**(2023年和平高考三模C篇)**

The audio market has taken off over the past few years. Music-lovers have seen their habits change and slowly adapt to various new options on the market, from headphones to traditional cable earphones, and the launch, of course, of iPods and similar products.

First appearing in 2016, wireless earphone technology has profoundly changed how we listen to music. All the major brands want to be part of the action. But they are not only for music-lovers. Simple to use and easy to wear, wireless earphones are multi-functional; users can not only make and receive calls, but also listen to and share music with friends.

The technology was unfortunately not fully **up to scratch** in the beginning. Reports talk of devices which would fall out easily, lose their connection or just offered a poor listening experience.

All that has changed in the past two months. An American start-up has changed the game by introducing its latest creation: "premium quality" wireless earphones built with technology previously unknown in the world of sound.

Frank, the creator of AirPhones, tells us all, "I'm a real music fan, but I was fed up with buying earphones and headphones to be disappointed by their performance. So after graduating from engineering school, I decided to create my own brand. The first thing I did was to find a team of. professionals as dedicated to the listening experience as me. This is how we came up with AirPhones - top of the range, yet affordable, earphones. In no time, we were able to secure funding for the project. Our success comes from the passion we have for the product and working hard to make it a reality. "

"AirPhones are going to change your audio experiences forever, ". explains a member of the AirPhones creators team. Thanks to the integrated wireless You technology AirPhones employ, users enjoy the best voice and sound quality available on the market.

These Bluetooth earphones with their ergonomic (人体工程学的) design give extreme wear ability and comfort. Once in your ears, they stay there. You can take big part in intense activities like running, climbing, camping or horse-riding without the slightest worry that your earphones are going to slip out.

Equipped with a twin mode, AirPhones owners can listen to their own music, their friends' music or even share theirs with others.

These new stars of the tech industry are compatible (兼容的) on both Android and iOS. They have exceptional battery life, with more than 8 hours of performance when fully-charged. (.CABDB.)

1. What was the advantage of the wireless earphone when it first appeared?

A. Its multiple functions saved users a lot of money.

B. It changed the music lovers' way of communication.

C. People used it in some other ways besides enjoying music.

D. People were likely to become friends when sharing music with it.

2. What does the underlined phrase "up to scratch" in Para. 3 mean?

A. Good enough.

B. Able to be repeated.

C. Far from satisfactory.

D. Lacking in meaning.

3. Which of the following statements is true?

A. Frank came up with the idea of Airphones when he was in engineering school.

B. Everyone in Frank's team was committed to improving the listening experience.

C. Frank couldn't afford his project because the investment was not considered safe.

D. AirPhones would fall out easily or offered a poor listening experience in the beginning.

4. What would people experience when they used Airphones?

A. They would probably feel confused with the previously unknown technology.

B. Some of them would be disappointed by their high price but bad performance.

C. People could share voices and images in their friends' phones through Airphones.

D. People could participate in intense activities and enjoy music at the same time.

5. What is the passage mainly about?

A. The history of the earphone.

B. An progress in earphone technology.

C. The Bluetooth technology in use.

D. A major change in human life.

**（2020年红桥区4月高考模拟C篇）**

The Hope diamond is one of the world's most famous jewels. It was in the possession of a series of people: kings, bankers, rich women and thieves, before its arrival 60 years ago at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C.

As a rare blue diamond, it has a complex social history, to be sure. But, far more so is its geological history, researchers say in a new report. This is the first time anyone has come up with a fact - based study or model for how blue diamond's form.

The group looked at 42 blue diamonds, including one from South Africa that recently sold for $25 million in 2016. Researchers could tell where the stones were formed based on the very small minerals trapped inside. Diamonds are a hard, clear form of pure carbon called a crystal (结晶). They form under extreme heat and pressure. Blue diamond's crystallize alongside water - bearing minerals that long ago were part of the floor of the sea. But these minerals were pushed deeper underground during the movement of the Earths plates.

Scientists already knew these diamonds received their blue color from the element boron (硼). The study says that boron had once been in ocean water but was eventually pushed into the seafloor rock. Over millions of years, the boron continued to move deep underground.

Many diamonds appear colorless. Often, however, they have some yellow color. Still others have a light brown, pink or green color. About 99 percent of all diamonds from somewhere between 150 to 200 kilometers underground, a far shallower birthplace than their blue relations. "These diamonds are among the deepest ever found, " Carnegie Institution for Science geochemist Steven Shirley said of the blue diamonds.

The public can see the Hope Diamond at the Smithsonian National Museum Natural History in Washington D. C. (.BDCBC.)

1. By saying the underlined part in Paragraph 2, the researchers mean the blue diamond \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. was formed in extreme weather

B. has a very complex forming history

C. has a far - reaching influence in society

D. used to be very popular among rich people

2. How could researchers know the blue diamonds' birthplaces?

A. By observing their colors.

B. By studying their structures.

C. By referring to where they were found.

D. By examining tiny substances in them.

3. What makes the diamonds appear blue?

A. The water.

B. Extreme heat and pressure.

C. A special matter.

D. The seafloor rock.

4. What is special about blue diamonds compared with diamonds of other colors?

A. They contain several colors.

B. They form in much deeper underground.

C. They come into being in a different way

D. They are found near the earth's surface.

5. What is the passage mainly about?

A. The social status of the Hope diamond.

B. The discovery of the Hope diamond.

C. The formation of the blue diamond.

D. The diversity of diamonds.