

2021 年 6 月大学英语四级考试真题（第 2 套）

Part I

Writing

(30 minutes)

Directions: For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to write an essay titled "*Do violent video games lead to violence?*" The statement given below is for your reference. You should write at least 120 words but no more than 180 words.

A growing body of research finds that violent video games can make kids act aggressively in their real world relationships, causing an increase in violence.

Part II

Listening Comprehension

(25 minutes)

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) See the Pope.
B) Go to Newcastle.
C) Travel to German.
D) Tour an Italian city.
2. A) He was taken to hospital in an ambulance.
B) His car hit a sign and was badly damaged.
C) His GPS system went out of order.
D) He ended up in the wrong place.

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

3. A) Scotland will reach the national target in carbon emissions reduction ahead of schedule.
B) Glasgow City Council has made a deal with ScottishPower on carbon emissions.
C) Glasgow has pledged to take the lead in reducing carbon emissions in the UK.
D) First Minister Nicola Sturgeon urged ScottishPower to reduce carbon emissions.
4. A) Glasgow needs to invest in new technologies to reach its goal.
B) Glasgow is going to explore new sources of renewable energy.
C) Stricter regulation is needed in transforming Glasgow's economy.
D) It's necessary to create more low-emission zones as soon as possible.

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

5. A) It donates money to overpopulated animal shelters.
B) It permits employees to bring cats into their office.
C) It gives 5,000 yen to employees who keep pet cats.
D) It allows workers to do whatever their hearts desire.

6. A) Keep cats off the street.
B) Rescue homeless cat.
C) Volunteer to help in animal shelters.
D) Contribute to a fund for cat protection.
7. A) It has contributed tremendously to the firm's fame.
B) It has helped a lot of to improve animals' well-being.
C) It has led some other companies to follow the suit.
D) It has resulted in damage to office equipment.

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) Find out where Jimmy is.
B) Borrow money from Jimmy.
C) Make friends with Jimmy.
D) Ask Jimmy what is to be done.
9. A) He was unsure what kind of fellow Jimmy was.
B) He was working on a study project with Jimmy.
C) He wanted to make a sincere apology to Jimmy.
D) He wanted to invite her to join in a study project.
10. A) He got a ticket for speeding.
B) He got his car badly damaged.
C) He was involved in a traffic accident.
D) He had an operation for his injury.
11. A) He needed to make some donation to charity.
B) He found the 60 pounds in his pocket missing.
C) He wanted to buy a gift for his mother's birthday.
D) He wanted to conceal something from his parents.

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

12. A) Shopping delivery.
B) Shopping online.
C) Where he goes shopping.
D) How often he does shopping.
13. A) Searching in the aisles.
B) Dealing with the traffic.
C) Driving too long a distance.
D) Getting one's car parked.
14. A) The after-sales service.
B) The replacement policy.

- C) The quality of food products.
 - D) The damage to the packaging.
15. A) It saves money.
- B) It offers more choice.
 - C) It increases the joy of shopping.
 - D) It is less time-consuming.

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 have little talent for learning math.
- B) They need medical help for math anxiety.
 - C) They need extra help to catch up in the math class.
 - D) They have strong negative emotions towards math.
17. A) It will gradually pass away without teacher's help.
- B) It affects low performing children only.
 - C) It is related to a child's low intelligence.
 - D) It exists mostly among children from poor families.
18. A) Most of them have average to strong math ability.
- B) Most of them get timely help from their teachers.
 - C) They will regain confidence with counselling.
 - D) They are mostly secondary school students.

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

19. A) Social media addiction is a threat to our health.
- B) Too many people are addicted to smartphones.
 - C) Addiction to computer games is a disease.
 - D) Computer games can be rather addictive.
20. A) They prioritize their favored activity over what they should do.
- B) They do their favored activity whenever and wherever possible.
 - C) They are unaware of the damage their behavior is doing to them.
 - D) They are unable to get rid of their addiction without professional help.
21. A) It may be less damaging than previously believed.
- B) There will never be agreement on its harm to people.
 - C) It may prove to be beneficial to developing creativity.
 - D) There is not enough evidence to classify it as a disease.

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

22. A) They are relatively uniform in color and design.
- B) They appear more formal than other passports.

- C) They are a shade of red bordering on brown.
- D) They vary in color from country to country.
- 23. A) They must endure wear and tear.
- B) They must be of the same size.
- C) They must be made from a rare material.
- D) They must follow some common standards.
- 24. A) They look more traditional.
- B) They look more official.
- C) They are favored by airlines.
- D) They are easily identifiable.
- 25. A) For beauty.
- B) For variety.
- C) For visibility.
- D) For security.

Part III

Reading Comprehension

(40 minutes)

Section A

Directions: *In this section, there is a passage with ten blanks. You are required to select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word bank following the passage. Read the passage through carefully before making your choices. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. Please mark the corresponding letter for each item on **Answer Sheet 2** with a single line through the centre. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.*

Social isolation poses more health risks than obesity or smoking 15 cigarettes a day, according to research published by Brigham Young University. The 26 is that loneliness is a huge, if silent, risk factor.

Loneliness affects physical health in two ways. First, it produces stress hormones that can lead to many health problems. Second, people who live alone are less likely to go to the doctor 27, to exercise or to eat a healthy diet.

Public health experts in many countries are 28 how to address widespread loneliness in our society. Last year Britain even appointed a minister for loneliness. “Loneliness 29 almost every one of us at some point,” its minister for loneliness Baroness Barran said. “It can lead to very serious health 30 for individuals who become isolated and disconnected.”

Barran started a “Let’s Talk Loneliness” campaign that 31 difficult conversations across Britain. He is now supporting “ 32 benches,” which are public seating areas where people are encouraged to go and chat with one another. The minister is also 33 to stop public transportation from being cut in ways that leave people isolated.

More than one-fifth of adults in both the United States and Britain said in a 2018 34 that they often or always feel lonely. More than half of American adults are unmarried, and researchers have found that even among those who are married, 30% of relationships are 35 strained. A quarter of Americans now live alone, and as the song says, one is the loneliest number.

A) abruptly	F) friendly	K) severely
B) appointments	G) hindered	L) sparked
C) consequences	H) idiom	M) splitting
D) debating	I) implication	N) survey
E) dimensions	J) pushing	O) touches

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you are going to read a passage with ten statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter. Answer the questions by marking the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2.*

The start of high school doesn't have to be stressful

- A) This month, more than 4 million students across the nation will begin high school. Many will do well. But many will not. Consider that nearly two-thirds of students will experience the “ninth-grade shock,” which refers to a dramatic drop in a student’s academic performance. Some students cope with this shock by avoiding challenges. For instance, they may drop difficult coursework. Others may experience a hopelessness that results in failing their core classes, such as English, science and math.
- B) This should matter a great deal to parents, teachers and policymakers. Ultimately it should matter to the students themselves and society at large, because students’ experience of *transitioning* (过渡) to the ninth grade can have long-term consequences not only for the students themselves but for their home communities. We make these observations as research psychologists who have studied how schools and families can help young people thrive.
- C) In the new global economy, students who fail to finish the ninth grade with passing grades in college preparatory coursework are very unlikely to graduate on time and go on to get jobs. One study has calculated that the lifetime benefit to the local economy for a single additional student who completes high school is half a million dollars or more. This is based on higher earnings and avoided costs in health care, crime, welfare dependence and other things.
- D) The consequences of doing poorly in the ninth grade can impact more than students’ ability to find a good job. It can also impact the extent to which they enjoy life. Students lose many of the friends they turned to for support when they move from the eighth to the ninth grade. One study of ninth-grade students found that 50 percent of friendships among ninth graders changed from one month to the next, signaling striking instability in friendships.
- E) In addition, studies find the first year of high school typically shows one of the greatest increases in depression of any year over the lifespan. Researchers think that one explanation is that ties to friends are broken while academic demands are rising. Furthermore, most adult cases of clinical depression first emerge in *adolescence* (青春期). The World Health Organization reports that depression has the greatest burden of disease worldwide, in terms of the total cost of treatment and the loss of productivity.

- F) Given all that's riding on having a successful ninth grade experience, it pays to explore what can be done to meet the academic, social and emotional challenges of the transition to high school. So far, our studies have yielded one main insight: Students' beliefs about change—their beliefs about whether people are stuck one way forever, or whether people can change their personalities and abilities—are related to their ability to cope, succeed academically and maintain good mental health. Past research has called these beliefs “*mindsets* (思维模式),” with a “fixed mindset” referring to the belief that people cannot change and a “growth mindset” referring to the belief that people can change.
- G) In one recent study, we examined 360 adolescents' beliefs about the nature of “smartness”—that is, their fixed mindsets about intelligence. We then assessed biological stress responses for students whose grades were dropping by examining their stress *hormones* (荷尔蒙). Students who believed that intelligence is fixed—that you are stuck being “not smart” if you struggle in school—showed higher levels of stress hormones when their grades were declining at the beginning of the ninth grade. If students believed that intelligence could improve—that is to say, when they held more of a growth mindset of intelligence—they showed lower levels of stress hormones when their grades were declining. This was an exciting result because it showed that the body's stress responses are not determined solely by one's grades. Instead, declining grades only predicted worse stress hormones among students who believed that worsening grades were a permanent and hopeless state of affairs.
- H) We also investigated the social side of the high school transition. In this study, instead of teaching students that their smartness can change, we taught them that their social standing—that is, whether they are bullied or excluded or left out—can change over time. We then looked at high school students' stress responses to daily social difficulties. That is, we taught them a growth mindset about their social lives. In this study, students came into the laboratory and were asked to give a public speech in front of upper-year students. The topic of the speech was what makes one popular in high school. Following this, students had to complete a difficult mental math task in front of the same upper-year students.
- I) Experiment results showed that students who were not taught that people can change showed poor stress responses. When these students gave the speech, their blood vessels contracted and their hearts pumped less blood through the body—both responses that the body shows when it is preparing for damage or defeat after a physical threat. Then they gave worse speeches and made more mistakes in math. But when students were taught that people can change, they had better responses to stress, in part because they felt like they had the resources to deal with the demanding situation. Students who got the growth mindset *intervention* (干预) showed less-contracted blood vessels and their hearts pumped more blood—both of which contributed to more oxygen getting to the brain, and, ultimately, better performance on the speech and mental math tasks.
- J) These findings lead to several possibilities that we are investigating further. First, we are working to *replicate* (复制) these findings in more diverse school communities. We want to know in which types of schools and for which kinds of students these growth mindset ideas help young people adapt to the challenges of high school. We also hope to learn how teachers, parents or school counselors can help students keep their ongoing academic or social difficulties in perspective. We wonder what would happen if schools helped to make beliefs

about the potential for change and improvement a larger feature of the overall school culture, especially for students starting the ninth grade.

- 36. The number of people experiencing depression shows a sharp increase in the first year of high school.
- 37. According to one study, students' academic performance is not the only decisive factor of their stress responses.
- 38. Researchers would like to explore further how parents and schools can help ninth graders by changing their mindset.
- 39. According to one study, each high school graduate contributes at least 500,000 dollars to the local economy.
- 40. In one study, students were told their social position in school is not unchangeable.
- 41. It is reported that depression results in enormous economic losses worldwide.
- 42. One study showed that friendships among ninth graders were far from stable.
- 43. More than half of students will find their academic performance declining sharply when they enter the ninth grade.
- 44. Researchers found through experiments that students could be taught to respond to stress in a more positive way.
- 45. It is beneficial to explore ways to cope with the challenges facing students entering high school.

Section C

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 centre.*

Passage One

Questions 46 to 50 are based on the following passage.

Sugar shocked. That describes the reaction of many Americans this week following revelations that, 50 years ago, the sugar industry paid Harvard scientists for research that shifted the focus away from sugar's role in heart disease — and put the *spotlight* (注意的中心) squarely on dietary fat.

What might surprise consumers is just how many present-day nutrition studies are still funded by the food industry. Nutrition scholar Marion Nestle of New York University spent a year informally tracking industry-funded studies on food. "Roughly 90% of nearly 170 studies favored the sponsor's interest," Nestle tells us. Other systematic reviews support her conclusions.

For instance, studies funded by Welch Foods — the brand behind Welch's 100% Grape Juice — found that drinking Concord grape juice daily may boost brain function. Another, funded by Quaker Oats, concluded, as a *Daily Mail* story put it, that "*hot oatmeal* (燕麦粥) breakfast keeps you full for longer."

Last year, *The New York Times* revealed how Coca-Cola was funding well-known scientists and organizations promoting a message that, in the battle against weight gain, people should pay

more attention to exercise and less to what they eat and drink. Coca-Cola also released data detailing its funding of several medical institutions and associations between 2010 and 2015.

“It’s certainly a problem that so much research in nutrition and health is funded by industry,” says Bonnie Liebman, director of nutrition at the Center for Science in the Public Interest. “When the food industry pays for research, it often gets what it pays for.” And what it pays for is often a pro-industry finding.

Given this environment, consumers should be *skeptical* (怀疑的) when reading the latest finding in nutrition science and ignore the latest study that pops up on your news feed. “Rely on health experts who’ve reviewed all the evidence,” Liebman says, pointing to the official government Dietary Guidelines, which are based on reviews of hundreds of studies.

“And that expert advice remains pretty simple,” says Nestle. “We know what healthy diets are — lots of vegetables, not too much junk food, balanced calories. Everything else is really difficult to do experimentally.”

46. What did Harvard scientists do 50 years ago?
- A) They raised public awareness of the possible causes of heart disease.
 - B) They turned public attention away from the health risks of sugar to fat.
 - C) They placed the sugar industry in the spotlight with their new findings.
 - D) They conducted large-scale research on the role of sugar in people's health.
47. What does Marion Nestle say about present-day nutrition studies?
- A) They took her a full year to track and analyze.
 - B) Most of them are based on systematic reviews.
 - C) They depend on funding from the food industries.
 - D) Nearly all of them serve the purpose of the funders.
48. What did Coca-Cola-funded studies claim?
- A) Exercise is more important to good health than diet.
 - B) Choosing what to eat and drink is key to weight control.
 - C) Drinking Coca-Cola does not contribute to weight gain.
 - D) The food industry plays a major role in fighting obesity.
49. What does Liebman say about industry-funded research?
- A) It simply focuses on nutrition and health.
 - B) It causes confusion among consumers.
 - C) It rarely results in objective findings.
 - D) It runs counter to the public interest.
50. What is the author's advice to consumers?
- A) Follow their intuition in deciding what to eat.
 - B) Be doubtful of diet experts' recommendations.
 - C) Ignore irrelevant information on their news feed.
 - D) Think twice about new nutrition research findings.

Passage Two

Questions 51 to 55 are based on the following passage.

Success was once defined as being able to stay at a company for a long time and move up the corporate ladder. The goal was to reach the top, accumulate wealth and retire to a life of ease. My father is a successful senior executive. In 35 years, he worked for only three companies.

When I started my career, things were already different. If you weren't changing companies every three or four years, you simply weren't getting ahead in your career. But back then, if you were a consultant or freelancer (自由职业者), people would wonder what was wrong with you. They would assume you had problems getting a job.

Today, consulting or freelancing for five businesses at the same time is a badge of honor. It shows how valuable an individual is. Many companies now look to these "ultimate professionals" to solve problems their full-time teams can't. Or they save money by hiring "top-tier (顶尖的) experts" only for particular projects.

Working at home or in cafes, starting businesses of their own, and even launching business ventures that eventually may fail, all indicate "initiative," "creativity," and "adaptability," which are desirable qualities in today's workplace. Most important, there is a growing recognition that people who balance work and play, and who work at what they are passionate about, are more focused and productive, delivering greater value to their clients.

Who are these people? They are artists, writers, programmers, providers of office services and career advice. What's needed now is a marketplace platform specifically designed to bring freelancers and clients together. Such platforms then become a place to feature the most experienced, professional, and creative talent. This is where they conduct business, where a sense of community reinforces the culture and values of the gig economy (零工经济), and where success is rewarded with good reviews that encourage more business.

Slowly but surely, these platforms create a bridge between traditional enterprises and this emerging economy. Perhaps more important, as the global economy continues to be disrupted by technology and other massive change, the gig economy will itself become an engine of economic and social transformation.

51. What does the author use the example of his father to illustrate?

- . A) How long people took to reach the top of their career.
- . B) How people accumulated wealth in his father's time.
- . C) How people viewed success in his father's time.
- . D) How long people usually stayed in a company.

52. Why did people often change jobs when the author started his career?

- . A) It was considered a fashion at that time.
- . B) It was a way to advance in their career.
- . C) It was a response to the changing job market.
- . D) It was difficult to keep a job for long.

53. What does the author say about people now working for several businesses at the same time?

- . A) They are often regarded as most treasured talents.
- . B) They are able to bring their potential into fuller play.
- . C) They have control over their life and work schedules.
- . D) They feel proud of being outstanding problem solvers.

54. What have businesses come to recognize now?

- . A) Who is capable of solving problems with ease.
- . B) How people can be more focused and productive.
- . C) What kind of people can contribute more to them.
- . D) Why some people are more passionate about work.

55. What does the author say about the gig economy?

- . A) It may force companies to reform their business practice.
- . B) It may soon replace the traditional economic model.
- . C) It will drive technological progress on a global scale.
- . D) It will bring about radical economic and social changes.

Part IV

Translation

(30 minutes)

Directions: *For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to translate a passage from Chinese into English. You should write your answer on **Answer Sheet 2**.*

普洱(Pu'er)茶深受中国人喜爱。最好的普洱茶产自云南的西双版纳(Xishuangbanna), 那里的气候和环境为普洱茶树的生长提供了最佳条件。普洱茶颜色较深, 味道与其他许多茶截然不同。普洱茶泡(brew)的时间越长越有味道。许多爱喝茶的人尤其喜欢其独特的香味和口感。普洱茶含有多种有益健康的元素, 常饮普洱茶有助于保护心脏和血管, 还有减肥、消除疲劳和促进消化的功效。