

## 2017 年 12 月大学英语四级考试真题（第 2 套）

为了让大家更好的模拟真实考试场景，完全按照真题卷面顺序排版了本套测试题，Part I 写作部分被放在了试卷的最后一页，与听力部分完全隔开，请大家在备考过程中提早适应卷面顺序，熟悉题型，新东方在线伴你高分过级！

### 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 center.

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

- 1. A) It tries to entertain its audience.
  - B) It tries to look into the distance.
  - C) It wants to catch people's attention.
  - D) It has got one of its limbs injured.
- 2. A) It was spotted by animal protection officials.
  - B) It was filmed by a local television reporter.
  - C) Its videos were posted on social media.
  - D) Its picture won a photography prize.

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

- 3. A) The distance travelled.
  - B) The incidence of road accidents.
  - C) The spending on gas.
  - D) The number of people travelling.
- 4. A) Fewer people are commuting.
  - B) Gas consumption is soaring.
  - C) Job growth is slowing down.
  - D) Rush-hour traffic is worsening.

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

- 5. A) He told a stranger the sad story about himself.
  - B) He helped a stranger to carry groceries to his car.
  - C) He went up to a stranger and pulled at his sleeves.
  - D) He washed a stranger's car in return for some food.
- 6. A) He ordered a lot of food for his family.

- B) He gave him a job at his own company.  
C) He raised a large sum of money for him.  
D) He offered him a scholarship for college.
7. A) He works hard to support his family.  
B) He is an excellent student in school.  
C) He is very good at making up stories.  
D) He has been disabled since boyhood.

### 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 conversations 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 center.

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

8. A) Attend an economic lecture.  
B) Taken a walk on Charles Street.  
C) Had a drink at Queen Victoria.  
D) Had dinner at a new restaurant.
9. A) Treat a college friend to dinner.  
B) Make preparations for a seminar.  
C) Attend his brother's birthday party.  
D) Visit some of his high school friends.
10. A) Gather statistics for his lecture.  
B) Throw a surprise birthday party.  
C) Meet with Jonathan's friends on the weekend.  
D) Join him in his brother's birthday celebration.
11. A) By car.     B) By train.     C) By taxi.     D) By bus.

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

12. A) Taking a vacation abroad.  
B) Reviewing for his last exam.  
C) Saving enough money for a rainy day.  
D) Finding a better way to earn money.
13. A) Preparing for his final exams.  
B) Negotiating with his boss for a raise.  
C) Working part time as a writer.  
D) Helping the woman with her courses.

14. A) Finish her term paper.  
B) Save enough money.  
C) Learn a little bit of Spanish.  
D) Ask her parents' permission.
15. A) He has rich sailing experience.  
B) He speaks Spanish fluently.  
C) He is also eager to go to Spain.  
D) He is easy to get along with.

### 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 passages 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 center.*

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

16. A) She went to the same university as her mother.  
B) She worked as a nurse in the First World War.  
C) She won the Nobel Prize two times.  
D) She was also a Nobel Prize winner.
17. A) She fought bravely in a series of military operations.  
B) She developed X-ray facilities for military hospitals.  
C) She helped to set up several military hospitals.  
D) She made donations to save wounded soldiers.
18. A) Both died of blood cancer.  
B) Both fought in World War I.  
C) Both won military medals.  
D) Both married their assistants.

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

19. A) They were the first settlers in Europe.  
B) They were the conquerors of Norway.  
C) They discovered Iceland in the ninth century.  
D) They settled on a small island north of England.
20. A) It was some five hundred miles west of Norway.  
B) It was covered with green most time of the year.  
C) It was the Vikings' most important discovery.  
D) It was a rocky mass of land covered with rice.

21. A) The Vikings' ocean explorations.  
B) The making of European nations.  
C) The Vikings' everyday life.  
D) The Europeans' Arctic discoveries.

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

22. A) Work hard for a better life.  
B) Make mistake now and then.  
C) Dream about the future.  
D) Save against a rainy day.
23. A) Teach foreign languages for the rest of his life.  
B) Change what he has for his past imaginary world.  
C) Exchange his two-story house for a beach cottage.  
D) Dwell on the dreams he had dreamed when young.
24. A) Criminal law.  
B) City planning.  
C) Oriental architecture.  
D) International business.
25. A) Dream and make plans.  
B) Take things easy in life.  
C) Be content with what you have.  
D) Enjoy whatever you are doing.

### **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 center. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.

**Questions 26 to 35 are based on the following passage.**

We all know there exists great void (空白) in the public educational system when it comes to 26 to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics), One educator named Dori Roberts decided to do something to change this system. Dori taught high school engineering for 11 years. She noticed there was a real void in quality STEM education at all 27 of the public educational system. She said, "I started Engineering for kids (EFK) after noticing a real lack of math, science and engineering programs to 28 my own kids in."

She decided to start an after school program where children 29 in STEM-based competitions. The club grew quickly and when it reached 180 members and the kids in the program won several state 30. She decided to devote all her time to cultivating and 31 it. The global business EFK was born.

Dori began operating EFK out of her Virginia home, which she then expanded to 32 recreation centers. Today, the EFK program 33 over 144 branches in 32 states within the United States and in 21 countries. Sales have doubled from \$5 million in 2014 to \$10 million in 2015, with 25 new branches planned for 2016. The EFK website states, “Our nation is not 34 enough engineers. Our philosophy is to inspire kids at a young age to understand that engineering is a great 35.”

A) attracted

E) developing

I) feeding

M) local

B) career

F) enroll

J) graduating

N) operates

C) championships

G) exposure

K) interest

O) participated

D) degrees

H) feasible

L) levels

## 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 question by marking the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2.

### Why aren't you curious about what happened?

- [A] “You suspended ray rice after our video,” a reporter from TMZ challenged National Football League Commissioner Roger Goodell the other day. “Why didn't you have the curiosity to go to the casino (赌场) yourself?” The implication of the question is that a more curious.
- [B] The accusation of incuriosity is one that we hear often, carrying the suggestion that there is something wrong with not wanting to search out the truth. “I have been bothered for a long time about the curious lack of curiosity,” said a Democratic member of the New Jersey legislature back in July, referring to an insufficiently inquiring attitude on the part of an associate to New Jersey Governor Chris Christie who chose not to ask hard questions about the George Washington Bridge traffic scandal “Isn't the mainstream media the least curious about what happened?” wrote conservative writer Jennifer Rubin earlier this year referring to the attack on Americans in Benghazi, Libya.
- [C] The implication, in each case is that curiosity is a good thing, and a lack of curiosity is a problem are such accusations simply efforts to score political points for one's party? Or is here something of particular value about curiosity in and of itself.
- [D] The journalist Ian Leslie, in his new and enjoyable book Curious: The Desire to Know and Why Your Future Depends on It, insists that the answer to that last question is yes. Leslie argues that curiosity is a much-overlooked human virtue, crucial to our success, and that we are losing it.

- [E] We are suffering. He writes from a “serendipity deficit”. The word “serendipity” was coined by Horace Walpole in an 1854 letter from a tale of three princes who were always making discoveries by accident, of things they were not in search of. Leslie worries that the rise of the internet, among other social and technological changes, has reduced our appetite for aimless adventures no longer have we the inclination to let ourselves wander through fields of knowledges, ready to be surprised. Instead, we seek only the information we want.
- [F] Why is this a problem? Because without curiosity we will lose the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship. We will see unimaginative governments and dying corporations make disastrous decisions. We will lose a vital part of what has made humanity as a whole so successful as a species.
- [G] Leslie presents considerable evidence for the proposition that the society as a whole is growing less curious. In the U.S and Europe, for example, the rise of the Internet has led to a declining consumption of news from outside the reader’s borders .But not everything is to be blamed on technology. The decline in interest in literary fiction is also one of the causes identified by Leslie. Reading literary fiction, he says, make us more curious.
- [H] Moreover, in order to be curious, “you have to be aware of a gap in your knowledge in the first place.” Although Leslie perhaps paints a bit broadly in contending that most of us are unaware of how much we don’t know he’s surely right to point out that the problem is growing: “Google can give us the powerful illusion that all questions have definite answers.”
- [I] Indeed, Google, for which Leslie expresses admiration, is also his frequent whipping body (替罪羊). He quotes Google co-founder Larry Page to the effect that the perfect search engine will “understand exactly what I mean and give me back exactly what I want” elsewhere in the book, Leslie writes, “google aims to save you from the thirst of curiosity altogether.”
- [J] Somewhat nostalgically(怀旧地), He quotes John Maynard Keynes’s justly famous words of praise to the bookstore: “One should enter it vaguely, almost in a dream, and allow what is there freely to attract and influence the eye to walk the rounds of the bookshops, dipping curiosity dictates, should be an afternoons entertainment.” If only!
- [K] Citing the work of psychologists and cognitive (认知的) scientists, Leslie criticizes the received wisdom that academic success is the result of a combination of intellectual talent and hard work. Curiosity, he argues, is the third key factor—and a difficult one to preserve, if not cultivated, it will not survive “Childhood curiosity is a collaboration between child and adult. The surest way to kill it is to leave it alone.”
- [L] School education, he warns, is often conducted in a way that makes children incurious: children of educated and upper-middle-class parents turn out to be far more curious, even at early ages than children of working class and lower class families. That lack of curiosity produces a relative lack of knowledge, and the lack of knowledge is difficult if not impossible to compensate for later on.

[M] Although Leslie's book isn't about politics, he doesn't entirely shy away from the problem. Political leaders, like leaders of other organizations, should be curious. They should ask questions at crucial moments. There are serious consequences, he warns, in not wanting to know.

[N] He presents as an example the failure of the George W Bush administration to prepare properly for the after-effects of the invasion of Iraq. According to Leslie, those who ridiculed former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld for his 2002 remark that we have to be wary of the un-known unknowns were mistaken. Rumsfeld's idea, Leslie writes, "wasn't absurd—it was smart." He adds, "The tragedy is that he didn't follow his own advice."

[O] All of which brings us back to Goodell and the Christie case and Benghazi. Each critic in those examples is changing, in a different way that someone in authority is intentionally being incurious. I leave it to the reader's political preference to decide which, if any, charges should remain determinedly incurious about our own. We should be delighted to pursue knowledge for its own sake—even when what we find out is something we didn't particularly want to know.

36. To be curious, we need to realize first of all that there are many things we don't know.

37. According to Leslie, curiosity is essential to one's success.

38. We should feel happy when we pursue knowledge for knowledge's sake.

39. Political leaders' lack of curiosity will result in bad consequences.

40. There are often accusations about politicians' and the media's lack of curiosity to find out the truth.

41. The less curious a child is, the less knowledge the child may turn out to have.

42. It is widely accepted that academic accomplishment lies in both intelligence and diligence.

43. Visiting a bookshop as curiosity leads us can be a good way to entertain ourselves.

44. Both the rise of the Internet and reduced appetite for literary fiction contribute to peoples declining curiosity.

45. Mankind wouldn't be so innovative without curiosity.

### 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 center.*

#### Passage One

**Questions 46 to 50 are based on the following passage.**

Aging happens to all of us, and is generally thought of as a natural part of life. It would seem silly to call such a thing a "disease".

On the other hand, scientists are increasingly learning that aging and biological age are two different things, and that the former is a key risk factor for conditions such as heart disease, cancer and many more.



In that light, aging itself might be seen as something treatable, the way you would treat high blood pressure or a vitamin deficiency.

Biophysicist Alex Zhavoronkov believes that aging should be considered a disease. He said that describing aging as a disease creates incentives to develop treatments.

“It unties the hands of the pharmaceutical (制药的) industry so that they can begin treating the disease and not just the side effects,” he said.

“Right now, people think of aging as natural and something you can’t control,” he said. “In academic circles, people take aging research as just an interest area where they can try to develop interventions. The medical community also takes aging for granted, and can do nothing about it except keep people within a certain health range.”

But if aging were recognized as a disease, he said, “It would attract funding and change the way we do health care. What matters is understanding that aging is curable.”

“It was always known that the body accumulates damage,” he added. “The only way to cure aging is to find ways to repair that damage. I think of it as preventive medicine for age-related conditions.”

Leonard Hayflick, a professor at the university of California, San Francisco, said the idea that aging can be cured implies the human lifespan can be increased, which some researchers suggest is possible. Hayflick is not among them.

“There’re many people who recover from cancer, stroke or heart disease. But they continue to age, because aging is separate from their disease,” Hayflick said. “Even if those causes of death were eliminated, life expectancy would still not go much beyond 92 years.”

46. What do people generally believe about aging?

- A) It should cause no alarm whatsoever.
- B) They just cannot do anything about it.
- C) It should be regarded as a kind of disease
- D) They can delay it with advances in science

47. How do many scientists view aging now?

- A) It might be prevented and treated.
- B) It can be as risky as heart disease.
- C) Results from a vitamin deficiency.
- D) It is an irreversible biological process.

48. What does Alex Zhavoronkov think of describing aging as a disease?

- A) It will prompt people to take aging more seriously.
- B) It will greatly help reduce the side effects of aging.
- C) It will free pharmacists from the conventional beliefs about aging.
- D) It will motivate doctors and pharmacists to find ways to treat aging.



49. What do we learn about the medical community?
- A) They differ from the academic circles in their view on aging.
  - B) They now have a strong interest in research on aging.
  - C) They can contribute to people's health only to a limited extent.
  - D) They have ways to intervene in people's aging process.

50. What does Professor Leonard Hayflick believe?

- A) The human lifespan cannot be prolonged.
- B) Aging is hardly separable from disease.
- C) Few people live up to the age of 92.
- D) Heart disease is the major cause of aging.

### Passage Two

Question 51 to 55 are based on the following passage.

Female applicants to postdoctoral positions in geosciences were nearly half as likely to receive excellent letters of recommendation, compared with their male counterparts. Christopher Intagliata reports.

As in many other fields, gender bias is widespread in the sciences. Men score higher in starting salaries, have more mentoring (指导), and have better odds of being hired. Studies show they're also perceived as more competent than women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields. And new research reveals that men are more likely to receive excellent letters of recommendation, too.

"Say, you know, this is the best student I've ever had," says Kuheli Dutt, a social scientist and delivery officer at Columbia University's Lamont campus. "Compare those excellent letters with a merely good letter: 'The candidate was productive, or intelligent, or a solid scientist or something that's clearly solid praise,' but nothing that singles out the candidate as exceptional or one of a kind."

Dutt and her colleagues studied more than 1,200 letters of recommendation for postdoctoral positions in geoscience. They were all edited for gender and other identifying information, so Dutt and her team could assign them a score without knowing the gender of the student. They found that female applicants were only half as likely to get outstanding letters, compared with their male counterparts. That includes letters of recommendation from all over the world, and written by, yes, men and women. The findings are in the journal *Nature Geoscience*.

Dutt says they were not able to evaluate the actual scientific qualifications of the applicants using the data in the files. But she says the results still suggests women in geoscience are at a potential disadvantage from the very beginning of their career starting with those less than outstanding letters of recommendation.

"We're not trying to assign blames or criticize anyone or call anyone consciously sexist. Rather, the

point is to use the result of this study to open up meaningful dialogues on implicit gender bias, be it a departmental level or an institutional level or even a discipline level, which may led to some recommendation for the letter writers themselves.”

51. What do we learn about applicants to postdoctoral positions in geosciences?

- A) There are many more men applying than women.
- B) Chances for women to get the positions are scarce.
- C) More males than females are likely to get outstanding letters of recommendation.
- D) Males applicants have more interest in these positions than their female counterparts.

52. What do studies about men and women in scientific research show?

- A) Women engaged in postdoctoral work are quickly catching up.
- B) Fewer women are applying for postdoctoral positions due to gender bias.
- C) Men are believed to be better able to excel in STEM disciplines.
- D) Women who are keenly interested in STEM fields are often exceptional.

53. What do the studies find out about the recommendation letters for women applicants?

- A) They are hardly ever supported by concrete examples.
- B) They contain nothing that distinguishes the applicants.
- C) They provide objective information without exaggeration.
- D) They are often filled with praise for exceptional applications.

54. What did Dutt and her colleagues do with the more than 1,200 letters of recommendation?

- A) They asked unbiased scholars to evaluate them.
- B) They invited women professionals to edit them.
- C) They assigned them randomly to reviewers.
- D) They deleted all information about gender.

55. What does Dutt aim to do with her study?

- A) Raise recommendation writers' awareness of gender bias in their letters.
- B) Open up fresh avenues for women post-doctors to join in research work.
- C) Alert women researchers to all types of gender bias in the STEM disciplines.
- D) Start a public discussion on how to raise women's status in academic circles.

#### 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.

黄山位于安徽省南部。它风景独特，尤其以其日出和云海著称。要欣赏大山的宏伟壮丽，通常得向上看。但要欣赏黄山美景，就得向下看。黄山的湿润气候有利于茶树生长，是中国主要产茶地之一。这里还有许多温泉，其泉水有助于防治皮肤病。黄山是中国主要旅游目的地之一，也是摄影和传统国画最受欢迎的主题。

未得到监考教师指令前，不得翻阅该试题册！

**Part I Writing (30 minutes)**

(请于正式开考后半小时内完成该部分，之后将进行听力考试)

**Directions:** For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to write a short essay on how to best handle the relationship between parents and children. You should write at least 120 words but no more than 180 words.

请认真填写以下信息：

准考证号：

姓名：

错填、未填以上信息，按违规处理！