# 2017年12月第一套

## 选词填空

A rat or pigeon might not be the obvious choice to tend to someone who is sick, but these creatures have some superior skills that could help the treatment of human diseases.

Pigeons are often seen as dirty birds and an urban nuisance , but they are just the latest in a long line of animals that have been found to have abilities to help humans. Despite having a brain no bigger than the tip of your index finger, pigeons have a very impressive visual memory. Recently it was shown that they could be trained to be as accurate as humans at detecting breast cancer in images.

Rats are often associated with spreading disease rather than preventing it, but this long-tailed animal is highly sensitive . Inside a rat's nose are up to 1,000 different types of olfactory receptors (嗅觉感受器), whereas humans only have 100 to 200 types. This gives rats the ability to detect slight smells. As a result, some rats are being put to work to detect TB (肺结核). When the rats detect the smell, they stop and rub their legs to indicate a sample is infected.

Traditionally, a hundred samples would take lab technicians more than two days to examine , but for a rat it takes less than 20 minutes. This rat detection method doesn't rely on specialist equipment. It is also more accurate—the rats are able to find more TB infections and, therefore, save more lives.

E.peak

G.prohibiting

J.specify

L.suspicious

N.treated

## 段落匹配

**Do In-Class Exams Make Students Study Harder?**

Research suggests they may study more broadly for the unexpected rather than search for answers.

[A] I have always been a poor test-taker. So it may seem rather strange that I have returned to college to finish the degree I left undone some four decades ago. I am making my way through Columbia University, surrounded by students who quickly supply the verbal answer while I am still processing the question.

[B] Since there is no way for me to avoid exams, I am currently questioning (what kind are the most taxing) and ultimately beneficial. I have already sweated through numerous in-class midterms and finals, and now I have a professor who issues take-home ones. I was excited when I learned this, figuring I had a full week to do the research, read the texts, and write it all up. In fact, I was still rewriting my midterm (the morning it was due). To say I had lost the thread is putting it mildly.

[C] As I was suffering through my week of anxiety, overthinking the material and guessing my grasp of it, I did some of my own polling among students and professors. David Eisenbach, who teaches a popular class on U.S. presidents at Columbia, prefers the in-class variety. He believes students ultimately learn more and encourages them to form study groups. "That way they socialize over history outside the class, which wouldn't happen without the pressure of an in-class exam," he explained. "Furthermore, in-class exams force students to learn how to perform under pressure, an essential work skill."

[D] He also says there is less chance of cheating with the in-class variety. In 2012, 125 students at Harvard were caught up in a scandal when it was discovered they had cheated on a take-home exam for a class entitled "Introduction To Congress." Some colleges have what they call an "honor code," though if you are smart enough to get into these schools, you are either smart enough to get around any codes or hopefully, too ethical to consider doing so. As I sat blocked and clueless for two solid days, I momentarily wondered if I couldn't just call an expert on the subject matter which I was tackling, or someone who took the class previously, to get me going.

[E] Following the Harvard scandal, Mary Miller, the former dean of students at Yale, made an impassioned appeal to her school's professors to refrain from take-home exams. "Students risk health and well being, as well as performance in other end-of-term work, when faculty offers take-home exams without clear, time-limited boundaries," she told me. "Research now shows that regular quizzes, short essays, and other assignments over the course of a term better enhance learning and retention."

[F] Most college professors agree the kind of exam they choose largely depends on the subject. A quantitative-based one, for example, is unlikely to be sent home, where one could ask their older brothers and sisters to help. Vocational-type classes, such as computer science or journalism, on the other hand, are often more research-oriented and lend themselves to take-home testing. Chris Koch, who teaches "History of Broadcast Journalism" at Montgomery Community College in Rockville, Maryland, points out that reporting is about investigation rather than the memorization of minute details. "In my field, it's not what you know—it's what you know how to find out," says Koch. "There is way too much information, and more coming all the time, for anyone to remember. I want my students to search out the answers to questions by using all the resources available to them."

[G] Students' test-form preferences vary, too, often depending on the subject and course difficulty. "I prefer take-home essays because it is then really about the writing, so you have time to edit and do more research," says Elizabeth Dresser, a junior at Barnard. Then there is the stress factor. Francesca Haass, a senior at Middlebury, says, "I find the in-class ones are more stressful in the short term, but there is immediate relief (as you swallow information like mad), (and then you get to forget it all). Take-homes require thoughtful engagement which can lead to longer term stress as there is never a moment when the time is up." Meanwhile, Olivia Rubin, a sophomore at Emory, says she hardly even considers take-homes true exams. "If you understand the material and have the ability to articulate (说出) your thoughts, they should be a breeze."

[H] How students ultimately handle tests may depend on their personal test-taking abilities. There are people who always wait until the last minute, and make it much harder than it needs to be. And then there are those who, not knowing what questions are coming at them, and having no resources to refer to, can freeze. And then there are we rare folks who fit both those descriptions.

[I] Yes, my advanced age must factor into the equation (等式), in part because of my inability to access the information as quickly. As another returning student at Columbia, Kate Marber, told me, "We are learning not only all this information, but essentially how to learn again. Our fellow students have just come out of high school. A lot has changed since we were last in school."

[J] If nothing else, the situation has given my college son and me something to share. When I asked his opinion on this matter, he responded, "I like in-class exams because the time is already reserved, as opposed to using my free time at home to work on a test," he responded. It seems to me that a compromise would be receiving the exam questions a day or two in advance, and then doing the actual test in class with the ticking clock overhead.

[K] Better yet, how about what one Hunter College professor reportedly did recently for her final exam: She encouraged the class not to stress or even study, promising that, "It is going to be a piece of cake." When the students came in, sharpened pencils in hand, there was not a blue book in sight. Rather, they saw a large chocolate cake and they each were given a slice.

36.Elderly students find it hard to keep up with the rapid changes in education.

37.Some believe take-home exams may affect students' performance in other courses.

38.Certain professors believe in-class exams are ultimately more helpful to students.

39.In-class exams are believed to discourage cheating in exams.

40.The author was happy to learn she could do some exams at home.

41.Students who put off their work until the last moment often find the exams more difficult than they actually are.

42.Different students may prefer different types of exams.

43.Most professors agree whether to give an in-class or a take-home exam depends on type of course being taught.

44.The author dropped out of college some forty years ago.

45.Some students think take-home exams will eat up their free time.

## 仔细阅读（一）

That people often experience trouble sleeping in a different bed in unfamiliar surroundings is a phenomenon known as the "first-night" effect. If a person stays in the same room the following night they tend to sleep more soundly. Yuka Sasaki and her colleagues at Brown University set out to investigate the origins of this effect.

Dr. Sasaki knew the first-night effect probably has something to do with how humans evolved. The puzzle was what benefit would be gained from it when performance might be affected the following day. She also knew from previous work conducted on birds and dolphins that these animals put half of their brains to sleep at a time so that they can rest while remaining alert enough to avoid predators (捕食者). This led her to wonder if people might be doing the same thing. To take a closer look, her team studied 35 healthy people as they slept in the unfamiliar environment of the university's Department of Psychological Sciences. The participants each slept in the department for two nights and were carefully monitored with techniques that looked at the activity of their brains. Dr. Sasaki found, as expected, the participants slept less well on their first night than they did on their second, taking more than twice as long to fall asleep and sleeping less overall. During deep sleep, the participants' brains behaved in a similar manner seen in birds and dolphins. On the first night only, the left hemispheres (半球) of their brains did not sleep nearly as deeply as their right hemispheres did.

Curious if the left hemispheres were indeed remaining awake to process information detected in the surrounding environment, Dr. Sasaki re-ran the experiment while presenting the sleeping participants with a mix of regularly timed beeps (蜂鸣声) of the same tone and irregular beeps of a different tone during the night. She worked out that, if the left hemisphere was staying alert to keep guard in a strange environment, then it would react to the irregular beeps by stirring people from sleep and would ignore the regularly timed ones. This is precisely what she found.

46.What did researchers find puzzling about the first-night effect?

A.To what extent it can trouble people.

B.What role it has played in evolution.

C.What circumstances may trigger it.

D.In what way it can be beneficial.

47.What do we learn about Dr. Yuka Sasaki doing her research?

A.She found birds and dolphins remain alert while asleep.

B.She found birds and dolphins sleep in much the same way.

C.She got some idea from previous studies on birds and dolphins

D.She conducted studies on birds' and dolphins' sleeping patterns.

48.What did Dr. Sasaki do when she first did her experiment?

A.She monitored the brain activity of participants sleeping in a new environment.

B.She recruited 35 participants from her Department of Psychological Sciences.

C.She studied the differences between the two sides of participants' brains.

D.She tested her findings about birds and dolphins on human subjects.

49.What did Dr. Sasaki do when re-running her experiment?

A.She analyzed the negative effect of irregular tones on brains.

B.She recorded participants' adaptation to changed environment.

C.She exposed her participants to two different stimuli.

D.She compared the responses of different participants.

50.What did Dr. Sasaki find about the participants in her experiment?

A.They tended to enjoy certain tones more than others.

B.They tended to perceive irregular beeps as a threat.

C.They felt sleepy when exposed to regular beeps.

D.They differed in their tolerance of irregular tones.

## 仔细阅读（二）

It's time to reevaluate how women handle conflict at work. Being overworked or over-committed at home and on the job will not get you where you want to be in life. It will only slow you down and hinder your career goals.

Did you know women are more likely than men to feel exhausted? Nearly twice as many women than men ages 18-44 reported feeling "very tired" or "exhausted", according to a recent study.

This may not be surprising given that this is the age range when women have children. It's also the age range when many women are trying to balance careers and home. One reason women may feel exhausted is that they have a hard time saying "no." Women want to be able to do it all -- volunteer for school parties or cook delicious meals -- and so their answer to any request is often "Yes, I can."

Women struggle to say "no" in the workplace for similar reasons, including the desire to be liked by their colleagues. Unfortunately, this inability to say "no" may be hurting women's health as well as their career.

At the workplace, men use conflict as a way to position themselves, while women often avoid conflict or strive to be the peacemaker, because they don't want to be viewed as aggressive or disruptive at work. For example, there's a problem that needs to be addressed immediately, resulting in a dispute over who should be the one to fix it. Men are more likely to face that dispute from the perspective of what benefits them most, whereas women may approach the same dispute from the perspective of what's the easiest and quickest way to resolve the problem -- even if that means doing the boring work themselves.

This difference in handling conflict could be the deciding factor on who gets promoted to a leadership position and who does not. Leaders have to be able to delegate and manage resources wisely -- including staff expertise. Shouldering more of the workload may not earn you that promotion. Instead, it may highlight your inability to delegate effectively.

51.What does the author say is the problem with women?

A.They are often unclear about the career goals to reach.

B.They are usually more committed at home than on the job.

C.They tend to be over-optimistic about how far they could go.

D.They tend to push themselves beyond the limits of their ability.

52.Why do working women of child-bearing age tend to feel drained of energy?

A.They struggle to satisfy the demands of both work and home.

B.They are too devoted to work and unable to relax as a result.

C.They do their best to cooperate with their workmates.

D.They are obliged to take up too many responsibilities.

53.What may hinder the future prospects of career women?

A.Their unwillingness to say "no".

B.Their desire to be considered powerful.

C.An underestimate of their own ability.

D.A lack of courage to face challenges.

54.Men and woman differ in their approach to resolving workplace conflicts in that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A.women tend to be easily satisfied

B.men are generally more persuasive

C.men tend to put their personal interests first

D.women are much more ready to compromise

55.What is important to a good leader?

A.A dominant personality.

B.The ability to delegate.

C.The courage to admit failure

D.A strong sense of responsibility.

# 2017年12月第二套

## 选词填空

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

She decided to start an afterschool program where children participated in STEM-based competitions. The club grew quickly and when it reached 180 members and the kids in the program won several state championships , she decided to devote all her time to cultivating and developing it. The global business EFK was born.

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

A.attracted

D.degrees

H.feasible

I.feeding

K.interest

## 段落匹配

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

[A] "You suspended Ray Rice after our video," a reporter from TMZ challenged National Football League Commissioner Roger Goodell the other day. "Why didn't you have the curiosity to go to the casino (赌场) yourself?" The implication of the question is that a more curious commissioner would have found a way to get the tape.

[B] The accusation of incuriosity is one that we hear often, carrying the suggestion that there is something wrong with not wanting to search out the truth. "I have been bothered for a long time about the curious lack of curiosity," said a Democratic member of the New Jersey legislature back in July, referring to an insufficiently inquiring attitude on the part of an assistant to New Jersey Governor Chris Christie who chose not to ask hard question about the George Washington Bridge traffic scandal. "Isn't the mainstream media the least bit curious about what happened?" wrote conservative writer Jennifer Rubin earlier this year, referring to the attack on Americans in Benghazi, Libya.

[C] The implication, in each case, is that curiosity is a good thing, and a lack of curiosity is a problem. Are such accusations simply efforts to score political points for one's party? Or is there something of particular value about curiosity in and of itself?

[D] The journalist Ian Leslie, in his new and enjoyable book Curious: The Desire to Know and Why Your Future Depends on It, insists that the answer to that last question is 'Yes'. Leslie argues that curiosity is a much-overlooked human virtue, crucial to our success, and that we are losing it.

[E] We are suffering, he writes, from a "serendipity deficit." The word "serendipity" was coined by Horace Walpole in an 1854 letter, from a tale of three princes who "were always making discoveries, by accident, of things they were not in search of." Leslie worries that the rise of the Internet, among other social and technological changes, has reduced our appetite for aimless adventures. No longer have we the inclination to let ourselves wander through fields of knowledge, ready to be surprised. Instead, we seek only the information we want.

[F] Why is this a problem? Because without curiosity we will lose the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship. We will see unimaginative governments and dying corporations make disastrous decisions. We will lose a vital part of what has made humanity as a whole so successful as a species.

[G] Leslie presents considerable evidence for the proposition that the society as a whole is growing less curious. In the U.S and Europe, for example, the rise of the Internet has led to a declining consumption of news from outside the reader's borders. But not everything is to be blamed on technology. The decline in interest in literary fiction is also one of the causes identified by Leslie. Reading literary fiction, he says, make us more curious.

[H] Moreover, in order to be curious, "you have to be aware of a gap in your knowledge in the first place." Although Leslie perhaps paints a bit broadly in contending that most of us are unaware of how much we don't know, he's surely right to point out that the problem is growing: "Google can give us the powerful illusion that all questions have definite answers."

[I] Indeed, Google, for which Leslie expresses admiration, is also his frequent whipping body (替罪羊). He quotes Google co-founder Larry Page to the effect that the "perfect search engine" will "understand exactly what I mean and give me back exactly what I want." Elsewhere in the book, Leslie writes: "Google aims to save you from the thirst of curiosity altogether."

[J] Somewhat nostalgically (怀旧地), he quotes John Maynard Keynes's justly famous words of praise to the bookstore: "One should enter it vaguely, almost in a dream, and allow what is there freely to attract and influence the eye. To walk the rounds of the bookshops, dipping in as curiosity dictates, should be an afternoon's entertainment." If only!

[K] Citing the work of psychologists and cognitive (认知的) scientists, Leslie criticizes the received wisdom that academic success is the result of a combination of intellectual talent and hard work. Curiosity, he argues, is the third key factor—and a difficult one to preserve. If not cultivated, it will not survive: "Childhood curiosity is a collaboration between child and adult. The surest way to kill it is to leave it alone."

[L] School education, he warns, is often conducted in a way that makes children incurious. Children of educated and upper-middle-class parents turn out to be far more curious, even at early ages, than children of working class and lower class families. That lack of curiosity produces a relative lack of knowledge, and the lack of knowledge is difficult if not impossible to compensate for later on

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## 仔细阅读（一）

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

On the other hand, scientists are increasingly learning that aging and biological age are two different things, and that the former is a key risk factor for conditions such as heart disease, cancer and many more. In that light, aging itself might be seen as something treatable, the way you would treat high blood pressure or a vitamin deficiency.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

46.What do people generally believe about aging?

A.It should cause no alarm whatsoever.

B.They just cannot do anything about it.

C.It should be regarded as a kind of disease.

D.They can delay it with advances in science.

47.How do many scientists view aging now?

A.It might be prevented and treated.

B.It can be as risky as heart disease.

C.It results from a vitamin deficiency.

D.It is an irreversible biological process.

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

A.It will prompt people to take aging more seriously.

B.It will greatly help reduce the side effects of aging.

C.It will free pharmacists from the conventional beliefs about aging.

D.It will motivate doctors and pharmacists to find ways to treat aging.

49.What do we learn about the medical community?

A.They now have a strong interest in research on aging.

B.They differ from the academic circles in their view on aging.

C.They can contribute to people's health only to a limited extent.

D.They have ways to intervene in people's aging process.

50.What does professor Leonard Hayflick believe?

A.The human lifespan cannot be prolonged.

B.Aging is hardly separable from disease.

C.Few people live up to the age of 92.

D.Heart disease is the major cause of aging.

## 仔细阅读（二）

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

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

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

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

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

"We're not trying to assign blame or criticize anyone or call anyone conscious sexist. Rather, the point is to use the results of this study to open up meaningful dialogues on implicit gender bias, be it at a departmental level or an institutional level or even a discipline level." Which may lead to some recommendations for the letter writers themselves.

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

A.There are many more men applying than women.

B.Chances for women to get the positions are scare.

C.More males than females are likely to get outstanding letters of recommendation.

D.Male applicants have more interest in these positions than their female counterparts.

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

A.Women engaged in postdoctoral work are quickly catching up.

B.Fewer women are applying for postdoctoral positions due to gender bias.

C.Men are believed to be better able to excel in STEM disciplines.

D.Women who are keenly interested in STEM fields are often exceptional.

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

A.They are hardly ever supported by concrete examples.

B.They contain nothing that distinguishes the applicants.

C.They provide objective information without exaggeration.

D.They are often filled with praise for exceptional applicants.

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

A.They asked unbiased scholars to evaluate them.

B.They invited women professionals to edit them.

C.They assigned them randomly to reviewers.

D.They deleted all information about gender.

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

A.Raise recommendation writers' awareness of gender bias in their letters.

B.Open up fresh avenues for women post-doctors to join in research work.

C.Alert women researchers to all types of gender bias in the STEM disciplines.

D.Start a public discussion on how to raise women's status in academic circles.

# 2017年12月第三套

## 选词填空

Technological changes brought dramatic new options to Americans living in the 1990s. During this decade new forms of entertainment, commerce, research，and communication became commonplace in the U.S. The driving force behind much of this change was a(n) innovation popularly known as the Internet.

The Internet was developed during the 1970s by the Department of Defense. In the case of an attack, military advisers suggested the advantage of being able to operate one computer from another terminal. In the early days, the Internet was used mainly by scientists to communicate with other scientists. The Internet remained under government control until 1984.

One early problem faced by Internet users was speed. Phone lines could only transmit information at a limited rate. The development of fiber-optic （光纤） cables allowed for billions of bits of information to be received every minute. Companies like Intel developed faster microprocessors, so personal computers could process the incoming signals at a more rapid rate.

In the early 1990s, the World Wide Web was developed, in large part, for commercial purposes.Corporations created home pages where they could place text and graphics to sell products. Soon airline tickets, hotel reservations , and even cars and homes could be purchased online. Universities posted research data on the Internet, so students could find valuable information without leaving their dormitories. Companies soon discovered that work could be done at home and submitted online, so a whole new class of telecommuters began to earn a living from home offices unshaven and wearing pajamas （睡衣）.

C.conservation

D.equipped

H.local

I.maintained

J.occupations

## 段落匹配

**The Health Benefits of**Knitting

[A] About 15 years ago, I was invited to join a knitting group. I agreed to give it a try.

[B] My mother had taught me to knit at 15, and I knitted in class throughout college and for a few years thereafter. Then decades passed without my touching a knitting needle. But within two Mondays in the group, I was hooked, not only on knitting but also on crocheting （钩织）, and I was on my way to becoming a highly productive crafter.

[C] I've made countless baby blankets, sweaters, scarves, hats, caps for newborns. I take a knitting project with me everywhere, especially when I have to sit still and listen. As I discovered in college, when my hands are busy, my mind stays focused on the here and now.

[D] It seems, too, that I'm part of a national renewal of interest in needle and other handicrafts （手工艺）. The Craft Yarn Council reports that a third of women ages 25-35 now knit or crochet. Even men and schoolchildren are swelling the ranks, among them my friend's three small grandsons. Last April, the council created a "Stitch Away Stress" campaign in honor of National Stress Awareness Month. Dr. Herbert Benson, a pioneer in mind/body medicine and author of The Relaxation Response, says that the repetitive action of needlework can induce a relaxed state like that associated with meditation （沉思） and yoga. Once you get beyond the initial learning curve, knitting and crocheting can lower heart rate and blood pressure.

[E] But unlike meditation, craft activities result in tangible and often useful products that can enhance self-esteem. I keep photos of my singular accomplishments on my cellphone to boost my spirits when needed.

[F] Since the 1990s, the council has surveyed hundreds of thousands of knitters and crocheters, who routinely list stress relief and creative fulfillment as the activities' main benefits. Among them is the father of a prematurely born daughter who reported that during the baby's five weeks in the intensive care unit, "learning how to knit infant hats gave me a sense of purpose during a time that I felt very helpless. It's a hobby that I've stuck with, and it continues to help me cope with stress at work, provide a sense of order in hectic （忙乱的） days, and allow my brain time to solve problems."

[G] A recent email from the yarn （纺纱） company Red Heart titled "Health Benefits of Crocheting and Knitting" prompted me to explore what else might be known about the health value of activities like knitting. My research revealed that the rewards go well beyond replacing stress and anxiety with the satisfaction of creation.

[H] For example, Karen Hayes, a life coach in Toronto, conducts knitting therapy programs, including Knit to Quit to help smokers give up the habit, and Knit to Heal for people coping with health crises, like a cancer diagnosis or serious illness of a family member. Schools and prisons with craft programs report that they have a calming effect and enhance social skills. And having to follow instructions on complex craft projects can improve children's math skills.

[I] Some people find that craftwork helps them control their weight. Just as it's challenging to smoke while knitting, when hands are holding needles and hooks, there's less snacking and mindless eating out of boredom.

[J] I've found that my handiwork with yarn has helped my arthritic （患关节炎的） fingers remain more dexterous （灵巧的） as I age. A woman encouraged to try knitting and crocheting after developing an autoimmune disease that caused a lot of hand pain reported on the Craft Yarn Council site that her hands are now less stiff and painful.

[K] A 2009 University of British Columbia study of 38 women with an eating disorder who were taught to knit found that learning the craft led to significant improvements. Seventy-four percent of the women said the activity lessened their fears and kept them from thinking about their problem.

[L] Betsan Corkhill, a wellness coach in Bath, England, and author of the book Knit for Health &amp; Wellness, established a website, Stitchlinks, to explore the value of what she calls therapeutic knitting. Among her respondents, 54 percent of those who were clinically depressed said that knitting made them feel happy or very happy. In a study of 60 self-selected people with persistent pain, Ms. Corkhill and colleagues reported that knitting enabled them to redirect their focus, reducing their awareness of pain. She suggested that the brain can process just so much at once, and that activities like knitting and crocheting make it harder for the brain to register pain signals. Perhaps most exciting is research that suggests that crafts like knitting and crocheting may help to keep off a decline in brain function with age. In a 2011 study, researchers led by Dr. Yonas Geda at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester interviewed a random （随机的） sample of 1,321 people ages 70-89, most of whom were cognitively （在认知方面） normal, about the cognitive activities they engaged in late in life. The study, published in the Journal of Neuropsychiatry &amp; Clinical Neurosciences, found that those who engaged in crafts like knitting and crocheting had a diminished chance of developing mild cognitive disorder and memory loss.

[M] Although it is possible that only people who are cognitively healthy would pursue such activities, those who read newspapers or magazines or played music did not show similar benefits. The researchers speculate that craft activities promote the development of nerve pathways in the brain that help to maintain cognitive health.

[N] In support of that suggestion, a 2014 study by Denise C. Park of the University of Texas at Dallas and colleagues demonstrated that learning to knit or do digital photography enhanced memory function in older adults. Those who engaged in activities that were not intellectually challenging, either in a social group or alone, did not show such improvements.

[O] Given that sustained social contacts have been shown to support health and a long life, those wishing to maximize the health value of crafts might consider joining a group of like-minded folks. I for one try not to miss a single weekly meeting of my knitting group.

36.When the author was a college student, she found that knitting helped her concentrate.

37.Knitting can help people stay away from tobacco.

38.Even men and children are now joining the army of knitters.

39.Being a member of a crafts group enhance one's health and prolongs one's life.

40.Knitting diverts people's attention from their pain.

41.The author learnt to knit as a teenager, but it was not until she was much older that she became keenly interested.

42.When people are knitting, they tend to eat fewer snacks.

43.Survey findings show that knitting can help people relieve stress.

44.According to a study, knitters and crocheters are less likely to suffer mild cognitive damage.

45.The products of knitting can increase one's sense of self-respect.

## 仔细阅读（一）

Nobody really knows how big Lagos is. What's indisputable is that it's growing very quickly. Between now and 2050, the urban population of Africa could triple. Yet cities in sub-Saharan Africa are not getting richer the way cities in the rest of the world have. Most urban Africans live in slums （贫民窟）; migrants are often not much better off than they were in the countryside. Why?

The immediate problem is poverty. Most of Africa is urbanising at a lower level of income than other regions of the world did. That means there's little money around for investment that would make cities liveable and more productive. Without upgrades and new capacity, bridges, roads and power systems are unable to cope with expanding populations. With the exception of South Africa, the only light rail metro system in sub-Saharan Africa is in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Traffic jam leads to expense and unpredictability, things that keep investors away.

In other parts of the world, increasing agricultural productivity and industrialisation went together. More productive farmers meant there was a surplus that could feed cities; in turn, that created a pool of labour for factories. But African cities are different. They are too often built around consuming natural resources. Government is concentrated in capitals, so is the money. Most urban Africans work for a small minority of the rich, who tend to be involved in either cronyish （有裙带关系的） businesses or politics. Since African agriculture is still broadly unproductive, food is imported, consuming a portion of revenue.

So what can be done? Though African countries are poor, not all African cities are. In Lagos, foreign oil workers can pay as much as 65,000 dollars per year in rent for a modest apartment in a safe part of town. If that income were better taxed, it might provide the revenue for better infrastructure. If city leaders were more accountable to their residents, they might favour projects designed to help them more. Yet even as new roads are built, new people arrive. When a city's population grows by 5% a year, it is difficult to keep up.

46.What do we learn from the passage about cities in sub-Saharan Africa?

A.They have more slums than other cities in the world.

B.They are growing fast without becoming richer.

C.They are as modernised as many cities elsewhere.

D.They attract migrants who want to be better off.

47.What does the author imply about urbanisation in other parts of the world?

A.It benefited from the contribution of immigrants.

B.It started when people's income was relatively high.

C.It benefited from the accelerated rise in productivity.

D.It started with the improvement of peopled livelihood.

48.Why is sub-Saharan Africa unappealing to investors?

A.It lacks adequate transport facilities.

B.The living expenses there are too high.

C.It is on the whole too densely populated.

D.The local governments are corrupted.

49.In what way does the author say African cities are different?

A.They have attracted huge numbers of farm labourers.

B.They still rely heavily on agricultural productivity.

C.They have developed at the expense of nature.

D.They depend far more on foreign investment.

50.What might be a solution to the problems facing African cities?

A.Lowering of apartment rent.

B.Better education for residents.

C.More rational overall planning.

D.A more responsible government.

## 仔细阅读（二）

For the past several decades, it seems there's been a general consensus on how to get ahead in America: Get a college education, find a reliable job, and buy your own home. But do Americans still believe in that path, and if they do, is it attainable?

The most recent National Journal poll asked respondents about the American dream, what it takes to achieve their goals, and whether or not they felt a significant amount of control over their ability to be successful. Overwhelmingly, the results show that today, the idea of the American dream—and what it takes to achieve it—looks quite different than it did in the late 20th century.

By and large, people felt that their actions and hard work—not outside forces—were the deciding factor in how their lives turned out. But respondents had decidedly mixed feelings about what actions make for a better life in the current economy.

In the last seven years, Americans have grown more pessimistic about the power of education to lead to success. Even though they see going to college as a fairly achievable goal, a majority—52 percent—think that young people do not need a four-year college education in order to be successful.

Miguel Maeda, 42, who has a master's degree and works in public health, was the first in his family to go to college, which has allowed him to achieve a sense of financial stability his parents and grandparents never did.

While some, like Maeda, emphasized the value of the degree rather than the education itself, others still see college as a way to gain new perspectives and life experiences. Sixty-year-old Will Fendley, who had a successful career in the military and never earned a college degree, thinks "personal drive" is far more important than just going to college. To Fendley， a sense of drive and purpose, as well as an effective high-school education, and basic life skills, like balancing a checkbook, are the necessary ingredients for a successful life in America.

51.It used to be commonly acknowledged that to succeed in America, one had to have \_\_\_\_\_.

A.an advanced academic degree

B.an ambition to get ahead

C.a firm belief in their dream

D.a sense of drive and purpose

52.What is the finding of the latest National Journal poll concerning the American dream?

A.More and more Americans are finding it hard to realize.

B.It remains alive among the majority of American people.

C.Americans' idea of it has changed over the past few decades.

D.An increasing number of young Americans are abandoning it.

53.What do Americans now think of the role of college education in achieving success?

A.It still remains open to debate.

B.It has proved to be beyond doubt.

C.It is no longer as important as it used to be.

D.It is much better understood now than ever.

54.How do some people view college education these days?

A.It promotes gender equality.

B.It needs to be strengthened.

C.It adds to cultural diversity.

D.It helps broaden their minds.

55.What is one factor essential to success in America, according to Will Fendley?

A.A desire to learn and to adapt.

B.A strong sense of responsibility.

C.A willingness to commit oneself.

D.A clear aim and high motivation.