

第一部分 阅读理解命题思路解析

第一大板块：原文

一、对于单词的理解

阅读中几种特别关注的词汇：

- | | |
|-------|---------|
| 1.观点词 | 6.因果词 |
| 2.例证词 | 7.比较词 |
| 3.泛指词 | 8.指代词 |
| 4.转折词 | 9.态度词 |
| 5.否定词 | 10.情态动词 |

二、对于句子的理解

- 1.确定主干
- 2.切分成分
- 3.独立成句：从句，现在分词短语，过去分词短语，独立主格结构；
(翻译中需要调整语序)

三、观点句的特征：

包含观点词，主观价值判断词，情态动词和虚拟语气的句子。
(主语+be 动词+观点)

四、如何寻找作者观点：

4.文中无人认领的观点就是作者的观点。

- 1.I+观点词=作者观点
- 2.Few+观点词=作者观点
- 3.someone+观点词+观点

- (1) 作者明确反对则不是作者观点；
- (2) 作者明确支持则就是作者观点；
- (3) 作者不明确反对则就是作者观点；
- (4) 文中出现两派对立的观点，作者可以支持其中一派；也可以保持中立性；

五、文章结构

(论点+论据)是最关键的结构。

引入：一个人；一句话；一件事；一个现象；一个对比；一个对照；一个问题；

论述：论点+论据

呼应：重申论点；提出建议；展望未来

第二大块板：题干

题干是返回原文定位的路标，分题型是为了更好地定位！

- 一、主题题
- 二、例证题
- 三、词汇题
- 四、细节题
- 五、态度题
- 六、推理题

第三大板块：选项

- 1.正确选项的特征：
 - 2.错误选项的类型：
 - 3.寻找最佳的选项：
- KK 三步法：**

一、定位：

线索句：有资格和选项进行比对的句子。

（一）一步到位：细节题，态度题和推理题

1.题干中有具体定位信息的题目。

（细节，态度，部分推理）

2.题干中定位信息不充分的时候，可以利用选项定位或者三大出题点定位。

三大出题点：段落首末句，转折处和观点句

（推理题，和部分细节题）

（二）两步到位：例证题和词汇题

Step1: 返回原文找到包含题干的句子；

Step2: 进一步根据句间关系找到题干所对应的线索；

1.例证题：

Step1: 返回原文找到包含例子的句子；

（包含例子的句子不是线索句）

Step2: 进一步寻找和例子相对应的观点或者结论；

（包含观点和结论的句子才是线索句）

所以这种题被称为两步到位！

第二步才是关键，因为例子到底说明了什么？这个要作者自己给出答案，所以定位一定不能出错！一定要定位到例子所对应的观点或者结论！

如何寻找和例子相对应的结论？

1) 文中有明显的例证词的时候（for example, for instance, therefore）结论就在上一句

或者下一句;

2) 文中没有明显例证词的时候, 结论就在段落首句(本段首句或者上下段首句);

3) 文章开头的例子一定是为了引出(introduce)主题(topic);

(这种情况下, 只要有 introduce 的选项通常都对; 除非你确定不匹配!

(03 年第一篇文章; 07 年第一篇文章;)

(四个选项如果都没有 introduce 那就寻找和其相匹配的观点。)

08 年第四篇文章; 08 年第三篇文章; 06 年第三篇文章;

4) 例子, 结论 1 but 结论 2

(这个时候例子是对应结论 1 的)

(何凯文每天都扶老太太过马路。所以何凯文是个好孩子但是刘一男是个坏孩纸, 他每天都抢幼儿园小朋友的雪糕吃。)

5) 结论, 例子 1 but 例子 2

(例子 1 和例子 2 都是说明结论的)

(文都男老师的颜值是不一样的。比如何凯文很帅但是 JPP 就呵呵。)

6) 例子 but 结论 A

(例子说明结论非 A)

用 ABCD 四个选项分别和结论 A 比对, 构成反义的选项为正确答案。

2. 词汇题:

Step1. 返回原文找到包含题干的句子

Step2. 进一步根据句中或句间正反关系确定题干所对应的线索

(所以词汇题也是两步到位)

正关系:

1. 并列: 并列连词; 标点; 主语相同的句子; 语义

2. 承接: 承接词; 语义

3. 解释: 定语(从句); 同位语(从句); 标点; 因果

4. 例证: 例证词; 语义

5. 因果: 因果词; 语义

反关系:

转折: 转折词; 语义

否定: 否定词; 语义

1) 可以利用线索词和选项进行比对。

2) 也可以用代入法将选项代入原文满足原文句间关系。

二、比对:

将线索句与(题干)+选项=句子进行比对, 找出表达方式不同, 意思最为接近的选项!

(一) 同近义词的替换

(二) 上下义词的替换

(三) 正话反说的替换

(四) 归纳不推理的替换

Note: 有时候答案是: 原文重现。

三个原则:

- 1.先方向, 后程度: 容忍答案的不完美
- 1.一定对大于可能对: 越是模糊越是一定对
- 2.主客观原则: 主观对主观客观对客观

三、排除:

- (一) 检查定位是否正确
- (二) 检查替换是否正确
- (三) 来自高信息的选项优先成为正确答案 (主题为王)
- (四) KK 必杀技: 更深刻的选项优先成为正确选项

一、细节题

KK 提醒: 不是每个句子都有资格和选项发生关系! 很多同学的错误就在于习惯了用选项定位, 忽略题干的指示, 最后造成定位错误。

例 1.No company wants to be the first to bear the costs of updating the insecure computer systems that run most cars.We need federal safety regulations to push automakers to move, as a whole industry.Last month, a bill with privacy and cyber security standards for cars was introduced in the Senate.That's good, but it's only a start.We need a new understanding of car safety, and of the safety of any object running software or connecting to the Internet.It may be hard to fix security on the digital Internet, but the Internet of Things should not be built on this faulty foundation. Responding to digital threats by patching only exposed vulnerabilities is giving just aspirin to a very ill patient.

What is the root threat to the security of the Internet of Things?

- [A] The cyber security standards are inadequate in the Senate.
- [B] Companies are not willing to allocate funds to improve security system.
- [C] The understanding of Internet is based on the shaky ground.
- [D] The foundation of the Internet of Things is vulnerable.

2.观点识别:

例 1.Ever since Mr Tim Cook replaced Steve Jobs at Apple's helm, speculation has mounted that the company has lost some of the magic that produced the iPhone and iPad.Mr Cook's fans contend that those who think Apple should already have come up with a new category-killer are being unrealistic, that a few years between big ideas is nothing to worry about.And they note that the iPad and the iPhone are still minting money.In the first quarter of 2013 Apple reported revenue of \$43.6 billion: an 11% increase compared with the same period in 2012, and a figure that exceeds the combined sales of Google and Microsoft.But Apple's margins are being squeezed by the introduction of the iPad mini, which is less lucrative than bigger iPads.

1.Supporters of Mr Cook argue that

- [A] iPad and iPhone bring in money and great revenue increase.

- [B] a company without new category-killer has lost the magic.
- [C] the introduction of money-earning novelty needs years.
- [D] Apple's profit has been squeezed by less money-earning iPad mini.

例 2. “IF SOMEONE is shooting at you, the last thing you should focus on is the caliber of the bullet,” says George Kurtz, the boss of CrowdStrike, a young tech company. Seated at a coffee table at Black Hat, a conference for the cyber-security industry held in Las Vegas recently, Mr Kurtz is expounding on the fundamental flaw he sees in the way many firms deal with cyber-intrusions. Most, he says, spend too much time trying to work out what hit them and far too little trying to understand the motivations of their attackers and how to counter future assaults.

According to Kurtz, when confronting cyber attacks, a company should focus on _____.

- [A] the size of the bullet from the cyber assaults.
- [B] the way to deal with electronic assaults.
- [C] what hit them in future assaults.
- [D] intentions of cyber-security industry.

例 3. Donald Trump slanders Mexican immigrants as drug dealers and rapists, calls America “a dumping ground” for foreigners and promises to make the country “great again” by getting rid of 11 million of them. “Immigration without assimilation is invasion,” says Bobby Jindal, repeatedly. On and on, the fever rages. But this week, a cool blast of reason blew in from outside the fray. A team of scholars presented exhaustive evidence that anti-immigrant bigotry is baseless and that the truism about America as a “melting pot” is – no kidding – still true. The basic conclusion is that the machinery of American assimilation is working pretty well after nearly two and a half centuries.

What is the opinion of scholars about the immigrants according to the passage?

- [A] The immigrants have hardly been assimilated in the “melting pot” recently.
- [B] A more reasonable opinion should be blown on the immigrants.
- [C] More immigrants should be assimilated to make the country great.
- [D] anti-immigrant bigotry is the truism with no kidding.

3. 因果识别:

例 1. Evolv, a company that monitors recruitment and workplace data, has suggested that there are better ways to identify the right candidate for job. It analysed 3m data points from over 30, 000 employees, comparing traits of applicants with those of existing employees, to determine which traits are most indicative of reliability, trustworthiness and suitability for particular jobs. Among other things, its analysis found that those applicants who have bothered to install new web browsers on their computers (such as Mozilla's Firefox or Google's Chrome) perform better and stay in their posts for 15% longer, on average, than those who use the default pre-installed browser that came with their machine (ie, Internet Explorer on a Windows PC and Safari on an Apple Mac). This may simply be a coincidence, but Evolv's analysts reckon that applicants' willingness to go to the trouble of installing a new browser shows decisiveness, a valuable trait in a potential employee.

1. According to the Evolv, web browsers work for recruiting because

- [A] the browsers can show the valuable trait of sincerity.
- [B] new browsers perform better than pre-installed ones.
- [C] the browsers can trace applicant's willingness.
- [D] the habit of using browsers tells the assertiveness.

例 2. OVER the past few years, a growing number of America's parentless children have found homes. In 2008 there were 463, 000 children in foster care, a system where the government places orphans and children with parents who are abusive or unable to take care of them in the care of guardians. That is 11% down since 2002, and great news. But experts worry the trend might now go into reverse. Some welfare advocates fear that the bad economy may cause parents with frayed nerves to abuse and neglect their children, and even cause some to abandon them. Furthermore, many states and counties, in an attempt to cope with their fiscal straits, are considering cutting down on child-welfare services. With more budget cuts, there will be fewer caseworkers to take notice of abuse and neglect, and it will be more difficult to find someone to report problems to, potentially skewing the collection data.

1. The apprehension of the experts on the reverse of the trend mainly originates from

- [A] 11% down of parentless children since 2002.
- [B] the foster care system neglecting abusive children.
- [C] parents with nerves facing bad economy.
- [D] the attempts of governments to cut budget.

例 3. The Fed has seen quiet nominal wages as evidence the labour market has more slack than falling unemployment suggests. But Janet Yellen, its chairman, recently said that the weakness in wages might be deceptive. New research by the San Francisco Fed suggests that many employers froze pay during the recession because workers resist cuts in nominal pay more fiercely than the erosion of their purchasing power by inflation. Employers, unable to reduce wages when times were bad, have not been raising them now that times are better. But once this "pent-up wage deflation" has run its course, pay growth might take off.

1. Why employers stagnate the wage during the recession?

- [A] The weakness of wages runs its course
- [B] Workers prefer to the erosion of their purchasing power.
- [C] Employees have voiced their dissent on wage matter..
- [D] The labour market has been slowing than expected.

例 4. Music sales at Apple's iTunes Store have fallen 13% to 14% world-wide since the start of this year, which is stark compared with a much shallower dip last year. The plummeting download numbers help illustrate why Apple bought the \$ 10- a -month subscription streaming service Beats Music earlier this year, as part of its \$3 billion acquisition that included headphone maker Beats Electronics. Apple is rebuilding Beats Music and plans to relaunch it next year as part of iTunes,

according to a person familiar with the matter.

1.What is the motivation of Apple'acquisition of Beats music?

- [A] The dip of music service at Apple's iTunes store.
- [B] The head phone business would promote Apple's music plan.
- [C] The obvious lurch back of the iTunes store music sales.
- [D] The world wide plummeting music numbers in the business.

例 5.It's understandable that Kaci Hickox , the nurse detained in New Jersey after treating Ebola patients in Sierra Leone, didn't like her treatment.And in the great American tradition, she has retained a civil-rights attorney to sue.Meanwhile, Illinois has also imposed a 21-day quarantine similar to New York's, and Florida is requiring twice daily monitoring for anyone returning from Ebola-infected areas.This patchwork mess is what happens when the federal government demonstrates a persistent record of incompetence and incredibility.As long as that holds , the Governors shouldn't be criticized for using even blunt tools to protect the public.

1.The reason why different states adopt diversified measures is

- [A] The great American tradition to prevent patch work mess
- [B] The untrustworthiness of central authority on the disease control
- [C] Quarantine measure is essential for the disease control.
- [D] Various situations facing different states call for patch work.

例 6. “ The recovery from the Great Recession has advanced sufficiently far and domestic spending has been sufficiently robust that an argument can be made for a rise in interest rates at this time,” Ms.Yellen said.But “heightened uncertainty abroad” and slow inflation persuaded the committee to wait for more evidence, including continued job growth, “to bolster its confidence.”

Why the Fed still keep interest rates near zero?

- [A] The recovery from the financial crisis is not as good as expected.
- [B] The threat of foreign competition threatens the job growth.
- [C] The Fed is still dearth of confidence in oversea market.
- [D] The heightened uncertainty abroad bolsters Fed's confidence.

例 7.Royal Mail could be made to accept further controls on stamp prices as part of an inquiry announced by the communications watchdog.Ofcom said it would carry out a “ fundamental review”of how it regulates Royal Mail to make sure the company maintains its obligation to deliver to all parts of the country.The regulator decided to undertake the review after Whistl, Royal Mail's only national competitor for direct delivery of letters, pulled out of the market.

7.Why Ofcom would conduct a fundamental review of Royal Mail's function?

- [A] Royal Mail declined to accept the further control on stamp prices.
- [B] The watchdog intends to confirm the company's duty on the service.
- [C] The only national rival of Royal Mail has withdrawn from the market.
- [D] The Ofcom plans to regulate Royal Mail to pull Whistl out of the market.

4. which 题型:

例 1. “OUR primary goal is for our users to see us as a gym, where they can work out and keep mentally fit,” says Michael Scanlon, the co-founder and chief scientist of Lumos Labs. For \$14.95 a month, subscribers to the firm’s Lumosity website get to play a selection of online games designed to improve their cognitive performance. There are around 40 exercises available, including “speed match”, in which players click if an image matches a previous one; “memory matrix”, which requires remembering which squares on a matrix were shaded; and “raindrops”, which involves solving arithmetic problems before the raindrops containing them hit the ground. The puzzles are varied, according to how well users perform, to ensure they are given a suitably challenging brain-training session each day.

1. Which of the following tasks is presented by the website according to the first paragraph?

- [A] To remember some shaded matrix in a square.
- [B] To click the previous matches in “speedmatch”
- [C] To prevent mental deterioration with some activities.
- [D] To hit raindrops containing arithmetic problems.

例 2. Working out to what extent the low participation rate is structural, meaning that it will persist, rather than cyclical, caused by a weaker-than-usual recovery, will be crucial in determining when the Federal Reserve raises interest rates.

1. Which of the following is true according to the passage?

- [A] Low participation rate is critical for Federal Reserve’s decision on interest rates.
- [B] There is no correlation between structural low rate and interest rates raising.
- [C] The structural low participation rate usually will continue as it is for a while.
- [D] The cyclical low participation is caused by Federal Reserve’s decision.

例 3. Advertising sustains pretty much all the content you enjoy on the web, not least this very newspaper and its handsome, charming technology columnist; as I’ve argued before, many of the world’s most useful technologies may never have come about without online advertising. But at the same time, ads and the vast, hidden, data-sucking machinery that they depend on to track and profile you are routinely the most terrible thing about the Internet. Now, more and more web users are escaping the daily bombardment of online advertising by installing an ad blocker. This simple, free software lets you roam the web without encountering any ads that shunt themselves between you and the content you want to read or watch. With an ad blocker, your web browser will generally run faster, you’ll waste less bandwidth downloading ads, and you’ll suffer fewer annoyances when navigating the Internet. You’ll wonder why everyone else in the world doesn’t turn to the dark side.

What of following is true about the web ad blocker?

- [A] It will help users confront the ad between them and the wanting message.
- [B] It will jeopardise the user-friendly Internet surfing experience on the web browser.
- [C] It will take users into a dark side of the Internet.
- [D] It will waste more bandwidth downloading ads.

例 4. Just under a decade ago, America seemed on the cusp of an auto revolution. Faced with a slumping economy and skyrocketing oil prices, drivers were turning away from costly, gas-guzzling SUVs—think of the Hummer brand that General Motors killed in 2010—and toward hybrid-electric cars that promised, over time, to save them millions at the pump. The technology was poised to go mainstream, thanks in part to a freshly elected President Obama, who promised to make it cheaper to produce greener cars—which in turn would make it cheaper to buy them.

Which of the following one is true according to the first paragraph?

- [A] The dramatic rise of the oil price has spelt the death of Hummer.
- [B] The President Obama has made the auto revolution of hybrid-electric cars.
- [C] The price of gasoline has made the cusp of General Motors.
- [D] The technology has made the gasoline much cheaper than before.

二、态度题（其本质就是细节题）

注意：1. 定位的时候一定要精确：注意态度的主体和对象！

排除：

（一）当态度主体=作者；态度对象=全文主题时；

作者的态度一定是明确的；要么支持，要么反对，要么中性（objective; impartial）

Biased; indifferent; neutral; gloomy; sensitive;

（二）最近几年作者青睐的态度：质疑（questionable; skeptical, doubtful; dubious）

For the past several years, the Sunday newspaper supplement *Parade* has featured a column called “Ask Marilyn.” People are invited to query Marilyn vos Savant, who at age 10 had tested at a mental level of someone about 23 years old; that gave her an IQ of 228 – the highest score ever recorded. IQ tests ask you to complete verbal and visual analogies, to envision paper after it has been folded and cut, and to deduce numerical sequences, among other similar tasks. So it is a bit confusing when vos Savant fields such queries from the average Joe (whose IQ is 100) as, What’s the difference between love and fondness? Or what is the nature of luck and coincidence? It’s not obvious how the capacity to visualize objects and to figure out numerical patterns suits one to answer questions that have eluded some of the best poets and philosophers.

Clearly, intelligence encompasses more than a score on a test. Just what does it mean to be smart? How much of intelligence can be specified, and how much can we learn about it from neurology, genetics, computer science and other fields?

30. What is the author’s attitude towards IQ tests?

- [A] Supportive.
- [B] Skeptical.
- [C] Impartial.
- [D] Biased.

例 2. Another unexamined factor may also have contributed to rises in productivity. Slaves were valuable property, and much harder and, thanks to the decline in supply from Africa, costlier to replace than, say, the Irish peasants that the iron-masters imported into south Wales in the 19th century. Slavery owners surely had a vested interest in keeping their “hands” ever fitter and stronger to pick more cotton. Some of the rise in productivity could have come from better

treatment. Unlike Mr Thomas, Mr Baptist has not written an objective history of slavery. Almost all the blacks in his book are victims, almost all the whites villains. This is not history; it is advocacy.

1. What is the Mr Baptist's attitude towards slavery?

- [A] Objective. [B] advocate [C] critical [D] sympathy

例 3. The results have been deeply troubling. The problem is not just that companies are ever more frequently treated as criminals. It is that the crimes they are accused of are often obscure and the reasoning behind their punishments opaque, and that it is far from obvious that justice is being done and the public interest is being served. It is true that many of the alleged wrong doings take place as part of complex set of activities, especially in the financial markets, which can make them hard to understand.

What is the author's attitude towards accusation on companies?

- [A] sympathy [B] objective
[C] skeptical [D] opposite

三、推理题

※推理题的解题方法

特别提醒：推理题本质上就是细节题，从来就没有推过；所以不要相信“推”这个词！

三、排除

来自高信息的选项优先成为正确选项；（主题为王）

（这一条技巧特别有用！尤其是段落推理题的时候。很多时候来自低信息的选项就不是正确答案！）

例 1. British green groups spanked the Prince Charles for deciding to fly to the U.S. to pick up a prestigious environmental award, arguing that the carbon emissions created by his travel canceled out his green credit. His critics may be onto something. Jets are uniquely polluting. On an individual level, a single long-haul flight can emit more carbon per passenger than months of SUV driving. Though air travel is responsible for only 1.6% of total greenhouse gas emissions, according to one estimate, in many countries it's the fastest-growing single source.

One of the biggest problems, as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) points out, is that the carbon emitted by air travel currently has “no techno fix.” As messy a source of pollution as electricity generation and ground transportation are, technologies do exist that could drastically cut carbon from power plants and cars. Not so for planes.

26. What can we infer from the first two paragraphs?

- [A] Prince Charles is blamed for his indifference towards environment.
[B] Air industry is the major contributor to global greenhouse gases.
[C] No technology solution can greatly reduce airline emissions presently.
[D] Airline emissions haven't aroused people's concern

例 2. The current state of affairs may have been encouraged – though not justified – by the lack of legal penalty (in America, but not Europe) for data leakage. Until California recently passed a

law, American firms did not have to tell anyone, even the victim, when data went astray. That may change fast: lots of proposed data-security legislation is now doing the rounds in Washington, D.C. Meanwhile, the theft of information about some 40 million credit-card accounts in America, disclosed on June 17th, overshadowed a hugely important decision a day earlier by America's Federal Trade Commission (FTC) that puts corporate America on notice that regulators will act if firms fail to provide adequate data security.

27. It can be inferred from Paragraph 5 that

- [A] data leakage is more severe in Europe.
- [B] FTC's decision is essential to data security.
- [C] California takes the lead in security legislation.
- [D] legal penalty is a major solution to data leakage.

例 3. As is true of any developed society, in America a complex set of cultural signals, assumptions, and conventions underlies all social interrelationships. And, of course, speaking a language does not necessarily mean that someone understands social and cultural patterns. Visitors who fail to "translate" cultural meanings properly often draw wrong conclusions. For example, when an American uses the word "friend," the cultural implications of the word may be quite different from those it has in the visitor's language and culture. It takes more than a brief encounter on a bus to distinguish between courteous convention and individual interest. Yet, being friendly is a virtue that many Americans value highly and expect from both neighbors and strangers.

28. It could be inferred from the last paragraph that _____.

- [A] culture exercises an influence over social interrelationship
- [B] courteous convention and individual interest are interrelated
- [C] various virtues manifest themselves exclusively among friends
- [D] social interrelationships equal the complex set of cultural conventions

例 4. To take this approach to the New Englanders normally mean to start with the Puritans' theological innovations and their distinctive ideas about the church-important subjects that we may not neglect. But in keeping with our examination of southern intellectual life, we may consider the original Puritans as carriers of European culture adjusting to New world circumstances. The New England colonies were the scenes of important episodes in the pursuit of widely understood ideals of civility and virtuosity.

29. It is suggested in paragraph 2 that New Englanders _____.

- [A] experienced a comparatively peaceful early history.
- [B] brought with them the culture of the Old World
- [C] paid little attention to southern intellectual life
- [D] were obsessed with religious innovations

例 5. Money spent on advertising is money spent as well as any I know of. It serves directly to assist a rapid distribution of goods at reasonable prices, thereby establishing a firm home market and so making it possible to provide for export at competitive prices. By drawing attention to new

ideas it helps enormously to raise standards of living. By helping to increase demand it ensures an increased need for labour, and is therefore an effective way to fight unemployment. It lowers the costs of many services: without advertisements your daily newspaper would cost four times as much, the price of your television license would need to be doubled and travel by bus or tube would cost 20 per cent more.

30. By the first sentence of the passage the author implies that _____.

- [A] he is fairly familiar with the cost of advertising
- [B] everybody knows well that advertising is money consuming
- [C] advertising costs money like everything else
- [D] it is worthwhile to spend money on advertising

例 6. The tourist streams are not entirely separate. The sightseers who come by bus—and often take in Warwick Castle and Blenheim Palace on the side—don't usually see the plays, and some of them are even surprised to find a theatre in Stratford. However, the playgoers do manage a little sight-seeing along with their play going. It is the playgoers, the RSC contends, who bring in much of the town's revenue because they spend the night (some of them four or five nights) pouring cash into the hotels and restaurants. The sightseers can take in everything and get out of town by nightfall.

31. It can be inferred from Paragraph 3 that _____.

- [A] the sightseers cannot visit the Castle and the Palace separately
- [B] the playgoers spend more money than the sightseers
- [C] the sightseers do more shopping than the playgoers
- [D] the playgoers go to no other places in town than the theater

例 7. Over the past century, all kinds of unfairness and discrimination have been condemned or made illegal. But one insidious form continues to thrive: alphabetism. This, for those as yet unaware of such a disadvantage, refers to discrimination against those whose surnames begin with a letter in the lower half of the alphabet.

It has long been known that a taxi firm called AAAA cars has a big advantage over Zodiac cars when customers thumb through their phone directories. Less well known is the advantage that Adam Abbott has in life over Zoë Zysman. English names are fairly evenly spread between the halves of the alphabet. Yet a suspiciously large number of top people have surnames beginning with letters between A and K.

Thus the American president and vice-president have surnames starting with B and C respectively; and 26 of George Bush's predecessors (including his father) had surnames in the first half of the alphabet against just 16 in the second half. Even more striking, six of the seven heads of government of the G7 rich countries are alphabetically advantaged (Berlusconi, Blair, Bush, Chirac, Chrétien and Koizumi). The world's three top central bankers (Greenspan, Duisenberg and Hayami) are all close to the top of the alphabet, even if one of them really uses Japanese characters. As are the world's five richest men (Gates, Buffett, Allen, Ellison and Albrecht).

32.What can we infer from the first three paragraphs?

- [A] In both East and West, names are essential to success.
- [B] The alphabet is to blame for the failure of Zoë Zysman.
- [C] Customers often pay a lot of attention to companies' names.
- [D] Some form of discrimination is too subtle to recognize.

例 8.NBAC members also indicated that they will appeal to privately funded researchers and clinics not to try to clone humans by body cell nuclear transfer. But they were divided on whether to go further by calling for a federal law that would impose a complete ban on human cloning. Shapiro and most members favored an appeal for such legislation, but in a phone interview, he said this issue was still “up in the air.”

33.It can be inferred from the last paragraph that _____.

- [A] some NBAC members hesitate to ban human cloning completely
- [B] a law banning human cloning is to be passed in no time
- [C] privately funded researchers will respond positively to NBAC's appeal
- [D] the issue of human cloning will soon be settled

例 9.With a disease as complex as cancer, it's easy to forget that sometimes the most effective defense can be the simplest. Despite all the gadgets that modern medicine has to image, diagnose and track a tumor, there is an easier way to go about things. Researchers at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) conference in Chicago reported earlier this month that the best way to figure out how a cancer is progressing is to draw a little blood.

34.What can be inferred from the first paragraph?

- [A] Researchers at ASCO take the lead in the cancer research.
- [B] The gadgets that diagnose a tumor will draw the blood.
- [C] The conference in Chicago reported the most effective way to prevent cancer.
- [D] The most effective diagnosis for cancer comes from the blood draw.

例 10.Everybody loves a fat pay rise. Yet pleasure at your own can vanish if you learn that a colleague has been given a bigger one. Indeed, if he has a reputation for slacking, you might even be outraged. Such behaviour is regarded as “all too human,” with the underlying assumption that other animals would not be capable of this finely developed sense of grievance. But a study by Sarah Brosnan and Frans de Waal of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, which has just been published in Nature, suggests that it is all too monkey, as well.

35.The statement “it is all too monkey” (Last line, Paragraph 1) implies that _____.

- [A] monkeys are also outraged by slack rivals
- [B] resenting unfairness is also monkeys' nature
- [C] monkeys, like humans, tend to be jealous of each other
- [D] no animals other than monkeys can develop such emotions

例 11.The magazine cover showing an attractive mother holding a cute baby is hardly the only Madonna-and-child image on newsstands this week. There are also stories about newly adoptive –

and newly single – mom Sandra Bullock, as well as the usual “Jennifer Aniston is pregnant” news. Practically every week features at least one celebrity mom, or mom-to-be, smiling on the newsstands.

In a society that so persistently celebrates procreation, is it any wonder that admitting you regret having children is equivalent to admitting you support kitten-killing? It doesn't seem quite fair, then, to compare the regrets of parents to the regrets of the children. Unhappy parents rarely are provoked to wonder if they shouldn't have had kids, but unhappy childless folks are bothered with the message that children are the single most important thing in the world: obviously their misery must be a direct result of the gaping baby-size holes in their lives.

36. We learn from Paragraph 2 that

- [A] celebrity moms are a permanent source for gossip.
- [B] single mothers with babies deserve greater attention.
- [C] news about pregnant celebrities is entertaining.
- [D] having children is highly valued by the public.

37. It is suggested in Paragraph 3 that childless folks

- [A] are constantly exposed to criticism.
- [B] are largely ignored by the media.
- [C] fail to fulfill their social responsibilities.
- [D] are less likely to be satisfied with their life.

例 12. Although advocates of the motion to split Mr Dimon's roles insisted that they were not out to get him, he was clearly the main focus of the debate. A strong and decisive manager, Mr Dimon has shaped JPMorgan's strategy and thus its remarkable success. But his willingness to criticize the chaotic regulatory structure imposed on banks after the financial crisis has exposed him to political retribution. And the sheer size of JPMorgan makes people cautious about risks within the institution and its leadership.

38. What can we learn from the second paragraph?

- [A] There is little correlation between split motion and Mr Dimon's authority.
- [B] Mr Dimon's criticism on the banks invites political revenge.
- [C] The scale of the JPMorgan is the source of chaotic regulatory structure.
- [D] The caution of the public is aroused by JPMorgan's great success.

例 13. American officials keep repeating that they Hoover (vacuum) up very little content belonging to their own citizens. That is no comfort to the many millions of foreigners who visit American websites or whose traffic happens to pass along networks owned by American firms. On June 10th William Hague, Britain's foreign minister, promised that his country's spies would explain to a parliamentary committee how they may have benefited from America's PRISM surveillance. British MPs fear that spooks are asking American agencies to fish out information on Britons they are forbidden to collect themselves—a claim Mr Hague said was “fanciful”.

39. It is suggested in Paragraph 5 that_____.

- [A] Foreigners feel impossibly comfortable about officials' explanation.
- [B] Parliamentary committee have benefited from the PRISM.
- [C] British MPs propose an impossible assertion
- [D] British Spooks vacuumed up forbidden data with the help of PRISM.

美国官员反复地说他们只收集了数量极少的美国公民数据。对于数百万访问美国网站或者利用美国公司的网络来传递数据的外国人来说，这个消息并不能让人放心。六月十日，英国外交大臣威廉·黑格承诺该国特工将会向一个议会委员会解释英国如何从美国的监控中受益。英国国会议员担心本国特工们会请求美国情报机构帮忙收集英国法律禁止收集的信息，黑格认为这种想法是“异想天开”。

例 14. Some music has always been about the performance. Watching a rock band live, for example, is not just a matter of appreciating the quality of the sound. What the musicians get up to on stage is almost as important. But you might think that classical music would be immune from such distractions—doubly so when a performance is being judged as part of a competition. However, a study by Chia-Jung Tsay, a concert pianist who is also a researcher at University College, London, suggests that even judges awarding prizes can be swayed by what they see as well as what they hear. Dr Tsay's study, just published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), employed over 1,000 volunteers (half novices and half experts) to evaluate the performances of candidates in ten prestigious music competitions, to see if they agreed with the judges' decisions. Each volunteer assessed 30 performances—the top three from each competition. The catch was that only a third of volunteers were shown the performances accompanied by the soundtrack. The other two-thirds got either to see each performance or to hear it, but not both.

40. What can we learn from the first two paragraphs?

- [A] The soundtrack of music competition can be assessed by NAS.
- [B] Volunteers without any experience are competing with expertise ones.
- [C] The performance of the music exerts certain influence on judges.
- [D] The top three of 30 performances are evaluated by volunteers.

例 15. It is not surprising that generalizations about millennials—or about any generation—largely collapse under scrutiny. It is easy to confuse an observation about people of a given age with observations about a given generation. By virtue of their stage in life, they have particular hopes, worries, challenges and opportunities—all worthy of concern and study. The place to start is the assumption that the millennial generation are much like the people who came before them.

15. What can we learn from the text?

- [A] The traits of millennials can be attributable to the character of certain age.
- [B] Generalizations about millennials largely collapses due to age difference.
- [C] There is no difference between the millennial generation and older ones.
- [D] Millennials have particular traits different from other generations.

例 16.COMPANY A hires company B to hire employees for a project. These employees work for company B, but do they also work for company A? If they are upset with the terms of their employment can they go after company A with pickets, boycotts and protests? Does A have any direct obligations to these employees?

The correct answer, in general, is that it depends. In a more specific sense it depends on the outcome of a unpleasant battle between a California branch of the Teamsters Union and Republic Services, one of America's two giant rubbish-collection companies. The union is attempting to organise employees of Leadpoint Business Services, which employs sorters and other workers at a recycling plant in the Golden State. The union, however, has gone a step further and petitioned to have Republic treated as an employer as well since, it argues, Leadpoint's supervisors act in a chain of authority controlled by Republic.

The National Labour Relations Board (NLRB), a body set up in the Depression to rule on disputes between workers and management that is liked by Democrats and loathed by Republicans, is expected to issue a ruling on the matter in the final days of August.

What can we infer from the first three paragraphs?

- [A] The ruling of one case may change the practice of some recycling plants.
- [B] NLRB will hold the Teamsters Union be responsible for management.
- [C] The Teamsters Union hires Republic Services to control Leadpoint.
- [D] NLRB may rule Republic has direct obligations to some employees.

例 17.For Justice Antonin Scalia, however, that is “a silly way to read” the law. His three fellow conservatives seem to concur. The Court's four liberals appear to accept the EPA's reading. That leaves Justice Anthony Kennedy as the swing vote, as usual. Mr Kennedy grilled both sides, but he may have tipped his hand. When Mr Verrilli argued that the agency need not analyze costs and benefits before deciding to curb a pollutant, Mr Kennedy raised an eyebrow. “But at that point,” he said, “the game is over.” A decision is expected by summer.

What can be inferred from this paragraph?

- [A] Justice Anthony Kennedy may agree with conservatives.
- [B] Three conservatives in the Court may not agree with Antonin Scalia.
- [C] Mr Verrilli may think the game is over when the rule has been settled.
- [D] Liberals in the Court may oppose the statement of Mr Verrilli.

例 18.In England the coalition's controversial Health and Social Care Act 2012 places the health secretary under “an overarching duty to have regard to the need to reduce inequalities between the people of England with respect to the benefits that may be obtained by them from the health service”.

What can we learn from the passage?

- [A] The act of the social care demands the respect of people's benefit.
- [B] The primary duty of the secretary is to shorten the gap of inequality.
- [C] The Social Care Act has caused the controversy about the secretary.

[D] The coalition of England has caused the inequalities of the people.

例 19. The technology, developed by Stratics Networks, allows messages to be delivered directly to voice mail without ringing through—a practice that will inevitably clog up landline inboxes and gobble up expensive cellphone data.

The company argued in a recent petition to the Federal Communications Commission that ringless voice mails don't amount to actual phone calls and thus should be exempt from the venerable Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991.

what can we infer from the text ?

[A] The new technology of Stratics Networks creates the ringless phone call.

[B] The company argues the voice mails are more like landline inboxes.

[C] The Federal commission may abandon the Protection Act of 1991.

[D] The ringless voice mails may violate the Protection Act of 1991.

四、词汇题

例 1. 语义并列

Among the firms making the biggest splash in this new world is Straitford, Inc., a private intelligence-analysis firm based in Austin, Texas. Straitford makes money by selling the results of spying (covering nations from Chile to Russia) to corporations like energy-services firm McDermott International. Many of its predictions are available online at www.straitford.com.

解析: Straitford is among the firms making the biggest splash in this new world

= Straitford makes the biggest splash in this new world

= Straitford makes money by selling the results of spying

写作应用:

China is among countries facing the problem of “aged society” and encountering the phenomenon of “empty nest”

Among countries facing the problem of “aged society” and encountering the phenomenon of “empty nest” is china, the second largest economic body in the world.

43. The phrase “making the biggest splash” (Line 1, Paragraph 3) most probably means _____.

[A] causing the biggest trouble

[B] exerting the greatest effort

[C] achieving the greatest success

[D] enjoying the widest popularity

例 2. 标点的并列

Instead, the best strategy is to use the *agent* as a kind of **tip service** to keep abreast of jobs in a particular database; when you get *E-mail*, consider it a **reminder** to check the database again.

44. The expression “tip service” (Line 4, Paragraph 3) most probably means _____.

[A] advisory

[B] compensation

[C] interaction

[D] reminder

例 3. 定语从句的解释

People in earlier eras were surrounded by reminders of misery. They worked until exhausted, lived with few protections and died young. In the West, before mass communication and literacy, the most powerful mass medium was the church, **which reminded worshippers that their souls were in danger and that they would someday be meat for worms.** Given all this, they did not exactly need their art to be a bummer too.

45. The word “bummer” (Line 5, paragraph 5) most probably means something _____.

- [A] religious [B] unpleasant
[C] entertaining [D] commercial

例 4. 定语解释

It's a theory to which many economists subscribe, but in practice it often leaves railroads in the position of determining which companies will flourish and which will fail. “Do we really want railroads to be the arbiters of who wins and who loses in the marketplace?” asks Martin Bercovici, a Washington lawyer who frequently represents shippers.

46. The word “arbiters” (Line 7, Paragraph 4) most probably refers to those _____.

- [A] who work as coordinators [B] who function as judges
[C] who supervise transactions [D] who determine the price

例 5.

Fortunately, the White House is starting to pay attention. But it's obvious that a majority of the president's advisers still don't take global warming seriously. Instead of a plan of action, they continue to press for more research—a classic case of “paralysis by analysis.”

47. What does the author mean by “paralysis by analysis” (Last line, Paragraph 4) ?

- [A] Endless studies kill action.
[B] Careful investigation reveals truth.
[C] Prudent planning hinders progress.
[D] Extensive research helps decision-making.

例 6.

Dr. Worm acknowledges that these figures are conservative. One reason for this is that fishing technology has improved. Today's vessels can find their prey using satellites and sonar, which were not available 50 years ago. That means a higher proportion of what is in the sea is being caught, so the real difference between present and past is likely to be worse than the one recorded by changes in catch sizes.

48. By saying “these figures are conservative” (Line 1, paragraph 3), Dr. Worm means that _____.

- [A] fishing technology has improved rapidly
[B] the catch-sizes are actually smaller than recorded
[C] the marine biomass has suffered a greater loss
[D] the data collected so far are out of date

例 7.

Now the nation's top patent court appears completely ready to **scale back on** business-method

patents, which have been controversial ever since they were first authorized 10 years ago. In a move that has intellectual-property lawyers abuzz the U.S. court of Appeals for the *federal circuit* said it would use a particular case to **conduct a broad review of business-method patents**. In *re Bilski*, as the case is known, is “a very big deal”, says Dennis D. Crouch of the University of Missouri School of law. It “has the potential to eliminate an entire class of patents.”

Curbs on business-method claims would be a dramatic **about-face**, because it was the *federal circuit* itself that introduced such patents with its 1998 decision in the so-called state Street Bank case, approving a patent on a way of pooling mutual-fund assets.

49. The word “about-face” (Line 1, Para 3) most probably means

- [A] loss of good will [B] increase of hostility
[C] change of attitude [D] enhancement of dignity

例 8. 转折

In spite of “endless talk of difference,” American society is an amazing machine for homogenizing people.

50. The word “homogenizing” (Line 2, Paragraph 1) most probably means _____.

- [A] identifying [B] associating [C] assimilating [D] monopolizing

例 9.

Money spent on advertising is money spent as well as any I know of. It serves directly to assist a rapid distribution of goods at reasonable prices. By drawing attention to new ideas it helps enormously to raise standards of living. By helping to increase demand it ensures an increased need for labour, and is therefore an effective way to fight unemployment.

51. By the first sentence of the passage the author means that

- [A] he is fairly familiar with the cost of advertising
[B] everybody knows well that advertising is money consuming
[C] advertising costs money like everything else
[D] it is worthwhile to spend money on advertising

例 10.

In Britain and Japan inflation is running half a percentage point below the rate predicted at the end of last year. This is no flash in the pan. Over the past couple of years, inflation has been consistently lower than expected in Britain and America.

52. The sentence “This is no flash in the pan” (Line 5, Paragraph 3) means that _____.

- [A] the low inflation rate will last for some time
[B] the inflation rate will soon rise
[C] the inflation will disappear quickly
[D] there is no inflation at present

例 11.

ANALOGIES change. Once, it was fashionable to describe the brain as being like the hydraulic systems employed to create pleasing fountains for 17th-century aristocrats' gardens. As

technology moved on, first the telegraph network and then the telephone exchange became the metaphor of choice. Now it is the turn of the computer. But though the brain-as-computer is, indeed, only a metaphor, one group of scientists would like to stand that metaphor on its head. Instead of thinking of brains as being like computers, they wish to make computers more like brains. This way, they believe, humanity will end up not only with a better understanding of how the brain works, but also with better, smarter computers.

1. The sentence "one group of scientists would like to stand that metaphor on its head" most probably means .

- [A] one group of scientists would like to change the brain as the metaphor of head.
- [B] one group of scientists would like to make the brain more like a computer.
- [C] one group of scientists would like to put the metaphor on the brain.
- [D] one group of scientists would like to design a brain-like computer.

五、例证题

例 1. None of these education endeavors, however, will truly change things unless we revise the way we view science. To the extent that we portray math and science as intimidating, we are less likely to view it as a creative and imaginative pursuit, no less than poetry and music. Einstein was actually a wonderfully visual, creative and imaginative thinker. He used vivid mental pictures that make his theories come alive. Time varies depending on your motion? Gravity can bend light? His theories contain a marvelous mix of Huh? And Wow! He devised most of them by using thought experiments-what we call daydreaming in folks who aren't an Einstein-and the pictures he visualized can be used, with no math necessary, to give a glimpse of the creativity at the heart of true genius.

29. Einstein's theories are mentioned to show that ____.

- [A] science can be understood as something vivid
- [B] understanding science doesn't necessarily require math knowledge
- [C] only those with, creative and imaginative minds can really understand science
- [D] the public understanding of science is important

例 2. This common perspective is almost always universalized. Its emphasis is not upon the individual as a particular European or American, but upon the human as universal, freed from the accidents of times, space, and talent. Thus, for Emerson, the American Scholar turns out to be simply Man Thinking; while, for Whitman, the Song of Myself merges imperceptibly into a song of all the Children of Adam, where "every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you".

30. In the second paragraph, the author refers to Emerson and Whitman in order to

- [A] compare their different attitudes towards the life philosophy
- [B] demonstrate the human beings' invariability in space time
- [C] indicate the way the poets use humanist ideal to inspire themselves
- [D] express the view emphasizing on the humanistic universe

例 3. Many things make people think artists are weird-the odd hours, the nonconformity, the

clove cigarettes. However, the weirdest may be this: artists' only jobs are to explore emotions, and yet they choose to focus on the ones that feel lousy. This wasn't always so. The earliest forms of art, like painting and music, are those best suited for expressing joy. But somewhere in the 19th century, more artists began seeing happiness as phony or, worst of all, boring. In the 20th century, classical music became more atonal, visual art more unsettling.

Sure, there have been exceptions, but it would not be a stretch to say that for the past century or so, serious art has been at war with happiness. In 1824, Beethoven completed his "Ode to Joy". In 1962, novelist Anthony Burgess used it in *A Clockwork Orange* as the favorite music of his ultra-violent antihero.

31. The example that "Ode to Joy" was used in Burgess's novel is meant to illustrate that.

- [A] musicians and novelists share similar artistic taste
- [B] violent people have a strong desire to be happy
- [C] serious art is often contradictory with happiness
- [D] music is enjoyed by good and bad people alike

例 4. What we forget-what our economy depends on us forgetting-is that happiness is more than pleasure without pain. The things that bring the greatest joy carry the greatest potential for loss and disappointment. Today, surrounded by promises of easy happiness, we need someone to tell us that it is OK not to be happy, that sadness makes happiness deeper. As the wine connoisseur movie *Sideways* tells us, it is the kiss of decay and Noir. We need art to tell us, as religion once did, that you will die, that everything ends, and that happiness comes not in denying this but in living with it. It's a message even more bitter than a clove cigarette, yet, somehow, is a breath of fresh air.

32. According to the last paragraph, the author mentions the movie *Sideways* to show that

- [A] Happiness can be found through pains and efforts.
- [B] Happiness comes when everything dies.
- [C] Happiness makes sadness deeper.
- [D] Happiness is not a good thing.

例 5. Teaching was never a way to get rich, but it was long considered a solid and respectable middle-class occupation. Over the past few decades, though, policymakers have chipped away at the economic and moral status of educators. The Reagan administration laid the groundwork with its seminal 1983 report "A Nation at Risk". Among its recommendations are "more rigorous and measurable standards" for students and an "effective evaluation system" for teachers.

1. The "A Nation at Risk" report is mentioned to show that _____.

- [A] policies have become harsh on teachers
- [B] its long-lasting effect on the educational system
- [C] teaching used to be a widely respected career
- [D] teaching needs pragmatic assessing mechanism

例 6. Many things make people think artists are weird. But the weirdest may be this: artists' only job is to explore emotions, and yet they choose to focus on the ones that feel bad.

This wasn't always so. The earliest forms of art, like painting and music, are those best suited for expressing joy. But somewhere from the 19th century onward, more artists began seeing happiness as meaningless, phony or, worst of all, boring, as we went from Wordsworth's daffodils to Baudelaire's flowers of evil.

34. By citing the examples of poets Wordsworth and Baudelaire, the author intends to show that _____.

- [A] poetry is not as expressive of joy as painting or music
- [B] art grows out of both positive and negative feelings
- [C] poets today are less skeptical of happiness
- [D] artists have changed their focus of interest

例 7. Of all the components of a good night's sleep, dreams seem to be least within our control. In dreams, a window opens into a world where logic is suspended and dead people speak. A century ago, Freud formulated his revolutionary theory that dreams were the disguised shadows of our unconscious desires and fears; by the late 1970s, neurologists had switched to thinking of them as just "mental noise" —the random byproducts of the neural-repair work that goes on during sleep. Now researchers suspect that dreams are part of the mind's emotional thermostat, regulating moods while the brain is "off-line." And one leading authority says that these intensely powerful mental events can be not only harnessed but actually brought under conscious control, to help us sleep and feel better, "It's your dream," says Rosalind Cartwright, chair of psychology at Chicago's Medical Center. "If you don't like it, change it."

Evidence from brain imaging supports this view. The brain is as active during REM (rapid eye movement) sleep—when most vivid dreams occur—as it is when fully awake, says Dr. Eric Nofzinger at the University of Pittsburgh. But not all parts of the brain are equally involved; the limbic system (the "emotional brain") is especially active, while the prefrontal cortex (the center of intellect and reasoning) is relatively quiet. "We wake up from dreams happy or depressed, and those feelings can stay with us all day," says Stanford sleep researcher Dr. William Dement.

35. By referring to the limbic system, the author intends to show _____.

- [A] its function in our dreams
- [B] the mechanism of REM sleep
- [C] the relation of dreams to emotions
- [D] its difference from the prefrontal cortex

例 8. Science, in practice, depends far less on the experiments it prepares than on the preparedness of the minds of the men who watch the experiments. Sir Isaac Newton supposedly discovered gravity through the fall of an apple. Apples had been falling in many places for centuries and thousands of people had seen them fall. But Newton for years had been curious about the cause of the orbital motion of the moon and planets. What kept them in place? Why didn't they fall out of the sky? The fact that the apple fell down toward the earth and not up into the tree answered the

question he had been asking himself about those larger fruits of the heavens, the moon and the planets.

36. The author wants to prove with the example of Isaac Newton that _____.

- [A] inquiring minds are more important than scientific experiments
- [B] science advances when fruitful researches are conducted
- [C] scientists seldom forget the essential nature of research
- [D] unpredictability weighs less than prediction in scientific research

例 9. Rodriguez notes that children in remote villages around the world are fans of superstars like Arnold Schwarzenegger and Garth Brooks, yet “some Americans fear that immigrants living within the United States remain somehow immune to the nation’s assimilative power.”

37. Why are Arnold Schwarzenegger and Garth Brooks mentioned in Paragraph 5?

- [A] To prove their popularity around the world.
- [B] To reveal the public’s fear of immigrants.
- [C] To give examples of successful immigrants.
- [D] To show the powerful influence of American culture.

例 10. Some advertisers think there is an advantage in acknowledging consumers’ scepticism. An ad for FirstBank, of Colorado, showed a new leather sofa and television in the middle of a square, with a large sign saying: “Free”. People strolled by, ignoring the bounty. A voice-over asks: “What if ‘free’ really just meant ‘free’?” A second method is to drown the scepticism with humour: a depressing number of brands nowadays rely on chirpy talking animals. A third is to disarm it with honesty. In 2009 Dominos launched a campaign featuring consumers talking about how awful its pizzas had been for the past 50 years. Then there is do-goodery: innumerable brands argue that the best way to save the planet or help the poor is to buy their products.

38. What does the ad for FirstBank illustrate?

- [A] People usually tend to neglect the bounty of free.
- [B] Skepticism can be drowned with humor method.
- [C] Honesty plays an important role to disarm skepticism.
- [D] Advertisers would benefit from the admitting consumers' disbelief.

例 11. If that happens, passionate consumers would try to persuade others to boycott products, putting the reputation of the target company at risk. In such hijacked media case, the company’s response may not be sufficiently quick or thoughtful, and the learning curve has been steep. Toyota Motor, for example, alleviated some of the damage from its recall crisis earlier this year with a relatively quick and well-orchestrated social-media response campaign, which included efforts to engage with consumers directly on sites such as Twitter and the social-news site Digg.

39. Toyota Motor’s experience is cited as an example of

- [A] responding effectively to hijacked media.
- [B] persuading customers into boycotting products.
- [C] cooperating with supportive consumers.

[D] taking advantage of hijacked media.

例 12. All sorts of firms are changing their inputs and processes and designing products that spare the environment, while helping suppliers do the same. IKEA, a Swedish retailer, will have invested or committed to invest €1.5 billion (\$1.7 billion) in wind and solar power by the end of 2015, and the firm and its charitable foundation have just pledged a further €1 billion to developing renewable energy and to helping people in places affected by climate change. Firms say that besides savings from greater energy efficiency they gain less quantifiable benefits from an enhanced reputation, a motivated workforce and the like. But big, disruptive investments in new energy sources or industrial techniques may take years to justify their costs, if they ever do. Is greenery paying off?

The IKEA Company is mentioned to show that _____

- [A] it is crucial to invest in disruptive and motivated workforce.
- [B] the company can earn much from the enhanced reputation.
- [C] the firms have made their producing method more sustainable.
- [D] it is hard to tell the greenery is paying off or not in years to come.

例 13. But more deaths now happen in intensive-care units under closer legal and professional oversight, making doctors more cautious about testing the limits of what is allowed. And modern medicine means that dying is much more often prolonged. The case of Karen Ann Quinlan in 1976 thrust the issues into the spotlight. The parents of the young woman, who fell into a coma after drinking and taking Valium at a party, had to go to court to force her doctors to take her off a ventilator.

The case of Karen Ann Quinlan is mentioned to show that _____

- [A] doctors have long quietly eased terminal agonies by increasing pain relief.
- [B] the parents have the rights to demand ceasing of the dramatic treatment.
- [C] the case has thrust the issue into the focus for its publicity.
- [D] the dying period is unnecessarily prolonged by the modern therapy.

例 14. A third reason is choice: the more the market has to offer, the more important it is to build a relationship with customers. Netflix and Amazon now create their own television shows in order to keep their viewers from buying more generic content elsewhere. Harry's, an American company that sends its subscribers a regular supply of razors and shaving cream, spent \$100m to buy a German razor-blade factory.

Why the Netflix is mentioned in the text?

- [A] To show the similarity between Netflix and the Amazon
- [B] To show one reason of the trend reversal in the market
- [C] To demonstrate the importance of the relationship with market
- [D] To illustrate the difference between America and Germany

六、主题题

(一) 主题题的识别:

题干中出现: subject, summarize, main idea, Mainly about, best title, primarily about, main topic 等表达方式的时候可以判定为主题题。

(二) 主题题的实质:

对论点或者论题提问

(三) 解题方法

1. 标题题和没有主题句的题目

定位: 寻找主体词: 1) 主题句中有出现。

2) 在首段中有多次出现;

3) 在全文中有多次出现;

4) 在题干中有多次出现;

寻找主题句: 1) 主题句通常出现在文章首段首句;

2) 主题句通常出现在文章开头转折处;

3) 主题句通常出现在文章开头现象结束处;

主题句的特征: 主题句通常是一个概括总结性的观点, 结论或者判断; (情态动词, 主系表结构)

替换: 正确答案中必须包含主体词或其同意替换词;

特别提醒: 如果是上下义词间的同意替换上义词前需要加上泛指词 Any, some, a

(1) 正确选项不能是描述细节 (范围过小);

(2) 正确选项中不能包含无依据信息 (范围过大);

(3) 只有当文章结构是 (N1, N2, N3, N4, N5, N6...) 的时候以复数名词为中心语的选项才能成为正确答案。

(4) 对于有主题句的文章。将四个选项分别与主题句比对, 表达方式不同意思最为接近的选项为正确答案。

排除: 替换和排除同时进行

2. 有主题句的文章:

将四个选项和主题句分别进行比对。

例 1. 见 2008 年第一篇文章

25. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

[A] Strain of Stress: No Way Out?

[B] Responses to Stress: Gender Difference

[C] Stress Analysis: What Chemicals Say

[D] Gender Inequality: Women Under Stress

例 2. The idea that boys and girls—and men and women—are programmed by evolution to behave differently from one another is now widely acknowledged. But which of the differences between the sexes are “biological”, in the sense that they have been honed by evolution, and which are “cultural” or “environmental” and might more easily be altered by changed circumstances, is still fiercely debated.

(附加句: 2005 年真题 However, whether such a sense of fairness evolved independently in

capuchins and humans, or whether it stems from the common ancestor that the species had 35 million years ago, is, as yet, an unanswered question.)

主干: Which...and which...is still fiercely debated.

Whether...or whether...isan unanswered question.

The sensitivity of the question was shown last year by an uproar at HarvardUniversity.Larry Summers, then Harvard's president, caused a storm when he suggested that innate ability could be an important reason why there were so few women in the top positions in mathematics, engineering and the physical sciences.

Even as a proposition for discussion, this is unacceptable to some.But biological explanations of human behavior are making a comeback (卷土重来).The success of NeoDarwinism has provided an intellectual foundation for discussion about why some differences between the sexes might be innate.And new scanning techniques have enabled researchers to examine the brain's interior while it is working, showing that male and female brains do, at one level, operate differently.The results, however, do not always support past cliché (陈旧说辞) about what the differences in question actually are.

Another behavioral difference that has borne a huge amount of scrutiny is in mathematics, particularly since Dr.Summerscomments.The problem with trying to argue that the male tendency to systemize might lead to greater mathematical ability is that, in fact, girls and boys are equally good at maths prior to teenage years.Until recently, it was believed that males outperformed females in mathematics at all ages.Today, that picture has changed, and it appears that males and females of any age are equally good at computation and at understanding mathematical concepts.However, after their mid-teens, men are better at problem solving than women are.

The question raised by Dr.Summers does get to the heart of the matter.Over the past 50 years, women have made huge progress into academia and within it.Slowly, they have worked their way into the higher echelons (等级) of discipline after discipline.But some parts of the ivory tower have proved harder to occupy than others.The question remains, to what degree is the absence of women in science, mathematics and engineering caused by innate, immutable ability?

Innate it may well be.That does not mean it is immutable.A variety of abilities are amenable to training in both sexes.And such training works.Biology may predispose, but it is not necessarily destiny.

25.Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

- [A] Sex Difference: Who is Smarter?
- [B] Female Lag in Certain Fields: Gender Difference
- [C] Differences Between the Sexes: Mismeasure of Women
- [D] Gender Inequality: Female Inferiority Proved

(见 2011 年考题 CEO)

例 3.If you intend using humor in your talk to make people smile, you must know how to identify shared experiences and problems.Your humor must be relevant to the audience and should

help to show them that you are one of them or that you understand their situation and are in sympathy with their point of view. Depending on whom you are addressing, the problems will be different. If you are talking to a group of managers, you may refer to the disorganized methods of their secretaries; alternatively if you are addressing secretaries, you may want to comment on their disorganized bosses.

Here is an example, which I heard at a nurses' convention, of a story, which works well because the audience all shared the same view of doctors. A man arrives in heaven and is being shown around by St. Peter. He sees wonderful accommodations, beautiful gardens, sunny weather, and so on. Everyone is very peaceful, polite and friendly until, waiting in a line for lunch, the new arrival is suddenly pushed aside by a man in a white coat, who rushes to the head of the line, grabs his food and stomps over to a table by himself. "Who is that?" the new arrival asked St. Peter. "Oh, that's God," came the reply, "but sometimes he thinks he's a doctor."

If you are part of the group, which you are addressing, you will be in a position to know the experiences and problems which are common to all of you and it'll be appropriate for you to make a passing remark about the inedible canteen food or the chairman's notorious bad taste in ties. With other audiences you mustn't attempt to cut in with humor as they will resent an outsider making disparaging remarks about their canteen or their chairman. You will be on safer ground if you stick to scapegoats like the Post Office or the telephone system.

If you feel awkward being humorous, you must practice so that it becomes more natural. Include a few casual and apparently off-the-cuff remarks which you can deliver in a relaxed and unforced manner. Often it's the delivery which causes the audience to smile, so speak slowly and remember that a raised eyebrow or an unbelieving look may help to show that you are making a light-hearted remark.

Look for the humor. It often comes from the unexpected. A twist on a familiar quote "If at first you don't succeed, give up" or a play on words or on a situation. Search for exaggeration and understatement. Look at your talk and pick out a few words or sentences which you can turn about and inject with humor.

45. The best title for the text may be _____.

[A] Use Humor Effectively

[B] Various Kinds of Humor

[C] Add Humor to Speech

[D] Different Humor Strategies

例 4. Hippocrates (希波克拉底, 西方医学之父), the "Father of Medicine", said, "Let your food be your medicine, and let your medicine be your food." For a Greek born in the fifth century B.C., Hippocrates was wise beyond his time. Today, we know that a low-fat diet rich in whole grains, fruits, and vegetables strengthens the immune system and reduces the risk of cancer, heart disease, and stroke. There's more to the story. New evidence suggests that food may influence how healthy people think and feel. Were he alive today, Hippocrates might look back to his last meal to explain his cheerful (or sour) mood. He might also change his eating habits to become happier or smarter.

How does food affect mood and mind? The answer may lie in the chemistry of the brain and nervous system. Molecules called neurotransmitters (神经递质) are chemical messengers. They carry a nerve impulse across the gap between nerve cells. The release of neurotransmitter molecules from one neuron and their attachment to receptor sites on another keep a nerve impulse moving.

Nerve impulses carry messages from the environment to the brain for example, the pain you feel when you stub your toe. They also carry messages in the other direction, from the brain to the muscles. That's why you back away from the obstacle that initiated the pain signal and exclaim, "Ouch!"

"Many neurotransmitters are built from the foods we eat," says neuroscientist Eric Chudler of the University of Washington. Too little or too much of a particular nutrient in the diet can affect their production, Chudler says. For example, tryptophan (色氨酸) from foods such as yogurt, milk, bananas, and eggs is required for the production of the neurotransmitter serotonin. Phenylalanine from beets, almonds, eggs, meat, and grains goes into making the neurotransmitter dopamine (多巴胺).

Dozens of neurotransmitters are known; hundreds may exist. Their effects depend on their amounts and where they work in the brain. The neurotransmitter serotonin, for example, is thought to produce feelings of calmness, relaxation, and contentment. Drugs that prevent its reuptake (into the neuron that released it) are prescribed to treat depression. In at least some healthy, non-depressed people, carbohydrate foods seem to enhance serotonin (复合胺) production and produce similar effects. "It is the balance between different neurotransmitters that helps regulate mood," Chudler says.

Proper nutrition may also enhance brainpower. Choline (胆碱) is a substance similar to the B vitamins. It's found in egg yolks, whole wheat, peanuts, milk, green peas, liver, beans, seafood, and soybeans. The brain uses it to make the neurotransmitter acetylcholine. To test the effects of choline on memory and learning, researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology gave memory tests to college students before increasing the amount of choline in their subjects' diets. Later, they retested. On the average, memories were better, and the students learned a list of unrelated words more easily.

If he were alive today, a smart and happy Hippocrates might be spotted buying skinless turkey at the supermarket or munching broccoli from the salad bar. Who knows what those foods might have done for him. The question is, What can they do for you?

1. Which of the following is closest to the main idea the passage tries to convey?

- [A] A balanced diet promotes a healthy mind
- [B] Mental and physical health lies in food
- [C] The food you eat is the cause your health problems
- [D] One man's food is another's poison.

例 5. Sometimes when I tell people I've written a biography of Albert Einstein, they snap their heads as if to say they've never understood science. They may feel that the Founding Fathers are

easily comprehensible, and even so is Shakespeare (which he isn't), but that Einstein is completely intimidating."

Einstein has come to personify the perception that modern physics is something ordinary folks can't try to appreciate. Indeed, scientific illiteracy is sometimes worn as a badge of pride. Most educated people would be ashamed to admit they didn't know the difference between Hamlet and King Lear, but they might jovially brag that they don't know a gene from a chromosome or relativity theory from the uncertainty principle.

We are now engaged in one of our periodic spasms of trying to make sure that our kids learn science and math. Congress this year is expected to reauthorize the No Child Left Behind law, and fear that we will lose our ability to compete globally has prompted Harry Reid of Nevada, the Democratic leader in the Senate, to join with his Republican counterpart, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, to co-sponsor something called the 'America COMPETES Act,' which would fund proposals including a science policy summit, new research projects, summer internships and prize programs for high school students, and teacher training programs.

None of these education endeavors, however, will truly change things unless we revise the way we view science. To the extent that we portray math and science as intimidating, we are less likely to view it as a creative and imaginative pursuit, no less than poetry and music.

Einstein was actually a wonderfully visual, creative and imaginative thinker. He used vivid mental pictures that make his theories come alive. Time varies depending on your emotion? The fabric of space is warped by massive objects? Gravity can bend light? Light is both a wave and a stream of particles? His theories contain a wondrous mix of Huh? and Wow! that can capture the public imagination. As a 16-year-old, for example, Einstein looked at James Maxwell's equations describing electromagnetic waves and tried to imagine what they'd look like to a boy riding alongside a light beam. "For a boy trying to catch up with a light beam, Maxwell's equations would still hold true, but time would slow down. OK, it's not obvious, which is why he was Einstein and we aren't, but at least it's something we can visualize.

1. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

- [A] The misunderstanding of science
- [B] A new approach to science education
- [C] A new way to view science
- [D] The beauty of science

特别说明:

- (1) 上义词替换下义词的时, 通常可以加上泛指词 (some, certain, a) 也可以不加;
- (2) 但是以下三种情况下必须加上泛指词:

否定, 比较或主题题时;

一些经典的例题:

例 1. The most thoroughly studied intellectuals in the history of the New World are the ministers and political leaders of seventeenth-century New England. According to the standard

history of American philosophy, nowhere else in colonial America was “so much importance attached to intellectual pursuits.” According to many books and articles, New England’s leaders established the basic themes and preoccupations of an unfolding, dominant Puritan tradition in American intellectual life.

1.The author holds that in the seventeenth-century New England _____.

- [A] Puritan tradition dominated political life.
- [B] intellectual interests were encouraged.
- [C] Politics benefited much from intellectual endeavors.
- [D] intellectual pursuits enjoyed a liberal environment.

例 2.It is said that in England death is pressing, in Canada inevitable and in California optional.Small wonder.Americans’ life expectancy has nearly doubled over the past century.Failing hips can be replaced, clinical depression controlled, cataracts removed in a 30-minutes surgical procedure.Such advances offer the aging population a quality of life that was unimaginable when I entered medicine 50 years ago.But not even a great health-care system can cure death—and our failure to confront that reality now threatens this greatness of ours. (2003 年 passage 4)

2.What is implied in the first sentence?

- [A] Americans are better prepared for death than other people.
- [B] Americans enjoy a higher life quality than ever before.
- [C] Americans are over-confident of their medical technology.
- [D] Americans take a vain pride in their long life expectancy.

例 3.What is the real relationship between education and economic development? We have to suspect that continuing economic growth promotes the development of education even when governments don’t force it.After all, that’s how education got started.When our ancestors were hunters and gatherers 10, 000 years ago, they didn’t have time to wonder much about anything besides finding food.Only when humanity began to get its food in a more productive way was there time for other things.

3.The author quotes the example of our ancestors to show that education emerged _____.

- [A] when people had enough time
- [B] prior to better ways of finding food
- [C] when people no longer went hungry
- [D] as a result of pressure on government

例 4.The humiliation continues.At university graduation ceremonies, the ABCs proudly get their awards first; by the time they reach the Zysmans most people are literally having a ZZZ.Shortlists for job interviews, election ballot papers, lists of conference speakers and attendees: all tend to be drawn up alphabetically, and their recipients lose interest as they plough through them.

4.What does the author mean by “most people are literally having a ZZZ” (Lines 2-3, Paragraph 5) ?

- [A] They are getting impatient.
- [B] They are noisily dozing off.
- [C] They are feeling humiliated.
- [D] They are busy with word puzzles.

例 5. If you are part of the group, which you are addressing, you will be in a position to know the experiences and problems which are common to all of you and it'll be appropriate for you to make a passing remark about the inedible canteen food or the chairman's notorious bad taste in ties. With other audiences you mustn't attempt to cut in with humor as they will resent an outsider making disparaging remarks about their canteen or their chairman. When looking for humor on these occasions, you will be on safer ground if you stick to scapegoats like the Post Office or the telephone system.

5. It can be inferred from the text that public services _____.

- [A] have benefited many people
- [B] are the focus of public attention
- [C] are an inappropriate subject for humor
- [D] have often been the laughing stock

错误的答案啊，你们能再邪恶一点吗？

1. 原文：Visualize how you would like the dream to end instead;

选项：Visualizing bad dreams helps bring them under control.

2. 原文：John McWhorter, a linguist and controversialist of mixed liberal and conservative views, sees the triumph of 1960s counter-culture as responsible for the decline of formal English.

选项：According to McWhorter, the decline of formal English has caused the controversy over the counter-culture

3. 原文：Now researchers suspect that dreams are part of the mind's emotional thermostat, regulating moods while the brain is "off-line."

选项：Researchers have come to believe that dreams are susceptible to emotional changes.

4. 原文：New England's leaders established the basic themes and preoccupations of an unfolding, dominant Puritan tradition in American intellectual life.

选项：New England Puritan tradition dominated political life.

5. 原文：Sex hormones cause females under stress to produce more of the trigger chemicals than do males under the same conditions.

选项：(1) Women are more experienced than men in coping with stress.

(2) Men and women show different inclinations when faced with stress.

6. 原文：Women's capacity for tolerating stress may even be greater than men's.

选项：Dr. Yehuda's research suggests that women are more capable of avoiding stress.

7. 原文：Instead of a plan of action, they continue to press for more research

选项：Prudent planning hinders progress.

8. 原文：She says that, unlike those for basketball, the length of military uniforms has not

changed for some time.

选项: The design of military uniforms will remain unchanged.

9.原文: Luckily, if the doormat or stove failed to warn of coming disaster, a successful lawsuit might compensate you for your troubles.

选项: Customers might be relieved of their disasters through lawsuits.

10.原文: But it is hardly inevitable that companies on the Web will need to resort to push strategies to make money.

选项: Pushing information on the Web is essential to Internet commerce.

11.原文: People are absorbed into “a culture of consumption” launched by the 19th-century department stores that offered “vast arrays of goods in an elegant atmosphere.

选项: The department stores of the 19th century owed its emergence to the culture of consumption.

12.原文: The rise of anti-happy art almost exactly tracks the emergence of mass media, such as advertising.

选项: Advertising emerges in the wake of the anti-happy art

阅读真题再现

2014 年阅读真题

Text 1

In order to “change lives for the better” and reduce “dependency”, George Osborne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, introduced the “upfront work search” scheme. Only if the jobless arrive at the job center with a CV, register for the online job search, and start looking for work will they be eligible for benefit - and then they should report weekly rather than fortnightly. What could be more reasonable?

More apparent reasonableness followed. There will now be a seven-day wait for the jobseeker's allowance. “Those first few days should be spent looking for work, not looking to sign on.” he claimed, “We're doing these things because we know they help people stay off benefits and help those on benefits get into work faster.” Help? Really? On first hearing, this was the socially concerned chancellor, trying to change lives for the better, complete with “reforms” to an obviously indulgent system that demands too little effort from the newly unemployed to find work, and subsidizes laziness. What motivated him, we were to understand, was his zeal for “fundamental fairness” - protecting the taxpayer, controlling spending and ensuring that only the most deserving claimants received their benefits.

Losing a job is hurting: you don't skip down to the job center with a song in your heart, delighted at the prospect of doubling your income from the generous state. It is financially terrifying, psychologically embarrassing and you know that support is minimal and extraordinarily

hard to get. You are now not wanted; you are now excluded from the work environment that offers purpose and structure in your life. Worse, the crucial income to feed yourself and your family and pay the bills has disappeared. Ask anyone newly unemployed what they want and the answer is always: a job.

But in Osborneland, your first instinct is to fall into dependency—permanent dependency if you can get it—supported by a state only too ready to indulge your falsehood. It is as though 20 years of ever-tougher reforms of the job search and benefit administration system never happened. The principle of British welfare is no longer that you can insure yourself against the risk of unemployment and receive unconditional payments if the disaster happens. Even the very phrase “jobseeker’s allowance” is about redefining the unemployed as a “jobseeker” who had no fundamental right to benefit he or she has earned through making national insurance contributions. Instead, the claimant receives a time-limited “allowance”, conditional on actively seeking a job: no entitlement and no insurance, at £71.70 a week, one of the least generous in the EU.

21. George Osborne’s scheme was intended to
 - [A] provide the unemployed with easier access to benefits.
 - [B] encourage jobseeker’s active engagement in job seeking.
 - [C] motivate the unemployed to report voluntarily.
 - [D] guarantee jobseekers’ legitimate right to benefit.
22. The phrase “to sign on” (Line 3, Para. 2) most probably means
 - [A] to check on the availability of jobs at the job center.
 - [B] to accept the government’s restrictions on the allowance.
 - [C] to register for an allowance from the government.
 - [D] to attend a governmental job-training program.
23. What prompted the chancellor to develop his scheme?
 - [A] A desire to secure a better life for all.
 - [B] An eagerness to protect the unemployed.
 - [C] An urge to be generous to the claimants.
 - [D] A passion to ensure fairness for taxpayers.
24. According to Paragraph 3, being unemployed makes one feel
 - [A] uneasy. [B] enraged. [C] insulted. [D] guilty.
25. To which of the following would the author most probably agree?
 - [A] The British welfare system indulges jobseekers’ laziness.
 - [B] Osborne’s reform will reduce the risk of unemployment.
 - [C] The jobseekers’ allowance has met their actual needs.
 - [D] Unemployment benefits should not be made conditional.

Text 2

All around the world, lawyers generate more hostility than the members of any other profession—with the possible exception of journalism. But there are few places where clients have

more grounds for complaint than America.

During the decade before the economic crisis, spending on legal services in America grew twice as fast as inflation. The best lawyers made skyscrapers-full of money, tempting ever more students to pile into law schools. But most law graduates never get a big-firm job. Many of them instead become the kind of nuisance-lawsuit filer that makes the tort system a costly nightmare.

There are many reasons for this. One is the excessive costs of a legal education. There is just one path for a lawyer in most American states; a four-year undergraduate degree in some unrelated subject, then a three-year law degree at one of 200 law schools authorized by the American Bar Association and an expensive preparation for the bar exam. This leaves today's average law-school graduate with \$100,000 of debt on top of undergraduate debts. Law-school debt means that they have to work fearsomely hard.

Reforming the system would help both lawyers and their customers. Sensible ideas have been around for a long time, but the state-level bodies that govern the profession have been too conservative to implement them. One idea is to allow people to study law as an undergraduate degree. Another is to let students sit for the bar after only two years of law school. If the bar exam is truly a stern enough test for a would-be lawyer, those who can sit it earlier should be allowed to do so. Students who do need the extra training could cut their debt mountain by a third.

The other reason why costs are so high is the restrictive guild-like ownership structure of the business. Except in the District of Columbia, non-lawyers may not own any share of a law firm. This keeps fees high and innovation slow. There is pressure for change from within the profession, but opponents of change among the regulators insist that keeping outsiders out of a law firm isolates lawyers from the pressure to make money rather than serve clients ethically.

In fact, allowing non-lawyers to own shares in law firms would reduce costs and improve services to customers, by encouraging law firms to use technology and to employ professional managers to focus on improving firms' efficiency. After all, other countries, such as Australia and Britain, have started liberalizing their legal professions. America should follow.

26. A lot of students take up law as their profession due to

- [A] the growing demand from clients
- [B] the increasing pressure of inflation
- [C] the prospect of working in big firms
- [D] the attraction of financial rewards

27. Which of the following adds to the costs of legal education in most American states?

- [A] Higher tuition fees for undergraduate studies
- [B] Receiving training by professional associations
- [C] Admissions approval from the bar association
- [D] Pursuing a bachelor's degree in another major

28. Hindrance to the reform of the legal system originates from

- [A] the rigid bodies governing the profession.

- [B] lawyers' and clients' strong resistance
 - [C] the stern exam for would-be lawyers.
 - [D] non-professionals' sharp criticism.
29. The guild-like ownership structure is considered "restrictive" partly because it
- [A] prevents lawyers from gaining due profits.
 - [B] bans outsiders' involvement in the profession.
 - [C] aggravates the ethical situation in the trade.
 - [D] keeps lawyers from holding law-firm shares.
30. In the text, the author mainly discusses
- [A] the factors that help make a successful lawyer in America.
 - [B] a problem in America's legal profession and solutions to it.
 - [C] the role undergraduate studies in America's legal education.
 - [D] flawed ownership of America's law firms and its causes.

Text 3

The US \$ 3-million Fundamental Physics Prize is indeed an interesting experiment, as Alexander Polyakov said when he accepted this year's award in March. And it is far from the only one of its type. As a News Feature article in Nature discusses, a string of lucrative awards for researchers have joined the Nobel Prizes in recent years. Many, like the Fundamental Physics Prize, are funded from the telephone-number-sized bank accounts of Internet entrepreneurs. These benefactors have succeeded in their chosen fields, they say, and they want to use their wealth to draw attention to those who have succeeded in science.

What's not to like? Quite a lot, according to a handful of scientists quoted in the News Feature. You cannot buy class, as the old saying goes, and these upstart entrepreneurs cannot buy their prizes the prestige of the Nobels. The new awards are an exercise in self-promotion for those behind them, say scientists. They could distort the achievement-based system of peer-review-led research. They could cement the status quo of peer-reviewed research. They do not fund peer-reviewed research. They perpetuate the myth of the lone genius.

The goals of the prize-givers seem as scattered as the criticism. Some want to shock, others to draw people into science, or to better reward those who have made their careers in research.

As Nature has pointed out before, there are some legitimate concerns about how science prize—both new and old—are distributed. The Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, launched this year, takes an unrepresentative view of what the life science include. But the Nobel Foundation's limit of three recipients per prize, each of whom must still be living, has long been outgrown by the collaborative nature of modern research—as will be demonstrated by the inevitable row over who is ignored when it comes to acknowledging the discovery of the Higgs boson. The Nobels were, of course, themselves set up by a very rich individual who had decided what he wanted to do with his own money. Time, rather than intention, has given them legitimacy.

As much as some scientists may complain about the new awards, two things seem clear. First,

most researchers would accept such a prize if they were offered one. Second, it is surely a good thing that the money and attention come to science rather than go elsewhere. It is fair to criticize and question the mechanism- that is the culture of research, after all- but it is the prize-givers' money to do with as they please. It is wise to take such gifts with gratitude and grace.

31. The Fundamental Physics Prize is seen as
 - [A] a symbol of the entrepreneurs' wealth.
 - [B] a handsome reward for researchers.
 - [C] a possible replacement of the Nobel Prizes.
 - [D] an example of bankers' investments.
32. The critics think that the new awards will most benefit
 - [A] the profit-oriented scientists.
 - [B] the achievement-based system.
 - [C] the founders of the new awards
 - [D] peer-review-led research.
33. The discovery of the Higgs boson is a typical case which involves
 - [A] legitimate concerns over the new prizes.
 - [B] controversies over the recipients' status.
 - [C] the joint effort of modern researchers.
 - [D] the demonstration of research finding.
34. According to Paragraph 4, which of the following is true of the Nobels ?
 - [A] History has never cast doubt on them.
 - [B] Their endurance has done justice to them.
 - [C] They are the most representative honor.
 - [D] Their legitimacy has long been in dispute.
35. The author believes that the new awards are
 - [A] unworthy of public attention.
 - [B] subject to undesirable changes.
 - [C] harmful to the culture of research.
 - [D] acceptable despite the criticism.

Text 4

“The Heart of the Matter,” the just-released report by the American Academy of Arts and sciences (AAAS), deserves praise for affirming the importance of the humanities and social sciences to the prosperity and security of liberal democracy in America. Regrettably, however, the report's failure to address the true nature of the crisis facing liberal education may cause more harm than good.

In 2010, leading congressional Democrats and Republicans sent letters to the AAAS asking that it identify actions that could be taken by “federal, state and local government, universities, foundations, educators, individual benefactor and others” to “**maintain national excellence in**

humanities and social scientific scholarship and education.” In response, the American Academy formed the Commission on the Humanities and Social Science. Among the commission’s 51 members are top-tier-university presidents, scholars, lawyers, judges, and business executives as well as prominent figures from diplomacy, filmmaking, music and journalism.

The goals identified in the report are generally admirable. Because representative government presupposes an informed citizenry, the report supports full literacy; stresses the study of history and government, particularly American history and American government; and encourages the use of new digital technologies. To encourage innovation and competition, the report calls for increased investment in research, the crafting of coherent curricula that improve students’ ability to solve problems and communicate effectively in the 21st century, increased funding for teachers and the encouragement of scholars to bring their learning to bear on the great challenges of the day. The report also advocates greater study of foreign languages, international affairs and the expansion of study abroad programs.

Unfortunately, despite 2.5 years in the making, “The Heart of the Matter” never gets to the heart of the matter: the illiberal nature of liberal education at our leading colleges and universities. The commission ignores that for several decades America’s colleges and universities have produced graduates who don’t know the content and character of liberal education and are thus deprived of its benefits. Sadly, the spirit of inquiry once at home on campus has been replaced by the use of the humanities and social sciences as vehicles for publicizing “progressive,” or left-liberal propaganda.

Today, professors routinely treat the progressive interpretation of history and progressive public policy as the proper subject of study while portraying conservative or classical liberal ideas—such as free markets and self-reliance—as falling outside the boundaries of routine, and sometimes legitimate, intellectual investigation.

The AAAS displays great enthusiasm for liberal education. Yet its report may well set back reform by obscuring the depth and breadth of the challenge that Congress asked it to illuminate.

36. According to Paragraph 1, what is the author’s attitude toward the AAAS’s report?

- [A] Critical [B] Appreciative
[C] Contemptuous [D] Tolerant

37. Influential figures in the congress required that the AAAS report on how to

- [A] define the government’s role in education.
[B] safeguard individuals’ rights to education.
[C] retain people’s interest in liberal education.
[D] keep a leading position in liberal education.

38. According to paragraph 3, the report suggests

- [A] an exclusive study of American history.
[B] a greater emphasis on theoretical subjects.
[C] the application of emerging technologies.

- [D] funding for the study of foreign languages.
39. The author implies in paragraph 5 that professors are
- [A] supportive of free markets
- [B] conservative about public policy.
- [C] biased against classical liberal ideas.
- [D] cautious about intellectual investigation.
40. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
- [A] Ways to Grasp “The Heart of the Matter”
- [B] Illiberal Education and “The Heart of the Matter”
- [C] The AAAS’s Contribution to Liberal Education
- [D] Progressive Policy vs. Liberal Education

2015 年阅读真题

Text 1

King Juan Carlos of Spain once insisted “kings don’t abdicate, they die in their sleep.” But embarrassing scandals and the popularity of the republicans left in the recent Euro-elections have forced him to eat his words and stand down. So, does the Spanish crisis suggest that monarchy is seeing its last days? Does that mean the writing is on the wall for all European royals, with their magnificent uniforms and majestic lifestyles?

The Spanish case provides arguments both for and against monarchy. When public opinion is particularly polarized, as it was following the end of the Franco regime, monarchs can rise above “mere” politics and “embody” a spirit of national unity.

It is this apparent transcendence of politics that explains monarchy’s continuing popularity as heads of state. And so, the Middle East excepted, Europe is the most monarch-infested region in the world, with 10 kingdoms (not counting Vatican City and Andorra). But unlike their absolutist counterparts in the Gulf and Asia, most royal families have survived because they allow voters to avoid the difficult search for a non-controversial but respected public figure.

Even so, kings and queens undoubtedly have a downside. Symbolic of national unity as they claim to be, their very history—and sometimes the way they behave today—embodies outdated and indefensible privileges and inequalities. At a time when Thomas Piketty and other economists are warning of rising inequality and the increasing power of inherited wealth, it is bizarre that wealthy aristocratic families should still be the symbolic heart of modern democratic states.

The most successful monarchies strive to abandon or hide their old aristocratic ways. Princes and princesses have day-jobs and ride bicycles, not horses (or helicopters). Even so, these are wealthy families who party with the international 1%, and media intrusiveness makes it increasingly difficult to maintain the right image.

While Europe’s monarchies will no doubt be smart enough to survive for some time to come,

it is the British royals who have most to fear from the Spanish example.

It is only the Queen who has preserved the monarchy's reputation with her rather ordinary (if well-heeled) granny style. The danger will come with Charles, who has both an expensive taste of lifestyle and a pretty hierarchical view of the world. He has failed to understand that monarchies have largely survived because they provide a service-as non-controversial and non-political heads of state. Charles ought to know that as English history shows, it is kings, not republicans, who are the monarchy's worst enemies.

21. According to the first two paragraphs, King Juan Carlos of Spain
 - [A] eased his relationship with his rivals.
 - [B] used to enjoy high public support.
 - [C] was unpopular among European royals.
 - [D] ended his reign in embarrassment.
22. Monarchs are kept as head of state in Europe mostly
 - [A] to give voters more public figures to look up to.
 - [B] to achieve a balance between tradition and reality.
 - [C] owing to their undoubted and respectable status.
 - [D] due to their everlasting political embodiment.
23. Which of the following is shown to be odd, according to Paragraph 4?
 - [A] The role of the nobility in modern democracies.
 - [B] Aristocrats' excessive reliance on inherited wealth.
 - [C] The simple lifestyle of the aristocratic families.
 - [D] The nobility's adherence to their privileges.
24. The British royals "have most to fear" because Charles
 - [A] takes a tough line on political issues.
 - [B] fails to change his lifestyle as advised.
 - [C] takes republicans as his potential allies.
 - [D] fails to adapt himself to his future role.
25. Which of the following is the best title of the text?
 - [A] Carlos, Glory and Disgrace Combined
 - [B] Charles, Anxious to Succeed to the Throne
 - [C] Charles, Slow to React to the Coming Threats
 - [D] Carlos, a Lesson for All European Monarchs

Text 2

Just how much does the Constitution protect your digital data? The Supreme Court will now consider whether police can search the contents of a mobile phone without a warrant if the phone is on or around a person during an arrest.

California has asked the justices to refrain from a sweeping ruling, particularly one that upsets the old assumptions that authorities may search through the possessions of suspects at the time of

their arrest. It is hard, the state argues, for judges to assess the implications of new and rapidly changing technologies.

The court would be recklessly modest if it followed California's advice. Enough of the implications are discernable, even obvious, so that the justice can and should provide updated guidelines to police, lawyers and defendants.

They should start by discarding California's lame argument that exploring the contents of a smartphone- a vast storehouse of digital information is similar to say, going through a suspect's purse. The court has ruled that police don't violate the Fourth Amendment when they go through the wallet or pocketbook, of an arrestee without a warrant. But exploring one's smartphone is more like entering his or her home. A smartphone may contain an arrestee's reading history, financial history, medical history and comprehensive records of recent correspondence. The development of "cloud computing," meanwhile, has made that exploration so much the easier.

Americans should take steps to protect their digital privacy. But keeping sensitive information on these devices is increasingly a requirement of normal life. Citizens still have a right to expect private documents to remain private and protected by the Constitution's prohibition on unreasonable searches.

As so often is the case, stating that principle doesn't ease the challenge of line-drawing. In many cases, it would not be overly onerous for authorities to obtain a warrant to search through phone contents. They could still invalidate Fourth Amendment protections when facing severe, urgent circumstances, and they could take reasonable measures to ensure that phone data are not erased or altered while a warrant is pending. The court, though, may want to allow room for police to cite situations where they are entitled to more freedom.

But the justices should not swallow California's argument whole. New, disruptive technology sometimes demands novel applications of the Constitution's protections. Orin Kerr, a law professor, compares the explosion and accessibility of digital information in the 21st century with the establishment of automobile use as a digital necessity of life in the 20th: The justices had to specify novel rules for the new personal domain of the passenger car then; they must sort out how the Fourth Amendment applies to digital information now.

26. The Supreme court, will work out whether, during an arrest, it is legitimate to _____

- [A] search for suspects' mobile phones without a warrant.
- [B] check suspects' phone contents without being authorized.
- [C] prevent suspects from deleting their phone contents.
- [D] prohibit suspects from using their mobile phones.

27. The author's attitude toward California's argument is one of

- [A] tolerance.
- [B] indifference.
- [C] disapproval.
- [D] cautiousness.

28. The author believes that exploring one's phone content is comparable to _____

- [A] getting into one's residence.

[B] handing one's historical records.

[C] scanning one's correspondences.

[D] going through one's wallet.

29. In Paragraph 5 and 6, the author shows his concern that _____

[A] principles are hard to be clearly expressed.

[B] the court is giving police less room for action.

[C] phones are used to store sensitive information.

[D] citizens' privacy is not effectively protected.

30. Orin Kerr's comparison is quoted to indicate that _____

(A) the Constitution should be implemented flexibly.

(B) New technology requires reinterpretation of the Constitution.

(C) California's argument violates principles of the Constitution.

(D) Principles of the Constitution should never be altered.

Text 3

The journal Science is adding an extra round of statistical checks at Peer-review process, editor-in-chief Marcia McNutt announced today. The policy follows similar efforts from other journals, after widespread concern that basic mistakes in data analysis are contributing to the irreproducibility of many published research findings.

"Readers must have confidence in the conclusions published in our journal," writes McNutt in an editorial. Working with the American Statistical Association, the Journal has appointed seven experts to a statistics board of reviewing editors (SBoRE). Manuscript will be flagged up for additional scrutiny by the Journal's editors, or by its existing Board of Reviewing Editors or by outside peer reviewers. The SBoRE panel will then find external statisticians to review these manuscripts.

Asked whether any particular papers had impelled the change, McNutt said, "The creation of the statistics board' was motivated by concerns broadly with the application of statistics and data analysis in scientific research and is part of Science's overall drive to increase reproducibility in the research we publish."

Giovanni Parmigianino, a biostatistician at the Harvard School of Public Health, a member of the SBoRE group, says he expects the board to "play primarily on advisory role." He agreed to join because he "found the foresight behind the establishment of the SBoRE to be novel, unique and likely to have a lasting impact. This impact will not only be through the publications in Science itself, but hopefully through a larger group of publishing places that may want to model their approach after Science."

John Ioannidis, a physician who studies research methodology, says that the policy is "a most welcome step forward" and "long overdue," "Most journals are weak in statistical review, and this damages the quality of what they publish. I think that, for the majority of scientific papers nowadays, statistical review is more essential than expert review," he says. But he noted that

biomedical journals such as *Annals of Internal Medicine*, the *Journal of the American Medical Association* and *The Lancet* pay strong attention to statistical review.

Professional scientists are expected to know how to analyze data, but statistical errors are alarmingly common in published research, according to David Vaux, a cell biologist. Researchers should improve their standards, he wrote in 2012, but journals should also take a tougher line, “engaging reviewers who are statistically literate and editors who can verify the process.” Vaux says that *Science*’s idea to pass some papers to statisticians “has some merit, but a weakness is that it relies on the board of reviewing editors to identify ‘the papers that need scrutiny’ in the first place.”

31. It can be learned from Paragraph I that
 - [A] *Science* intends to simplify its peer-review process.
 - [B] journals are strengthening their statistical checks.
 - [C] few journals are blamed for mistakes in data analysis.
 - [D] lack of data analysis is common in research projects.
32. The phrase “flagged up” (Para.2) is the closest in meaning to
 - [A] found.
 - [B] revised.
 - [C] marked
 - [D] stored
33. Giovanni Parmigiani believes that the establishment of the SBoRE may
 - [A] pose a threat to all its peers
 - [B] meet with strong opposition
 - [C] increase *Science*’s circulation.
 - [D] set an example for other journals
34. David Vaux holds that what *Science* is doing now
 - [A] adds to researchers’ workload.
 - [B] diminishes the role of reviewers.
 - [C] has room for further improvement.
 - [D] is to fail in the foreseeable future.
35. Which of the following is the best title of the text?
 - [A] *Science* Joins Push to Screen Statistics in Papers
 - [B] Professional Statisticians Deserve More Respect
 - [C] Data Analysis Finds Its Way onto Editors’ Desks
 - [D] Statisticians Are Coming Back with *Science*

Text 4

Two years ago, Rupert Murdoch’s daughter, Elisabeth, spoke of the “unsettling dearth of integrity across so many of our institutions”. Integrity had collapsed, she argued, because of a collective acceptance that the mechanism in society should be profit and the market. But “it’s us, human beings, we the people who create the society we want, not profit.”

Driving her point home, she continued: “It’s increasingly apparent that the absence of

purpose, of a moral language within government, media or business could become one of the most dangerous goals for capitalism and freedom.” This same absence of moral purpose was wounding companies, such as News International, she thought, making it more likely that it would lose its way as it had with widespread illegal telephone hacking.

As the hacking trial concludes-finding guilty one ex-editor of the News of the World, Andy Coulson, for conspiring to hack phones, and finding the predecessor, Rebekah Brooks, innocent of the same charge-the wider issue of dearth of integrity still stands. Journalists are known to have hacked the phones of up to 5,000 people. This is hacking on an industrial scale, as was acknowledged by Glenn Mulcaire, the man hired by the News of the World in 2001 to be the point person for phone hacking. Others await trial. This long story still unfolds.

In many respects, the dearth of moral purpose frames not only the fact of such widespread phone hacking but the terms on which the trial took place. One of the astonishing revelations was how little Rebekah Brooks knew of what went on in her newsroom, how little she thought to ask and the fact that she never inquired how the stories arrived. The core of her successful defense was that she knew nothing.

In today's world, it has become normal that well-paid executives should not be accountable for what happens in the organizations that they run. Perhaps we should not be so surprised. For a generation, the collective doctrine has been that the sorting mechanism of society should be profit. The words that have mattered are efficiency, flexibility, shareholder value, business-friendly, wealth generation, sales, impact and, in newspapers, circulation. Words degraded to the margin have been justice, fairness, tolerance, proportionality and accountability.

The purpose of editing the News of the World was not to promote reader understanding, to be fair in what was written or to betray any common humanity. It was to ruin lives in the quest for circulation and impact. Ms Brooks may or may not have had suspicions about how her journalists got their stories, but she asked no questions, gave no instructions-nor received traceable, recorded answers.

36. According to the first two paragraphs, Elisabeth was upset by ____

- [A] the consequences of the current sorting mechanism.
- [B] companies' financial loss due to immoral practices
- [C] governmental ineffectiveness on moral issues.
- [D] the wide misuse of integrity among institutions.

37. It can be inferred from Paragraph 3 that ____

- [A] Glenn Mulcaire may deny phone hacking as a crime.
- [B] more journalists may be found guilty of phone hacking.
- [C] Andy Coulson should be held innocent of the charge.
- [D] phone hacking will be accepted on certain occasions.

38. The author believes that Rebekah Brooks's defence ____

- [A] revealed a cunning personality.
- [B] centered on trivial issues.
- [C] was hardly convincing.
- [D] was part of a conspiracy.

39. The author holds that the current collective doctrine shows _____
 [A] generally distorted values. [B] unfair wealth distribution.
 [C] a marginalized lifestyle. [D] a rigid moral code.
40. Which of the following is suggested in the last paragraph?
 [A] The quality of writings is of primary importance.
 [B] Common humanity is central to news reporting.
 [C] Moral awareness matters in editing a newspaper.
 [D] Journalists need stricter industrial regulations.

2016 年阅读真题

Text1

France, which prides itself as the global innovator of fashion, has decided its fashion industry has lost an absolute right to define physical beauty for woman. Its lawmakers gave preliminary approval last week to a law that would make it a crime to employ ultra-thin models on runways. The parliament also agreed to ban websites that “incite excessive thinness” by promoting extreme dieting.

Such measures have a couple of uplifting motives. They suggest beauty should not be defined by looks that end up impinging on health. That’s a start. And the ban on ultra-thin models seems to go beyond protecting models from starving themselves to death—as some have done. It tells the fashion industry that it must take responsibility for the signal it sends women, especially teenage girls, about the social tape—measure they must use to determine their individual worth.

The bans, if fully enforced, would suggest to woman (and many men) that they should not let others be arbiters of their beauty. And perhaps faintly, they hint that people should look to intangible qualities like character and intellect rather than dieting their way to size zero or wasp-waist physiques.

The French measures, however, rely too much on severe punishment to change a culture that still regards beauty as skin-deep and bone-showing. Under the law, using a fashion model that does not meet a government-defined index of body mass could result in a \$85,000 fine and six months in prison.

The fashion industry knows it has an inherent problem in focusing on material adornment and idealized body types. In Denmark, the United States, and a few other countries, it is trying to set voluntary standards for models and fashion images that rely more on peer pressure for enforcement.

In contrast to France’s actions, Denmark’s fashion industry agreed last month on rules and sanctions regarding the age, health, and other characteristics of models. The newly revised Danish Fashion Ethical charter clearly states: “we are aware of and take responsibility for the impact the fashion industry has on body ideals, especially on young people.” The charter’s main tool of

enforcement is to deny access for designers and modeling agencies to Copenhagen Fashion Week (CFW), which is run by the Danish Fashion Institute. But in general it relies on a name-and-shame method of compliance.

Relying on ethical persuasion rather than law to address the misuse of body ideals may be the best step. Even better would be to help elevate notions of beauty beyond the material standards of a particular industry.

21. According to the first paragraph, what would happen in France?
[A] New runways would be constructed.
[B] Physical beauty would be redefined.
[C] Websites about dieting would thrive.
[D] The fashion industry would decline.
22. The phrase “impinging on” (Line2 Para2) is closest in meaning to
[A] heightening the value of
[B] indicating the state of
[C] losing faith in
[D] doing harm to
23. Which of the following is true of the fashion industry
[A] New standards are being set in Denmark
[B] The French measures have already failed
[C] Models are no longer under peer pressure
[D] Its inherent problems are getting worse
24. A designer is most likely to be rejected by CFW for
[A] pursuing perfect physical conditions
[B] caring too much about models' character
[C] showing little concern for health factors
[D] setting a high age threshold for models
25. Which of the following maybe the best title of the text?
[A] A challenge to the Fashion Industry's Body Ideals
[B] A Dilemma for the starving models in France
[C] Just Another Round of struggle for beauty
[D] The Great Threats to the Fashion Industry

Text 2

For the first time in history more people live in towns than in country. In Britain this has had a curious result. While polls show Britons rate “the countryside” alongside the royal family, Shakespeare and the National Health Service (NHS) as what makes them proudest of their country, this has limited political support.

A century ago Octavia Hill launched the National Trust not to rescue stylish houses but to save “the beauty of natural places for everyone forever.” It was specifically to provide city dwellers

with spaces for leisure where they could experience “a refreshing air.” Hill’s pressure later led to the creation of national parks and green belts. They don’t make countryside any more, and every year concrete consumes more of it. It needs constant guardianship.

At the next election none of the big parties seem likely to endorse this sentiment. The Conservatives’ planning reform explicitly gives rural development priority over conservation, even authorizing “off-plan” building where local people might object. The concept of sustainable development has been defined as profitable. Labour likewise wants to discontinue local planning where councils oppose development. The Liberal Democrats are silent. Only Ukip, sensing its Chance, has sided with those pleading for a more considered approach to using green land. Its Campaign to Protect Rural England struck terror into many local Conservative parties.

The sensible place to build new houses, factories and offices is where people are, in cities and towns where infrastructure is in place. The London agents Stirling Ackroyd recently identified enough sites for half a million houses in the London area alone, with no intrusion on green belt. What is true of London is even truer of the provinces.

The idea that “housing crisis” equals “concreted meadows” is pure lobby talk. The issue is not the need for more houses but, as always, where to put them. Under lobby pressure, George Osborne favors rural-build against urban renovation and renewal. He favors out-of-town shopping sites against high streets. This is not a free market but a biased one. Rural towns and villages have grown and will always grow. They do so best where building sticks to their edges and respects their character. We do not ruin urban conservation areas. Why ruin rural ones?

Development should be planned, not let rip. After the Netherlands, Britain is Europe’s most crowded country. Half a century of town and country planning has enabled it to retain an enviable rural coherence, while still permitting low-density urban living. There is no doubt of the alternative – the corrupted landscapes of southern Portugal, Spain or Ireland. Avoiding this rather than promoting it should unite the left and right of the political spectrum.

26. Britain’s public sentiment about the countryside _____

- [A] didn’t start till the Shakespearean age.
- [B] has brought much benefit to the NHS.
- [C] is fully backed by the royal family.
- [D] is not well reflected in politics.

27. According to Paragraph 2, the achievements of the National Trust are now being _____

- [A] gradually destroyed.
- [B] effectively reinforced.
- [C] largely overshadowed.
- [D] properly protected.

28. Which of the following can be inferred from Paragraph 3?

- [A] Labour is under attack for opposing development.
- [B] The conservatives may abandon “off-plan” building.
- [C] The Liberal Democrats are losing political influence.
- [D] Ukip may gain from its support for rural conservation.

29. The author holds that George Osborne's preference _____
- [A] highlights his firm stand against lobby pressure.
 - [B] shows his disregard for the character of rural areas.
 - [C] stresses the necessity of easing the housing crisis.
 - [D] reveals a strong prejudice against urban areas.
30. In the last paragraph, the author shows his appreciation of _____
- [A] the size of population in Britain.
 - [B] the political life in today's Britain
 - [C] the enviable urban lifestyle in Britain.
 - [D] the town-and-country planning in Britain.

Text 3

"There is one and only one social responsibility of business," wrote Milton Friedman, a Nobel Prize-winning economist "That is, to use its resources and engage in activities designed to increase its profits." But even if you accept Friedman's premise and regard corporate social responsibility (CSR) policies as a waste of shareholder's money, things may not be absolutely clear-cut. New research suggests that CSR may create monetary value for companies—at least when they are prosecuted for corruption.

The largest firms in America and Britain together spend more than \$15 billion a year on CSR, according to an estimate by EPG, a consulting firm. This could add value to their businesses in three ways. First, consumers may take CSR spending as a "signal" that a company's products are of high quality. Second, customers may be willing to buy a company's products as an indirect way to donate to the good causes it helps. And third, through a more diffuse "halo effect," whereby its good deeds earn it greater consideration from consumers and others.

Previous studies on CSR have had trouble differentiating these effects because consumers can be affected by all three. A recent study attempts to separate them by looking at bribery prosecutions under American's Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). It argues that since prosecutors do not consume a company's products as part of their investigations, they could be influenced only by the halo effect.

The study found that, among prosecuted firms, those with the most comprehensive CSR programmes tended to get more lenient penalties. Their analysis ruled out the possibility that it was firm's political influence, rather than their CSR stand, that accounted for the leniency: Companies that contributed more to political campaigns did not receive lower fines.

In all, the study concludes that whereas prosecutors should only evaluate a case based on its merits, they do seem to be influenced by a company's record in CSR. "We estimate that either eliminating a substantial labour-rights concern, such as child labour, or increasing corporate giving by about 20% results in fines that generally are 40% lower than the typical punishment for bribing foreign officials," says one researcher.

Researchers admit that their study does not answer the question of how much businesses ought

to spend on CSR. Nor does it reveal how much companies are banking on the halo effect, rather than the other possible benefits, when they decide their do-gooding policies. But at least they have demonstrated that when companies get into trouble with the law, evidence of good character can win them a less costly punishment.

31. The author views Milton Friedman's statement about CSR with
 [A] tolerance [B] skepticism
 [C] uncertainty [D] approval
32. According to Paragraph 2, CSR helps a company by
 [A] winning trust from consumers.
 [B] guarding it against malpractices
 [C] protecting it from consumers
 [D] raising the quality of its products
33. The expression "more lenient" (Line 2, Para.4) is closest in meaning to
 [A] more effective [B] less controversial
 [C] less severe [D] more lasting
34. When prosecutors evaluate a case, a company's CSR record
 [A] has an impact on their decision
 [B] comes across as reliable evidence
 [C] increases the chance of being penalized
 [D] constitutes part of the investigation
35. Which of the following is true of CSR according to the last paragraph?
 [A] Its negative effects on businesses are often overlooked
 [B] The necessary amount of companies spending on it is unknown
 [C] Companies' financial capacity for it has been overestimated
 [D] It has brought much benefit to the banking industry

Text 4

There will eventually come a day when The New York Times ceases to publish stories on newsprint. Exactly when that day will be is a matter of debate. "Sometime in the future," the paper's publisher said back in 2010.

Nostalgia for ink on paper and the rustle of pages aside, there's plenty of incentive to ditch print. The infrastructure required to make a physical newspaper—printing presses, delivery trucks—isn't just expensive; it's excessive at a time when online-only competitors don't have the same set of financial constraints. Readers are migrating away from print anyway. And though print ad sales still dwarf their online and mobile counterparts, revenue from print is still declining.

Overhead may be high and circulation lower, but rushing to eliminate its print edition would be a mistake, says BuzzFeed CEO Jonah Peretti.

Peretti says the Times shouldn't waste time getting of the print business, but only if they go about doing it the right way. "Fighting out a way to accelerate that transition would make sense for

them,” he said, “but if you discontinue it, you’re going to have your most loyal customers really upset with you.”

Sometimes that’s worth making a change anyway. Peretti gives the example of Netflix discontinuing its DVD-mailing service to focus on streaming. “It was seen as blunter,” he said. The move turned out to be foresighted. And if Peretti would raise prices and make it into more of a legacy product.”

The most loyal customers would still get the product they favor, the idea goes, and they’d feel like they were helping sustain the quality of something they helping. “So if you’re overpaying for print, you could feel like you were helping,” Peretti said. “Then increase it at a higher rate each year and essentially try to generate additional revenue.” In other words, if you’re going to make a print product, make it for the people who are already obsessed with it. Which may be what the Times is doing already. Getting the print edition seven days a week costs nearly \$500 a year—more than twice as much as a digital-only subscription.

“It’s a really hard thing to do and it’s a tremendous luxury that BuzzFeed doesn’t have a legacy business,” Peretti remarked. “But we’re going to have questions like that where we have things we’re doing that don’t make sense when the market changes and the world changes. In those situations, it’s better to be more aggressive than less aggressive.”

36. The New York Times is considering ending its print edition partly due to ____

- [A] the high cost of operation.
- [B] the pressure from its investors.
- [C] the complaints from its readers.
- [D] the increasing online ad sales.

37. Peretti suggests that, in face of the present situation, the Times should ____

- [A] seek new sources of readership.
- [B] end the print edition for good.
- [C] aim for efficient management.
- [D] make strategic adjustments.

38. It can be inferred from Paragraphs 5 and 6 that a “legacy product”

- [A] helps restore the glory of former times.
- [B] is meant for the most loyal customers.
- [C] will have the cost of printing reduced.
- [D] expands the popularity of the paper.

39. Peretti believes that, in a changing world,

- [A] legacy businesses are becoming outdated.
- [B] cautiousness facilitates problem-solving.
- [C] aggressiveness better meets challenges.
- [D] traditional luxuries can stay unaffected.

40. Which of the following would be the best title of the text?

- [A] Shift to Online Newspapers All at Once
- [B] Cherish the Newspaper Still in Your Hand
- [C] Make Your Print Newspaper a Luxury Good
- [D] Keep Your Newspapers Forever in Fashion

2017 年阅读真题

Text 1

First two hours, now three hours—this is how far in advance authorities are recommending people show up to catch a domestic flight, at least at some major U.S. airports with increasingly massive security lines.

Americans are willing to tolerate time-consuming security protocols in return for increased safety. The crash of EgyptAir Flight 804, which terrorists may have downed over the Mediterranean Sea, provides another tragic reminder of why. But demanding too much of air travelers or providing too little security in return undermines public support for the process. And it should: Wasted time is a drag on Americans' economic and private lives, not to mention infuriating.

Last year, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) found in a secret check that undercover investigators were able to sneak weapons—both fake and real—past airport security nearly every time they tried. Enhanced security measures since then, combined with a rise in airline travel due to the improving economy and low oil prices, have resulted in long waits at major airports such as Chicago's O'Hare International. It is not yet clear how much more effective airline security has become—but the lines are obvious.

Part of the issue is that the government did not anticipate the steep increase in airline travel, so the TSA is now rushing to get new screeners on the line. Part of the issue is that airports have only so much room for screening lanes. Another factor may be that more people are trying to overpack their carry-on bags to avoid checked baggage fees, though the airlines strongly dispute this.

There is one step the TSA could take that would not require remodeling airports or rushing to hire: Enroll more people in the PreCheck program. PreCheck is supposed to be a win-win for travelers and the TSA. Passengers who pass a background check are eligible to use expedited screening lanes. This allows the TSA to focus on travelers who are higher risks, saving time for everyone involved. TSA wants to enroll 25 million people in PreCheck.

It has not gotten anywhere close to that, and one big reason is sticker shock. Passengers must pay \$85 every five years to process their background checks. Since the beginning, this price tag has been PreCheck's fatal flaw. Upcoming reforms might bring the price to a more reasonable level. But Congress should look into doing so directly, by helping to finance PreCheck enrollment or to cut costs in other ways.

The TSA cannot continue diverting resources into underused PreCheck lanes while most of the

traveling public suffers in unnecessary lines. It is long past time to make the program work.

21. The crash of EgyptAir Flight 804 is mentioned to _____.
[A] explain Americans' tolerance of current security checks
[B] stress the urgency to strengthen security worldwide
[C] highlight the necessity of upgrading major U.S. airports
[D] emphasize the importance of privacy protection
22. Which of the following contributes to long waits at major airports?
[A] New restrictions on carry-on bags
[B] The declining efficiency of the TSA
[C] An increase in the number of travelers
[D] Frequent unexpected secret checks
23. The word "expedited" (Line 3, Para.5) is closest in meaning to _____.
[A] quieter [B] cheaper
[C] wider [D] faster
24. One problem with the PreCheck program is _____.
[A] a dramatic reduction of its scale
[B] its wrongly-directed implementation
[C] the government's reluctance to back it
[D] an unreasonable price for enrollment
25. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
[A] Less Screening for More Safety
[B] PreCheck—a Belated Solution
[C] Getting Stuck in Security Lines
[D] Underused PreCheck Lanes

Text 2

"The ancient Hawaiians were astronomers," wrote Queen Liliuokalani, Hawaii's last reigning monarch, in 1897. Star watchers were among the most esteemed members of Hawaiian society. Sadly, all is not well with astronomy in Hawaii today. Protests have erupted over construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT), a giant observatory that promises to revolutionize humanity's view of the cosmos.

At issue is the TMT's planned location on Mauna Kea, a dormant volcano worshiped by some Hawaiians as the piko that connects the Hawaiian Islands to the heavens. But Mauna Kea is also home to some of the world's most powerful telescopes. Rested in the Pacific Ocean, Mauna Kea's peak rises above the bulk of our planet's dense atmosphere, where conditions allow telescopes to obtain images of unsurpassed clarity.

Opposition to telescopes on Mauna Kea is nothing new. A small but vocal group of Hawaiians and environmentalists have long viewed their presence as disrespect for sacred land and a painful reminder of the occupation of what was once a sovereign nation.

Some blame for the current controversy belongs to astronomers. In their eagerness to build bigger telescopes, they forgot that science is not the only way of understanding the world. They did not always prioritize the protection of Mauna Kea's fragile ecosystems or its holiness to the islands' inhabitants. Hawaiian culture is not a relic of the past; it is a living culture undergoing a renaissance today.

Yet science has a cultural history, too, with roots going back to the dawn of civilization. The same curiosity to find what lies beyond the horizon that first brought early Polynesians to Hawaii's shores inspires astronomers today to explore the heavens. Calls to disassemble all telescopes on Mauna Kea or to ban future development there ignore the reality that astronomy and Hawaiian culture both seek to answer big questions about who we are, where we come from and where we are going. Perhaps that is why we explore the starry skies, as if answering a primal calling to know ourselves and our true ancestral homes.

The astronomy community is making compromises to change its use of Mauna Kea. The TMT site was chosen to minimize the telescope's visibility around the island and to avoid archaeological and environmental impact. To limit the number of telescopes on Mauna Kea, old ones will be removed at the end of their lifetimes and their sites returned to a natural state. There is no reason why everyone cannot be welcomed on Mauna Kea to embrace their cultural heritage and to study the stars.

26. Queen Liliuokalani's remark in Paragraph 1 indicates _____.
 [A] her conservative view on the historical role of astronomy
 [B] the importance of astronomy in ancient Hawaiian society
 [C] the regrettable decline of astronomy in ancient times
 [D] her appreciation of star watchers' feats in her time
27. Mauna Kea is deemed as an ideal astronomical site due to _____.
 [A] its geographical features
 [B] its protective surroundings
 [C] its religious implications
 [D] its existing infrastructure
28. The construction of the TMT is opposed by some locals partly because _____.
 [A] it may risk ruining their intellectual life
 [B] it reminds them of a humiliating history
 [C] their culture will lose a chance of revival
 [D] they fear losing control of Mauna Kea
29. It can be inferred from Paragraph 5 that progress in today's astronomy _____.
 [A] is fulfilling the dreams of ancient Hawaiians
 [B] helps spread Hawaiian culture across the world
 [C] may uncover the origin of Hawaiian culture
 [D] will eventually soften Hawaiians hostility

30. The author's attitude toward choosing Mauna Kea as the TMT site is one of_____.

- [A] severe criticism
- [B] passive acceptance
- [C] slight hesitancy
- [D] full approval

Text 3

Robert F. Kennedy once said that a country's GDP measures "everything except that which makes life worthwhile." With Britain voting to leave the European Union, and GDP already predicted to slow as a result, it is now a timely moment to assess what he was referring to.

The question of GDP and its usefulness has annoyed policymakers for over half a century. Many argue that it is a flawed concept. It measures things that do not matter and misses things that do. By most recent measures, the UK's GDP has been the envy of the Western world, with record low unemployment and high growth figures. If everything was going so well, then why did over 17 million people vote for Brexit, despite the warnings about what it could do to their country's economic prospects?

A recent annual study of countries and their ability to convert growth into well-being sheds some light on that question. Across the 163 countries measured, the UK is one of the poorest performers in ensuring that economic growth is translated into meaningful improvements for its citizens. Rather than just focusing on GDP, over 40 different sets of criteria from health, education and civil society engagement have been measured to get a more rounded assessment of how countries are performing.

While all of these countries face their own challenges, there are a number of consistent themes. Yes, there has been a budding economic recovery since the 2008 global crash, but in key indicators in areas such as health and education, major economies have continued to decline. Yet this isn't the case with all countries. Some relatively poor European countries have seen huge improvements across measures including civil society, income equality and environment.

This is a lesson that rich countries can learn: When GDP is no longer regarded as the sole measure of a country's success, the world looks very different.

So what Kennedy was referring to was that while GDP has been the most common method for measuring the economic activity of nations, as a measure, it is no longer enough. It does not include important factors such as environmental quality or education outcomes—all things that contribute to a person's sense of well-being.

The sharp hit to growth predicted around the world and in the UK could lead to a decline in the everyday services we depend on for our well-being and for growth. But policymakers who refocus efforts on improving well-being rather than simply worrying about GDP figures could avoid the forecasted doom and may even see progress.

31. Robert F. Kennedy is cited because he_____.

- [A] praised the UK for its GDP

- [A] identified GDP with happiness
 - [c] misinterpreted the role of GDP
 - [d] had a low opinion of GDP
- 32.It can be inferred from Paragraph 2 that_____.
- [A] the UK is reluctant to remold its economic pattern
 - [B] the UK will contribute less to the world economy
 - [C] GDP as the measure of success is widely defied in the UK
 - [D] policymakers in the UK are paying less attention to GDP
- 33.Which of the following is true about the recent annual study?
- [A] It excludes GDP as an indicator.
 - [B] It is sponsored by 163 countries.
 - [C] Its criteria are questionable.
 - [D] Its results are enlightening.
- 34.In the last two paragraphs, the author suggests that_____.
- [A] the UK is preparing for an economic boom
 - [B] high GDP foreshadows an economic decline
 - [C] it is essential to consider factors beyond GDP
 - [D] it requires caution to handle economic issues
- 35.Which of the following is the best title for the text?
- [A] High GDP But Inadequate Well-being, a UK Lesson
 - [B] GDP Figures, a Window on Global Economic Health
 - [C] Robert F. Kennedy, a Terminator of GDP
 - [D] Brexit, the UK's Gateway to Well-being

Text 4

In a rare unanimous ruling, the U.S. Supreme Court has overturned the corruption conviction of a former Virginia governor, Robert McDonnell. But it did so while holding its nose at the ethics of his conduct, which included accepting gifts such as a Rolex watch and a Ferrari automobile from a company seeking access to government.

The high court's decision said the judge in Mr. McDonnell's trial failed to tell a jury that it must look only at his "official acts," or the former governor's decisions on "specific" and "unsettled" issues related to his duties.

Merely helping a gift-giver gain access to other officials, unless done with clear intent to pressure those officials, is not corruption, the justices found.

The court did suggest that accepting favors in return for opening doors is "distasteful" and "nasty." But under anti-bribery laws, proof must be made of concrete benefits, such as approval of a contract or regulation. Simply arranging a meeting, making a phone call, or hosting an event is not an "official act."

The court's ruling is legally sound in defining a kind of favoritism that is not criminal. Elected

leaders must be allowed to help supporters deal with bureaucratic problems without fear of prosecution of bribery. “The basic compact underlying representative government,” wrote Chief Justice John Roberts for the court, “assumes that public officials will hear from their constituents and act on their concerns.”

But the ruling reinforces the need for citizens and their elected representatives, not the courts, to ensure equality of access to government. Officials must not be allowed to play favorites in providing information or in arranging meetings simply because an individual or group provides a campaign donation or a personal gift. This type of integrity requires well-enforced laws in government transparency, such as records of official meetings, rules on lobbying, and information about each elected leader’s source of wealth.

Favoritism in official access can fan public perceptions of corruption. But it is not always corruption. Rather officials must avoid double standards, or different types of access for average people and the wealthy. If connections can be bought, a basic premise of democratic society—that all are equal in treatment by government—is undermined. Good government rests on an understanding of the inherent worth of each individual.

The court’s ruling is a step forward in the struggle against both corruption and official favoritism.

36. The underlined sentence (Para.1) most probably shows that the court_____.

- [A] avoided defining the extent of McDonnell’s duties
- [B] made no compromise in convicting McDonnell
- [C] was contemptuous of McDonnell’s conduct
- [D] refused to comment on McDonnell’s ethics

37. According to Paragraph 4, an official act is deemed corruptive only if it involves_____.

- [A] concrete returns for gift-givers
- [B] sizable gains in the form of gifts
- [C] leaking secrets intentionally
- [D] breaking contracts officially

38. The court’s ruling is based on the assumption that public officials are_____.

- [A] allowed to focus on the concerns of their supporters
- [B] qualified to deal independently with bureaucratic issues
- [C] justified in addressing the needs of their constituents
- [D] exempt from conviction on the charge of favoritism

39. Well-enforced laws in government transparency are needed to_____.

- [A] awaken the conscience of officials
- [B] guarantee fair play in official access
- [C] allow for certain kinds of lobbying
- [D] inspire hopes in average people

40. The author's attitude toward the court's ruling is _____.

[A] sarcastic

[B] tolerant

[C] skeptical

[D] supportive

2018 年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

Read the following text. Choose the best word (s) for each numbered blank and mark [A], [B], [C] or [D] on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

Trust is a tricky business. On the one hand, it's a necessary condition 1 many worthwhile things: child care, friendships, etc. On the other hand, putting your 2 in the wrong place often carries a high 3.

4, why do we trust at all? Well, because it feels good. 5 people place their trust in an individual or an institution, their brains release oxytocin, a hormone that 6 pleasurable feelings and triggers the herding instinct that prompts humans to 7 with one another. Scientists have found that exposure 8 this hormone puts us in a trusting 9. In a Swiss study, researchers sprayed oxytocin into the noses of half the subjects; those subjects were ready to lend significantly higher amounts of money to strangers than were their 10 who inhaled something else.

11 for us, we also have a sixth sense for dishonesty that may 12 us. A Canadian study found that children as young as 14 months can differentiate 13 a credible person and a dishonest one. Sixty toddlers were each 14 to an adult tester holding a plastic container. The tester would ask, "What's in here?" before looking into the container, smiling, and exclaiming, "Wow!" Each subject was then invited to look 15. Half of them found a toy; the other half 16 the container was empty and realized the tester had 17 them.

Among the children who had not been tricked, the majority were 18 to cooperate with the tester in learning a new skill, demonstrating that they trusted his leadership. 19, only five of the 30 children paired with the "20" tester participated in a follow-up activity.

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. [A] on | [B] like | [C] for | [D] from |
| 2. [A] faith | [B] concern | [C] attention | [D] interest |
| 3. [A] benefit | [B] debt | [C] hope | [D] price |
| 4. [A] Therefore | [B] Then | [C] Instead | [D] Again |
| 5. [A] Until | [B] Unless | [C] Although | [D] When |

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 6. [A] selects | [B] produces | [C] applies | [D] maintains |
| 7. [A] consult | [B] compete | [C] connect | [D] compare |
| 8. [A] at | [B] by | [C] of | [D] to |
| 9. [A] context | [B] mood | [C] period | [D] circle |
| 10. [A] counterparts | [B] substitutes | [C] colleagues | [D] supporters |
| 11. [A] Funny | [B] Lucky | [C] Odd | [D] Ironical |
| 12. [A] monitor | [B] protect | [C] surprise | [D] delight |
| 13. [A] between | [B] within | [C] toward | [D] over |
| 14. [A] transferred | [B] added | [C] introduced | [D] entrusted |
| 15. [A] out | [B] back | [C] around | [D] inside |
| 16. [A] discovered | [B] proved | [C] insisted | [D] remembered |
| 17. [A] betrayed | [B] wronged | [C] fooled | [D] mocked |
| 18. [A] forced | [B] willing | [C] hesitant | [D] entitled |
| 19. [A] In contrast | [B] As a result | [C] On the whole | [D] For instance |
| 20. [A] inflexible | [B] incapable | [C] unreliable | [D] unsuitable |

Section II Reading Comprehension Part A

Text1

Among the annoying challenges facing the middle class is one that will probably go unmentioned in the next presidential campaign: What happens when the robots come for their jobs?

Don't dismiss that possibility entirely. About half of U.S. jobs are at high risk of being automated, according to a University of Oxford study, with the middle class disproportionately squeezed. Lower-income jobs like gardening or day care don't appeal to robots. But many middle-class occupations—trucking, financial advice, software engineering—have aroused their interest, or soon will. The rich own the robots, so they will be fine.

This isn't to be alarmist. Optimists point out that technological upheaval has benefited workers in the past. The Industrial Revolution didn't go so well for Luddites whose jobs were displaced by mechanized looms, but it eventually raised living standards and created more jobs than it destroyed. Likewise, automation should eventually boost productivity, stimulate demand by driving down prices, and free workers from hard, boring work. But in the medium term, middle-class workers may need a lot of help adjusting.

The first step, as Erik Brynjolfsson and Andrew McAfee argue in *The Second Machine Age*, should be rethinking education and job training. Curriculums—from grammar school to college—should evolve to focus less on memorizing facts and more on creativity and complex communication. Vocational schools should do a better job of fostering problem-solving skills and helping students work alongside robots. Online education can supplement the traditional kind. It could make extra training and instruction affordable. Professionals trying to acquire new skills will

be able to do so without going into debt.

The challenge of coping with automation underlines the need for the U.S. to revive its fading business dynamism: Starting new companies must be made easier. In previous eras of drastic technological change, entrepreneurs smoothed the transition by dreaming up ways to combine labor and machines. The best uses of 3D printers and virtual reality haven't been invented yet. The U.S. needs the new companies that will invent them.

Finally, because automation threatens to widen the gap between capital income and labor income, taxes and the safety net will have to be rethought. Taxes on low-wage labor need to be cut, and wage subsidies such as the earned income tax credit should be expanded. This would boost incomes, encourage work, reward companies for job creation, and reduce inequality.

Technology will improve society in ways big and small over the next few years, yet this will be little comfort to those who find their lives and careers upended by automation. Destroying the machines that are coming for our jobs would be nuts. But policies to help workers adapt will be indispensable.

21. Who will be most threatened by automation?

- [A] Leading politicians.
- [B] Low-wage laborers.
- [C] Robot owners.
- [D] Middle-class workers.

22. Which of the following best represents the author's view?

- [A] Worries about automation are in fact groundless.
- [B] Optimists' opinions on new tech find little support.
- [C] Issues arising from automation need to be tackled.
- [D] Negative consequences of new tech can be avoided.

23. Education in the age of automation should put more emphasis on ____.

- [A] creative potential
- [B] job-hunting skills
- [C] individual needs
- [D] cooperative spirit

24. The author suggests that tax policies be aimed at ____.

- [A] encouraging the development of automation
- [B] increasing the return on capital investment
- [C] easing the hostility between rich and poor
- [D] preventing the income gap from widening

25. In this text, the author presents a problem with ____.

- [A] opposing views on it
- [B] possible solutions to it
- [C] its alarming impacts

[D] its major variations

Text 2

A new survey by Harvard University finds more than two-thirds of young Americans disapprove of President Trump's use of Twitter. The implication is that Millennials prefer news from the White House to be filtered through other sources, not a president's social media platform.

Most Americans rely on social media to check daily headlines. Yet as distrust has risen toward all media, people may be starting to beef up their media literacy skills. Such a trend is badly needed. During the 2016 presidential campaign, nearly a quarter of web content shared by Twitter users in the politically critical state of Michigan was fake news, according to the University of Oxford. And a survey conducted by BuzzFeed News found 44 percent of Facebook users rarely or never trust news from the media giant.

Young people who are digital natives are indeed becoming more skillful at separating fact from fiction in cyberspace. A Knight Foundation focus-group survey of young people between ages 14 and 24 found they use "distributed trust" to verify stories. They cross-check sources and prefer news from different perspectives—especially those that are open about any bias. "Many young people assume a great deal of personal responsibility for educating themselves and actively seeking out opposing viewpoints," the survey concluded.

Such active research can have another effect. A 2014 survey conducted in Australia, Britain, and the United States by the University of Wisconsin-Madison found that young people's reliance on social media led to greater political engagement.

Social media allows users to experience news events more intimately and immediately while also permitting them to re-share news as a projection of their values and interests. This forces users to be more conscious of their role in passing along information. A survey by Barna research group found the top reason given by Americans for the fake news phenomenon is "reader error," more so than made-up stories or factual mistakes in reporting. About a third say the problem of fake news lies in "misinterpretation or exaggeration of actual news" via social media. In other words, the choice to share news on social media may be the heart of the issue. "This indicates there is a real personal responsibility in counteracting this problem," says Roxanne Stone, editor in chief at Barna Group.

So when young people are critical of an over-tweeting president, they reveal a mental discipline in thinking skills—and in their choices on when to share on social media.

26. According to the Paragraphs 1 and 2, many young Americans cast doubt on ____.

- [A] the justification of the news-filtering practice
- [B] people's preference for social media platforms
- [C] the administrations' ability to handle information
- [D] social media as a reliable source of news

27. The phrase "beef up" (Line 2, Para. 2) is closest in meaning to ____.

- [A] boast
- [B] define

- [C] sharpen [D] share
28. According to the Knight Foundation survey, young people _____.
 [A] tend to voice their opinions in cyberspace
 [B] verify news by referring to diverse resources
 [C] have a strong sense of social responsibility
 [D] like to exchange views on “distributed trust”
29. The Barna survey found that a main cause for the fake news problem is _____.
 [A] readers’ misinterpretation
 [B] journalists’ biased reporting
 [C] readers’ outdated values
 [D] journalists’ made-up stories
30. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
 [A] A Counteraction Against the Over-tweeting Trend
 [B] A Rise in Critical Skills for Sharing News Online
 [C] The Accumulation of Mutual Trust on Social Media
 [D] The Platforms for Projection of Personal Interests

Text 3

Any fair-minded assessment of the dangers of the deal between Britain’s National Health Service (NHS) and DeepMind must start by acknowledging that both sides mean well. DeepMind is one of the leading artificial intelligence (AI) companies in the world. The potential of this work applied to healthcare is very great, but it could also lead to further concentration of power in the tech giants. It is against that background that the information commissioner, Elizabeth Denham, has issued her damning verdict against the Royal Free hospital trust under the NHS, which handed over to DeepMind the records of 1.6 million patients in 2015 on the basis of a vague agreement which took far too little account of the patients’ rights and their expectations of privacy.

DeepMind has almost apologised. The NHS trust has mended its ways. Further arrangements—and there may be many—between the NHS and DeepMind will be carefully scrutinised to ensure that all necessary permissions have been asked of patients and all unnecessary data has been cleaned. There are lessons about informed patient consent to learn. But privacy is not the only angle in this case and not even the most important. Ms Denham chose to concentrate the blame on the NHS trust, since under existing law it “controlled” the data and DeepMind merely “processed” it. But this distinction misses the point that it is processing and aggregation, not the mere possession of bits, that gives the data value.

The great question is who should benefit from the analysis of all the data that our lives now generate. Privacy law builds on the concept of damage to an individual from identifiable knowledge about them. That misses the way the surveillance economy works. The data of an individual there gains its value only when it is compared with the data of countless millions more.

The use of privacy law to curb the tech giants in this instance feels slightly maladapted. This

practice does not address the real worry. It is not enough to say that the algorithms DeepMind develops will benefit patients and save lives. What matters is that they will belong to a private monopoly which developed them using public resources. If software promises to save lives on the scale that drugs now can, big data may be expected to behave as a big pharm has done. We are still at the beginning of this revolution and small choices now may turn out to have gigantic consequences later. A long struggle will be needed to avoid a future of digital feudalism. Ms Denham's report is a welcome start.

31. What is true of the agreement between the NHS and DeepMind?
- [A] It fell short of the latter's expectations.
 - [B] It caused conflicts among tech giants.
 - [C] It failed to pay due attention to patient's rights.
 - [D] It put both sides into a dangerous situation.
32. The NHS trust responded to Denham's verdict with ____.
- [A] empty promises
 - [B] tough resistance
 - [C] sincere apologies
 - [D] necessary adjustments
33. The author argues in Paragraph 2 that ____.
- [A] privacy protection must be secured at all costs
 - [B] the value of data comes from the processing of it
 - [C] making profits from patients' data is illegal
 - [D] leaking patients' data is worse than selling it
34. According to the last paragraph, the real worry arising from this deal is ____.
- [A] the monopoly of big data by tech giants
 - [B] the vicious rivalry among big pharmas
 - [C] the uncontrolled use of new software
 - [D] the ineffective enforcement of privacy law
35. The author's attitude toward the application of AI to healthcare is ____.
- [A] ambiguous
 - [B] appreciative
 - [C] cautious
 - [D] contemptuous

Text 4

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) continues to bleed red ink. It reported a net loss of \$5.6 billion for fiscal 2016, the 10th straight year its expenses have exceeded revenue. Meanwhile, it has more than \$120 billion in unfunded liabilities, mostly for employee health and retirement costs. There are many reasons this formerly stable federal institution finds itself on the verge of bankruptcy. Fundamentally, the USPS is in a historic squeeze between technological change that has permanently decreased demand for its bread-and-butter product, first-class mail, and a regulatory structure that denies management the flexibility to adjust its operations to the new

reality.

And interest groups ranging from postal unions to greeting-card makers exert self-interested pressure on the USPS's ultimate overseer—Congress—insisting that whatever else happens to the Postal Service, aspects of the status quo they depend on get protected. This is why repeated attempts at reform legislation have failed in recent years, leaving the Postal Service unable to pay its bills except by deferring vital modernization.

Now comes word that everyone involved—Democrats, Republicans, the Postal Service, the unions and the system's heaviest users—has finally agreed on a plan to fix the system. Legislation is moving through the House that would save USPS an estimated \$28.6 billion over five years, which could help pay for new vehicles, among other survival measures. Most of the money would come from a penny-per-letter permanent rate increase and from shifting postal retirees into Medicare. The latter step would largely offset the financial burden of annually pre-funding retiree health care, thus addressing a long-standing complaint by the USPS and its unions.

If it clears the House, this measure would still have to get through the Senate—where someone is bound to point out that it amounts to the bare, bare minimum necessary to keep the Postal Service afloat, not comprehensive reform. There's no change to collective bargaining at the USPS, a major omission considering that personnel accounts for 80 percent of the agency's costs. Also missing is any discussion of eliminating Saturday letter delivery. That common-sense change enjoys wide public support and would save the USPS \$2 billion per year. But postal special-interest groups seem to have killed it, at least in the House. The emerging consensus around the bill is a sign that legislators are getting frightened about a politically embarrassing short-term collapse at the USPS. It is not, however, a sign that they're getting serious about transforming the postal system for the 21st century.

36. The financial problem with the USPS is caused partly by ____.

- [A] its unbalanced budget
- [B] its rigid management
- [C] the cost for technical upgrading
- [D] the withdrawal of bank support

37. According to Paragraph 2, the USPS fails to modernize itself due to ____.

- [A] the interference from interest groups
- [B] the inadequate funding from Congress
- [C] the shrinking demand for postal service
- [D] the incompetence of postal unions

38. The long-standing complaint by the USPS and its unions can be addressed by ____.

- [A] removing its burden of retiree health care.
- [B] making more investment in new vehicles.
- [C] adopting a new rate-increase mechanism.
- [D] attracting more first-class mail users.

39. In the last paragraph, the author seems to view legislators with _____.

- [A] respect [B] tolerance
[C] discontent [D] gratitude

40. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

- [A] The USPS Starts to Miss Its Good Old Days
[B] The Postal Service: Keep Away from My Cheese
[C] The USPS: Chronic Illness Requires a Quick Cure
[D] The Postal Service Needs More than a Band-Aid

Part B

Directions:

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For Questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent article by choosing from the list A-G and filling them into the numbered boxes. Paragraphs C and F have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

[A] In December of 1869, Congress appointed a commission to select a site and prepare plans and cost estimates for a new State Department Building. The commission was also to consider possible arrangements for the War and Navy Departments. To the horror of some who expected a Greek Revival twin of the Treasury Building to be erected on the other side of the White House, the elaborate French Second Empire style designed by Alfred Mullett was selected, and construction of a building to house all three departments began in June of 1871.

[B] Completed in 1875, the State Department's south wing was the first to be occupied, with its elegant four-story library (completed in 1876), Diplomatic Reception Room, and Secretary's office decorated with carved wood, oriental rugs, and stenciled wall patterns. The Navy Department moved into the east wing in 1879, where elaborate wall and ceiling stenciling and marquetry floors decorated the office of the Secretary.

[C] The State, War, and Navy Building, as it was originally known, housed the three Executive Branch Departments most intimately associated with formulating and conducting the nation's foreign policy in the last quarter of the nineteenth century and the first quarter of the twentieth century—the period when the United States emerged as an international power. The building has housed some of the nation's most significant diplomats and politicians and has been the scene of many historic events.

[D] Many of the most celebrated national figures have participated in historical events that have taken place within the EEOB's granite walls. Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Lyndon B. Johnson, Gerald Ford, and George H. W. Bush all had offices in this building before becoming president. It has housed 16 Secretaries of the Navy, 21 Secretaries of War, and 24 Secretaries of State. Winston Churchill once walked its

corridors and Japanese emissaries met here with Secretary of State Cordell Hull after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

[E] The Eisenhower Executive Office Building (EEOB) commands a unique position in both the national history and the architectural heritage of the United States. Designed by Supervising Architect of the Treasury, Alfred B. Mullett, it was built from 1871 to 1888 to house the growing staffs of the State, War, and Navy Departments, and is considered one of the best examples of French Second Empire architecture in the country.

[F] Construction took 17 years as the building slowly rose wing by wing. When the EEOB was finished, it was the largest office building in Washington, with nearly 2 miles of black and white tiled corridors. Almost all of the interior detail is of cast iron or plaster; the use of wood was minimized to insure fire safety. Eight monumental curving staircases of granite with over 4,000 individually cast bronze balusters are capped by four skylight domes and two stained glass rotundas.

[G] The history of the EEOB began long before its foundations were laid. The first executive offices were constructed between 1799 and 1820. A series of fires (including those set by the British in 1814) and overcrowded conditions led to the construction of the existing Treasury Building. In 1866, the construction of the North Wing of the Treasury Building necessitated the demolition of the State Department building.

41. _____, C, 42. _____, 43. _____, F, 44. _____, 45. _____

Part C

Directions:

Shakespeare's life time was coincident with a period of extraordinary activity and achievement in the drama. (46) By the date of his birth Europe was witnessing the passing of the religious drama, and the creation of new forms under the incentive of classical tragedy and comedy. These new forms were at first mainly written by scholars and performed by amateurs, but in England, as everywhere else in western Europe, the growth of a class of professional actors was threatening to make the drama popular, whether it should be new or old, classical or medieval, literary or farcical. Court, school organizations of amateurs, and the traveling actors were all rivals in supplying a widespread desire for dramatic entertainment; and (47) no boy who went a grammar school could be ignorant that the drama was a form of literature which gave glory to Greece and Rome and might yet bring honor to England.

When Shakespeare was twelve years old, the first public playhouse was built in London. For a time literature showed no interest in this public stage. Plays aiming at literary distinction were written for school or court, or for the choir boys of St. Paul's and the royal chapel, who, however, gave plays in public as well as at court. (48) but the professional companies prospered in their permanent theaters, and university men with literature ambitions were quick to turn to these theaters as offering a means of livelihood. By the time Shakespeare was twenty-five, Lyly, Peele,

and Greene had made comedies that were at once popular and literary; Kyd had written a tragedy that crowded the pit; and Marlowe had brought poetry and genius to triumph on the common stage—where they had played no part since the death of Euripides. (49) A native literary drama had been created, its alliance with the public playhouses established, and at least some of its great traditions had been begun.

The development of the Elizabethan drama for the next twenty-five years is of exceptional interest to students of literary history, for in this brief period we may trace the beginning, growth, blossoming, and decay of many kinds of plays, and of many great careers. We are amazed today at the mere number of plays produced, as well as by the number of dramatists writing at the same time for this London of two hundred thousand inhabitants. (50) To realize how great was the dramatic activity, we must remember further that hosts of plays have been lost, and that probably there is no author of note whose entire work has survived.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

Write an email to all international experts on campus inviting them to attend the graduation ceremony. In your email you should include time, place and other relevant information about the ceremony.

You should write about 100 words neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not use your own name at the end of the email. Use “Li Ming” instead. (10 points)

Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the picture below. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the pictures briefly
- 2) interpret the meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)