

2013 年全国大学生英语竞赛 C 类初赛赛卷

2013 National English Contest for College Students

(Level C — Preliminary)

(总分:150 分 时间:120 分钟)

Part I Listening Comprehension (30 marks)

Section A (5 marks)

In this section, you will hear five short conversations. Each conversation will be read only once. At the end of each conversation, there will be a twenty-second pause. During the pause, read the question and the three choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

1. Why didn't the man go to see *Macbeth* last week?
 - A. He didn't manage to get a ticket.
 - B. He had to attend a conference.
 - C. He had a better production to watch
2. What does "Fill Me In" refer to in this conversation?
 - A. A type of upgraded mobile phone.
 - B. A well-selling magazine.
 - C. A writer's new book series.
3. Why doesn't the woman like the bag?
 - A. She doesn't like the pattern.
 - B. It's not easy to carry.
 - C. It's too big for her.
4. What makes a bad CV according to the man?
 - A. Fake information.
 - B. Terrible writing.
 - C. Undesirable length.
5. How will Cathy continue her Spanish learning?
 - A. She's going to make a friend in Spain.
 - B. She'll communicate with a Spanish friend in Spanish.
 - C. She'll practice speaking Spanish with an English friend.

Section B (10 marks)

In this section, you will hear two long conversations. Each conversation will be read only once. At the end of each conversation, there will be a one-minute pause. During the pause, read the questions and the three choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Conversation One

6. What traffic accident are the speakers talking about?
 - A. A kid was knocked down by a car.
 - B. Two cars crashed into a shop.
 - C. A car ran into a wrong place.
7. Why did the accident happen according to the woman?
 - A. There were many shops around.
 - B. The crossing is in a wrong place.
 - C. There was no crossing there.
8. Which of the following is the suggestion they made?
 - A. More traffic lights should be installed.
 - B. A speed camera should be mounted.
 - C. More policemen should patrol that area.
9. Where, as the woman mentioned, has got improved traffic?
 - A. Her own neighbourhood.
 - B. Her big brother's neighbourhood.
 - C. Her parents' neighbourhood.
10. How was the man punished for his traffic offence?
 - A. He was fined 100 pounds with extra penalty points.
 - B. He had to pay 150 pounds and got 6 penalty points.
 - C. He finally paid 600 pounds without any penalty points.

Conversation Two

11. Why is the expert opposed to the view that memory aids make your memory worse?
 - A. There is no evidence showing that memory aids are invalid.
 - B. Human beings' brain functions mainly through memory aids in an effective way.
 - C. Memory aids encourage an organised approach which helps the brain function effectively.
12. What is the interviewer's attitude towards the idea that visual images help the memory?
 - A. It is hard to believe.
 - B. It is nothing strange.
 - C. It is obviously nonsense.
13. Who developed the system of memory aids centuries ago?

- A. Inhabitants on an isolated island.
B. The Ancient Greeks.
C. A great psychologist.
14. How does mapping out notes affect the brain?
A. It is helpful in reflecting the way people link information in the brain.
B. It prevents people from arranging things logically.
C. It makes people's brain function the opposite way.
15. What tends to affect people's ability to think clearly?
A. Upbringing and innate differences.
B. Worry and anxiety.
C. Their aptitude.

Section C (5 marks)

*In this section, you will hear **five** short news items. After each item, which will be read only **once**, there will be a pause. During the pause, read the question and the **three** choices marked **A**, **B** and **C**, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **Answer Sheet** with a single line through the centre.*

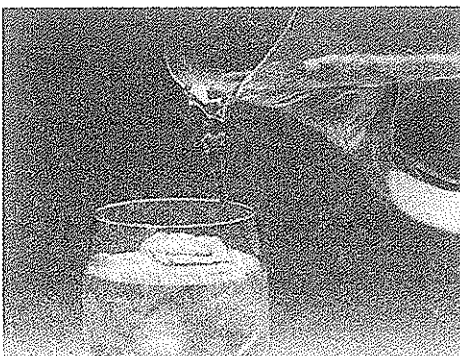
16. How can social media influence the presidential elections in the USA according to the latest research?
A. It can help voters to choose their president.
B. It can help to ensure the fairness of the elections.
C. It can help to increase the number of voters.
17. What honorary title has Yaya Toure been granted?
A. The African Player of the Year.
B. 2012 Star of the Confederation of African Football.
C. The Ivory Coast star.
18. Why did Reshma Saujani set up the organization "Girls Who Code"?
A. To raise women's status in the field of science.
B. To improve girls' aptitude and performance in STEM.
C. To arouse girls' interest in science and technology.
19. Which tablet computer's hardware inside is more powerful?
A. The CNET Kum. B. The Google Nexus 7. C. The Apple iPad Mini.
20. What does the company announce that it can do for the United States?
A. It can reduce the amount of plastic waste.
B. It can help to recycle the plastic waste.
C. It can increase the amount of oil exports.

Section D (10 marks)

In this section, you will hear a short passage. There are 10 missing words or phrases. Fill in the blanks with the exact words or phrases you hear. The passage will be read twice. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

If you (21) _____ smooth skin that glows with youth, the chances are that at some point you will have heard the exhortation to drink lots of water in order to (22) _____ those evil toxins and keep your skin healthy.

The exact amount people suggest varies. US-based advice (23) _____ eight glasses a day, while in hotter climates people are advised to drink more to (24) _____ higher rates of sweating. But



regardless of the exact volume of water suggested, the principle behind the advice remains the same—taking extra water on board will keep your skin hydrated. In other words, water acts like a moisturiser, but from the inside out.

This is such a common idea you might be surprised at the (25) _____ to back up. You might expect there to be countless studies where people are (26) _____ two groups, one assigned to sip water all day, the other to drink a normal amount. Then the smoothness of the skin could be (27) _____ a month or so later to establish whether sipping more led to smoother skin.

In fact such studies are rare, partly because water can't be patented, so it is hard to find anyone to fund such research when there will be no new (28) _____ or cosmetic to sell that could repay the costs. A review by the dermatologist Ronni Wolf at the Kaplan Medical Centre in Israel found just one study looking at the effect of long-term water intake on the skin. But the results were (29) _____. After four weeks, the group who drank extra mineral water showed a decrease in skin density, which some believe suggests the skin is retaining more moisture, while those who drank tap water showed an increase in skin density. But regardless of the type of water they drank, it made no difference to their (30) _____ or to the smoothness of their skin.

Part II Vocabulary and Structure (15 marks)

There are 15 incomplete sentences in this section. For each blank there are **four** choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

31. The new star said to the journalists that she _____ the opportunity to show that she could play a serious film role.
A. greeted B. rejoiced C. welcomed D. cheered
32. We haven't really _____ a solution to the problem yet, which makes the boss really

frustrated.

A. built up B. fallen back on C. brought over D. come up with

33. Personally, I am _____ banning cigarette smoking completely, especially in public areas.

A. in touch with B. apart from C. in favour of D. regardless of

34. Until a firm agreement has been reached, I am not _____ to accepting the offer.

A. accustomed B. dedicated C. committed D. entitled

35. The government is making every effort to _____ an economic crisis, but it seems nothing could help.

A. eliminate B. avert C. impede D. swerve

36. _____ a serious crime, what exactly should you do?

A. Unless you witness B. If you were to witness
C. If only you witness D. Since you witness

37. During examinations candidates are always supposed to stay in seats, keep their eyes on the work, _____ to anyone.

A. and not speak B. but could not speak
C. rather than speak D. instead of speaking

38. Realising that he hadn't got enough money and _____ to borrow any from his parents, he decided to sell his house.

A. wanted not B. not to want C. wanting not D. not wanting

39. There's no point waiting here any longer. We _____ go and have something to eat.

A. can hardly B. are bound to C. might as well D. will have to

40. While many people may refer to up-to-minute news, it is unlikely that television and the Internet _____ the newspapers completely.

A. will replace B. replace C. are replacing D. have replaced

41. She married a very nice young architect from Belfast, _____ she met on a bus during her journey to Northern Ireland.

A. who B. when C. which D. where

42. It is a kind of illness that can result in total blindness if _____.

A. to leave untreated B. is left untreated
C. leaving untreated D. left untreated

43. —I'm so disappointed with my son! He just wouldn't practise the piano!

—Take it easy. You can lead _____ to water, but you can't make it drink.

A. a duck B. a horse C. a cow D. a dog

44. —Good morning, Madam! I'd like some information about the course.

—Certainly. _____

A. I'm afraid I don't know more than you either.

B. Is there anything I can do for you?

- C. What exactly would you like to know?
 D. How much information did you know?
45. —How do you feel about countries that don't try to reduce global warming?
 —_____, those countries care more about money than saving the planet.
- A. As far as I'm concerned B. It's none of our business
 C. We're not to blame D. Things are under control

Part III Cloze (10 marks)

Read the following passage and fill in each blank with **one** word. Choose the correct word in **one** of the following **three** ways: according to the context, by using the correct form of the given word, or by using the given letters of the word. Remember to write the answers on the **Answer Sheet**.

According to recent surveys, 72% of all Americans believe that the United States government is (46) hi _____ information about UFOs. Almost 68% of people think that the government has secret knowledge of extraterrestrial life. It is not (47) _____ (surprise) that the government has come under more and more (48) pr _____ to declassify its UFO records and make them public. A variety of different groups have been involved in these efforts.

One group to become involved is called CFI, the Coalition for Freedom of Information. John Podesta, who was White House Chief of Staff during Bill Clinton's (49) _____ (president), is one of the many high-powered people active in this group. CFI's aim is not to prove the (50) _____ (exist) of extraterrestrial life, but to make it easier for scientists in general to study unexplained aerial phenomena. Podesta and his group have asked the Pentagon to declassify its UFO records and therefore provide scientists (51) _____ data that will help in the study of UFOs.

CFI has requested the release of information on several UFO cases, starting with the Kecksburg, Pennsylvania, incident. This incident took (52) _____ in 1965 when a large acorn-shaped object, the size of a small car, crashed in Pennsylvania. Some analysts say it could have been the spacecraft Kosmos 96 that had been launched towards Venus by the Soviet Union, but failed to escape Earth's (53) g _____. Others say the object did not look anything like spacecraft built on Earth in 1965.

(54) Add _____, the people of Kecksburg want to know what happened. On that (55) af _____, hundreds of eyewitnesses watched a fiery streak of light descend from the sky towards Earth. Officials explained that nothing was found or recovered and that maybe the fireball in the sky was a meteor. But many witnesses say they saw a number of military personnel from the Army and the Air Force search the woods, and later that evening, saw a large military tractor-trailer coming from the area carrying a large object under a tarp.

Part IV Reading Comprehension (40 marks)

Read the following passages. Each passage is followed by several questions. Respond to the questions

using information from the passage. Remember to write the answers on the *Answer Sheet*.

Section A (10 marks)

Questions 56—60 are based on the following passage.

The average automatic teller machine (ATM) is not very smart. It will give money to anyone who has the right card and punches four or five keys in the right order. Some analysts estimate that as many as 30% of ATM transactions worldwide are cases of theft. To increase security at cash machines, some banks have tried to make their ATMs a little smarter. A small camera on the machine looks directly into the eye of every customer. It scans one iris and compares the tiny patterns of ridges, dots, and other features to a code in its computer. If there is a match, the ATM will start counting out cash. If not, a message is automatically sent to the nearest police station.

Iris-scanning is one fast-growing form of biometric identification—determining who someone is by examining features of the body. One of the earliest biometric techniques was fingerprinting. The lines on fingertips are unique to each person, so not even identical twins have the same fingerprints. Fingerprinting has become famous as a way of finding out who committed a crime, but it very often fails. A careful criminal can wear gloves, avoid touching things, or even alter his fingerprints by burning, cutting, or scraping them. In the search for a more reliable system, security experts have focused on the eye.

Like a fingerprint, every iris is, for all practical purposes, unique. Each person's right iris is even different from his or her left one. A low-cost digital camera, like the kind installed at ATM machines, can easily detect hundreds of different features in the iris. The chance of two irises having the same features is close to zero. Tests have shown that iris-scanners are very hard to fool. They can tell the difference between a real iris and a false one. They can see right through coloured contact lenses, eyeglasses, and even mirrored sunglasses. Although many criminals are willing to burn or cut their fingers in pursuit of the perfect crime, few would be willing or able to alter their irises.

To make iris-scanning work, a computerized database has to match certain iris features with certain people. This means that each ATM customer has to allow a bank to photograph his or her iris and keep that highly personal information in a computer. Some people have worried, however, that an increased use of iris-scanning will lead to a dangerous loss of privacy. By mounting iris-scan cameras in public places, governments could track a private citizen all day long without the person's knowledge. This would be a great advantage to the police, but it could also give corrupt officials a new way to control their opponents. The military's development of tiny robots suggests that government iris-scanners could even invade private homes!

Questions 56—60

Complete the summary with words from the passage, changing the form where necessary, with only one word for each blank.

ATM transactions are often cases of theft, where an unauthorized user takes (56) _____. To decrease insecurity, some banks have installed iris-scanning machines at ATMs. These small cameras scan the user's iris, recording its features and (57) _____ them to a digital file. Every person has a (58) _____ iris, making iris identification highly reliable. Earlier efforts at biometric identification often relied on fingerprints. However, fingerprints can easily be (59) _____ through cutting, burning or scraping. Iris scanners are so effective that they can even see through contact lenses and mirrored sunglasses. Use of iris scanners would provide great advantages to the police. However, others worry about a loss of (60) _____.

Section B (10 marks)

Questions 61—65 are based on the following passage.

Seed catalogues feature hundreds of different flowering species. For the person just beginning a garden this can be bewildering, and below are the details of some popular choices, nearly all of which should be sown in the spring. With the exception of busy lizzies, which need a little care, they are all very easy to grow from seed.

Dahlias

These are sturdy plants bearing showy flowers in a wide range of rather gaudy colours. Sow in a frame in April and plant the seedlings out when frosts are over. Dahlias flower throughout the summer and into the autumn. When autumn frosts begin to make them look unhappy, you should dig up the tuberous roots and save them. A frost-free loft, shed or garage is the ideal place. The following spring you plant the tubers instead of sowing seed again.

Lupins

Lupins are hardy perennials. This means that the plants will stay in your garden and carry on flowering year after year. Seed sown in April will usually give you some spikes of colours in the first summer, and year by year the plants get bigger and the flowering stems get taller and grander. Selective breeding has led to the introduction of some fine, bicoloured varieties in some dazzling shades. The short-lived flowers make a real midsummer spectacle.

Busy lizzies

Like dahlias, busy lizzies need to be started off under glass, as they cannot stand frost, and planting out is best done in May. Outdoor flowering ends in September, so beat the frosts and bring your favourite specimens indoors to give your home some winter colour! Indoors they will carry on flowering indefinitely, though you may like to plant them out again when spring returns. Like pansies (below) they do very well in sun or shade, but the soil must be moist. Most varieties grow to a height of only 20 cm or so.

Potentillas

Potentillas are hardy shrubs. In other words, the woody branches spring from ground level—there is no central trunk. The seed is probably best sown in autumn, in which case you should keep the plants in a sheltered spot until April offers favourable conditions for planting out. Once flowering begins in early summer the best varieties (such as Melton Fire) will stay in bloom almost



ceaselessly for years on end while at the same time spreading out to provide ground cover or a low hedge.

Pansies

Pansies have a good long flowering season year after year, and some varieties can be sown in spring to give truly splendid results the first autumn. Unlike dahlias and lupins, which can easily grow a metre tall, pansies grow no higher than 10 or 20 cm. Their soil, position and moisture requirements are just like those of busy lizzies but pansies differ in being hardy. Give them a try!

Questions 61—63

Decide whether the following statements are **true (T)** or **false (F)** according to the passage.

61. Both dahlias and lupins, which are sown in April, need protecting from frost.
62. Brought indoors in autumn, dahlias, busy lizzies and potentillas will carry on flowering almost non-stop.
63. Among all the flowers busy lizzies are not very easy to grow from seed.

Questions 64—65

Answer the following questions briefly according to the passage.

64. What is the difference between busy lizzies and pansies?
65. Which plant has the longest gap between sowing and flowering?

Section C (10 marks)

Questions 66—70 are based on the following passage.

When looking for love, people may go to some extreme lengths. They might go on blind dates set up by family and friends. They might write personal ads to place in newspapers. Or they might use a computer to help them in their search for a soul mate by joining an online dating service. Some people have even tried to find their perfect match through game shows on television. Many of these TV dating shows, including *The Bachelor* and *Who Wants to Marry a Multimillionaire?* have proved to be ratings blockbusters, with millions of viewers watching each week to find out which of the contestants will find true love.

Of all these game shows, perhaps the one with the most unexpected ending was *Mr. Right*, which was shown in England in 2002. On the show, a bachelor, thirty-five-year-old Lance Gerrard-Wright, dated fifteen women to find the one who was his ideal partner. The host of the show was Ulrika Jonsson, an English celebrity originally from Sweden. For seven weeks on the show, Gerrard-Wright took turns going on dates with each of the women, taking them to expensive restaurants and exotic locations. He even met the women's families and introduced them to his own. Then at the end of each episode, he would choose between one and three of the contestants with whom he had felt the least compatible, and say goodbye to them.

At one point during the series, one contestant volunteered to leave because she said she didn't find him attractive. After two dates she said she had had enough, and she couldn't see it working, "He wasn't my cup of tea." In another episode the woman he was on a date with burst into tears when he called her by another contestant's name. "You called me by another girl's name. I can't believe you did that. I really liked you," she sobbed.

But in the final episode, the woman he eventually chose decided she didn't want to marry him after all. "I think you've chosen me because you have to choose someone," she said. Maybe this was because she already knew he had fallen in love—with the show's host!

After leaving the show, Gerrard-Wright and Jonsson were seen dining together and attending parties around London more and more often. Finally, on May 1, 2003, Gerrard-Wright proposed to Jonsson on the steps of St. Paul's Cathedral. And she accepted his proposal right away, although it was a conditional acceptance. Jonsson has two children from previous relationships—an eight-year-old son, Cameron, and a two-year-old daughter, Bo. She had to make sure that they agreed to the marriage. Luckily, they did. Gerrard-Wright said, "In the end the show did work for me. I grabbed an opportunity to get a girlfriend and I did. Ulrika's gorgeous."

Questions 66—68

Complete the following sentences with information given in the passage in **a maximum of 2 words** for each blank.

66. Lance Gerrard-Wright went to _____ to go on the show *Mr. Right* in order to find his perfect match.
67. On the show, Lance had the opportunity to date many gorgeous women among whom there might be one that he was most _____.
68. Ulrika accepted Lance's proposal _____ that her children agreed to their marriage as well.

Questions 69—70

Choose the best answer according to the passage.

69. Which of the following did **NOT** happen on the show?
A. Lance went on dates with several women.

- B. The candidates went to some very good restaurants.
C. Ulrika consulted her parents before she made her decision.
D. The women met Lance's family.
70. What happened after seven weeks of doing the show?
A. All of the women found their beloved.
B. Lance started to date the show's host.
C. One of the women on the show couldn't help crying.
D. Ulrika asked Lance to marry her.

Section D (10 marks)

Questions 71—75 are based on the following passage.

Alaska is disappearing slowly but surely. Since the 1950s, it is estimated that as much as 15 percent of Alaska's area has disappeared. But how can a whole state be disappearing?

One reason for Alaska's gradual disappearance is the melting of its glaciers. According to one geologist at the US Geological Survey, about 98 percent of Alaska's glaciers are either unmoving or diminishing. This diminishing seems mainly due to the increase in global temperatures. Since the 1960s, the average year-round temperature has increased by 5 °F. Furthermore, the average winter temperature has increased by 8 °F. Presently, an estimated 24 cubic miles of ice is disappearing from Alaskan glaciers every year. It may be even more in the near future, as some scientists predict that the average world temperature could go up 2.5 to 10 °F by the year 2100.

Another problem contributing to Alaska's gradual disappearance is its thawing permafrost. (74) Much of the land in Alaska was permanently frozen, or frozen for most of the year, thus maintaining its integrity. Now, the thawing permafrost is causing a number of problems on land. Roads and utility poles are collapsing. Also, the hard permafrost which originally prevented beaches from eroding during violent storms is now melting. Affected villages are forced to relocate. For villages on small low islands, one terrible storm could wipe out the entire community.

The melting permafrost and increasing temperature are also having a negative impact on the forests of Alaska. As the permafrost under the forests melts, insects that normally don't turn up until the warmer seasons are appearing sooner. The spruce-bark beetle, for example, is increasing in numbers as a result of global warming. It usually takes about two years for these beetles to grow and reproduce in very cold weather. However, due to the increase in temperatures, spruce-bark beetles are damaging as many trees in one year as they previously damaged in two. At this rate, Alaska's forest won't survive the turn of the century.

Some scientists believe that human activity is linked to a global increase in weather temperature. Whether the rising temperatures are caused by human activity or natural changes, the fact remains that Alaska is warming. Some others argue that global warming may be a normal trend on the Earth's temperature chart. (75) One theory argues that we are near the end of a so-called "Little Ice Age", and the retreat of the glaciers is a natural result of this cycle. Whether natural or produced by humans, there is little hope for the immediate future of glaciers as we know them.

Horribly, this could be a preview of what will happen to the rest of the world in the next century.

Questions 71—73

Answer the following questions briefly according to the passage.

71. What are disappearing in Alaska actually?
72. How much ice is melting each year according to the survey?
73. Why do insects damage more trees than before?

Questions 74—75

Translate the underlined sentences in the passage into Chinese.

74. Much of the land in Alaska was permanently frozen, or frozen for most of the year, thus maintaining its integrity.
75. One theory argues that we are near the end of a so-called “Little Ice Age”, and the retreat of the glaciers is a natural result of this cycle. Whether natural or produced by humans, there is little hope for the immediate future of glaciers as we know them.

Part V Translation (10 marks)

Translate the following sentences into English, using the hints given in brackets. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

76. 宴会时间就要到了,但她仍纠结于是否应该去。(dilemma)
77. 充足的睡眠不仅能使我们的身体得到休息,还能提高我们的智力。(倒装)
78. 最近,有关空气污染严重的问题引起了公众的广泛关注。(arouse)
79. 在大城市寻找梦想的年轻人承受着巨大的生活压力。(suffer... from)
80. 教授告诉我们,这次面试者将优先考虑有实际经验的学生。(priority)

Part VI Error Correction (10 marks)

Proofread the passage as required. Each indicated line contains **a maximum of one** error. Correct the passage in the following way: for a correct line, put the sign “✓” in the corresponding blank; for a wrong word, underline the wrong word and write the correct one in the blank; for a missing word, mark the position of the missing word with the sign “^” and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank; for an unnecessary word, cross the unnecessary word with the sign “\” and put the word with the sign “\” in the blank. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

For example:

One of my favorite writers are Charlotte Brontë. She was born in the early nineteenth century when women had far fewer opportunities ^ they have now. She lived in a small village in Yorkshire and she took great pleasure in walking on the moors ~~where~~ near her home.

is
than
✓
~~where~~

If we read English language newspapers or listen to newsreaders who use English in all different parts of the world, we will quickly develop the impression that one form of English is so widely used that will soon unite all the different varieties of English which exist. Is there enough evidence to support this impression? It is in fact misled in several ways since a version of English which is exactly the same everywhere and has the same high status throughout the world do not yet exist.

For one thing, people who's first language is English value their linguistic identity. Therefore, they try to preserve it from the influence of other forms of English. New Zealanders, for example, do not want to speak like Australians. In addition, there are too much regional differences in vocabulary of the language to be the same everywhere. People need specialised words in order to discuss locally politics, business, culture and natural history. Lastly, there is the fact that learners of English may be teaching in either American or British forms.

81. _____

82. _____

83. _____

84. _____

85. _____

86. _____

87. _____

88. _____

89. _____

90. _____

Part VII IQ Test (5 marks)

There are *five* IQ Test questions in this part. Write the answers on the *Answer Sheet*.

91. Silence is to gold what speech is to _____

A. steel

B. platinum

C. bronze

D. silver

92. What well-known phrase is suggested by the following word picture?

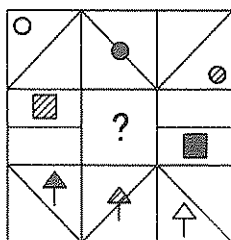
STAND

I

93. Why should we never ask balloons for advice?

94. What stays hot even if put in a refrigerator?

95. Which shape completes the larger square?



A.



B.



C.



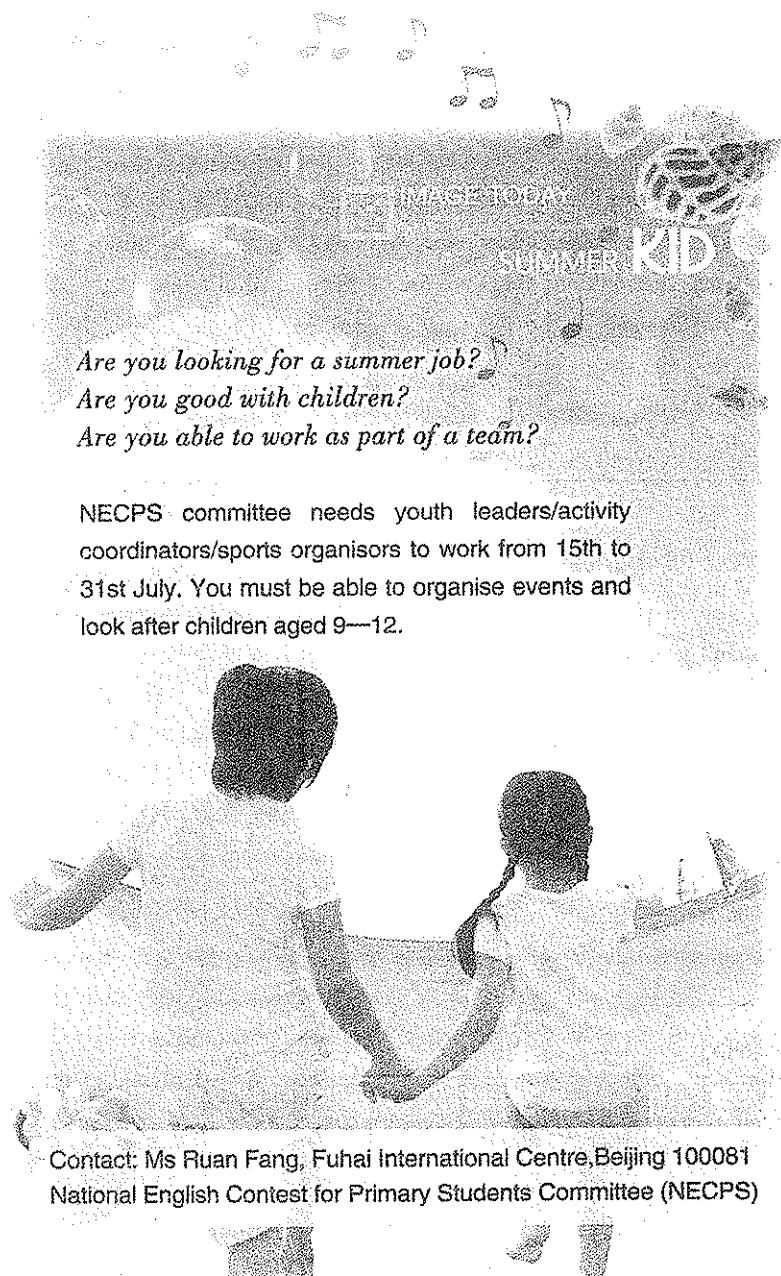
D.

Part VIII Writing (30 marks)

Task I (10 marks)

You are a student and you are looking for a summer job in Beijing. You saw an advertisement as

below. You believe you have the right experience and decide to apply for the job. Read the advertisement carefully and write a letter of application. Write in 100-120 words on the Answer Sheet.



IMAGINE TODAY
SUMMER KID

Are you looking for a summer job?
Are you good with children?
Are you able to work as part of a team?

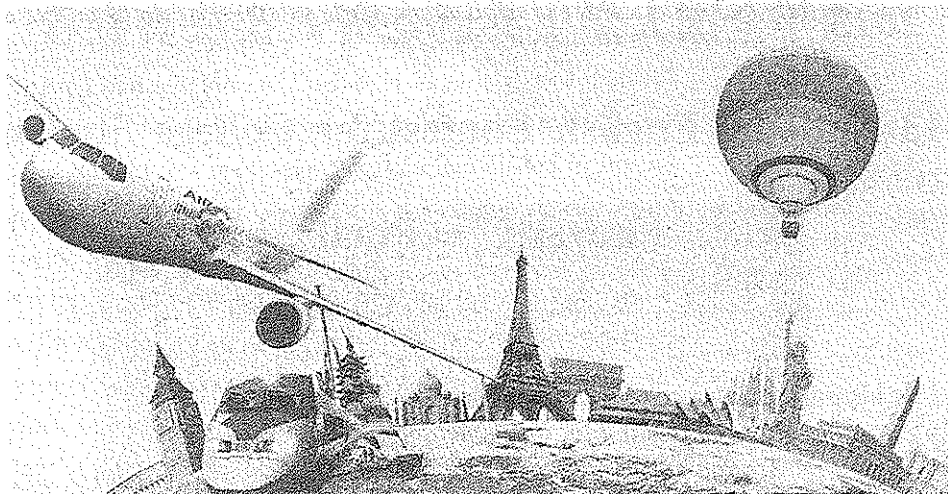
NECPS committee needs youth leaders/activity coordinators/sports organisers to work from 15th to 31st July. You must be able to organise events and look after children aged 9—12.

Contact: Ms Ruan Fang, Fuhai International Centre, Beijing 100081
National English Contest for Primary Students Committee (NECPS)

Task II (20 marks)

International travel is becoming easier, faster and cheaper for many people nowadays. Write a

composition to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the growth of international travel both for travelers and for the countries they visit. You are asked to give your own views and write in an appropriate style in 150 words. Write your answer on **the Answer Sheet**.



2013 年全国大学生英语竞赛 C 类决赛赛卷

2013 National English Contest for College Students

(Level C — Final)

(总分:150 分 时间:120 分钟)

Part I Listening Comprehension (30 marks)

Section A (5 marks)

*In this section, you will hear **five** short conversations. Each conversation will be read only **once**. At the end of each conversation, there will be a **twenty-second** pause. During the pause, read the question and the **three** choices marked **A**, **B** and **C**, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **Answer Sheet** with a single line through the centre.*

1. Why does the man want an early appointment?
A. Because he mustn't eat before he goes for the appointment.
B. Because he doesn't feel like eating breakfast that morning.
C. Because he wants to see the doctor without taking time off work.
2. Why is the man dissatisfied with the college?
A. He's got problems in study last term and it further affects him this term.
B. His professor changes the timetable of lectures very often.
C. He's unhappy with the time arrangement of the lectures.
3. How many students would take part in the school orientation tour this semester?
A. About 60. B. Over 100. C. More than 200.
4. Where does the conversation probably take place?
A. At a news agency. B. At an airport. C. In a handbag shop.
5. What does the man think of real coffee?
A. Coffee companies sell it in cafeterias.
B. It is very difficult and inexpensive to make at home.
C. It obviously differs from instant coffee in taste.

Section B (10 marks)

*In this section, you will hear **two** long conversations. Each conversation will be read only **once**. At the end of each conversation, there will be a **one-minute** pause. During the pause, read the questions and the **three** choices marked **A**, **B** and **C**, and decide which is the best answer. Then*

mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Conversation One

6. How can Mark speak Russian now?
- A. He can speak it very well even without accent.
 - B. His accent is so strong that nobody understands him.
 - C. It is his best foreign language but he doesn't speak it as well as before.
7. Mark can speak seven languages excluding _____.
- A. Polish
 - B. Italian
 - C. German
8. What is the magic secret of Mark's mastery of seven languages?
- A. He just enjoys learning languages and speaking with people from other countries.
 - B. He has the motivation to visit other countries and communicate with people there.
 - C. He has a strong memory for words and phrases especially in foreign films
9. Does Mark think it is helpful to learn new languages with a knowledge of languages in that family?
- A. No, he thinks it always causes confusion.
 - B. Yes, it is helpful but sometimes he mixes them in use.
 - C. Yes, he says the more languages he knows, the more new languages he can learn.
10. Why was Mark only able to order breakfast in French during his stay in France?
- A. Because he couldn't understand what others said.
 - B. Because he was too nervous to talk with people in French.
 - C. Because he had not learned much French before.

Conversation Two

11. According to David, what does a safer and more controlled world lead to?
- A. The need to stay safe at all costs.
 - B. The demand for risk-taking sports.
 - C. Fewer people taking unnecessary risks.
12. Which is the benefit of risk sports that David mentioned?
- A. They make people less aggressive.
 - B. They encourage an extrovert outlook.
 - C. They enable people to take risks in other ways.
13. Why do bungee jumpers particularly enjoy the sport?
- A. They fall really fast at first, and then slowly.
 - B. They enjoy the thrill of releasing adrenalin.
 - C. They like the high-risk reputation of bungee-jumping.
14. How do some people escape from routine daily life according to David?
- A. They simply stay at home and watch TV.
 - B. They try to eliminate risks to guarantee their safety.
 - C. They turn to some scary things for sensation.

15. Why are extroverts more likely to take part in risk sports?

- A. They are generally adventurous.
- B. They enjoy the feeling of overcoming anxiety.
- C. They like the attention they get during risk sports.

Section C (5 marks)

In this section, you will hear five short news items. After each item, which will be read only once, there will be a pause. During the pause, read the question and the three choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

16. What is the most likely risk in the coming decade according to the World Economic Forum's Global Risks 2013?

- A. Marked income difference among people.
- B. Estimated food and water shortage.
- C. Rapid spread of extremism and terrorism.

17. What is the new proposal from the EU Commission concerning cigarette packs?

- A. Health warnings on cigarette packs sold in the EU can appear both in text and pictures.
- B. Cigarette packs sold in the EU are not allowed to have company branding on the packet.
- C. Cigarette packs sold in the EU must have 3/4 of the packet covered with health warnings.

18. Which of the pictures below shows a lower risk of early death according to the new research?

A.



B.



C.



19. Why are UK universities launching an online project?

- A. To compete with US universities in student enrollment.
- B. To share their education courses with US universities.
- C. To carry out researches on the use of computers in education.

20. What has the UN Security Council decided to do to deal with the problem in Mali?

- A. Force the Mali government to accept peaceful reconciliation with the rebels.
- B. Offer food aid to the people in northern Mali.
- C. Send a military force there to fight Islamists in northern Mali.

Section D (10 marks)

In this section, you will hear a short passage. There are 10 missing words or phrases. Fill in the blanks with the exact words or phrases you hear. The passage will be read twice. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

All countries have laws saying which drugs people can and cannot use. In a typical country, most medicines are available only with a doctor's (21) _____, and certain drugs, such as marijuana, cocaine, and heroin, are illegal under all circumstances. Such restrictions reflect the belief that increased drug use, even if it were legal, would lead to increases in crime. (22) _____, and other social ills. One nation that goes against this trend is the Netherlands, where the open use of "soft" drugs is tolerated.

The Dutch have a strong tradition of personal liberty. The individual's freedom of choice is highly valued. Most people in the Netherlands believe the government should stay out of personal decisions, including the decision whether to use drugs. The Dutch government does not stay totally out of such decision, but it does take a much more (23) _____ than almost any other state.

Since 1976, the law in the Netherlands has (24) _____ soft drugs and hard drugs, such as heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamines. Laws permit soft drugs to be sold in coffee shops and used in hash bars, which can sell alcohol as well as soft drugs. More than 200 coffee shops in Amsterdam alone (25) _____ sell soft drugs. There are limits, however. No more than five grams of a controlled drug may be sold in a (26) _____ and the buyer must be at least 18 years old. The coffee shop may not advertise the marijuana it sells. No person may grow more than five marijuana plants. All hard drugs are banned.

Arguments in favour of legalised marijuana are many. (27) _____ say marijuana is no more dangerous than alcohol which is legal in most nations. They also point out the (28) _____ medical reasons for drug use: to alleviate the discomfort of an eye disease called glaucoma or nausea resulting from chemotherapy used to treat some cancers. On a very practical level, legalisation activists say that hugely expensive anti-marijuana (29) _____ have never worked. Instead of spending millions of dollars to keep people from using this mild drug, the government should collect taxes on it and (30) _____ gain more control of how and where it is used.

Part II Vocabulary and Structure (15 marks)

There are 15 incomplete sentences in this section. For each blank there are **four** choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **Answer Sheet** with a single line through the centre.

31. She was on her _____ throughout the job interview because she didn't want to say anything stupid.
A. defence B. care C. caution D. guard
32. He has been with the company for 30 years, but the management has now decided to _____ with his services.
A. discard B. dispense C. dispose D. dismiss
33. To the disappointment of the whole country the national team was _____ in the first round of the international tournament.
A. excluded B. eliminated C. suspended D. segmented
34. Dr. Jones' theory had been the orthodoxy in the field for 50 years until a young scholar

- _____ every argument of the theory in a famous paper.
A. confronted B. confounded C. refuted D. renounced
35. _____ every effort has been made to ensure that the details in this brochure are correct, the company cannot accept responsibility for any late changes.
A. Even B. While C. Nevertheless D. Whereas
36. In this part of town, people are only worried about keeping up with _____.
A. the Johnsons B. the Smiths C. the Joneses D. the Williams
37. The general public depends upon television to know about world affairs but unfortunately the TV reports sometimes _____ the reality.
A. misrepresent B. tamper C. disrupt D. mistake
38. _____, street features such as fountains, steps and even cobbled roadways, are being excluded from our streets because of the risk of accidents.
A. Technically B. Surprisingly C. Financially D. Logically
39. For some people, it may be _____ to remember what they have just read _____ recall where they left their car keys.
A. much easier; than to B. probable; as
C. better; than D. so easy; just as
40. "If you don't mind, I'd sooner you _____ your violin somewhere else," my landlord cried.
A. would practise B. practise C. had practised D. practised
41. _____ our money back in a reasonable manner failed, we had to resort threats.
A. When asking for B. While we asked for
C. Having asked for D. If we ask for
42. The president ordered that the stadium _____ finished before the National Day but the engineer knew very clearly that it was almost impossible for it _____ in so short a time.
A. be; to do B. be; to be done
C. should be; to be doing D. will be; to have done
43. The dinosaurs probable became extinct after a giant asteroid hit the Earth about 65 million years ago. But what _____ if this asteroid _____?
A. would have happened; had missed B. would happen, missed
C. happened; would miss D. was happening; missed
44. —Are your printers easy to use! You see, we've managed without one up to now. Why are there so many knobs and buttons?
—_____ In fact, they're entirely automatic.
A. Whatever you think it is. B. Sorry to disappoint you.
C. They couldn't be easier. D. It's the cheapest one.
45. —Hello, John. How's your latest book going? I mean the one you're writing on the Loch Ness monster.
— Well, _____.

— Oh dear. Why's that?

— Well, the inspiration's there but everything else is wrong. One day I tire myself out with the writing and the next day I can hardly keep myself awake.

- A. it's going rather slowly at present B. I've nearly finished it now
C. Nobody has found the monster yet D. The editor asked me to stop writing

Part III Cloze (10 marks)

Read the following passage and fill in each blank with **one** word. Choose the correct word in one of the following **three** ways: according to the context, by using the correct form of the given word, or by using the given letters of the word. Remember to write the answers on the **Answer Sheet**.

The opium poppy is a bright flower, usually red or orange, that grows to a (46) h _____ of about 75-90 centimetres. In the wild, it usually grows in huge clusters, sometimes covering an entire field. Humans have cultivated this flower for thousands of years, (47) b _____ for its beauty and for the powerful chemicals it produces.

It is not (48) sur _____ that an ancient human eventually tasted opium, the dried juice of the poppy. Many people (49) _____ (mistake) believe that the juice comes only from the seedpods, and only at a certain time of year. The juice does not pool up the seedpod just before the seeds ripen, but it flows (50) thr _____ the rest of the plant as well. The stem and seed capsules leak this milky juice easily if the plant is knocked down or the stem is broken. The dried juice forms a brown crust that is easy to see. Someone searching for food was probably (51) hu _____ enough to risk tasting the dried material. He or she was probably surprised by the result.

The first opium-eater has had a long sleep before being able to tell anyone else about the poppy. Its (52) sci _____ name, *papaver somniferum*, means "sleep-bringing poppy". (53) _____ (sleep) is one of the best-known side-effects of ingesting opium. Ancient Greek art often showed Hypnos, the god of sleep, with poppies in his hands. The same images were associated with Somnus, the Roman god of sleep.

This (54) _____ (connect) of poppies with sleep carried through to one of the most popular books and movies of 20th-century America. In the 1939 movie *The Wizard of Oz*, a girl named Dorothy and her friends are trying to find a wizard who can help them get the things they need. An (55) ev _____ witch tries to stop them. One of the witch's tricks is to put Dorothy and all her friends to sleep—by leading them into a beautiful, dangerous field of bright poppies.



Part IV Reading Comprehension (40 marks)

Read the following passages. Each passage is followed by several questions. Respond to the questions using information from the passage. Remember to write the answers on the **Answer Sheet**.

Section A (10 marks)

Questions 56—60 are based on the following passage.

Nowadays, most people realise that it's risky to use credit card numbers online. However, from time to time, we all use passwords and government ID numbers on the Web. We think we are safe, but that may not be true! A new kind of attack is being used by dishonest people to steal ID and credit card numbers from innocent websurfers.

This new kind of attack is called "phishing". Phishing sounds the same as the word "fishing", and it implies a thief is trying to lure people into giving away valuable information. How can phishers lure people to do this? Like real fishermen, they use bait in the form of great online deals or services. For example, phishers might use fake emails and false websites to con people into revealing credit card numbers, account usernames, and passwords. They imitate well-known banks, online sellers, and credit card companies. Successful phishers may convince as many as 5 percent of the people they contact to respond and give away their personal financial information.



Is this really a big problem? Actually, tricking 5 percent of the online population is huge! Currently, more than 350 million people have access to the Internet, and 75 percent of those Internet users live in the wealthiest countries on Earth. It has been estimated that phishers send more than 3 billion scam messages each year. Even by tricking only 5 percent of the people, phishers can make a lot of money.

Since there is so much money to make through this kind of scam, it has caught the interest of more than just small-time crooks. Recently, police tracked down members of an organised phishing group in Eastern Europe who had stolen hundreds of thousands of dollars from people online. The group created official-looking email messages requesting people to update their personal information at an international bank's website. However, the link to the bank in the message actually sent people to the phishers' fake website. To make matters worse, further investigation revealed that this group had connections with a crime gang in Russia.

How can innocent websurfers protect themselves? Above all, they have to learn to recognise email that has been sent by a phisher. Always be wary of any email with urgent requests for personal financial information. Phishers typically write upsetting or exciting but fake statements in their emails so that people will reply right away. Also, messages from phishers will not address recipients by name because they really don't know who the recipients are yet. On the other hand, valid messages from your bank or other companies you normally deal with typically include your personal

name:

Questions 56—60

Complete the summary with words from the passage, changing the form where necessary, with only one word for each blank.

Giving personal information over the Internet has always been full of (56) _____, but now it's even more so with the new Internet scam, phishing. Phishers first lure (57) _____ websurfers into a scam by making up fake emails. With this bait, they lure some of the people they contact to give away personal financial (58) _____. While there are millions of people surfing the Internet, phishers may make a lot of money through sending scam messages. These phishers are not just small-time crooks. Police investigations have recently tracked down organised phishing groups in Eastern Europe with connections to a crime (59) _____ in Russia. Websurfers must deal with any urgent emails (60) _____ private information warily. For example, a bank will address their customers properly whereas a phisher will not be able to.

Section B (10 marks)

Questions 61—65 are based on the following passage.



College of Engineering,
Mathematics and Physical Science

Harrison Building

Streatham Campus

University of Exeter

Exeter UK EX4 4QF

Tel: + 44(0)1392 723628

Fax: + 44(0)1392 217965

Email: emps@exeter.ac.uk

Dear Mr Qiu Ye

Congratulations! On behalf of the University of Exeter, I write to inform you that your application for postgraduate study at the University has been considered and we are pleased to offer you a place on the following programme subject to the conditions set out below.

Programme: Master of science in Computer Science

Registration dates: 21-22 September 2013

School: College of Engineering, Mathematics and Physical Science

Mode of study: Full-time

Tuition status: Overseas

All new students will be required to arrive and register over the weekend of 21 -22 September,

2013 and to participate in the Welcome Week events held between 23 -27 September, 2013.

As a postgraduate student at Exeter, you will be part of our friendly Computer Science Department which provides close personal contact between staff and students and results in a highly productive and well-organised research environment. You will be based in the College's Harrison building which includes a suite of new teaching and research laboratories.

We maintain a firm focus on career-orientated postgraduate training. Working closely with a professional advisory group that includes senior managers from companies such as IBM, we ensure that our programmes support the needs of the sector and our graduates are well placed for success in this exciting field.

The College maintains an excellent reputation for its research in robotics, machine learning, multi-objective optimisation, pattern recognition and computational statistical modelling, natural computing and hydroinformatics.

The University of Exeter offers excellent technology-enhanced learning opportunities via an interactive online learning environment which encourages blogging, online discussion forums and virtual field trips. All students have access to MyExeter—a student portal which is home to vital IT services including your email and calendar, documents saved to your own file space, online learning facilities and teaching timetables.

At Exeter we are also committed to a system of personal tutoring so that students receive the individual support and advice they need to succeed in their study here. All students have a personal tutor who is there to support you and help you deal with any problems or issues that arise.

Our Main Library is available to you to support your studies 24/7 throughout the academic year; we have the second largest number of e-journal downloads of any UK university; we have one of the highest UK academic library ratios of books to students with a stock in excess of 1.2 million; and we have one of Britain's largest public collections of books, prints, artefacts and ephemera relating to the history and prehistory of cinema in the Bill Douglas Centre.

I congratulate you on this offer and I look forward to welcoming you to the University of Exeter.

Yours sincerely,

Howard Johnson

Head of Recruitment and Admissions Office

Questions 61—63

Decide whether the following statements are **true (T)** or **false (F)** according to the passage.

61. There is a welcome week dating from 23-27 September, 2013 and all new postgraduates must register during that week.
62. Qiu Ye will study Computer Science in the University of Exeter as a full-time overseas postgraduate student.
63. All postgraduate students in Computer Science can work in IBM after graduation because of the close relationship between the company and the university.

Questions 64—65

Answer the following questions according to the passage.

64. What does MyExeter provide students with?

65. How can students benefit from the personal tutoring system?

Section C (10 marks)

Questions 66—70 are based on the following passage.

David Blaine calls himself an illusionist—a kind of magician who appears to do spectacular and often dangerous tricks. Among his more widely publicized feats, Blaine has been buried alive for a week, spent sixty hours encased in a hollow block of ice, and spent thirty-five hours standing on a platform 50 centimeters in diameter at the top of a 30-metre high pillar. In 2003, the thirty-year-old illusionist from New York spent forty-four days in a clear plastic box that was



hanging from a crane above the Thames River in London. But there was more to this trick than just staying in a small box for such a long time. Blaine also went without food for the entire period, living on nothing but water the whole time.

On the day Blaine entered the box and the crane lifted him high above the river, a crowd of curious spectators gathered to watch. For the next six weeks the crowds continued to drop by the site to watch Blaine sleeping, writing in his journal, and staring back at them. However, not everyone just wanted to watch. Some people came to give Blaine a hard time and to do things to break the magician's will and force him to come down. A few people threw things at his box or grilled food under it so that the smell would float up to the starving performer. One person even went so far as to try and cut the hose carrying water up to Blaine's box, but security guards stopped the vandal before he could do any damage. Finally, after forty-four days up in the air, Blaine was lowered to the ground and released from his box. He was weak and much thinner than before, but the performer still managed to give a short speech to the crowd gathered to watch him emerge. Then he was put in an ambulance and rushed to a hospital where he spent the next week recovering from his ordeal.

Not everyone in the crowd was satisfied with the ending of the magician's stunt. They had come expecting to see a more dramatic finale. Some of the suggestions for ending the feat in a spectacular way included dropping the box into the river and watching Blaine escape, or opening the box in the air and letting Blaine jump out. Or, in a true magician's fashion, some people wanted to see him vanish into thin air, leaving a white rabbit in his place.

So what did David Blaine finally accomplish through this amazing feat of endurance? He certainly generated a lot of headlines! Along with a number of articles appearing in newspapers on both sides of the Atlantic, various websites sprang up both supporting and criticizing the man and his stunt.

Questions 66—68

Complete the following sentences with information given in the passage in a maximum of 2 words for each blank.

66. David Blaine is a man who has done many amazing and _____ stunts over his career.
67. For one of his latest feats, Blaine stayed inside a small box and _____ himself for quite a long time with only water.
68. Unsatisfied with Blaine's hanging stunt, some people expected to see him perform _____ at the end.

Questions 69—70

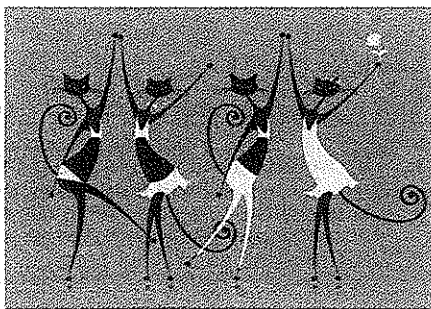
Choose the best answer according to the passage.

69. Which of Blaine's stunts lasted the longest?
 - A. Being buried alive.
 - B. Being encased in a hollow block of ice.
 - C. Standing on a high pillar.
 - D. Staying without food in a hanging box.
70. Why did some people criticize Blaine's hanging stunt?
 - A. He came out of the box early.
 - B. He did not perform as long as he had promised.
 - C. The ending was not surprising enough.
 - D. It was too cruel and unhuman.

Section D (10 marks)

Questions 71—75 are based on the following passage.

It seems that there is no middle ground when it comes to cats. People either love them or hate them. These feelings are not new either. All through history, cats have been worshiped or hated. A study of ancient writings and evidence found in tombs indicates that for the past 5,000 years, cats have been kept as pets in China, Arabia, Egypt, and India. However, this isn't very long compared to dogs, which have been domesticated for 50,000 years.



Still, while the period in which cats have been domesticated may be quite short, it has definitely had its high and low points.

Cats were at their positions of domesticated life in ancient Egypt. There were more cats living in Egypt during the time of the pharaohs than any other place in the world since that time. This high number of cats was probably due to the laws protecting them as holy animals. If anyone was caught killing a cat, the person could be put to death. Families in Egypt also mourned the death of a cat

and had the body of the dead cat wrapped in cloth before it was finally laid to rest. This respect for cats carried over to the Roman Empire where cats were the only animals allowed into temples. This fact was probably because of the ability of cats to keep the temples free of mice and rats.

With the coming of the Dark Ages in Europe, the place of cats in society took a turn for the worse. Because they were associated so closely with the “old religions” of Egypt and the Roman Empire, Christians began to associate cats with pagan beliefs. (74) Cats had a reputation as helpers of witches. When a person was accused of being a witch, a cat would often be put on trial with the person. The cat would be tortured to try and make the person tell the truth, and usually the cat and the person would end up being burned in a bonfire or drowned. Bonfires of collected cats were not uncommon during this time.

The days of hunting witches have ended, but other myths about cats still hold out. For a while, people in some places used to bury live cats under new buildings for good luck. As well, many people today continued to believe that black cats bring bad luck. If a black cat walks in front of a person, that person must take extra care in the near future to watch out for dangerous situations. (75) Regardless of superstition, cats remain a popular pet today. Some cat experts believe that a cat can never truly be domesticated because it may turn wild and run away at any time. However, this claim has not put people off keeping cats in their homes. A third of homes in the United States have cats, and one out of every three of these homes keeps both a dog and a cat. Especially in large cities, many people in small apartments have found that cats make much better pets than dogs.

Questions 71—73

Answer the following questions according to the passage.

71. Why were there most cats living in ancient Egypt during the time of the pharaohs?
72. When was the lowest point in the history of raising cats?
73. What percentage of American homes keeps both a cat and a dog?

Questions 74—75

Translate the underlined sentences in the passage into Chinese.

74. Cats had a reputation as helpers of witches. When a person was accused of being a witch, a cat would often be put on trial with the person.
75. Regardless of superstition, cats remain a popular pet today. Some cat experts believe that a cat can never truly be domesticated because it may turn wild and run away at any time. However, this claim has not put people off keeping cats in their homes.

Part V Translation (10 marks)

Translate the following sentences into English, using the hints given in brackets. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

76. 两国的边境自东部山区至西部海岸绵延一千余公里,其中多处存在争端。(非限制性定语从句; range... from)

77. 因为现在是上班高峰时段,路上交通非常拥堵。(it being)
78. 在谈判过程中他突然想到可以通过提高税率来控制通货膨胀,从而化解这场经济危机。(occur)
79. 联合国向国际社会呼吁增加资金,以援助急需食物、饮水和药品的地震灾民。(appeal to)
80. 最有天赋的学生未必能在考试中取得最好的成绩,比成绩更重要的是懂得如何充分发挥自己的能力。(count for)

Part VI Error Correction (10 marks)

Proofread the passage as required. Each indicated line contains a maximum of one error. Correct the passage in the following way: for a right line, put the sign "✓" in the corresponding blank; for a wrong word, underline the wrong word and write the correct one in the blank; for a missing word, mark the position of the missing word with the sign "Λ" and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank; for an unnecessary word, cross the unnecessary word with the sign " \ " and put the word with the sign " \ " in the blank. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

For example:

One of my favorite writers are Charlotte Brontë. She was born in the early nineteenth century when women had far fewer opportunities Λ they have now. She lived in a small village in Yorkshire and she took great pleasure in walking on the moors ~~where~~ near her home.

is
than
✓
where

One theory about the universe says that it has no boundary, no edge. This theory was proposed by Stephen Hawking and Jim Hartle. It says that the universe has a finite area, but no one travelling through the universe would ever come to a point that the universe stops. This would be similar to journey over the surface of Earth. We can travel around the world without reaching boundaries nor edges, yet the area of the planet is finite. This no boundary theory predicts what the universe does have a beginning and an end, but it differs off the traditional Big Bang theory in some ways. The traditional Big Bang theory assuming that the beginning of the universe was a singularity, a point of infinite density and infinitesimal volume to where space and time became distorted. Instead, Hawking and Hartle predict that the beginning of the universe could likened to the North Pole of the Earth. If degrees of latitude on the Earth could be compare to time, it could be said that the universe began at the North Pole. However, the North Pole in itself is just an ordinary point on Earth.

81. _____
82. _____
83. _____
84. _____
85. _____
86. _____
87. _____
88. _____
89. _____
90. _____

Part VII IQ Test (5 marks)

There are five IQ Test questions in this part. Write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

91. Complete the sentence with two different words that sound alike.

"_____ be proud to walk you down the _____," said the father to his daughter on her wedding day.

92. What in the night sky is suggested by the following word picture?

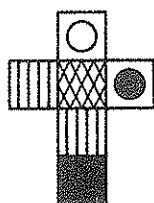


93. Among the following words, which is the odd one out?

A. Moon B. Mercury C. Venus D. Mars E. Jupiter F. Saturn

94. Why is $10 \times 10 = 1000$ like your left eye?

95. Which cube can be made from the given net?



A.



B.



C.

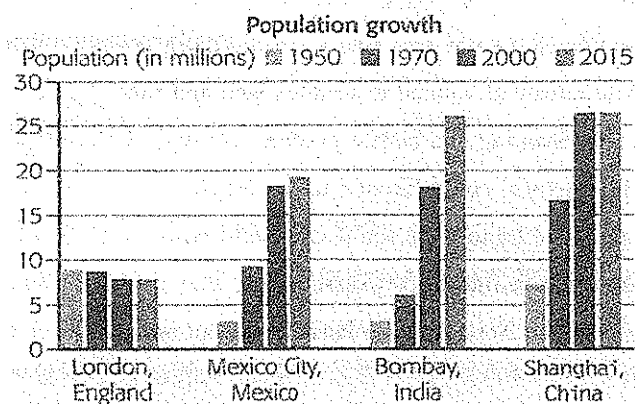


D.

Part VIII Writing (30 marks)

Task I (10 marks)

Read the chart below and write a 120-word report on population growth as the chart describes. Write on the Answer Sheet.



Task II (20 marks)

There is a discussion about how much freedom parents should allow young people to have nowadays.

You are asked to write a composition giving your own views on the following statement:

Young people are given too much freedom nowadays by their parents.

Write your composition in 160 words and write on the answer sheet.

2012 年全国大学生英语竞赛 C 类初赛赛卷

2012 National English Contest for College Students

(Level C — Preliminary)

(总分:150 分 时间:120 分钟)

Part I Listening Comprehension (30 marks)

Section A (5 marks)

In this section, you will hear five short conversations. Each conversation will be read only once. At the end of each conversation, there will be a twenty-second pause. During the pause, read the question and the three choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

1. What does the man say we can do to deal with oil crisis?
A. To make full use of oil. B. To use as little oil as possible.
C. To find alternative energy.
2. Where does this conversation most probably take place?
A. In an insurance company. B. In a bank.
C. In a supermarket.
3. According to the man, who is going to take over the position they are talking about?
A. Janice. B. Someone else.
C. Meryl.
4. What does the woman say about the man's report for the meeting?
A. He has to get it ready before tomorrow noon.
B. He has done well enough.
C. He has enough time to prepare it.
5. How many people will be on the earth by the year 2020 according to the professor?
A. Some 5.8 billion. B. Nearly 7 billion.
C. Over 8.5 billion.

Section B (10 marks)

In this section, you will hear two long conversations. Each conversation will be read only once. At the end of each conversation, there will be a one-minute pause. During the pause, read the five questions and the three choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Conversation One

6. What's the main job of Simon's organization?
 - A. They send out radio signals to communicate with other planets.
 - B. They look for life and intelligence on other planets.
 - C. They study stars that have planets orbiting around them.
7. Why does the organization search for radio signals from space?
 - A. Their presence may prove the existence of aliens.
 - B. They may help scientists find out how the universe started.
 - C. They convey messages about life on the earth.
8. Does Simon believe those stories about aliens visiting our planet?
 - A. No, he doesn't believe them at all.
 - B. Yes, he does believe those stories because of his study.
 - C. Yes, he believes them although he has no evidence.
9. Which of the following factor is considered to be important in forming life according to the passage?
 - A. Gravity.
 - B. Minerals.
 - C. Water.
10. When did the "big bang" occur?
 - A. No one knows.
 - B. 12 billion years ago.
 - C. 20 billion years ago.

Conversation Two

11. Why did Bob make the news last month?
 - A. Because he criticized traditional jobs.
 - B. Because he earned a lot of money.
 - C. Because he tried new strategies in finding a job.
12. In which way do the bestsellers like "The Brand Called You" and "The Personal Branding Phenomenon" help people?
 - A. They advise people to promote themselves as brands.
 - B. They teach people how to be a perfect partner.
 - C. They give people tips for job interview.
13. When did Bob come up with the idea of using the internet to find a job?
 - A. Ten years ago when he was a college student.
 - B. When he began to do research between jobs.
 - C. After he launched the campaign "Give Bob a job".
14. What was the purpose of Bob's making the video?
 - A. To fulfill his ambition as a director.
 - B. To sell his products like Teddy bears and T-shirts.

C. To advertise his skills and talents.

15. How can the internet help Bob in his job search exactly?

A. By helping him make friends.

B. By passing on the video he made.

C. By providing job information for him.

Section C (5 marks)

*In this section, you will hear **five** short news items. After each item, which will be read only **once**, there will be a pause. During the pause, read the question and the **three** choices marked **A**, **B** and **C**, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **Answer Sheet** with a single line through the centre.*

16. How many troops are going to withdraw from Afghanistan by the end of next year?

A. 43,000.

B. 10,000.

C. 33,000.

17. What is the finding of the study?

A. Low-calorie foods may lead to more weight.

B. High-calorie foods may lead to more weight.

C. High-calorie foods may lead to less weight.

18. What do the conflicting reports show about radiation?

A. The radiation level given by Tokyo Electric is much smaller than that given by other tests.

B. The radiation level given by other tests is smaller than that given by Tokyo Electric.

C. The radiation level is close to 10,000 times the normal level.

19. Why are Caribbean Service and Europe Today shut down by BBC?

A. Because of their outdated services.

B. Because of cuts in government funding.

C. Because of lack of target audience.

20. What's the cause of demonstrations in cities and towns across Syria?

A. They are calling for more freedom.

B. Workers demand higher pay.

C. Some thirty people were killed by the police.

Section D (10 marks)

*In this section, you will hear a short passage. There are **10** missing words or phrases. Fill in the blanks with the exact words or phrases you hear. The passage will be read **twice**. Remember to write the answers on the **Answer Sheet**.*

Recovery from jetlag can take as long as a day for every time zone crossed. So if you're flying east-west for your holiday or on business, it is likely to mean a few days of feeling tired or even unwell.

Jetlag is the (21) _____ of the body's natural cycle and some factors make it worse. The artificial atmosphere inside a plane can affect the body in a number of ways and add to the effects of

jetlag.

Exercising before flights helps to offset the effects on the body of reduced (22) _____, and aerobic exercise afterwards helps to reoxygenate it. Drink plenty of water. Children may need more. Drinking carrot juice before flying overcomes oxygen deficiency.

Eat light, frequent meals. Heavy meals (23) _____ the blood circulation, which can lead to dizziness and fainting. For two weeks before you fly, eat plenty of food containing vitamins A and E; they will build up your (24) _____ and help to keep you fit. Sleep as much as you can before the flight and on it. On board, wear earplugs and eye pads because darkness (25) _____ secretion of the hormones that enhance sleep.

Avoid alcohol, which restricts the brain's oxygen intake. Like tea and coffee, alcohol increases the dehydration effect of flying. If you need to drink to relax, (26) _____ that the cabin environment intensifies the effect of alcohol.

Wear loose, comfortable, warm clothes and limber up during flight. Sitting down for several hours slows down the (27) _____, leading to local stiffness, cramps and dizziness. Re-adjust to local time as soon as you can. Bright light helps the body stay alert, so if you are going somewhere sunny, stay outside.

Do not smoke before or during the flight since smoking (28) _____ the blood oxygen level. If you need to calm your nerves, try aromatherapy oils which have a sedative effect. (29) _____ your doctor before flying if you are on medication. The effects of some drugs are strengthened at high altitudes and some may produce (30) _____.

Part II Vocabulary and Structure (15 marks)

There are 15 incomplete sentences in this section. For each blank there are **four** choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **Answer Sheet** with a single line through the centre.

31. What we all work for is to free _____ time for the things we really want to do.
A. off B. up C. aside D. in
32. You _____ his words seriously. He was talking nonsense.
A. won't take B. may not take
C. mustn't have taken D. needn't have taken
33. Never hesitate to _____ the first opportunity that comes along.
A. seize B. draw C. arrest D. obtain
34. His mother _____ hated city life longed to return to the village in _____ she grew up.
A. that; where B. who; which C. who; that D. who; where
35. All things _____, I think I'd better take your advice.
A. considering B. to be considered
C. considered D. have been considered
36. Twelve European countries _____ over to the Euro on January 1 st, 2002.
A. transformed B. switched C. reversed D. altered

37. She isn't anything _____ unpleasant as people say she is.
A. as like B. like C. as D. like as
38. Stop complaining. You really _____ my nerves.
A. get down B. get along C. get off D. get on
39. There wasn't _____ truth in what he said.
A. a grain of B. a ray of C. a point of D. a drop of
40. _____ for my savings. I wouldn't be able to survive these miserable days.
A. Was it not B. Were it not
C. Had it been not D. Hadn't it been
41. There was a power cut this morning. _____, I couldn't do anything with my computer.
A. Supposedly B. Presumably C. Consequently D. Essentially
42. Alarm clocks needlessly wake _____ households. I want to design something targeted at the individual sleeper.
A. whole B. total C. full D. high
43. _____ both parties agree on these issues will a contract be signed soon.
A. If only B. Unless C. Should D. Only if
44. —I've run out of cash. Could you lend me a few pounds this evening?
— _____ I'll just have to find time to get to the bank and make a withdrawal.
A. I can lend you some now.
B. I'm not sure I've got any either.
C. Sorry, I haven't got a penny in my account.
D. My credit card must be left home.
45. —We're all going to the New Skyline Restaurant for our end-of-year get-together. Can we count you in?
—Oh, thanks, Sara, but _____
A. I didn't find you then. B. I've been to the restaurant once.
C. I'll pass this time. D. I'll meet you there at 5:00.

Part III Cloze (10 marks)

Read the following passage and fill in each blank with **one** word. Choose the correct word in **one** of the following **three** ways: according to the context, by using the correct form of the given word, or by using the given letters of the word. Remember to write the answers on the **Answer Sheet**.

Did you know that for every 20,000 novels written, only one gets published? So the (46) _____ (likely) that I'll ever fulfill my ambition of becoming a professional mystery writer doesn't seem very high. But the prospect of turning my lifelong passion into my livelihood and achieving fame and (47) for _____ at the same time is just too exciting for me to be put off by dull statistics.

So what does it (48) t _____ to become a writer? Reading is important—all writers need to research their genre thoroughly to familiarize themselves (49) _____ its codes and

conventions. My bookshelves at home are stacked with the novels of all the great mystery writers, which I've read and in many cases, re-read, despite (50) _____ (know) all the time "who'd done it".

Of course, being a writer requires imagination. You have to develop your own personal style rather than simply copy the work of "the greats". I've turned out (51) d _____ of short crime stories for my university student magazine—some have been published, some not, but I've always aimed to produce original and imaginative material.

Last but not (52) _____, successful writers possess enormous self-discipline. I've often sacrificed my social life in order to devote the necessary time and effort to producing a good quality story. And more than once that has meant (53) _____ the midnight oil.

We've got a novel inside us. Getting it out in anywhere near publishable form is no (54) _____ task, but with imagination and determination, and the help of an expert on "masterclass", who could possibly fail to (55) re _____ their ambition?

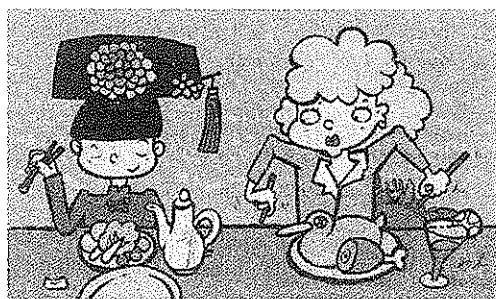
Part IV Reading Comprehension (40 marks)

Read the following passages. Each passage is followed by several questions. Respond to the questions using information from the passage. Remember to write the answers on the *Answer Sheet*.

Section A (10 marks)

Questions 56—60 are based on the following passage.

The term culture shock was introduced for the first time in 1958 to describe the anxiety produced when a person moves to a completely new environment. This term expresses the feeling of not knowing what to do or how to do things in a new environment. We can describe culture shock as the physical and emotional discomfort a person suffers when coming to live in a place different from the place of origin.



Often, the way that we lived before is not accepted or considered as normal in the new place. Everything is different, for example, not speaking the language, not knowing how to use banking machines, not knowing how to use telephones, and so forth.

The symptoms of culture shock can appear at different times. Although a person can experience real pain from culture shock, it is also an opportunity for growing and learning new perspectives. Culture shock can help people develop a better understanding of themselves and stimulate personal creativity.

Culture shock has many stages. Each stage can be ongoing, or appear only at certain times. In the first stage, the new arrival may feel very happy about all of the new experience. This time is called the honeymoon stage. Afterward, the second stage presents itself. A person may encounter some difficulties in daily life. For example, communication difficulties may occur, such as not being

understood. In this stage, there may be feelings of impatience; anger and sadness. Transition between the old methods and those of the new country is a difficult process and takes time to complete. The third stage is characterized by gaining some understanding of the new culture. A new feeling of pleasure and sense of humor may be experienced. A person may start to feel a psychological balance. The individual is more familiar with the environment and wants to belong. This starts an evaluation of the old ways versus those of the new. In the fourth stage, the person realizes that the new culture has good and bad things to offer. This stage can be one of double integration or triple integration, depending on the number of cultures that the person has to process. This integration is characterized by a more solid feeling of belonging. The person starts to define himself or herself and establish goals for living. The fifth stage is the stage that is called the reentry shock. This occurs when a person returns to the country of origin. One may find that things are no longer the same. For example, some of the newly acquired customs are considered improper in the old culture.

Questions 56—60

Complete the summary with words from the passage, changing the form where necessary, with only one word for each blank.

Introduced in 1958, culture shock is a term used to (56) _____ physical and emotional discomfort people experience when they come to or live in a new place. Although many people suffer a lot from culture shock, it is an (57) _____ for personal improvement. The five stages of culture shock may last for a long time or show up once in a while. In the first stage, the (58) _____ stage, the new arrival might be OK with everything. Afterward, (59) _____ from old methods to the new one calls for time and energy. During the third and fourth stage, people may gain more understanding of the new culture and possess objective views. The double or triple integration is (60) _____ by a feeling of belonging. The last stage, called reentry shock, refers to the feeling people have when returning to their home country.

Section B (10 marks)

Questions 61—65 are based on the following passage.

For some people, it would be unthinkable. But Gabe Henderson is finding freedom in a recent decision; he canceled his MySpace account. The 26 years old graduate student stopped his account after realizing that a lot of his online friends were really just acquaintances. "The superficial emptiness clouded the excitement I had once felt," Henderson wrote in an article. "It seems we have lost, to some degree, the special depth that true friendship is about."

Journalism professor Michael Bugeja, who is a strong supporter of face-to-face communication, read Henderson's column and saw it was a sign of hope. Though he's not antitechnology, Bugeja often lectures students about "interpersonal intelligence"—knowing when, where, and for what

purpose technology is most appropriate. He points out the students he's seen walking across campus, holding hands with each other while talking on cell phones to someone else. He's also seen them in coffee shops, surrounded by people, but staring instead at a computer screen. "True friends," he says, "need to learn when to stop blogging and go across campus to help a friend."

These days, young people are more wired than ever—but they're also getting more worried. Increasingly, they've had to deal with online bullies, who are posting anything from embarrassing photos to online threats. And increasingly, young people also are realizing that things they post on their profiles can come back to hurt them when applying for schools or jobs.

Social networking can be an "extremely effective" way to publicize events to large groups. It can even help build a sense of community on campus. People joined Facebook as a way to meet others. However, it has limitations. A good Internet profile could make even the most boring person seem somewhat interesting. People are also not always happy with text messages on the cell phones. Cell phones can be a quick way to say "have a good day". But friends can also cancel a night out with a text message to avoid having to explain. "Our generation needs to get over this fear of confrontation and rejection," Henderson says. "The focus needs to be on quality communication, in all ways." Back in his life, Henderson is enjoying spending more face-to-face time with his friends and less with his computer. He says his decision to quit his social-networking Internet accounts was a good one. "I'm not sacrificing friends," he says, "because if a picture, some basic information about their life and a Web page is all my friendship has become, then there was nothing to sacrifice to begin with."

Questions 61—63

Decide whether the following statements are **true (T)** or **false (F)** according to the passage.

61. Although Henderson quit Myspace, most of his online friends are actually close friends.
62. According to Bugeja, young people should know when to use technology and when to stop using it.
63. Social networking helps build a sense of community but has a negative effect on young people's life if it is used inappropriately.

Questions 64—65

Answer the following questions briefly according to the passage.

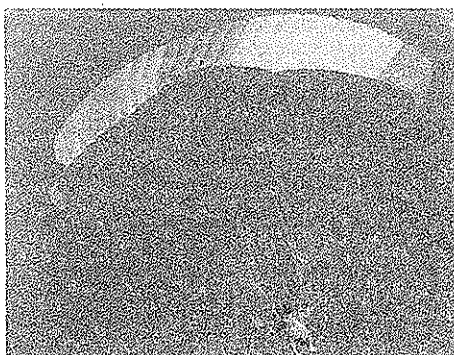
64. What does Henderson lose by using social networking websites like Myspace?
65. What do young people need to overcome in order to focus on quality communication?

Section C (10 marks)

Questions 66—70 are based on the following passage.

"Five... Four... Three... Two... One... See ya!" and Chance McGuire, twenty-five, is airborne off a 600-foot concrete dam in Northern California. In one second he falls 15 feet, in two seconds 60 feet, and after three seconds and 130 feet, he is flying at 66 miles an hour.

McGuire is a practitioner of what he calls the king of all extreme sports. BASE—an acronym for building, antenna, span (bridge) and earth (cliffs)—jumping has one of the sporting world's highest fatality rates: in its 18-year history, forty-six participants have been killed. Yet the sport has never been more popular, with more than a thousand jumpers in the United States, and more seeking to get into it every day. It is an activity without margin for error. If your chute malfunctions, don't bother researching for a reserve—there isn't time. There are no second chances.



Still, the sport may be a perfect fit with the times. Americans may have more in common with McGuire than they know or care to admit. America has embarked on a national orgy of thrill seeking and risk taking. The rise of adventure and extreme sports such as BASE jumping, snowboarding, ice climbing, skateboarding, and paragliding is merely the most vivid manifestation of this new national behavior.

The rising popularity of extreme sports speaks of an eagerness on the part of millions of Americans to participate in activities closer to the edge, where danger, skill, and fear combine to give weekend warriors and professional athletes alike a sense of pushing out personal boundaries. According to American Sports Data Inc., a consulting firm, participation in so-called extreme sports is way up. Snowboarding has grown 113 percent in five years and now boasts nearly 5.5 million participants. Mountain hiking, skateboarding, scuba diving—their growth curves reveal a nation that loves to play with danger. Contrast that with activities such as baseball, touch football, and aerobics, all of which were in steady decline throughout the 1990s.

The pursuits that are becoming more popular have one thing in common: the perception that they are somehow more challenging than a game of touch football. “Every human being with two legs and two arms is going to wonder how fast, how strong, how enduring he or she is,” says Eric Perlman, a mountaineer and film maker specializing in extreme sports. “We are designed to experience or die.”

Questions 66—68

Complete the following sentences with information given in the passage in **a maximum of 4 words** for each blank.

66. _____ rates doesn't stop people from getting into BASE jumping every day.
67. The rise of extreme sports manifests the national behavior of _____ and _____.
68. The combination of fear, skill and danger gives both amateurs and professionals a sense of _____.

Questions 69—70

Choose the best answer according to the passage.

69. Which of the following activities reveals a nation that loves to play activities closer to the edge?
A. Touch football. B. Baseball. C. Scuba diving. D. Aerobics.
70. What does Eric mean by saying "We are designed to experience or die"?
A. Life with great challenges is a meaningful one.
B. Life without great experiences is very common.
C. People may die while doing extreme sports.
D. Extreme sports are essential parts of human life.

Section D (10 marks)

Questions 71—75 are based on the following passage.

Albert Einstein was one of the greatest thinkers the world has ever known. He formulated theories of relativity, successfully described the nature of the universe and came up with the most famous equation in the world. David Beckham is the footballer whose skills and precision have made him one of the most gifted sportsmen of his generation. Who is more intelligent?

How Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences (MI) dares us to put these two men on neighboring pedestals. Instead of regarding intelligence as a single quantity measurable by pen-and-paper tests, Gardner, an education professor at Harvard University, divides human intelligence into no fewer than eight separate categories ranging from mathematical to musical competence. (74) His ideas have provoked vigorous debate about how one defines intelligence. Gardner's point is that quantity measures only one capacity, the sort of mental agility that is valued in academic achievement, and that this single number does not do justice to human potential. So he has created his own spheres of achievement. Some categories are easily reconcilable with general perceptions about IQ. For example, "linguistic" intelligence confers a mastery of language, and is the preserve of such people as poets, writers and linguists. "Logical mathematical" intelligence marks out people who take a reasoning approach to physical things, and seek underlying principles. Einstein is the standard-bearer of this group, which also includes philosophers. These two categories are the main components of what we generally think of as "intelligence".

"Musical" intelligence characterizes musicians, composers and conductors. "Spatial" intelligence is about being able to picture perspective, to visualize a world in one's head with great accuracy. Chess players, artists and architects would rate highly in this category. Dancers, athletes and actors are lumped under the "bodily-kinesthetic" heading; these individuals, like Beckham, are able to control their bodies and movements very carefully.

Then come two types of "personal" intelligence-intrapersonal, the ability to gauge one's own mood, feelings and mental states, and interpersonal, being able to gauge it in others and use the information. These two categories could be interpreted as emotional intelligence. Psychiatrists are

particularly adept at the former, while religious leaders and politicians are seen as people who can exploit the latter.

Charles Darwin is perhaps the perfect embodiment of the eighth intelligence—"naturalist". This label describes people with a deep understanding of the natural world and its objects. Zoologists and botanists can count themselves among this group.

(75) These eight categories certainly reflect the fact that, in these areas, there is a spectrum of human ability ranging from the hopeless to the brilliant. But are these really intelligences, or could these competences be more accurately described as gifts or talents?

Questions 71—73

Answer the following questions briefly according to the passage.

71. What are the main components of "intelligence" we generally think of?
72. What kind of abilities does emotional intelligence involve?
73. Which intelligences are represented by Einstein and Beckham respectively?

Questions 74—75

Translate the underlined sentences in the passage into Chinese.

74. His ideas have provoked vigorous debate about how one defines intelligence.
75. These eight categories certainly reflect the fact that, in these areas, there is a spectrum of human ability ranging from the hopeless to the brilliant.

Part V Translation (10 marks)

Translate the following sentences into English; using the hints given in brackets. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

76. 既然没有退路了, 我们不妨试试他的方法。(might as well)
77. 公司的利润连续三个月下滑, 你如何解释?(account for)
78. 在谈到如何能取得成功时, Blair 强调创造机遇比等待机遇更重要。(put emphasis on)
79. 我希望我年轻的时候也有你们这么好的机会。(虚拟语气)
80. 高昂的学费并不一定能够保证良好的教育。(guarantee)

Part VI Error Correction (10 marks)

Proofread the passage as required. Each indicated line contains a maximum of one error. Correct the passage in the following way: for a correct line, put the sign "✓" in the corresponding blank; for a wrong word, underline the wrong word and write the correct one in the blank; for a missing word, mark the position of the missing word with the sign "Λ" and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank; for an unnecessary word, cross the unnecessary word with the sign "\ " and put the word with the sign "\ " in the blank. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

For example:

One of my favorite writers are Charlotte Brontë. She was born in the early nineteenth century when women had far fewer opportunities ^ they have now. She lived in a small village in Yorkshire and she took great pleasure in walking on the moors where near her home.

is
than
✓
where

Cash reward is a common form of motivation used by parents with high expectation to encourage their children work hard at exam time. Some youngsters receive payments of as much as £ 100 for each A grade they obtain at GSCE. But would such "bribes" be based on exam performance or should they, as many parents and teachers feel, be offered in recognition of a child's effort, regardless of results? The later approach would solve the problems of how parents reward children with different levels of ability; imagine, for example, a family with one child who is academically gift and another who has learning difficulties. The dangers of result-relating incentives for the second child are clear; with little hope of obtaining the higher grades, the withholding of promised financial rewards would only compound of the child's feeling of false. However, some leading educational psychologists believe that parents should rely in their own judgments in such matters. They maintain that if parents know that money will motivate their child, then they should not be condemned for operating a system of cash payouts.

81. _____
82. _____
83. _____
84. _____
85. _____
86. _____
87. _____
88. _____
89. _____
90. _____

Part VII IQ Test (5 marks)

There are five IQ Test questions in this part. Write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

91. Which two words starting with "P" and "O" contain the most letters?

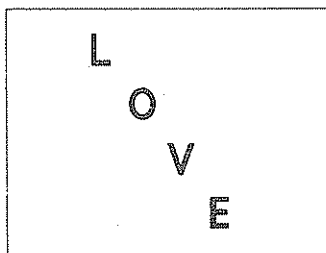
92. What is at: The beginning of eternity

The end of time and space

The beginning of every end

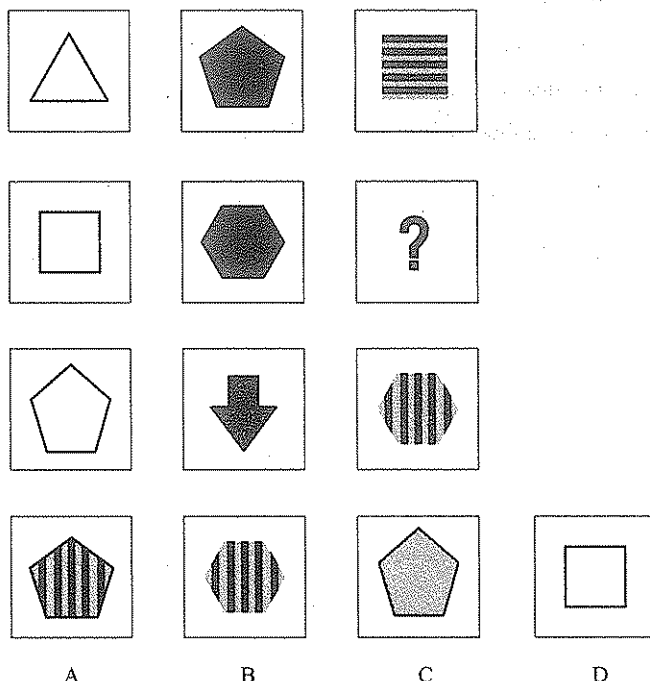
And the end of every place?

93.



What's the phrase that is represented by the picture?

94. Which picture should replace the question mark?



95. Your sock drawer contains ten pairs of white socks and ten pairs of black socks. If you're only allowed to take one sock from the drawer at a time and you can't see the color of the sock you're taking until you've taken it, how many socks do you have to take before you're guaranteed to have at least one matching pair?

Part VIII Writing (30 marks)

Task I (10 marks)

WRITERS REQUIRED

We are looking for people to write for this magazine about places of interest in their local area which would be of interest to an international readership. We would like to hear from anyone who has:

- an interest in travelling to places of interest;
- some personal experience of writing;

Send us a letter of application, explaining why you think you are suitable.

You should write no fewer than 100 words on the Answer Sheet. Use "Frank" instead of your real name.

Task II (20 marks)

China is now experiencing the largest mass migration of people, an estimated 230 million (2010), from the countryside to cities in history. They've brought economy boom to cities and life improvement to their own families. However, this migration leaves land in the countryside uncultivated and children of migrant workers poorly educated.

How do you think can the migration in China have a balanced development?

Write your article in about 140 words in an appropriate style on the Answer Sheet.

2012 年全国大学生英语竞赛 C 类决赛赛卷

2012 National English Contest for College Students

(Level C — Final)

(总分:150 分 时间:120 分钟)

Part I Listening Comprehension (30 marks)

Section A (5 marks)

In this section, you will hear five short conversations. Each conversation will be read only once. At the end of each conversation, there will be a twenty-second pause. During the pause, read the question and the three choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

1. What does the woman think about the job application?
A. She is not quite confident about it.
B. She has got better qualifications.
C. She might be lucky to succeed.
2. Why does the woman support immigration?
A. She thinks it is right to share resources.
B. She thinks immigration brings job opportunities.
C. She thinks they've got enough immigrants.
3. How does the woman think about retirement?
A. It's most people's desire.
B. People don't need to retire early.
C. It shouldn't be seen as an illness.
4. Why do students join in the activity of 40-hour Famine?
A. To raise money for buying food and water for poor students.
B. To promote awareness of cherishing what one has got now.
C. To draw attention to poor people suffering from famine.
5. What does the woman most probably do?
A. She is a director. B. She is an actress. C. She is a student.

Section B (10 marks)

In this section, you will hear two long conversations. Each conversation will be read only once. At

the end of each conversation, there will be a **one-minute** pause. During the pause, read the questions, each with **three** choices marked **A**, **B** and **C**, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **Answer Sheet** with a single line through the centre.

Conversation One

6. How many fare-constructed sections are made on land?
A. 54,000. B. 45,000. C. 50,000.
7. What's the main difference between maglev trains and conventional trains?
A. Maglev trains travel on rails.
B. Maglev trains don't have wheels.
C. Maglev trains travel at 300 km/h.
8. Where was the idea of maglev trains firstly invented?
A. In Germany. B. In the U.S.A.. C. In the U.K..
9. Why are maglev trains free of noise?
A. They don't use rails.
B. They run under water.
C. They travel at high speed.
10. What might cause damage to an underwater maglev train?
A. Ships at sea.
B. A train from the opposite direction.
C. The powerful ocean

Conversation Two

11. Which organization does the guest work for?
A. Engineers without Borders.
B. Doctors without Borders.
C. Care Canada.
12. When did George and Parker start to have the inspiration?
A. After they dropped out of school.
B. After they started their work.
C. Before they graduated from college.
13. What's the initial idea for setting up such an organization?
A. To purify water in developing countries.
B. To improve people's life with the help of technology.
C. To help people in poor nations get medical care.
14. What would they do with next-state projects?
A. To implement some of the technologies.
B. To engage more engineers.
C. To conduct more experiments.

15. Who provide them with the seed funding to keep the project going?

- A. The government.
- B. Suncor Energy Foundation and Ontario Power Generation.
- C. Individuals in the community.

Section C (5 marks)

In this section, you will hear five short news items. Each item will be read only once. At the end of each item, there will be a pause. During the pause, read the question and the three choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

16. How long did the first Thanksgiving Day last?

- A. Three weeks.
- B. Two weeks.
- C. Three days.

17. What is the purpose of American Jobs Act calling for cutting wage taxes?

- A. To prevent public employees from losing their jobs.
- B. To call for less spending on roads and infrastructure.
- C. To encourage more people to look for jobs.

18. Why does the problem of debts affect a lot more nations than just the ones that are struggling with money?

- A. The nations use the same currency.
- B. The nations have joint business corporations.
- C. These nations' economies are interdependent.

19. How much money can each child beggar earn a day for their minders?

- A. Dozens of dollars.
- B. Hundreds of dollars.
- C. A dozen or so dollars.

20. Why did Spain's top footballers hold a strike?

- A. Leading players got killed in a row.
- B. Two important games were postponed.
- C. There was a pay dispute.

Section D (10 marks)

In this section, you will hear a short passage. There are 10 missing words or phrases. Fill in the blanks with the exact words or phrases you hear. The passage will be read twice. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

Millions of television sets and old computer monitors taken to civic amenity sites as rubbish are being collected and shipped to Africa and Asia, an illegal trade worth £ 7,000,000 a year, according to an unpublished report by the Environment Agency and the (21) _____. The business carried out by totters—people who sift through rubbish for saleable objects—became illegal on the 1st of January 2002 under European Union legislation (22) _____ prevent toxic waste material being shipped to developing countries.

Electrical equipment (23) _____ leaded glass, particularly computers and televisions, were

reclassified as toxic waste. The agency is alarmed that half a million televisions and a similar number of computer monitors which people thought were being (24) _____ in England are being re-used or dumped in the developing world.

The agency is finding the trade hard to control but is planning to publish guidance to the industry soon. Environment groups point out that this action will not be (25) _____ to stop an illegal business.

Claire Wilton of Friends of the Earth said, "The agency has known about this situation for two years but has still (26) _____ act. The companies involved in this illegal trade must be prevented from dumping Britain's toxic waste on developing countries, where workers' conditions rarely match those expected in Europe." Action must be taken now to stop this environmental (27) _____ continuing.

The Industry Council for Electronic Equipment Recycling estimates that 11,000 tons of old TV sets, about 500,000 (28) _____, and a similar number of old computer monitors find their way to developing countries each year. Many are cannibalized for spare parts but some are repaired and sold to people who would not (29) _____ have a television or computer.

The Industry Council for Electronic Equipment Recycling defends its members who buy computers and other office equipment from industry and ship them abroad, because under EU rules the business is legal if they are working models and intended to be sold on the second-hand market. The problem arises when equipment is thrown away. The law says if it is (30) _____, even if it may be working, it must be classed as rubbish and cannot be resold to a developing country because it is technically toxic waste.

Part II Vocabulary and Structure (15 marks)

There are 15 incomplete sentences in this section. For each blank there are **four** choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **Answer Sheet** with a single line through the centre.

31. The president's education speeches contained _____ the tongue leading to public confusion over education policy.
A. a slide of B. a slip of C. a skip of D. a glide of
32. The word "right", in most languages, is usually connected _____ the meaning of "correct", whereas the words associate _____ "left", generally have negative meanings.
A. to; with B. with; to C. to; to D. with; with
33. Gas prices rose 4% in April, a _____ rise but the smallest since January.
A. mighty B. severe C. steep D. massive
34. It seems a very simple thing to tell the truth, but beyond all question, there is nothing _____ lying.
A. half so easy as B. so half easy as C. half easy as D. so easy as half
35. _____ until recently, people who are left-handed have been considered abnormal.
A. Up B. Unless C. Down D. Not

36. Sorry about the loss. But it'll give you some relief if your house is _____ against fire.
A. assured B. ensured C. insured D. pledged
37. When _____ in a downpour without an umbrella or a raincoat, most people would pick up their pace.
A. sunk B. caught C. plunged D. grabbed
38. In 1993, V. S. Naipaul was awarded the David Cohen British Literature Prize in _____ of his lifetime's achievement.
A. identification B. acquaintance C. recognition D. perspective
39. Many linguists _____ that our highly evolved brain provides us with innate language ability not found in lower organisms.
A. suggest B. claim C. promise D. convince
40. I'm in a slightly _____ position in that he is not arriving until 12:00 which is 3 hours late.
A. tight B. weird C. awesome D. awkward
41. Tactless she may be, but ungrateful _____ think her
A. should not you B. should you not C. not should you D. you should not
42. More than 30 people died in the train accident, most of _____ children.
A. which B. them C. whom D. that
43. He admits that his team really _____ him to play a role of responsibility.
A. look forward to B. look down on C. look up to D. look on
44. —Do you know the students have been protesting against the increased tuition?
—I've heard about the protest, but _____
A. I've joined in it to support the students. B. I don't see any good it will do.
C. I do know the reason for it. D. I think it'll be a great success.
45. —I hear you're a journalist now, Paul. That must be exciting.
—_____ most of the time. But like all jobs, it has its disadvantages.
A. It's boring B. It's a piece of cake
C. It has drawbacks D. It's a buzz

Part III Cloze (10 marks)

Read the following passage and fill in each blank with **one** word. Fill in the following blanks in one of the **three** ways: according to the context, by using the correct form of the given word, or by using the given letter(s) of the word. Remember to write the answers on the **Answer Sheet**.

There is a phenomenon that sociologists call reference anxiety—or, more popularly, keeping up with the (46) Jo _____. According to that thinking, most people judge their possessions in comparison with others'. People tend not to ask themselves, "Does my house meet my needs?" (47) Ins _____ they ask, "Is my house nicer than my neighbor's?" If your two-bedroom house is surrounded by three-and four-bedroom houses, with some (48) ar _____ the corner doing a tear-down to build a McMansion, your reference anxiety may rise. Suddenly that two-bedroom house—one that your grandparents might have considered quite nice, even luxurious—doesn't seem

enough. And so the money you spent on it stops (49) _____ (provide) you with a sense of wellbeing.

Americans' soaring reference anxiety is a product of the widening gap in income (50) _____ (distribute). In other words, the rich are getting richer faster, and the rest of the population are none too happy about it. During much of the U.S. history, the (51) _____ (major) lived in small towns or urban areas where conditions for most people were approximately the same—hence, low (52) _____ anxiety. Also, most people knew relatively little about those who were living higher on the hog.

But in the past few (53) de _____, new economic forces have changed all that. Rapid growth in income for the top 5 percent of households has brought (54) ab _____ a substantial cohort of people who live notably better than the middle class does, amplifying our reference anxiety. That wealthier minority is occupying ever-larger homes and spending more on each change of clothes when the middle is doing O. K. In nations with (55) h _____ levels of income equality like the Scandinavian countries, well-being tends to be higher than in nations with unequal wealth distribution such as the United States.

Part IV Reading Comprehension (40 marks)

Read the following passages. Each passage is followed by several questions. Respond to the questions using information from the passage. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

Section A (10 marks)

Questions 56—60 are based on the following passage.

Several research groups in the United States are conducting genetic research aimed at retarding aging. If the breakthroughs of recent years are anything to go by, it is likely that we will see several-fold longevity increases in mice within the next decade or so. Already such genetic manipulation has increased by almost 50% the life span of flies. Results are also promising in mammals; scientists have extended longevity in mice by 50% through genetic interventions. Achieving similar results in humans will be harder. Scientists have already identified genes that appear to accelerate human aging, but they have yet to find genes with the opposite effect. But with the sequencing of the human genome, we are now in a better position to find out more about aging in humans as well as animals.

For those who cannot wait, there is one method available today that might delay human aging: caloric restriction. This means simply a diet with few calories. Experiments have shown longevity increases of more than 50% in certain mammals that follow such diets. Most people, however, feel that the secondary effects of this outweigh the benefits. After all, what is the point of living longer if you cannot enjoy life? If science is to extend human longevity, it will have to do so by extending the duration of human life in age-related disability. The extra years of life must allow future grandparents to enjoy life, not just live.

Although some scientists argue that aging will never be cured and our grandparents will continue to fit our stereotypes, many others remain confident that we will soon learn how to modulate

the human aging process. "I believe our generation is the first to be able to map a possible route to individual immortality," says William Haseltine, CEO of Human Genome Sciences Inc. in Rockville, Maryland. If a therapy could slow human aging by 50%, for instance, we could have 30 or 40 more years of life. In that time, new discoveries could be made that would allow us to live even longer, and the cycle could continue until a cure for aging is discovered. "It's possible that some people alive now may still be alive 400 years from now," claims gerontologist S. Michal Jazwinski of Louisiana State of University Health Sciences Center. But what would be consequences of extending human longevity or finding a real cure for aging?

Questions 56—60

Complete the summary with words from the passage, changing the form where necessary, with only one word for each blank.

Researchers have achieved success in (56) _____ the aging of flies. But similar results in humans are not encouraging. Other than finding genes that slow down human aging, scientists have identified genes that appear to (57) _____ it. However, there might be one way of delaying aging, i.e. caloric (58) _____ which means following certain diets with few calories. Meanwhile, it is necessary to think about the significance of living longer and how to (59) _____ the aging process. Some optimistic people believe that it is possible to extend human longevity while others are quite concerned about the (60) _____ of it.

Section B (10 marks)

Questions 61—65 are based on the following passage.

No matter how carefully you plan a trip with a friend, or family member, there will probably be conflicts along the way. Even after the dates, destination, and length of the trip are decided, there's still the chance that problems could happen on the trip.

Here are a few tips to help you solve problems that may come up between you and your travel companion:

Plan the trip together: Sometimes one person takes the lead and plan the trip to fit his or her interests. Planning together allows for a more diverse and balanced vacation. Some people want to walk; some



people would rather use public transportation. So it's important to find out how compatible you are in terms of everything concerned.

Find out about lifestyle: Differences in lifestyle can be challenging if they haven't been discussed in advance. There's nothing worse than being in the room and awake at 6:00 a.m. when your companion wants to sleep until noon. Sleep patterns can be very disruptive to people that don't have the same pattern. The same can be said for dietary and other restrictions. Knowing those differences in advance helps people adapt to each other more quickly.

Be aware of coping strategies: Ask questions and use your understanding of your companion's coping strategies—how they may respond to stressful situations. You can ask your travel companion about his/her best and worst trips. What happened? How did that person respond? Knowing a little about how your companion deals with difficult situations can be helpful.

Compromise: Try to compromise in order to have a good time. Agree to disagree. Do you really want to use your energy feeling anger on your vacation when you should be relaxing and enjoying it? Buy travel journals for yourself and your travel partners. Writing in journals can be a way to reflect on the trip to relieve some of the frustration that may come up.

Take a break: Split up when tensions are high and your interests are different. Be sure to set a time and meeting place and have a backup meeting set in case of an unforeseen delay. People tend to feel like they have to stick together when they are together on a trip. But anybody with someone 24 hours a day needs a break from the other person.

Questions 61—63

Decide whether the following statements are **true** (*T*) or **false** (*F*) according to the passage.

61. This passage aims to help travelers solve problems between them and their travel partners.
62. Lifestyle differences can cause travel problems because all people enjoy sleeping till noon when on vacation.
63. Even though your travel interests are different, you must always stay together with your travel partners.

Questions 64—65

Answer the following questions according to the passage.

64. Why do people have to ask their travel companion about his/her best and worst trips?
65. Which way might help relieve the frustration that may come up?

Section C (10 marks)

Questions 66—70 are based on the following passage.

Knowing that Mrs. Mallard was afflicted with a heart trouble, great care was taken to break to her as gently as possible the news of her husband's death.

She did not hear the story as many women have heard the same, with a paralyzed inability to accept its significance. She wept at once, with sudden, wild abandonment, in her sister's arms. When the storm of grief had passed she went away to her room alone. She refused to have anyone

follow her.

There stood, facing the open window, a comfortable, roomy armchair. Into this she sank, pressed down by a physical exhaustion that filled her body and seemed to reach into her soul.

She sat with her head thrown back upon the cushion of the chair, quite motionless, except when a sob came up into her throat and shook her, as a child who has cried itself to sleep continues to sob in its dreams.

She was young, with a fair, calm face, whose lines indicated repression and even a certain strength. But now there was a dull stare in her eyes, whose gaze was fixed away off in the distance on a patch of blue sky. It was not a glance of reflection, but rather indicated a suspension of intelligent thought.

There was something coming to her and she was waiting for it, fearfully. What was it? She did not know; it was too subtle and elusive to name. But she felt it, creeping out of the sky, reaching toward her through the wounds, the scents, the color that filled the air.

Now her bosom rose and fell with excitement. She was beginning to recognize this thing that was approaching to possess her, and she was struggling to beat it back with her will, as powerless as her two white slender hands would have been.

When she abandoned herself a little whispered word escaped her slightly parted lips. She said it over and over under her breath, "free, free, free!" The empty stare and the look of terror that had followed it went from her eyes. They stayed sharp and bright. Her pulses beat fast, and the coursing blood warmed and relaxed every inch of her body.

She did not stop to ask if it were or were not a monstrous joy that held her. A clear and exalted perception enabled her to dismiss the suggestion as of little importance.

She knew that she would weep again when she saw the kind, tender hands folded in death; the face that had never looked except with love upon her, fixed and gray and dead. But she saw beyond that bitter moment a long procession of years to come that would belong to her absolutely. And she opened and spread her arms out to them in welcome.

Questions 66—68

Complete the following sentences with information given in the passage in **a maximum of 2 words** for each blank.

66. Most women were shocked into a _____ on hearing the news of their husbands' death, but Mrs. Mallard was not.
67. When returning to her room, Mrs. Mallard was pressed down by _____ both physically and mentally.
68. Mrs. Mallard's dull stare indicated a _____ of deep thinking rather than a sign of contemplation.

Questions 69—70

Choose the best answer according to the passage.

69. What was Mrs. Mallard's first reaction on hearing her husband's death?

- A. She pulled herself together with the help of her sister.
 B. She stayed in her room and refused to meet anyone.
 C. She abandoned herself into grief for a while.
 D. She couldn't stop weeping and crying.
70. How did Mrs. Mallard feel towards her husband's death at the end?
 A. Bitter but relieved. B. Fearful but relaxed.
 C. Dull and desperate. D. Calm and suspicious.

Section D (10 marks)

Questions 71—75 are based on the following passage.

No creatures can stride as human beings. They are not physically designed to support and balance a vertical body balanced on two long lower limbs, propelled forward by a foot engineered exclusively for body support and forward propulsion and to do so with a stride at high-speed locomotion. While other bipeds walk in a similar fashion, human walk is unique. Bipedalism by itself offers no comparison with the distinctive human gait form. And, significantly, no other biped can actually cover more than a tiny fraction of the walking distance that can be sustained by humans.

Striding requires a special design of hip, knee, and ankle joints, plus an arched foot, plus long lower-limb bones. These "finishing touches" demanded extended evolutionary time. Striding provided numerous advantages over the simple stepping gait. For example, the ability to cover twice the distance with the same number of steps is a definite survival advantage. It also added much speed to running, more height to jumping.

None of this would have been possible without, first, a foot equipped to support and balance an erect body and to produce the leverage necessary to propel the body forward in locomotion. The ape foot was not suited for this. A new kind of foot was essential if those hominids were to become full-scale bipeds. Indeed a pair of human feet has one-fourth of all the body's 206 bones and 244 joints. Why this extraordinary number of bones and joints concentrated in such a small part of the body? (74) Because the intricate network of the many different parts required not only for supporting and balancing a heavy superstructure but to enable the multiple motions and actions, hundreds or thousands of times daily. No other part of the body comes even close to the amount and degree of stresses imposed on it.

The human foot had to go through an extensive evolutionary development in which it underwent enormous design changes in cohering its 28 bones, 37 joints and 107 ligaments, and 32 muscles and tendons to adapt to the body weight and numerous torsions. (75) In fact, it probably wasn't until only about 400,000 years ago that early humans were fully striding, the final touch of human gait. Orthopedist Philip J. Mayer writes in the Orthopedic Review: "The development of a true stride on an orthopedic foot was the most crucial of all the steps of human evolution." Nature had perhaps never undertaken an anatomical engineering project of such complexity.

Questions 71—73

Answer the following questions according to the passage.

71. What is the difference between humans and other bipeds regarding walking distance?
72. Why is the human foot equipped the way it is?
73. What kind of evolution has the human foot undergone?

Questions 74—75

Translate the underlined sentences in the passage into Chinese.

74. Because the intricate network of the many different parts is required not only for supporting and balancing a heavy superstructure but to enable the multiple motions and actions, hundreds or thousands of times daily.
75. In fact, it probably wasn't until only about 400,000 years ago that early humans were fully striding, the final touch of human gait.

Part V Translation (10 marks)

Translate the following sentences into English, using the hints given in brackets. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

76. 有人建议, 中国所有的博物馆都应对中小学生免费开放, 使他们有更多机会获得广博的知识。(access)
77. 校方对此次违纪事件既没有处罚相关责任人, 也没有对其他师生解释原因。(倒装)
78. 在制定预算时候, 他们忘记考虑价格上涨的因素, 因此才导致目前资金紧张。(account)
79. 连年的战争不仅使人们丧失了对生活的热情, 还让他们失去了对未来的希望。(deprive)
80. 此次团队训练留给我印象最深的是队员表现出的勇气、毅力和奉献精神。(主语从句)

Part VI Error Correction (10 marks)

Proofread the passage as required. Each indicated line contains a maximum of one error. Correct the passage in the following way: for a right line, put the sign "✓" in the corresponding blank; for a wrong word, underline the wrong word and write the correct one in the blank; for a missing word, mark the position of the missing word with the sign "Λ" and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank; for an unnecessary word, cross the unnecessary word with the sign " \ " and put the word with the sign " \ " in the blank. Remember to write the answers on the Answer Sheet.

For example:

One of my favorite writers are Charlotte Brontë. She was born in the early nineteenth century when women had far fewer opportunities Λ they have now. She lived in a small village in Yorkshire and she took great pleasure in walking on the moors where near her home.

is

than

✓

where

Pyramid City is an even more ambitious project to solve Tokyo's housing problem. A 1,000-metre tall pyramid, 12 times higher than the Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt, would contain 55 smaller pyramids, each of them would be the size of the Giza original. If it is built, the pyramid will consist in a series of skyscrapers suspended from the inside of the structure, the pyramid will be 80 storey high, with parkland in-between the skyscrapers. Three quarters of a million of people will live there. The skyscrapers will be linked by series of hollow tubes containing a high-speed transport system. Parts of the construction, include more than 150 kilometers of tunnels, will be built by spider robots, and power will be provided by waves and wind.

A major problem is that Japan is situating on the seismic "ring of fire"-an area of volcanic activity where stretches around the Pacific Ocean. Pyramid City will have to withstand earthquakes, tsunamis and underwater volcanic eruptions.

The designers of Pyramid City are certain that it will be built and make safe from earthquakes, but probably not for another 100 years.

81. _____

82. _____

83. _____

84. _____

85. _____

86. _____

87. _____

88. _____

89. _____

90. _____

Part VII IQ Test (5 marks)

There are *five* IQ Test questions in this part. Write the answers on the *Answer Sheet*.

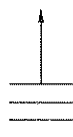
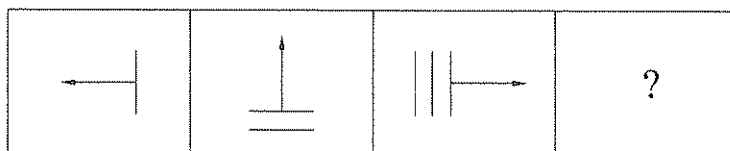
91. A frog, a skunk (臭鼬), and a duck went to the movies. The admission was \$ 1.00. Who did not get in?

92. What's the phrase represented by the following picture?



93. I am very fragile. When you say my name, you break me. What's my name?

94. Which picture comes next?



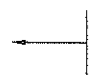
A.



B.



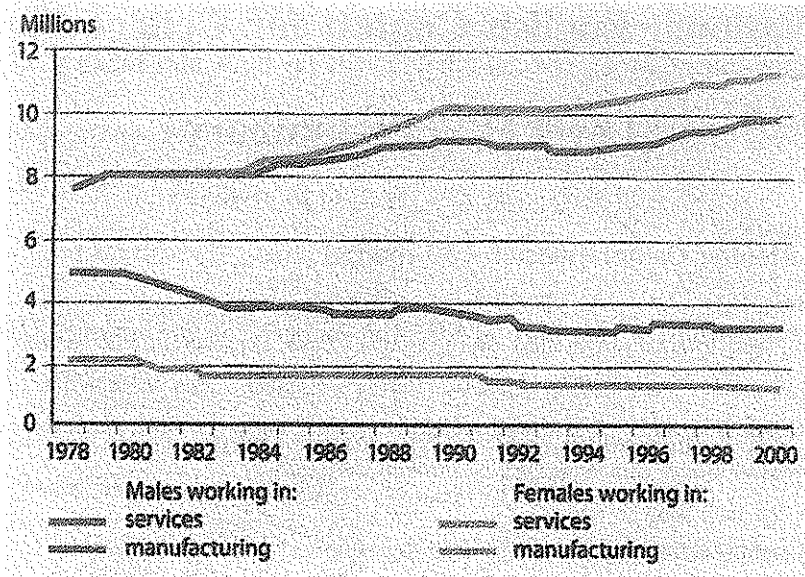
C.



D.

95. There is a four-digit number made with 1-9! Its 2nd digit is twice greater than its 3rd. The sum of all the digits is thrice greater than its last digit! The product of its 3rd and 4th digits is 12 times greater than the ratio of its 2nd to 3rd. What is it?

Part VIII Writing (30 marks)



Task I (10 marks)

UK: More service industries, less manufacturing

Study the change in world of work in the U.K. and write a report based on the information given in the chart. You should state the information, explain possible reasons and draw your conclusion.

You should write about 100 words in an appropriate style on the Answer Sheet.

Task II (20 marks)

College students have many ways to finance their college education. They may get help from their parents, find part-time jobs, apply for loans, or win scholarships. Which ways do you think are better for college students to choose in order to cover tuition fees and other living costs? Give your ideas and state your reasons for it.

Write an article of about 140 words in an appropriate style on the Answer Sheet.