

## 2020 年全国硕士研究生招生考试

## 英语（二）模拟试题 3

## Section I Use of English

**Directions:**

Read the following text. Choose the best word (s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

When it comes to how much money an individual earns, there may be an optimal amount that will make you happy, according to new research. While money doesn't 1 buy a fulfilling life, income is known to be associated with happiness, and having too little or indeed too much can affect emotional and psychological well-being in a 2 way.

"That might be surprising as what we see on TV and what advertisers tell us we need would indicate that there is no 3 when it comes to how much money is needed for happiness, 4 we now see there are some 5," said Andrew T. Jebb, lead author of the study from Purdue University. It has been found that the ideal income 6 is \$95,000 for life satisfaction and \$60,000 to \$75,000 for emotional well-being. Again, this amount is for individuals and would 7 be higher for families.

To arrive at their findings, the researchers studied data from the Gallup World Poll which asks participants about life satisfaction and well-being. Using this information, they created optimal earnings estimates for regions around the world, finding there was substantial 8 —perhaps because evaluations are influenced by the standards by which individuals 9 themselves with others. For example, the 10 amount of earnings for overall life satisfaction 11 to be higher in wealthier regions and lower in less 12 areas. The optimal amounts for simply 13 emotional well-being tended to be much lower across the board.

The study, which was published in the journal *Nature Human Behaviour*, suggests that 14 a certain threshold is reached, further increases in income are actually associated

\_\_15\_\_ reduced life satisfaction and \_\_16\_\_ levels of well-being. The researchers speculate that while money was important for meeting basic \_\_17\_\_, purchasing conveniences and other useful things, after the optimal point, people may become fixated on \_\_18\_\_ further material gains and engaging in social comparisons—which can \_\_19\_\_ well-being.

“These findings speak to a broader issue of money and happiness \_\_20\_\_ cultures. Money is only a part of what really makes us happy, and we’re learning more about the limits of money,” Jebb concluded.

- |                      |                  |                   |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. [A] necessarily   | [B] occasionally | [C] statistically | [D] economically |
| 2. [A] moderate      | [B] influential  | [C] negative      | [D] inverse      |
| 3. [A] cover         | [B] ceiling      | [C] entrance      | [D] root         |
| 4. [A] since         | [B] or           | [C] so            | [D] but          |
| 5. [A] boundaries    | [B] lines        | [C] thresholds    | [D] approaches   |
| 6. [A] way           | [B] site         | [C] point         | [D] place        |
| 7. [A] likely        | [B] eventually   | [C] conversely    | [D] gradually    |
| 8. [A] complication  | [B] conservation | [C] consideration | [D] variation    |
| 9. [A] settle        | [B] combine      | [C] compare       | [D] associate    |
| 10. [A] protective   | [B] ideal        | [C] dangerous     | [D] troublesome  |
| 11. [A] failed       | [B] tended       | [C] expected      | [D] happened     |
| 12. [A] affluent     | [B] educated     | [C] prominent     | [D] commercial   |
| 13. [A] constituting | [B] enhancing    | [C] achieving     | [D] addressing   |
| 14. [A] if           | [B] while        | [C] unless        | [D] once         |
| 15. [A] by           | [B] for          | [C] on            | [D] with         |
| 16. [A] lower        | [B] higher       | [C] certain       | [D] various      |
| 17. [A] standards    | [B] needs        | [C] rights        | [D] requirements |
| 18. [A] anticipating | [B] pursuing     | [C] spreading     | [D] saving       |
| 19. [A] decrease     | [B] promote      | [C] maintain      | [D] affect       |
| 20. [A] as           | [B] beyond       | [C] between       | [D] across       |

## Section II Reading Comprehension

## Part A

## Directions:

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D.  
Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (40 points)

## Text 1

In “dad’s army”, a British sitcom about a home-defence force, Sergeant Wilson would often query his commander’s various orders with the languid phrase “Do you think that’s wise, sir?” His skepticism, although it was often ignored, was usually justified.

Many employees must be tempted to echo Sgt. Wilson on a daily basis when they see their bosses headed down the wrong track. But caution, for fear of appearing insubordinate or foolish and thus possibly at risk of losing their jobs, often leads workers to keep silent.

A culture of silence can be dangerous, argues a new book, “The Fearless Organisation”, by Amy Edmondson, a professor at Harvard Business School. Some of her examples are from the airline industry. One was its deadliest accident: a crash between Boeing 747s in the Canary Islands in 1977 when a co-pilot felt unable to query his captain’s decision to take off based on a misunderstanding of instructions from air-traffic control.

Companies also suffer when people keep silent, Ms Edmondson believes. The mis-selling scandal in 2016 at Wells Fargo, an American bank, for example, related to its culture.

Pressure on employees was intense. At some branches, staff were not allowed to leave until they met their daily target. Bonuses were based on sales figures and people who failed to meet the targets were fired. It is hardly surprising that employees resorted to subterfuge such as opening fake accounts to meet their goals.

Similar problems emerged at Volkswagen, which was caught up in a scandal over diesel emissions from 2015. The engines of its diesel models did not meet American emissions standards and engineers devised a system to fool the regulators. Ms Edmondson says the company’s culture had been one based on intimidation and fear; Ferdinand Piëch, its longtime boss, boasted of telling engineers they had six weeks to improve the bodywork fitting on pain

of dismissal.

In a corporate culture based on fear and intimidation, it may appear that targets are being achieved in the short term. But in the long run the effect is likely to be counterproductive. Studies show that fear inhibits learning. And when confronted with a problem, scared workers find ways of covering it up or getting around it with inefficient practices.

The answer is to create an atmosphere of “psychological safety” whereby workers can speak their minds. In a sense, this is the equivalent of Toyota’s “lean manufacturing process”, which allows any worker who spots a problem to stop the production line.

21. According to Paragraph 1, Sergeant Wilson often expressed \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] his doubt about orders
- [B] his rudeness to his commander
- [C] his indifference to orders
- [D] his confidence with himself

22. According to Paragraph 3, the crash of Boeing 747s is caused by \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] an operational error made by an inexperienced pilot
- [B] the underestimation of mechanical problems
- [C] the misleading information from air-traffic control
- [D] the co-pilot’s failure to question his captain’s wrong decision

23. The word “subterfuge” (Para. 5) most probably means \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] deceptive trick
- [B] personal attack
- [C] subtle approach
- [D] temporary refuge

24. Ferdinand Piëch’s anecdote is cited to show \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] a flaw in the car’s emission system
- [B] Volkswagen’s oppressive culture
- [C] engineers’ implementation capacity

[D] regulators' strict quality standards

25. In a corporate culture based on fear, when faced with a problem \_\_\_\_\_.

[A] workers would complete tasks hastily

[B] leaders would find faults with their subordinates

[C] workers would hold themselves back

[D] leaders would manipulate the performance appraisal

## Text 2

For almost a decade from the late 19th century a slice of America was marketed and brought up on meat substitutes such as peanut-based Nuteena, along with Wham, Tuno, FriChick and Big Franks. While there has always been a market for growing numbers of vegetarians and vegans worldwide, the cause of meat-free diets has been given in recent years a rocket boost, not by religion but by reason.

Diet is urgently needed if developed nations are to have a hope of meeting targets for reduced carbon emissions, a must to halt global heating. Every environmentalist and a great many ordinary people—including plenty of non-vegetarians—know that grains, vegetables and beans ought to soon form a far larger share of the typical western diet than they do at present. Industrialised agriculture and livestock farming are massively carbon-intensive activities. While the UN estimates they cause 23% of global emissions, critics believe this is an underestimate and the true total is far higher.

Last week KFC became the latest fast food giant to announce that it is working on new products based on meat substitutes: “Beyond Fried Chicken”, a vegan nugget developed in partnership with California-based company Beyond Meat. Following Burger King’s launch this year of the meat-free Whopper, with ingredients supplied by Beyond Meat’s main competitor, Impossible Foods, the KFC announcement confirms what was already clear: there is real momentum, and money, behind the growth of plant-based alternatives to meat.

Veganism (strict vegetarianism) in the UK is nothing new. But for some people it is changing our food landscape too fast. Last year the bakery chain Greggs faced criticism for selling a vegan sausage roll filled with meat-free Quorn. When a dispute between food writer

Selene Nelson and Waitrose magazine editor William Sitwell exploded into headlines after Mr Sitwell sent such a rude reply to a proposal for a vegan recipe series, he resigned. It is ridiculous to treat shoppers for pastry snacks as warriors in a culture war.

The structural shifts required to address the climate crisis will not be made in bakeries. The countries that drove the global rise in the consumption of animal products in the past are not the ones that will do so in future. But that doesn't mean the rich world can go on eating beef and lamb with impunity, any more than we can continue to fly around the world without thinking about the harm that air traffic entails. Instead, we should take heart from the instances in which behaviour change is a message that consumers are willing to consider. Greggs' shares jumped more than 13% between February and March this year, and the company is working on a vegan version of its steak bake. Bring it on.

26. In America, meat-free diets gain increasing popularity due to \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] vegetarians' influence
- [B] consumers' religious belief
- [C] people's rational choice
- [D] increasing meat substitutes

27. Which of the following is true according to Paragraph 2?

- [A] Critics underestimate the UN's carbon emission.
- [B] Meat-free diets can help stop global heating.
- [C] Many ordinary people are not satisfied with the current diet.
- [D] Environmentalists suggest all people become vegetarians.

28. KFC's announcement indicates that \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] plant-based meat substitutes have a bright prospect
- [B] it costs a lot of money to produce meat alternatives
- [C] it developed the new product to defeat Beyond Meat
- [D] the shortage of meat boosts the growth of meat substitutes

29. The author's attitude toward veganism is probably one of \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] indifference
- [B] dissatisfaction
- [C] appreciation
- [D] disapproval

30. In order to address the climate crisis, it's advisable to \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] make structural shifts in bakeries
- [B] raise the supply of animal products
- [C] detail air traffic's harms on people's safety
- [D] expand the production of meat substitutes

### Text 3

The UK's dysfunctional housing market is a problem affecting people of all ages. But the plight of millennials, born between the early 1980s and mid-1990s, deserves special attention. These people, now in their 20s and 30s, are far less likely than previous cohorts to be able to access a socially rented home or afford to buy one. This week a parliamentary report said a chronic lack of affordable housing means that 630,000 of them are on course for an old age of homelessness.

How to turn this situation around and enable millennials to achieve a good standard of living—including secure housing tenure and the freedom this brings—is a question that should exercise not just policymakers but voters. A good society should strive for intergenerational fairness as a matter of principle, but also because we depend on younger people to look after us when we grow old. For this arrangement to break down, because earlier generations have failed to share opportunities and resources with those coming up behind them, it would be deeply harmful.

Housing is not the only area of public policy with a generational aspect. But the huge rise in the number of private renters makes it an important one. Even for the 3.9m households whose landlords are either councils or housing associations, and who are less exposed to rent increases as a result, rising prices have served to widen the gap in status and resources between the have-properties and the have-nots. The so-called boom in house prices since the

mid-1990s has not only widened existing inequalities but created new ones. The government's help-to-buy scheme made things worse, not better. That doesn't mean young adults without rich parents don't deserve a chance to get on to the first rung of the housing ladder. They do.

But home-ownership is not the be-all and end-all, and promoting it must not distract from other priorities. Even our regulation-averse government has belatedly recognised that problems in the private rental sector can no longer be ignored, and launched a consultation on abolishing no-fault evictions. This week's report from the London mayor, Sadiq Khan, goes much further, with its call for a register of landlords and a private rent commission to control rents. Scotland has already enacted similar measures in what it calls "rent pressure zones". Labour's 2017 manifesto promised similar moves.

31. What problem are millennials faced with in the UK?

- [A] Decline of job opportunities currently.
- [B] Possible homelessness in their old age.
- [C] Bias from the previous generations.
- [D] Dilemma of renting or buying a house.

32. We can infer from Paragraph 2 that \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] policymakers are able to control the housing price
- [B] voters and policymakers cannot afford housing
- [C] intergenerational fairness is needed for a good society
- [D] younger generation has no freedom of working

33. The government's help-to-buy scheme \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] doesn't achieve expected outcomes
- [B] creates new inequalities in renting houses
- [C] curbs the rapid rise of property price
- [D] narrows the gap between rich and poor

34. What problems cannot be ignored according to Paragraph 4?

- [A] Lack of the government's regulation.



- [B] High rents in the private rental sector.
- [C] Great housing pressure in Scotland.
- [D] Ineffectiveness of no-fault evictions.

35. The best title for this text could be \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] Housing: The Best Investment for Millennials
- [B] Housing: The Disaster for Millennials
- [C] Housing Inequality: The Young Are Paying
- [D] Housing Inequality: The Government Is the Controller

#### Text 4

This week I made a pilgrimage to the east coast of Scotland to participate in that classic ritual of modern middle-class life: a university graduation. The setting was St Andrews—a six-centuries-old seat of learning. The vice-chancellor addressed the assembly in Latin, while tapping the graduates on their heads with an ancient piece of cloth. And the students wore swirling gowns with hoods. It might have been a scene from one of JK Rowling's Harry Potter books.

Why do universities still bother to stage these elaborate ceremonies, given that we live in a cyber age in which most students conduct their lives in a way that has nothing to do with ancient robes? A cynic might argue that the answer is canny marketing: after costly years of endeavour, students and parents need some physical proof of a return on their investment.

However, heritage marketing is not the only factor, given that such rituals also occur in places that do not have 600 years of history behind them. Another way to frame the issue is to ponder a concept first developed by the ethnographer Arnold van Gennep—"liminality". This word comes from the Latin limen—doorway or threshold—and refers to the idea that whenever societies or people make a transition, they typically use rituals and symbols to mark this. In some African cultures, adolescents become "adults" by spending weeks in a hut away from their village and their routines, often behaving in ways that subvert norms—wearing unusual clothing, for example.

There is a lesson here. Nowadays, digital technology is transforming our lives at an

accelerating pace. This sometimes feels wildly liberating. But it is often terrifying too, because cyberspace is so disorienting. Politicians and techies rarely discuss this problem. But if we want to help people adapt to the cyber age, we need to spend more time thinking about what shapes our identities and how we use cultural “markers” and rites of passage to frame our lives. Anchors matter: not only do they build shared identity, but they also provide psychological comfort for individuals who are living in a confusing world.

Faced with a social transition, it becomes crucial to ask how we can build wider “rites of passage”, not just for purposes of reassurance but for social cohesion too. Think, for example, about Brexit. When this great event occurs, there will be endless discussion about how to manage it in an economic and political sense; but how will politicians handle the symbolism? Can they create rituals and cultural signals to celebrate a “liminal” state? Let us hope so; transition rituals matter—and not just for new graduates.

36. The university graduation on the east coast of Scotland \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] was held in the area of Latin
- [B] was full of a sense of history
- [C] was participated by middle-income people
- [D] might be inspired by Harry Potter books

37. Staging elaborate ceremonies is \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] a waste of energy and money
- [B] a salute to the ancient times
- [C] a declaration against marketing
- [D] a necessary feedback for parents

38. According to Paragraph 3, the concept of “liminality” \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] has a long history of more than 600 years
- [B] is featured by a break away from routines
- [C] is widely accepted in African cultures
- [D] originated from certain religious rituals

39. One problem with the cyber age is \_\_\_\_\_.  
 [A] intellectual laziness of some politicians  
 [B] addictive digital products and services  
 [C] social anxiety and identity confusion  
 [D] the accelerating speed of tech change
40. Which of the following is the best title for the text?  
 [A] University Graduation Ceremonies: A Model for Brexit  
 [B] How Ancient Rituals Help Us Adapt to the Digital Age  
 [C] The Social Significance of JK Rowling's Harry Potter  
 [D] Social Cohesion: A Neglected Responsibility for Politicians

## Part B

### Directions:

Read the following text and answer the questions by choosing the most suitable subheading from the list A~G for each of the numbered paragraphs (41~45). There are two extra subheadings which you do not need to use. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

- [A] Open the blinds  
 [B] Turn on the music  
 [C] Stretch in bed  
 [D] Do some exercise after breakfast  
 [E] Have some meditation  
 [F] Exercise on an empty stomach  
 [G] Expose yourself to sunlight regularly

### Rise and Sunshine All Day

Most office workers and college students always feel frustrated in the morning when their alarm goes off at 7 o'clock. Sometimes a bad wake-up experience will ruin all-day's happiness. The following tips will improve your energy and mood in the morning:

41. \_\_\_\_\_

Try this even before you open your eyes. Lift one arm and begin by stretching each finger, then your hand, then your wrist, and then your whole arm. Move on to the other arm. Then stretch your toes, feet, ankles, and legs. Finally, end with a neck and back stretch that propels you out of bed. You've just limbered up your muscles and joints and enhanced blood flow throughout your body, providing a shot of oxygen to all your tissues. Take up the entire length of the bed when you stretch. According to Harvard University psychologist Amy Cuddy, this "power pose" mimics the position of a bold person, making you feel more confident all day long.

42. \_\_\_\_\_

When natural light from the sunrise creeps into your bedroom, it signals your brain to slow its melatonin production and boost cortisol, both of which tell your body to wake up. A flood of sunshine isn't just an instant morning pick-me-up: A Northwestern University study found that people exposed to moderately bright light in the morning have a significantly lower body mass index than people who get the majority of their light exposure later in the day. Therefore, open the blinds at night before you go to bed.

43. \_\_\_\_\_

No matter when you do it, meditating has numerous benefits, such as fighting insomnia, reducing stress and anxiety, increasing energy levels, boosting your immune system, and providing mental clarity. Meditating in the morning helps you set a peaceful tone right off the bat so you are less likely to get sidetracked. If you're a novice, an app such as OMG I Can Meditate can get you started.

44. \_\_\_\_\_

Working out before you eat, researchers say, encourages your body to burn more fat for energy rather than relying on carbohydrates from food. In a *Journal of Physiology* study, participants who exercised after breakfast still gained weight (as did a control group who didn't exercise), but those who exercised on an empty stomach did not. Moreover, research from the University of Vermont shows that the mood-enhancing benefits of a 20-minute workout can last for 12 hours, a boost you'll want to enjoy all day long.

45. \_\_\_\_\_

Pick something energetic that you and others in the house enjoy and put it on while you get ready. If anyone plays an instrument, and if you have a little time, morning is the perfect

time to practice, as it primes your brain for learning. One study from Johns Hopkins University found that both playing and listening to music help improve academic performance in 16 different ways, including increasing focus and memory.

### Section III Translation

#### 46. Directions:

Translate the following text into Chinese. Write your translation on the ANSWER SHEET. (15 points)

In their book, Stephen Martin and Joseph Marks, two psychologists, outline how people respond to visual status signals. Just why are pedestrians likelier to defy traffic laws to follow a man across the road when he is wearing a suit than the same man dressed in jeans?

One possibility is an evolved respect for those with a higher social position. This is not just about clothes or possessions. But it seems more probable that people with a certain type of appearance are likely to get promoted than it is to believe they are innately more competent than everyone else. Humans tend to respect men with particular physical characteristics. When participants in a study were shown pictures of male employees of a business consultancy, with similar clothes and masked faces, they perceived the taller men more positively in terms of team leadership skills. Indeed, research has shown that taller and more attractive men earn more than their shorter and plainer colleagues.

### Section IV Writing

#### Part A

#### 47. Directions:

Suppose you accepted a friend's invitation to take part in his sports club activity and enjoyed the atmosphere there. Write him an email to

- 1) thanks for his invitation, and
- 2) apply for membership of the club.

You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

**Do not** use your own name. Use “Li Ming” instead. (10 points)

## Part B

### 48. Directions:

Write an essay based on the chart below. In your writing, you should

- 1) interpret the chart, and
- 2) give your comments.

You should write about 150 words on the ANSWER SHEET. (15 points)

