

Within the wider business world, a man who liked to see himself as a hippy (嬉皮士), permanently in revolt against big companies, ended up being hailed by many of those corporate giants as one of the greatest chief executives of his time. That was partly due to his talents: showmanship, strategic vision, an astonishing attention to detail and a dictatorial management style which many bosses must have envied. But most of all it was the extraordinary trajectory (执) of his life. His fall from grace in the 1980s, followed by his return to Apple in 1996 after a period in the wilderness, is an inspiration to any businessperson whose career has taken a turn for the worse. The way in which Mr Jobs revived the failing company he had co-founded and turned it into the world's biggest tech firm (bigger even than Bill Gates's Microsoft, the company that had outsmarted Apple so dramatically in the 1980s), sounds like something from a Hollywood movie.

But what was perhaps most astonishing about Mr Jobs was the absolute loyalty he managed to inspire in customers. Many Apple users feel themselves to be part of a community, with Mr Jobs as its leader. And there was indeed a personal link. Apple's products were designed to accord with the boss's tastes and to meet his extremely high standards. Every iPhone or MacBook has his fingerprints all over it. His great achievement was to combine an emotional spark with computer technology, and make the resulting product feel personal. And that is what put Mr Jobs on the right side of history, as technological *innovation* (包新)has moved into consumer electronics over the past decade.

As our special report in this issue (printed before Mr Jobs's death) explains, innovation used to spill over from military and corporate laboratories to the consumer market, but lately this process has gone into reverse. Many people's homes now have more powerful, and more flexible, devices than their offices do; consumer gadgets and online services are smarter and easier to use than most companies' systems. Familiar consumer products are being adopted by businesses, government and the armed forces. Companies are employing in-house versions of Facebook and creating their own "app stores" to deliver software to employees. Doctors use tablet computers for their work in hospitals. Meanwhile, the number of consumers hungry for such gadgets continues to swell. Apple's products are now being snapped up in Delhi and Dalian just as in Dublin and

Dallas.

Mr Jobs had a reputation as a control *freak* (怪人), and his critics complained that the products and systems he designed were closed and inflexible, in the name of greater ease of use. Yet he also empowered millions of people by giving them access to cutting-edge technology. His insistence on putting users first, and focusing on elegance and simplicity, has become deep-rooted in his own company, and is spreading to rival firms too. It is no longer just at Apple that designers ask: "What would Steve Jobs do?"

The gap between Apple and other tech firms is now likely to narrow. This week's announcement of a new iPhone by a management team led by Tim Cook, who replaced Mr Jobs as chief executive in August, was generally regarded as competent but uninspiring. Without Mr Jobs to shower his star dust on the event, it felt like just another product launch from just another technology firm. At the recent unveiling of a tablet computer by Jeff Bezos of Amazon, whose company is doing the best job of following Apple's lead in combining hardware, software, content and services in an easy-to-use bundle, there were several attacks at Apple. But by doing his best to imitate Mr Jobs, Mr Bezos also *flattered* (治举)him. With Mr Jobs gone, Apple is just one of many technology firms trying to arouse his uncontrollable spirit in new products.

Mr Jobs was said by an engineer in the early years of Apple to emit a "reality distortion (扭 曲) field", such were his powers of persuasion. But in the end he created a reality of his own, channeling the magic of computing into products that reshaped entire industries. The man who said in his youth that he wanted to "put a ding in the universe" did just that.

注意: 此部分试题请在答题卡1上作答。

[D] the most admirable hippy in today's world

1.	We learn from the first p	paragraph that nobody	could match Steve Jobs in	
	_		[C] magic power	
2.	What did Steve Jobs do [A] He invented lots of [B] He kept improving of [C] He started the era of [D] He established a new	functional gadgets. computer technology. f personal technology.	ted people's way of life?	
3.		t about consumers' ne designing elegant and ion to win in the comp	•	
4.	Many corporate giants s [A] one of the greatest c [B] a dictator in the con [C] an unbeatable rival in	chief executives of his temporary business we	time orld	

5. For those who have s	For those who have suffered failures in business, Steve Jobs's life experience serves as .		
[A] a symbol	[B] a standard	[C] an ideal	[D] an inspiration
[A] He turned a failin [B] He set up persona [C] He commanded a	stonishing part of Mr Jobsing company into a profitabel links with many of his cubsolute loyalty from Apple prints all over Apple produces.	le business. ustomers. e users.	
[A] It benefits civilia[B] New products are[C] Many new ideas[D] It originates in the	n this issue's special report ns more than the military. It first used in the military. It first appear on the internet the consumer market.		
	nardware, software, content		
	magic of computing into p		
Part III	Listening Comp	rehension	(35 minutes)
end of each conver conversation and to pause. During the p	sation, one or more questing the question will be spoked to ause, you must read the functions the contract th	ons will be asked abo n only once. After ea our choices marked A	? long conversations. At the out what was said. Both the ch question there will be a (1),B),C) and D), and decide Answer Sheet 2 with a
注意:此部分试题请	在 答题卡 2 上作答。		
	er week for the painting. on't open until next week.		s completed just in time. k has been well received.
12. [A] Go camping. [C] Decorate his ho	use.	[B] Rent a tent. [D] organize a party	.
	Mr. Wright on the phone. Wright at lunch time.	[B] She is about to o	eall Mr. Wright's secretary.
14. [A] He is actually v	ery hardworking.	[B] He has difficulty	y finishing his project.

[D] He seldom tells the truth about himself. [C] He needs to spend more time in the lab. 15. [A] Rules restricting smoking. [B] Ways to quit smoking. [C] Smokers' health problems. [D] Hazards of passive smoking. 16. [A] He is out of town all morning. [B] He is tied up in family matters. [C] He has been writing a report. [D] He has got meetings to attend. 17. [A] He is not easy-going. [B] He is the speakers' boss. [C] He is not at home this weekend. [D] He seldom invites people to his home. 18. [A] Take a break. [B] Refuel his car. [C] Ask the way. [D] Have a cup of coffee. Questions 19 to 21 are based on the passage you have just heard. 19. [A] They are as good as historical films. [B] They give youngsters a thrill. [C] They have greatly improved. [D] They are better than comics on film. 20. [A] The effects were very good. [B] The acting was just so-so. [C] The plot was too complicated. [D] The characters were lifelike. 21. [A] They triumphed ultimately over evil in the battle. [B] They played the same role in War of the Worlds. [C] They are popular figures among young people. [D] They are two leading characters in the film. Questions 22 to 25 are based on the passage you have just heard. 22. [A] It is scheduled on Thursday night. [B] It is supposed to last nine weeks. [C] It takes place once a week. [D] It usually starts at six. 23. [A] To make good use of her spare time in the evening. [B] To meet the requirements of her in-service training. [C] To improve her driving skills as quickly as possible. [D] To get some basic knowledge about car maintenance. 24. [A] Participate in group discussions. [B] Take turns to make presentations. [C] Listen to the teacher's explanation. [D] Answer the teacher's questions. 25. [A] Most of them are female. [B] Some have a part-time job. [C] They plan to buy a new car. [D] A few of them are old chaps.

Section B

Direction: In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will

hear some 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 the **Answer Sheet** with a single line through the center.

注意:此部分试题请在答题卡2上作答。

Passage One

Questions 26 to 29 are based on the passage you have just heard.

26. [A] She is not good at making friends. [B] She is not well off.

[C] She enjoys company. [D] She likes to go to concerts alone.

27. [A] Their similar social status. [B] Their interdependence.

[C] Their common interest. [D] Their identical character.

28. [A] Invite Pat to a live concert. [B] Buy some gifts for Pat's kids.

[C] Help take care of Pat's kids. [D] Pay for Pat's season tickets.

29. [A] It can develop between people with a big different in income.

- [B] It can be maintained among people of different age groups.
- [C] It cannot last long without similar family background.
- [D] It cannot be sustained when friends move far apart.

Passage Two

Questions 300 32are based on the passage you have just heard.

- 30. [A] Priority of students' academic achievements.
 - [B] Equal education opportunities to all children.
 - [C] Social equality between teachers and students.
 - [D] Respect for students' individuality.

31. [A] Efficient. [B] Complicated.

[C] Lengthy. [D] Democratic.

- 32. [A] To help them acquire hands-on experience.
 - [B] To try to cut down its operational expenses.
 - [C] To provide part-time jobs for needy students.
 - [D] To enable them to learn to take responsibility.

Passage Three

Questions 33to 35 are based on the passage you have just heard.

- 33. [A] The best way to work through a finger maze.
 - [B] Individual doing better in front of an audience.

- [C] Researchers having contributed greatly to psychology.
- [D] Improvements on the classification of human behavior.
- 34. [A] When you feel encouraged by the audience.
 - [B] When you try to figure out a confusing game.
 - [C] When you already know how to do something.
 - [D] When you compete with other people in a group.
- 35. [A] Practicing constantly.

[B] Working by oneself.

[B] Learning by doing.

[D] Using proven methods.

Section C

Directions: In this section, you will hear a passage three times. When the passage is read for the first time, you should listen carefully for its general idea. When the passage is read for the second time, you are required to fill in the blanks numbered from 36 to 43 with the exact words you have just heard. For blanks numbered from 44 to 46 you are required to fill in the missing information. For these blank, you can either use the exact words you have just heard or write down the main points in your own words. Finally, when the passage is read for the third time, you should check what you have written.

注意:此部分试题在答题卡2上作答。

American today have different eating habits than they had in the past. There is a wide (36) _
of food available. They have a broader (37) of nutrition (营养), so they buy
more fresh fruit and (38) than ever before. At the same time, Americans (39)
increasing quantities of sweets and sodas.
Statistics show that the way people live (40) the way they eat. American lifestyles
have changed. There are now growing numbers of people who live alone, (41) parents
and children, and double-income families. These changing lifestyles are (42) for the
increasing number of people who must (43) meals or sometimes simply go without them.
Many Americans have less time than ever before to spend preparing food. (44)
Moreover, Americans eat out nearly four
times a week on average.
It is easy to study the amounts and kinds of food that people consume. (45)
This
information not only tells us what people eating, but also tells us about the changes in attitudes
and tastes. (46)
Instead, chicken, turkey and fish have become more popular. Sales of
these foods have greatly increased in recent years.

PartIV Reading Comprehension (Reading in Depth) (25 minutes)

Section A

Direction: In this section, there is a passage with 10 blanks. You are required to select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word blank following the passage. Read the passage through carefully before making your choices. Each choice in the blank is identified

by a letter. Please make the corresponding letter for each item on **Answer sheet 2** with a single line through the center. **You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.**

Questions 47 to 56 are based on the following passage.

French fries, washed down with a pint of soda, are a favorite part of fast-food lunches and dinners for millions of American youngsters. But ___47__ a cue from health experts, a group of 19 restaurant companies are pledging to offer more-healthful menu options for children at a time when ___48__ is growing over the role of fast food in childhood *obesity* (肥胖症).

Burger King, the nation's second-largest fast food chain, for instance, will <u>49</u> automatically including French fries and soda in its kids' meals starting this month, although they will still be <u>50</u>. Instead, the company said Tuesday, its employees will ask parents whether they <u>51</u> such options as milk or sliced apples before assembling the meals. "We're asking the customers to <u>52</u> what they want," said Craig Prusher, the chain's vice president of government relations. Other participating chains, with a <u>53</u> of menu options, including Denny's, Chili's, Friendly's and Chevy's.

As part of the Kids Live Well campaign-expected to be announced ____54__. Wednesday — participating restaurants must promise to offer at least one children's meal that has fewer than 600 calories (卡路里), no soft drinks and at least two ___55__ from the following food groups: fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins or low-fat dairy. Among other requirements, they must offer a side dish that meets similar ___56__; with fewer than 200 calories and less than 35% of its calories from sugar.

注意:此部分试题请在答题卡2上作答。

A) adapt	I) prefer
B) available	J) recommending
C) begin	K) species
D) concern	L) specify
E) criteria	M) stop
F) items	N) taking
G) nationwide	O) variety
H) possible	

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A),B),C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on **Answer sheet 2** with a single line through the center.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

As you are probably aware, the latest job markets news isn't good: Unemployment is still more than 9 percent, and new job growth has fallen close to zero. That's bad for the economy, of course. And it may be especially discouraging if you happen to be looking for a job or hoping to change careers right now. But it actually shouldn't matter to you nearly as much as you think.

That's because job growth numbers don't matter to job hunters as much as job *turnover* (人员更替) data. After all, existing jobs open up every day due to promotions, resignations, *terminations* (解雇), and retirements. (Yes, people are retiring even in this economy.) In both good times and bad, turnover creates more openings than economic growth does. Even in June of 2007, when the economy was still moving ahead, job growth was only 132,000, while turnover was 4.7 million!

And as it turns out, even today — with job growth near zero — over 4 million job hunters are being hired every month.

I don't mean to imply that overall job growth doesn't have an impact on one's ability to land a job. It's true that if total employment were higher, it would mean more jobs for all of us to choose from (and compete for). And it's true that there are currently more people applying for each available job opening, regardless of whether it's a new one or not.

But what often distinguishes those who land jobs from those who don't is their ability to stay motivated. They're willing to do the hard work of identifying their valuable skills; be creative about where and how to look; learn how to present themselves to potential employers; and keep going, even after repeated rejections. The Bureau of Labor Statistics data shows that 2.7 million people who wanted and were available for work hadn't looked within the last four weeks and were no longer even classified as unemployed.

So don't let the headlines fool you into giving up. Four million people get hired every month in the U.S. You can be one of them.

注意:此部分试题请在答题卡2上作答。

57.	The author tends to believe that high unemployment rate
	[A] deprives many people of job opportunities
	[B] prevents many people from changing careers
	[C] should not stop people from looking for a job
	[D] does not mean the U.S. economy is worsening
58.	Where do most job openings come from?

- 50. Where do most joe openings come from:
 - [A] Job growth. [B] Job turnover. [C] Improved economy. [D] Business expansion.
- 59. What does the author say about overall job growth?
 - [A] It doesn't have much effect on individual job seekers.
 - [B] It increases people's confidence in the economy.
 - [C] It gives a ray of hope to the unemployed.
 - [D] It doesn't mean greater job security for the employed.
- 60. What is the key to landing a job according to the author?
 - [A] Education. [B] Intelligence. [C] Persistence. [D] Experience.

- 61. What do we learn from the passage about the unemployment figures in the U.S.?
 - [A] They clearly indicate how healthy the economy is.
 - [B] They provide the public with the latest information.
 - [C] They warn of the structural problems in the economy.
 - [D] They exclude those who have stopped looking for a job.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

Our risk of cancer rises dramatically as we age. So it makes sense that the elderly should be routinely screened for new tumors — or doesn't it?

While such *vigilant* (警觉的) tracking of cancer is a good thing in general, researchers are increasingly questioning whether all of this testing is necessary for the elderly. With the percentage of people over age 65 expected to nearly double by 2050, it's important to weigh the health benefits of screening against the risks and costs of routine testing.

In many cases, screening can lead to surgeries to remove cancer, while the cancers themselves may be slow-growing and may not pose serious health problems in patients' remaining years. But the message that everyone must screen for cancer has become so deep-rooted that when health care experts recommended that women under 50 and over 74 stop screening for breast cancer, it caused a riotous reaction among doctors, patients and advocacy groups.

It's hard to uproot deeply held beliefs about cancer screening with scientific data. Certainly, there are people over age 75 who have had cancers detected by routine screening, and gained several extra years of life because of treatment. And clearly, people over age 75 who have other risk factors for cancer, such as a family history or prior personal experience with the disease, should continue to get screened regularly. But for the remainder, the risk of cancer, while increased at the end of life, must be balanced with other factors like remaining life *expectancy* (预期寿命).

A recent study suggests that doctors start to make more objective decisions about who will truly benefit from screening- especially considering the explosion of the elderly that will soon swell our population.

It's not an easy calculation to make, but one that makes sense for all patients. Dr. Otis Brawley said, "Many doctors are ordering screening tests purely to cover themselves. We need to think about the rational use of health care."

That means making some difficult decisions with elderly patients, and going against the misguided belief that when it comes to health care, more is always better.

注意:此部分试题请在答题卡2上作答。

- 62. Why do doctors recommend routine cancer screening for elderly people?
 - [A] It is believed to contribute to long life.
 - [B] It is part of their health care package.
 - [C] The elderly are more sensitive about their health.
 - [D] The elderly are in greater danger of tumor growth.

63. How do some researchers now look at routine of [A] It adds too much to their medical bills.[C] They are doubtful about its necessity.	cancer screening for the el [B] It helps increase their [D] They think it does m	r life expectancy.
64. What is the conventional view about women so [A] It applies to women over 50. [C] It is optional for young women.	reening for breast cancer? [B] It is a must for adult [D] It doesn't apply to w	women.
65. Why do many doctors prescribe routine screen [A] They want to protect themselves against me [B] They want to take advantage of the medica [C] They want data for medical research. [D] They want their patients to suffer less.	edical disputes.	
66. What does the author say is the general view at [A] The more, the better.[C] Better early than late.	oout health care? [B] Prevention is better to [D] Better care, longer list	
Part V Cloze		(15 minutes)
Directions: There are 20 blanks in the following marked A),B),C) and D) on the right that best fits into the passage. The sheet 2 with a single line through the	t side of the paper. You si en mark the correspondi	hould choose the ONE
分产 山郊八平原连左 恢照上。 上佐恢		
注意: 此部分试题请在 答题卡 2 上作答。 Strong emotional bonds between mothers and infants increase children's willingness to explore the world — an effect that has been observed 67 the animal	bets and risky gambles	— a bond with a
Strong emotional bonds between mothers and infants increase children's	bets and risky gambles 67. [A] by [C] above 68. [A] concern [C] treatment	a bond with a[B] up[D] across[B] attachment[D] appeal
Strong emotional bonds between mothers and infants increase children's willingness to explore the world — an effect that has been observed <u>67</u> the animal kingdom, in people, monkeys and even spiders. The more secure we are in our <u>68</u> to Mom, the more likely we are to try new things and take risks. Now researchers are	67. [A] by [C] above 68. [A] concern	[B] up [D] across [B] attachment

D 4 M	•	(5 • 4
	[C] of	[D] from
hug86 Mom before stepping on the bus.	86. [A] toward	[B] into
for a field trip might steal one last reassuring		
willing to take a risk—just as a child leaving		
from female experimenters and much more	[C] securely	[D] entirely
85 receptive to the gentle shoulder pats	85. [A] especially	[B] specially
of insecurity made students in the latter group	[C] chain	[D] sense
insecure and alone. Evoking (唤起) a84	84. [A] hint	[B] clue
	[C] minor	[D] opposite
whereas the <u>83</u> half wrote about feeling	83. [A] next	[B] other
about a time they felt secure and supported,		
after a writing exercise. Half of them wrote		
of undergraduates to make financial decisions	[C] different	[D] successive
taking, the researchers asked a <u>82</u> group	82. [A] relative	[B] competitive
	[C] for	[D] along
feelings of security81 risk	81. [A] beyond	[B] with
	[C] consent	[D] confirm
To further a 80 a that a woman's touch links	80. [A] enable	[B] ensure
study.		
Columbia University and lead author of the	[C] strict	[D] respectful
Jonathan Levav, a business professor at	79. [A] supportive	[B] lively
children of mothers, explains	[C] inspiring	[D] instructing
to exploration that is observed in young	78. [A] intending	[B]inferring
early associations, the same openness		
(宽慰的)touch of a woman may have induced		
patted by male experimenters. The <i>reassuring</i>	[C] which	[D] that
those who had not been touched or were	77. [A] than	[B] as
choose the risky alternative a77 were	[C] further	[D] pretty
	76. [A] rather	[B] far
experimenter were		
female students who were touched by a female	[C] while	[D] whereas
instructions about the study. Both male and	75. [A] if	[B] so
one second75 providing verbal (口头的)	[C] partly	[D] lightly
	74. [A] seemingly	[B] strongly
74 on the back of the shoulder for about		
cases, the experimenters patted the students	[C] cost	[D] prize
riskier stock option, for example. In half the	73. [A] return	[B] expense
guaranteed 4 percent yearly a73 or a		

Part VI Translation (5 minutes)

Directions: Complete the sentences by translating into English the Chinese given in brackets. Please write your translation on **Answer Sheet 2**.

注意:此部分试题请在**答题卡2**上作答,只需写出译文部分。

87. I finally got the job I dreamed about. Never before in my life(我感到如此激动)!	 ;
88. Yesterday Jane left the meeting early. Otherwise, she	
89. With the noise going on outside the classroom, I had great difficulty (集中注意力复习功课).	·
90.This is the first time I	(听到他们用法语交流).
91. All the information you need to apply for your visa is (可以免费获取).	·