15 选 10

第一篇文章：Unit One Cloze 1

Braj Kachru (Professor Emeritus of Linguistics at the University of Illinois) conceived the idea of three concentric circles of World English to better understand the use of English in different countries. Firstly, the inner circle represents the traditional bases of English: the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, Anglophone Canada, and some of the Caribbean territories. The total number of English speakers in the inner circle is as high as 380 million, of whom some 120 million are outside the United States. Next comes the outer circle, which includes countries where English is not the native tongue, but is important for historical reasons and plays a part in the nation's institutions, either as an official language or otherwise. This circle includes India, Nigeria, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Malaysia, Tanzania, Kenya, non-Anglophone South Africa and Canada, etc. The total number of English speakers in the outer circle is estimated to range from 150 million to 300 million. Finally, the expanding circle encompasses those countries where English plays no historical or governmental role, but where it is nevertheless widely used as a foreign language or lingua franca. This includes much of the rest of the world's population: China, Russia, Japan, most of Europe, Korea, Egypt, Indonesia, etc. The total in this expanding circle is the most difficult to estimate, especially because English may be employed for specific, limited purposes, usually business English. The estimates of these users range from 100 million to one billion.

第二篇文章：Unit One Cloze 2

The English language, one of the major languages of the world, is identified by linguists as a member of the Germanic branch of the Indo-European family of languages. At the beginning of the 19th century, English was the native speech of barely 15 million people. Today it is used regularly by more than 320 million and is second only to Chinese, whose world primacy in number of speakers is accounted for(3) largely by the vast population of China.

Of the 3,000 or more tongues spoken today, about half a dozen predominate, having among their speakers two thirds of the world's population. English, as one of those influential and growing languages, is spoken in areas widely scattered over the globe. It is used throughout most of the North American continent and in the British Isles, Australia, New Zealand, and the Republic of South Africa. English is also the most widely studied language in areas where it is not native. It is the chief foreign language taught in the schools of Latin American and European countries. In Japan, children begin the study/learning of English in the seventh grade, and in the Philippines all classes are conducted in Erglish from the fourth grade on. In India, English is an official language alternative to Hindi, the chief official language.

第三篇文章：Unit Two Cloze 1

Generally speaking, a good Ph.D. thesis topic is interesting to you, to your advisor, and to the research community. As with many aspects of graduate school, the balance you find will depend at least in part on the relationship you have with your advisor. Some professors have well defined long-term research programs and expect their students to contribute directly to this program. Others have much looser, but still related ongoing projects. Still others will take on anyone with an interesting idea, and may have a broad range of interesting ideas to offer their students. Be wary of the advisor who seems willing to let you pursue any research direction. You probably won't get the technical support you need, and they may lose interest in you when the next graduate student with a neat idea comes along.

If you pick a topic that you're not truly interested in simply because it is your advisor's pet area, it will be difficult to stay focused and motivated and you may be left hanging if your advisor moves on to a different research area before you finish. The same is true for choosing a topic because of its marketability: if you're not personally excited about the topic, you'll have a harder time finishing and a harder time convincing other people that your research is interesting. Besides, markets change more quickly than most people finish dissertations.

第四篇文章：Unit Two Cloze 2

You've just finished with middle school and you may start wondering, "What is high school like? Is high school a lot different from middle school? Is it going to be hard to start out in a new place?" Most high schools in America hold a freshman class before school actually starts. When you talk to people in the freshman class, you will find that a lot of them are feeling just like you are, excited, maybe a little afraid. Talking about a question of common interest with your classmates could start a new Friendship. The work in high school builds on what you have learned in middle school, and gives you more knowledge of many subjects. So you may feel that it's a bit more challenging. But these challenges can make you feel less bored. And there are many resources to use if you feel that the work is too much.

At the beginning of high school, you'll get to know it has more activities than middle school, such as clubs, music groups, and sports teams. These activities may take place before or after school, or during your free time. Because of this, time management is an important skill in your first year.

Middle school teaches you the ways of study and social skills while high school gives you the chance to learn how to be more independent. It's all right if you're nervous at first. Just be patient and keep trying. Once you've got used to your new independence, you can go farther than you ever imagined.

第五篇文章：Unit Three Cloze 1

Perhaps the single greatest strength of science is that it doesn't have to face up to the meaning of truth: Science's very methodology allows it to sidestep the whole issue of truth. The scientific method is a way of translating our individual responses to the world into something that's collective. We can personally validate a scientific description of reality by repeating an experiment. More obviously, we see that science works because we live in the material world that science has made for us: the world of indoors that is largely separated-off from Nature. The steam-engine, drugs, central heating, weapons, particle-accelerators and iPhones all convince us that the world is as the scientific method describes it. It's easy to forget that no matter how elaborate the material world has become, it is always a sieved-out part of the larger reality of Nature. A hard-line materialist might claim, as a matter of faith, that science will ultimately pass all phenomena through the sieve of the scientific method. A sceptic like myself must, then, be able to indicate ways in which the Universe might always be much larger, perhaps infinitely larger, than our ability to describe it materially.

第六篇文章：Unit Three Cloze 2

The universe is a very big place. It is crowded with billions of galaxies, an uncountable number of stars and a mysterious force called dark energy that is making it even bigger. In the last ten years, thanks to amazing images sent back by the Hubble Space Telescope, scientist have come up with a plausible explanation of how the univers began, starting with the Big Bang 13.7 million years ago and expanding into the stunning cosmos that exists today. But we are still far from full understanding our universe and scientists are always looking for new tool to help them fill in the picture. One such tool is a model of the universe ——inside a computer —— recently created by scientists at the University of Durham in the U.K. called the Millennium Simulation, it has been describe as "the largest and most realistic simulation ever of the growth of cosmic structure" and may help scientists unlock some of the elusive secrets of our universe.

第七篇文章：2023 年 6 月第一套

Scientists recently examined studies on dog intelligence and compared them with research into the minds of other intelligent animals. The researchers found that dogs are among the more intelligent carnivores, social hunters and domestic animals, but that their intelligence does not surpass other intelligent animals in any of those categories. Though a significant body of research has examined dog cognition previously, the authors of this new study found little to warrant the volume of work that has been devoted to the topic.

Stephen Lea, lead author of the new study, argues that many researchers seem to have designed their studies to prove how clever dogs are, rather than simply to study dogs' brains. Lea and a colleague examined more than 300 studies of dog cognition, comparing the studies' results with those from research into other animals. The researchers made specific comparisons between the different species in different categories of intelligence. These comparisons affirmed that dogs are intelligent, but their intelligence is not as formidable as some researchers might have believed.

In many areas, though, comparisons were not possible. For example, the researchers noted that both dogs and cats are known to be able to recognize and differentiate human voices. But the investigators could not find any data to indicate which species can remember a greater number of distinct human voices, so it was impossible to compare the two on that front. However, not all researchers agree completely with the findings of this study. Zachary Silver, an American researcher, believes the authors of the new study overstated the idea that an excessive amount of research has been devoted to dogs, as the field of dog cognition is young, and there is much to be learned about how dogs think.

A) affirmed

B) approximately

C) completely

D) differentiate

E) distinct

F) domain

G) formidable

H) outperformed

I) overstated

J) pledge

K) previously

L) prospective

M) prove

N) surpass

O) volume

第八篇文章：2023 年 6 月第二套

Imagine sitting down to a big dinner: a massive steak, a large portion of fried potatoes, and cake for dessert. After eating so much, you should be too full to eat another bite. But some people experience a powerful urge to keep eating, even after indulging in a huge meal, a behavior that makes little sense, as most adults are well-versed in the dangers of obesity, which researchers have shown correlates with innumerable health issues and is even linked to increased mortality risk. But some people still keep eating long after they should stop, a phenomenon Dr.Susan Thompson calls “insatiable hunger”. It is characterized by two main attributes: not being satisfied by eating, and having a desire to stay sedentary.

This is at odds with how humans are biologically programmed. When there was a great deal of food available, ancient people would gorge on calories; this massive calorie intake was accompanied by an urge to get active. Humans were also programmed for something called ”compensation”, which is the brain’s regulatory mechanism for preventing the accumulation of excess weight. With compensation, if you eat one large meal in the morning, you are naturally inclined to eat less for the rest of the day.

But recent studies show that 70% of American adults have lost the ability to naturally compensate for the calories they consume; worse still, a significant number of them report diminishing hunger halfway through an eating session, but, by the end of the meal, they feel the same or higher levels of hunger than when they sat down. Dr.Thompson argues that the main cause of this phenomenon is the modern diet, which is comprised of food high in sugar, carbohydrates and calories.

A) attributes

B) comprised

C) conceded

D) conservation

E) diminishing

F) far

G) inclined

H) indulging

I) innumerable

J) mortality

K) odds

L) plights

M) regulatory

N) still

O) unmatchable

第九篇文章：2023 年 6 月第三套

You might not know yourself as well as you think. According to a new study, people are relatively accurate judges of only some of their behaviors. While most previous studies on how well people know themselves have been done on long-term personality traits, this new study probes how well people understand how they are acting from one moment to the next. Researchers asked participants to wear audio recorders that automatically activated every 9.5 minutes between 7 a.m. and 2 a.m. to record 30 seconds of audio. These participants were then emailed surveys four times a day asking them to recall how outgoing, agreeable, or conscientious they were during a particular hour of the day. The study used data from 248 participants, all of whom answered questions about their behavior for two consecutive weeks and wore the audio device for one of those weeks.

Six laboratory assistants rated each participant's audio clips to see how their observations compared with people's assessment of themselves. The six assistants were generally in agreement with one another about how the people they were observing acted. Further, participants' ratings of their own behaviors agreed with observers' for how outgoing and how conscientious they were being. But the agreement between participants and outside observers was much smaller for agreeableness. Some of this discrepancy could be because the observers used only audio clips, and thus could not read cues like body language, but there are probably other explanations, as people should be able to hear when a participant is being kind versus being rude. The weak agreement between how participants thought they were acting and what observers heard could be because people would rather deny rude behavior.

A) activated

B) articulates

C) assessment

D) consecutive

E) cues

F) deny

G) discrepancy

H) probably

I) probes

J) random

K) recall

L) relatively

M) saturated

N) symptoms

O) terminate