

Reading Comprehension

Passage 1

Peter won his all-important game and became American Chess Master for the year 1988, and he was held in great respect.

"It isn't rightly mine." he said, holding up the cup. "It was won five years ago when I was on holiday in..."

He began his story.

A young mother and her son were staying at my hotel. The lady had heard that I played chess, and she begged me to give her son a game. "He's only ten," she said, "but I've been told he plays well. I hope you can prove it."

Well, as you can imagine, I was not very happy. A player likes to meet somebody at his own level. But it was holiday time, and I agreed to play. We set up the board in the garden. I hoped the game would be quick — and so it was.

I soon found out that the boy was no learner. After ten minutes a girl came outside and began to play tennis against the wall. The boy seemed to have lost interest in our game. He moved a piece carelessly. I watched the board with great attention.

"Call me when you're ready, Peter." he said.

When I was ready? I looked up. He had gone off to play with the girl. I studied the board and found myself in difficulty. So it went on with the boy: a quick move, then tennis, back to the board, then back to the girl. My difficulties became hopeless. I was beaten, so easily by a born chess player. The victory was his — in twenty minutes.

David Smith — the name to remember. I had a chance to use his game today, and it won this cup for me. To him, it is only one of a hundred, or perhaps a thousand, winning games.

1. Peter remembered David Smith just to show A.
- A. his happiness at his success



- Unit 3
- B. his excitement at the final meeting
C. his thankfulness to the clever boy
D. his good skill at chess games
2. When Peter was asked to play chess at the hotel, he thought B.
A. he could not beat the boy easily
B. he could soon make the boy give in
C. he could never play as well as the boy
D. it would be quick because he was ready to lose
3. Peter was surprised to see that the boy B.
A. didn't like to learn
B. didn't really like to play chess
C. was playing so wonderfully
D. could play so quickly
4. The boy seemed to have lost interest because C.
A. he wanted to play tennis
B. he saw the girl
C. he found Peter was playing too poorly
D. he knew he could not win
5. The boy was a born chess player. He B.
A. could do nothing but play chess
B. started to play chess right after his birth
C. learned hundreds of thousands of games while he was a baby
D. could play chess well by nature

Passage 2

Time spent in a bookshop can be most enjoyable, whether you are a book-lover or merely you are there to buy a book as a present. You may even hate entering the shop just to find shelter from a sudden shower. Whatever the reason, you can soon become totally unaware of your surroundings. The desire to pick up a book with an attractive dust-jacket is irresistible, although this method of selection ought not to be followed, as you might end up with a rather dull book. You soon become engrossed in some book or other, and usually it is only much later that you realize you have spent far too much time there and must dash off to keep some forgotten appointment — without buying a book, of course.

This opportunity to escape the realities of everyday life is, I think, the main attraction of a bookshop. There are not many places where it is possible to do this. A music shop is very much like a bookshop. You can wander round such places to your heart's content. If it is a good shop, no assistant will approach you with inevitable greetings: "Can I help you, sir?" You needn't buy anything you don't want. In a bookshop, an assistant should remain in the background until you have



finished browsing. Then, and only then, are his services necessary. Of course you may want to find out where a particular section is, but when he has led you there, the assistant should retire carefully and look as if he is not interested in selling a single book.

You have to be careful not to be attracted by the variety of books in a bookshop. It is very easy to enter the shop looking for a book on ancient coins and to come out carrying a copy of the latest best-selling novel and perhaps a book about brass-rubbing — something that had only vaguely interested you up until then. This volume on the subject, however, happened to be so well illustrated and the part of the text you read proved so interesting that you just had to buy it. This sort of thing can be very dangerous. Apart from running up a huge account, you can waste a great deal of time wandering from section to section.

6. "Dust-jacket" in the first paragraph probably means B.
 A. a kind of clothes B. protecting paper cover of a book
 C. book cover full of dust D. title of a book
7. You may spend too much time in a bookshop because A.
 A. the dust-jackets of some books are very attractive
 B. you start reading one of the books
 C. it keeps raining outside
 D. you have to make sure you don't buy a dull book as a present
8. In a good bookshop D.
 A. nobody takes any notice of you
 B. the assistant greets you in a friendly way
 C. you feel as if you are in a music shop
 D. you find yourself satisfied with browsing
9. An assistant's help is needed B.
 A. as soon as you have entered the shop
 B. before you start browsing
 C. only when you have finished browsing
 D. when you have determined to buy
10. Picking up books that vaguely interest you can be dangerous because C.
 A. you may forget about the book you plan to buy
 B. you have to give up the best-selling book
 C. it makes you break your appointment
 D. it costs you too much money and time



Passage 3

In the old day, children were familiar with birth and death as part of life. This is perhaps the first generation of American *youngsters* (年轻人) who have never been close by during the birth of a baby and have never experienced the death of a family member.

Nowadays when people grow old, we often send them to nursing homes. When they get sick, we transfer them to a hospital, where children are forbidden to visit terminally ill patients — even when those patients are their parents. This *deprives* (剥夺) the dying patient of significant family members during the last few days of his life and it deprives the children of an experience of death, which is an important learning experience.

Some of my colleagues and I once interviewed and followed approximately 500 terminally ill patients in order to find out what they could teach us and how we could be of more benefit, not just to them but to the members of their families as well. We are most impressed by the fact that even those patients who were not told of their serious illness were quite aware of its potential outcome.

It is important for family members, and doctors and nurses to understand these patients' communications in order to truly understand their needs, fears, and *fantasies* (幻想). Most of our patients welcomed another human being with whom they could talk openly, honestly, and frankly about their trouble. Many of them shared with us their tremendous need to be informed, to be kept up-to-date on their medical condition and to be told when the end was near. We found out that patients who had been dealt with openly and frankly were better able to cope with the approach of death and finally to reach a true stage of acceptance prior to death.

11. The elders of contemporary Americans D.
- A. were often absent when a family member was born or dying
 - B. were quite unfamiliar with birth and death
 - C. usually witnessed the birth or death of a family member
 - D. had often experienced the fear of death as part of life
12. Children in America today are denied the chance C.
- A. to learn how to face death
 - B. to visit dying patients
 - C. to attend to patients
 - D. to have access to a hospital
13. Five hundred critically ill patients were investigated with the main purpose of A.
- A. observing how they reacted to the crisis of death
 - B. helping them and their families overcome the fear of death



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- C. finding out their attitude towards the approach of death
D. learning how to best help them and their families
14. The need of a dying patient for company shows B.
A. his desire for communication with other people
B. his fear of approaching death
C. his pessimistic attitude towards his condition
D. his reluctance to part with his family
15. It may be concluded from the passage that B.
A. dying patients are afraid of being told of the approach of death
B. most doctors and nurses understand what dying patients need
C. dying patients should be truthfully informed of their condition
D. most patients are unable to accept death until it is obviously inevitable

Passage 4

The competition among producers of personal computers is basically a race to get the best, newest products to the marketplace. Marketers in this environment frequently have to make a judgment as to their competitors' role when making marketing decisions. If major competitors are changing their products, then a marketer may want to follow suit to remain competitive. Apple Computer, Inc. has introduced two new, faster personal computers, the Mackintosh II and Mackintosh SE, expecting the introduction of a new PC by IBM, one of Apple's major competitors.

Apple's new computers are much faster and more powerful than its earlier models. The improved Mackintosh is able to run programs that were impossible to run on an Apple PC, including IBM — compatible programs. This compatibility quality shows computer producers' new attitude of giving customers the qualities they want. Making Apple computers capable of running IBM software is Apple's effort at making the Mackintosh compatible with IBM computers and thus more popular in the office, where Apple hopes to increase sales. Users of the new Apple can also add accessories to make their machines specialize in specific uses, such as engineering and writing.

The new computers stand for a big improvement over past models, but they also cost much more. Company officials do not think the higher price will slow down buyers who want to step up to a more powerful computer. Apple wants to stay in the high-price end of the personal computer market to provide money for the research for even faster, more sophisticated computers.

Even though Apple and IBM are major competitors, both companies realize that their competitor's computers have certain qualities that their own models do



not. The Apple line has always been popular for its sophisticated color graphics, but the IBM machines have always been favored in offices. In the future, there will probably be more compatibility between the two companies' products, which no doubt will require that both Apple and IBM change marketing plans.

16. According to the passage, Apple Computer, Inc. has introduced the Mackintosh II and the Mackintosh SE because A.
- A. IBM is also putting new computer models onto the market
 - B. it wants to make its machines specialize in specific uses
 - C. it wants to stay much ahead of IBM in the competitive computer market
 - D. it expects its major competitor IBM to follow its example
17. Apple hopes to increase Mackintosh sales chiefly by A.
- A. making its new models capable of running IBM software
 - B. improving the color graphics of its new models
 - C. copying the marketing plans of IBM
 - D. giving the customers more choices
18. Apples sells its new computer models at a high price because B.
- A. they have new qualities and functions
 - B. they are more sophisticated than other models
 - C. they have new accessories
 - D. it wants to get more money for future research
19. It can be inferred from the passage that both Apple and IBM try to gain a competitive advantage by B.
- A. copying each other's technology
 - B. including qualities that make their products different
 - C. making their computers more expensive
 - D. making their computers run much faster
20. The best title for the passage would be D.
- A. Apple's Efforts to Stay Much Ahead of IBM
 - B. Apple's New Computer Technology
 - C. Apple's New Personal Computers
 - D. Apple's Research Activities

XI Cloze

In the United States, a university professor is granted a few months of freedom from his 1 about every seventh year for travel or advanced study. This 2 of freedom from teaching is called a sabbatical 3. Its aim is to give



Appendix

Key to Exercises and Tests

Key to Unit 1

IV Word Formation

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. witness | 2. arbitrary | 3. employment | 4. thoroughly |
| 5. apologize | 6. complain | 7. wander | 8. brush |
| 9. process | 10. respectable | 11. reliable | 12. defense |
| 13. confirm | 14. dismiss | 15. award | |

V Fill in the Blanks with the Above Words You Spelled in the Correct Tense and Form

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|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. employs | 2. respect | 3. complaint | 4. confirm |
| 5. dismiss | 6. witnessed | 7. apologized | 8. defending |
| 9. arbitrary | 10. relied | | |

VI Structure

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1~5 ACBAA | 6~10 CAADC | 11~15 DABBD | 16~20 DBCBD |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|

VII Vocabulary

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1~5 BACDD | 6~10 DCDCB | 11~15 CBABB | 16~20 ACCCB |
| 21~25 ADDAB | 26~30 BCACA | | |

VIII Phrases

- a...of: 1—e, 2—c, 3—f, 4—a, 5—d, 6—b
 turn: 1—c, 2—f, 3—d, 4—a, 5—e, 6—b

IX Fill in the Blanks with the Above Phrases

- a...of: 1. couple 2. quarter 3. dozen 4. number 5. sum 6. bit
 turn: 1. against 2. out 3. up 4. to 5. over 6. down

X Reading Comprehension

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1~5 ABBCB | 6~10 BADBC | 11~15 DCABB | 16~20 AABBD |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|

XI Cloze

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1~5 DDABC | 6~10 ABADA | 11~15 BBADA | 16~20 BADBC |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|

XII Translation

A. C-E Translation

