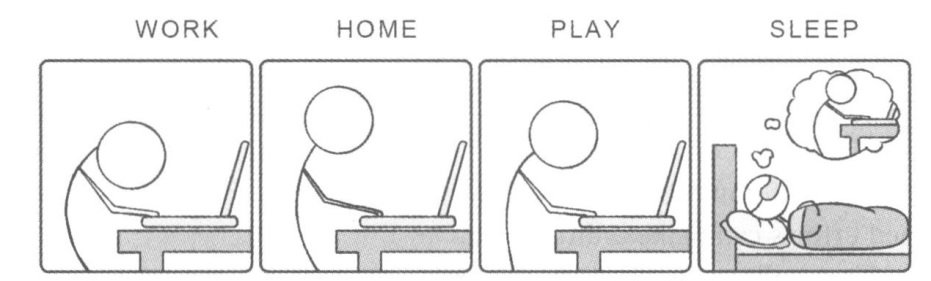
2015年6月大学英语四级考试真题(二)

**Part I Writing (30 minutes)**

**Directions:** *For this part, You are allowed 30 minutes to write an essay based on the picture below. You should start your essay with a brief description of the picture and then comment on this kind of modern life. You should write at least* ***120*** *words but no more than* ***180*** *words.*

THIS MODERN LIFE



注意：此部分试题请在**答题卡1**上作答。

**Part Ⅱ Listening comprehension (30 minutes)**

**section A**

**Directions:** *In this section, you will hear 8 short conversations and 2 long conversations. At the end of each conversation, one or more questions will be asked about what was said. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After each question there will be a pause. During the pause, you must read the four choices marked A), B), C) and D), and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on* ***Answer Sheet 1*** *with a single line through the centre.*

注意：此部分试题请在**答题卡1**上作答。

1. A) He is pleased to sit on the committee.

B) He is willing to offer the woman a hand

C) He will tell the woman his decision later.

D) He would like to become a club member.

2. A) Their planned trip to Vancouver is obviously overpriced.

B) They should borrow a guide book instead of buying one.

C) The guide books in the library have the latest information.

D) The library can help order guide books about Vancouver.

3. A) He regrets having taken the history course.

B) He finds little interests in the history books.

C) He has trouble finishing his reading assignments.

D) He has difficulty writing the weekly book report.

4. A) The man had better choose another restaurant.

B) The new restaurant is a perfect place for dating.

C) The new restaurant caught her fancy immediately.

D) The man has good taste in choosing the restaurant.

5. A) He has been looking forward to spring.

B) He has been waiting for the winter sale.

C) He will clean the woman's boots for spring.

D) He will help the woman put things away.

6. A) At a tailor's. C) In a clothes store.

B) At Bob's home. D) In a theatre.

7. A) His guests favor Tibetan drinks. C) Mineral water is good for health.

B) His water is quite extraordinary. D) Plain water will serve the purpose.

8. A) Report the result of a discussion. C) Submit an important document.

B) Raise some environmental issues. D) Revise an environmental report.

**Questions 9 to 12 are based on the conversation you have just heard.**

9. A) They pollute the soil used to cover them.

B) They are harmful to nearby neighborhoods.

C) The rubbish in them takes long to dissolve.

D) The gas they emit is extremely poisonous.

10. A) Growing population. C) Changed eating habits.

B) Packaging materials. D) Lower production cost.

11. A) By saving energy. C) By reducing poisonous wastes.

B) By using less aluminum. D) By making the most of materials.

12. A) We are running out of natural resources soon.

B) Only combined efforts can make a difference.

C) The waste problem will eventually hurt all of us.

D) All of us can actually benefit from recycling.

**Questions 13 to 15 are based on the conversation you have just heard.**

13. A) Miami. C) Bellingham.

B) Vancouver. D) Boston.

14. A) To get information on one-way tickets to Canada.

B) To inquire about the price of "Super Saver" seats.

C) To get advice on how to fly as cheaply as possible.

D) To inquire about the shortest route to drive home.

15. A) Join a tourist group. C) Avoid trips in public holidays.

B) Choose a major airline. D) Book tickets as early as possible.

**Section B**

**Directions:** *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* ***Answer Sheet 1*** *with a single line through the centre.*

注意：此部分试题请在**答题卡1**上作答。

**Passage One**

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

16. A) There are mysterious stories behind his works.

B) There are many misunderstandings about him.

C) His works have no match worldwide.

D) His personal history is little known.

17. A) He moved to Stratford-on-Avon in his childhood.

B) He failed to go beyond grammar school.

C) He was a member of the town council.

D) He once worked in a well-known acting company.

18. A) Writers of his time had no means to protect their works.

B) Possible sources of clues about him were lost in a fire.

C) His works were adapted beyond recognition.

D) People of his time had little interest in him.

**Passage Two**

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

19. A) It shows you have been ignoring your health.

B) It can seriously affect your thinking process.

C) It is an early warning of some illness.

D) It is a symptom of too much pressure.

20. A) Reduce our workload. C) Use painkillers for relief.

B) Control our temper. D) Avoid masking symptoms.

21. A) Lying down and having some sleep. C) Going out for a walk.

B) Rubbing and pressing one's back. D) Listening to light music.

**Passage Three**

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

22. A) Depending heavily on loans. C) Spending beyond one's means.

B) Having no budget plans at all. D) Leaving no room for large bills.

23. A) Many of them can be cut. C) Their payment cannot be delayed.

B) All of them have to be covered. D) They eat up most of the family income.

24. A) Rent a house instead of buying one. C) Make a conservation plan.

B) Discuss the problem in the family. D) Move to a cheaper place.

25. A) Financial issues plaguing a family. C) Family budget problems and solutions.

B) Difficulty in making both ends meet. D) New ways to boost family income.

**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 with the exact words you have just heard. Finally, when the passage is read for the third time, you should check what you have written.*

注意：此部分试题请在**答题卡1**上作答。

Perhaps because going to college is so much a part of the American dream, many people go for no 26 reason. Some go because their parents expect it, others because it's what their friends are doing. Then, there's the belief that a college degree will 27 ensure a good job and high pay.

Some students 28 through four years, attending classes, or skipping (逃课) them as the case may be, reading only what can't be avoided, looking for less 29 courses, and never being touched or changed in any important way. For a few of these people, college provides no 30 , yet because of parental or peer pressure, they cannot voluntarily leave. They stop trying in the hope that their teachers will make the decision for them by 31 them.

To put it *bluntly* (直截了当地), unless you're willing to make your college years count, you might be 32 doing something else. Not everyone should attend college, nor should everyone who does attend begin right after high school. Many college students 33 taking a year or so off. A year out in the world helps some people to 34 their priorities and goals. If you're really going to get something out of going to college, you have to make it mean something, and to do that you must have some idea why you're there, what you hope to get out of it, and 35 even what you hope to become.

**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.*

**Questions 36 to 45 are based on the following passage.**

It's our guilty pleasure: Watching TV is the most common everyday activity, after work and sleep, in many parts of the world. Americans view five hours of TV each day, and while we know that spending so much time sitting 36 can lead to *obesity* (肥胖症) and other diseases, researchers have now quantified just how 37 being a couch potato can be.

In an analysis of data from eight large 38 published studies, a Harvard-led group reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* that for every two hours per day spent channel 39 , the risk of developing Type 2 *diabetes* (糖尿病) rose 20% over 8.5 years, the risk of heart disease increased 15% over a 40 , and the odds of dying prematurely 41 13% during a seven-year follow-up. All of these 42 are linked to a lack of physical exercise. But compared with other *sedentary* (久坐的) activities, like knitting, viewing TV may be . especially 43 at promoting unhealthy habits. For one, the sheer number of hours we pass watching TV dwarfs the time we spend on anything else. And other studies have found that watching ads for beer and popcorn may make you more likely to 44 them.

Even so, the authors admit that they didn't compare different sedentary activities to 45 whether TV watching was linked to a greater risk of diabetes, heart disease or early death compared with, say, reading.

注意：此部分试题请在**答题卡2**上作答。

A) climbed

B) consume

C) decade

D) determine

E) effective

F) harmful

G) outcomes

H) passively

I) previously J) resume

K) suffered

L) surfing

M) term

N) terminals

O) twisting

**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****.*

**Essay-Grading Software Offers Professors a Break**

A) Imagine taking a college exam, and, instead of handing in a blue book and getting a grade from a professor a few weeks later, clicking the "send", button when you are done and receiving a grade back instantly, your essay scored by a software program. And then, instead of being done with that exam, imagine that the system would immediately let you rewrite the test to try to improve your grade.

B) EdX, the nonprofit enterprise founded by Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to offer courses on the Internet, has just introduced such a system and will make its automated (自动的) software available free on the Web to any institution that wants to use it. The software uses artificial intelligence to grade student essays and short written answers, freeing professors for other tasks.

C) The new service will bring the educational *consortium* (联盟) into a growing conflict over the role of automation in education. Although automated grading systems for multiple-choice and true-false tests are now widespread, the use of artificial intelligence technology to grade essay answers has not yet received widespread acceptance by educators and has many critics.

D) Anant Agarwal, an electrical engineer who is president of EdX, predicted that the instant-grading software would be a useful teaching tool, enabling students to take tests and write essays over and over and improve the quality of their answers. He said the technology would offer distinct advantages over

the traditional classroom system, where students often wait days or weeks for grades. "There is a huge value in learning with instant feedback," Dr. Agarwal said. "Students are telling us they learn much better with instant feedback."

E) But skeptics (怀疑者) say the automated system is no match for live teachers. One longtime critic, Les Perelman, has drawn national attention several times for putting together nonsense essays that have fooled software grading programs into giving high marks. He has also been highly critical of studies claiming that the software compares well to human graders.

F) He is among a group of educators who last month began circulating a *petition* (呼吁) opposing automated assessment software. The group, which calls itself Professionals Against Machine Scoring of Student Essays in High-Stakes Assessment, has collected nearly 2 000 signatures, including some from famous people like Noam Chomsky.

G)“Let's face the realities of automatic essay scoring,” the group's statement reads in part. “Computers cannot 'read'.? They cannot measure the essentials of effective written communication: accuracy, reasoning, adequacy of evidence, good sense, *ethical* (伦理的) position, convincing argument, meaningful organization, and clarity, among others.”

H) But EdX expects its software to be adopted widely by schools and universities. It offers free online classes from Harvard, MIT and the University of California-Berkeley; this fall, it will add classes from Wellesley, Georgetown and the University of Texas. In all, 12 universities participate in EdX, which offers certificates for course completion and has said that it plans to continue to expand next year, including adding international schools.

I) The EdX assessment tool requires human teachers, or graders, to first grade 100 essays or essay questions. The system then uses a variety of machine-learning techniques to train itself to be able to grade any number of essays or answers automatically and almost instantly. The software will assign a grade depending on the scoring system created by the teacher, whether it is a letter grade or *numerical* (数字的) rank.

J) EdX is not the first to use the automated assessment technology, which dates to early computers in the 1960s. There is now a range of companies offering commercial programs to grade written test answers, and four states—Louisiana, North Dakota, Utah and West Virginia—are using some form of the technology in secondary schools. A fifth, Indiana, has experimented with it. In some cases the software is used as a "second reader", to check the reliability of the human graders.

K) But the growing influence of the EdX consortium to set standards is likely to give the technology a boost. On Tuesday, Stanford announced that it would work with EdX to develop a joint educational system that will make use of the automated assessment technology.

L) Two start-ups, Coursera and Udacity, recently founded by Stanford faculty members to create "massive open online courses", or MOOCs, are also committed to automated assessment systems because of the value of instant feedback. "It allows students to get immediate feedback on their work, so that learning turns into a game, with students naturally *gravitating* (吸引) toward resubmitting the work until they get it right," said Daphne Koller, a computer scientist and a founder of Coursera.

M) Last year the Hewlett Foundation, a grant-making organization set up by one of the Hewlett-Packard founders and his wife, sponsored two $100 000 prizes aimed at improving software that grades essays and short answers. More than 150 teams entered each category. A winner of one of the Hewlett contests, Vik Paruchuri, was hired by EdX to help design its assessment software.

N)“One of our focuses is to help kids learn how to think critically,” said Victor Vuchic, a program officer at the Hewlett Foundation. "It's probably impossible to do that with multiple-choice tests. The challenge is that this requires human graders, and so they cost a lot more and they take a lot more time."

O) Mark D. Shermis, a professor at the University of Akron in Ohio, supervised the Hewlett Foundation's contest on automated essay scoring and wrote a paper about the experiment. In his view, the technology—though imperfect—has a place in educational settings.

P) With increasingly large classes, it is impossible for most teachers to give students meaningful feedback on writing assignments, he said. Plus, he noted, critics of the technology have tended to come from the nation's best universities, where the level of teaching is much better than at most schools.

Q)"Often they come from very famous institutions where, in fact, they do a much better job of providing feedback than a machine ever could," Dr. Shermis said. "There seems to be a lack of appreciation of what is actually going on in the real world.”

注意：此部分试题请在**答题卡2**上作答。

46. Some professionals in education are collecting signatures to voice their opposition to automated essay grading.

47. Using software to grade students' essays saves teachers time for other work.

48. The Hewlett contests aim at improving essay grading software.

49. Though the automated grading system is widely used in multiple-choice tests, automated essay grading is still criticized by many educators.

50. Some people don't believe the software grading system can do as good a job as human graders.

51. Critics of automated essay scoring do not seem to know the true realities in less famous universities.

52. Critics argue many important aspects of effective writing cannot be measured by computer rating programs.

53. As class size grows, most teachers are unable to give students valuable comments as to how to improve their writing.

54. The automated assessment technology is sometimes used to double check the work of human graders.

55. Students find instant feedback helps improve their learning considerably.

**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 56 to 60 are based on the following passage.**

Junk food is everywhere. We're eating way too much or it. Most of us know what we're doing and yet we do it anyway.

So here's a suggestion offered by two researchers at the Rand Corporation: Why not take a lesson from alcohol control policies and apply them to where food is sold and how it's displayed?

“Many policy measures to control *obesity* (肥胖症) assume that people consciously and rationally choose what and how much they eat and therefore focus on providing information and more access to healthier foods”, note the two researchers.

“In contrast,” the researchers continue, “many regulations that don't assume people make rational choices have been successfully applied to control alcohol, a substance—like food—of which immoderate consumption leads to serious health problems.”

The research references studies of people's behavior with food and alcohol and results of alcohol restrictions, and then lists five regulations that the researchers think might be promising if applied to junk foods. Among them:

Density restrictions: licenses to sell alcohol aren't handed out unplanned to all comers but are *allotted* (分配) based on the number of places in an area that already sell alcohol. These make alcohol less easy to get and reduce the number of psychological cues to drink.

Similarly, the researchers say, being presented with junk food stimulates our desire to eat it. So why not limit the density of food outlets, particularly ones that sell food rich in empty calories? And why not limit sale of food in places that aren't primarily food stores?

Display and sales restrictions: California has a rule prohibiting alcohol displays near the cash registers in gas stations, and in most places you can't buy alcohol at drive-through facilities. At supermarkets, food companies pay to have their wares in places where they're easily seen. One could remove junk food to the back of the store and ban them from the shelves at checkout lines. The other measures include restricting portion sizes, taxing and prohibiting special price deals for junk foods, and placing warning labels on the products.

注意：此部分试题请在**答题卡2**上作答。

56. What does the author say about junk food?

A) People should be educated not to eat too much.

B) It is widely consumed despite its ill reputation.

C) Its temptation is too strong for people to resist.

D) It causes more harm than is generally realized.

57. What do the Rand researchers think of many of the policy measures to control obesity?

A) They should be implemented effectively. C) They are based on wrong assumptions.

B) They provide misleading information. D) They help people make rational choices.

58. Why do policymakers of alcohol control place density restrictions?

A) Few people are able to resist alcohol's temptations.

B) There are already too many stores selling alcohol.

C) Drinking strong alcohol can cause social problems.

D) Easy access leads to customers' over-consumption.

59. What is the purpose of California s rule about alcohol display in gas stations?

A) To effectively limit the density of alcohol outlets.

B) To help drivers to give up the habit of drinking.

C) To prevent possible traffic jams in nearby areas.

D) To get alcohol out of drivers immediate sight.

60. What is the general guideline the Rand researchers suggest about junk food control?

A) Guiding people to make rational choices about food.

B) Enhancing people's awareness of their own health.

C) Borrowing ideas from alcohol control measures.

D) Resorting to economic, legal and psychological means.

**Passage Two**

**Questions 61 to 65 are based on the following passage.**

Kodak's decision to file for *bankruptcy* (破产) protection is a sad, though not unexpected, turning point for a leading American corporation that pioneered consumer photography and dominated the film market for decades, but ultimately failed to adapt to the digital revolution.

Although many attribute Kodak's downfall to *“complacency* (自满)”, that explanation doesn't acknowledge the lengths to which the company went to reinvent itself. Decades ago, Kodak anticipated that digital photography would overtake film—and in fact, Kodak invented the first digital camera in 1975—but in a fateful decision, the company chose to shelf its new discovery to focus on its traditional film business.

It wasn't that Kodak was blind to the future, said Rebecca Henderson, a professor at Harvard Business School, but rather that it failed to execute on a strategy to confront it. By the time the company realized its mistake, it was too late.

Kodak is an example of a firm that was very much aware that they had to adapt, and spent a lot of money trying to do so, but ultimately failed. Large companies have a difficult time switching to new markets because there is a temptation to put existing assets into the new businesses.

Although Kodak anticipated the inevitable rise of digital photography, its corporate (企业的) culture was too rooted in the successes of the past for it to make the clean break necessary to fully embrace the future. They were a company stuck in time. Their history was so important to them. Now their history has become a liability.

Kodak's downfall over the last several decades was dramatic. In 1976, the company commanded 90% of the market for photographic film and 85% of the market for cameras. But the 1980s brought new competition from Japanese film company Fuji Photo, which undermined Kodak by offering lower prices for film and photo supplies. Kodak's decision not to pursue the role of official film for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics was a major miscalculation. The bid went instead to Fuji, which exploited its sponsorship to win a permanent foothold in the marketplace.

注意：此部分试题请在**答题卡2**上作答。

61. What do we learn about Kodak?

A) It went bankrupt all of a sudden.

B) It is approaching its downfall.

C) It initiated the digital revolution in the film industry.

D) It is playing the dominant role in the film market.

62. Why does the author mention Kodak s invention of the first digital camera?

A) To show its early attempt to reinvent itself.

B) To show its effort to overcome complacency.

C) To show its quick adaptation to the digital revolution.

D) To show its will to compete with Japan's Fuji Photo.

63. Why do large companies have difficulty switching to new markets?

A) They find it costly to give up their existing assets.

B) They tend to be slow in confronting new challenges.

C) They are unwilling to invest in new technology.

D) They are deeply stuck in their glorious past.

64. What does the author say Kodak's history has become?

A) A burden. B) A mirror. C) A joke. D) A challenge.

65. What was Kodak's fatal mistake?

A) Its blind faith in traditional photography. C) Its refusal to sponsor the 1984 Olympics.

B) Its failure to see Fuji Photo's emergence. D) Its overconfidence in its corporate culture.

**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****.*

据报道，今年中国 快递服务 (courier services) 将递送大约120亿件包裹。这将使中国有可能超越美国成为世界上最大的快递市场。大多数包裹里装着网上订购的物品。中国给数百万在线零售商以极具竞争力的价格销售商品的机会。仅在11月11日，中国消費者就从国内最大的购物平台购买了价值90亿美元的商品。中国有不少这样的特殊购物日。因此，快递业在中国扩展就不足为奇了。

注意：此部分试题请在**答题卡2**上作答。

2015年6月大学英语六级考试真题（第2套）参考答案

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **序号** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
| **答案** | **C** | **B** | **C** | **A** | **A** |
| **序号** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** |
| **答案** | D | B | D | A | B |
| **序号** | **11** | **12** | **13** | **14** | **15** |
| **答案** | A | B | C | C | D |
| **序号** | **16** | **17** | **18** | **19** | **20** |
| **答案** | D | C | B | C | D |
| **序号** | **21** | **22** | **23** | **24** | **25** |
| **答案** | A | B | A | D | C |
| **序号** | **26** | **27** | **28** | **29** | **30** |
| **答案** | Particular | Automatically | Drag | Demanding | Satisfaction |
| **序号** | **31** | **32** | **33** | **34** | **35** |
| **答案** | Failing | Better off | Profit from | Sort out | Probably |
| **序号** | **36** | **37** | **38** | **39** | **40** |
| **答案** | H | F | I | L | C |
| **序号** | **41** | **42** | **43** | **44** | **45** |
| **答案** | A | G | E | B | D |
| **序号** | **46** | **47** | **48** | **49** | **50** |
| **答案** | F | B | M | C | E |
| **序号** | **51** | **52** | **53** | **54** | **55** |
| **答案** | Q | G | P | J | D |
| **序号** | **56** | **57** | **58** | **59** | **60** |
| **答案** | B | C | A | B | D |
| **序号** | **61** | **62** | **63** | **64** | **65** |
| **答案** | C | A | D | D | B |