

2020 年全国硕士研究生招生考试

英语（二）模拟试题 4

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)

If you've skipped lunch, avoid making big decisions at all costs. Making decisions on a(n) 1 stomach can lead to questionable choices, new research suggests—and the effects 2 way beyond our food selections. Most of us know that 3 to the supermarket with an empty stomach can mean leaving with an 4 trolley of unhealthy treats, but the study from Dundee University found “hunger fog” can also 5 us thinking clearly when it comes to big life 6. Participants in an experiment were asked questions relating to food, money and other rewards when feeling full and again when they had 7 a meal.

The study found that 8 significantly altered people's decision-making, making them impatient and more likely to settle for a 9 reward that arrived sooner, rather than a larger one promised at a later date.

While it was perhaps unsurprising that hungry people were more likely to settle for smaller food 10 that arrived 11, the researchers found that being hungry actually 12 preferences 13 rewards entirely unrelated to food.

“People generally know that when they are hungry, they shouldn't really go food shopping 14 they are more likely to make choices that are either unhealthy or indulgent. Our research suggests this could have an impact on other kinds of 15 as well,” said study lead Dr Benjamin Vincent. “Say you were going to speak with a pension or mortgage advisor—doing so 16 hungry might make you 17 a bit more about immediate satisfaction at the expense of a potentially more rosy future.”

The researchers noted that if you 18 people a reward now or double that reward in

the future, they were normally 19 to wait 35 days to double the reward, but when hungry this fell 20 only three days.

It seems the makers of Snickers really are on to something: “You’re just not you when you’re hungry.”

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. [A] sick | [B] upset | [C] empty | [D] full |
| 2. [A] propel | [B] move | [C] extend | [D] venture |
| 3. [A] yielding | [B] heading | [C] applying | [D] leading |
| 4. [A] alternative | [B] remaining | [C] overflowing | [D] accessible |
| 5. [A] reverse | [B] influence | [C] prevent | [D] justify |
| 6. [A] benefits | [B] signs | [C] limits | [D] choices |
| 7. [A] made | [B] won | [C] ordered | [D] skipped |
| 8. [A] hunger | [B] status | [C] food | [D] atmosphere |
| 9. [A] expected | [B] small | [C] appropriate | [D] infinite |
| 10. [A] materials | [B] strikes | [C] incentives | [D] recipes |
| 11. [A] sooner | [B] routinely | [C] inevitably | [D] later |
| 12. [A] indicates | [B] gives | [C] determines | [D] changes |
| 13. [A] in | [B] for | [C] over | [D] by |
| 14. [A] because | [B] unless | [C] though | [D] if |
| 15. [A] decisions | [B] behaviors | [C] wishes | [D] issues |
| 16. [A] until | [B] since | [C] before | [D] while |
| 17. [A] speculate | [B] worry | [C] dream | [D] care |
| 18. [A] cultivate | [B] offer | [C] certify | [D] confirm |
| 19. [A] willing | [B] awkward | [C] considerate | [D] hesitant |
| 20. [A] through | [B] to | [C] with | [D] off |

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

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex have become synonymous with a refreshing rejection of royal convention. Last week, Prince Harry abandoned the royal preference for larger than average families in an interview with the zoologist Jane Goodall. “Two, maximum” was his reply when asked, in the context of a discussion about preserving the planet, how many children he would have.

On this at least, Harry and Meghan appear to be in tune with the nation. New figures from the Office for National Statistics show that the birth rate in England and Wales has fallen to a record low, and that the overall fertility rate for women of childbearing age has dropped to 1.7 children. This decline has come about as a result of people having children later, partly due to social progress—the rapid increase in education and employment levels of women in recent decades, vastly improved access to reliable birth control methods, and falling teen pregnancy rates. But, more recently, finances have come into play, with rising house prices also a factor.

Is Prince Harry right that this might be something to celebrate? It’s certainly true that in richer nations, having fewer children is by far the most effective way for individuals to reduce their carbon footprint.

Why, then, have governments around the world reacted with alarm rather than delight to falling birth rates? The answer lies in the ageing population structures that are their inevitable product. Older populations require more resources for health and social care, but they also have fewer people of working age to pay taxes to support those services, and to care for their older loved ones.

The answer—particularly given the implications of rising birth rates for the climate crisis—is not necessarily for governments to try to artificially push them upwards. They should of course ensure that low-income families with children receive adequate financial support, that

childcare is affordable, and that the cost of housing is not so expensive that couples are forced to delay having children.

One way for richer countries to resolve the problem of a falling birth rate that's good for the planet but bad for the finance is through immigration—a redistribution of population from those poorer regions of the world where the birth rate is higher, and where there are plenty who want to emigrate. This is not without issues, including the ethical questions posed by population movements that can contribute to a brain drain from poorer countries. A big challenge, however, will be countering the anti-immigration sentiment that has taken root in the politics of the US and much of Europe. But if politicians aren't brave enough to make the case for more immigration, they should get ready to compensate with higher taxes.

21. According to Paragraph 1, Prince Harry was cited for his _____.
 [A] refusal of the royal tradition
 [B] preference for larger families
 [C] amiable attitude in the interview
 [D] efforts to preserve the planet
22. One reason for the falling birth rate in England is _____.
 [A] royal family's exemplary role
 [B] low employment level of men
 [C] the strict birth control rule
 [D] the increased housing cost
23. According to Paragraph 4, ageing population structures may lead to _____.
 [A] less tax revenues
 [B] productivity slowdown
 [C] natural resources shortages
 [D] high unemployment rate
24. One challenge faced by immigration is _____.
 [A] loss of talents

- [B] political resistance
- [C] public opposition
- [D] potential crimes

25. The most suitable title for this text would be _____.

- [A] Prince Harry: Leaving Royal Life
- [B] The Falling Birth Rates: A Dilemma
- [C] Immigrating and Thriving: Unavoidable Risk
- [D] Immigration: Possible Answer to Falling Birth Rates

Text 2

“It’s time to stop vaping,” says Lee Norman, a health official in Kansas. On September 11th the Trump administration said it intends to ban non-tobacco-flavoured vaping fluid. Some politicians want a broader ban on all e-cigarettes.

The facts have gone up in smoke, as so often happens during health scares. Although more research is needed, the evidence so far suggests that the recent vaping deaths in America did not come from products bought in a shop but from badly made items sold on the street. In five out of six cases, the tainted vaping products were bought illicitly; the other involved liquid bought in a legal cannabis shop in Oregon. One theory is that the vape fluid was mixed with vitamin E. This is an oil—something that should not enter the lungs. If inhaled, oil causes the type of symptoms that the stricken vapers display.

America’s Food and Drug Administration (FDA) refuses to panic. It says vapers should not buy products containing cannabis extract, or those sold on the street. This is sensible. When you buy an unlicensed liquid from an unregulated supplier, you have no idea what you are puffing. This is why governments also discourage people from drinking moonshine spirits, which are sometimes deadly. However, just as with alcohol, regulators should draw a distinction between illicit products and the legal, unadulterated sort.

E-cigarettes are not good for you. The vapour that vapers inhale is laced with nicotine, which is addictive. Some of the other chemicals in it may be harmful. But vaping is far less dangerous than smoking tobacco—a uniquely deadly product. If people turn to e-cigarettes as

a substitute for the conventional sort, the health benefits are potentially huge. Anything that weans people off tobacco is likely to save lives. The big worry about e-cigarettes is that they will create a new generation of nicotine addicts. Some people who have never previously smoked have taken up vaping, including a worrying number of children.

This is alarming, and helps explain why so many governments have banned e-cigarettes. They should not. Prohibition usually causes more harm than good. Forbidding e-cigarettes will lead vapers to buy illicit products—the type that are far more likely to poison them. It will also deter many law-abiding smokers from switching to something less deadly.

For these reasons, regulating vaping is wiser than trying to eliminate it. Governments should carefully control what goes into vape fluid. Governments should also regulate how e-cigarettes are advertised. Marketing aimed at children is obviously unacceptable. So, perhaps, are fruity flavours that appeal especially to young palates. Government health warnings should be clear and measured. Vaping may be a dangerous habit, but it is vastly less deadly than lighting up.

26. According to Paragraph 2, vaping deaths in America were mainly related with _____.

- [A] legalized products bought in a shop
- [B] vape fluid containing much vitamin E
- [C] low-quality products of unclear source
- [D] products made by shops on the street

27. What's the author's attitude to FDA's reaction to vaping death cases?

- [A] Critical.
- [B] Ambiguous.
- [C] Indifferent.
- [D] Concerned.

28. What can we know about e-cigarettes from Paragraph 4?

- [A] They can be more dangerous than tobacco.
- [B] They can't meet the target to save more lives.
- [C] They will replace those conventional products.

[D] They have led many non-smokers to smoke.

29. Prohibition on e-cigarettes can be more harmful because _____.

- [A] it may lead to more deaths of law-abiding smokers
- [B] tobacco will become too expensive for people to afford
- [C] vapers may take in products that are more toxic to health
- [D] it costs governments more to ban e-cigarettes than tobacco

30. Which of the following could be the best title for this text?

- [A] Regulating or Banning E-cigarettes?
- [B] E-cigarettes: Poison to People's Health
- [C] Vaping vs. Smoking Tobacco
- [D] Advice on E-cigarette Marketing

Text 3

Under pressure from Congress, the Internal Revenue Service agreed in 2002 to let a group of private tax preparers provide online software allowing low-income Americans to file their taxes for free. This would save the IRS the trouble, and advocates of the idea said the private sector was anyway better equipped to simplify the process and help phase out paper returns. The plan hasn't worked. This month a class-action lawsuit was filed against the parent company of TurboTax, alleging that it tricked millions of customers into paying unnecessary fees.

Electronic filing has increased dramatically since the free-file program began, but less than 2.5% of the 70% of taxpayers eligible for the service are getting it at no charge. The suit argues that TurboTax hid the free version of the software it promised to provide, and guided users to similar-sounding products with fees. Reporting by ProPublica suggests it wasn't the only company to do so.

The principle that low-income taxpayers should be able to file for free is surely right. The question is how to deliver. Some have argued the existing program just needs better policing. This makes little sense. The IRS could easily provide the necessary software itself, and at a

relatively modest cost. The truth is, the free-filing program wasn't just badly supervised; it was flawed in principle. It was never realistic to suppose that the tax-prep firms would willingly provide free service to so many taxpayers.

Regardless of whether the IRS provides free-filing software itself, the agency needs a multi-year funding plan to upgrade its IT systems and improve customer service. Only a fraction of that increase in resources would be required to develop software for the 100 million taxpayers who qualify for free filing. After all, the IRS already transposes the tax code into taxpayer forms. The online part of the task should be pretty straightforward.

And in fact the IRS shouldn't stop there. It should send all taxpayers returns pre-filled with income data the agency has already gathered from employers and others. Tax agencies in many other countries manage to do this. Taxpayers could then review the information, correct it if needed, and send it back, greatly simplifying the process. Those with more complicated affairs might still prefer the help of a professional, but for the great majority of Americans, this shouldn't be necessary.

Bipartisan legislation to "modernize" the IRS is currently before Congress. Sadly, it doesn't address these issues. Indeed, one of the bill's provisions affirms the continued outsourcing of the free-file program. Lawmakers ought to think again, and require the IRS to do the job it should never have been allowed to outsource in the first place.

31. According to the first two paragraphs, the free-file program hasn't worked due to _____.

- [A] taxpayers' lack of qualification
- [B] inconvenience of electronic filing
- [C] flaw of the free version of the software
- [D] private tax preparers' deliberate deceits

32. A possible premise of delivering the free-filing program is _____.

- [A] better policing on its criteria
- [B] free service by tax-prep firms
- [C] financial support from the IRS
- [D] cost-effective billing software

33. We can know from Paragraph 4 that providing free-filing software _____.
 [A] depends on the support of taxpayers
 [B] requires the IRS to change its tax standards
 [C] costs the IRS a small number of resources
 [D] drives the transposition of tax code
34. To simplify the tax filing process, the author suggests that _____.
 [A] employers gather paper returns
 [B] the IRS prefill the tax returns
 [C] taxpayers consult professionals
 [D] the IRS offer tax professionals
35. In the author's view, the job of implementing the free-file program relies on _____.
 [A] the IRS
 [B] lawmakers
 [C] the Congress
 [D] private sectors

Text 4

For a long time, working in Big Tech was the dream for many young people. But is its status starting to change? Big Tech might be concerned about government fines and PR emergencies, but its biggest problem could be failing to recruit and keep talented staff.

Sarah Drinkwater, a former senior Google staffer says that revelations about the role of some tech companies during the Brexit vote and US election “presented so many interesting problems. Misinformation. Bias. Inequality. Tech workers are seeing the connection between all these things and wanting to do something about them.” Do the tech groups need to worry? “Previously, if you wanted to work in a digital company, especially a global organisation, there were only a handful available. But now there are many, including Spotify, or Monzo,” says Ms Drinkwater.

While tech is still lucrative the distorting impact of tech companies on the cost of living

in their stronghold cities increasingly cancels out much of the benefit. “The money could never have been enough,” says Edward Vince, recently appointed Airbnb’s creative director for Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Mr Vince also struggled with the culture. “You have this whole idea that you’re being hired for who you are as a person. But you quickly realise that was all just a nice-to-have. They hire all these amazing creatives from around the world to bring different and diverse perspectives, and then immediately just want you to fit in.”

There is a bigger trend. In May 2019, Doteveryone, a think-tank for responsible tech, released an in-depth research into the attitudes of people who design and build digital technologies in the UK. It found that more than a quarter of UK tech workers have seen decisions made about a technology that they felt could have negative consequences for people or society. Nearly one in five of those went on to leave their companies as a result. The survey found that tech workers want more time and resources to think about the impact of their products.

Ms Drinkwater believes that employees could be a key force in making much-needed changes at Big Tech companies. Experts in specialist areas of tech, AI and data have a unique vantage point that public policymakers might not. And empowering them in what she calls “positive dissent” could be the way to keep them.

Does Ms Drinkwater think Big Tech is evil? “I worked on Google Maps and am still very proud of this. No one can deny the utility of Uber. I believe there’s a way. One where tech can be responsible and a force for good”, she said.

36. The biggest concern for Big Tech is _____.

- [A] government relationship
- [B] emergency management
- [C] recruitment costs
- [D] the brain drain

37. “Wanting to do something” (Para.2) probably means that tech workers will _____.

- [A] expose misinformation
- [B] explore interesting topics
- [C] participate in Brexit vote

[D] hand in their resignation

38. According to Paragraph 3, Edward Vince was troubled by _____.

[A] the decline of salary

[B] conflicting perspectives

[C] depressing corporate culture

[D] competition from colleagues

39. Doteveryone's research highlights _____.

[A] the bottleneck for scientific research

[B] tech workers' social consciences

[C] UK's employment environment

[D] slow turnover of tech companies

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

[A] Big Tech: May be Losing its Attraction for Talented Staff

[B] Tech Workers: Power, Responsibility and Ethical Anxiety

[C] Digital Technologies: Bumpy is the Road, Bright is the Future

[D] Tech Groups: Correct Societal Downsides of Technology

Part B

Directions:

Read the following text and match each of the numbered items in the left column to its corresponding information in the right column. There are two extra choices in the right column. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Youth club closures are putting young people at greater risk of violence, according to a committee of MPs. Matthew Weaver, a manager from a consulting company, has found that English councils have slashed funding on youth services by 40% on average in the last three years.

After a bank holiday weekend which began with news of the fatal stabbing of 15-year-old Tashaun Aird and continued with the killing of an unnamed 18-year-old in south London (the

28th knife fatality in the capital this year), the all-party parliamentary group on knife crime revealed new data from more than 100 councils showing cuts to youth services of up to 91%. It claimed that areas which had suffered the largest cuts to spending on young people had seen bigger increases in knife crime.

Sarah Jones, MP for Croydon Central and chair of the committee, said: “Our figures show how in areas where support for young people has been cut most, they are more at risk of violence. Youth services cannot be a ‘nice to have’. Our children’s safety must be our number one priority.”

Cambridgeshire said it had moved away from providing youth clubs, which are open access, and instead provided “targeted and focused service” for the most vulnerable and most at risk children and young people, as well as parenting programmes and support for families. It said the level of support for young people most in need had not changed.

In March, the Guardian reported from one youth club in Acton, west London, as it was halved in size, raising concerns it would diminish its ability to prevent violence. Those fears increased last month, when two boys who attended the club were injured in knife fights.

The MPs are calling for the government to review youth funding cuts and consider setting a legal requirement for councils to provide youth services. The government defended its policy citing changes to the drug market as one cause of increased stabbings.

“Our serious violence strategy places a greater emphasis on early intervention to steer young people away from violent crime by offering positive choices, alongside equipping police with the powers and resource they need to keep communities safe from this threat,” Robert Booth, one of the MPs said. “We are putting more than £200m into community projects and are consulting on a vital public health duty which will see public bodies work together more effectively to prevent serious violence.”

Last month the prime minister hosted a summit on youth violence and the home secretary, Sajid Javid, launched a consultation on a legal duty to ensure public bodies, including hospitals, raise concerns about children at risk of becoming involved in knife crime. The idea has been criticised as “dragnet surveillance” by the civil rights campaign group Liberty, and teachers unions and NHS staff have raised concerns.

Javed Khan, chief executive of Barnardo’s, a children’s charity, said the figures were “alarming but sadly unsurprising”. “Taking away youth workers and safe spaces in the

community contributes to a ‘poverty of hope’ among young people who see little or no chance of a positive future,” he said, as he called for the government to work with local authorities to “restore children’s sense of hope”.

	[A] held that children’s safety must be the number one priority.
41. Matthew Weaver	[B] believed that public bodies should raise concerns about children who may be involved in knife crime.
42. Sarah Jones	[C] claimed that areas which had cut more spending on young people had seen bigger increases in knife crime.
43. Robert Booth	[D] called for the government to work with local authorities to restore children’s sense of hope.
44. Sajid Javid	[E] found that in the last three years English councils have slashed funding on youth services.
45. Javed Khan	[F] said that more funds and consultation will see public bodies work together more effectively.
	[G] said that the level of support for young people most in need had not changed.

Section III Translation

46. Directions:

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

The large office, like the factory, is an invention of the past two centuries. The factory arose because of powered machinery, which required workers to be gathered in one place. Big offices grew from the need to process lots of paperwork, and for managers to instruct clerks on what to do. But now the internet, personal computing and handheld devices mean that transactions can be dealt with on screen and managers can instantly communicate with their workers, wherever they are. The need for staff to be in one place has been dramatically reduced.

The office is bound to change further. Some firms may ask if it makes sense to have offices in city centres. In an era of remote collaboration, software and documents sit in the cloud and offices could disperse to cheaper places. The office of the mid-21st century will be as different from today's as the high-tech factory is from the Victorian mill.

Section IV Writing

Part A

47. Directions:

Write a letter to Jack, a first-year student at university, to

- 1) recommend a course, and
- 2) give reasons for your recommendation.

You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

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

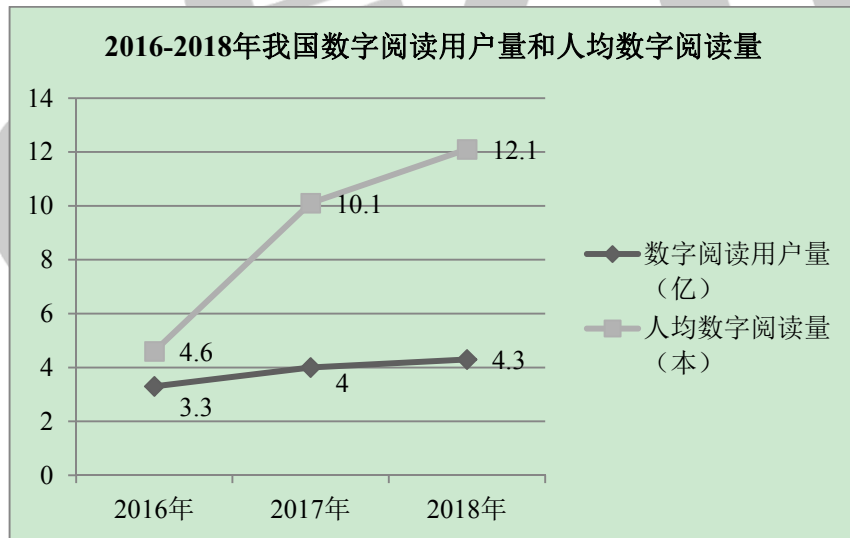
Part B

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)



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