

【2004-2009 年阅读真题刷题班】讲义

2004 年

Text 1

Hunting for a job late last year, lawyer Gant Redmon stumbled across CareerBuilder, a job database on the Internet. He searched it with no success but was attracted by the site's "personal search agent." It's an interactive feature that lets visitors key in job criteria such as location, title, and salary, then E-mails them when a matching position is posted in the database. Redmon chose the keywords legal, intellectual property, and Washington, D.C. Three weeks later, he got his first notification of an opening. "I struck gold," says Redmon, who E-mailed his resume to the employer and won a position as in-house counsel for a company.

With thousands of career-related sites on the Internet, finding promising openings can be time-consuming and inefficient. Search agents reduce the need for repeated visits to the databases. But although a search agent worked for Redmon, career experts see drawbacks. Narrowing your criteria, for example, may work against you: "Every time you answer a question you eliminate a possibility," says one expert.

For any job search, you should start with a narrow concept -- what you think you want to do -- then broaden it. "None of these programs do that," says another expert. "There's no career counseling implicit in all of this." Instead, the best strategy is to use the agent as a kind of tip service to keep abreast of jobs in a particular database; when you get E-mail, consider it a reminder to check the database again. "I would not rely on agents for finding everything that is added to a database that might interest me," says the author of a job-searching guide.

Some sites design their agents to tempt job hunters to return. When Career Site's agent sends out messages to those who have signed up for its service, for example, it includes only three potential jobs -- those it considers the best matches. There may be more matches in the database; job hunters will have to visit the site again to find them -- and they do. "On the day after we send our messages, we see a sharp increase in our traffic," says Seth Peets, vice president of marketing for Career Site.

Even those who aren't hunting for jobs may find search agents worthwhile. Some use them to keep a close watch on the demand for their line of work or gather information on compensation to arm themselves when negotiating for a raise. Although happily employed, Redmon maintains his agent at CareerBuilder. "You always keep your eyes open," he says. Working with a personal search agent means having another set of eyes looking out for you.

1. How did Redmon find his job?

- [A] By searching openings in a job database. [B] By posting a matching position in a database.
[C] By using a special service of a database. [D] By E-mailing his resume to a database.

2. Which of the following can be a disadvantage of search agents?

- [A] Lack of counseling. [B] Limited number of visits. [C] Lower efficiency. [D] Fewer successful matches.

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3. The expression “tip service” (Line 4, Paragraph 3) most probably means _____.
[A] advisory [B] compensation [C] interaction [D] reminder
4. Why does Career Site’s agent offer each job hunter only three job options?
[A] To focus on better job matches. [B] To attract more returning visits.
[C] To reserve space for more messages. [D] To increase the rate of success.
5. Which of the following is true according to the text?
[A] Personal search agents are indispensable to job-hunters.
[B] Some sites keep E-mailing job seekers to trace their demands.
[C] Personal search agents are also helpful to those already employed.
[D] Some agents stop sending information to people once they are employed.

Text 2

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

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

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

Can this merely be coincidence? One theory, dreamt up in all the spare time enjoyed by the alphabetically disadvantaged, is that the rot sets in early. At the start of the first year in infant school, teachers seat pupils alphabetically from the front, to make it easier to remember their names. So short-sighted Zysman junior gets stuck in the back row, and is rarely asked the improving questions posed by those insensitive teachers. At the time the alphabetically disadvantaged may think they have had a lucky escape. Yet the result may be worse qualifications, because they get less individual attention, as well as less confidence in speaking publicly.

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

6. What does the author intend to illustrate with AAAA cars and Zodiac cars?

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- [A] A kind of overlooked inequality. [B] A type of conspicuous bias.
[C] A type of personal prejudice. [D] A kind of brand discrimination.
7. What can we infer from the first three paragraphs?
- [A] In both East and West, names are essential to success.
[B] The alphabet is to blame for the failure of Zoë Zysman.
[C] Customers often pay a lot of attention to companies' names.
[D] Some form of discrimination is too subtle to recognize.
8. The 4th paragraph suggests that _____.
[A] questions are often put to the more intelligent students
[B] alphabetically disadvantaged students often escape from class
[C] teachers should pay attention to all of their students
[D] students should be seated according to their eyesight
9. What does the author mean by "most people are literally having a ZZZ" (Lines 2-3, Paragraph 5)?
[A] They are getting impatient. [B] They are noisily dozing off.
[C] They are feeling humiliated. [D] They are busy with word puzzles.
10. Which of the following is true according to the text?
[A] People with surnames beginning with N to Z are often ill-treated.
[B] VIPs in the Western world gain a great deal from alphabetism.
[C] The campaign to eliminate alphabetism still has a long way to go.
[D] Putting things alphabetically may lead to unintentional bias.

Text 3

When it comes to the slowing economy, Ellen Spero isn't biting her nails just yet. But the 47-year-old manicurist isn't cutting, filing or polishing as many nails as she'd like to, either. Most of her clients spend \$12 to \$50 weekly, but last month two longtime customers suddenly stopped showing up. Spero blames the softening economy. "I'm a good economic indicator," she says. "I provide a service that people can do without when they're concerned about saving some dollars." So Spero is downscaling, shopping at middle-brow Dillard's department store near her suburban Cleveland home, instead of Neiman Marcus. "I don't know if other clients are going to abandon me, too," she says.

Even before Alan Greenspan's admission that America's red-hot economy is cooling, lots of working folks had already seen signs of the slowdown themselves. From car dealerships to Gap outlets, sales have been lagging for months as shoppers temper their spending. For retailers, who last year took in 24 percent of their revenue between Thanksgiving and Christmas, the cautious approach is coming at a crucial time. Already, experts say, holiday sales are off 7 percent from last year's pace. But don't sound any alarms just yet. Consumers seem only mildly concerned, not panicked, and many say they remain optimistic about the economy's long-term prospects, even as they do some modest belt-tightening.

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Consumers say they're not in despair because, despite the dreadful headlines, their own fortunes still feel pretty good. Home prices are holding steady in most regions. In Manhattan, "there's a new gold rush happening in the \$4 million to \$10 million range, predominantly fed by Wall Street bonuses," says broker Barbara Corcoran. In San Francisco, prices are still rising even as frenzied overbidding quiets. "Instead of 20 to 30 offers, now maybe you only get two or three," says John Tealdi, a Bay Area real-estate broker. And most folks still feel pretty comfortable about their ability to find and keep a job.

Many folks see silver linings to this slowdown. Potential home buyers would cheer for lower interest rates. Employers wouldn't mind a little fewer bubbles in the job market. Many consumers seem to have been influenced by stock-market swings, which investors now view as a necessary ingredient to a sustained boom. Diners might see an upside, too. Getting a table at Manhattan's hot new Alain Ducasse restaurant used to be impossible. Not anymore. For that, Greenspan & Co. may still be worth toasting.

11. By "Ellen Spero isn't biting her nails just yet" (Lines 1-2, Paragraph 1), the author means _____.

- [A] Spero can hardly maintain her business [B] Spero is too much engaged in her work
[C] Spero has grown out of her bad habit [D] Spero is not in a desperate situation

12. How do the public feel about the current economic situation?

- [A] Optimistic. [B] Confused. [C] Carefree. [D] Panicked.

13. When mentioning "the \$4 million to \$10 million range" (Lines 3-4, Paragraph 3) the author is talking about _____.

- [A] gold market [B] real estate [C] stock exchange [D] venture investment

14. Why can many people see "silver linings" to the economic slowdown?

- [A] They would benefit in certain ways. [B] The stock market shows signs of recovery.
[C] Such a slowdown usually precedes a boom. [D] The purchasing power would be enhanced.

15. To which of the following is the author likely to agree?

- [A] A new boom, on the horizon. [B] Tighten the belt, the single remedy.
[C] Caution all right, panic not. [D] The more ventures, the more chances.

Text 4

Americans today don't place a very high value on intellect. Our heroes are athletes, entertainers, and entrepreneurs, not scholars. Even our schools are where we send our children to get a practical education — not to pursue knowledge for the sake of knowledge. Symptoms of pervasive anti-intellectualism in our schools aren't difficult to find.

"Schools have always been in a society where practical is more important than intellectual," says education writer Diane Ravitch. "Schools could be a counterbalance." Razitch's latest book, *Left Back: A Century of Failed School Reforms*, traces the roots of anti-intellectualism in our schools, concluding they are anything but a counterbalance to the American distaste for intellectual pursuits.

But they could and should be. Encouraging kids to reject the life of the mind leaves them vulnerable to

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exploitation and control. Without the ability to think critically, to defend their ideas and understand the ideas of others, they cannot fully participate in our democracy. Continuing along this path, says writer Earl Shorris, "We will become a second-rate country. We will have a less civil society."

"Intellect is resented as a form of power or privilege," writes historian and professor Richard Hofstadter in *Anti-Intellectualism in American life*, a Pulitzer Prize winning book on the roots of anti-intellectualism in US politics, religion, and education. From the beginning of our history, says Hofstadter, our democratic and populist urges have driven us to reject anything that smells of elitism. Practicality, common sense, and native intelligence have been considered more noble qualities than anything you could learn from a book.

Ralph Waldo Emerson and other Transcendentalist philosophers thought schooling and rigorous book learning put unnatural restraints on children: "We are shut up in schools and college recitation rooms for 10 or 15 years and come out at last with a bellyful of words and do not know a thing." Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* exemplified American anti-intellectualism. Its hero avoids being civilized — going to school and learning to read — so he can preserve his innate goodness.

Intellect, according to Hofstadter, is different from native intelligence, a quality we reluctantly admire. Intellect is the critical, creative, and contemplative side of the mind. Intelligence seeks to grasp, manipulate, re-order, and adjust, while intellect examines, ponders, wonders, theorizes, criticizes and imagines.

School remains a place where intellect is mistrusted. Hofstadter says our country's educational system is in the grips of people who "joyfully and militantly proclaim their hostility to intellect and their eagerness to identify with children who show the least intellectual promise."

16. What do American parents expect their children to acquire in school?

- [A] The habit of thinking independently. [B] Profound knowledge of the world.
[C] Practical abilities for future career. [D] The confidence in intellectual pursuits.

17. We can learn from the text that Americans have a history of _____.

- [A] undervaluing intellect [B] favoring intellectualism
[C] supporting school reform [D] suppressing native intelligence

18. The views of Ravitch and Emerson on schooling are _____.

- [A] identical [B] similar [C] complementary [D] opposite

19. Emerson, according to the text, is probably _____.

- [A] a pioneer of education reform [B] an opponent of intellectualism
[C] a scholar in favor of intellect [D] an advocate of regular schooling

20. What does the author think of intellect?

- [A] It is second to intelligence. [B] It evolves from common sense.
[C] It is to be pursued. [D] It underlies power

2005 年

Text 1

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

The researchers studied the behavior of female brown capuchin monkeys. They look cute. They are good-natured, co-operative creatures, and they share their food tardily. Above all, like their female human counterparts, they tend to pay much closer attention to the value of “goods and services” than males.

Such characteristics make them perfect candidates for Dr. Brosna’s and Dr. de Waal’s study. The researchers spent two years teaching their monkeys to exchange tokens for food. Normally, the monkeys were happy enough to exchange pieces of rock for slices of cucumber. However, when two monkeys were placed in separate but adjoining chambers, so that each could observe what the other was getting in return for its rock, their behavior became markedly different.

In the world of capuchins grapes are luxury goods (and much preferable to cucumbers) So when one monkey was handed a grape in exchange for her token, the second was reluctant to hand hers over for a mere piece of cucumber. And if one received a grape without having to provide her token in exchange at all, the other either tossed her own token at the researcher or out of the chamber, or refused to accept the slice of cucumber. Indeed, the mere presence of a grape in the other chamber (without an actual monkey to eat it) was enough to induce resentment in a female capuchin.

The researchers suggest that capuchin monkeys, like humans, are guided by social emotions. In the wild, they are a co-operative, group-living species, such co-operation is likely to be stable only when each animal feels it is not being cheated. Feelings of righteous indignation, it seems, are not the preserve of people alone, refusing a lesser reward completely makes these feelings abundantly clear to other members of the group. However, whether such a sense of fairness evolved independently in capuchins and humans, or whether it stems from the common ancestor that the species had 35 million years ago, is, as yet, an unanswered question.

21. In the opening paragraph, the author introduces his topic by

- [A]. posing a contrast. [B]. justifying an assumption.
[C]. making a comparison. [D]. explaining a phenomenon.

22. The statement “it is all too monkey” (Last line, paragraph 1) implies that

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

23. Female capuchin monkeys were chosen for the research most probably because they are

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- [A]. more inclined to weigh what they get. [B]. attentive to researchers' instructions.
[C]. nice in both appearance and temperament. [D]. more generous than their male companions
24. Dr. Brosnan and Dr. de Waal have eventually found in their study that the monkeys
[A]. prefer grapes to cucumbers. [B]. can be taught to exchange things.
[C]. will not be co-operative if feeling cheated. [D]. are unhappy when separated from others.
25. What can we infer from the last paragraph?
[A]. Monkeys can be trained to develop social emotions.
[B]. Human indignation evolved from an uncertain source.
[C]. Animals usually show their feelings openly as humans do.
[D]. Cooperation among monkeys remains stable only in the wild.

Text 2

Do you remember all those years when scientists argued that smoking would kill us but the doubters insisted that we didn't know for sure? That the evidence was inconclusive, the science uncertain? That the antismoking lobby was out to destroy our way of life and the government should stay out of the way? Lots of Americans bought that nonsense, and over three decades, some 10 million smokers went to early graves.

There are upsetting parallels today, as scientists in one wave after another try to awaken us to the growing threat of global warming. The latest was a panel from the National Academy of Sciences, enlisted by the White House, to tell us that the Earth's atmosphere is definitely warming and that the problem is largely man-made. The clear message is that we should get moving to protect ourselves. The president of the National Academy, Bruce Alberts, added this key point in the preface to the panel's report "Science never has all the answers. But science does provide us with the best available guide to the future, and it is critical that our nation and the world base important policies on the best judgments that science can provide concerning the future consequences of present actions."

Just as on smoking, voices now come from many quarters insisting that the science about global warming is incomplete, that it's Ok to keep pouring fumes into the air until we know for sure. This is a dangerous game: by the 100 percent of the evidence is in, it may be too late. With the risks obvious and growing, a prudent people would take out an insurance policy now.

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

To serve as responsible stewards of the planet, we must press forward on deeper atmospheric and oceanic research but research alone is inadequate. If the Administration won't take the legislative initiative, Congress should help to begin fashioning conservation measures. A bill by Democratic Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, which would offer financial incentives for private industry, is a promising start. Many see that the country is getting ready to build lots of new power plants to meet our energy needs. If we are ever going to protect the atmosphere, it is

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crucial that those new plants be environmentally sound.

26. An argument made by supporters of smoking was that

[A]. there was no scientific evidence of the correlation between smoking and death.

[B]. the number of early deaths of smokers in the past decades was insignificant.

[C]. people had the freedom to choose their own way of life.

[D]. antismoking people were usually talking nonsense.

27. According to Bruce Alberts, science can serve as

[A]. a protector.

[B]. a judge.

[C]. a critic.

[D]. a guide.

28. What does the author mean by “paralysis by analysis” (Last line, paragraph 4)

[A]. Endless studies kill action.

[B]. Careful investigation reveals truth.

[C]. prudent planning hinders.

[D]. Extensive research helps decision-making.

29. According to the author, what should the Administration do about global warming

[A]. Offer aid to build cleaner power plants. [B]. Raise public awareness of conservation.

[C]. Press for further scientific research. [D]. Take some legislative measures.

30. The author associates the issue of global warming with that of smoking because

[A]. they both suffered from the government's negligence.

[B]. a lesson from the latter is applicable to the former.

[C]. the outcome of the latter aggravates the former.

[D]. both of them have turned from bad to worse.

Text 3

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

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

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The link between dreams and emotions shows up among the patients in Cartwright's clinic. Most people seem to have more bad dreams early in the night, progressing toward happier ones before awakening, suggesting that they are working through negative feelings generated during the day. Because our conscious mind is occupied with daily life we don't always think about the emotional significance of the day's events-until, it appears, we begin to dream.

And this process need not be left to the unconscious. Cartwright believes one can exercise conscious control over recurring bad dreams. As soon as you awaken, identify what is upsetting about the dream. Visualize how you would like it to end instead, the next time it occurs, try to wake up just enough to control its course. With much practice people can learn to, literally, do it in their sleep.

At the end of the day, there's probably little reason to pay attention to our dreams at all unless they keep us from sleeping or "we wake up in a panic," Cartwright says. Terrorism, economic uncertainties and general feelings of insecurity have increased people's anxiety. Those suffering from persistent nightmares should seek help from a therapist. For the rest of us, the brain has its ways of working through bad feelings. Sleep-or rather dream-on it and you'll feel better in the morning.

31. Researchers have come to believe that dreams

- [A]. can be modified in their courses. [B]. are susceptible to emotional changes.
[C]. reflect our innermost desires and fears. [D]. are a random outcome of neural repairs.

32. By referring to the limbic system, the author intends to show

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

33. The negative feelings generated during the day tend to

- [A]. aggravate in our unconscious mind. [B]. develop into happy dreams.
[C]. persist till the time we fall asleep. [D]. show up in dreams early at night.

34. Cartwright seems to suggest that

- [A]. waking up in time is essential to the ridding of bad dreams.
[B]. visualizing bad dreams helps bring them under control.
[C]. dreams should be left to their natural progression.
[D]. dreaming may not entirely belong to the unconscious.

35. What advice might Cartwright give to those who sometimes have bad dreams?

- [A]. lead your life as usual. [B]. Seek professional help.
[C]. Exercise conscious control. [D]. Avoid anxiety in the daytime.

Text 4

Americans no longer expect public figures, whether in speech or in writing, to command the English language with skill and gift. Nor do they aspire to such command themselves. In his latest book, *Doing Our Own Thing: The Degradation of language and Music and why we should like, care*, John McWhorter, a linguist and controversialist

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of mixed liberal and conservative views, sees the triumph of 1960s counter-culture as responsible for the decline of formal English.

Blaming the permissive 1960s is nothing new, but this is not yet another criticism against the decline in education. Mr. McWhorter's academic speciality is language history and change, and he sees gradual disappearance of "whom", for example, to be natural and no more regrettable than the loss of the case-endings of Old English.

But the cult of the authentic and the personal, "doing our own thing", has spelt the death of formal speech, writing, poetry and music. While even the modestly educated sought an elevated tone when they put pen to paper before the 1960s, even the most well-regarded writing since then has sought to capture spoken English on the page. Equally, in poetry, the highly personal, performative genre is the only form that could claim real liveliness. In both oral and written English, talking is triumphing over speaking, spontaneity over craft.

Illustrated with an entertaining array of examples from both high and low culture, the trend that Mr. McWhorter documents is unmistakable. But it is less clear to take the question of his subtitle, why we should, like care. As a linguist, he acknowledges that all varieties of human language, including non-standard ones like Black English, can be powerfully expressive-there exists no language or dialect in the world that cannot convey complex ideas. He is not arguing, as many do, that we can no longer think straight because we do not talk proper.

Russians have a deep love for their own language and carry large chunks of memorized poetry in their heads, while Italian politicians tend to elaborate speech that would seem old-fashioned to most English-speakers. Mr. McWhorter acknowledges that formal language is not strictly necessary, and proposes no radical education reforms-he is really grieving over the loss of something beautiful more than useful. We now take our English "on paper plates instead of china". A shame, perhaps, but probably an inevitable one.

36. According to Mc Whorter, the decline of formal English

- [A]. is inevitable in radical education reforms.
- [B]. is but all too natural in language development.
- [C]. has caused the controversy over the counter-culture.
- [D]. brought about changes in public attitudes in the 1960s.

37. The word "talking" (Line5, paragraph3) denotes

- [A]. modesty.
- [B]. personality.
- [C]. liveliness.
- [D]. informality.

38. To which of the following statements would Mc Whorter most likely agree?

- [A]. Logical thinking is not necessarily related to the way we talk.
- [B]. Black English can be more expressive than standard English.
- [C]. Non-standard varieties of human language are just as entertaining.
- [D]. Of all the varieties, standard English Can best convey complex ideas.

39. The description of Russians' love of memorizing poetry shows the author's

- [A]. interest in their language.
- [B]. appreciation of their efforts.
- [C]. admiration for their memory.
- [D]. contempt for their old-fashionedness.

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40. According to the last paragraph, “paper plates” is to “china” as

[A]. “temporary” is to “permanent”.

[B]. “radical” is to “conservative”.

[C]. “functional” is to “artistic”.

[D]. “humble” is to “noble”

2006 年

Text 1

In spite of “endless talk of difference”, American society is an amazing machine for homogenizing people. There is “the democratizing uniformity of dress and discourse, and the casualness and absence of deference” characteristic of popular culture. People are absorbed into “a culture of consumption” launched by the 19th—century department stores that offered “vast arrays of goods in an elegant atmosphere. Instead of intimate shops catering to a knowledgeable elite,” these were stores “anyone could enter, regardless of class or background. This turned shopping into a public and democratic act.” The mass media, advertising and sports are other forces for homogenization.

Immigrants are quickly fitting into this common culture, which may not be altogether elevating but is hardly poisonous. Writing for the National Immigration Forum, Gregory Rodriguez reports that today's immigration is neither at unprecedented levels nor resistant to assimilation. In 1998 immigrants were 9.8 percent of population; in 1900, 13.6 percent. In the 10 years prior to 1990, 3.1 immigrants arrived for every 1, 000 residents; in the 10 years prior to 1890, 9.2 for every 1, 000. Now, consider three indices of assimilation—language, home ownership and intermarriage.

The 1990 Census revealed that “a majority of immigrants from each of the fifteen most common countries of origin spoke English “well” or “very well” after ten years of residence.” The children of immigrants tend to be bilingual and proficient in English. “By the third generation, the original language is lost in the majority of immigrant families.” Hence the description of America as a “graveyard” for languages. By 1996 foreign-born immigrants who had arrived before 1970 had a homeownership rate of 75.6 percent, higher than the 69.8 percent rate among native-born Americans.

Foreign-born Asians and Hispanics “have higher rates of intermarriage than do U.S-born whites and blacks.” By the third generation, one third of Hispanic women are married to non-Hispanics, and 41 percent of Asian-American women are married to non-Asians.

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

Are there divisive issues and pockets of seething anger in America? Indeed. It is big enough to have a bit of everything. But particularly when viewed against America’s turbulent past, today’s social induces hardly suggest a dark and deteriorating social environment.

41. The word “homogenizing” (Line 1, Paragraph 1) most probably means
 [A] identifying [B] associating [C] assimilating [D] monopolizing
42. According to the author, the department stores of the 19th century
 [A] played a role in the spread of popular culture. [B] became intimate shops for common consumers.
 [C] satisfied the needs of a knowledgeable elite. [D] owed its emergence to the culture of consumption
43. The text suggests that immigrants now in the U.S.
 [A] are resistant to homogenization. [B] exert a great influence on American culture.
 [C] are hardly a threat to the common culture. [D] constitute the majority of the population.
44. Why are Arnold Schwarzenegger and Garth Brooks mentioned in Paragraph 5?
 [A] To prove their popularity around the world. [B] To reveal the public’s fear of immigrants.
 [C] To give examples of successful immigrants. [D] To show the powerful influence of American culture.
45. In the author’s opinion, the absorption of immigrants into American society is
 [A] rewarding. [B] successful. [C] fruitless. [D] harmful.

Text 2

Stratford-on-Avon, as we all know, has only one industry-William Shakespeare-but there are two distinctly separate and increasingly hostile branches. There is the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC), which presents superb productions of the plays at the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre on the Avon. And there are the townsfolk who largely live off the tourists who come, not to see the plays, but to look at Anne Hathaway’s Cottage, Shakespeare’s birthplace and the other sights.

The worthy residents of Stratford doubt that the theatre adds a penny to their revenue. They frankly dislike the RSC’s actors, them with their long hair and beards and sandals and noisiness. It’s all deliciously ironic when you consider that Shakespeare, who earns their living, was himself an actor (with a beard) and did his share of noise-making.

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

The townsfolk don’t see it this way and local council does not contribute directly to the subsidy of the Royal Shakespeare Company. Stratford cries poor traditionally. Nevertheless, every hotel in town seems to be adding a new wing or cocktail lounge. Hilton is building its own hotel there, which you may be sure will be decorated with Hamlet Hamburger Bars, the Lear Lounge, the Banquo Banqueting Room, and so forth, and will be very expensive.

Anyway, the townsfolk can’t understand why the Royal Shakespeare Company needs a subsidy. (The theatre has broken attendance records for three years in a row. Last year its 1,431 seats were 94 per cent occupied all year

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long and this year they'll do better.) The reason, of course, is that costs have rocketed and ticket prices have stayed low.

It would be a shame to raise prices too much because it would drive away the young people who are Stratford's most attractive clientele. They come entirely for the plays, not the sights. They all seem to look alike (though they come from all over) –lean, pointed, dedicated faces, wearing jeans and sandals, eating their buns and bedding down for the night on the flagstones outside the theatre to buy the 20 seats and 80 standing-room tickets held for the sleepers and sold to them when the box office opens at 10:30 a.m.

46. From the first two paragraphs, we learn that

- [A] the townsfolk deny the RSC 's contribution to the town's revenue
- [B] the actors of the RSC imitate Shakespeare on and off stage
- [C] the two branches of the RSC are not on good terms
- [D] the townsfolk earn little from tourism

47. It can be inferred from Paragraph 3 that

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

48. By saying "Stratford cries poor traditionally" (Line 2-3, Paragraph 4) , the author implies that

- [A] Stratford cannot afford the expansion projects
- [B] Stratford has long been in financial difficulties
- [C] the town is not really short of money
- [D] the townsfolk used to be poorly paid

49. According to the townsfolk, the RSC deserves no subsidy because

- [A] ticket prices can be raised to cover the spending
- [B] the company is financially ill-managed
- [C] the behavior of the actors is not socially acceptable
- [D] the theatre attendance is on the rise

50. From the text we can conclude that the author

- [A] is supportive of both sides
- [B] favors the townsfolk's view
- [C] takes a detached attitude
- [D] is sympathetic to the RSC

Text 3

When prehistoric man arrived in new parts of the world, something strange happened to the large animals. they suddenly became extinct. Smaller species survived. The large, slow-growing animals were easy game, and

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were quickly hunted to extinction. Now something similar could be happening in the oceans.

That the seas are being overfished has been known for years. What researchers such as Ransom Myers and Boris Worm have shown is just how fast things are changing. They have looked at half a century of data from fisheries around the world. Their methods do not attempt to estimate the actual biomass (the amount of living biological matter) of fish species in particular parts of the ocean, but rather changes in that biomass over time. According to their latest paper published in *Nature*, the biomass of large predators (animals that kill and eat other animals) in a new fishery is reduced on average by 80% within 15 years of the start of exploitation. In some long-fished areas, it has halved again since then.

Dr. Worm acknowledges that these figures are conservative. One reason for this is that fishing technology has improved. Today's vessels can find their prey using satellites and sonar, which were not available 50 years ago. That means a higher proportion of what is in the sea is being caught, so the real difference between present and past is likely to be worse than the one recorded by changes in catch sizes. In the early days, too, loneliness would have been more saturated with fish. Some individuals would therefore not have been caught, since no baited hooks would have been available to trap them, leading to an underestimate of fish stocks in the past. Furthermore, in the early days of longline fishing, a lot of fish were lost to sharks after they had been hooked. That is no longer a problem, because there are fewer sharks around now.

Dr. Myers and Dr. Worm argue that their work gives a correct baseline, which future management efforts must take into account. They believe the data support an idea current among marine biologists, that of the "shifting baseline". The notion is that people have failed to detect the massive changes which have happened in the ocean because they have been looking back only a relatively short time into the past. That matters because theory suggests that the maximum sustainable yield that can be cropped from a fishery comes when the biomass of a target species is about 50% of its original levels. Most fisheries are well below that, which is a bad way to be business.

51. The extinction of large prehistoric animals is noted to suggest that

- [A] large animal was vulnerable to the changing environment.
- [B] small species survived as large animals disappeared.
- [C] large sea animals may face the same threat today.
- [D] Slow-growing fish outlive fast-growing ones.

52. We can infer from Dr. Myers and Dr. Worm's paper that

- [A] the stock of large predators in some old fisheries has reduced by 90%
- [B] there are only half as many fisheries as there were 15 years ago
- [C] the catch sizes in new fisheries are only 20% of the original amount
- [D] the number of larger predators dropped faster in new fisheries than in the old

53. By saying "these figures are conservative" (line 1, paragraph 3), Dr. Worm means that

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

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54. Dr. Myers and other researchers hold that

[A]people should look for a baseline that can 't work for a longer time.

[B]fisheries should keep their yield below 50% of the biomass.

[C]the ocean biomass should be restored to its original level.

[D]people should adjust the fishing baseline to the changing situation.

55. The author seems to be mainly concerned with most fisheries'

[A]management efficiency

[B]biomass level

[C]catch-size limits

[D]technological application.

Text 4

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

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

You could argue that art became more skeptical of happiness because modern times have seen so much misery. But it's not as if earlier times didn't know perpetual war, disaster and the massacre of innocents. The reason, in fact, may be just the opposite: there is too much damn happiness in the world today.

After all, what is the one modern form of expression almost completely dedicated to depicting happiness? Advertising. The rise of anti-happy art almost exactly tracks the emergence of mass media, and with it, a commercial culture in which happiness is not just an ideal but an ideology.

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

Today the messages the average Westerner is surrounded with are not religious but commercial and forever happy. Fast-food eaters, news anchors, text messengers, all smiling, smiling. Our magazines feature beaming celebrities and happy families in perfect homes. And since these messages have an agenda—to lure us to open our wallets—they make the very idea of happiness seem unreliable. "Celebrate!" Commanded the ads for the arthritis drug Celebrex, before we found out it could increase the risk of heart attacks.

But what we forget—what our economy depends on us forgetting—is that happiness is more than pleasure without pain. The things that bring the greatest joy carry the greatest potential for loss and disappointment. Today, surrounded by promises of easy happiness, we need art to tell us, as religion once did, *Memento mori*: remember that you will die, that everything ends, and that happiness comes not in denying this but in living with it. It's a message even more bitter than a clove cigarette, yet, somehow, a breath of fresh air.

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

[A] Poetry is not as expressive of joy as painting or music. [B] Art grows out of both positive and negative feelings.

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- [C] Poets today are less skeptical of happiness. [D] Artists have changed their focus of interest.
57. The word “bummer” (Line 4, paragraph 5) most probably means something
- [A] religious [B] unpleasant [C] entertaining [D] commercial
58. In the author’s opinion, advertising
- [A] emerges in the wake of the anti-happy art.
- [B] is a cause of disappointment for the general public.
- [C] replace the church as a major source of information
- [D] creates an illusion of happiness rather than happiness itself.
59. We can learn from the last paragraph that the author believes
- [A] Happiness more often than not ends in sadness. [B] The anti-happy art is distasteful by refreshing.
- [C] Misery should be enjoyed rather than denied. [D] The anti-happy art flourishes when economy booms
60. Which of the following is true of the text?
- [A] Religion once functioned as a reminder of misery.
- [B] Art provides a balance between expectation and reality.
- [C] People feel disappointed at the realities of modern society.
- [D] mass media are inclined to cover disasters and deaths.

2007 年

Text 1

If you were to examine the birth certificates of every soccer player in 2006’s World Cup tournament, you would most likely find a noteworthy quirk: elite soccer players are more likely to have been born in the earlier months of the year than in the late months. If you then examined the European national youth teams that feed the World Cup and professional ranks, you would find this strange phenomenon to be ever more pronounced.

What might account for this strange phenomenon? Here are a few guesses: a) certain astrological signs confer superior soccer skills; b) winter born babies tend to have higher oxygen capacity, which increases soccer stamina; c) soccer-mad parents are more likely to conceive children in springtime, at the annual peak of soccer mania; d) none of the above.

Anders Ericsson, a 58-year-old psychology professor at Florida State University, says he believes strongly in “none of the above.” Ericsson grew up in Sweden, and studied nuclear engineering until he realized he would have more opportunity to conduct his own research if he switched to psychology. His first experiment, nearly 30 years ago, involved memory: training a person to hear and then repeat a random series of numbers. “With the first subject, after about 20 hours of training, his digit span had risen from 7 to 20,” Ericsson recalls. “He kept improving, and after about 200 hours of training he had risen to over 80 numbers.”

This success, coupled with later research showing that memory itself is not genetically determined, led Ericsson to conclude that the act of memorizing is more of a cognitive exercise than an intuitive one. In other words,

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whatever inborn differences two people may exhibit in their abilities to memorize, those differences are swamped by how well each person “encodes” the information. And the best way to learn how to encode information meaningfully, Ericsson determined, was a process known as deliberate practice. Deliberate practice entails more than simply repeating a task. Rather, it involves setting specific goals, obtaining immediate feedback and concentrating as much on technique as on outcome.

Ericsson and his colleagues have thus taken to studying expert performers in a wide range of pursuits, including soccer. They gather all the data they can, not just performance statistics and biographical details but also the results of their own laboratory experiments with high achievers. Their work makes a rather startling assertion: the trait we commonly call talent is highly overrated. Or, put another way, expert performers – whether in memory or surgery, ballet or computer programming—are nearly always made, not born.

61. The birthday phenomenon found among soccer players is mentioned to

- [A] stress the importance of professional training.
- [B] spotlight the soccer superstars at the World Cup.
- [C] introduce the topic of what makes expert performance.
- [D] explain why some soccer teams play better than others.

62. The word “mania” (Line 4, Paragraph 2) most probably means

- [A] fun.
- [B] craze.
- [C] hysteria.
- [D] excitement.

63. According to Ericsson, good memory

- [A] depends on meaningful processing of information.
- [B] results from intuitive rather than cognitive exercises.
- [C] is determined by genetic rather than psychological factors.
- [D] requires immediate feedback and a high degree of concentration.

64. Ericsson and his colleagues believe that

- [A] talent is a dominating factor for professional success.
- [B] biographical data provide the key to excellent performance.
- [C] the role of talent tends to be overlooked.
- [D] high achievers owe their success mostly to nurture.

65. Which of the following proverbs is closest to the message the text tries to convey?

- [A] “Faith will move mountains.”
- [B] “One reaps what one sows”
- [C] “Practice makes perfect.”
- [D] “Like father, like son.”

Text 2

For the past several years, the Sunday newspaper supplement Parade has featured a column called “Ask Marilyn.” People are invited to query Marilyn Vos Savant, who at age 10 had tested at a mental level of someone about 23 years old; that gave her an IQ of 228 -- the highest score ever recorded. IQ tests ask you to complete verbal and visual analogies, to envision paper after it has been folded and cut, and to deduce numerical sequences,

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among other similar tasks. So, it is a bit confusing when Vos Savant fields such queries from the average Joe (whose IQ is 100) as, What's the difference between love and fondness? Or what is the nature of luck and coincidence? It's not obvious how the capacity to visualize objects and to figure out numerical patterns suits one to answer questions that have eluded some of the best poets and philosophers.

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

The defining term of intelligence in humans still seems to be the IQ score, even though IQ tests are not given as often as they used to be. The test comes primarily in two forms: the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scale and the Wechsler Intelligence Scales (both come in adult and children's version). Generally costing several hundred dollars, they are usually given only by psychologists, although variations of them populate bookstores and the World Wide Web. Superhigh scores like Vos Savant's are no longer possible, because scoring is now based on a statistical population distribution among age peers, rather than simply dividing the mental age by the chronological age and multiplying by 100. Other standardized tests, such as the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) and the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), capture the main aspects of IQ tests.

Such standardized tests may not assess all the important elements necessary to succeed in school and in life, argues Robert J. Sternberg. In his article "How Intelligent Is Intelligence Testing?", Sternberg notes that traditional test best assess analytical and verbal skills but fail to measure creativity and practical knowledge, components also critical to problem solving and life success. Moreover, IQ test do not necessarily predict so well once populations or situations change. Research has found that IQ predicted leadership skills when the tests were given under low-stress conditions, but under high-stress conditions, IQ was negatively correlated with leadership – that is, it predicted the opposite. Anyone who has toiled through SAT will testify that test-taking skill also matters, whether it's knowing when to guess or what questions to skip.

66. Which of the following may be required in an intelligent test?

- [A] Answering philosophical questions. [B] Folding or cutting paper into different shapes.
[C] Telling the difference between certain concepts. [D] Choosing words or graphs similar to the given ones.

67. What can be inferred about intelligence testing from Paragraph 3?

- [A] People no longer use IQ scores as an indicator of intelligence.
[B] More versions of IQ tests are now available on the Internet.
[C] The test contents and formats for adults and children may be different.
[D] Scientists have defined the important elements of human intelligence.

68. People nowadays can no longer achieve IQ scores as high as Vos Savant's because

- [A] the scores are obtained through different computational procedures.
[B] creativity rather than analytical skills is emphasized now.
[C] Vos Savant's case is an extreme one that will not repeat.

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[D] the defining characteristic of IQ tests has changed.

69. We can conclude from the last paragraph that

[A] test scores may not be reliable indicators of one's ability. [B] IQ scores and SAT results are highly correlated.

[C] testing involves a lot of guesswork.

[D] traditional test is out of date.

70. What is the author's attitude towards IQ test?

[A] Supportive.

[B] Skeptical.

[C] Impartial.

[D] Biased.

Text 3

During the past generation, the American middle-class family that once could count on hard work and fair play to keep itself financially secure had been transformed by economic risk and new realities. Now a pink slip, a bad diagnosis, or a disappearing spouse can reduce a family from solidly middle class to newly poor in a few months.

In just one generation, millions of mothers have gone to work, transforming basic family economics. Scholars, policymakers, and critics of all stripes have debated the social implications of these changes, but few have looked at the side effect: family risk has risen as well. Today's families have budgeted to the limits of their new two-paycheck status. As a result, they have lost the parachuted they once had in times of financial setback -- a back-up earner (usually Mom) who could go into the workforce if the primary earner got laid off or fell sick. This "added-worker effect" could support the safety net offered by unemployment insurance or disability insurance to help family's weather bad times. But today, a disruption to family fortunes can no longer be made up with extra income from an otherwise-stay-at-home partner.

During the same period, families have been asked to absorb much more risk in their retirement income. Steelworkers, airline employees, and now those in the auto industry are joining millions of families who must worry about interest rates, stock market fluctuation, and the harsh reality that they may outlive their retirement money. For much of the past year, President Bush campaigned to move Social Security to a saving-account model, with retirees trading much or all of their guaranteed payments for payments depending on investment returns. For younger families the picture is not any better. Both the absolute cost of healthcare and the share of it borne by families have risen -- and newly fashionable health-saving plans are spreading from legislative halls to Wal-Mart workers, with much higher deductibles and a large new dose of investment risk for families' future healthcare. Even demographics are working against the middle-class family, as the odds of having a weak elderly parent -- and all the attendant need for physical and financial assistance -- have jumped eightfold in just one generation.

From the middle-class family perspective, much of this, understandably, looks far less like an opportunity to exercise more financial responsibility, and a good deal more like a frightening acceleration of the wholesale shift of financial risk onto their already overburdened shoulders. The financial fallout has begun, and the political fallout may not be far behind.

71. Today's double-income families are at greater financial risk in that

[A] the safety net they used to enjoy has disappeared.

[B] their chances of being laid off have greatly increased.

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[C] they are more vulnerable to changes in family economics.

[D] they are deprived of unemployment or disability insurance.

72. As a result of President Bush's reform, retired people may have

[A] a higher sense of security. [B] less secured payments. [C] less chance to invest. [D] a guaranteed future.

73. According to the author, health-savings plans will

[A] help reduce the cost of healthcare.

[B] popularize among the middle class.

[C] compensate for the reduced pensions.

[D] increase the families' investment risk.

74. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that

[A] financial risks tend to outweigh political risks.

[B] the middle class may face greater political challenges.

[C] financial problems may bring about political problems.

[D] financial responsibility is an indicator of political status.

75. Which of the following is the best title for this text?

[A] The Middle Class on the Alert

[B] The Middle Class on the Cliff

[C] The Middle Class in Conflict

[D] The Middle Class in Ruins

Text 4

It never rains but it pours. Just as bosses and boards have finally sorted out their worst accounting and compliance troubles, and improved their feeble corporation governance, a new problem threatens to earn them -- especially in America -- the sort of nasty headlines that inevitably lead to heads rolling in the executive suite: data insecurity. Left, until now, to odd, low-level IT staff to put right, and seen as a concern only of data-rich industries such as banking, telecoms and air travel, information protection is now high on the boss's agenda in businesses of every variety.

Several massive leakages of customer and employee data this year -- from organizations as diverse as Time Warner, the American defense contractor Science Applications International Corp and even the University of California, Berkeley -- have left managers hurriedly peering into their intricate IT systems and business processes in search of potential vulnerabilities.

"Data is becoming an asset which needs to be guarded as much as any other assets, says Haim Mendelson of Stanford University's business school. "The ability to guard customer data is the key to market value, which the board is responsible for on behalf of shareholders." Indeed, just as there is the concept of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), perhaps it is time for GASP, Generally Accepted Security Practices, suggested Eli Noam of New York's Columbia Business School. "Setting the proper investment level for security, redundancy, and recovery is a management issue, not a technical one," he says.

The mystery is that this should come as a surprise to any boss. Surely it should be obvious to the dimmest executive that trust, that most valuable of economic assets, is easily destroyed and hugely expensive to restore -- and that few things are more likely to destroy trust than a company letting sensitive personal data get into the

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wrong hands.

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

76.The statement "It never rains but it pours" is used to introduce

- [A] the fierce business competition. [B] the feeble boss-board relations.
[C] the threat from news reports. [D] the severity of data leakage.

77.According to Paragraph 2, some organizations check their systems to find out

- [A] whether there is any weak point. [B] what sort of data has been stolen.
[C] who is responsible for the leakage. [D] how the potential spies can be located.

78.In bringing up the concept of GASP the author is making the point that

- [A] shareholders' interests should be properly attended to.
[B] information protection should be given due attention.
[C] businesses should enhance their level of accounting security.
[D] the market value of customer data should be emphasized.

79.According to Paragraph 4, what puzzles the author is that some bosses fail to

- [A] see the link between trust and data protection. [B] perceive the sensitive of personal data.
[C] realize the high cost of data restoration. [D] appreciate the economic value of trust.

80.It can be inferred from Paragraph 5 that

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

2008 年

Text 1

While still catching-up to men in some spheres of modern life, women appear to be way ahead in at least one undesirable category. "Women are particularly susceptible to developing depression and anxiety disorders in response to stress compared to men," according to Dr. Yehuda, chief psychiatrist at New York's Veteran's Administration Hospital.

Studies of both animals and humans have shown that sex hormones somehow affect the stress response, causing females under stress to produce more of the trigger chemicals than do males under the same conditions. In several of the studies, when stressed-out female rats had their ovaries (the female reproductive organs) removed,

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their chemical responses became equal to those of the males.

Adding to a woman's increased dose of stress chemicals, are her increased "opportunities" for stress. "It's not necessarily that women don't cope as well. It's just that they have so much more to cope with," says Dr. Yehuda. "Their capacity for tolerating stress may even be greater than men's," she observes, "it's just that they're dealing with so many more things that they become worn out from it more visibly and sooner."

Dr. Yehuda notes another difference between the sexes. "I think that the kinds of things that women are exposed to tend to be in more of a chronic or repeated nature. Men go to war and are exposed to combat stress. Men are exposed to more acts of random physical violence. The kinds of interpersonal violence that women are exposed to tend to be in domestic situations, by, unfortunately, parents or other family members, and they tend not to be one-shot deals. The wear-and-tear that comes from these longer relationships can be quite devastating."

Adeline Alvarez married at 18 and gave birth to a son, but was determined to finish college. "I struggled a lot to get the college degree. I was living in so much frustration that that was my escape, to go to school, and get ahead and do better." Later, her marriage ended and she became a single mother. "It's the hardest thing to take care of a teenager, have a job, pay the rent, pay the car payment, and pay the debt. I lived from paycheck to paycheck."

Not everyone experiences the kinds of severe chronic stresses Alvarez describes. But most women today are coping with a lot of obligations, with few breaks, and feeling the strain. Alvarez's experience demonstrates the importance of finding ways to diffuse stress before it threatens your health and your ability to function.

81. Which of the following is true according to the first two paragraphs?

- [A] Women are biologically more vulnerable to stress.
- [B] Women are still suffering much stress caused by men.
- [C] Women are more experienced than men in coping with stress.
- [D] Men and women show different inclinations when faced with stress.

82. Dr. Yehuda's research suggests that women

- [A] need extra doses of chemicals to handle stress.
- [B] have limited capacity for tolerating stress.
- [C] are more capable of avoiding stress.
- [D] are exposed to more stress.

83. According to Paragraph 4, the stress women confront tends to be

- [A] domestic and temporary.
- [B] irregular and violent.
- [C] durable and frequent.
- [D] trivial and random.

84. The sentence "I lived from paycheck to paycheck." (Line 6, Para. 5) shows that

- [A] Alvarez cared about nothing but making money.
- [B] Alvarez's salary barely covered her household expenses.
- [C] Alvarez got paychecks from different jobs.
- [D] Alvarez paid practically everything by check.

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

- [A] Strain of Stress: No Way Out?
- [B] Responses to Stress: Gender Difference
- [C] Stress Analysis: What Chemicals Say
- [D] Gender Inequality: Women Under Stress

Text 2

It used to be so straightforward. A team of researchers working together in the laboratory would submit the

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results of their research to a journal. A journal editor would then remove the authors' names and affiliations from the paper and send it to their peers for review. Depending on the comments received, the editor would accept the paper for publication or decline it. Copyright rested with the journal publisher, and researchers seeking knowledge of the results would have to subscribe to the journal.

No longer. The Internet - and pressure from funding agencies, who are questioning why commercial publishers are making money from government-funded research by restricting access to it - is making access to scientific results a reality. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has just issued a report describing the far-reaching consequences of this. The report, by John Houghton of Victoria University in Australia and Graham Vickery of the OECD, makes heavy reading for publishers who have, so far, made handsome profits. But it goes further than that. It signals a change in what has, until now, been a key element of scientific endeavor.

The value of knowledge and the return on the public investment in research depends, in part, upon wide distribution and ready access. It is big business. In America, the core scientific publishing market is estimated at between \$7 billion and \$11 billion. The International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers says that there are more than 2,000 publishers worldwide specializing in these subjects. They publish more than 1.2 million articles each year in some 16,000 journals.

This is now changing. According to the OECD report, some 75% of scholarly journals are now online. Entirely new business models are emerging; three main ones were identified by the report's authors. There is the so-called big deal, where institutional subscribers pay for access to a collection of online journal titles through site-licensing agreements. There is open-access publishing, typically supported by asking the author (or his employer) to pay for the paper to be published. Finally, there are open-access archives, where organizations such as universities or international laboratories support institutional repositories. Other models exist that are hybrids of these three, such as delayed open-access, where journals allow only subscribers to read a paper for the first six months, before making it freely available to everyone who wishes to see it. All this could change the traditional form of the peer-review process, at least for the publication of papers.

86. In the first paragraph, the author discusses

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| [A] the background information of journal editing. | [B] the publication routine of laboratory reports. |
| [C] the relations of authors with journal publishers. | [D] the traditional process of journal publication. |

87. Which of the following is true of the OECD report?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| [A] It criticizes government-funded research. | [B] It introduces an effective means of publication. |
| [C] It upsets profit-making journal publishers. | [D] It benefits scientific research considerably. |

88. According to the text, online publication is significant in that

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| [A] it provides an easier access to scientific results. | [B] it brings huge profits to scientific researchers. |
| [C] it emphasizes the crucial role of scientific knowledge. | [D] it facilitates public investment in scientific research. |

89. With the open-access publishing model, the author of a paper is required to

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| [A] cover the cost of its publication. | [B] subscribe to the journal publishing it. |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|

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- [C] allow other online journals to use it freely. [D] complete the peer-review before submission.
90. Which of the following best summarizes the main idea of the text?
- [A] The Internet is posing a threat to publishers. [B] A new mode of publication is emerging.
- [C] Authors welcome the new channel for publication. [D] Publication is rendered easier by online service.

Text 3

In the early 1960s Wilt Chamberlain was one of only three players in the National Basketball Association (NBA) listed at over seven feet. If he had played last season, however, he would have been one of 42. The bodies playing major professional sports have changed dramatically over the years, and managers have been more than willing to adjust team uniforms to fit the growing numbers of bigger, longer frames.

The trend in sports, though, may be obscuring an unrecognized reality: Americans have generally stopped growing. Though typically about two inches taller now than 140 years ago, today's people - especially those born to families who have lived in the U.S. for many generations - apparently reached their limit in the early 1960s. And they aren't likely to get any taller. "In the general population today, at this genetic, environmental level, we've pretty much gone as far as we can go," says anthropologist William Cameron Chumlea of Wright State University. In the case of NBA players, their increase in height appears to result from the increasingly common practice of recruiting players from all over the world.

Growth, which rarely continues beyond the age of 20, demands calories and nutrients - notably, protein - to feed expanding tissues. At the start of the 20th century, under-nutrition and childhood infections got in the way. But as diet and health improved, children and adolescents have, on average, increased in height by about an inch and a half every 20 years, a pattern known as the secular trend in height. Yet according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, average height - 5'9" for men, 5'4" for women - hasn't really changed since 1960.

Genetically speaking, there are advantages to avoiding substantial height. During childbirth, larger babies have more difficulty passing through the birth canal. Moreover, even though humans have been upright for millions of years, our feet and back continue to struggle with bipedal posture and cannot easily withstand repeated strain imposed by oversize limbs. "There are some real constraints that are set by the genetic architecture of the individual organism," says anthropologist William Leonard of Northwestern University.

Genetic maximums can change, but don't expect this to happen soon. Claire C. Gordon, senior anthropologist at the Army Research Center in Natick, Mass., ensures that 90 percent of the uniforms and workstations fit recruits without alteration. She says that, unlike those for basketball, the length of military uniforms has not changed for some time. And if you need to predict human height in the near future to design a piece of equipment, Gordon says that by and large, "you could use today's data and feel fairly confident."

91. Wilt Chamberlain is cited as an example to

- [A] illustrate the change of height of NBA players. [B] show the popularity of NBA players in the U.S.
- [C] compare different generations of NBA players. [D] assess the achievements of famous NBA players.

92. Which of the following plays a key role in body growth according to the text?

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[A] Genetic modification. [B] Natural environment. [C] Living standards. [D] Daily exercise.

93. On which of the following statements would the author most probably agree?

[A] Non-Americans add to the average height of the nation. [B] Human height is conditioned by the upright posture.

[C] Americans are the tallest on average in the world. [D] Larger babies tend to become taller in adulthood.

94. We learn from the last paragraph that in the near future

[A] the garment industry will reconsider the uniform size.

[B] the design of military uniforms will remain unchanged.

[C] genetic testing will be employed in selecting sportsmen.

[D] the existing data of human height will still be applicable.

95. The text intends to tell us that

[A] the change of human height follows a cyclic pattern. [B] human height is becoming even more predictable.

[C] Americans have reached their genetic growth limit. [D] the genetic pattern of Americans has altered.

Text 4

In 1784, five years before he became president of the United States, George Washington, 52, was nearly toothless. So, he hired a dentist to transplant nine teeth into his jaw - having extracted them from the mouths of his slaves.

That's a far different image from the cherry-tree-chopping George most people remember from their history books. But recently, many historians have begun to focus on the role's slavery played in the lives of the founding generation. They have been spurred in part by DNA evidence made available in 1998, which almost certainly proved Thomas Jefferson had fathered at least one child with his slave Sally Hemings. And only over the past 30 years have scholars examined history from the bottom up. Works of several historians reveal the moral compromises made by the nation's early leaders and the fragile nature of the country's infancy. More significantly, they argue that many of the Founding Fathers knew slavery was wrong - and yet most did little to fight it.

More than anything, the historians say, the founders were hampered by the culture of their time. While Washington and Jefferson privately expressed distaste for slavery, they also understood that it was part of the political and economic bedrock of the country they helped to create.

For one thing, the South could not afford to part with its slaves. Owning slaves was "like having a large bank account," says Wiencek, author of *An Imperfect God: George Washington, His Slaves, and the Creation of America*. The southern states would not have signed the Constitution without protections for the "peculiar institution," including a clause that counted a slave as three fifths of a man for purposes of congressional representation.

And the statesmen's political lives depended on slavery. The three-fifths formula handed Jefferson his narrow victory in the presidential election of 1800 by inflating the votes of the southern states in the Electoral College. Once in office, Jefferson extended slavery with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803; the new land was carved into 13 states, including three slave states.

Still, Jefferson freed Hemings's children - though not Hemings herself or his approximately 150 other slaves.

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Washington, who had begun to believe that all men were created equal after observing the bravery of the black soldiers during the Revolutionary War, overcame the strong opposition of his relatives to grant his slaves their freedom in his will. Only a decade earlier, such an act would have required legislative approval in Virginia.

96. George Washington's dental surgery is mentioned to

- [A] show the primitive medical practice in the past. [B] demonstrate the cruelty of slavery in his days.
[C] stress the role of slaves in the U.S. history. [D] reveal some unknown aspect of his life.

97. We may infer from the second paragraph that

- [A] DNA technology has been widely applied to history research.
[B] in its early days the U.S. was confronted with delicate situations.
[C] historians deliberately made up some stories of Jefferson's life.
[D] political compromises are easily found throughout the U.S. history.

98. What do we learn about Thomas Jefferson?

- [A] His political view changed his attitude towards slavery.
[B] His status as a father made him free the child slaves.
[C] His attitude towards slavery was complex.
[D] His affair with a slave stained his prestige.

99. Which of the following is true according to the text?

- [A] Some Founding Fathers benefit politically from slavery. [B] Slaves in the old days did not have the right to vote.
[C] Slave owners usually had large savings accounts. [D] Slavery was regarded as a peculiar institution.

100. Washington's decision to free slaves originated from his

- [A] moral considerations. [B] military experience. [C] financial conditions. [D] political stand.

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Text 1

Habits are a funny thing. We reach for them mindlessly, setting our brains on auto-pilot and relaxing into the unconscious comfort of familiar routine. "Not choice, but habit rules the unreflecting herd," William Wordsworth said in the 19th century. In the ever-changing 21st century, even the word "habit" carries a negative implication.

So, it seems paradoxical to talk about habits in the same context as creativity and innovation. But brain researchers have discovered that when we consciously develop new habits, we create parallel paths, and even entirely new brain cells, that can jump our trains of thought onto new, innovative tracks.

Rather than dismissing ourselves as unchangeable creatures of habit, we can instead direct our own change by consciously developing new habits. In fact, the more new things we try---the more we step outside our comfort zone---the more inherently creative we become, both in the workplace and in our personal lives.

But don't bother trying to kill off old habits; once those ruts of procedure are worn into the brain, they're there to stay. Instead, the new habits we deliberately ingrain into ourselves create parallel pathways that can bypass those

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old roads.

“The first thing needed for innovation is a fascination with wonder,” says Dawna Markova, author of *The Open Mind* and an executive change consultant for Professional Thinking Partners. “But we are taught instead to ‘decide,’ just as our president calls himself ‘the Decider.’” She adds, however, that “to decide is to kill off all possibilities but one. A good innovational thinker is always exploring the many other possibilities.”

All of us work through problems in ways of which we’re unaware, she says. Researchers in the late 1960s discovered that humans are born with the capacity to approach challenges in four primary ways: analytically, procedurally, relationally (or collaboratively) and innovatively. At the end of adolescence, however, the brain shuts down half of that capacity, preserving only those modes of thought that have seemed most valuable during the first decade or so of life.

The current emphasis on standardized testing highlights analysis and procedure, meaning that few of us inherently use our innovative and collaborative modes of thought. “This breaks the major rule in the American belief system — that anyone can do anything,” explains M. J. Ryan, author of the 2006 book *This Year I Will...* and Ms. Markova’s business partner. “That’s a lie that we have perpetuated, and it fosters commonness. Knowing what you’re good at and doing even more of it creates excellence.” This is where developing new habits comes in.

101. The view of Wordsworth, “habit” is claimed by being

- [A] casual [B] familiar [C] mechanical [D] changeable.

102. Brain researchers have discovered that the formation of new habit can be

- [A] predicted [B] regulated [C] traced [D] guided

103. The word “ruts” (Line 1, paragraph 4) is closest in meaning to

- [A] tracks [B] series [C] characteristics [D] connections

104. Dawna Markova would most probably agree that

- [A] ideas are born of a relaxing mind [B] innovativeness could be taught
[C] decisiveness derives from fantastic ideas [D] curiosity activates creative minds

105. Ryan’s comments suggest that the practice of standard testing

- [A] prevents new habits from being formed [B] no longer emphasizes commonness
[C] maintains the inherent American thinking model [D] complies with the American belief system

Text 2

It is a wise father that knows his own child, but today a man can boost his paternal (fatherly) wisdom – or at least confirm that he’s the kid’s dad. All he needs to do is shell out \$30 for paternity testing kit (PTK) at his local drugstore – and another \$120 to get the results.

More than 60,000 people have purchased the PTKs since they first became available without prescriptions last year, according to Doug Fog, chief operating officer of Identigene, which makes the over-the-counter kits. More than two dozen companies sell DNA tests Directly to the public, ranging in price from a few hundred dollars to

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more than \$2500.

Among the most popular: paternity and kinship testing, which adopted children can use to find their biological relatives and families can use to track down kids put up for adoption. DNA testing is also the latest rage among passionate genealogists-and supports businesses that offer to search for a family's geographic roots.

Most tests require collecting cells by webbing saliva in the mouth and sending it to the company for testing. All tests require a potential candidate with whom to compare DNA.

But some observers are skeptical, "There is a kind of false precision being hawked by people claiming they are doing ancestry testing," says Trey Duster, a New York University sociologist. He notes that each individual has many ancestors-numberings in the hundreds just a few centuries back. Yet most ancestry testing only considers a single lineage, either the Y chromosome inherited through men in a father's line or mitochondrial DNA, which a passed down only from mothers. This DNA can reveal genetic information about only one or two ancestors, even though, for example, just three generations back people also have six other great-grandparents or, four generations back, 14 other great-great-grandparents.

Critics also argue that commercial genetic testing is only as good as the reference collections to which a sample is compared. Databases used by some companies don't rely on data collected systematically but rather lump together information from different research projects. This means that a DNA database may differ depending on the company that processes the results. In addition, the computer programs a company uses to estimate relationships may be patented and not subject to peer review or outside evaluation.

106. In paragraphs 1 and 2, the text shows PTK's _____.

[A] easy availability [B] flexibility in pricing [C] successful promotion [D] popularity with households

107. PTK is used to _____.

[A] locate one's birth place [B] promote genetic research
[C] identify parent-child kinship [D] choose children for adoption

108. Skeptical observers believe that ancestry testing fails to _____.

[A] trace distant ancestors [B] rebuild reliable bloodlines
[C] fully use genetic information [D] achieve the claimed accuracy

109. In the last paragraph, a problem commercial genetic testing face is _____.

[A] disorganized data collection [B] overlapping database building
[C] excessive sample comparison [D] lack of patent evaluation

110. An appropriate title for the text is most likely to be _____.

[A] For and Against of DNA testing [B] DNA testing and Its problems
[C] DNA testing outside the lab [D] lies behind DNA testing

Text 3

The relationship between formal education and economic growth in poor countries is widely misunderstood by economists and politicians alike, progress in both area is undoubtedly necessary for the social, political and

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intellectual development of these and all other societies; however, the conventional view that education should be one of the very highest priorities for promoting rapid economic development in poor countries is wrong. We are fortunate that it is, because building new educational systems there and putting enough people through them to improve economic performance would require two or three generations. The findings of a research institution have consistently shown that workers in all countries can be trained on the job to achieve radically higher productivity and, as a result, radically higher standards of living.

Ironically, the first evidence for this idea appeared in the United States. Not long ago, with the country entering a recession and Japan at its pre-bubble peak. The U.S. workforce was derided as poorly educated and one of primary cause of the poor U.S. economic performance. Japan was, and remains, the global leader in automotive-assembly productivity. Yet the research revealed that the U.S. factories of Honda Nissan, and Toyota achieved about 95 percent of the productivity of their Japanese counterparts -a result of the training that U.S. workers received on the job.

More recently, while examining housing construction, the researchers discovered that illiterate, non-English-speaking Mexican workers in Houston, Texas, consistently met best-practice labor productivity standards despite the complexity of the building industry's work.

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

As education improved, humanity's productivity increased as well. When the competitive environment pushed our ancestors to achieve that potential, they could in turn afford more education. This increasingly high level of education is probably a necessary, but not a sufficient, condition for the complex political systems required by advanced economic performance. Thus, poor countries might not be able to escape their poverty traps without political changes that may be possible only with broader formal education. A lack of formal education, however, doesn't constrain the ability of the developing world's workforce to substantially improve productivity for the foreseeable future. On the contrary, constraints on improving productivity explain why education isn't developing more quickly there than it is.

111. The author holds in paragraph 1 that the important of education in poor countries ____.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| [A] is subject to groundless doubts | [B] has fallen the victim of bias |
| [C] is conventional downgraded | [D] has been overestimated |

112. It is stated in paragraph 1 that construction of a new education system ____.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| [A] challenges economists and politicians | [B] takes efforts of generations |
| [C] demands priority from the government | [D] requires sufficient labor force |

113. A major difference between the Japanese and U.S workforces is that _____

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[A] the Japanese workforce is better disciplined [B] the Japanese workforce is more productive

[C] the U.S workforce has a better education [D] the U.S workforce is more organized

114. The author quotes the example of our ancestors to show that education emerged ____.

[A] when people had enough time

[B] prior to better ways of finding food

[C] when people no longer went hungry

[D] as a result of pressure on the government

115. According to the last paragraph, development of education ____.

[A] results directly from competitive environments

[B] does not depend on economic performance

[C] follows improved productivity

[D] cannot afford political changes

Text 4

The most thoroughly intellectuals studied in the history of the new world are the ministers and political leaders of seventeenth-century New England. According to the standard history of American philosophy, nowhere else in colonial America was “So much importance attached to intellectual pursuits.” According to many books and articles, New England’s leaders established the basic themes and preoccupations of an unfolding, dominant Puritan tradition in American intellectual life.

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

The early settlers of Massachusetts Bay included men of impressive education and influence in England. Besides the ninety or so learned ministers who came to Massachusetts church in the decade after 1629, there were political leaders like John Winthrop, an educated gentleman, lawyer, and official of the Crown before he journeyed to Boston. These men wrote and published extensively, reaching both New World and Old-World audiences, and giving New England an atmosphere of intellectual earnestness.

We should not forget, however, that most New Englanders were less well educated. While few craftsmen or farmers, let alone dependents and servants, left literary compositions to be analyzed, it is obvious that their views were less fully intellectualized. Their thinking often had a traditional superstitious quality. A tailor named John Dane, who emigrated in the late 1630s, left an account of his reasons for leaving England that is filled with signs. sexual confusion, economic frustrations, and religious hope-all came together in a decisive moment when he opened the Bible, told his father the first line he saw would settle his fate, and read the magical words: “come out from among them, touch no unclean thing, and I will be your God and you shall be my people.” One wonders what Dane thought of the careful sermons explaining the Bible that he heard in puritan church.

Meanwhile, many settlers had slighter religious commitments than Dane’s, as one clergyman learned in confronting folk along the coast who mocked that they had not come to the New World for religion. “Our main end was to catch fish.”

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116. The author notes that in the seventeenth-century New England _____.
- [A] Puritan tradition dominated political life. [B] intellectual interests were encouraged.
[C] Politics benefited much from intellectual endeavors. [D] intellectual pursuits enjoyed a liberal environment.
117. It is suggested in paragraph 2 that New Englanders _____.
- [A] experienced a comparatively peaceful early history. [B] brought with them the culture of the Old World
[C] paid little attention to southern intellectual life [D] were obsessed with religious innovations
118. The early ministers and political leaders in Massachusetts Bay _____.
- [A] were famous in the New World for their writings
[B] gained increasing importance in religious affairs
[C] abandoned high positions before coming to the New World
[D] created a new intellectual atmosphere in New England
119. The story of John Dane shows that less well-educated New Englanders were often _____.
- [A] influenced by superstitions [B] troubled with religious beliefs
[C] puzzled by church sermons [D] frustrated with family earnings
120. The text suggests that early settlers in New England _____.
- [A] were mostly engaged in political activities [B] were motivated by an illusory prospect
[C] came from different backgrounds. [D] left few formal records for later reference