

The human nose is an underrated tool. Humans are often thought to be insensitive smellers compared with animals, 1 this is largely because, 2 animals, we stand upright. This means that our noses are 3 to perceiving those smells which float through the air, 4 the majority of smells which stick to surfaces. In fact, 5, we are extremely sensitive to smells, 6 we do not generally realize it. Our noses are capable of 7 human smells even when these are 8 to far below one part in one million.

Strangely, some people find that they can smell one type of flower but not another, 9 others are sensitive to the smells of both flowers. This may be because some people do not have the genes necessary to generate 10 smell receptors in the nose. These receptors are the cells which sense smells and send 11 to the brain. However, it has been found that even people insensitive to a certain smell 12 can suddenly become sensitive to it when 13 to it often enough.

The explanation for insensitivity to smell seems to be that the brain finds it 14 to keep all smell receptors working all the time but can 15 new receptors if necessary. This may 16 explain why we are not usually sensitive to our own smells – we simply do not need to be. We are not 17 of the usual smell of our own house, but we 18 new smells when we visit someone else’s. The brain finds it best to keep smell receptors 19 for unfamiliar and emergency signals 20 the smell of smoke, which might indicate the danger of fire.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | [A]. although | [B]. as | [C]. but | [D]. while |
| 2. | [A]. above | [B]. unlike | [C]. excluding | [D]. besides |
| 3. | [A]. limited | [B]. committed | [C]. dedicated | [D]. confined |
| 4. | [A]. catching | [B]. ignoring | [C]. missing | [D]. tracking |
| 5. | [A]. anyway | [B]. though | [C]. instead | [D]. therefore |
| 6. | [A]. even if | [B]. if only | [C]. only if | [D]. as if |
| 7. | [A]. distinguishing | [B]. discovering | [C]. determining | [D]. detecting |
| 8. | [A]. diluted | [B]. dissolved | [C]. dispersed | [D]. diffused |
| 9. | [A]. when | [B]. since | [C]. for | [D]. whereas |
| 10. | [A]. unusual | [B]. particular | [C]. unique | [D]. typical |
| 11. | [A]. signs | [B]. stimuli | [C]. messages | [D]. impulses |
| 12. | [A]. at first | [B]. at all | [C]. at large | [D]. at times |
| 13. | [A]. subjected | [B]. left | [C]. drawn | [D]. exposed |
| 14. | [A]. ineffective | [B]. incompetent | [C]. inefficient | [D]. insufficient |
| 15. | [A]. introduce | [B]. summon | [C]. trigger | [D]. create |
| 16. | [A]. still | [B]. also | [C]. otherwise | [D]. nevertheless |
| 17. | [A]. sure | [B]. sick | [C]. aware | [D]. tired |
| 18. | [A]. tolerate | [B]. repel | [C]. neglect | [D]. notice |
| 19. | [A]. available | [B]. reliable | [C]. identifiable | [D]. suitable |
| 20. | [A]. similar to | [B]. such as | [C]. along with | [D]. aside from |

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 behaviour 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 Brosnan 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 behaviour of female brown capuchin monkeys. They look cute. They are good-natured, co-operative creatures, and they share their food readily. 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. Brosnan’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 behaviour 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.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. Female capuchin monkeys were chosen for the research most probably because they are
 - [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.
4. 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.
5. 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.

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 time 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 crucial that those new plants be environmentally sound.

1. 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.
2. According to Bruce Alberts, science can serve as
 - [A]. a protector.
 - [B]. a judge.
 - [C]. a critic.
 - [D]. a guide.
3. 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 progress.
 - [D]. Extensive research helps decision-making.
4. 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.
5. 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.

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.

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.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.

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 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 the 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.

1. 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.
2. The word "talking" (Line 6, Paragraph 3) denotes
 - [A]. modesty.
 - [B]. personality.
 - [C]. liveliness.
 - [D]. informality.
3. To which of the following statements would McWhorter 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.
4. 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.
5. 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".

The homeless make up a growing percentage of America’s population. 1 , homelessness has reached such proportions that local governments can’t possibly 2 . To help homeless people 3 independence, the federal government must support job training programs, 4 the minimum wage, and fund more low-cost housing.

5 everyone agrees on the number of Americans who are homeless. Estimates 6 anywhere from 600,000 to 3 million. 7 the figure may vary, analysts do agree on another matter: that the number of the homeless is 8 . One of the federal government’s studies 9 that the number of the homeless will reach nearly 19 million by the end of this decade.

Finding ways to 10 this growing homeless population has become increasingly difficult. 11 when homeless individuals manage to find a 12 that will give them three meals a day and a place to sleep at night, a good number still spend the bulk of each day 13 the street. Part of the problem is that many homeless adults are addicted to alcohol or drugs. And a significant number of the homeless have serious mental disorders. Many others, 14 not addicted or mentally ill, simply lack the everyday 15 skills needed to turn their lives 16 . Boston Globe reporter Chris Reidy notes that the situation will improve only when there are 17 programs that address the many needs of the homeless.

18 Edward Zlotkowski, director of community service at Bentley College in Massachusetts, 19 it, “There has to be 20 of programs. What’s needed is a package deal.”

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | [A]. Indeed | [B]. Likewise | [C]. Therefore | [D]. Furthermore |
| 2. | [A]. stand | [B]. cope | [C]. approve | [D]. retain |
| 3. | [A]. in | [B]. for | [C]. with | [D]. toward |
| 4. | [A]. raise | [B]. add | [C]. take | [D]. keep |
| 5. | [A]. Generally | [B]. Almost | [C]. Hardly | [D]. Not |
| 6. | [A]. cover | [B]. change | [C]. range | [D]. differ |
| 7. | [A]. Now that | [B]. Although | [C]. Provided | [D]. Except that |
| 8. | [A]. inflating | [B]. expanding | [C]. increasing | [D]. extending |
| 9. | [A]. predicts | [B]. displays | [C]. proves | [D]. discovers |
| 10. | [A]. assist | [B]. track | [C]. sustain | [D]. dismiss |
| 11. | [A]. Hence | [B]. But | [C]. Even | [D]. Only |
| 12. | [A]. lodging | [B]. shelter | [C]. dwelling | [D]. house |
| 13. | [A]. searching | [B]. strolling | [C]. crowding | [D]. wandering |
| 14. | [A]. when | [B]. once | [C]. while | [D]. whereas |
| 15. | [A]. life | [B]. existence | [C]. survival | [D]. maintenance |
| 16. | [A]. around | [B]. over | [C]. on | [D]. up |
| 17. | [A]. complex | [B]. comprehensive | [C]. complementary | [D]. compensating |
| 18. | [A]. So | [B]. Since | [C]. As | [D]. Thus |
| 19. | [A]. puts | [B]. interprets | [C]. assumes | [D]. makes |
| 20. | [A]. supervision | [B]. manipulation | [C]. regulation | [D]. coordination |

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 the 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 home ownership 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 immigrants 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 indices hardly suggest a dark and deteriorating social environment.

1. The word “homogenizing” (Line 2, Paragraph 1) most probably means
 - [A]. identifying.
 - [B]. associating.
 - [C]. assimilating.
 - [D]. monopolizing.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. In the author’s opinion, the absorption of immigrants into American society is
 - [A]. rewarding.
 - [B]. successful.
 - [C]. fruitless.
 - [D]. harmful.

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 theater 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 playgoing. 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 the 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 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.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. By saying “Stratford cries poor traditionally” (Line 2, 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.

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 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, longlines 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 do business.

1. The extinction of large prehistoric animals is noted to suggest that
 - [A]. large animals were 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.
2. 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 large predators dropped faster in new fisheries than in the old.
3. 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.
4. Dr. Myers and other researchers hold that
 - [A]. people should look for a baseline that can work for a longer time.
 - [B]. fisheries should keep their yields 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.
5. The author seems to be mainly concerned with most fisheries'
 - [A]. management efficiency.
 - [B]. biomass level.
 - [C]. catch-size limits.
 - [D]. technological application.

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, 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.

- By citing the examples of poets Wordsworth and Baudelaire, the author intends to show that
 - poetry is not as expressive of joy as painting or music.
 - art grows out of both positive and negative feelings.
 - poets today are less skeptical of happiness.
 - artists have changed their focus of interest.
- The word "bummer" (Line 5, Paragraph 5) most probably means something
 - religious.
 - unpleasant.
 - entertaining.
 - commercial.
- In the author's opinion, advertising
 - emerges in the wake of the anti-happy art.
 - is a cause of disappointment for the general public.
 - replaces the church as a major source of information.
 - creates an illusion of happiness rather than happiness itself.
- We can learn from the last paragraph that the author believes
 - happiness more often than not ends in sadness.
 - the anti-happy art is distasteful but refreshing.
 - misery should be enjoyed rather than denied.
 - the anti-happy art flourishes when economy booms.
- Which of the following is true of the text?
 - Religion once functioned as a reminder of misery.
 - Art provides a balance between expectation and reality.
 - People feel disappointed at the realities of modern society.
 - Mass media are inclined to cover disasters and deaths.

By 1830 the former Spanish and Portuguese colonies had become independent nations. The roughly 20 million 1 of these nations looked 2 to the future. Born in the crisis of the old regime and Iberian colonialism, many of the leaders of independence 3 the ideals of representative government, careers 4 to talent, freedom of commerce and trade, the 5 to private property, and a belief in the individual as the basis of society. 6 there was a belief that the new nations should be sovereign and independent states, large enough to be economically viable and integrated by a 7 set of laws.

On the issue of 8 of religion and the position of the Church, 9, there was less agreement 10 the leadership. Roman Catholicism had been the state religion and the only one 11 by the Spanish crown. 12 most leaders sought to maintain Catholicism 13 the official religion of the new states, some sought to end the 14 of other faiths. The defense of the Church became a rallying 15 for the conservative forces.

The ideals of the early leaders of independence were often egalitarian, valuing equality of everything. Bolivar had received aid from Haiti and had 16 in return to abolish slavery in the areas he liberated. By 1854 slavery had been abolished everywhere except Spain’ s 17 colonies. Early promises to end Indian tribute and taxes on people of mixed origin came much 18 because the new nations still needed the revenue such policies 19. Egalitarian sentiments were often tempered by fears that the mass of the population was 20 self-rule and democracy.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | [A]. natives | [B]. inhabitants | [C]. peoples | [D]. individuals |
| 2. | [A]. confusedly | [B]. cheerfully | [C]. worriedly | [D]. hopefully |
| 3. | [A]. shared | [B]. forgot | [C]. attained | [D]. rejected |
| 4. | [A]. related | [B]. close | [C]. open | [D]. devoted |
| 5. | [A]. access | [B]. succession | [C]. right | [D]. return |
| 6. | [A]. Presumably | [B]. Incidentally | [C]. Obviously | [D]. Generally |
| 7. | [A]. unique | [B]. common | [C]. particular | [D]. typical |
| 8. | [A]. freedom | [B]. origin | [C]. impact | [D]. reform |
| 9. | [A]. therefore | [B]. however | [C]. indeed | [D]. moreover |
| 10. | [A]. with | [B]. about | [C]. among | [D]. by |
| 11. | [A]. allowed | [B]. preached | [C]. granted | [D]. funded |
| 12. | [A]. Since | [B]. If | [C]. Unless | [D]. While |
| 13. | [A]. as | [B]. for | [C]. under | [D]. against |
| 14. | [A]. spread | [B]. interference | [C]. exclusion | [D]. influence |
| 15. | [A]. support | [B]. cry | [C]. plea | [D]. wish |
| 16. | [A]. urged | [B]. intended | [C]. expected | [D]. promised |
| 17. | [A]. controlling | [B]. former | [C]. remaining | [D]. original |
| 18. | [A]. slower | [B]. faster | [C]. easier | [D]. tougher |
| 19. | [A]. created | [B]. produced | [C]. contributed | [D]. preferred |
| 20. | [A]. puzzledby | [B]. hostileto | [C]. pessimisticabout | [D]. unpreparedfor |

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 later 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 even 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, 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.

1. The birthday phenomenon found among soccer players is mentioned to
 - [A]. stress the importance of professional training.
 - [B]. spotlight the soccer superstars in the World Cup.
 - [C]. introduce the topic of what makes expert performance.
 - [D]. explain why some soccer teams play better than others.
2. The word "mania" (Line 4, Paragraph 2) most probably means
 - [A]. fun.
 - [B]. craze.
 - [C]. hysteria.
 - [D]. excitement.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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."

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, 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 tests 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 tests 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.

1. Which of the following may be required in an intelligence test?
 - [A]. Answering philosophical questions.
 - [B]. Folding or cutting paper into different shapes.
 - [C]. Telling the differences between certain concepts.
 - [D]. Choosing words or graphs similar to the given ones.
2. 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.
3. 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.
 - [D]. the defining characteristic of IQ tests has changed.
4. 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 tests are out of date.
5. What is the author’s attitude towards IQ tests?
 - [A]. Supportive.
 - [B]. Skeptical.
 - [C]. Impartial.
 - [D]. Biased.

During the past generation, the American middle-class family that once could count on hard work and fair play to keep itself financially secure has 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 parachute 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 families 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 savings-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-savings 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.

1. 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.
 - [C]. they are more vulnerable to changes in family economics.
 - [D]. they are deprived of unemployment or disability insurance.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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

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 asset,” 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 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.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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 sensitivity of personal data.
 - [C]. realize the high cost of data restoration.
 - [D]. appreciate the economic value of trust.
5. 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.

The idea that some groups of people may be more intelligent than others is one of those hypotheses that dare not speak its name. But Gregory Cochran is 1 to say it anyway. He is that 2 bird, a scientist who works independently 3 any institution. He helped popularize the idea that some diseases not 4 thought to have a bacterial cause were actually infections, which aroused much controversy when it was first suggested.

5 he, however, might tremble at the 6 of what he is about to do. Together with another two scientists, he is publishing a paper which not only 7 that one group of humanity is more intelligent than the others, but explains the process that has brought this about. The group in 8 are a particular people originated from central Europe. The process is natural selection.

This group generally do well in IQ test, 9 12-15 points above the 10 value of 100, and have contributed 11 to the intellectual and cultural life of the West, as the 12 of their elites, including several world-renowned scientists, 13. They also suffer more often than most people from a number of nasty genetic diseases, such as breast cancer. These facts, 14, have previously been thought unrelated. The former has been 15 to social effects, such as a strong tradition of 16 education. The latter was seen as a (an) 17 of genetic isolation. Dr. Cochran suggests that the intelligence and diseases are intimately 18. His argument is that the unusual history of these people has 19 them to unique evolutionary pressures that have resulted in this 20 state of affairs.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | [A]. selected | [B]. prepared | [C]. obliged | [D]. pleased |
| 2. | [A]. unique | [B]. particular | [C]. special | [D]. rare |
| 3. | [A]. of | [B]. with | [C]. in | [D]. against |
| 4. | [A]. subsequently | [B]. presently | [C]. previously | [D]. lately |
| 5. | [A]. Only | [B]. So | [C]. Even | [D]. Hence |
| 6. | [A]. thought | [B]. sight | [C]. cost | [D]. risk |
| 7. | [A]. advises | [B]. suggests | [C]. protests | [D]. objects |
| 8. | [A]. progress | [B]. fact | [C]. need | [D]. question |
| 9. | [A]. attaining | [B]. scoring | [C]. reaching | [D]. calculating |
| 10. | [A]. normal | [B]. common | [C]. mean | [D]. total |
| 11. | [A]. unconsciously | [B]. disproportionately | [C]. indefinitely | [D]. unaccountably |
| 12. | [A]. missions | [B]. fortunes | [C]. interests | [D]. careers |
| 13. | [A]. affirm | [B]. witness | [C]. observe | [D]. approve |
| 14. | [A]. moreover | [B]. therefore | [C]. however | [D]. meanwhile |
| 15. | [A]. given up | [B]. got over | [C]. carried on | [D]. put down |
| 16. | [A]. assessing | [B]. supervising | [C]. administering | [D]. valuing |
| 17. | [A]. development | [B]. origin | [C]. consequence | [D]. instrument |
| 18. | [A]. linked | [B]. integrated | [C]. woven | [D]. combined |
| 19. | [A]. limited | [B]. subjected | [C]. converted | [D]. directed |
| 20. | [A]. paradoxical | [B]. incompatible | [C]. inevitable | [D]. continuous |

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, 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.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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

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

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.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
 - [C]. allow other online journals to use it freely.
 - [D]. complete the peer-review before submission.
5. Which of the following best summarizes 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.

In the early 1960s Wilt Chamberlain was one of the 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."

1. 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.
2. Which of the following plays a key role in body growth according to the text?
 - [A]. Genetic modification.
 - [B]. Natural environment.
 - [C]. Living standards.
 - [D]. Daily exercise.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.

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 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. 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.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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]. Slaves owners usually had large savings accounts.
 - [D]. Slavery was regarded as a peculiar institution.
5. Washington’s decision to free slaves originated from his
 - [A]. moral considerations.
 - [B]. military experience.
 - [C]. financial conditions.
 - [D]. political stand.

Research on animal intelligence always makes us wonder just how smart humans are. 1 the fruit-fly experiments described by Carl Zimmer in the Science Times. Fruit flies who were taught to be smarter than the average fruit fly 2 to live shorter lives. This suggests that 3 bulbs burn longer, that there is a(n) 4 in not being too bright.

Intelligence, it 5, is a high-priced option. It takes more upkeep, burns more fuel and is slow 6 the starting line because it depends on learning – a(n)

7 process – instead of instinct. Plenty of other species are able to learn, and one of the things they’ve apparently learned is when to 8.

Is there an adaptive value to 9 intelligence? That’s the question behind this new research. Instead of casting a wistful glance 10 at all the species we’ve left in the dust I.Q.-wise, it implicitly asks what the real 11 of our own intelligence might be. This is 12 the mind of every animal we’ve ever met.

Research on animal intelligence also makes us wonder what experiments animals would 13 on humans if they had the chance. Every cat with an owner, 14, is running a small-scale study in operant conditioning. We believe that 15 animals ran the labs, they would test us to 16 the limits of our patience, our faithfulness, our memory for locations. They would try to decide what intelligence in humans is really 17, not merely how much of it there is. 18, they would hope to study a(n) 19 question: Are humans actually aware of the world they live in? 20 the results are inconclusive.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | [A]. Suppose | [B]. Consider | [C]. Observe | [D]. Imagine |
| 2. | [A]. tended | [B]. feared | [C]. happened | [D]. threatened |
| 3. | [A]. thinner | [B]. stabler | [C]. lighter | [D]. dimmer |
| 4. | [A]. tendency | [B]. advantage | [C]. inclination | [D]. priority |
| 5. | [A]. insists on | [B]. sums up | [C]. turns out | [D]. puts forward |
| 6. | [A]. off | [B]. behind | [C]. over | [D]. along |
| 7. | [A]. incredible | [B]. spontaneous | [C]. inevitable | [D]. gradual |
| 8. | [A]. fight | [B]. doubt | [C]. stop | [D]. think |
| 9. | [A]. invisible | [B]. limited | [C]. indefinite | [D]. different |
| 10. | [A]. upward | [B]. forward | [C]. afterward | [D]. backward |
| 11. | [A]. features | [B]. influences | [C]. results | [D]. costs |
| 12. | [A]. outside | [B]. on | [C]. by | [D]. across |
| 13. | [A]. deliver | [B]. carry | [C]. perform | [D]. apply |
| 14. | [A]. by chance | [B]. in contrast | [C]. as usual | [D]. for instance |
| 15. | [A]. if | [B]. unless | [C]. as | [D]. lest |
| 16. | [A]. moderate | [B]. overcome | [C]. determine | [D]. reach |
| 17. | [A]. at | [B]. for | [C]. after | [D]. with |
| 18. | [A]. Above all | [B]. After all | [C]. However | [D]. Otherwise |
| 19. | [A]. fundamental | [B]. comprehensive | [C]. equivalent | [D]. hostile |
| 20. | [A]. By accident | [B]. In time | [C]. So far | [D]. Better still |

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 press into ourselves create parallel pathways that can bypass those old roads.

“The first thing needed for innovation is a fascination with wonder,” says Dawna Markova, author of *The Open Mind*. “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.

1. In Wordsworth’s view, “habits” is characterized by being
 - [A]. casual.
 - [B]. familiar.
 - [C]. mechanical.
 - [D]. changeable.
2. Brain researchers have discovered that the formation of new habits can be
 - [A]. predicted.
 - [B]. regulated.
 - [C]. traced.
 - [D]. guided.
3. The word “ruts” (Para. 4) is closest in meaning to
 - [A]. tracks.
 - [B]. series.
 - [C]. characteristics.
 - [D]. connections.
4. 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.
5. Ryan’s comments suggest that the practice of standardized testing
 - [A]. prevents new habits from being formed.
 - [B]. no longer emphasizes commonness.
 - [C]. maintains the inherent American thinking mode.
 - [D]. complies with the American belief system.

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 a 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 Fogg, 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 more than \$ 2, 500.

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 swabbing 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’s a kind of false precision being hawked by people claiming they are doing ancestry testing,” says Troy Duster, a New York University sociologist. He notes that each individual has many ancestors – numbering 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 is 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 have a lot of data from some regions and not others, so a person’s test results 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.

1. In Paragraphs 1 and 2, the text shows PTK’s
 - [A]. easy availability.
 - [B]. flexibility in pricing.
 - [C]. successful promotion.
 - [D]. popularity with households.
2. PTK is used to
 - [A]. locate one’s birth place.
 - [B]. promote genetic research.
 - [C]. identify parent-child kinship.
 - [D]. choose children for adoption.
3. 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.
4. In the last paragraph, a problem commercial genetic testing faces is
 - [A]. disorganized data collection.
 - [B]. overlapping database building.
 - [C]. excessive sample comparison.
 - [D]. lack of patent evaluation.
5. An appropriate title for the text is most likely to be
 - [A]. Fors and Againsts of DNA Testing.
 - [B]. DNA Testing and Its Problems.
 - [C]. DNA Testing Outside the Lab.
 - [D]. Lies Behind DNA Testing.

The relationship between formal education and economic growth in poor countries is widely misunderstood by economists and politicians alike. Progress in both areas is undoubtedly necessary for the social, political, and 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 the primary causes 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 potential 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.

1. The author holds in Paragraph 1 that the importance of education in poor countries
 - [A]. is subject to groundless doubts.
 - [B]. has fallen victim of bias.
 - [C]. is conventionally downgraded.
 - [D]. has been overestimated.
2. It is stated in Paragraph 1 that the construction of a new educational system
 - [A]. challenges economists and politicians.
 - [B]. takes efforts of generations.
 - [C]. demands priority from the government.
 - [D]. requires sufficient labor force.
3. A major difference between the Japanese and U.S. workforces is that
 - [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.
4. 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 government.
5. 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.

The most thoroughly studied intellectuals 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 means 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 churches 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 that 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 churches.

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.”

1. The author holds 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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 intellectual backgrounds.
 - [D]. left few formal records for later reference.

In 1924 America’s National Research Council sent two engineers to supervise a series of experiments at a telephone-parts factory called the Hawthorne Plant near Chicago. It hoped they would learn how shop-floor lighting 1 workers’ productivity. Instead, the studies ended 2 giving their name to the “Hawthorne effect,” the extremely influential idea that the very 3 of being experimented upon changed subjects’ behavior.

The idea arose because of the 4 behavior of the women in the plant. According to 5 of the experiments, their hourly output rose when lighting was increased, but also when it was dimmed. It did not 6 what was done in the experiment; 7 something was changed, productivity rose. A(n) 8 that they were being experimented upon seemed to be 9 to alter workers’ behavior 10 itself.

After several decades, the same data were 11 to econometric analysis. The Hawthorne experiments had another surprise in store. 12 the descriptions on record, no systematic 13 was found that levels of productivity were related to changes in lighting.

It turns out that the peculiar way of conducting the experiments may have led to 14 interpretations of what happened. 15, lighting was always changed on a Sunday. When work started again on Monday, output 16 rose compared with the previous Saturday and 17 to rise for the next couple of days. 18, a comparison with data for weeks when there was no experimentation showed that output always went up on Mondays. Workers 19 to be diligent for the first few days of the week in any case, before 20 a plateau and then slackening off. This suggests that the alleged “Hawthorne effect” is hard to pin down.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. | [A]. affected | [B]. achieved | [C]. extracted | [D]. restored |
| 2. | [A]. at | [B]. up | [C]. with | [D]. off |
| 3. | [A]. truth | [B]. sight | [C]. act | [D]. proof |
| 4. | [A]. controversial | [B]. perplexing | [C]. mischievous | [D]. ambiguous |
| 5. | [A]. requirements | [B]. explanations | [C]. accounts | [D]. assessments |
| 6. | [A]. conclude | [B]. matter | [C]. indicate | [D]. work |
| 7. | [A]. as far as | [B]. for fear that | [C]. in case that | [D]. so long as |
| 8. | [A]. awareness | [B]. expectation | [C]. sentiment | [D]. illusion |
| 9. | [A]. suitable | [B]. excessive | [C]. enough | [D]. abundant |
| 10. | [A]. about | [B]. for | [C]. on | [D]. by |
| 11. | [A]. compared | [B]. shown | [C]. subjected | [D]. conveyed |
| 12. | [A]. Contrary to | [B]. Consistent with | [C]. Parallel with | [D]. Peculiar to |
| 13. | [A]. evidence | [B]. guidance | [C]. implication | [D]. source |
| 14. | [A]. disputable | [B]. enlightening | [C]. reliable | [D]. misleading |
| 15. | [A]. In contrast | [B]. For example | [C]. In consequence | [D]. As usual |
| 16. | [A]. duly | [B]. accidentally | [C]. unpredictably | [D]. suddenly |
| 17. | [A]. failed | [B]. ceased | [C]. started | [D]. continued |
| 18. | [A]. Therefore | [B]. Furthermore | [C]. However | [D]. Meanwhile |
| 19. | [A]. attempted | [B]. tended | [C]. chose | [D]. intended |
| 20. | [A]. breaking | [B]. climbing | [C]. surpassing | [D]. hitting |

Of all the changes that have taken place in English-language newspapers during the past quarter-century, perhaps the most far-reaching has been the inexorable decline in the scope and seriousness of their arts coverage.

It is difficult to the point of impossibility for the average reader under the age of forty to imagine a time when high-quality arts criticism could be found in most big-city newspapers. Yet a considerable number of the most significant collections of criticism published in the 20th century consisted in large part of newspaper reviews. To read such books today is to marvel at the fact that their learned contents were once deemed suitable for publication in general-circulation dailies.

We are even farther removed from the unfocused newspaper reviews published in England between the turn of the 20th century and the eve of World War II, at a time when newsprint was dirt-cheap and stylish arts criticism was considered an ornament to the publications in which it appeared. In those far-off days, it was taken for granted that the critics of major papers would write in detail and at length about the events they covered. Theirs was a serious business, and even those reviewers who wore their learning lightly, like George Bernard Shaw and Ernest Newman, could be trusted to know what they were about. These men believed in journalism as a calling, and were proud to be published in the daily press. “So few authors have brains enough or literary gift enough to keep their own end up in journalism,” Newman wrote, “that I am tempted to define ‘journalism’ as ‘a term of contempt applied by writers who are not read to writers who are ’.”

Unfortunately, these critics are virtually forgotten. Neville Cardus, who wrote for the Manchester Guardian from 1917 until shortly before his death in 1975, is now known solely as a writer of essays on the game of cricket. During his lifetime, though, he was also one of England’s foremost classical-music critics, and a stylist so widely admired that his Autobiography (1947) became a best-seller. He was knighted in 1967, the first music critic to be so honored. Yet only one of his books is now in print, and his vast body of writings on music is unknown save to specialists.

Is there any chance that Cardus’s criticism will enjoy a revival? The prospect seems remote. Journalistic tastes had changed long before his death, and postmodern readers have little use for the richly upholstered Vicwardian prose in which he specialized. Moreover, the amateur tradition in music criticism has been in headlong retreat.

1. It is indicated in Paragraphs 1 and 2 that
 - [A]. arts criticism has disappeared from big-city newspapers.
 - [B]. English-language newspapers used to carry more arts reviews.
 - [C]. high-quality newspapers retain a large body of readers.
 - [D]. young readers doubt the suitability of criticism on dailies.
2. Newspaper reviews in England before World War II were characterized by
 - [A]. free themes.
 - [B]. casual style.
 - [C]. elaborate layout.
 - [D]. radical viewpoints.
3. Which of the following would Shaw and Newman most probably agree on?
 - [A]. It is writers’ duty to fulfill journalistic goals.
 - [B]. It is contemptible for writers to be journalists.
 - [C]. Writers are likely to be tempted into journalism.
 - [D]. Not all writers are capable of journalistic writing.
4. What can be learned about Cardus according to the last two paragraphs?
 - [A]. His music criticism may not appeal to readers today.
 - [B]. His reputation as a music critic has long been in dispute.
 - [C]. His style caters largely to modern specialists.
 - [D]. His writings fail to follow the amateur tradition.
5. What would be the best title for the text?
 - [A]. Newspapers of the Good Old Days
 - [B]. The Lost Horizon in Newspapers
 - [C]. Mournful Decline of Journalism
 - [D]. Prominent Critics in Memory

Over the past decade, thousands of patents have been granted for what are called business methods. Amazon.com received one for its “one-click” online payment system. Merrill Lynch got legal protection for an asset allocation strategy. One inventor patented a technique for lifting a box.

Now the nation’s top patent court appears completely ready to scale back on business-method patents, which have been controversial ever since they were first authorized 10 years ago. In a move that has intellectual-property lawyers abuzz, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit said it would use a particular case to conduct a broad review of business-method patents. In *re Bilski*, as the case is known, is “a very big deal,” says Dennis D. Crouch of the University of Missouri School of Law. It “has the potential to eliminate an entire class of patents.”

Curbs on business-method claims would be a dramatic about-face, because it was the Federal Circuit itself that introduced such patents with its 1998 decision in the so-called *State Street Bank* case, approving a patent on a way of pooling mutual-fund assets. That ruling produced an explosion in business-method patent filings, initially by emerging Internet companies trying to stake out exclusive rights to specific types of online transactions. Later, more established companies raced to add such patents to their files, if only as a defensive move against rivals that might beat them to the punch. In 2005, IBM noted in a court filing that it had been issued more than 300 business-method patents, despite the fact that it questioned the legal basis for granting them. Similarly, some Wall Street investment firms armed themselves with patents for financial products, even as they took positions in court cases opposing the practice.

The *Bilski* case involves a claimed patent on a method for hedging risk in the energy market. The Federal Circuit issued an unusual order stating that the case would be heard by all 12 of the court’s judges, rather than a typical panel of three, and that one issue it wants to evaluate is whether it should “reconsider” its *State Street Bank* ruling.

The Federal Circuit’s action comes in the wake of a series of recent decisions by the Supreme Court that has narrowed the scope of protections for patent holders. Last April, for example, the justices signaled that too many patents were being upheld for “inventions” that are obvious. The judges on the Federal Circuit are “reacting to the anti-patent trend at the Supreme Court,” says Harold C. Wegner, a patent attorney and professor at George Washington University Law School.

1. Business-method patents have recently aroused concern because of
 - [A]. their limited value to businesses.
 - [B]. their connection with asset allocation.
 - [C]. the possible restriction on their granting.
 - [D]. the controversy over their authorization.
2. Which of the following is true of the *Bilski* case?
 - [A]. Its ruling complies with the court decisions.
 - [B]. It involves a very big business transaction.
 - [C]. It has been dismissed by the Federal Circuit.
 - [D]. It may change the legal practices in the U.S.
3. The word “about-face” (Line 1, Para. 3) most probably means
 - [A]. loss of goodwill.
 - [B]. increase of hostility.
 - [C]. change of attitude.
 - [D]. enhancement of dignity.
4. We learn from the last two paragraphs that business-method patents
 - [A]. are immune to legal challenges.
 - [B]. are often unnecessarily issued.
 - [C]. lower the esteem for patent holders.
 - [D]. increase the incidence of risks.
5. Which of the following would be the subject of the text?
 - [A]. A looming threat to business-method patents.
 - [B]. Protection for business-method patent holders.
 - [C]. A legal case regarding business-method patents.
 - [D]. A prevailing trend against business-method patents.

In his book *The Tipping Point*, Malcolm Gladwell argues that “social epidemics” are driven in large part by the actions of a tiny minority of special individuals, often called influentials, who are unusually informed, persuasive, or well connected. The idea is intuitively compelling, but it doesn’t explain how ideas actually spread.

The supposed importance of influentials derives from a plausible-sounding but largely untested theory called the “two-step flow of communication”: Information flows from the media to the influentials and from them to everyone else. Marketers have embraced the two-step flow because it suggests that if they can just find and influence the influentials, those select people will do most of the work for them. The theory also seems to explain the sudden and unexpected popularity of certain looks, brands, or neighborhoods. In many such cases, a cursory search for causes finds that some small group of people was wearing, promoting, or developing whatever it is before anyone else paid attention. Anecdotal evidence of this kind fits nicely with the idea that only certain special people can drive trends.

In their recent work, however, some researchers have come up with the finding that influentials have far less impact on social epidemics than is generally supposed. In fact, they don’t seem to be required at all.

The researchers’ argument stems from a simple observation about social influence: With the exception of a few celebrities like Oprah Winfrey – whose outsize presence is primarily a function of media, not interpersonal, influence – even the most influential members of a population simply don’t interact with that many others. Yet it is precisely these non-celebrity influentials who, according to the two-step-flow theory, are supposed to drive social epidemics, by influencing their friends and colleagues directly. For a social epidemic to occur, however, each person so affected must then influence his or her own acquaintances, who must in turn influence theirs, and so on; and just how many others pay attention to each of these people has little to do with the initial influential. If people in the network just two degrees removed from the initial influential prove resistant, for example, the cascade of change won’t propagate very far or affect many people.

Building on this basic truth about interpersonal influence, the researchers studied the dynamics of social influence by conducting thousands of computer simulations of populations, manipulating a number of variables relating to people’s ability to influence others and their tendency to be influenced. They found that the principal requirement for what is called “global cascades” – the widespread propagation of influence through networks – is the presence not of a few influentials but, rather, of a critical mass of easily influenced people.

1. By citing the book *The Tipping Point*, the author intends to
 - [A]. analyze the consequences of social epidemics.
 - [B]. discuss influentials’ function in spreading ideas.
 - [C]. exemplify people’s intuitive response to social epidemics.
 - [D]. describe the essential characteristics of influentials.
2. The author suggests that the “two-step-flow theory”
 - [A]. serves as a solution to marketing problems.
 - [B]. has helped explain certain prevalent trends.
 - [C]. has won support from influentials.
 - [D]. requires solid evidence for its validity.
3. What the researchers have observed recently shows that
 - [A]. the power of influence goes with social interactions.
 - [B]. interpersonal links can be enhanced through the media.
 - [C]. influentials have more channels to reach the public.
 - [D]. most celebrities enjoy wide media attention.
4. The underlined phrase “these people” in Paragraph 4 refers to the ones who
 - [A]. stay outside the network of social influence.
 - [B]. have little contact with the source of influence.
 - [C]. are influenced and then influence others.
 - [D]. are influenced by the initial influential.
5. What is the essential element in the dynamics of social influence?
 - [A]. The eagerness to be accepted.
 - [B]. The impulse to influence others.
 - [C]. The readiness to be influenced.
 - [D]. The inclination to rely on others.

Bankers have been blaming themselves for their troubles in public. Behind the scenes, they have been taking aim at someone else: the accounting standard-setters. Their rules, moan the banks, have forced them to report enormous losses, and it's just not fair. These rules say they must value some assets at the price a third party would pay, not the price managers and regulators would like them to fetch.

Unfortunately, banks' lobbying now seems to be working. The details may be unknowable, but the independence of standard-setters, essential to the proper functioning of capital markets, is being compromised. And, unless banks carry toxic assets at prices that attract buyers, reviving the banking system will be difficult.

After a bruising encounter with Congress, America's Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) rushed through rule changes. These gave banks more freedom to use models to value illiquid assets and more flexibility in recognizing losses on long-term assets in their income statements. Bob Herz, the FASB's chairman, cried out against those who "question our motives." Yet bank shares rose and the changes enhance what one lobbying group politely calls "the use of judgment by management."

European ministers instantly demanded that the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) do likewise. The IASB says it does not want to act without overall planning, but the pressure to fold when it completes its reconstruction of rules later this year is strong. Charlie McCreevy, a European commissioner, warned the IASB that it did "not live in a political vacuum" but "in the real world" and that Europe could yet develop different rules.

It was banks that were on the wrong planet, with accounts that vastly overvalued assets. Today they argue that market prices overstate losses, because they largely reflect the temporary illiquidity of markets, not the likely extent of bad debts. The truth will not be known for years. But banks' shares trade below their book value, suggesting that investors are skeptical. And dead markets partly reflect the paralysis of banks which will not sell assets for fear of booking losses, yet are reluctant to buy all those supposed bargains.

To get the system working again, losses must be recognized and dealt with. America's new plan to buy up toxic assets will not work unless banks mark assets to levels which buyers find attractive. Successful markets require independent and even combative standard-setters. The FASB and IASB have been exactly that, cleaning up rules on stock options and pensions, for example, against hostility from special interests. But by giving in to critics now they are inviting pressure to make more concessions.

1. Bankers complained that they were forced to
 - [A]. follow unfavorable asset evaluation rules.
 - [B]. collect payments from third parties.
 - [C]. cooperate with the price managers.
 - [D]. reevaluate some of their assets.
2. According to the author, the rule changes of the FASB may result in
 - [A]. the diminishing role of management.
 - [B]. the revival of the banking system.
 - [C]. the banks' long-term asset losses.
 - [D]. the weakening of its independence.
3. According to Paragraph 4, McCreevy objects to the IASB's attempt to
 - [A]. keep away from political influences.
 - [B]. evade the pressure from their peers.
 - [C]. act on their own in rule-setting.
 - [D]. take gradual measures in reform.
4. The author thinks the banks were "on the wrong planet" in that they
 - [A]. misinterpreted market price indicators.
 - [B]. exaggerated the real value of their assets.
 - [C]. neglected the likely existence of bad debts.
 - [D]. denied booking losses in their sale of assets.
5. The author's attitude towards standard-setters is one of
 - [A]. satisfaction.
 - [B]. skepticism.
 - [C]. objectiveness.
 - [D]. sympathy.

Ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle viewed laughter as “a bodily exercise precious to health.” But 1 some claims to the contrary, laughing probably has little influence on physical fitness. Laughter does 2 short-term changes in the function of the heart and its blood vessels, 3 heart rate and oxygen consumption. But because hard laughter is difficult to 4, a good laugh is unlikely to have 5 benefits the way, say, walking or jogging does.

6, instead of straining muscles to build them, as exercise does, laughter apparently accomplishes the 7. Studies dating back to the 1930s indicate that laughter 8 muscles, decreasing muscle tone for up to 45 minutes after the laugh dies down.

Such bodily reaction might conceivably help 9 the effects of psychological stress. Anyway, the act of laughing probably does produce other types of 10 feedback that improve an individual’s emotional state. 11 one classical theory of emotion, our feelings are partially rooted 12 physical reactions. It was argued at the end of the 19th century that humans do not cry 13 they are sad but they become sad when the tears begin to flow.

Although sadness also 14 tears, evidence suggests that emotions can flow 15 muscular responses. In an experiment published in 1988, social psychologist Fritz Strack of the University of Würzburg in Germany asked volunteers to 16 a pen either with their teeth – thereby creating an artificial smile – or with their lips, which would produce a(n) 17 expression. Those forced to exercise their smiling muscles 18 more enthusiastically to funny cartoons than did those whose mouths were contracted in a frown, 19 that expressions may influence emotions rather than just the other way around. 20, the physical act of laughter could improve mood.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. | [A]. among | [B]. except | [C]. despite | [D]. like |
| 2. | [A]. reflect | [B]. demand | [C]. indicate | [D]. produce |
| 3. | [A]. stabilizing | [B]. boosting | [C]. impairing | [D]. determining |
| 4. | [A]. transmit | [B]. sustain | [C]. evaluate | [D]. observe |
| 5. | [A]. measurable | [B]. manageable | [C]. affordable | [D]. renewable |
| 6. | [A]. In turn | [B]. In fact | [C]. In addition | [D]. In brief |
| 7. | [A]. opposite | [B]. impossible | [C]. average | [D]. expected |
| 8. | [A]. hardens | [B]. weakens | [C]. tightens | [D]. relaxes |
| 9. | [A]. aggravate | [B]. generate | [C]. moderate | [D]. enhance |
| 10. | [A]. physical | [B]. mental | [C]. subconscious | [D]. internal |
| 11. | [A]. Except for | [B]. According to | [C]. Due to | [D]. As for |
| 12. | [A]. with | [B]. on | [C]. in | [D]. at |
| 13. | [A]. unless | [B]. until | [C]. if | [D]. because |
| 14. | [A]. exhausts | [B]. follows | [C]. precedes | [D]. suppresses |
| 15. | [A]. into | [B]. from | [C]. towards | [D]. beyond |
| 16. | [A]. fetch | [B]. bite | [C]. pick | [D]. hold |
| 17. | [A]. disappointed | [B]. excited | [C]. joyful | [D]. indifferent |
| 18. | [A]. adapted | [B]. catered | [C]. turned | [D]. reacted |
| 19. | [A]. suggesting | [B]. requiring | [C]. mentioning | [D]. supposing |
| 20. | [A]. Eventually | [B]. Consequently | [C]. Similarly | [D]. Conversely |

The decision of the New York Philharmonic to hire Alan Gilbert as its next music director has been the talk of the classical-music world ever since the sudden announcement of his appointment in 2009. For the most part, the response has been favorable, to say the least. “Hooray! At last!” wrote Anthony Tommasini, a sober-sided classical-music critic.

One of the reasons why the appointment came as such a surprise, however, is that Gilbert is comparatively little known. Even Tommasini, who had advocated Gilbert’s appointment in the Times, calls him “an unpretentious musician with no air of the formidable conductor about him.” As a description of the next music director of an orchestra that has hitherto been led by musicians like Gustav Mahler and Pierre Boulez, that seems likely to have struck at least some Times readers as faint praise.

For my part, I have no idea whether Gilbert is a great conductor or even a good one. To be sure, he performs an impressive variety of interesting compositions, but it is not necessary for me to visit Avery Fisher Hall, or anywhere else, to hear interesting orchestral music. All I have to do is to go to my CD shelf, or boot up my computer and download still more recorded music from iTunes.

Devoted concertgoers who reply that recordings are no substitute for live performance are missing the point. For the time, attention, and money of the art-loving public, classical instrumentalists must compete not only with opera houses, dance troupes, theater companies, and museums, but also with the recorded performances of the great classical musicians of the 20th century. These recordings are cheap, available everywhere, and very often much higher in artistic quality than today’s live performances; moreover, they can be “consumed” at a time and place of the listener’s choosing. The widespread availability of such recordings has thus brought about a crisis in the institution of the traditional classical concert.

One possible response is for classical performers to program attractive new music that is not yet available on record. Gilbert’s own interest in new music has been widely noted: Alex Ross, a classical-music critic, has described him as a man who is capable of turning the Philharmonic into “a markedly different, more vibrant organization.” But what will be the nature of that difference? Merely expanding the orchestra’s repertoire will not be enough. If Gilbert and the Philharmonic are to succeed, they must first change the relationship between America’s oldest orchestra and the new audience it hopes to attract.

1. We learn from Paragraph 1 that Gilbert’s appointment has
 - [A]. incurred criticism.
 - [B]. raised suspicion.
 - [C]. received acclaim.
 - [D]. aroused curiosity.
2. Tommasini regards Gilbert as an artist who is
 - [A]. influential.
 - [B]. modest.
 - [C]. respectable.
 - [D]. talented.
3. The author believes that the devoted concertgoers
 - [A]. ignore the expenses of live performances.
 - [B]. reject most kinds of recorded performances.
 - [C]. exaggerate the variety of live performances.
 - [D]. overestimate the value of live performances.
4. According to the text, which of the following is true of recordings?
 - [A]. They are often inferior to live concerts in quality.
 - [B]. They are easily accessible to the general public.
 - [C]. They help improve the quality of music.
 - [D]. They have only covered masterpieces.
5. Regarding Gilbert’s role in revitalizing the Philharmonic, the author feels
 - [A]. doubtful.
 - [B]. enthusiastic.
 - [C]. confident.
 - [D]. puzzled.

When Liam McGee departed as president of Bank of America in August, his explanation was surprisingly straight up. Rather than cloaking his exit in the usual vague excuses, he came right out and said he was leaving “to pursue my goal of running a company.” Broadcasting his ambition was “very much my decision,” McGee says. Within two weeks, he was talking for the first time with the board of Hartford Financial Services Group, which named him CEO and chairman on September 29.

McGee says leaving without a position lined up gave him time to reflect on what kind of company he wanted to run. It also sent a clear message to the outside world about his aspirations. And McGee isn’t alone. In recent weeks the No.2 executives at Avon and American Express quit with the explanation that they were looking for a CEO post. As boards scrutinize succession plans in response to shareholder pressure, executives who don’t get the nod also may wish to move on. A turbulent business environment also has senior managers cautious of letting vague pronouncements cloud their reputations.

As the first signs of recovery begin to take hold, deputy chiefs may be more willing to make the jump without a net. In the third quarter, CEO turnover was down 23% from a year ago as nervous boards stuck with the leaders they had, according to Liberum Research. As the economy picks up, opportunities will abound for aspiring leaders.

The decision to quit a senior position to look for a better one is unconventional. For years executives and headhunters have adhered to the rule that the most attractive CEO candidates are the ones who must be poached. Says Korn/Ferry senior partner Dennis Carey: “I can’t think of a single search I’ve done where a board has not instructed me to look at sitting CEOs first.”

Those who jumped without a job haven’t always landed in top positions quickly. Ellen Marram quit as chief of Tropicana a decade ago, saying she wanted to be a CEO. It was a year before she became head of a tiny Internet-based commodities exchange. Robert Willumstad left Citigroup in 2005 with ambitions to be a CEO. He finally took that post at a major financial institution three years later.

Many recruiters say the old disgrace is fading for top performers. The financial crisis has made it more acceptable to be between jobs or to leave a bad one. “The traditional rule was it’s safer to stay where you are, but that’s been fundamentally inverted,” says one headhunter. “The people who’ve been hurt the worst are those who’ve stayed too long.”

1. When McGee announced his departure, his manner can best be described as being
 - [A]. arrogant.
 - [B]. frank.
 - [C]. self-centered.
 - [D]. impulsive.
2. According to Paragraph 2, senior executives’ quitting may be spurred by
 - [A]. their expectation of better financial status.
 - [B]. their need to reflect on their private life.
 - [C]. their strained relations with the boards.
 - [D]. their pursuit of new career goals.
3. The word “poached” (Line 3, Paragraph 4) most probably means
 - [A]. approved of.
 - [B]. attended to.
 - [C]. hunted for.
 - [D]. guarded against.
4. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that
 - [A]. top performers used to cling to their posts.
 - [B]. loyalty of top performers is getting out-dated.
 - [C]. top performers care more about reputations.
 - [D]. it’s safer to stick to the traditional rules.
5. Which of the following is the best title for the text?
 - [A]. CEOs: Where to Go?
 - [B]. CEOs: All the Way Up?
 - [C]. Top Managers Jump without a Net
 - [D]. The Only Way Out for Top Performers

The rough guide to marketing success used to be that you got what you paid for. No longer. While traditional “paid” media – such as television commercials and print advertisements – still play a major role, companies today can exploit many alternative forms of media. Consumers passionate about a product may create “earned” media by willingly promoting it to friends, and a company may leverage “owned” media by sending e-mail alerts about products and sales to customers registered with its Web site. The way consumers now approach the process of making purchase decisions means that marketing’s impact stems from a broad range of factors beyond conventional paid media.

Paid and owned media are controlled by marketers promoting their own products. For earned media, such marketers act as the initiator for users’ responses. But in some cases, one marketer’s owned media become another marketer’s paid media – for instance, when an e-commerce retailer sells ad space on its Web site. We define such sold media as owned media whose traffic is so strong that other organizations place their content or e-commerce engines within that environment. This trend, which we believe is still in its infancy, effectively began with retailers and travel providers such as airlines and hotels and will no doubt go further. Johnson & Johnson, for example, has created BabyCenter, a stand-alone media property that promotes complementary and even competitive products. Besides generating income, the presence of other marketers makes the site seem objective, gives companies opportunities to learn valuable information about the appeal of other companies’ marketing, and may help expand user traffic for all companies concerned.

The same dramatic technological changes that have provided marketers with more (and more diverse) communications choices have also increased the risk that passionate consumers will voice their opinions in quicker, more visible, and much more damaging ways. Such hijacked media are the opposite of earned media: an asset or campaign becomes hostage to consumers, other stakeholders, or activists who make negative allegations about a brand or product. Members of social networks, for instance, are learning that they can hijack media to apply pressure on the businesses that originally created them.

If that happens, passionate consumers would try to persuade others to boycott products, putting the reputation of the target company at risk. In such a case, the company’s response may not be sufficiently quick or thoughtful, and the learning curve has been steep. Toyota Motor, for example, alleviated some of the damage from its recall crisis earlier this year with a relatively quick and well-orchestrated social-media response campaign, which included efforts to engage with consumers directly on sites such as Twitter and the social-news site Digg.

1. Consumers may create “earned” media when they are
 - [A]. obsessed with online shopping at certain Web sites.
 - [B]. inspired by product-promoting e-mails sent to them.
 - [C]. eager to help their friends promote quality products.
 - [D]. enthusiastic about recommending their favorite products.
2. According to Paragraph 2, sold media feature
 - [A]. a safe business environment.
 - [B]. random competition.
 - [C]. strong user traffic.
 - [D]. flexibility in organization.
3. The author indicates in Paragraph 3 that earned media
 - [A]. invite constant conflicts with passionate consumers.
 - [B]. can be used to produce negative effects in marketing.
 - [C]. may be responsible for fiercer competition.
 - [D]. deserve all the negative comments about them.
4. Toyota Motor’s experience is cited as an example of
 - [A]. responding effectively to hijacked media.
 - [B]. persuading customers into boycotting products.
 - [C]. cooperating with supportive consumers.
 - [D]. taking advantage of hijacked media.
5. Which of the following is the text mainly about?
 - [A]. Alternatives to conventional paid media.
 - [B]. Conflict between hijacked and earned media.
 - [C]. Dominance of hijacked media.
 - [D]. Popularity of owned media.

It's no surprise that Jennifer Senior's insightful, provocative magazine cover story, "I love My Children, I Hate My Life," is arousing much chatter – nothing gets people talking like the suggestion that child rearing is anything less than a completely fulfilling, life-enriching experience. Rather than concluding that children make parents either happy or miserable, Senior suggests we need to redefine happiness: instead of thinking of it as something that can be measured by moment-to-moment joy, we should consider being happy as a past-tense condition. Even though the day-to-day experience of raising kids can be soul-crushingly hard, Senior writes that "the very things that in the moment dampen our moods can later be sources of intense gratification and delight."

The magazine cover showing an attractive mother holding a cute baby is hardly the only Madonna-and-child image on newsstands this week. There are also stories about newly adoptive – and newly single – mom Sandra Bullock, as well as the usual "Jennifer Aniston is pregnant" news. Practically every week features at least one celebrity mom, or mom-to-be, smiling on the newsstands.

In a society that so persistently celebrates procreation, is it any wonder that admitting you regret having children is equivalent to admitting you support kitten-killing? It doesn't seem quite fair, then, to compare the regrets of parents to the regrets of the childless. Unhappy parents rarely are provoked to wonder if they shouldn't have had kids, but unhappy childless folks are bothered with the message that children are the single most important thing in the world: obviously their misery must be a direct result of the gaping baby-size holes in their lives.

Of course, the image of parenthood that celebrity magazines like *Us Weekly* and *People* present is hugely unrealistic, especially when the parents are single mothers like Bullock. According to several studies concluding that parents are less happy than childless couples, single parents are the least happy of all. No shock there, considering how much work it is to raise a kid without a partner to lean on; yet to hear Sandra and Britney tell it, raising a kid on their "own" (read: with round-the-clock help) is a piece of cake.

It's hard to imagine that many people are dumb enough to want children just because Reese and Angelina make it look so glamorous: most adults understand that a baby is not a haircut. But it's interesting to wonder if the images we see every week of stress-free, happiness-enhancing parenthood aren't in some small, subconscious way contributing to our own dissatisfactions with the actual experience, in the same way that a small part of us hoped getting "the Rachel" might make us look just a little bit like Jennifer Aniston.

1. Jennifer Senior suggests in her article that raising a child can bring
 - [A]. temporary delight.
 - [B]. enjoyment in progress.
 - [C]. happiness in retrospect.
 - [D]. lasting reward.
2. We learn from Paragraph 2 that
 - [A]. celebrity moms are a permanent source for gossip.
 - [B]. single mothers with babies deserve greater attention.
 - [C]. news about pregnant celebrities is entertaining.
 - [D]. having children is highly valued by the public.
3. It is suggested in Paragraph 3 that childless folks
 - [A]. are constantly exposed to criticism.
 - [B]. are largely ignored by the media.
 - [C]. fail to fulfill their social responsibilities.
 - [D]. are less likely to be satisfied with their life.
4. According to Paragraph 4, the message conveyed by celebrity magazines is
 - [A]. soothing.
 - [B]. ambiguous.
 - [C]. compensatory.
 - [D]. misleading.
5. Which of the following can be inferred from the last paragraph?
 - [A]. Having children contributes little to the glamour of celebrity moms.
 - [B]. Celebrity moms have influenced our attitude towards child rearing.
 - [C]. Having children intensifies our dissatisfaction with life.
 - [D]. We sometimes neglect the happiness from child rearing.

The ethical judgments of the Supreme Court justices have become an important issue recently. The court cannot 1 its legitimacy as guardian of the rule of law 2 justices behave like politicians. Yet, in several instances, justices acted in ways that 3 the court's reputation for being independent and impartial.

Justice Antonin Scalia, for example, appeared at political events. That kind of activity makes it less likely that the court's decisions will be 4 as impartial judgments. Part of the problem is that the justices are not 5 by an ethics code. At the very least, the court should make itself 6 to the code of conduct that 7 to the rest of the federal judiciary.

This and other similar cases 8 the question of whether there is still a 9 between the court and politics.

The framers of the Constitution envisioned law 10 having authority apart from politics. They gave justices permanent positions 11 they would be free to 12 those in power and have no need to 13 political support. Our legal system was designed to set law apart from politics precisely because they are so closely 14.

Constitutional law is political because it results from choices rooted in fundamental social 15 like liberty and property. When the court deals with social policy decisions, the law it 16 is inescapably political – which is why decisions split along ideological lines are so easily 17 as unjust.

The justices must 18 doubts about the court's legitimacy by making themselves 19 to the code of conduct. That would make rulings more likely to be seen as separate from politics and, 20, convincing as law.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. | [A]. emphasize | [B]. maintain | [C]. modify | [D]. recognize |
| 2. | [A]. when | [B]. lest | [C]. before | [D]. unless |
| 3. | [A]. restored | [B]. weakened | [C]. established | [D]. eliminated |
| 4. | [A]. challenged | [B]. compromised | [C]. suspected | [D]. accepted |
| 5. | [A]. advanced | [B]. caught | [C]. bound | [D]. founded |
| 6. | [A]. resistant | [B]. subject | [C]. immune | [D]. prone |
| 7. | [A]. resorts | [B]. sticks | [C]. leads | [D]. applies |
| 8. | [A]. evade | [B]. raise | [C]. deny | [D]. settle |
| 9. | [A]. line | [B]. barrier | [C]. similarity | [D]. conflict |
| 10. | [A]. by | [B]. as | [C]. through | [D]. towards |
| 11. | [A]. so | [B]. since | [C]. provided | [D]. though |
| 12. | [A]. serve | [B]. satisfy | [C]. upset | [D]. replace |
| 13. | [A]. confirm | [B]. express | [C]. cultivate | [D]. offer |
| 14. | [A]. guarded | [B]. followed | [C]. studied | [D]. tied |
| 15. | [A]. concepts | [B]. theories | [C]. divisions | [D]. conventions |
| 16. | [A]. excludes | [B]. questions | [C]. shapes | [D]. controls |
| 17. | [A]. dismissed | [B]. released | [C]. ranked | [D]. distorted |
| 18. | [A]. suppress | [B]. exploit | [C]. address | [D]. ignore |
| 19. | [A]. accessible | [B]. amiable | [C]. agreeable | [D]. accountable |
| 20. | [A]. by all means | [B]. at all costs | [C]. in a word | [D]. as a result |

Come on – Everybody’s doing it. That whispered message, half invitation and half forcing, is what most of us think of when we hear the words peer pressure. It usually leads to no good – drinking, drugs and casual sex. But in her new book *Join the Club*, Tina Rosenberg contends that peer pressure can also be a positive force through what she calls the social cure, in which organizations and officials use the power of group dynamics to help individuals improve their lives and possibly the world.

Rosenberg, the recipient of a Pulitzer Prize, offers a host of examples of the social cure in action: In South Carolina, a state-sponsored antismoking program called *Rage Against the Haze* sets out to make cigarettes uncool. In South Africa, an HIV-prevention initiative known as *loveLife* recruits young people to promote safe sex among their peers.

The idea seems promising, and Rosenberg is a perceptive observer. Her critique of the lameness of many public-health campaigns is spot-on: they fail to mobilize peer pressure for healthy habits, and they demonstrate a seriously flawed understanding of psychology. “Dare to be different, please don’t smoke!” pleads one billboard campaign aimed at reducing smoking among teenagers – teenagers, who desire nothing more than fitting in. Rosenberg argues convincingly that public-health advocates ought to take a page from advertisers, so skilled at applying peer pressure.

But on the general effectiveness of the social cure, Rosenberg is less persuasive. *Join the Club* is filled with too much irrelevant detail and not enough exploration of the social and biological factors that make peer pressure so powerful. The most glaring flaw of the social cure as it’s presented here is that it doesn’t work very well for very long. *Rage Against the Haze* failed once state funding was cut. Evidence that the *loveLife* program produces lasting changes is limited and mixed.

There’s no doubt that our peer groups exert enormous influence on our behavior. An emerging body of research shows that positive health habits – as well as negative ones – spread through networks of friends via social communication. This is a subtle form of peer pressure: we unconsciously imitate the behavior we see every day.

Far less certain, however, is how successfully experts and bureaucrats can select our peer groups and steer their activities in virtuous directions. It’s like the teacher who breaks up the troublemakers in the back row by pairing them with better-behaved classmates. The tactic never really works. And that’s the problem with a social cure engineered from the outside: in the real world, as in school, we insist on choosing our own friends.

1. According to the first paragraph, peer pressure often emerges as
 - [A]. a supplement to the social cure.
 - [B]. a stimulus to group dynamics.
 - [C]. an obstacle to social progress.
 - [D]. a cause of undesirable behaviors.
2. Rosenberg holds that public-health advocates should
 - [A]. recruit professional advertisers.
 - [B]. learn from advertisers’ experience.
 - [C]. stay away from commercial advertisers.
 - [D]. recognize the limitations of advertisements.
3. In the author’s view, Rosenberg’s book fails to
 - [A]. adequately probe social and biological factors.
 - [B]. effectively evade the flaws of the social cure.
 - [C]. illustrate the functions of state funding.
 - [D]. produce a long-lasting social effect.
4. Paragraph 5 shows that our imitation of behaviors
 - [A]. is harmful to our networks of friends.
 - [B]. will mislead behavioral studies.
 - [C]. occurs without our realizing it.
 - [D]. can produce negative health habits.
5. The author suggests in the last paragraph that the effect of peer pressure is
 - [A]. harmful.
 - [B]. desirable.
 - [C]. profound.
 - [D]. questionable.

A deal is a deal – except, apparently, when Entergy is involved. The company, a major energy supplier in New England, provoked justified outrage in Vermont last week when it announced it was reneging on a longstanding commitment to abide by the state’s strict nuclear regulations.

Instead, the company has done precisely what it had long promised it would not: challenge the constitutionality of Vermont’s rules in the federal court, as part of a desperate effort to keep its Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant running. It’s a stunning move.

The conflict has been surfacing since 2002, when the corporation bought Vermont’s only nuclear power plant, an aging reactor in Vernon. As a condition of receiving state approval for the sale, the company agreed to seek permission from state regulators to operate past 2012. In 2006, the state went a step further, requiring that any extension of the plant’s license be subject to the Vermont legislature’s approval. Then, too, the company went along.

Either Entergy never really intended to live by those commitments, or it simply didn’t foresee what would happen next. A string of accidents, including the partial collapse of a cooling tower in 2007 and the discovery of an underground pipe system leakage, raised serious questions about both Vermont Yankee’s safety and Entergy’s management – especially after the company made misleading statements about the pipe. Enraged by Entergy’s behavior, the Vermont Senate voted 26 to 4 last year against allowing an extension.

Now the company is suddenly claiming that the 2002 agreement is invalid because of the 2006 legislation, and that only the federal government has regulatory power over nuclear issues. The legal issues in the case are obscure: whereas the Supreme Court has ruled that states do have some regulatory authority over nuclear power, legal scholars say that Vermont case will offer a precedent-setting test of how far those powers extend. Certainly, there are valid concerns about the patchwork regulations that could result if every state sets its own rules. But had Entergy kept its word, that debate would be beside the point.

The company seems to have concluded that its reputation in Vermont is already so damaged that it has nothing left to lose by going to war with the state. But there should be consequences. Permission to run a nuclear plant is a public trust. Entergy runs 11 other reactors in the United States, including Pilgrim Nuclear station in Plymouth. Pledging to run Pilgrim safely, the company has applied for federal permission to keep it open for another 20 years. But as the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reviews the company’s application, it should keep in mind what promises from Entergy are worth.

1. The phrase “reneging on” (Line 3, Para. 1) is closest in meaning to
 - [A]. condemning.
 - [B]. reaffirming.
 - [C]. dishonoring.
 - [D]. securing.
2. By entering into the 2002 agreement, Entergy intended to
 - [A]. obtain protection from Vermont regulators.
 - [B]. seek favor from the federal legislature.
 - [C]. acquire an extension of its business license.
 - [D]. get permission to purchase a power plant.
3. According to Paragraph 4, Entergy seems to have problems with its
 - [A]. managerial practices.
 - [B]. technical innovativeness.
 - [C]. financial goals.
 - [D]. business vision.
4. In the author’s view, the Vermont case will test
 - [A]. Entergy’s capacity to fulfill all its promises.
 - [B]. the nature of states’ patchwork regulations.
 - [C]. the federal authority over nuclear issues.
 - [D]. the limits of states’ power over nuclear issues.
5. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that
 - [A]. Entergy’s business elsewhere might be affected.
 - [B]. the authority of the NRC will be defied.
 - [C]. Entergy will withdraw its Plymouth application.
 - [D]. Vermont’s reputation might be damaged.

In the idealized version of how science is done, facts about the world are waiting to be observed and collected by objective researchers who use the scientific method to carry out their work. But in the everyday practice of science, discovery frequently follows an ambiguous and complicated route. We aim to be objective, but we cannot escape the context of our unique life experiences. Prior knowledge and interests influence what we experience, what we think our experiences mean, and the subsequent actions we take. Opportunities for misinterpretation, error, and self-deception abound.

Consequently, discovery claims should be thought of as protoscience. Similar to newly staked mining claims, they are full of potential. But it takes collective scrutiny and acceptance to transform a discovery claim into a mature discovery. This is the credibility process, through which the individual researcher's me, here, now becomes the community's anyone, anywhere, anytime. Objective knowledge is the goal, not the starting point.

Once a discovery claim becomes public, the discoverer receives intellectual credit. But, unlike with mining claims, the community takes control of what happens next. Within the complex social structure of the scientific community, researchers make discoveries; editors and reviewers act as gatekeepers by controlling the publication process; other scientists use the new finding to suit their own purposes; and finally, the public (including other scientists) receives the new discovery and possibly accompanying technology. As a discovery claim works its way through the community, the interaction and confrontation between shared and competing beliefs about the science and the technology involved transforms an individual's discovery claim into the community's credible discovery.

Two paradoxes exist throughout this credibility process. First, scientific work tends to focus on some aspect of prevailing knowledge that is viewed as incomplete or incorrect. Little reward accompanies duplication and confirmation of what is already known and believed. The goal is new-search, not re-search. Not surprisingly, newly published discovery claims and credible discoveries that appear to be important and convincing will always be open to challenge and potential modification or refutation by future researchers. Second, novelty itself frequently provokes disbelief. Nobel Laureate and physiologist Albert Szent-Györgyi once described discovery as "seeing what everybody has seen and thinking what nobody has thought." But thinking what nobody else has thought and telling others what they have missed may not change their views. Sometimes years are required for truly novel discovery claims to be accepted and appreciated.

In the end, credibility "happens" to a discovery claim – a process that corresponds to what philosopher Annette Baier has described as the commons of the mind. "We reason together, challenge, revise, and complete each other's reasoning and each other's conceptions of reason."

1. According to the first paragraph, the process of discovery is characterized by its
 - [A]. uncertainty and complexity.
 - [B]. misconception and deceptiveness.
 - [C]. logicity and objectivity.
 - [D]. systematicness and regularity.
2. It can be inferred from Paragraph 2 that credibility process requires
 - [A]. strict inspection.
 - [B]. shared efforts.
 - [C]. individual wisdom.
 - [D]. persistent innovation.
3. Paragraph 3 shows that a discovery claim becomes credible after it
 - [A]. has attracted the attention of the general public.
 - [B]. has been examined by the scientific community.
 - [C]. has received recognition from editors and reviewers.
 - [D]. has been frequently quoted by peer scientists.
4. Albert Szent-Györgyi would most likely agree that
 - [A]. scientific claims will survive challenges.
 - [B]. discoveries today inspire future research.
 - [C]. efforts to make discoveries are justified.
 - [D]. scientific work calls for a critical mind.
5. Which of the following would be the best title of the text?
 - [A]. Novelty as an Engine of Scientific Development.
 - [B]. Collective Scrutiny in Scientific Discovery.
 - [C]. Evolution of Credibility in Doing Science.
 - [D]. Challenge to Credibility at the Gate to Science.

If the trade unionist Jimmy Hoffa were alive today, he would probably represent civil servants. When Hoffa's Teamsters were in their prime in 1960, only one in ten American government workers belonged to a union; now 36% do. In 2009 the number of unionists in America's public sector passed that of their fellow members in the private sector. In Britain, more than half of public-sector workers but only about 15% of private-sector ones are unionized.

There are three reasons for the public-sector unions' thriving. First, they can shut things down without suffering much in the way of consequences. Second, they are mostly bright and well-educated. A quarter of America's public-sector workers have a university degree. Third, they now dominate left-of-centre politics. Some of their ties go back a long way. Britain's Labor Party, as its name implies, has long been associated with trade unionism. Its current leader, Ed Miliband, owes his position to votes from public-sector unions.

At the state level their influence can be even more fearsome. Mark Baldassare of the Public Policy Institute of California points out that much of the state's budget is patrolled by unions. The teachers' unions keep an eye on schools, the CCPOA on prisons and a variety of labor groups on health care.

In many rich countries average wages in the state sector are higher than in the private one. But the real gains come in benefits and work practices. Politicians have repeatedly "backloaded" public-sector pay deals, keeping the pay increases modest but adding to holidays and especially pensions that are already generous.

Reform has been vigorously opposed, perhaps most notoriously in education, where charter schools, academies and merit pay all faced drawn-out battles. Even though there is plenty of evidence that the quality of the teachers is the most important variable, teachers' unions have fought against getting rid of bad ones and promoting good ones.

As the cost to everyone else has become clearer, politicians have begun to clamp down. In Wisconsin the unions have rallied thousands of supporters against Scott Walker, the hardline Republican governor. But many within the public sector suffer under the current system, too.

John Donahue at Harvard's Kennedy School points out that the norms of culture in Western civil services suit those who want to stay put but is bad for high achievers. The only American public-sector workers who earn well above \$250,000 a year are university sports coaches and the president of the United States. Bankers' fat pay packets have attracted much criticism, but a public-sector system that does not reward high achievers may be a much bigger problem for America.

1. It can be learned from the first paragraph that
 - [A]. Teamsters still have a large body of members.
 - [B]. Jimmy Hoffa used to work as a civil servant.
 - [C]. unions have enlarged their public-sector membership.
 - [D]. the government has improved its relationship with unionists.
2. Which of the following is true of Paragraph 2?
 - [A]. Public-sector unions are prudent in taking actions.
 - [B]. Education is required for public-sector union membership.
 - [C]. Labor Party has long been fighting against public-sector unions.
 - [D]. Public-sector unions seldom get in trouble for their actions.
3. It can be learned from Paragraph 4 that the income in the state sector is
 - [A]. illegally secured.
 - [B]. indirectly augmented.
 - [C]. excessively increased.
 - [D]. fairly adjusted.
4. The example of the unions in Wisconsin shows that unions
 - [A]. often run against the current political system.
 - [B]. can change people's political attitudes.
 - [C]. may be a barrier to public-sector reforms.
 - [D]. are dominant in the government.
5. John Donahue's attitude towards the public-sector system is one of
 - [A]. disapproval.
 - [B]. appreciation.
 - [C]. tolerance.
 - [D]. indifference.

People are, on the whole, poor at considering background information when making individual decisions. At first glance this might seem like a strength that 1 the ability to make judgments which are unbiased by 2 factors. But Dr Uri Simonsohn speculated that an inability to consider the big 3 was leading decision-makers to be biased by the daily samples of information they were working with. 4, he theorised that a judge 5 of appearing too soft 6 crime might be more likely to send someone to prison 7 he had already sentenced five or six other defendants only to forced community service on that day.

To 8 this idea, he turned to the university-admissions process. In theory, the 9 of an applicant should not depend on the few others 10 randomly for interview during the same day, but Dr Simonsohn suspected the truth was 11.

He studied the results of 9,323 MBA interviews 12 by 31 admissions officers. The interviewers had 13 applicants on a scale of one to five. This scale 14 numerous factors into consideration. The scores were 15 used in conjunction with an applicant's score on the Graduate Management Admission Test, or GMAT, a standardised exam which is 16 out of 800 points, to make a decision on whether to accept him or her.

Dr Simonsohn found if the score of the previous candidate in a daily series of interviewees was 0.75 points or more higher than that of the one 17 that, then the score for the next applicant would 18 by an average of 0.075 points. This might sound small, but to 19 the effects of such a decrease a candidate would need 30 more GMAT points than would otherwise have been 20.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. | [A]. grants | [B]. submits | [C]. transmits | [D]. delivers |
| 2. | [A]. minor | [B]. external | [C]. crucial | [D]. objective |
| 3. | [A]. issue | [B]. vision | [C]. picture | [D]. moment |
| 4. | [A]. Above all | [B]. On average | [C]. In principle | [D]. For example |
| 5. | [A]. fond | [B]. fearful | [C]. capable | [D]. thoughtless |
| 6. | [A]. in | [B]. for | [C]. to | [D]. on |
| 7. | [A]. if | [B]. until | [C]. though | [D]. unless |
| 8. | [A]. test | [B]. emphasize | [C]. share | [D]. promote |
| 9. | [A]. decision | [B]. quality | [C]. status | [D]. success |
| 10. | [A]. found | [B]. studied | [C]. chosen | [D]. identified |
| 11. | [A]. otherwise | [B]. defensible | [C]. replaceable | [D]. exceptional |
| 12. | [A]. inspired | [B]. expressed | [C]. conducted | [D]. secured |
| 13. | [A]. assigned | [B]. rated | [C]. matched | [D]. arranged |
| 14. | [A]. put | [B]. got | [C]. took | [D]. gave |
| 15. | [A]. instead | [B]. then | [C]. ever | [D]. rather |
| 16. | [A]. selected | [B]. passed | [C]. marked | [D]. introduced |
| 17. | [A]. below | [B]. after | [C]. above | [D]. before |
| 18. | [A]. jump | [B]. float | [C]. fluctuate | [D]. drop |
| 19. | [A]. achieve | [B]. undo | [C]. maintain | [D]. disregard |
| 20. | [A]. necessary | [B]. possible | [C]. promising | [D]. helpful |

In the 2006 film version of *The Devil Wears Prada*, Miranda Priestly, played by Meryl Streep, scolds her unattractive assistant for imagining that high fashion doesn't affect her. Priestly explains how the deep blue color of the assistant's sweater descended over the years from fashion shows to department stores and to the bargain bin in which the poor girl doubtless found her garment.

This top-down conception of the fashion business couldn't be more out of date or at odds with the feverish world described in *Overdressed*, Elizabeth Cline's three-year indictment of "fast fashion". In the last decade or so, advances in technology have allowed mass-market labels such as Zara, H&M, and Uniqlo to react to trends more quickly and anticipate demand more precisely. Quicker turnarounds mean less wasted inventory, more frequent releases, and more profit. These labels encourage style-conscious consumers to see clothes as disposable – meant to last only a wash or two, although they don't advertise that – and to renew their wardrobe every few weeks. By offering on-trend items at dirt-cheap prices, Cline argues, these brands have hijacked fashion cycles, shaking an industry long accustomed to a seasonal pace.

The victims of this revolution, of course, are not limited to designers. For H&M to offer a \$5.95 knit miniskirt in all its 2,300-plus stores around the world, it must rely on low-wage overseas labor, order in volumes that strain natural resources, and use massive amounts of harmful chemicals.

Overdressed is the fashion world's answer to consumer-activist bestsellers like Michael Pollan's *The Omnivore's Dilemma*. "Mass-produced clothing, like fast food, fills a hunger and need, yet is non-durable and wasteful," Cline argues. Americans, she finds, buy roughly 20 billion garments a year – about 64 items per person – and no matter how much they give away, this excess leads to waste.

Towards the end of *Overdressed*, Cline introduced her ideal, a Brooklyn woman named Sarah Kate Beaumont, who since 2008 has made all of her own clothes – and beautifully. But as Cline is the first to note, it took Beaumont decades to perfect her craft; her example can't be knocked off.

Though several fast-fashion companies have made efforts to curb their impact on labor and the environment – including H&M, with its green Conscious Collection line – Cline believes lasting change can only be effected by the customer. She exhibits the idealism common to many advocates of sustainability, be it in food or in energy. Vanity is a constant; people will only start shopping more sustainably when they can't afford not to.

1. Priestly criticizes her assistant for her
 - [A]. insensitivity to fashion.
 - [B]. obsession with high fashion.
 - [C]. poor bargaining skill.
 - [D]. lack of imagination.
2. According to Cline, mass-market labels urge consumers to
 - [A]. combat unnecessary waste.
 - [B]. shop for their garments more frequently.
 - [C]. resist the influence of advertisements.
 - [D]. shut out the feverish fashion world.
3. The word "indictment" (Line 3, Para.2) is closest in meaning to
 - [A]. tolerance.
 - [B]. indifference.
 - [C]. enthusiasm.
 - [D]. accusation.
4. Which of the following can be inferred from the last paragraph?
 - [A]. Vanity has more often been found in idealists.
 - [B]. The fast-fashion industry ignores sustainability.
 - [C]. Pricing is vital to environment-friendly purchasing.
 - [D]. People are more interested in unaffordable garments.
5. What is the subject of the text?
 - [A]. Satire on an extravagant lifestyle.
 - [B]. Challenge to a high-fashion myth.
 - [C]. Criticism of the fast-fashion industry.
 - [D]. Exposure of a mass-market secret.

An old saying has it that half of all advertising budgets are wasted – the trouble is, no one knows which half. In the internet age, at least in theory, this fraction can be much reduced. By watching what people search for, click on and say online, companies can aim “behavioural” ads at those most likely to buy.

In the past couple of weeks a quarrel has illustrated the value to advertisers of such fine-grained information: Should advertisers assume that people are happy to be tracked and sent behavioural ads? Or should they have explicit permission?

In December 2010 America’s Federal Trade Commission (FTC) proposed adding a “do not track” (DNT) option to internet browsers, so that users could tell advertisers that they did not want to be followed. Microsoft’s Internet Explorer and Apple’s Safari both offer DNT; Google’s Chrome is due to do so this year. In February the FTC and the Digital Advertising Alliance (DAA) agreed that the industry would get cracking on responding to DNT requests.

On May 31st Microsoft set off the row. It said that Internet Explorer 10, the version due to appear with Windows 8, would have DNT as a default.

Advertisers are horrified. Human nature being what it is, most people stick with default settings. Few switch DNT on now, but if tracking is off it will stay off. Bob Liodice, the chief executive of the Association of National Advertisers, says consumers will be worse off if the industry cannot collect information about their preferences. People will not get fewer ads, he says. “They’ll get less meaningful, less targeted ads.”

It is not yet clear how advertisers will respond. Getting a DNT signal does not oblige anyone to stop tracking, although some companies have promised to do so. Unable to tell whether someone really objects to behavioural ads or whether they are sticking with Microsoft’s default, some may ignore a DNT signal and press on anyway.

Also unclear is why Microsoft has gone it alone. After all, it has an ad business too, which it says will comply with DNT requests, though it is still working out how. If it is trying to upset Google, which relies almost wholly on advertising, it has chosen an indirect method: there is no guarantee that DNT by default will become the norm. DNT does not seem an obviously huge selling point for windows 8 – though the firm has compared some of its other products favourably with Google’s on that count before. Brendon Lynch, Microsoft’s chief privacy officer, blogged: “We believe consumers should have more control.” Could it really be that simple?

1. It is suggested in Paragraph 1 that “behavioural” ads help advertisers to
 - [A]. provide better online services.
 - [B]. ease competition among themselves.
 - [C]. avoid complaints from consumers.
 - [D]. lower their operational costs.
2. “the industry” (Line 5, Para.3) refers to
 - [A]. internet browser developers.
 - [B]. digital information analysts.
 - [C]. e-commerce conductors.
 - [D]. online advertisers.
3. Bob Liodice holds that setting DNT as a default
 - [A]. may cut the number of junk ads.
 - [B]. fails to affect the ad industry.
 - [C]. will not benefit consumers.
 - [D]. goes against human nature.
4. Which of the following is true according to Paragraph 6?
 - [A]. Advertisers are willing to implement DNT.
 - [B]. DNT may not serve its intended purpose.
 - [C]. DNT is losing its popularity among consumers.
 - [D]. Advertisers are obliged to offer behavioural ads.
5. The author’s attitude towards what Brendon Lynch said in his blog is one of
 - [A]. indulgence.
 - [B]. understanding.
 - [C]. appreciation.
 - [D]. skepticism.

Up until a few decades ago, our visions of the future were largely – though by no means uniformly – glowingly positive. Science and technology would cure all the ills of humanity, leading to lives of fulfilment and opportunity for all.

Now utopia has grown unfashionable, as we have gained a deeper appreciation of the range of threats facing us, from asteroid strike to epidemic flu and to climate change. You might even be tempted to assume that humanity has little future to look forward to.

But such gloominess is misplaced. The fossil record shows that many species have endured for millions of years – so why shouldn't we? Take a broader look at our species' place in the universe, and it becomes clear that we have an excellent chance of surviving for tens, if not hundreds, of thousands of years. Look up *Homo sapiens* in the "Red List" of threatened species of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and you will read: "Listed as Least Concern as the species is very widely distributed, adaptable, currently increasing, and there are no major threats resulting in an overall population decline."

So what does our deep future hold? A growing number of researchers and organisations are now thinking seriously about that question. For example, the Long Now Foundation has as its flagship project a mechanical clock that is designed to still be marking time thousands of years hence.

Perhaps willfully, it may be easier to think about such lengthy timescales than about the more immediate future. The potential evolution of today's technology, and its social consequences, is dazzlingly complicated, and it's perhaps best left to science fiction writers and futurologists to explore the many possibilities we can envisage. That's one reason why we have launched Arc, a new publication dedicated to the near future.

But take a longer view and there is a surprising amount that we can say with considerable assurance. As so often, the past holds the key to the future: we have now identified enough of the long-term patterns shaping the history of the planet, and our species, to make evidence-based forecasts about the situations in which our descendants will find themselves.

This long perspective makes the pessimistic view of our prospects seem more likely to be a passing fad. To be sure, the future is not all rosy. But we are now knowledgeable enough to reduce many of the risks that threatened the existence of earlier humans, and to improve the lot of those to come.

1. Our vision of the future used to be inspired by
 - [A]. our desire for lives of fulfillment.
 - [B]. our faith in science and technology.
 - [C]. our awareness of potential risks.
 - [D]. our belief in equal opportunity.
2. The IUCN's "Red List" suggests that human beings are
 - [A]. a sustained species.
 - [B]. the world's dominant power.
 - [C]. a threat to the environment.
 - [D]. a misplaced race.
3. Which of the following is true according to Paragraph 5?
 - [A]. The interest in science fiction is on the rise.
 - [B]. Arc helps limit the scope of futurological studies.
 - [C]. Technology offers solutions to social problems.
 - [D]. Our immediate future is hard to conceive.
4. To ensure the future of mankind, it is crucial to
 - [A]. adopt an optimistic view of the world.
 - [B]. draw on our experience from the past.
 - [C]. explore our planet's abundant resources.
 - [D]. curb our ambition to reshape history.
5. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
 - [A]. The Ever-bright Prospects of Mankind.
 - [B]. Science, Technology and Humanity.
 - [C]. Evolution of the Human Species.
 - [D]. Uncertainty about Our Future.

On a five to three vote, the Supreme Court knocked out much of Arizona’s immigration law Monday – a modest policy victory for the Obama Administration. But on the more important matter of the Constitution, the decision was an 8-0 defeat for the Administration’s effort to upset the balance of power between the federal government and the states.

In *Arizona v. United States*, the majority overturned three of the four contested provisions of Arizona’s controversial plan to have state and local police enforce federal immigration law. The Constitutional principles that Washington alone has the power to “establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization” and that federal laws precede state laws are noncontroversial. Arizona had attempted to fashion state policies that ran parallel to the existing federal ones.

Justice Anthony Kennedy, joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and the Court’s liberals, ruled that the state flew too close to the federal sun. On the overturned provisions the majority held Congress had deliberately “occupied the field” and Arizona had thus intruded on the federal’s privileged powers.

However, the Justices said that Arizona police would be allowed to verify the legal status of people who come in contact with law enforcement. That’s because Congress has always envisioned joint federal-state immigration enforcement and explicitly encourages state officers to share information and cooperate with federal colleagues.

Two of the three objecting Justices – Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas – agreed with this Constitutional logic but disagreed about which Arizona rules conflicted with the federal statute. The only major objection came from Justice Antonin Scalia, who offered an even more robust defense of state privileges going back to the Alien and Sedition Acts.

The 8-0 objection to President Obama turns on what Justice Samuel Alito describes in his objection as “a shocking assertion of federal executive power”. The White House argued that Arizona’s laws conflicted with its enforcement priorities, even if state laws complied with federal statutes to the letter. In effect, the White House claimed that it could invalidate any otherwise legitimate state law that it disagrees with.

Some powers do belong exclusively to the federal government, and control of citizenship and the borders is among them. But if Congress wanted to prevent states from using their own resources to check immigration status, it could. It never did so. The Administration was in essence asserting that because it didn’t want to carry out Congress’s immigration wishes, no state should be allowed to do so either. Every Justice rightly rejected this remarkable claim.

1. Three provisions of Arizona’s plan were overturned because they
 - [A]. disturbed the power balance between different states.
 - [B]. overstepped the authority of federal immigration law.
 - [C]. deprived the federal police of Constitutional powers.
 - [D]. contradicted both the federal and state policies.
2. On which of the following did the Justices agree, according to Paragraph 4?
 - [A]. Congress’s intervention in immigration enforcement.
 - [B]. Federal officers’ duty to withhold immigrants’ information.
 - [C]. States’ legitimate role in immigration enforcement.
 - [D]. States’ independence from federal immigration law.
3. It can be inferred from Paragraph 5 that the Alien and Sedition Acts
 - [A]. stood in favor of the states.
 - [B]. supported the federal statute.
 - [C]. undermined the states’ interests.
 - [D]. violated the Constitution.
4. The White House claims that its power of enforcement
 - [A]. is dependent on the states’ support.
 - [B]. is established by federal statutes.
 - [C]. outweighs that held by the states.
 - [D]. rarely goes against state laws.
5. What can be learned from the last paragraph?
 - [A]. Immigration issues are usually decided by Congress.
 - [B]. The Administration is dominant over immigration issues.
 - [C]. Justices wanted to strengthen its coordination with Congress.
 - [D]. Justices intended to check the power of the Administration.

As many people hit middle age, they often start to notice that their memory and mental clarity are not what they used to be. We suddenly can't remember 1 we put the keys just a moment ago, or an old acquaintance's name, or the name of an old band we used to love. As the brain 2, we refer to these occurrences as "senior moments." 3 seemingly innocent, this loss of mental focus can potentially have a(n) 4 impact on our professional, social, and personal 5.

Neuroscientists, experts who study the nervous system, are increasingly showing that there's actually a lot that can be done. It 6 out that the brain needs exercise in much the same way our muscles do, and the right mental 7 can significantly improve our basic cognitive 8. Thinking is essentially a 9 of making connections in the brain. To a certain extent, our ability to 10 in making the connections that drive intelligence is inherited. 11, because these connections are made through effort and practice, scientists believe that intelligence can expand and fluctuate 12 mental effort.

Now, a new Web-based company has taken it a step 13 and developed the first "brain training program" designed to actually help people improve and regain their mental 14.

The Web-based program 15 you to systematically improve your memory and attention skills. The program keeps 16 of your progress and provides detailed feedback 17 your performance and improvement. Most importantly, it 18 modifies and enhances the games you play to 19 on the strengths you are developing – much like a(n) 20 exercise routine requires you to increase resistance and vary your muscle use.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. | [A]. that | [B]. when | [C]. why | [D]. where |
| 2. | [A]. fades | [B]. improves | [C]. collapses | [D]. recovers |
| 3. | [A]. Unless | [B]. While | [C]. Once | [D]. If |
| 4. | [A]. damaging | [B]. limited | [C]. uneven | [D]. obscure |
| 5. | [A]. relationship | [B]. environment | [C]. wellbeing | [D]. outlook |
| 6. | [A]. figures | [B]. finds | [C]. points | [D]. turns |
| 7. | [A]. responses | [B]. associations | [C]. workouts | [D]. roundabouts |
| 8. | [A]. genre | [B]. criterion | [C]. circumstances | [D]. functions |
| 9. | [A]. channel | [B]. process | [C]. condition | [D]. sequence |
| 10. | [A]. persist | [B]. feature | [C]. excel | [D]. believe |
| 11. | [A]. However | [B]. Moreover | [C]. Otherwise | [D]. Therefore |
| 12. | [A]. according to | [B]. regardless of | [C]. apart from | [D]. instead of |
| 13. | [A]. back | [B]. further | [C]. aside | [D]. around |
| 14. | [A]. framework | [B]. stability | [C]. flexibility | [D]. sharpness |
| 15. | [A]. hurries | [B]. reminds | [C]. allows | [D]. forces |
| 16. | [A]. order | [B]. track | [C]. pace | [D]. hold |
| 17. | [A]. on | [B]. to | [C]. for | [D]. with |
| 18. | [A]. habitually | [B]. constantly | [C]. irregularly | [D]. unusually |
| 19. | [A]. carry | [B]. put | [C]. build | [D]. take |
| 20. | [A]. idle | [B]. risky | [C]. familiar | [D]. effective |

In order to “change lives for the better” and reduce “dependency”, George Osborne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, introduced the “upfront work search” scheme. Only if the jobless arrive at the jobcentre with a CV, register for online job search, and start looking for work will they be eligible for benefit – and then they should report weekly rather than fortnightly. What could be more reasonable?

More apparent reasonableness followed. There will now be a seven-day wait for the jobseeker’s allowance. “Those first few days should be spent looking for work, not looking to sign on,” he claimed. “We’re doing these things because we know they help people stay off benefits and help those on benefits get into work faster.” Help? Really? On first hearing, this was the socially concerned chancellor, trying to change lives for the better, complete with “reforms” to an obviously indulgent system that demands too little effort from the newly unemployed to find work, and subsidises laziness. What motivated him, we were to understand, was his zeal for “fundamental fairness” – protecting the taxpayer, controlling spending and ensuring that only the most deserving claimants received their benefits.

Losing a job is hurting: you don’t skip down to the jobcentre with a song in your heart, delighted at the prospect of doubling your income from the generous state. It is financially terrifying, psychologically embarrassing and you know that support is minimal and extraordinarily hard to get. You are now not wanted; you are now excluded from the work environment that offers purpose and structure in your life. Worse, the crucial income to feed yourself and your family and pay the bills has disappeared. Ask anyone newly unemployed what they want and the answer is always: a job.

But in Osborneland, your first instinct is to fall into dependency – permanent dependency if you can get it – supported by a state only too ready to indulge your falsehood. It is as though 20 years of ever-tougher reforms of the job search and benefit administration system never happened. The principle of British welfare is no longer that you can insure yourself against the risk of unemployment and receive unconditional payments if the disaster happens. Even the very phrase “jobseeker’s allowance” is about redefining the unemployed as a “jobseeker” who had no fundamental right to a benefit he or she has earned through making national insurance contributions. Instead, the claimant receives a time-limited “allowance,” conditional on actively seeking a job; no entitlement and no insurance, at £71.70 a week, one of the least generous in the EU.

1. George Osborne’s scheme was intended to
 - [A]. encourage jobseekers’ active engagement in job seeking.
 - [B]. provide the unemployed with easier access to benefits.
 - [C]. guarantee jobseekers’ legitimate right to benefits.
 - [D]. motivate the unemployed to report voluntarily.
2. The phrase “to sign on” (Line 3, Para. 2) most probably means
 - [A]. to check on the availability of jobs at the jobcentre.
 - [B]. to accept the government’s restrictions on the allowance.
 - [C]. to register for an allowance from the government.
 - [D]. to attend a governmental job-training program.
3. What prompted the chancellor to develop his scheme?
 - [A]. A desire to secure a better life for all.
 - [B]. An eagerness to protect the unemployed.
 - [C]. An urge to be generous to the claimants.
 - [D]. A passion to ensure fairness for taxpayers.
4. According to Paragraph 3, being unemployed makes one feel
 - [A]. uneasy.
 - [B]. insulted.
 - [C]. enraged.
 - [D]. guilty.
5. To which of the following would the author most probably agree?
 - [A]. Unemployment benefits should not be made conditional.
 - [B]. The British welfare system indulges jobseekers’ laziness.
 - [C]. The jobseekers’ allowance has met their actual needs.
 - [D]. Osborne’s reforms will reduce the risk of unemployment.

All around the world, lawyers generate more hostility than the members of any other profession – with the possible exception of journalism. But there are few places where clients have more grounds for complaint than America.

During the decade before the economic crisis, spending on legal services in America grew twice as fast as inflation. The best lawyers made skyscrapers-full of money, tempting ever more students to pile into law schools. But most law graduates never get a big-firm job. Many of them instead become the kind of nuisance-lawsuit filer that makes the tort system a costly nightmare.

There are many reasons for this. One is the excessive costs of a legal education. There is just one path for a lawyer in most American states: a four-year undergraduate degree in some unrelated subject, then a three-year law degree at one of 200 law schools authorized by the American Bar Association and an expensive preparation for the bar exam. This leaves today's average law-school graduate with \$100,000 of debt on top of undergraduate debts. Law-school debt means that they have to work fearsomely hard.

Reforming the system would help both lawyers and their customers. Sensible ideas have been around for a long time, but the state-level bodies that govern the profession have been too conservative to implement them. One idea is to allow people to study law as an undergraduate degree. Another is to let students sit for the bar after only two years of law school. If the bar exam is truly a stern enough test for a would-be lawyer, those who can sit it earlier should be allowed to do so. Students who do not need the extra training could cut their debt mountain by a third.

The other reason why costs are so high is the restrictive guild-like ownership structure of the business. Except in the District of Columbia, non-lawyers may not own any share of a law firm. This keeps fees high and innovation slow. There is pressure for change from within the profession, but opponents of change among the regulators insist that keeping outsiders out of a law firm isolates lawyers from the pressure to make money rather than serve clients ethically.

In fact, allowing non-lawyers to own shares in law firms would reduce costs and improve services to customers, by encouraging law firms to use technology and to employ professional managers to focus on improving firms' efficiency. After all, other countries, such as Australia and Britain, have started liberalizing their legal professions. America should follow.

1. A lot of students take up law as their profession due to
 - [A]. the growing demand from clients.
 - [B]. the increasing pressure of inflation.
 - [C]. the prospect of working in big firms.
 - [D]. the attraction of financial rewards.
2. Which of the following adds to the costs of legal education in most American states?
 - [A]. Higher tuition fees for undergraduate studies.
 - [B]. Receiving training by professional associations.
 - [C]. Admissions approval from the bar association.
 - [D]. Pursuing a bachelor's degree in another major.
3. Hindrance to the reform of the legal system originates from
 - [A]. the rigid bodies governing the profession.
 - [B]. lawyers' and clients' strong resistance.
 - [C]. the stern exam for would-be lawyers.
 - [D]. non-professionals' sharp criticism.
4. The guild-like ownership structure is considered "restrictive" partly because it
 - [A]. prevents lawyers from gaining due profits.
 - [B]. bans outsiders' involvement in the profession.
 - [C]. aggravates the ethical situation in the trade.
 - [D]. keeps lawyers from holding law-firm shares.
5. In this text, the author mainly discusses
 - [A]. the factors that help make a successful lawyer in America.
 - [B]. a problem in America's legal profession and solutions to it.
 - [C]. the role of undergraduate studies in America's legal education.
 - [D]. flawed ownership of America's law firms and its causes.

The US\$3-million Fundamental Physics Prize is indeed an interesting experiment, as Alexander Polyakov said when he accepted this year's award in March. And it is far from the only one of its type. As a News Feature article in *Nature* discusses, a string of lucrative awards for researchers have joined the Nobel Prizes in recent years. Many, like the Fundamental Physics Prize, are funded from the telephone-number-sized bank accounts of Internet entrepreneurs. These benefactors have succeeded in their chosen fields, they say, and they want to use their wealth to draw attention to those who have succeeded in science.

What's not to like? Quite a lot, according to a handful of scientists quoted in the News Feature. You cannot buy class, as the old saying goes, and these upstart entrepreneurs cannot buy their prizes the prestige of the Nobels. The new awards are an exercise in self-promotion for those behind them, say scientists. They could distort the achievement-based system of peer-review-led research. They could cement the status quo of peer-reviewed research. They do not fund peer-reviewed research. They perpetuate the myth of the lone genius.

The goals of the prize-givers seem as scattered as the criticism. Some want to shock, others to draw people into science, or to better reward those who have made their careers in research.

As *Nature* has pointed out before, there are some legitimate concerns about how science prizes – both new and old – are distributed. The Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, launched this year, takes an unrepresentative view of what the life sciences include. But the Nobel Foundation's limit of three recipients per prize, each of whom must still be living, has long been outgrown by the collaborative nature of modern research – as will be demonstrated by the inevitable row over who is ignored when it comes to acknowledging the discovery of the Higgs boson. The Nobels were, of course, themselves set up by a very rich individual who had decided what he wanted to do with his own money. Time, rather than intention, has given them legitimacy.

As much as some scientists may complain about the new awards, two things seem clear. First, most researchers would accept such a prize if they were offered one. Second, it is surely a good thing that the money and attention come to science rather than go elsewhere. It is fair to criticize and question the mechanism – that is the culture of research, after all – but it is the prize-givers' money to do with as they please. It is wise to take such gifts with gratitude and grace.

1. The Fundamental Physics Prize is seen as
 - [A]. a symbol of the entrepreneurs' wealth.
 - [B]. a handsome reward for researchers.
 - [C]. a possible replacement of the Nobel Prizes.
 - [D]. an example of bankers' investments.
2. The critics think that the new awards will most benefit
 - [A]. the profit-oriented scientists.
 - [B]. the achievement-based system.
 - [C]. the founders of the new awards.
 - [D]. peer-review-led research.
3. The discovery of the Higgs boson is a typical case which involves
 - [A]. legitimate concerns over the new prizes.
 - [B]. controversies over the recipients' status.
 - [C]. the joint effort of modern researchers.
 - [D]. the demonstration of research findings.
4. According to Paragraph 4, which of the following is true of the Nobels?
 - [A]. History has never cast doubt on them.
 - [B]. Their endurance has done justice to them.
 - [C]. They are the most representative honor.
 - [D]. Their legitimacy has long been in dispute.
5. The author believes that the new awards are
 - [A]. unworthy of public attention.
 - [B]. subject to undesirable changes.
 - [C]. harmful to the culture of research.
 - [D]. acceptable despite the criticism.

“The Heart of the Matter,” the just-released report by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAAS), deserves praise for affirming the importance of the humanities and social sciences to the prosperity and security of liberal democracy in America. Regrettably, however, the report’s failure to address the true nature of the crisis facing liberal education may cause more harm than good.

In 2010, leading congressional Democrats and Republicans sent letters to the AAAS asking that it identify actions that could be taken by “federal, state and local governments, universities, foundations, educators, individual benefactors and others” to “maintain national excellence in humanities and social scientific scholarship and education.” In response, the American Academy formed the Commission on the Humanities and Social Sciences. Among the commission’s 51 members are top-tier-university presidents, scholars, lawyers, judges, and business executives, as well as prominent figures from diplomacy, filmmaking, music and journalism.

The goals identified in the report are generally admirable. Because representative government presupposes an informed citizenry, the report supports full literacy; stresses the study of history and government, particularly American history and American government; and encourages the use of new digital technologies. To encourage innovation and competition, the report calls for increased investment in research, the crafting of coherent curricula that improve students’ ability to solve problems and communicate effectively in the 21st century, increased funding for teachers and the encouragement of scholars to bring their learning to bear on the great challenges of the day. The report also advocates greater study of foreign languages, international affairs and the expansion of study abroad programs.

Unfortunately, despite 21/2 years in the making, “The Heart of the Matter” never gets to the heart of the matter: the illiberal nature of liberal education at our leading colleges and universities. The commission ignores that for several decades America’s colleges and universities have produced graduates who don’t know the content and character of liberal education and are thus deprived of its benefits. Sadly, the spirit of inquiry once at home on campus has been replaced by the use of the humanities and social sciences as vehicles for publicizing “progressive,” or left-liberal propaganda.

Today, professors routinely treat the progressive interpretation of history and progressive public policy as the proper subject of study while portraying conservative or classical liberal ideas – such as free markets and self-reliance – as falling outside the boundaries of routine, and sometimes legitimate, intellectual investigation.

The AAAS displays great enthusiasm for liberal education. Yet its report may well set back reform by obscuring the depth and breadth of the challenge that Congress asked it to illuminate.

- According to Paragraph 1, what is the author’s attitude toward the AAAS’s report?
 - Critical.
 - Appreciative.
 - Contemptuous.
 - Tolerant.
- Influential figures in the Congress required that the AAAS report on how to
 - define the government’s role in education.
 - safeguard individuals’ rights to education.
 - retain people’s interest in liberal education.
 - keep a leading position in liberal education.
- According to Paragraph 3, the report suggests
 - an exclusive study of American history.
 - a greater emphasis on theoretical subjects.
 - the application of emerging technologies.
 - funding for the study of foreign languages.
- The author implies in Paragraph 5 that professors are
 - supportive of free markets.
 - conservative about public policy.
 - biased against classical liberal ideas.
 - cautious about intellectual investigation.
- Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
 - Ways to Grasp “The Heart of the Matter”
 - Illiberal Education and “The Heart of the Matter”
 - The AAAS’s Contribution to Liberal Education
 - Progressive Policy vs. Liberal Education

Though not biologically related, friends are as “related” as fourth cousins, sharing about 1% of genes. That is 1 a study, published from the University of California and Yale University in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, has 2.

The study is a genome-wide analysis conducted 3 1,932 unique subjects which 4 pairs of unrelated friends and unrelated strangers. The same people were used in both 5.

While 1% may seem 6, it is not so to a geneticist. As James Fowler, professor of medical genetics at UC San Diego, says, “Most people do not even 7 their fourth cousins but somehow manage to select as friends the people who 8 our kin.”

The study 9 found that the genes for smell were something shared in friends but not genes for immunity. Why this similarity exists in smell genes is difficult to explain, for now. 10, as the team suggests, it draws us to similar environments but there is more 11 it. There could be many mechanisms working together that 12 us in choosing genetically similar friends 13 “functional kinship” of being friends with 14 !

One of the remarkable findings of the study was that the similar genes seem to be evolving 15 than other genes. Studying this could help 16 why human evolution picked pace in the last 30,000 years, with social environment being a major 17 factor.

The findings do not simply explain people’s 18 to befriend those of similar 19 backgrounds, say the researchers. Though all the subjects were drawn from a population of European extraction, care was taken to 20 that all subjects, friends and strangers, were taken from the same population.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | [A]. when | [B]. why | [C]. how | [D]. what |
| 2. | [A]. defended | [B]. concluded | [C]. withdrawn | [D]. advised |
| 3. | [A]. for | [B]. with | [C]. on | [D]. by |
| 4. | [A]. compared | [B]. sought | [C]. separated | [D]. connected |
| 5. | [A]. tests | [B]. objects | [C]. samples | [D]. examples |
| 6. | [A]. insignificant | [B]. unexpected | [C]. unreliable | [D]. incredible |
| 7. | [A]. visit | [B]. miss | [C]. seek | [D]. know |
| 8. | [A]. resemble | [B]. influence | [C]. favor | [D]. surpass |
| 9. | [A]. again | [B]. also | [C]. instead | [D]. thus |
| 10. | [A]. Meanwhile | [B]. Furthermore | [C]. Likewise | [D]. Perhaps |
| 11. | [A]. about | [B]. to | [C]. from | [D]. like |
| 12. | [A]. drive | [B]. observe | [C]. confuse | [D]. limit |
| 13. | [A]. according to | [B]. rather than | [C]. regardless of | [D]. along with |
| 14. | [A]. chances | [B]. responses | [C]. missions | [D]. benefits |
| 15. | [A]. later | [B]. slower | [C]. faster | [D]. earlier |
| 16. | [A]. forecast | [B]. remember | [C]. understand | [D]. express |
| 17. | [A]. unpredictable | [B]. contributory | [C]. controllable | [D]. disruptive |
| 18. | [A]. endeavor | [B]. decision | [C]. arrangement | [D]. tendency |
| 19. | [A]. political | [B]. religious | [C]. ethnic | [D]. economic |
| 20. | [A]. see | [B]. show | [C]. prove | [D]. tell |

King Juan Carlos of Spain once insisted “kings don’t abdicate, they die in their sleep.” But embarrassing scandals and the popularity of the republican left in the recent Euro-elections have forced him to eat his words and stand down. So, does the Spanish crisis suggest that monarchy is seeing its last days? Does that mean the writing is on the wall for all European royals, with their magnificent uniforms and majestic lifestyles?

The Spanish case provides arguments both for and against monarchy. When public opinion is particularly polarised, as it was following the end of the Franco regime, monarchs can rise above “mere” politics and “embody” a spirit of national unity.

It is this apparent transcendence of politics that explains monarchs’ continuing popularity as heads of state. And so, the Middle East excepted, Europe is the most monarch-infested region in the world, with 10 kingdoms (not counting Vatican city and Andorra). But unlike their absolutist counterparts in the Gulf and Asia, most royal families have survived because they allow voters to avoid the difficult search for a non-controversial but respected public figure.

Even so, kings and queens undoubtedly have a downside. Symbolic of national unity as they claim to be, their very history – and sometimes the way they behave today – embodies outdated and indefensible privileges and inequalities. At a time when Thomas Piketty and other economists are warning of rising inequality and the increasing power of inherited wealth, it is bizarre that wealthy aristocratic families should still be the symbolic heart of modern democratic states.

The most successful monarchies strive to abandon or hide their old aristocratic ways. Princes and princesses have day-jobs and ride bicycles, not horses (or helicopters). Even so, these are wealthy families who party with the international 1%, and media intrusiveness makes it increasingly difficult to maintain the right image.

While Europe’s monarchies will no doubt be smart enough to survive for some time to come, it is the British royals who have most to fear from the Spanish example.

It is only the Queen who has preserved the monarchy’s reputation with her rather ordinary (if well-heeled) granny style. The danger will come with Charles, who has both an expensive taste of lifestyle and a pretty hierarchical view of the world. He has failed to understand that monarchies have largely survived because they provide a service – as non-controversial and non-political heads of state. Charles ought to know that as English history shows, it is kings, not republicans, who are the monarchy’s worst enemies.

- According to the first two paragraphs, King Juan Carl of Spain
 - eased his relationship with his rivals.
 - used to enjoy high public support.
 - was unpopular among European royals.
 - ended his reign in embarrassment.
- Monarchs are kept as heads of state in Europe mostly
 - to give voters more public figures to look up to.
 - to achieve a balance between tradition and reality.
 - owing to their undoubted and respectable status.
 - due to their everlasting political embodiment.
- Which of the following is shown to be odd, according to Paragraph 4?
 - Aristocrats’ excessive reliance on inherited wealth.
 - The role of the nobility in modern democracies.
 - The simple lifestyle of the aristocratic families.
 - The nobility’s adherence to their privileges.
- The British royals “have most to fear” because Charles
 - fails to adapt himself to his future role.
 - fails to change his lifestyle as advised.
 - takes republicans as his potential allies.
 - takes a tough line on political issues.
- Which of the following is the best title of the text?
 - Carlos, Glory and Disgrace Combined
 - Charles, Anxious to Succeed to the Throne
 - Carlos, a Lesson for All European Monarchs
 - Charles, Slow to React to the Coming Threats

Just how much does the Constitution protect your digital data? The Supreme Court will now consider whether police can search the contents of a mobile phone without a warrant if the phone is on or around a person during an arrest.

California has asked the justices to refrain from a sweeping ruling, particularly one that upsets the old assumption that authorities may search through the possessions of suspects at the time of their arrest. It is hard, the state argues, for judges to assess the implications of new and rapidly changing technologies.

The court would be recklessly modest if it followed California's advice. Enough of the implications are discernable, even obvious, so that the justices can and should provide updated guidelines to police, lawyers and defendants.

They should start by discarding California's lame argument that exploring the contents of a smartphone – a vast storehouse of digital information – is similar to, say, going through a suspect's purse. The court has ruled that police don't violate the Fourth Amendment when they go through the wallet or pocketbook of an arrestee without a warrant. But exploring one's smartphone is more like entering his or her home. A smartphone may contain an arrestee's reading history, financial history, medical history and comprehensive records of recent correspondence. The development of "cloud computing", meanwhile, has made that exploration so much the easier.

Americans should take steps to protect their digital privacy. But keeping sensitive information on these devices is increasingly a requirement of normal life. Citizens still have a right to expect private documents to remain private and protected by the Constitution's prohibition on unreasonable searches.

As so often is the case, stating that principle doesn't ease the challenge of line-drawing. In many cases, it would not be overly burdensome for authorities to obtain a warrant to search through phone contents. They could still invalidate Fourth Amendment protections when facing severe, urgent circumstances, and they could take reasonable measures to ensure that phone data are not erased or altered while waiting for a warrant. The court, though, may want to allow room for police to cite situations where they are entitled to more freedom.

But the justices should not swallow California's argument whole. New, disruptive technology sometimes demands novel applications of the Constitution's protections. Orin Kerr, a law professor, compares the explosion and accessibility of digital information in the 21st century with the establishment of automobile use as a virtual necessity of life in the 20th: The justices had to specify novel rules for the new personal domain of the passenger car then; they must sort out how the Fourth Amendment applies to digital information now.

1. The Supreme Court will work out whether, during an arrest, it is legitimate to
 - [A]. prevent suspects from deleting their phone contents.
 - [B]. search for suspects' mobile phones without a warrant.
 - [C]. check suspects' phone contents without being authorized.
 - [D]. prohibit suspects from using their mobile phones.
2. The author's attitude toward California's argument is one of
 - [A]. disapproval.
 - [B]. indifference.
 - [C]. tolerance.
 - [D]. cautiousness.
3. The author believes that exploring one's phone contents is comparable to
 - [A]. going through one's wallet.
 - [B]. handling one's historical records.
 - [C]. scanning one's correspondences.
 - [D]. getting into one's residence.
4. In Paragraphs 5 and 6, the author shows his concern that
 - [A]. principles are hard to be clearly expressed.
 - [B]. the court is giving police less room for action.
 - [C]. phones are used to store sensitive information.
 - [D]. citizens' privacy is not effectively protected.
5. Orin Kerr's comparison is quoted to indicate that
 - [A]. the Constitution should be implemented flexibly.
 - [B]. principles of the Constitution should never be altered.
 - [C]. California's argument violates principles of the Constitution.
 - [D]. new technology requires reinterpretation of the Constitution.

The journal Science is adding an extra round of statistical checks to its peer-review process, editor-in-chief Marcia McNutt announced today. The policy follows similar efforts from other journals, after widespread concern that basic mistakes in data analysis are contributing to the irreproducibility of many published research findings.

“Readers must have confidence in the conclusions published in our journal,” writes McNutt in an editorial. Working with the American Statistical Association, the journal has appointed seven experts to a statistics board of reviewing editors (SBoRE). Manuscripts will be flagged up for additional scrutiny by the journal’s internal editors, or by its existing Board of Reviewing Editors or by outside peer reviewers. The SBoRE panel will then find external statisticians to review these manuscripts.

Asked whether any particular papers had impelled the change, McNutt said: “The creation of the ‘statistics board’ was motivated by concerns broadly with the application of statistics and data analysis in scientific research and is part of Science’s overall drive to increase reproducibility in the research we publish.”

Giovanni Parmigiani, a biostatistician at the Harvard School of Public Health, a member of the SBoRE group, says he expects the board to “play primarily an advisory role.” He agreed to join because he “found the foresight behind the establishment of the SBoRE to be novel, unique and likely to have a lasting impact. This impact will not only be through the publications in Science itself, but hopefully through a larger group of publishing places that may want to model their approach after Science.”

John Ioannidis, a physician who studies research methodology, says that the policy is “a most welcome step forward” and “long overdue”. “Most journals are weak in statistical review, and this damages the quality of what they publish. I think that, for the majority of scientific papers nowadays, statistical review is more essential than expert review,” he says, but he noted that biomedical journals such as Annals of Internal Medicine, the Journal of the American Medical Association and The Lancet pay strong attention to statistical review.

Professional scientists are expected to know how to analyse data, but statistical errors are alarmingly common in published research, according to David Vaux, a cell biologist. Researchers should improve their standards, he wrote in 2012, but journals should also take a tougher line, “engaging reviewers who are statistically literate and editors who can verify the process”. Vaux says that Science’s idea to pass some papers to statisticians “has some merit, but a weakness is that it relies on the board of reviewing editors to identify ‘the papers that need scrutiny’ in the first place”.

1. It can be learned from Paragraph 1 that
 - [A]. Science intends to simplify its peer-review process.
 - [B]. journals are strengthening their statistical checks.
 - [C]. few journals are blamed for mistakes in data analysis.
 - [D]. lack of data analysis is common in research projects.
2. The phrase “flagged up” (Para. 2) is the closest in meaning to
 - [A]. found.
 - [B]. revised.
 - [C]. marked.
 - [D]. stored.
3. Giovanni Parmigiani believes that the establishment of the SBoRE may
 - [A]. pose a threat to all its peers.
 - [B]. meet with strong opposition.
 - [C]. increase Science’s circulation.
 - [D]. set an example for other journals.
4. David Vaux holds that what Science is doing now
 - [A]. adds to researchers’ workload.
 - [B]. diminishes the role of reviewers.
 - [C]. has room for further improvement.
 - [D]. is to fail in the foreseeable future.
5. Which of the following is the best title of the text?
 - [A]. Science Joins Push to Screen Statistics in Papers
 - [B]. Professional Statisticians Deserve More Respect
 - [C]. Data Analysis Finds Its Way onto Editors’ Desks
 - [D]. Statisticians Are Coming Back with Science

Two years ago, Rupert Murdoch's daughter, Elisabeth, spoke of the "unsettling dearth of integrity across so many of our institutions". Integrity had collapsed, she argued, because of a collective acceptance that the only "sorting mechanism" in society should be profit and the market. But "it's us, human beings, we the people who create the society we want, not profit."

Driving her point home, she continued: "It's increasingly apparent that the absence of purpose, of a moral language within government, media or business could become one of the most dangerous goals for capitalism and freedom." This same absence of moral purpose was wounding companies such as News International, she thought, making it more likely that it would lose its way as it had with widespread illegal telephone hacking.

As the hacking trial concludes – finding guilty one ex-editor of the News of the World, Andy Coulson, for conspiring to hack phones, and finding his predecessor, Rebekah Brooks, innocent of the same charge – the wider issue of dearth of integrity still stands. Journalists are known to have hacked the phones of up to 5,500 people. This is hacking on an industrial scale, as was acknowledged by Glenn Mulcaire, the man hired by the News of the World in 2001 to be the point person for phone hacking. Others await trial. This long story still unfolds.

In many respects, the dearth of moral purpose frames not only the fact of such widespread phone hacking but the terms on which the trial took place. One of the astonishing revelations was how little Rebekah Brooks knew of what went on in her newsroom, how little she thought to ask and the fact that she never inquired how the stories arrived. The core of her successful defence was that she knew nothing.

In today's world, it has become normal that well-paid executives should not be accountable for what happens in the organisations that they run. Perhaps we should not be so surprised. For a generation, the collective doctrine has been that the sorting mechanism of society should be profit. The words that have mattered are efficiency, flexibility, shareholder value, business-friendly, wealth generation, sales, impact and, in newspapers, circulation. Words degraded to the margin have been justice, fairness, tolerance, proportionality and accountability.

The purpose of editing the News of the World was not to promote reader understanding, to be fair in what was written or to betray any common humanity. It was to ruin lives in the quest for circulation and impact. Ms Brooks may or may not have had suspicions about how her journalists got their stories, but she asked no questions, gave no instructions – nor received traceable, recorded answers.

1. According to the first two paragraphs, Elisabeth was upset by
 - [A]. the consequences of the current sorting mechanism.
 - [B]. companies' financial loss due to immoral practices.
 - [C]. governmental ineffectiveness on moral issues.
 - [D]. the wide misuse of integrity among institutions.
2. It can be inferred from Paragraph 3 that
 - [A]. Glenn Mulcaire may deny phone hacking as a crime.
 - [B]. more journalists may be found guilty of phone hacking.
 - [C]. Andy Coulson should be held innocent of the charge.
 - [D]. phone hacking will be accepted on certain occasions.
3. The author believes that Rebekah Brooks's defence
 - [A]. was hardly convincing.
 - [B]. centered on trivial issues.
 - [C]. revealed a cunning personality.
 - [D]. was part of a conspiracy.
4. The author holds that the current collective doctrine shows
 - [A]. a marginalized lifestyle.
 - [B]. unfair wealth distribution.
 - [C]. generally distorted values.
 - [D]. a rigid moral code.
5. Which of the following is suggested in the last paragraph?
 - [A]. The quality of writings is of primary importance.
 - [B]. Moral awareness matters in editing a newspaper.
 - [C]. Common humanity is central to news reporting.
 - [D]. Journalists need stricter industrial regulations.

In Cambodia, the choice of a spouse is a complex one for the young male. It may involve not only his parents and his friends, 1 those of the young woman, but also a matchmaker. A young man can 2 a likely spouse on his own and then ask his parents to 3 the marriage negotiations, or the young man’s parents may make the choice of a spouse, giving the child little to say in the selection. 4, a girl may veto the spouse her parents have chosen. 5 a spouse has been selected, each family investigates the other to make sure its child is marrying 6 a good family.

The traditional wedding is a long and colorful affair. Formerly it lasted three days, 7 by the 1980s it more commonly lasted a day and a half. Buddhist priests offer a short sermon and 8 prayers of blessing. Parts of the ceremony involve ritual hair cutting, 9 cotton threads soaked in holy water around the bride’s and groom’s wrists, and 10 a candle around a circle of happily married and respected couples to bless the 11. Newlyweds traditionally move in with the wife’s parents and may 12 with them up to a year, 13 they can build a new house nearby.

Divorce is legal and easy to 14, but not common. Divorced persons are 15 with some disapproval. Each spouse retains 16 property he or she G 17 into the marriage, and jointly-acquired property is 18 equally. Divorced persons may remarry, but a gender prejudice 19 up: The divorced male doesn’t have a waiting period before he can remarry 20 the woman must wait ten months.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | [A]. as well as | [B]. by way of | [C]. on behalf of | [D]. with regard to |
| 2. | [A]. adapt to | [B]. provide for | [C]. compete with | [D]. decide on |
| 3. | [A]. renew | [B]. close | [C]. arrange | [D]. postpone |
| 4. | [A]. In theory | [B]. In time | [C]. Above all | [D]. For example |
| 5. | [A]. Although | [B]. Lest | [C]. After | [D]. Unless |
| 6. | [A]. within | [B]. into | [C]. from | [D]. through |
| 7. | [A]. since | [B]. or | [C]. so | [D]. but |
| 8. | [A]. test | [B]. recite | [C]. copy | [D]. create |
| 9. | [A]. folding | [B]. piling | [C]. wrapping | [D]. tying |
| 10. | [A]. passing | [B]. lighting | [C]. hiding | [D]. serving |
| 11. | [A]. association | [B]. meeting | [C]. collection | [D]. union |
| 12. | [A]. grow | [B]. part | [C]. live | [D]. deal |
| 13. | [A]. whereas | [B]. until | [C]. for | [D]. if |
| 14. | [A]. follow | [B]. obtain | [C]. challenge | [D]. avoid |
| 15. | [A]. isolated | [B]. persuaded | [C]. viewed | [D]. exposed |
| 16. | [A]. whatever | [B]. however | [C]. whenever | [D]. wherever |
| 17. | [A]. changed | [B]. brought | [C]. shaped | [D]. pushed |
| 18. | [A]. withdrawn | [B]. invested | [C]. donated | [D]. divided |
| 19. | [A]. clears | [B]. shows | [C]. warms | [D]. breaks |
| 20. | [A]. while | [B]. once | [C]. so that | [D]. in that |

France, which prides itself as the global innovator of fashion, has decided its fashion industry has lost an absolute right to define physical beauty for women. Its lawmakers gave preliminary approval last week to a law that would make it a crime to employ ultra-thin models on runways. The parliament also agreed to ban websites that “incite excessive thinness” by promoting extreme dieting.

Such measures have a couple of uplifting motives. They suggest beauty should not be defined by looks that end up impinging on health. That’s a start. And the ban on ultra-thin models seems to go beyond protecting models from starving themselves to death – as some have done. It tells the fashion industry that it must take responsibility for the signal it sends women, especially teenage girls, about the social tape-measure they must use to determine their individual worth.

The bans, if fully enforced, would suggest to women (and many men) that they should not let others be arbiters of their beauty. And perhaps faintly, they hint that people should look to intangible qualities like character and intellect rather than dieting their way to size zero or wasp-waist physiques.

The French measures, however, rely too much on severe punishment to change a culture that still regards beauty as skin-deep – and bone-showing. Under the law, using a fashion model that does not meet a government-defined index of body mass could result in a \$85,000 fine and six months in prison.

The fashion industry knows it has an inherent problem in focusing on material adornment and idealized body types. In Denmark, the United States, and a few other countries, it is trying to set voluntary standards for models and fashion images that rely more on peer pressure for enforcement.

In contrast to France’s actions, Denmark’s fashion industry agreed last month on rules and sanctions regarding the age, health, and other characteristics of models. The newly revised Danish Fashion Ethical Charter clearly states: “We are aware of and take responsibility for the impact the fashion industry has on body ideals, especially on young people.” The charter’s main tool of enforcement is to deny access for designers and modeling agencies to Copenhagen Fashion Week (CFW), which is run by the Danish Fashion Institute. But in general it relies on a name-and-shame method of compliance.

Relying on ethical persuasion rather than law to address the misuse of body ideals may be the best step. Even better would be to help elevate notions of beauty beyond the material standards of a particular industry.

1. According to the first paragraph, what would happen in France?
 - [A]. Physical beauty would be redefined.
 - [B]. New runways would be constructed.
 - [C]. Websites about dieting would thrive.
 - [D]. The fashion industry would decline.
2. The phrase “impinging on” (Line 2, Para. 2) is closest in meaning to
 - [A]. indicating the state of.
 - [B]. heightening the value of.
 - [C]. losing faith in.
 - [D]. doing harm to.
3. Which of the following is true of the fashion industry?
 - [A]. The French measures have already failed.
 - [B]. Its inherent problems are getting worse.
 - [C]. Models are no longer under peer pressure.
 - [D]. New standards are being set in Denmark.
4. A designer is most likely to be rejected by CFW for
 - [A]. pursuing perfect physical conditions.
 - [B]. caring too much about models’ character.
 - [C]. showing little concern for health factors.
 - [D]. setting a high age threshold for models.
5. Which of the following may be the best title of the text?
 - [A]. The Great Threats to the Fashion Industry
 - [B]. Just Another Round of Struggle for Beauty
 - [C]. A Dilemma for the Starving Models in France
 - [D]. A Challenge to the Fashion Industry’s Body Ideals

For the first time in history more people live in towns than in the country. In Britain this has had a curious result. While polls show Britons rate “the countryside” alongside the royal family, Shakespeare and the National Health Service (NHS) as what makes them proudest of their country, this has limited political support.

A century ago Octavia Hill launched the National Trust not to rescue stylish houses but to save “the beauty of natural places for everyone forever.” It was specifically to provide city dwellers with spaces for leisure where they could experience “a refreshing air.” Hill’s pressure later led to the creation of national parks and green belts. They don’t make countryside any more, and every year concrete consumes more of it. It needs constant guardianship.

At the next election none of the big parties seem likely to endorse this sentiment. The Conservatives’ planning reform explicitly gives rural development priority over conservation, even authorising “off-plan” building where local people might object. The concept of sustainable development has been defined as profitable. Labour likewise wants to discontinue local planning where councils oppose development. The Liberal Democrats are silent. Only Ukip, sensing its chance, has sided with those pleading for a more considered approach to using green land. Its Campaign to Protect Rural England struck terror into many local Conservative parties.

The sensible place to build new houses, factories and offices is where people are, in cities and towns where infrastructure is in place. The London agents Stirling Ackroyd recently identified enough sites for half a million houses in the London area alone, with no intrusion on green belt. What is true of London is even truer of the provinces.

The idea that “housing crisis” equals “concreted meadows” is pure lobby talk. The issue is not the need for more houses but, as always, where to put them. Under lobby pressure, George Osborne favours rural new-build against urban renovation and renewal. He favours out-of-town shopping sites against high streets. This is not a free market but a biased one. Rural towns and villages have grown and will always grow. They do so best where building sticks to their edges and respects their character. We do not ruin urban conservation areas. Why ruin rural ones?

Development should be planned, not let rip. After the Netherlands, Britain is Europe’s most crowded country. Half a century of town and country planning has enabled it to retain an enviable rural coherence, while still permitting low-density urban living. There is no doubt of the alternative – the corrupted landscapes of southern Portugal, Spain or Ireland. Avoiding this rather than promoting it should unite the left and right of the political spectrum.

1. Britain’s public sentiment about the countryside
 - [A]. is not well reflected in politics.
 - [B]. is fully backed by the royal family.
 - [C]. didn’t start till the Shakespearean age.
 - [D]. has brought much benefit to the NHS.
2. According to Paragraph 2, the achievements of the National Trust are now being
 - [A]. largely overshadowed.
 - [B]. properly protected.
 - [C]. effectively reinforced.
 - [D]. gradually destroyed.
3. Which of the following can be inferred from Paragraph 3?
 - [A]. Labour is under attack for opposing development.
 - [B]. The Conservatives may abandon “off-plan” building.
 - [C]. Ukip may gain from its support for rural conservation.
 - [D]. The Liberal Democrats are losing political influence.
4. The author holds that George Osborne’s preference
 - [A]. shows his disregard for the character of rural areas.
 - [B]. stresses the necessity of easing the housing crisis.
 - [C]. highlights his firm stand against lobby pressure.
 - [D]. reveals a strong prejudice against urban areas.
5. In the last paragraph, the author shows his appreciation of
 - [A]. the size of population in Britain.
 - [B]. the enviable urban lifestyle in Britain.
 - [C]. the town-and-country planning in Britain.
 - [D]. the political life in today’s Britain.

“There is one and only one social responsibility of business,” wrote Milton Friedman, a Nobel prize-winning economist, “That is, to use its resources and engage in activities designed to increase its profits.” But even if you accept Friedman’s premise and regard corporate social responsibility (CSR) policies as a waste of shareholders’ money, things may not be absolutely clear-cut. New research suggests that CSR may create monetary value for companies – at least when they are prosecuted for corruption.

The largest firms in America and Britain together spend more than \$15 billion a year on CSR, according to an estimate by EPG, a consulting firm. This could add value to their businesses in three ways. First, consumers may take CSR spending as a “signal” that a company’s products are of high quality. Second, customers may be willing to buy a company’s products as an indirect way to donate to the good causes it helps. And third, through a more diffuse “halo effect,” whereby its good deeds earn it greater consideration from consumers and others.

Previous studies on CSR have had trouble differentiating these effects because consumers can be affected by all three. A recent study attempts to separate them by looking at bribery prosecutions under America’s Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). It argues that since prosecutors do not consume a company’s products as part of their investigations, they could be influenced only by the halo effect.

The study found that, among prosecuted firms, those with the most comprehensive CSR programmes tended to get more lenient penalties. Their analysis ruled out the possibility that it was firms’ political influence, rather than their CSR stand, that accounted for the leniency: Companies that contributed more to political campaigns did not receive lower fines.

In all, the study concludes that whereas prosecutors should only evaluate a case based on its merits, they do seem to be influenced by a company’s record in CSR. “We estimate that either eliminating a substantial labour-rights concern, such as child labour, or increasing corporate giving by about 20% results in fines that generally are 40% lower than the typical punishment for bribing foreign officials,” says one researcher.

Researchers admit that their study does not answer the question of how much businesses ought to spend on CSR. Nor does it reveal how much companies are banking on the halo effect, rather than the other possible benefits, when they decide their do-gooding policies. But at least they have demonstrated that when companies get into trouble with the law, evidence of good character can win them a less costly punishment.

1. The author views Milton Friedman’s statement about CSR with
 - [A]. tolerance.
 - [B]. skepticism.
 - [C]. approval.
 - [D]. uncertainty.
2. According to Paragraph 2, CSR helps a company by
 - [A]. guarding it against malpractices.
 - [B]. protecting it from being defamed.
 - [C]. winning trust from consumers.
 - [D]. raising the quality of its products.
3. The expression “more lenient” (Para.4) is closest in meaning to
 - [A]. less controversial.
 - [B]. more effective.
 - [C]. more lasting.
 - [D]. less severe.
4. When prosecutors evaluate a case, a company’s CSR record
 - [A]. has an impact on their decision.
 - [B]. comes across as reliable evidence.
 - [C]. increases the chance of being penalized.
 - [D]. constitutes part of the investigation.
5. Which of the following is true of CSR, according to the last paragraph?
 - [A]. Its negative effects on businesses are often overlooked.
 - [B]. The necessary amount of companies’ spending on it is unknown.
 - [C]. Companies’ financial capacity for it has been overestimated.
 - [D]. It has brought much benefit to the banking industry.

There will eventually come a day when The New York Times ceases to publish stories on newsprint. Exactly when that day will be is a matter of debate. “Sometime in the future,” the paper’s publisher said back in 2010.

Nostalgia for ink on paper and the rustle of pages aside, there’s plenty of incentive to ditch print. The infrastructure required to make a physical newspaper— printing presses, delivery trucks — isn’t just expensive; it’s excessive at a time when online-only competitors don’t have the same set of financial constraints. Readers are migrating away from print anyway. And though print ad sales still dwarf their online and mobile counterparts, revenue from print is still declining.

Overhead may be high and circulation lower, but rushing to eliminate its print edition would be a mistake, says BuzzFeed CEO Jonah Peretti.

Peretti says the Times shouldn’t waste time getting out of the print business, but only if they go about doing it the right way. “Figuring out a way to accelerate that transition would make sense for them,” he said, “but if you discontinue it, you’re going to have your most loyal customers really upset with you.”

Sometimes that’s worth making a change anyway. Peretti gives the example of Netflix discontinuing its DVD-mailing service to focus on streaming. “It was seen as a blunder,” he said. The move turned out to be foresighted. And if Peretti were in charge at the Times? “I wouldn’t pick a year to end print,” he said. “I would raise prices and make it into more of a legacy product.”

The most loyal customers would still get the product they favor, the idea goes, and they’d feel like they were helping sustain the quality of something they believe in. “So if you’re overpaying for print, you could feel like you were helping,” Peretti said. “Then increase it at a higher rate each year and essentially try to generate additional revenue.” In other words, if you’re going to make a print product, make it for the people who are already obsessed with it. Which may be what the Times is doing already. Getting the print edition seven days a week costs nearly \$500 a year — more than twice as much as a digital-only subscription.

“It’s a really hard thing to do and it’s a tremendous luxury that BuzzFeed doesn’t have a legacy business,” Peretti remarked. “But we’re going to have questions like that where we have things we’re doing that don’t make sense when the market changes and the world changes. In those situations, it’s better to be more aggressive than less aggressive.”

1. The New York Times is considering ending its print edition partly due to
 - [A]. the high cost of operation.
 - [B]. the increasing online ad sales.
 - [C]. the pressure from its investors.
 - [D]. the complaints from its readers.
2. Peretti suggests that, in face of the present situation, the Times should
 - [A]. end the print edition for good.
 - [B]. make strategic adjustments.
 - [C]. seek new sources of readership.
 - [D]. aim for efficient management.
3. It can be inferred from Paragraphs 5 and 6 that a “legacy product”
 - [A]. helps restore the glory of former times.
 - [B]. is meant for the most loyal customers.
 - [C]. will have the cost of printing reduced.
 - [D]. expands the popularity of the paper.
4. Peretti believes that, in a changing world,
 - [A]. traditional luxuries can stay unaffected.
 - [B]. cautiousness facilitates problem-solving.
 - [C]. aggressiveness better meets challenges.
 - [D]. legacy businesses are becoming outdated.
5. Which of the following would be the best title of the text?
 - [A]. Shift to Online Newspapers All at Once
 - [B]. Make Your Print Newspaper a Luxury Good
 - [C]. Keep Your Newspapers Forever in Fashion
 - [D]. Cherish the Newspaper Still in Your Hand

Could a hug a day keep the doctor away? The answer may be a resounding “yes!” 1 helping you feel close and 2 to people you care about, it turns out that hugs can bring a 3 of health benefits to your body and mind. Believe it or not, a warm embrace might even help you 4 getting sick this winter.

In a recent study 5 over 400 healthy adults, researchers from Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania examined the effects of perceived social support and the receipt of hugs 6 the participants’ susceptibility to developing the common cold after being 7 to the virus. People who perceived greater social support were less likely to come 8 with a cold, and the researchers 9 that the stress-reducing effects of hugging 10 about 32 percent of that beneficial effect. 11 among those who got a cold, the ones who felt greater social support and received more frequent hugs had less severe 12 .

“Hugging protects people who are under stress from the 13 risk for colds that’s usually 14 with stress,” notes Sheldon Cohen, a professor of psychology at Carnegie. Hugging “is a marker of intimacy and helps 15 the feeling that others are there to help 16 difficulty.”

Some experts 17 the stress-reducing, health-related benefits of hugging to the release of oxytocin, often called “the bonding hormone” 18 it promotes attachment in relationships, including that between mothers and their newborn babies. Oxytocin is made primarily in the central lower part of the brain, and some of it is released into the bloodstream. But some of it 19 in the brain, where it 20 mood, behavior and physiology.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | [A]. Unlike | [B]. Besides | [C]. Despite | [D]. Throughout |
| 2. | [A]. connected | [B]. restricted | [C]. equal | [D]. inferior |
| 3. | [A]. choice | [B]. view | [C]. lesson | [D]. host |
| 4. | [A]. recall | [B]. forget | [C]. avoid | [D]. keep |
| 5. | [A]. collecting | [B]. involving | [C]. guiding | [D]. affecting |
| 6. | [A]. of | [B]. in | [C]. at | [D]. on |
| 7. | [A]. devoted | [B]. exposed | [C]. lost | [D]. attracted |
| 8. | [A]. across | [B]. along | [C]. down | [D]. out |
| 9. | [A]. calculated | [B]. denied | [C]. doubted | [D]. imagined |
| 10. | [A]. served | [B]. required | [C]. restored | [D]. explained |
| 11. | [A]. Even | [B]. Still | [C]. Rather | [D]. Thus |
| 12. | [A]. defeats | [B]. symptoms | [C]. tests | [D]. errors |
| 13. | [A]. minimized | [B]. highlighted | [C]. controlled | [D]. increased |
| 14. | [A]. equipped | [B]. associated | [C]. presented | [D]. compared |
| 15. | [A]. assess | [B]. moderate | [C]. generate | [D]. record |
| 16. | [A]. in the face of | [B]. in the form of | [C]. in the way of | [D]. in the name of |
| 17. | [A]. transfer | [B]. commit | [C]. attribute | [D]. return |
| 18. | [A]. because | [B]. unless | [C]. though | [D]. until |
| 19. | [A]. emerges | [B]. vanishes | [C]. remains | [D]. decreases |
| 20. | [A]. experiences | [B]. combines | [C]. justifies | [D]. influences |

First two hours, now three hours – this is how far in advance authorities are recommending people show up to catch a domestic flight, at least at some major U.S. airports with increasingly massive security lines.

Americans are willing to tolerate time-consuming security procedures in return for increased safety. The crash of EgyptAir Flight 804, which terrorists may have downed over the Mediterranean Sea, provides another tragic reminder of why. But demanding too much of air travelers or providing too little security in return undermines public support for the process. And it should: Wasted time is a drag on Americans’ economic and private lives, not to mention infuriating.

Last year, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) found in a secret check that undercover investigators were able to sneak weapons – both fake and real – past airport security nearly every time they tried. Enhanced security measures since then, combined with a rise in airline travel due to the improving economy and low oil prices, have resulted in long waits at major airports such as Chicago’s O’Hare International. It is not yet clear how much more effective airline security has become – but the lines are obvious.

Part of the issue is that the government did not anticipate the steep increase in airline travel, so the TSA is now rushing to get new screeners on the line. Part of the issue is that airports have only so much room for screening lanes. Another factor may be that more people are trying to overpack their carry-on bags to avoid checked-baggage fees, though the airlines strongly dispute this.

There is one step the TSA could take that would not require remodeling airports or rushing to hire: Enroll more people in the PreCheck program. PreCheck is supposed to be a win-win for travelers and the TSA. Passengers who pass a background check are eligible to use expedited screening lanes. This allows the TSA to focus on travelers who are higher risk, saving time for everyone involved. The TSA wants to enroll 25 million people in PreCheck.

It has not gotten anywhere close to that, and one big reason is sticker shock: Passengers must pay \$85 every five years to process their background checks. Since the beginning, this price tag has been PreCheck’s fatal flaw. Upcoming reforms might bring the price to a more reasonable level. But Congress should look into doing so directly, by helping to finance PreCheck enrollment or to cut costs in other ways.

The TSA cannot continue diverting resources into underused PreCheck lanes while most of the traveling public suffers in unnecessary lines. It is long past time to make the program work.

1. The crash of EgyptAir Flight 804 is mentioned to
 - [A]. explain American’s tolerance of current security checks.
 - [B]. stress the urgency to strengthen security worldwide.
 - [C]. highlight the necessity of upgrading major U.S. airports.
 - [D]. emphasize the importance of privacy protection.
2. Which of the following contributes to long waits at major airports?
 - [A]. New restrictions on carry-on bags.
 - [B]. The declining efficiency of the TSA.
 - [C]. An increase in the number of travelers.
 - [D]. Frequent unexpected secret checks.
3. The word “expedited” (Line 4, Para. 5) is closest in meaning to
 - [A]. quieter.
 - [B]. cheaper.
 - [C]. wider.
 - [D]. faster.
4. One problem with the PreCheck program is
 - [A]. a dramatic reduction of its scale.
 - [B]. its wrongly-directed implementation.
 - [C]. the government’s reluctance to back it.
 - [D]. an unreasonable price for enrollment.
5. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
 - [A]. Less Screening for More Safety
 - [B]. PreCheck – a Belated Solution
 - [C]. Getting Stuck in Security Lines
 - [D]. Underused PreCheck Lanes

“The ancient Hawaiians were astronomers,” wrote Queen Liliuokalani, Hawaii’s last reigning monarch, in 1897. Star watchers were among the most esteemed members of Hawaiian society. Sadly, all is not well with astronomy in Hawaii today. Protests have erupted over construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT), a giant observatory that promises to revolutionize humanity’s view of the cosmos.

At issue is the TMT’s planned location on Mauna Kea, a dormant volcano worshiped by some Hawaiians as the piko, that connects the Hawaiian Islands to the heavens. But Mauna Kea is also home to some of the world’s most powerful telescopes. Rested in the Pacific Ocean, Mauna Kea’s peak rises above the bulk of our planet’s dense atmosphere, where conditions allow telescopes to obtain images of unsurpassed clarity.

Opposition to telescopes on Mauna Kea is nothing new. A small but vocal group of Hawaiians and environmentalists have long viewed their presence as disrespect for sacred land and a painful reminder of the occupation of what was once a sovereign nation.

Some blame for the current controversy belongs to astronomers. In their eagerness to build bigger telescopes, they forgot that science is not the only way of understanding the world. They did not always prioritize the protection of Mauna Kea’s fragile ecosystems or its holiness to the island’s inhabitants. Hawaiian culture is not a relic of the past; it is a living culture undergoing a renaissance today.

Yet science has a cultural history, too, with roots going back to the dawn of civilization. The same curiosity to find what lies beyond the horizon that first brought early Polynesians to Hawaii’s shores inspires astronomers today to explore the heavens. Calls to disassemble all telescopes on Mauna Kea or to ban future development there ignore the reality that astronomy and Hawaiian culture both seek to answer big questions about who we are, where we come from and where we are going. Perhaps that is why we explore the starry skies, as if answering a primal calling to know ourselves and our true ancestral homes.

The astronomy community is making compromises to change its use of Mauna Kea. The TMT site was chosen to minimize the telescope’s visibility around the island and to avoid archaeological and environmental impact. To limit the number of telescopes on Mauna Kea, old ones will be removed at the end of their lifetimes and their sites returned to a natural state. There is no reason why everyone cannot be welcomed on Mauna Kea to embrace their cultural heritage and to study the stars.

1. Queen Liliuokalani’s remark in Paragraph 1 indicates
 - [A]. her conservative view on the historical role of astronomy.
 - [B]. the importance of astronomy in ancient Hawaiian society.
 - [C]. the regrettable decline of astronomy in ancient times.
 - [D]. her appreciation of star watchers’ feats in her time.
2. Mauna Kea is deemed as an ideal astronomical site due to
 - [A]. its geographical features.
 - [B]. its protective surroundings.
 - [C]. its religious implications.
 - [D]. its existing infrastructure.
3. The construction of the TMT is opposed by some locals partly because
 - [A]. it may risk ruining their intellectual life.
 - [B]. it reminds them of a humiliating history.
 - [C]. their culture will lose a chance of revival.
 - [D]. they fear losing control of Mauna Kea.
4. It can be inferred from Paragraph 5 that progress in today’s astronomy
 - [A]. is fulfilling the dreams of ancient Hawaiians.
 - [B]. helps spread Hawaiian culture across the world.
 - [C]. may uncover the origin of Hawaiian culture.
 - [D]. will eventually soften Hawaiians’ hostility.
5. The author’s attitude toward choosing Mauna Kea as the TMT site is one of
 - [A]. severe criticism.
 - [B]. passive acceptance.
 - [C]. slight hesitancy.
 - [D]. full approval.

Robert F. Kennedy once said that a country's GDP measures "everything except that which makes life worthwhile." With Britain voting to leave the European Union, and GDP already predicted to slow as a result, it is now a timely moment to assess what he was referring to.

The question of GDP and its usefulness has annoyed policymakers for over half a century. Many argue that it is a flawed concept. It measures things that do not matter and misses things that do. By most recent measures, the UK's GDP has been the envy of the Western world, with record low unemployment and high growth figures. If everything was going so well, then why did over 17 million people vote for Brexit, despite the warnings about what it could do to their country's economic prospects?

A recent annual study of countries and their ability to convert growth into well-being sheds some light on that question. Across the 163 countries measured, the UK is one of the poorest performers in ensuring that economic growth is translated into meaningful improvements for its citizens. Rather than just focusing on GDP, over 40 different sets of criteria from health, education and civil society engagement have been measured to get a more rounded assessment of how countries are performing.

While all of these countries face their own challenges, there are a number of consistent themes. Yes, there has been a budding economic recovery since the 2008 global crash, but in key indicators in areas such as health and education, major economies have continued to decline. Yet this isn't the case with all countries. Some relatively poor European countries have seen huge improvements across measures including civil society, income equality and the environment.

This is a lesson that rich countries can learn: When GDP is no longer regarded as the sole measure of a country's success, the world looks very different.

So, what Kennedy was referring to was that while GDP has been the most common method for measuring the economic activity of nations, as a measure, it is no longer enough. It does not include important factors such as environmental quality or education outcomes – all things that contribute to a person's sense of well-being.

The sharp hit to growth predicted around the world and in the UK could lead to a decline in the everyday services we depend on for our well-being and for growth. But policymakers who refocus efforts on improving well-being rather than simply worrying about GDP figures could avoid the forecasted doom and may even see progress.

1. Robert F. Kennedy is cited because he
 - [A]. praised the UK for its GDP.
 - [B]. identified GDP with happiness.
 - [C]. misinterpreted the role of GDP.
 - [D]. had a low opinion of GDP.
2. It can be inferred from Paragraph 2 that
 - [A]. the UK is reluctant to remold its economic pattern.
 - [B]. GDP as the measure of success is widely defied in the UK.
 - [C]. the UK will contribute less to the world economy.
 - [D]. policymakers in the UK are paying less attention to GDP.
3. Which of the following is true about the recent annual study?
 - [A]. It is sponsored by 163 countries.
 - [B]. It excludes GDP as an indicator.
 - [C]. Its criteria are questionable.
 - [D]. Its results are enlightening.
4. In the last two paragraphs, the author suggests that
 - [A]. the UK is preparing for an economic boom.
 - [B]. high GDP foreshadows an economic decline.
 - [C]. it is essential to consider factors beyond GDP.
 - [D]. it requires caution to handle economic issues.
5. Which of the following is the best title for the text?
 - [A]. High GDP But Inadequate Well-being, a UK Lesson
 - [B]. GDP Figures, a Window on Global Economic Health
 - [C]. Robert F. Kennedy, a Terminator of GDP
 - [D]. Brexit, the UK's Gateway to Well-being

In a rare unanimous ruling, the US Supreme Court has overturned the corruption conviction of a former Virginia governor, Robert McDonnell. But it did so while holding its nose at the ethics of his conduct, which included accepting gifts such as a Rolex watch and a Ferrari automobile from a company seeking access to government.

The high court's decision said the judge in Mr. McDonnell's trial failed to tell a jury that it must look only at his "official acts," or the former governor's decisions on "specific" and "unsettled" issues related to his duties.

Merely helping a gift-giver gain access to other officials, unless done with clear intent to pressure those officials, is not corruption, the justices found.

The court did suggest that accepting favors in return for opening doors is "distasteful" and "nasty." But under anti-bribery laws, proof must be made of concrete benefits, such as approval of a contract or regulation. Simply arranging a meeting, making a phone call, or hosting an event is not an "official act".

The court's ruling is legally sound in defining a kind of favoritism that is not criminal. Elected leaders must be allowed to help supporters deal with bureaucratic problems without fear of prosecution for bribery. "The basic compact underlying representative government," wrote Chief Justice John Roberts for the court, "assumes that public officials will hear from their constituents and act on their concerns."

But the ruling reinforces the need for citizens and their elected representatives, not the courts, to ensure equality of access to government. Officials must not be allowed to play favorites in providing information or in arranging meetings simply because an individual or group provides a campaign donation or a personal gift. This type of integrity requires well-enforced laws in government transparency, such as records of official meetings, rules on lobbying, and information about each elected leader's source of wealth.

Favoritism in official access can fan public perceptions of corruption. But it is not always corruption. Rather officials must avoid double standards, or different types of access for average people and the wealthy. If connections can be bought, a basic premise of democratic society – that all are equal in treatment by government – is undermined. Good governance rests on an understanding of the inherent worth of each individual.

The court's ruling is a step forward in the struggle against both corruption and official favoritism.

1. The underlined sentence (Para.1) most probably shows that the court
 - [A]. avoided defining the extent of McDonnell's duties.
 - [B]. made no compromise in convicting McDonnell.
 - [C]. was contemptuous of McDonnell's conduct.
 - [D]. refused to comment on McDonnell's ethics.
2. According to Paragraph 4, an official act is deemed corruptive only if it involves
 - [A]. leaking secrets intentionally.
 - [B]. sizable gains in the form of gifts.
 - [C]. concrete returns for gift-givers.
 - [D]. breaking contracts officially.
3. The court's ruling is based on the assumption that public officials are
 - [A]. justified in addressing the needs of their constituents.
 - [B]. qualified to deal independently with bureaucratic issues.
 - [C]. allowed to focus on the concerns of their supporters.
 - [D]. exempt from conviction on the charge of favoritism.
4. Well-enforced laws in government transparency are needed to
 - [A]. awaken the conscience of officials.
 - [B]. guarantee fair play in official access.
 - [C]. allow for certain kinds of lobbying.
 - [D]. inspire hopes in average people.
5. The author's attitude toward the court's ruling is
 - [A]. sarcastic.
 - [B]. tolerant.
 - [C]. skeptical.
 - [D]. supportive.

Trust is a tricky business. On the one hand, it’s a necessary condition 1 many worthwhile things: child care, friendships, etc. On the other hand, putting your 2 in the wrong place often carries a high 3.

4, why do we trust at all? Well, because it feels good. 5 people place their trust in an individual or an institution, their brains release oxytocin, a hormone that 6 pleasurable feelings and triggers the herding instinct that prompts humans to 7 with one another. Scientists have found that exposure 8 this hormone puts us in a trusting 9: In a Swiss study, researchers sprayed oxytocin into the noses of half the subjects; those subjects were ready to lend significantly higher amounts of money to strangers than were their 10 who inhaled something else.

11 for us, we also have a sixth sense for dishonesty that may 12 us. A Canadian study found that children as young as 14 months can differentiate 13 a credible person and a dishonest one. Sixty toddlers were each 14 to an adult tester holding a plastic container. The tester would ask, “What’s in here?” before looking into the container, smiling, and exclaiming, “Wow!” Each subject was then invited to look 15. Half of them found a toy; the other half 16 the container was empty – and realized the tester had 17 them.

Among the children who had not been tricked, the majority were 18 to cooperate with the tester in learning a new skill, demonstrating that they trusted his leadership. 19, only five of the 30 children paired with the “20” tester participated in a follow-up activity.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | [A]. on | [B]. like | [C]. for | [D]. from |
| 2. | [A]. faith | [B]. concern | [C]. attention | [D]. interest |
| 3. | [A]. benefit | [B]. debt | [C]. hope | [D]. price |
| 4. | [A]. Therefore | [B]. Then | [C]. Instead | [D]. Again |
| 5. | [A]. Until | [B]. Unless | [C]. Although | [D]. When |
| 6. | [A]. selects | [B]. produces | [C]. applies | [D]. maintains |
| 7. | [A]. consult | [B]. compete | [C]. connect | [D]. compare |
| 8. | [A]. at | [B]. by | [C]. of | [D]. to |
| 9. | [A]. context | [B]. mood | [C]. period | [D]. circle |
| 10. | [A]. counterparts | [B]. substitutes | [C]. colleagues | [D]. supporters |
| 11. | [A]. Funny | [B]. Lucky | [C]. Odd | [D]. Ironical |
| 12. | [A]. monitor | [B]. protect | [C]. surprise | [D]. delight |
| 13. | [A]. between | [B]. within | [C]. toward | [D]. over |
| 14. | [A]. transferred | [B]. added | [C]. introduced | [D]. entrusted |
| 15. | [A]. out | [B]. back | [C]. around | [D]. inside |
| 16. | [A]. discovered | [B]. proved | [C]. insisted | [D]. remembered |
| 17. | [A]. betrayed | [B]. wronged | [C]. fooled | [D]. mocked |
| 18. | [A]. forced | [B]. willing | [C]. hesitant | [D]. entitled |
| 19. | [A]. In contrast | [B]. As a result | [C]. On the whole | [D]. For instance |
| 20. | [A]. inflexible | [B]. incapable | [C]. unreliable | [D]. unsuitable |

Among the annoying challenges facing the middle class is one that will probably go unmentioned in the next presidential campaign: What happens when the robots come for their jobs?

Don't dismiss that possibility entirely. About half of U.S. jobs are at high risk of being automated, according to a University of Oxford study, with the middle class disproportionately squeezed. Lower-income jobs like gardening or day care don't appeal to robots. But many middle-class occupations – trucking, financial advice, software engineering – have aroused their interest, or soon will. The rich own the robots, so they will be fine.

This isn't to be alarmist. Optimists point out that technological upheaval has benefited workers in the past. The Industrial Revolution didn't go so well for Luddites whose jobs were displaced by mechanized looms, but it eventually raised living standards and created more jobs than it destroyed. Likewise, automation should eventually boost productivity, stimulate demand by driving down prices, and free workers from hard, boring work. But in the medium term, middle-class workers may need a lot of help adjusting.

The first step, as Erik Brynjolfsson and Andrew McAfee argue in *The Second Machine Age*, should be rethinking education and job training. Curriculums – from grammar school to college – should evolve to focus less on memorizing facts and more on creativity and complex communication. Vocational schools should do a better job of fostering problem-solving skills and helping students work alongside robots. Online education can supplement the traditional kind. It could make extra training and instruction affordable. Professionals trying to acquire new skills will be able to do so without going into debt.

The challenge of coping with automation underlines the need for the U.S. to revive its fading business dynamism: Starting new companies must be made easier. In previous eras of drastic technological change, entrepreneurs smoothed the transition by dreaming up ways to combine labor and machines. The best uses of 3D printers and virtual reality haven't been invented yet. The U.S. needs the new companies that will invent them.

Finally, because automation threatens to widen the gap between capital income and labor income, taxes and the safety net will have to be rethought. Taxes on low-wage labor need to be cut, and wage subsidies such as the earned income tax credit should be expanded: This would boost incomes, encourage work, reward companies for job creation, and reduce inequality.

Technology will improve society in ways big and small over the next few years, yet this will be little comfort to those who find their lives and careers upended by automation. Destroying the machines that are coming for our jobs would be nuts. But policies to help workers adapt will be indispensable.

1. Who will be most threatened by automation?
 - [A]. Leading politicians.
 - [B]. Low-wage laborers.
 - [C]. Robot owners.
 - [D]. Middle-class workers.
2. Which of the following best represents the author's view?
 - [A]. Worries about automation are in fact groundless.
 - [B]. Optimists' opinions on new tech find little support.
 - [C]. Issues arising from automation need to be tackled.
 - [D]. Negative consequences of new tech can be avoided.
3. Education in the age of automation should put more emphasis on
 - [A]. creative potential.
 - [B]. job-hunting skills.
 - [C]. individual needs.
 - [D]. cooperative spirit.
4. The author suggests that tax policies be aimed at
 - [A]. encouraging the development of automation.
 - [B]. increasing the return on capital investment.
 - [C]. easing the hostility between rich and poor.
 - [D]. preventing the income gap from widening.
5. In this text, the author presents a problem with
 - [A]. opposing views on it.
 - [B]. possible solutions to it.
 - [C]. its alarming impacts.
 - [D]. its major variations.

A new survey by Harvard University finds more than two-thirds of young Americans disapprove of President Trump's use of Twitter. The implication is that Millennials prefer news from the White House to be filtered through other sources, not a president's social media platform.

Most Americans rely on social media to check daily headlines. Yet as distrust has risen toward all media, people may be starting to beef up their media literacy skills. Such a trend is badly needed. During the 2016 presidential campaign, nearly a quarter of web content shared by Twitter users in the politically critical state of Michigan was fake news, according to the University of Oxford. And a survey conducted for BuzzFeed News found 44 percent of Facebook users rarely or never trust news from the media giant.

Young people who are digital natives are indeed becoming more skillful at separating fact from fiction in cyberspace. A Knight Foundation focus-group survey of young people between ages 14 and 24 found they use "distributed trust" to verify stories. They cross-check sources and prefer news from different perspectives – especially those that are open about any bias. "Many young people assume a great deal of personal responsibility for educating themselves and actively seeking out opposing viewpoints," the survey concluded.

Such active research can have another effect. A 2014 survey conducted in Australia, Britain, and the United States by the University of Wisconsin-Madison found that young people's reliance on social media led to greater political engagement.

Social media allows users to experience news events more intimately and immediately while also permitting them to re-share news as a projection of their values and interests. This forces users to be more conscious of their role in passing along information. A survey by Barna research group found the top reason given by Americans for the fake news phenomenon is "reader error," more so than made-up stories or factual mistakes in reporting. About a third say the problem of fake news lies in "misinterpretation or exaggeration of actual news" via social media. In other words, the choice to share news on social media may be the heart of the issue. "This indicates there is a real personal responsibility in counteracting this problem," says Roxanne Stone, editor in chief at Barna Group.

So when young people are critical of an over-tweeting president, they reveal a mental discipline in thinking skills – and in their choices on when to share on social media.

1. According to Paragraphs 1 and 2, many young Americans cast doubts on
 - [A]. the justification of the news-filtering practice.
 - [B]. people's preference for social media platforms.
 - [C]. the administration's ability to handle information.
 - [D]. social media as a reliable source of news.
2. The phrase "beef up" (Line 2, Para. 2) is closest in meaning to
 - [A]. sharpen.
 - [B]. define.
 - [C]. boast.
 - [D]. share.
3. According to the Knight Foundation survey, young people
 - [A]. tend to voice their opinions in cyberspace.
 - [B]. verify news by referring to diverse sources.
 - [C]. have a strong sense of responsibility.
 - [D]. like to exchange views on "distributed trust".
4. The Barna survey found that a main cause for the fake news problem is
 - [A]. readers' outdated values.
 - [B]. journalists' biased reporting.
 - [C]. readers' misinterpretation.
 - [D]. journalists' made-up stories.
5. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
 - [A]. A Rise in Critical Skills for Sharing News Online.
 - [B]. A Counteraction Against the Over-tweeting Trend.
 - [C]. The Accumulation of Mutual Trust on Social Media.
 - [D]. The Platforms for Projection of Personal Interests.

Any fair-minded assessment of the dangers of the deal between Britain's National Health Service (NHS) and DeepMind must start by acknowledging that both sides mean well. DeepMind is one of the leading artificial intelligence (AI) companies in the world. The potential of this work applied to healthcare is very great, but it could also lead to further concentration of power in the tech giants. It is against that background that the information commissioner, Elizabeth Denham, has issued her damning verdict against the Royal Free hospital trust under the NHS, which handed over to DeepMind the records of 1.6 million patients in 2015 on the basis of a vague agreement which took far too little account of the patients' rights and their expectations of privacy.

DeepMind has almost apologized. The NHS trust has mended its ways. Further arrangements – and there may be many – between the NHS and DeepMind will be carefully scrutinised to ensure that all necessary permissions have been asked of patients and all unnecessary data has been cleaned. There are lessons about informed patient consent to learn. But privacy is not the only angle in this case and not even the most important. Ms Denham chose to concentrate the blame on the NHS trust, since under existing law it “controlled” the data and DeepMind merely “processed” it. But this distinction misses the point that it is processing and aggregation, not the mere possession of bits, that gives the data value.

The great question is who should benefit from the analysis of all the data that our lives now generate. Privacy law builds on the concept of damage to an individual from identifiable knowledge about them. That misses the way the surveillance economy works. The data of an individual there gains its value only when it is compared with the data of countless millions more.

The use of privacy law to curb the tech giants in this instance feels slightly maladapted. This practice does not address the real worry. It is not enough to say that the algorithms DeepMind develops will benefit patients and save lives. What matters is that they will belong to a private monopoly which developed them using public resources. If software promises to save lives on the scale that drugs now can, big data may be expected to behave as a big pharma has done. We are still at the beginning of this revolution and small choices now may turn out to have gigantic consequences later. A long struggle will be needed to avoid a future of digital feudalism. Ms Denham's report is a welcome start.

1. What is true of the agreement between the NHS and DeepMind?
 - [A]. It caused conflicts among tech giants.
 - [B]. It failed to pay due attention to patients' rights.
 - [C]. It fell short of the latter's expectations.
 - [D]. It put both sides into a dangerous situation.
2. The NHS trust responded to Denham's verdict with
 - [A]. empty promises.
 - [B]. tough resistance.
 - [C]. necessary adjustments.
 - [D]. sincere apologies.
3. The author argues in Paragraph 2 that
 - [A]. privacy protection must be secured at all costs.
 - [B]. leaking patients' data is worse than selling it.
 - [C]. making profits from patients' data is illegal.
 - [D]. the value of data comes from the processing of it.
4. According to the last paragraph, the real worry arising from this deal is
 - [A]. the vicious rivalry among big pharmas.
 - [B]. the ineffective enforcement of privacy law.
 - [C]. the uncontrolled use of new software.
 - [D]. the monopoly of big data by tech giants.
5. The author's attitude toward the application of AI to healthcare is
 - [A]. ambiguous.
 - [B]. cautious.
 - [C]. appreciative.
 - [D]. contemptuous.

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) continues to bleed red ink. It reported a net loss of \$5.6 billion for fiscal 2016, the 10th straight year its expenses have exceeded revenue. Meanwhile, it has more than \$120 billion in unfunded liabilities, mostly for employee health and retirement costs. There are many reasons this formerly stable federal institution finds itself at the brink of bankruptcy. Fundamentally, the USPS is in a historic squeeze between technological change that has permanently decreased demand for its bread-and-butter product, first-class mail, and a regulatory structure that denies management the flexibility to adjust its operations to the new reality.

And interest groups ranging from postal unions to greeting-card makers exert self-interested pressure on the USPS's ultimate overseer – Congress – insisting that whatever else happens to the Postal Service, aspects of the status quo they depend on get protected. This is why repeated attempts at reform legislation have failed in recent years, leaving the Postal Service unable to pay its bills except by deferring vital modernization.

Now comes word that everyone involved – Democrats, Republicans, the Postal Service, the unions and the system's heaviest users – has finally agreed on a plan to fix the system. Legislation is moving through the House that would save USPS an estimated \$28.6 billion over five years, which could help pay for new vehicles, among other survival measures. Most of the money would come from a penny-per-letter permanent rate increase and from shifting postal retirees into Medicare. The latter step would largely offset the financial burden of annually pre-funding retiree health care, thus addressing a long-standing complaint by the USPS and its unions.

If it clears the House, this measure would still have to get through the Senate – where someone is bound to point out that it amounts to the bare, bare minimum necessary to keep the Postal Service afloat, not comprehensive reform. There's no change to collective bargaining at the USPS, a major omission considering that personnel accounts for 80 percent of the agency's costs. Also missing is any discussion of eliminating Saturday letter delivery. That common-sense change enjoys wide public support and would save the USPS \$2 billion per year. But postal special-interest groups seem to have killed it, at least in the House. The emerging consensus around the bill is a sign that legislators are getting frightened about a politically embarrassing short-term collapse at the USPS. It is not, however, a sign that they're getting serious about transforming the postal system for the 21st century.

1. The financial problem with the USPS is caused partly by
 - [A]. its unbalanced budget.
 - [B]. its rigid management.
 - [C]. the cost for technical upgrading.
 - [D]. the withdrawal of bank support.
2. According to Paragraph 2, the USPS fails to modernize itself due to
 - [A]. the interference from interest groups.
 - [B]. the inadequate funding from Congress.
 - [C]. the shrinking demand for postal service.
 - [D]. the incompetence of postal unions.
3. The long-standing complaint by the USPS and its unions can be addressed by
 - [A]. removing its burden of retiree health care.
 - [B]. making more investment in new vehicles.
 - [C]. adopting a new rate-increase mechanism.
 - [D]. attracting more first-class mail users.
4. In the last paragraph, the author seems to view legislators with
 - [A]. respect.
 - [B]. tolerance.
 - [C]. discontent.
 - [D]. gratitude.
5. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
 - [A]. The USPS Starts to Miss Its Good Old Days.
 - [B]. The Postal Service: Keep Away from My Cheese.
 - [C]. The USPS: Chronic Illness Requires a Quick Cure.
 - [D]. The Postal Service Needs More Than a Band-Aid.

Today we live in a world where GPS systems, digital maps, and other navigation apps are available on our smartphones. 1 of us just walk straight into the woods without a phone. But phones 2 on batteries, and batteries can die faster than we realize. 3 you get lost without a phone or a compass, and you 4 can't find north, we have a few tricks to help you navigate 5 to civilization, one of which is to follow the land.

When you find yourself well 6 a trail, but not in a completely 7 area, you have to answer two questions: Which 8 is downhill, in this particular area? And where is the nearest water source? Humans overwhelmingly live in valleys, and on supplies of fresh water. 9, if you head downhill, and follow any H2O you find, you should 10 see signs of people.

If you've explored the area before, keep an eye out for familiar sights – you may be 11 how quickly identifying a distinctive rock or tree can restore your bearings.

Another 12: Climb high and look for signs of human habitation. 13, even in dense forest, you should be able to 14 gaps in the tree line due to roads, train tracks, and other paths people carve 15 the woods. Head toward these 16 to find a way out. At night, scan the horizon for 17 light sources, such as fires and streetlights, then walk toward the glow of light pollution.

18, assuming you're lost in an area humans tend to frequent, look for the 19 we leave on the landscape. Trail blazes, tire tracks, and other features can 20 you to civilization.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. | [A]. Some | [B]. Most | [C]. Few | [D]. All |
| 2. | [A]. put | [B]. take | [C]. run | [D]. come |
| 3. | [A]. Since | [B]. If | [C]. Though | [D]. Until |
| 4. | [A]. formally | [B]. relatively | [C]. gradually | [D]. literally |
| 5. | [A]. back | [B]. next | [C]. around | [D]. away |
| 6. | [A]. onto | [B]. off | [C]. across | [D]. alone |
| 7. | [A]. unattractive | [B]. uncrowded | [C]. unchanged | [D]. unfamiliar |
| 8. | [A]. site | [B]. point | [C]. way | [D]. place |
| 9. | [A]. So | [B]. Yet | [C]. Instead | [D]. Besides |
| 10. | [A]. immediately | [B]. intentionally | [C]. unexpectedly | [D]. eventually |
| 11. | [A]. surprised | [B]. annoyed | [C]. frightened | [D]. confused |
| 12. | [A]. problem | [B]. option | [C]. view | [D]. result |
| 13. | [A]. Above all | [B]. In contrast | [C]. On average | [D]. For example |
| 14. | [A]. bridge | [B]. avoid | [C]. spot | [D]. separate |
| 15. | [A]. from | [B]. through | [C]. beyond | [D]. under |
| 16. | [A]. posts | [B]. links | [C]. shades | [D]. breaks |
| 17. | [A]. artificial | [B]. mysterious | [C]. hidden | [D]. limited |
| 18. | [A]. Finally | [B]. Consequently | [C]. Incidentally | [D]. Generally |
| 19. | [A]. memories | [B]. marks | [C]. notes | [D]. belongings |
| 20. | [A]. restrict | [B]. adopt | [C]. lead | [D]. expose |

Financial regulators in Britain have imposed a rather unusual rule on the bosses of big banks. Starting next year, any guaranteed bonus of top executives could be delayed 10 years if their banks are under investigation for wrongdoing. The main purpose of this “clawback” rule is to hold bankers accountable for harmful risk-taking and to restore public trust in financial institutions. Yet officials also hope for a much larger benefit: more long-term decisionmaking, not only by banks but by all corporations, to build a stronger economy for future generations.

“Short-termism” or the desire for quick profits, has worsened in publicly traded companies, says the Bank of England’s top economist, Andrew Haldane. He quotes a giant of classical economics, Alfred Marshall, in describing this financial impatience as acting like “children who pick the plums out of their pudding to eat them at once” rather than putting them aside to be eaten last.

The average time for holding a stock in both the United States and Britain, he notes, has dropped from seven years to seven months in recent decades. Transient investors, who demand high quarterly profits from companies, can hinder a firm’s efforts to invest in long-term research or to build up customer loyalty. This has been dubbed “quarterly capitalism.”

In addition, new digital technologies have allowed more rapid trading of equities, quicker use of information, and thus shorter attention spans in financial markets. “There seems to be a pre-dominance of short-term thinking at the expense of long-term investing,” said Commissioner Daniel Gallagher of the US Securities and Exchange Commission in a speech this week.

In the US, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 has pushed most public companies to defer performance bonuses for senior executives by about a year, slightly helping reduce “short-termism.” In its latest survey of CEO pay, The Wall Street Journal finds that “a substantial part” of executive pay is now tied to performance.

Much more could be done to encourage “long-termism,” such as changes in the tax code and quicker disclosure of stock acquisitions. In France, shareholders who hold onto a company investment for at least two years can sometimes earn more voting rights in a company.

Within companies, the right compensation design can provide incentives for executives to think beyond their own time at the company and on behalf of all stakeholders. Britain’s new rule is a reminder to bankers that society has an interest in their performance, not just for the short term but for the long term.

1. According to Paragraph 1, one motive in imposing the new rule is to
 - [A]. enhance bankers’ sense of responsibility.
 - [B]. help corporations achieve larger profits.
 - [C]. build a new system of financial regulation.
 - [D]. guarantee the bonuses of top executives.
2. Alfred Marshall is quoted to indicate
 - [A]. the conditions for generating quick profits.
 - [B]. governments’ impatience in decision-making.
 - [C]. the solid structure of publicly traded companies.
 - [D]. “short-termism” in economic activities.
3. It is argued that the influence of transient investment on public companies can be
 - [A]. indirect.
 - [B]. adverse.
 - [C]. minimal.
 - [D]. temporary.
4. The US and France examples are used to illustrate
 - [A]. the obstacles to preventing “short-termism”.
 - [B]. the significance of long-term thinking.
 - [C]. the approaches to promoting “long-termism”.
 - [D]. the prevalence of short-term thinking.
5. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
 - [A]. Failure of Quarterly Capitalism
 - [B]. Patience as a Corporate Virtue
 - [C]. Decisiveness Required of Top Executives
 - [D]. Frustration of Risk-taking Bankers

Grade inflation – the gradual increase in average GPAs (grade-point averages) over the past few decades – is often considered a product of a consumer era in higher education, in which students are treated like customers to be pleased. But another, related force – a policy often buried deep in course catalogs called “grade forgiveness” – is helping raise GPAs.

Grade forgiveness allows students to retake a course in which they received a low grade, and the most recent grade or the highest grade is the only one that counts in calculating a student’s overall GPA.

The use of this little-known practice has accelerated in recent years, as colleges continue to do their utmost to keep students in school (and paying tuition) and improve their graduation rates. When this practice first started decades ago, it was usually limited to freshmen, to give them a second chance to take a class in their first year if they struggled in their transition to college-level courses. But now most colleges, save for many selective campuses, allow all undergraduates, and even graduate students, to get their low grades forgiven.

College officials tend to emphasize that the goal of grade forgiveness is less about the grade itself and more about encouraging students to retake courses critical to their degree program and graduation without incurring a big penalty. “Ultimately,” said Jack Miner, Ohio State University’s registrar, “we see students achieve more success because they retake a course and do better in subsequent courses or master the content that allows them to graduate on time.”

That said, there is a way in which grade forgiveness satisfies colleges’ own needs as well. For public institutions, state funds are sometimes tied partly to their success on metrics such as graduation rates and student retention – so better grades can, by boosting figures like those, mean more money. And anything that raises GPAs will likely make students – who, at the end of the day, are paying the bill – feel they’ve gotten a better value for their tuition dollars, which is another big concern for colleges.

Indeed, grade forgiveness is just another way that universities are responding to consumers’ expectations for higher education. Since students and parents expect a college degree to lead to a job, it is in the best interest of a school to turn out graduates who are as qualified as possible – or at least appear to be. On this, students’ and colleges’ incentives seem to be aligned.

1. What is commonly regarded as the cause of grade inflation?
 - [A]. The change of course catalogs.
 - [B]. Students’ indifference to GPAs.
 - [C]. Colleges’ neglect of GPAs.
 - [D]. The influence of consumer culture.
2. What was the original purpose of grade forgiveness?
 - [A]. To help freshmen adapt to college learning.
 - [B]. To maintain colleges’ graduation rates.
 - [C]. To prepare graduates for a challenging future.
 - [D]. To increase universities’ income from tuition.
3. According to Paragraph 5, grade forgiveness enables colleges to
 - [A]. obtain more financial support.
 - [B]. boost their student enrollments.
 - [C]. improve their teaching quality.
 - [D]. meet local governments’ needs.
4. What does the phrase “to be aligned” (Line 5, Para. 6) most probably mean?
 - [A]. To counterbalance each other.
 - [B]. To complement each other.
 - [C]. To be identical with each other.
 - [D]. To be contradictory to each other.
5. The author examines the practice of grade forgiveness by
 - [A]. assessing its feasibility.
 - [B]. analyzing the causes behind it.
 - [C]. comparing different views on it.
 - [D]. listing its long-run effects.

This year marks exactly two centuries since the publication of “Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus,” by Mary Shelley. Even before the invention of the electric light bulb, the author produced a remarkable work of speculative fiction that would foreshadow many ethical questions to be raised by technologies yet to come.

Today the rapid growth of artificial intelligence (AI) raises fundamental questions: “What is intelligence, identity, or consciousness? What makes humans humans?”

What is being called artificial general intelligence, machines that would imitate the way humans think, continues to evade scientists. Yet humans remain fascinated by the idea of robots that would look, move, and respond like humans, similar to those recently depicted on popular sci-fi TV series such as “Westworld” and “Humans.”

Just how people think is still far too complex to be understood, let alone reproduced, says David Eagleman, a Stanford University neuroscientist. “We are just in a situation where there are no good theories explaining what consciousness actually is and how you could ever build a machine to get there.”

But that doesn’t mean crucial ethical issues involving AI aren’t at hand. The coming use of autonomous vehicles, for example, poses thorny ethical questions. Human drivers sometimes must make split-second decisions. Their reactions may be a complex combination of instant reflexes, input from past driving experiences, and what their eyes and ears tell them in that moment. AI “vision” today is not nearly as sophisticated as that of humans. And to anticipate every imaginable driving situation is a difficult programming problem.

Whenever decisions are based on masses of data, “you quickly get into a lot of ethical questions,” notes Tan Kiat How, chief executive of a Singapore-based agency that is helping the government develop a voluntary code for the ethical use of AI. Along with Singapore, other governments and mega-corporations are beginning to establish their own guidelines. Britain is setting up a data ethics center. India released its AI ethics strategy this spring.

On June 7 Google pledged not to “design or deploy AI” that would cause “overall harm,” or to develop AI-directed weapons or use AI for surveillance that would violate international norms. It also pledged not to deploy AI whose use would violate international laws or human rights.

While the statement is vague, it represents one starting point. So does the idea that decisions made by AI systems should be explainable, transparent, and fair.

To put it another way: How can we make sure that the thinking of intelligent machines reflects humanity’s highest values? Only then will they be useful servants and not Frankenstein’s out-of-control monster.

1. Mary Shelley’s novel Frankenstein is mentioned because it
 - [A]. fascinates AI scientists all over the world.
 - [B]. has remained popular for as long as 200 years.
 - [C]. involves some concerns raised by AI today.
 - [D]. has sparked serious ethical controversies.
2. In David Eagleman’s opinion, our current knowledge of consciousness
 - [A]. helps explain artificial intelligence.
 - [B]. can be misleading to robot making.
 - [C]. inspires popular sci-fi TV series.
 - [D]. is too limited for us to reproduce it.
3. The solution to the ethical issues brought by autonomous vehicles
 - [A]. can hardly ever be found.
 - [B]. is still beyond our capacity.
 - [C]. causes little public concern.
 - [D]. has aroused much curiosity.
4. The author’s attitude toward Google’s pledges is one of
 - [A]. affirmation.
 - [B]. skepticism.
 - [C]. contempt.
 - [D]. respect.
5. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
 - [A]. AI’s Future: In the Hands of Tech Giants
 - [B]. Frankenstein, the Novel Predicting the Age of AI
 - [C]. The Conscience of AI: Complex But Inevitable
 - [D]. AI Shall Be Killers Once Out of Control

States will be able to force more people to pay sales tax when they make online purchases under a Supreme Court decision Thursday that will leave shoppers with lighter wallets but is a big financial win for states.

The Supreme Court's opinion Thursday overruled a pair of decades-old decisions that states said cost them billions of dollars in lost revenue annually. The decisions made it more difficult for states to collect sales tax on certain online purchases.

The cases the court overturned said that if a business was shipping a customer's purchase to a state where the business didn't have a physical presence such as a warehouse or office, the business didn't have to collect sales tax for the state. Customers were generally responsible for paying the sales tax to the state themselves if they weren't charged it, but most didn't realize they owed it and few paid.

Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote that the previous decisions were flawed. "Each year the physical presence rule becomes further removed from economic reality and results in significant revenue losses to the States," he wrote in an opinion joined by four other justices. Kennedy wrote that the rule "limited states' ability to seek long-term prosperity and has prevented market participants from competing on an even playing field."

The ruling is a victory for big chains with a presence in many states, since they usually collect sales tax on online purchases already. Now, rivals will be charging sales tax where they hadn't before. Big chains have been collecting sales tax nationwide because they typically have physical stores in whatever state a purchase is being shipped to. Amazon.com, with its network of warehouses, also collects sales tax in every state that charges it, though third-party sellers who use the site don't have to.

Until now, many sellers that have a physical presence in only a single state or a few states have been able to avoid charging sales taxes when they ship to addresses outside those states. Sellers that use eBay and Etsy, which provide platforms for smaller sellers, also haven't been collecting sales tax nationwide. Under the ruling Thursday, states can pass laws requiring out-of-state sellers to collect the state's sales tax from customers and send it to the state.

Retail trade groups praised the ruling, saying it levels the playing field for local and online businesses. The losers, said retail analyst Neil Saunders, are online-only retailers, especially smaller ones. Those retailers may face headaches complying with various state sales tax laws. The Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council advocacy group said in a statement, "Small businesses and internet entrepreneurs are not well served at all by this decision."

1. The Supreme Court decision Thursday will
 - [A]. better businesses' relations with states.
 - [B]. put most online businesses in a dilemma.
 - [C]. make more online shoppers pay sales tax.
 - [D]. force some states to cut sales tax.
2. It can be learned from paragraphs 2 and 3 that the overruled decisions
 - [A]. have led to the dominance of e-commerce.
 - [B]. have cost consumers a lot over the years.
 - [C]. were widely criticized by online purchasers.
 - [D]. were considered unfavorable by states.
3. According to Justice Anthony Kennedy, the physical presence rule has
 - [A]. hindered economic development.
 - [B]. brought prosperity to the country.
 - [C]. harmed fair market competition.
 - [D]. boosted growth in states' revenue.
4. Who are most likely to welcome the Supreme Court ruling?
 - [A]. Internet entrepreneurs.
 - [B]. Big-chain owners.
 - [C]. Third-party sellers.
 - [D]. Small retailers.
5. In dealing with the Supreme Court decision Thursday, the author
 - [A]. gives a factual account of it and discusses its consequences.
 - [B]. describes the long and complicated process of its making.
 - [C]. presents its main points with conflicting views on them.
 - [D]. cites some cases related to it and analyzes their implications.

Even if families don’t sit down to eat together as frequently as before, millions of Britons will nonetheless have got a share this weekend of one of that nation’s great traditions:the Sunday roast. 1 a cold winter’s day, few culinary pleasures can 2 it. Yet as we report now, the food police are determined that this 3 should be rendered yet another guilty pleasure 4 to damage our health.

The Food Standards Authority (FSA) has 5 a public warning about the risks of a compound called acrylamide that forms in some foods cooked 6 high temperatures. This means that people should 7 crisping their roast potatoes, reject thin- crust pizzas and only 8 toast their bread. But where is the evidence to support such alarmist advice? 9 studies have shown that acrylamide can cause neurological damage in mice, there is no 10 evidence that it causes cancer in humans.

Scientists say the compound is 11 to cause cancer but have no hard scientific proof 12 the precautionary principle, it could be argued that it is 13 to follow the FSA advice. 14 , it was rumoured that smoking caused cancer for years before the evidence was found to prove a 15 .

Doubtless a piece of boiled beef can always be 16 up on Sunday alongside some steamed vegetables, without the Yorkshire pudding and no wine. But would life be worth living? 17 , the FSA says it is not telling people to cut out roast foods 18 , but to reduce their lifetime intake. However, their 19 risks coming a cross as being pushy and overprotective.Constant health scares just 20 with one listening.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | [A]. In | [B]. Towards | [C]. On | [D]. Till |
| 2. | [A]. match | [B]. express | [C]. satisfy | [D]. influence |
| 3. | [A]. patience | [B]. enjoyment | [C]. surprise | [D]. concern |
| 4. | [A]. intensified | [B]. privileged | [C]. compelled | [D]. guaranteed |
| 5. | [A]. issued | [B]. received | [C]. ignored | [D]. cancelled |
| 6. | [A]. under | [B]. at | [C]. for | [D]. by |
| 7. | [A]. forget | [B]. regret | [C]. finish | [D]. avoid |
| 8. | [A]. partially | [B]. regularly | [C]. easily | [D]. initially |
| 9. | [A]. Unless | [B]. Since | [C]. If | [D]. While |
| 10. | [A]. secondary | [B]. external | [C]. conclusive | [D]. negative |
| 11. | [A]. insufficient | [B]. bound | [C]. likely | [D]. slow |
| 12. | [A]. On the basis of | [B]. At the cost of | [C]. In addition to | [D]. In contrast to |
| 13. | [A]. interesting | [B]. advisable | [C]. urgent | [D]. fortunate |
| 14. | [A]. As usual | [B]. In particular | [C]. By definition | [D]. After all |
| 15. | [A]. resemblance | [B]. combination | [C]. connection | [D]. pattern |
| 16. | [A]. made | [B]. served | [C]. saved | [D]. used |
| 17. | [A]. To be fair | [B]. For instance | [C]. To be brief | [D]. In general |
| 18. | [A]. reluctantly | [B]. entirely | [C]. gradually | [D]. carefully |
| 19. | [A]. promise | [B]. experience | [C]. campaign | [D]. competition |
| 20. | [A]. follow up | [B]. pick up | [C]. open up | [D]. end up |

A group of Labour MPs, among them Yvette Cooper, are bringing in the new year with a call to institute a UK “town of culture” award. The proposal is that it should sit alongside the existing city of culture title, which was held by Hull in 2017, and has been awarded to Coventry for 2021. Cooper and her colleagues argue that the success of the crown for Hull, where it brought in £220m of investment and an avalanche of arts, ought not to be confined to cities. Britain’s towns, it is true, are not prevented from applying, but they generally lack the resources to put together a bid to beat their bigger competitors. A town of culture award could, it is argued, become an annual event, attracting funding and creating jobs.

Some might see the proposal as a booby prize for the fact that Britain is no longer able to apply for the much more prestigious title of European capital of culture, a sought-after award bagged by Glasgow in 1990 and Liverpool in 2008. A cynic might speculate that the UK is on the verge of disappearing into an endless fever of self-celebration in its desperation to reinvent itself for the post-Brexit world: after town of culture, who knows what will follow-village of culture? Suburb of culture? Hamlet of culture?

It is also wise to recall that such titles are not a cure-all. A badly run “year of culture” washes in and washes out of a place like the tide, bringing prominence for a spell but leaving no lasting benefits to the community. The really successful holders of such titles are those that do a great deal more than fill hotel bedrooms and bring in high-profile arts events and good press for a year. They transform the aspirations of the people who live there; they nudge the self-image of the city into a bolder and more optimistic light. It is hard to get right, and requires a remarkable degree of vision, as well as cooperation between city authorities, the private sector, community groups and cultural organisations. But it can be done: Glasgow’s year as European capital of culture can certainly be seen as one of a complex series of factors that have turned the city into the powerhouse of art, music and theatre that it remains today.

A “town of culture” could be not just about the arts but about honouring a town’s peculiarities—helping sustain its high street, supporting local facilities and above all celebrating its people. Jeremy Wright, the culture secretary, should welcome this positive, hope-filled proposal, and turn it into action.

1. Cooper and her colleagues argue that a “town of culture” award could
 - [A]. consolidate the town-city ties in Britain.
 - [B]. promote cooperation-among Britain’s towns.
 - [C]. increase the economic strength of Britain’s towns.
 - [D]. focus Britain’s limited resources on cultural events.
2. According to Paragraph 2, the proposal might be regarded by some as
 - [A]. a sensible compromise.
 - [B]. a self-deceiving attempt.
 - [C]. an eye-catching bonus.
 - [D]. an inaccessible target.
3. The author suggests that a title holder is successful only if it
 - [A]. endeavours to maintain its image.
 - [B]. meets the aspiration of its people.
 - [C]. brings its local arts to prominence.
 - [D]. commits to its long-term growth.
4. Glasgow is mentioned in Paragraph 3 to present
 - [A]. a contrasting case.
 - [B]. a supporting example.
 - [C]. a background story.
 - [D]. a related topic.
5. What is the author’s attitude towards the proposal?
 - [A]. Skeptical.
 - [B]. Objective.
 - [C]. Favourable.
 - [D]. Critical.

Scientific publishing has long been a licence to print money. Scientists need journals in which to publish their research, so they will supply the articles without monetary reward. Other scientists perform the specialised work of peer review also for free, because it is a central element in the acquisition of status and the production of scientific knowledge.

With the content of papers secured for free, the publisher needs only find a market for its journal. Until this century, university libraries were not very price sensitive. Scientific publishers routinely report profit margins approaching 40% on their operations at a time when the rest of the publishing industry is in an existential crisis.

The Dutch giant Elsevier, which claims to publish 25% of the scientific papers produced in the world, made profits of more than £900m last year, while UK universities alone spent more than £210m in 2016 to enable researchers to access their own publicly funded research; both figures seem to rise unstoppably despite increasingly desperate efforts to change them.

The most drastic, an thoroughly illegal, reaction has been the emergence of Sci-Hub, a kind of global photocopier for scientific papers, set up in 2012, which now claims to offer access to every paywalled article published since 2015. The success of Sci-Hub, which relies on researchers passing on copies they have themselves legally accessed, shows the legal ecosystem has lost legitimacy among its users and must be transformed so that it works for all participants.

In Britain the move towards open access publishing has been driven by funding bodies. In some ways it has been very successful. More than half of all British scientific research is now published under open access terms: either freely available from the moment of publication, or paywalled for a year or more so that the publishers can make a profit before being placed on general release.

Yet the new system has not yet worked out any cheaper for the universities. Publishers have responded to the demand that they make their product free to readers by charging their writers fees to cover the costs of prep ring an article. These range from around £500 to \$5,000, and apparently the work gets more expensive the more that publishers do it. A report last year pointed out that the costs both of subscriptions and of these “article preparation costs” had been steadily rising at a rate above inflation.

In some ways the scientific publishing model resembles the economy of the social internet: labour is provided free in exchange for the hope of status, while huge profits are made by a few big firms who run the market places. In both cases, we need a rebalancing of power.

1. Scientific publishing is seen as “a licence to print money” partly because
 - [A]. its funding has enjoyed a steady increase.
 - [B]. its marketing strategy has been successful.
 - [C]. its payment for peer review is reduced.
 - [D]. its content acquisition costs nothing.
2. According to Paragraphs 2 and 3, scientific publishers Elsevier have
 - [A]. thrived mainly on university libraries.
 - [B]. gone through an existential crisis.
 - [C]. revived the publishing industry.
 - [D]. financed researchers generously.
3. How does the author feel about the success of Sci-Hub?
 - [A]. Relieved.
 - [B]. Puzzled.
 - [C]. Concerned.
 - [D]. Encouraged.
4. It can be learned from Paragraphs 5 and 6 that open access terms
 - [A]. allow publishers some room to make money.
 - [B]. render publishing much easier for scientists.
 - [C]. reduce the cost of publication substantially.
 - [D]. free universities from financial burdens.
5. Which of the following characterizes the scientific publishing model?
 - [A]. Trial subscription is offered.
 - [B]. Labour triumphs over status.
 - [C]. Costs are well controlled.
 - [D]. The few feed on the many.

Progressives often support diversity mandates as a path to equality and a way to level the playing field. But all too often such policies are an insincere form of virtue-signaling that benefits only the most privileged and does little to help average people.

A pair of bills sponsored by Massachusetts state Senator Jason Lewis and House Speaker Pro Tempore Patricia Haddad, to ensure “gender parity” on boards and commissions, provide a case in point.

Haddad and Lewis are concerned that more than half the state-government boards are less than 40 percent female. In order to ensure that elite women have more such opportunities, they have proposed imposing government quotas. If the bills become law, state boards and commissions will be required to set aside 50 percent of board seats for women by 2022.

The bills are similar to a measure recently adopted in California, which last year became the first state to require gender quotas for private companies. In signing the measure, California Governor Jerry Brown admitted that the law, which expressly classifies people on the basis of sex, is probably unconstitutional.

The US Supreme Court frowns on sex-based classifications unless they are designed to address an “important” policy interest. Because the California law applies to all boards, even where there is no history of prior discrimination, courts are likely to rule that the law violates the constitutional guarantee of “equal protection”.

But are such government mandates even necessary? Female participation on corporate boards may not currently mirror the percentage of women in the general population, but so what?

The number of women on corporate boards has been steadily increasing without government interference. According to a study by Catalyst, between 2010 and 2015 the share of women on the boards of global corporations increased by 54 percent.

Requiring companies to make gender the primary qualification for board membership will inevitably lead to less experienced private sector boards. That is exactly what happened when Norway adopted a nationwide corporate gender quota.

Writing in The New Republic, Alice Lee notes that increasing the number of opportunities for board membership without increasing the pool of qualified women to serve on such boards has led to a “golden skirt” phenomenon, where the same elite women scoop up multiple seats on a variety of boards.

Next time somebody pushes corporate quotas as a way to promote gender equity, remember that such policies are largely self-serving measures that make their sponsors feelgood but do little to help average women.

1. The author believes that the bills sponsored by Lewis and Haddad will
 - [A]. help little to reduce gender bias.
 - [B]. pose a threat to the state government.
 - [C]. raise women’s position in politics.
 - [D]. greatly broaden career options.
2. Which of the following is true of the California measure?
 - [A]. It has irritated private business owners.
 - [B]. It is welcomed by the Supreme Court.
 - [C]. It may go against the Constitution.
 - [D]. It will settle the prior controversies.
3. The author mentions the study by Catalyst to illustrate
 - [A]. the harm from arbitrary board decision.
 - [B]. the importance of constitutional guarantees.
 - [C]. the pressure on women in global corporations.
 - [D]. the needlessness of government interventions.
4. Norway’s adoption of a nationwide corporate gender quota has led to
 - [A]. the underestimation of elite women’s role.
 - [B]. the objection to female participation on boards.
 - [C]. the entry of unqualified candidates into the board.
 - [D]. the growing tension between labor and management.
5. Which of the following can be inferred from the text?
 - [A]. Women’s need in employment should be considered.
 - [B]. Feasibility should be a prime concern in policymaking.
 - [C]. Everyone should try hard to promote social justice.
 - [D]. Major social issues should be the focus of legislation.

Last Thursday, the French Senate passed a digital services tax, which would impose an entirely new tax on large multinationals that provide digital services to consumers or users in France. Digital services include everything from providing a platform for selling goods and services online to targeting advertising based on user data, and the tax applies to gross revenue from such services. Many French politicians and media outlets have referred to this as a “GAFA tax,” meaning that it is designed to apply primarily to companies such as Google, Apple, Facebook and Amazon—in other words, multinational tech companies based in the United States.

The digital services tax now awaits the signature of President Emmanuel Macron, who has expressed support for the measure, and it could go into effect within the next few weeks. But it has already sparked significant controversy, with the United States trade representative opening an investigation into whether the tax discriminates against American companies, which in turn could lead to trade sanctions against France.

The French tax is not just a unilateral move by one country in need of revenue.

Instead, the digital services tax is part of a much larger trend, with countries over the past few years proposing or putting in place an alphabet soup of new international tax provisions. They have included Britain’s DPT. (diverted profits tax), Australia’s MAAL (multinational anti-avoidance law), and India’s SEP (significant economic presence) test, to name but a few. At the same time, the European Union, Spain, Britain and several other countries have all seriously contemplated digital services taxes.

These unilateral developments differ in their specifics, but they are all designed to tax multinationals on income and revenue that countries believe they should have a right to tax, even if international tax rules do not grant them that right. In other words, they all share a view that the international tax system has failed to keep up with the current economy.

In response to these many unilateral measures, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is currently working with 131 countries to reach a consensus by the end of 2020 on an international solution. Both France and the United States are involved in the organization’s work, but France’s digital services tax and the American response raise questions about what the future holds for the international tax system.

France’s planned tax is a clear warning: Unless a broad consensus can be reached on reforming the international tax system, other nations are likely to follow suit, and American companies will face a cascade of different taxes from dozens of nations that will prove burdensome and costly.

1. The French Senate has passed a bill to
 - [A]. regulate digital services platforms.
 - [B]. protect French companies’ interests.
 - [C]. impose a levy on tech multinationals.
 - [D]. curb the influence of advertising.
2. It can be learned from Paragraph 2 that the digital services tax
 - [A]. may trigger countermeasures against France.
 - [B]. is apt to arouse criticism at home and abroad.
 - [C]. aims to ease international trade tensions.
 - [D]. will prompt the tech giants to quit France.
3. The countries adopting the unilateral measures share the opinion that
 - [A]. redistribution of tech giants’ revenue must be ensured.
 - [B]. the current international tax system needs upgrading.
 - [C]. tech multinationals’ monopoly should be prevented.
 - [D]. all countries ought to enjoy equal taxing rights.
4. It can be learned from Paragraph 5 that the OECD’s current work
 - [A]. is being resisted by US companies.
 - [B]. needs to be readjusted immediately.
 - [C]. is faced with uncertain prospects.
 - [D]. needs to involve more countries.
5. Which of the following might be the best title for this text?
 - [A]. France Is Confronted with Trade Sanctions
 - [B]. France leads the charge on Digital Tax
 - [C]. France Says “NO” to Tech Multinationals
 - [D]. France Demands a Role in the Digital Economy

Fluid intelligence is the type of intelligence that has to do with short-term memory and the ability to think quickly, logically, and abstractly in order to solve new problems. It 1 in young adulthood, levels out for a period of time, and then 2 starts to slowly decline as we age. But 3 aging is inevitable, scientists are finding out that certain changes in brain function may not be.

One study found that muscle loss and the 4 of body fat around the abdomen are associated with a decline in fluid intelligence. This suggests the 5 that lifestyle factors might help prevent or 6 this type of decline.

The researchers looked at data that 7 measurements of lean muscle and abdominal fat from more than 4,000 middle-to-older-aged men and women and 8 that data to reported changes in fluid intelligence over a six-year period. They found that middle-aged people 9 higher measures of abdominal fat 10 worse on measures of fluid intelligence as the years 11 .

For women, the association may be 12 to changes in immunity that resulted from excess abdominal fat; in men, the immune system did not appear to be 13 . It is hoped that future studies could 14 these differences and perhaps lead to different 15 for men and women.

16 there are steps you can 17 to help reduce abdominal fat and maintain lean muscle mass as you age in order to protect both your physical and mental 18 The two highly recommended lifestyle approaches are maintaining or increasing your 19 of aerobic exercise and following Mediterranean-style 20 that is high in fiber and eliminates highly processed foods.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | [A]. pauses | [B]. returns | [C]. peaks | [D]. fades |
| 2. | [A]. alternatively | [B]. formally | [C]. accidentally | [D]. generally |
| 3. | [A]. while | [B]. since | [C]. once | [D]. until |
| 4. | [A]. detection | [B]. accumulation | [C]. consumption | [D]. separation |
| 5. | [A]. possibility | [B]. decision | [C]. goal | [D]. requirement |
| 6. | [A]. delay | [B]. ensure | [C]. seek | [D]. utilize |
| 7. | [A]. modified | [B]. supported | [C]. included | [D]. predicted |
| 8. | [A]. devoted | [B]. compared | [C]. converted | [D]. applied |
| 9. | [A]. with | [B]. above | [C]. by | [D]. against |
| 10. | [A]. lived | [B]. managed | [C]. scored | [D]. played |
| 11. | [A]. ran out | [B]. set off | [C]. drew in | [D]. went by |
| 12. | [A]. superior | [B]. attributable | [C]. parallel | [D]. resistant |
| 13. | [A]. restored | [B]. isolated | [C]. involved | [D]. controlled |
| 14. | [A]. alter | [B]. spread | [C]. remove | [D]. explain |
| 15. | [A]. compensations | [B]. symptoms | [C]. demands | [D]. treatments |
| 16. | [A]. Likewise | [B]. Meanwhile | [C]. Therefore | [D]. Instead |
| 17. | [A]. change | [B]. watch | [C]. count | [D]. take |
| 18. | [A]. well-being | [B]. process | [C]. formation | [D]. coordination |
| 19. | [A]. level | [B]. love | [C]. knowledge | [D]. space |
| 20. | [A]. design | [B]. routine | [C]. diet | [D]. prescription |

How can the train operators possibly justify yet another increase to rail passenger fares? It has become a grimly reliable annual ritual: every January the cost of travelling by train rises, imposing a significant extra burden on those who have no option but to use the rail network to get to work or otherwise. This year's rise, an average of 2.7 per cent, may be a fraction lower than last year's, but it is still well above the official Consumer Price Index (CPI) measure of inflation.

Successive governments have permitted such increases on the grounds that the cost of investing in and running the rail network should be borne by those who use it, rather than the general taxpayer. Why, the argument goes, should a car-driving pensioner from Lincolnshire have to subsidise the daily commute of a stockbroker from Surrey? Equally, there is a sense that the travails of commuters in the South East, many of whom will face among the biggest rises, have received too much attention compared to those who must endure the relatively poor infrastructure of the Midlands and the North.

However, over the past 12 months, those commuters have also experienced some of the worst rail strikes in years. It is all very well train operators trumpeting the improvements they are making to the network, but passengers should be able to expect a basic level of service for the substantial sums they are now paying to travel. The responsibility for the latest wave of strikes rests on the unions. However, there is a strong case that those who have been worst affected by industrial action should receive compensation for the disruption they have suffered.

The Government has pledged to change the law to introduce a minimum service requirement so that, even when strikes occur, services can continue to operate. This should form part of a wider package of measures to address the long-running problems on Britain's railways. Yes, more investment is needed, but passengers will not be willing to pay more indefinitely if they must also endure cramped, unreliable services, punctuated by regular chaos when timetables are changed, or planned maintenance is managed incompetently. The threat of nationalisation may have been seen off for now, but it will return with a vengeance if the justified anger of passengers is not addressed in short order.

1. The author holds that this year's increase in rail passenger fares
 - [A]. has kept pace with inflation.
 - [B]. is a big surprise to commuters.
 - [C]. remains an unreasonable measure.
 - [D]. will ease train operators' burden.
2. The stockbroker in Paragraph 2 is used to stand for
 - [A]. car drivers.
 - [B]. rail travelers.
 - [C]. local investors.
 - [D]. ordinary taxpayers.
3. It is indicated in Paragraph 3 that train operators
 - [A]. are offering compensation to commuters.
 - [B]. are trying to repair relations with the unions.
 - [C]. have failed to provide an adequate service.
 - [D]. have suffered huge losses owing to the strikes.
4. If unable to calm down passengers, the railways may have to face
 - [A]. the loss of investment.
 - [B]. the collapse of operations.
 - [C]. a reduction of revenue.
 - [D]. a change of ownership.
5. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
 - [A]. Who Are to Blame for the Strikes?
 - [B]. Constant Complaining Doesn't Work
 - [C]. Can Nationalisation Bring Hope?
 - [D]. Ever-rising Fares Aren't Sustainable

Last year marked the third year in a row of when Indonesia's bleak rate of deforestation has slowed in pace. One reason for the turnaround may be the country's antipoverty program.

In 2007, Indonesia started phasing in a program that gives money to its poorest residents under certain conditions, such as requiring people to keep kids in school or get regular medical care. Called conditional cash transfers or CCTs, these social assistance programs are designed to reduce inequality and break the cycle of poverty. They're already used in dozens of countries worldwide. In Indonesia, the program has provided enough food and medicine to substantially reduce severe growth problems among children.

But CCT programs don't generally consider effects on the environment. In fact, poverty alleviation and environmental protection are often viewed as conflicting goals, says Paul Ferraro, an economist at Johns Hopkins University.

That's because economic growth can be correlated with environmental degradation, while protecting the environment is sometimes correlated with greater poverty. However, those correlations don't prove cause and effect. The only previous study analyzing causality, based on an area in Mexico that had instituted CCTs, supported the traditional view. There, as people got more money, some of them may have more cleared land for cattle to raise for meat, Ferraro says.

Such programs do not have to negatively affect the environment, though. Ferraro wanted to see if Indonesia's poverty-alleviation program was affecting deforestation. Indonesia has the third-largest area of tropical forest in the world and one of the highest deforestation rates.

Ferraro analyzed satellite data showing annual forest loss from 2008 to 2012—including during Indonesia's phase-in of the antipoverty program—in 7,468 forested villages across 15 provinces. "We see that the program is associated with a 30 percent reduction in deforestation," Ferraro says.

That's likely because the rural poor are using the money as makeshift insurance policies against inclement weather, Ferraro says. Typically, if rains are delayed, people may clear land to plant more rice to supplement their harvests.

Whether this research translates elsewhere is anybody's guess. Ferraro suggests the results may transfer to other parts of Asia, due to commonalities such as the importance of growing rice and market access. And regardless of transferability, the study shows that what's good for people may also be good for the environment. Even if this program didn't reduce poverty, Ferraro says, "the value of the avoided deforestation just for carbon dioxide emissions alone is more than the program costs."

1. According to the first two paragraphs, CCT programs aim to
 - [A]. facilitate healthcare reform.
 - [B]. help poor families get better off.
 - [C]. improve local education systems.
 - [D]. lower deforestation rates.
2. The study based on an area in Mexico is cited to show that
 - [A]. cattle raising has been a major means of livelihood for the poor.
 - [B]. CCT programs have helped preserve traditional lifestyles.
 - [C]. antipoverty efforts require the participation of local farmers.
 - [D]. economic growth tends to cause environmental degradation.
3. In his study about Indonesia, Ferraro intends to find out
 - [A]. its acceptance level of CCTs.
 - [B]. its annual rate of poverty alleviation.
 - [C]. the relation of CCTs to its forest loss.
 - [D]. the role of its forests in climate change.
4. According to Ferraro, the CCT program in Indonesia is most valuable in that
 - [A]. it will benefit other Asian countries.
 - [B]. it will reduce regional inequality. [C]it can protect the environment.
 - [C]. it can benefit grain production.
5. What is the text centered on?
 - [A]. The effects of a program.
 - [B]. The debates over a program.
 - [C]. The process of a study.
 - [D]. The transferability of a study.

As a historian who’s always searching for the text or the image that makes us re-evaluate the past, I’ve become preoccupied with looking for photographs that show our Victorian ancestors smiling (what better way to shatter the image of 19th-century prudery?). I’ve found quite a few, and—since I started posting them on Twitter—they have been causing quite a stir. People have been surprised to see evidence that Victorians had fun and could, and did, laugh. They are noting that the Victorians suddenly seem to become more human as the hundred-or-so years that separate us fade away through our common experience of laughter.

Of course, I need to concede that my collection of ‘Smiling Victorians’ makes up only a tiny percentage of the vast catalogue of photographic portraiture created between 1840 and 1900, the majority of which show sitters posing miserably and stiffly in front of painted backdrops, or staring absently into the middle distance. How do we explain this trend?

During the 1840s and 1850s, in the early days of photography, exposure times were notoriously long: the daguerreotype photographic method (producing an image on a silvered copper plate) could take several minutes to complete, resulting in blurred images as sitters shifted position or adjusted their limbs. The thought of holding a fixed grin as the camera performed its magical duties was too much to contemplate, and so anon-committal blank stare became the norm.

But exposure times were much quicker by the 1880s, and the introduction of the Box Brownie and other portable cameras meant that, though slow by today’s digital standards, the exposure was almost instantaneous. Spontaneous smiles were relatively easy to capture by the 1890s, so we must look elsewhere for an explanation of why Victorians still hesitated to smile.

One explanation might be the loss of dignity displayed through a cheesy grin. “Nature gave us lips to conceal our teeth,” ran one popular Victorian maxim, alluding to the fact that before the birth of proper dentistry, mouths were often in a shocking state of hygiene. A flashing set of healthy and clean, regular ‘pearly whites’ was a rare sight in Victorian society, the preserve of the super-rich (and even then, dental hygiene was not guaranteed).

A toothy grin (especially when there were gaps or blackened gnashers) lacked class: drunks, tramps, and music hall performers might gurn and grin with a smile as wide as Lewis Carroll’s gum-exposing Cheshire Cat, but it was not a becoming look for properly bred persons. Even Mark Twain, a man who enjoyed a hearty laugh, said that when it came to photographic portraits there could be “nothing more damning than a silly, foolish smile fixed forever”.

1. According to Paragraph 1, the author’s posts on Twitter
 - [A]. changed people’s impression of the Victorians.
 - [B]. highlighted social media’s role in Victorian studies.
 - [C]. re-evaluated the Victorian’s notion of public image.
 - [D]. illustrated the development of Victorian photography.
2. What does the author say about the Victorian portraits he has collected?
 - [A]. They are in popular use among historians.
 - [B]. They are rare among photographs of that age.
 - [C]. They mirror 19th-century social conventions.
 - [D]. They show effects of different exposure times.
3. What might have kept the Victorians from smiling for pictures in the 1890s?
 - [A]. Their inherent social sensitiveness.
 - [B]. Their tension before the camera.
 - [C]. Their distrust of new inventions.
 - [D]. Their unhealthy dental condition.
4. Mark Twain is quoted to show that the disapproval of smiles in pictures was
 - [A]. a deep-root belief.
 - [B]. a misguided attitude.
 - [C]. a controversial view.
 - [D]. a thought-provoking idea.
5. Which of the following questions does the text answer?
 - [A]. Why did most Victorians look stern in photographs?
 - [B]. Why did the Victorians start to view photographs?
 - [C]. What made photography develop in the Victorian period?
 - [D]. How did smiling in photographs become a post-Victorian norm?

From the early days of broadband, advocates for consumers and web-based companies worried that the cable and phone companies selling broadband connections had the power and incentive to favor affiliated websites over their rivals'. That's why there has been such a strong demand for rules that would prevent broadband providers from picking winners and losers online, preserving the freedom and innovation that have been the lifeblood of the Internet.

Yet that demand has been almost impossible to fill—in part because of pushback from broadband providers, anti-regulatory conservatives and the courts. A federal appeals court weighed in again Tuesday, but instead of providing a badly needed resolution, it only prolonged the fight. At issue before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit was the latest take of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on net neutrality, adopted on a party-line vote in 2017. The Republican-penned order not only eliminated the strict net neutrality rules the FCC had adopted when it had a Democratic majority in 2015, but rejected the commission's authority to require broadband providers to do much of anything. The order also declared that state and local governments couldn't regulate broadband providers either.

The commission argued that other agencies would protect against anti-competitive behavior, such as a broadband-providing conglomerate like AT&T favoring its own video-streaming service at the expense of Netflix and Apple TV. Yet the FCC also ended the investigations of broadband providers that imposed data caps on their rivals' streaming services but not their own.

On Tuesday, the appeals court unanimously upheld the 2017 order deregulating broadband providers, citing a Supreme Court ruling from 2005 that upheld a similarly deregulatory move. But Judge Patricia Millett rightly argued in a concurring opinion that "the result is unhinged from the realities of modern broadband service," and said Congress or the Supreme Court could intervene to "avoid trapping Internet regulation in technological anachronism."

In the meantime, the court threw out the FCC's attempt to block all state rules on net neutrality, while preserving the commission's power to preempt individual state laws that undermine its order. That means more battles like the one now going on between the Justice Department and California, which enacted a tough net neutrality law in the wake of the FCC's abdication.

The endless legal battles and back-and-forth at the FCC cry out for Congress to act. It needs to give the commission explicit authority once and for all to bar broadband providers from meddling in the traffic on their network and to create clear rules protecting openness and innovation online.

1. There has long been concern that broadband providers would
 - [A]. bring web-based firms under control.
 - [B]. slow down the traffic on their network.
 - [C]. show partiality in treating clients.
 - [D]. intensify competition with their rivals.
2. Faced with the demand for net neutrality rules, the FCC
 - [A]. sticks to an out-of-date order.
 - [B]. takes an anti-regulatory stance.
 - [C]. has issued a special resolution.
 - [D]. has allowed the states to intervene.
3. What can be learned about AT&T from Paragraph 3?
 - [A]. It protects against unfair competition.
 - [B]. It engages in anti-competitive practices.
 - [C]. It is under the FCC's investigation.
 - [D]. It is in pursuit of quality service.
4. Judge Patricia Millett argues that the appeals court's decision
 - [A]. focus on trivialities.
 - [B]. conveys an ambiguous message. [C]is at odds with its earlier rulings.
 - [C]. is out of touch with reality.
5. What does the author argue in the last paragraph?
 - [A]. Congress needs to take action to ensure net neutrality.
 - [B]. The FCC should be put under strict supervision.
 - [C]. Rules need to be set to diversify online services.
 - [D]. Broadband providers' rights should be protected.

The idea that plants have some degree of consciousness first took root in the early 2000s; the term “plant neurobiology” was 1 around the notion that some aspects of plant behavior could be 2 to intelligence in animals. 3 plants lack brains, the firing of electrical signals in their stems and leaves nonetheless triggered responses that 4 consciousness, researchers previously reported.

But such an idea is untrue, according to a new opinion article. Plant biology is complex and fascinating, but it 5 so greatly from that of animals that so-called 6 of plants’ intelligence is inconclusive, the authors wrote.

Beginning in 2006, some scientists have 7 that plants possess neuron-like cells that interact with hormones and neurotransmitters, 8 “a plant nervous system, 9 to that in animals, ”said lead study author Lincoln Taiz, “They 10 claimed that plants have ’brain-like command centers’ at their root tips.”

This 11 makes sense if you simplify the workings of a complex brain, 12 it to an array of electrical pulses; cells in plants also communicate through electrical signals. 13 , the signaling in a plant is only 14 similar to the firing in a complex animal brain, which is more than “a mass of cells that communicate by electricity,” Taiz said.

“For consciousness to evolve, a brain with a threshold 15 of complexity and capacity is required,” he 16 . “Since plants don’t have nervous systems, the 17 that they have consciousness are effectively zero.”

And what’s so great about consciousness, anyway? Plants can’t run away from 18 , so investing energy in a body system which 19 a threat and can feel pain would be a very 20 evolutionary strategy, according to the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. | [A]. coined | [B]. discovered | [C]. collected | [D]. issued |
| 2. | [A]. attributed | [B]. directed | [C]. compared | [D]. confined |
| 3. | [A]. Unless | [B]. When | [C]. Once | [D]. Though |
| 4. | [A]. copedwith | [B]. consistedof | [C]. hintedat | [D]. extended1 |
| 5. | [A]. suffers | [B]. benefits | [C]. develops | [D]. differs |
| 6. | [A]. acceptance | [B]. evidence | [C]. cultivation | [D]. creation |
| 7. | [A]. doubted | [B]. denied | [C]. argued | [D]. requested |
| 8. | [A]. adapting | [B]. forming | [C]. repairing | [D]. testing |
| 9. | [A]. analogous | [B]. essential | [C]. suitable | [D]. sensitive |
| 10. | [A]. just | [B]. ever | [C]. still | [D]. even |
| 11. | [A]. restriction | [B]. experiment | [C]. perspective | [D]. demand |
| 12. | [A]. attaching | [B]. reducing | [C]. returning | [D]. exposing |
| 13. | [A]. However | [B]. Moreover | [C]. Therefore | [D]. Otherwise |
| 14. | [A]. temporarily | [B]. literally | [C]. superficially | [D]. imaginarily |
| 15. | [A]. list | [B]. level | [C]. label | [D]. local |
| 16. | [A]. recalled | [B]. agreed | [C]. questioned | [D]. added |
| 17. | [A]. chances | [B]. risks | [C]. excuses | [D]. assumptions |
| 18. | [A]. danger | [B]. failure | [C]. warning | [D]. control |
| 19. | [A]. represents | [B]. includes | [C]. reveals | [D]. recognizes |
| 20. | [A]. humble | [B]. poor | [C]. practical | [D]. easy |

People often complain that plastics are too durable. Water bottles, shopping bags, and other trash litter the planet, from Mount Everest to the Mariana Trench, because plastics are everywhere and don't break down easily. But some plastic materials change over time. They crack and frizzle. They "weep" out additives. They smelt into sludge. All of which creates huge headaches for institutions, such as museums, trying to preserve culturally important objects. The variety of plastic objects at risk is dizzying: early radios, avant-garde sculptures, celluloid animation stills from Disney films, the first artificial heart.

Certain artifacts are especially vulnerable because some pioneers in plastic art didn't always know how to mix ingredients properly, says Thea van Oosten, a polymer chemist who, until retiring a few years ago, worked for decades at the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands. "It's like baking a cake: If you don't have exact amounts, it goes wrong," she says. "The object you make is already a time bomb."

And sometimes, it's not the artist's fault. In the 1960s, the Italian artist Piero Gilardi began to create hundreds of bright, colorful foam pieces. Those pieces included small beds of roses and other items as well as a few dozen "nature carpets" — large rectangles decorated with foam pumpkins, cabbages, and watermelons. He wanted viewers to walk around on the carpets — which meant they had to be durable.

Unfortunately, the polyurethane foam he used is inherently unstable. It's especially vulnerable to light damage, and by the mid-1990s, Gilardi's pumpkins, roses, and other figures were splitting and crumbling. Museums locked some of them away in the dark.

So van Oosten and her colleagues worked to preserve Gilardi's sculptures. They infused some with stabilizing and consolidating chemicals. Van Oosten calls those chemicals "sunscreens" because their goal was to prevent further light damage and rebuild worn polymer fibers. She is proud that several sculptures have even gone on display again, albeit sometimes beneath protective cases.

Despite success stories like van Oosten's, preservation of plastics will likely get harder. Old objects continue to deteriorate. Worse, biodegradable plastics designed to disintegrate, are increasingly common.

And more is at stake here than individual objects. Joana Lia Ferreira, an assistant professor of conservation and restoration at the NOVA School of Science and Technology, notes that archaeologists first defined the great material ages of human history — Stone Age, Iron Age, and so on — after examining artifacts in museums. We now live in an age of plastic, she says, "and what we decide to collect today, what we decide to preserve.... will have a strong impact on how in the future we'll be seen."

1. According to Paragraph 1, museums are faced with difficulties in ____.
[A]. maintaining their plastic items
[B]. obtaining durable plastic artifacts
[C]. handling outdated plastic exhibits
[D]. classifying their plastic collections
2. Van Oosten believes that certain plastic objects are ____.
[A]. immune to decay
[B]. improperly shaped
[C]. inherently flawed
[D]. complex in structure
3. Museums stopped exhibiting some of Gilardi's artworks to ____.
[A]. keep them from hurting visitors
[B]. duplicate them for future display
[C]. have their ingredients analyzed
[D]. prevent them from further damage
4. The author thinks that preservation of plastics is ____.
[A]. costly
[B]. unworthy
[C]. unpopular
[D]. challenging
5. In Ferreira's opinion, preservation of plastic artifacts ____.
[A]. will inspire future scientific research
[B]. has profound historical significance
[C]. will help us separate the material ages
[D]. has an impact on today's cultural life

As the latest crop of students pen their undergraduate application form and weigh up their options, it may be worth considering just how the point, purpose and value of a degree has changed and what Generation Z need to consider as they start the third stage of their educational journey.

Millennials were told that if you did well in school, got a decent degree, you would be set up for life. But that promise has been found wanting. As degrees became universal, they became devalued. Education was no longer a secure route of social mobility. Today, 28 percent of graduates in the UK are in non-graduate roles, a percentage which is double the average among OECD countries.

This is not to say that there is no point in getting a degree, but rather stress that a degree is not for everyone, that the switch from classroom to lecture hall is not an inevitable one and that other options are available.

Thankfully, there are signs that this is already happening, with Generation Z seeking to learn from their millennial predecessors, even if parents and teachers tend to be still set in the degree mindset. Employers have long seen the advantages of hiring school leavers who often prove themselves to be more committed and loyal employees than graduates. Many too are seeing the advantages of scrapping a degree requirement for certain roles.

For those for whom a degree is the desired route, consider that this may well be the first of many. In this age of generalists, it pays to have specific knowledge or skills. Postgraduates now earn 40 percent more than graduates. When more and more of us have a degree, it makes sense to have two.

It is unlikely that Generation Z will be done with education at 18 or 21: they will need to be constantly upskilling throughout their career to stay employable. It has been estimated that this generation, due to the pressures of technology, the wish for personal fulfillment and desire for diversity will work for 17 different employers over the course of their working life and have five different careers. Education, and not just knowledge gained on campus, will be a core part of Generation Z's career trajectory.

Older generations often talk about their degree in the present and personal tense: 'I am a geographer' or 'I am a classist'. Their sons or daughters would never say such a thing; it's as if they already know that their degree won't define them in the same way.

1. the author suggests that Generation Z should ____.
[A]. be careful in choosing a college
[B]. be diligent at each educational stage
[C]. reassess the necessity of college education
[D]. postpone their undergraduate application
2. The percentage of UK graduates in non-graduate roles reflect ____.
[A]. Millennial's opinions about work
[B]. the shrinking value of a degree
[C]. public discontent with education
[D]. the desired route of social mobility
3. The author considers it a good sign that ____.
[A]. Generation Z are seeking to earn a decent degree.
[B]. school leavers are willing to be skilled workers.
[C]. employers are taking a realistic attitude to degrees.
[D]. parents are changing their minds about education.
4. It is advised in Paragraph 5 that those with one degree should ____.
[A]. make an early decision on their career
[B]. attend on the job training programs
[C]. team up with high-paid postgraduates
[D]. further their studies in a specific field
5. What can be concluded about Generation Z from the last two paragraphs?
[A]. Lifelong learning will define them.
[B]. They will make qualified educators.
[C]. Degrees will no longer appeal them.
[D]. They will have a limited choice of jobs.

Enlightening, challenging, stimulating, fun. These were some of the words that Nature readers used to describe their experience of art-science collaborations in a series of articles on partnerships between artists and researchers. Nearly 40% of the roughly 350 people who responded to an accompanying poll said, they had collaborated with artists; and almost all said they would consider doing so in future.

Such an encouraging result is not surprising. Scientists are increasingly seeking out visual artists to help them to communicate their work to new audiences. “Artists help scientists reach a broader audience and make emotional connections that enhance learning.” One respondent said.

One example of how artists and scientists have together rocked the senses came last month when the Sydney Symphony Orchestra performed a reworked version of Antonio Vivaldi’s *The Four Seasons*. They reimagined the 300-year-old score by injecting the latest climate prediction data for each season — provided by Monash University’s Climate Change Communication Research Hub. The performance was a creative call to action ahead of November’s United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, UK.

But a genuine partnership must be a two-way street. Fewer artist than scientists responded to the Nature poll; however, several respondents noted that artists do not simply assist scientists with their communication requirements. Nor should their work be considered only as an object of study. The alliances are most valuable when scientists and artists have a shared stake in a project, are able to jointly design it and can critique each other’s work. Such an approach can both prompt new research as well as result in powerful art.

More than half a century ago, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology opened its Center for Advanced Visual Studies (CAVS) to explore the role of technology in culture. The founders deliberately focused their projects around light — hence the “visual studies” in the name. Light was a something that both artists and scientists had an interest in, and therefore could form the basis of collaboration. As science and technology progressed, and divided into more sub-disciplines, the centre was simultaneously looking to a time when leading researchers could also be artists, writers and poets, and vice versa.

Nature’s poll findings suggest that this trend is as strong as ever, but, to make a collaboration work, both sides need to invest time and embrace surprise and challenge. The reach of art-science tie-ups needs to go beyond the necessary purpose of research communication, and participants must not fall into the trap of stereotyping each other. Artists and scientists alike are immersed in discovery and invention, and challenge and critique are core to both, too.

1. According to paragraph 1, art-science collaborations have _____.
 - [A]. caught the attention of critics
 - [B]. received favorable responses
 - [C]. promoted academic publishing
 - [D]. sparked heated public disputes
2. The reworked version of *The Four Seasons* is mentioned to show that _____.
 - [A]. art can offer audiences easy access to science
 - [B]. science can help with the expression of emotions
 - [C]. public participation in science has a promising future
 - [D]. art is effective in facilitating scientific innovations
3. Some artists seem to worry about in the art-science partnership _____.
 - [A]. their role may be underestimated
 - [B]. their reputation may be impaired
 - [C]. their creativity may be inhibited
 - [D]. their work may be misguided
4. What does the author say about CAVS?
 - [A]. It was headed alternately by artists and scientists.
 - [B]. It exemplified valuable art-science alliances.
 - [C]. Its projects aimed at advancing visual studies.
 - [D]. Its founders sought to raise the status of artists.
5. In the last paragraph, the author holds that art-science collaborations _____.
 - [A]. are likely to go beyond public expectations
 - [B]. will intensify interdisciplinary competition
 - [C]. should do more than communicating science
 - [D]. are becoming more popular than before

The personal grievance provisions of New Zealand's Employment Relations Act 2000 (ERA) prevent an employer from firing an employee without good cause. Instead, dismissals must be justified. Employers must both show cause and act in a procedurally fair way.

Personal grievance procedures were designed to guard the jobs of ordinary workers from "unjustified dismissals". The premise was that the common law of contract lacked sufficient safeguards for workers against arbitrary conduct by management. Long gone are the days when a boss could simply give an employee contractual notice.

But these provisions create difficulties for businesses when applied to highly paid managers and executives. As countless boards and business owners will attest, constraining firms from firing poorly performing, high-earning managers is a handbrake on boosting productivity and overall performance. The difference between C-grade and A-grade managers may very well be the difference between business success or failure. Between preserving the jobs of ordinary workers or losing them. Yet mediocrity is no longer enough to justify a dismissal.

Consequently — and paradoxically — laws introduced to protect the jobs of ordinary workers may be placing those jobs at risk.

If not placing jobs at risk, to the extent employment protection laws constrain business owners from dismissing under-performing managers, those laws act as a constraint on firm productivity and therefore on workers' wages. Indeed, in "An International Perspective on New Zealand's Productivity Paradox" (2014), the Productivity Commission singled out the low quality of managerial capabilities as a cause of the country's poor productivity growth record.

Nor are highly paid managers themselves immune from the harm caused by the ERA's unjustified dismissal procedures. Because employment protection laws make it costlier to fire an employee, employers are more cautious about hiring new staff. This makes it harder for the marginal manager to gain employment. And firms pay staff less because firms carry the burden of the employment arrangement going wrong.

Across the Tasman, Australia deals with the unjustified dismissal paradox by excluding employees earning above a specified "high-income threshold" from the protection of its unfair dismissal laws. In New Zealand, a 2016 private members' Bill tried to permit firms and high-income employees to contract out of the unjustified dismissal regime. However, the mechanisms proposed were unwieldy and the Bill was voted down following the change in government later that year.

1. The personal grievance provisions of the ERA are intended to _____.
[A]. punish dubious corporate practices
[B]. improve traditional hiring procedures
[C]. exempt employers from certain duties
[D]. protect the rights of ordinary workers
2. It can be learned from Paragraph 3 that the provisions may _____.
[A]. hinder business development
[B]. undermine managers' authority
[C]. affect the public image of the firms
[D]. worsen labor-management relations
3. Which of the following measures would be the Productivity Commission support?
[A]. Imposing reasonable wage restraints
[B]. Enforcing employment protection laws.
[C]. Limiting the powers of business owners.
[D]. Dismissing poorly performing managers.
4. What might be an effect of ERA's unjustified dismissal procedures?
[A]. Highly paid managers lose their jobs.
[B]. Employees suffer from salary cuts.
[C]. Society sees a rise in overall well-being.
[D]. Employers need to hire new staff.
5. It can be inferred that the "high-income threshold" in Australia _____.
[A]. has secured managers' earnings
[B]. has produced undesired results
[C]. is beneficial to business owners
[D]. is difficult to put into practice

Caravanserais were roadside inns that were built along the Silk Road in areas including China, North Africa and the Middle East. They were typically 1 outside the walls of a city or village and were usually funded by governments of 2 .

This word “Caravanserais” is a 3 of the Persian word “karvan”, which means a group of travellers or a caravan, and seray, a palace or enclosed building. The Perm caravan was used to 4 groups of people who travelled together across the ancient network for safety reasons, 5 merchants, travellers or pilgrims.

From the 10th century onwards, as merchant and travel routes become more developed, the 6 of the Caravanserais increased and they served as a safe place for people to rest at night. Travellers on the Silk Road 7 possibility of being attacked by thieves or being 8 to extreme conditions. For this reason, Caravanserais were strategically placed 9 they could be reached in a day’s travel time.

Caravanserais served as an informal 10 point for the various people who travelled the Silk Road. 11 , those structures became important centers for culture 12 and interaction, with travelers sharing their cultures, ideas and beliefs, 13 talking knowledge with them, greatly 14 the development of several civilizations.

Caravanserais were also an important marketplace for commodities and 15 in the trade of goods along the Silk Road. 16 , it was frequently the first stop merchants looking to sell their wares and 17 supplies for their own journeys. It is 18 that around 120000 to 15000 caravanserais were built along the Silk Road, 19 only about 3000 are known to remain today, many of which are in 20 .

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | [A]. displayed | [B]. occupied | [C]. located | [D]. equipped |
| 2. | [A]. privately | [B]. regularly | [C]. respectively | [D]. permanently |
| 3. | [A]. definition | [B]. transition | [C]. substitution | [D]. combination |
| 4. | [A]. classify | [B]. record | [C]. describe | [D]. connect |
| 5. | [A]. apart from | [B]. instead of | [C]. such as | [D]. along with |
| 6. | [A]. construction | [B]. restoration | [C]. impression | [D]. evaluation |
| 7. | [A]. doubted | [B]. faced | [C]. accepted | [D]. reduced |
| 8. | [A]. assigned | [B]. subjected | [C]. accustomed | [D]. opposed |
| 9. | [A]. so that | [B]. even if | [C]. now that | [D]. in case |
| 10. | [A]. talking | [B]. starting | [C]. breaking | [D]. meeting |
| 11. | [A]. by the way | [B]. on occasion | [C]. in comparison | [D]. As a result |
| 12. | [A]. heritage | [B]. revival | [C]. exchange | [D]. status |
| 13. | [A]. with regard to | [B]. in spite of | [C]. as well as | [D]. in line with |
| 14. | [A]. completing | [B]. influencing | [C]. resuming | [D]. pioneering |
| 15. | [A]. aided | [B]. invested | [C]. failed | [D]. competed |
| 16. | [A]. Rather | [B]. Indeed | [C]. otherwise | [D]. However |
| 17. | [A]. go in for | [B]. standard up for | [C]. lose in on | [D]. stock up on |
| 18. | [A]. believed | [B]. predicted | [C]. recalled | [D]. implied |
| 19. | [A]. until | [B]. because | [C]. unless | [D]. although |
| 20. | [A]. ruins | [B]. debt | [C]. fashion | [D]. series |

The weather in Texas may have cooled since the recent extreme heat, but the temperature will be high at the State Board of Education meeting in Austin this month as officials debate how climate change is taught in Texas schools.

Pat Hardy, who sympathized with views of the energy sector, is resisting the proposed change to science standards for pre-teen pupils. These would emphasise the primacy of human activity in recent climate change and encourage discussion of mitigation measures.

Most scientists and experts sharply dispute Hardy's views. "They casually dismiss the career work of scholars and scientists as just another misguided opinion," says Dan Quinn, senior communications strategist at the Texas Freedom Network, a non-profit group that monitors public education, "What millions of Texas kids learn in their public schools is determined too often by the political ideology of partisan board members, rather than facts and sound scholarship."

Such debate reflects fierce discussion discussions across the US and around the world, as researchers, policymakers, teachers and students step up demands for a greater focus on teaching about the facts of climate change in schools.

A study last year by the National Center for Science Education, a non-profit group of scientists and teachers, looking at how state public schools across the country address climate change in science classes, gave barely half of US states a grade B+ or higher. Among the 10 worst performers were some of the most populous states, including Texas, which was given the lowest grade (F) and has a disproportionate influence because its textbooks are widely sold elsewhere.

Glenn Branch, the centre's deputy director, cautions that setting state-level science standards is only one limited benchmark in a country that decentralises decisions to local school boards. Even if a state is considered a high performer in its science standards, "that does not mean it will be taught", he says.

Another issue is that while climate change is well integrated into some subjects and at some ages — such as earth and space sciences in high schools — it is not as well represented in curricula for younger children and in subjects that are more widely taught, such as biology and chemistry. It is also less prominent in many social studies courses.

Branch points out that, even if a growing number of official guidelines and textbooks reflect scientific consensus on climate change, unofficial educational materials that convey more slanted perspectives are being distributed to teachers. They include materials sponsored by libertarian think-tanks and energy industry associations.

1. In Paragraph 1, the weather in Texas is mentioned to _____.
[A]. forecast a policy shift in Texas schools
[B]. stress the consequences of climate change
[C]. indicate the atmosphere at the board meeting
[D]. draw the public's attention to energy shortages
2. What does Quinn think of Hardy?
[A]. She exaggerates the existing panic.
[B]. She denies the value of scientific work.
[C]. She shows no concern for pre-teens.
[D]. She expresses self-contradictory views.
3. The study mentioned in Paragraph 5 shows that _____.
[A]. climate education is insufficient at state public schools
[B]. policymakers have little drive for science education
[C]. Texas is reluctant to rewrite its science textbooks
[D]. environmental teaching in some states lacks supervision
4. According to Branch, state-level science standards in the US _____.
[A]. call for regular revision
[B]. require urgent application
[C]. have limited influence
[D]. cater to local needs
5. It is implied in the last paragraph that climate change teaching in some schools _____.
[A]. agrees to major public demands
[B]. reflects teachers' personal biases
[C]. may misrepresent the energy sector
[D]. can be swayed by external forces

Communities throughout the region have been attempting to regulate short-term rentals since sites like Airbnb took off in the 2010s. Now, with record-high home prices and historically low inventory, there's an increased urgency in such regulation, particularly among those who worry that developers will come in and buy up swaths of housing to flip for a fortune on the short-term rental market.

In New Hampshire, where the rental vacancy rate has dropped below 1 percent, housing advocates fear unchecked short-term rentals will put further pressure on an already strained market. The state Legislature recently voted against a bill that would've made it illegal for towns to create legislation restricting short-term rentals.

"We are at a crisis level on the supply of rental housing, so anytime you're taking the tool out of the toolkit for communities to address this, you're potentially taking supply off the market that's already incredibly stressed," said Nick Taylor, executive director of the Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast. Without enough affordable housing in southern New Hampshire towns, "employers are having a hard time attracting employees, and workers are having a hard time finding a place to live," Taylor said.

However, short-term rentals also provide housing for tourists, a crucial part of the economies in places like Nantucket, Cape Cod, or the towns that make up New Hampshire's Seacoast and Lakes Region, pointed out Ryan Castle, CEO of the Cape Cod & Islands Association of Realtors. "A lot of workers are servicing the tourist industry, and the tourism industry is serviced by those people coming in short term," Castle said, "and so it's a cyclical effect."

Short-term rentals themselves are not the crux of the issue, said Keren Horn, an affordable housing policy expert at the University of Massachusetts Boston. "I think individuals being able to rent out their second home is a good thing. If it's their vacation home anyway, and it's just empty, why can't you make money off it?" Horn said. Issues arise, however, when developers attempt to create large-scale short-term rental facilities — de facto hotels — to bypass taxes and regulations. "I think the question is, shouldn't a developer who's really building a hotel, but disguising it as not a hotel, be treated and taxed and regulated like a hotel?" Horn said.

At the end of 2018, Governor Charlie Baker signed a bill to rein in those potential investor-buyers. "The bill requires every rental host to register with the state, mandates they carry insurance, and opens the potential for local taxes on top of a new state levy," the Globe reported. Boston took things even further, limiting who is authorized to rent out their home, and requiring renters to register with the city's Inspectional Services Department.

Horn said similar registration requirements could benefit other struggling cities and towns. The only way to solve the issue, however, is by creating more housing. "If we want to make a change in the housing market, the main one is we have to build a lot more."

1. Which of the following is true of New England?
 - [A]. Its housing supply is at a very low level.
 - [B]. Its communities are in need of funding.
 - [C]. Its rental vacancy rate is going up slowly.
 - [D]. Its home prices are under strict control.
2. The bill mentioned in Paragraph 2 was intended to ___.
 - [A]. curb short-term rental speculation
 - [B]. ensure the supply of cheap housing
 - [C]. punish illegal dealings in housing
 - [D]. allow a free short-term rental market
3. Compared with Castle, Taylor is more likely to support ___.
 - [A]. further investment in local tourism
 - [B]. an increase in affordable housing
 - [C]. strict management of real estate agents
 - [D]. a favorable policy for short-term workers
4. What does Horn emphasize in Paragraph 5?
 - [A]. The urgency to upgrade short-term rental facilities.
 - [B]. The efficient operation of the local housing market.
 - [C]. The necessity to stop developers from evading taxes.
 - [D]. The proper procedures for renting out spare houses.
5. Horn holds that imposing registration requirements is ___.
 - [A]. an irrational decision
 - [B]. an unfeasible proposal
 - [C]. an unnecessary measure
 - [D]. an inadequate solution

If you're heading for your nearest branch of Waterstones in search of the Duchess of Sussex's new children's book *The Bench*, you might have to be prepared to hunt around a bit; the same may be true of *The President's Daughter*, the new thriller by Bill Clinton and James Patterson. Both of these books are published next week by Penguin Random House, a company currently involved in a stand-off with Waterstones.

The problem began late last year, when Penguin Random House confirmed that it had introduced a credit limit with Waterstones "at a very significant level". The trade magazine *The Bookseller* reported that Waterstones branch managers were being told to remove PRH books from prominent areas such as tables, display spaces and windows, and were "quietly retiring them to their relevant sections".

PRH declined to comment on the issue, but a spokesperson for Waterstones told me: "Waterstones are currently operating with reduced credit terms from PRH, the only publisher in the UK to place any limitations on our ability to trade. We are not boycotting PRH titles but we are doing our utmost to ensure that availability for customers remains good despite the lower overall levels of stock. We do this generally by giving their titles less prominent positioning within our bookshops. We are hopeful with our shops now open again that normality will return and that we will be allowed to buy appropriately. Certainly, our shops are exceptionally busy and book sales are very strong. The sales for our May Books of the Month surpassed any month since 2018."

In the meantime, PRH authors have been the losers - as have customers, who might expect the new titles from the country's biggest publisher to be prominently displayed by its biggest book retailer. Big-name PRH authors may suffer a bit, but it's those mid-list authors, who normally rely on Waterstones staff's passion for promoting books by lesser-known writers, who will be praying for an end to the dispute.

It comes at a time when authors are already worried about the consequences of the proposed merger between PRH and another big publisher, Simon & Schuster - the reduction in the number of unaligned UK publishers is likely to lead to fewer bidding wars, lower advances, and more conformity in terms of what is published. And one wonders if PRH would have been confident enough to deal with Waterstones in the way it has if it weren't quite such a big company (it was formed with the merger of Penguin and Random House in 2013) and likely to get bigger.

"This is all part of a wider change towards concentration of power and cartels. Literary agencies are getting bigger to have the clout to negotiate better terms with publishers, publishers consolidating to deal with Amazon," says Lownie. "The publishing industry talks about diversity in terms of authors and staff but it also needs a plurality of ways of delivering intellectual contact, choice and different voices. After all, many of the most interesting books in recent years have come from small publishers."

We shall see whether that plurality is a casualty of the current need among publishers to be big enough to take on all-comers.

1. The author mentions two books in Paragraph ;1 to present ____.
[A]. an ongoing conflict
[B]. an intellectual concept
[C]. a prevailing sentiment
[D]. a literary phenomenon
2. Why did Waterstones shops retire PRH books to their relevant sections?
[A]. To make them easily noticeable.
[B]. To comply with PRH's requirement.
[C]. To respond to PRH's business move.
[D]. To arrange them in a systematic way.
3. What message does the spokesperson for Waterstones seem to convey?
[A]. Their customers remain loyal.
[B]. The credit limit will be removed.
[C]. Their stock is underestimated.
[D]. The book market is rather slack.
4. What can be one consequence of the current dispute?
[A]. Sales of books by mid-list PRH writers fall off considerably.
[B]. Lesser-known PRH writers become the target of criticism.
[C]. Waterstones staff hesitate to promote big-name authors' books.
[D]. Waterstones branches suffer a severe reduction in revenue.
5. Which of the following statements best represents Lownie's view?
[A]. Small publishers ought to stick together.
[B]. Big publishers will lose their dominance.
[C]. The publishing industry is having a hard time.
[D]. The merger of publishers is a worrying trend.

Scientific papers are the recordkeepers of progress in research. Each year researchers publish millions of papers in more than 30,000 journals. The scientific community measures the quality of those papers in a number of ways, including the perceived quality of the journal (as reflected by the title's impact factor) and the number of citations a specific paper accumulates. The careers of scientists and the reputation of their institutions depend on the number and prestige of the papers they produce, but even more so on the citations attracted by these papers.

In recent years, there have been several episodes of scientific fraud, including completely made-up data, massaged or doctored figures, multiple publications of the same data, theft of complete articles, plagiarism of text, and self-plagiarism. And some scientists have come up with another way to artificially boost the number of citations to their work.

Citation cartels, where journals, authors, and institutions conspire to inflate citation numbers, have existed for a long time. In 2016, researchers developed an algorithm to recognize suspicious citation patterns, including groups of authors that disproportionately cite one another and groups of journals that cite each other frequently to increase the impact factors of their publications. Recently, I came across yet another expression of this predatory behavior: so-called support service consultancies that provide language and other editorial support to individual authors and to journals sometimes advise contributors to add a number of citations to their articles and the articles of colleagues. Some of these consultancies are also active in organizing conferences and can advise that citations be added to conference proceedings. In this manner, a single editor can drive hundreds of citations in the direction of his own articles or those of colleagues that may be in his circle.

How insidious is this type of citation manipulation? In one example, an individual—acting as author, editor, and consultant—was able to use at least 15 journals as citation providers to articles published by five scientists at three universities. The problem is rampant in Scopus, which includes a high number of the new “international” journals. In fact, a listing in Scopus seems to be a criterion to be targeted in this type of citation manipulation.

1. According to Paragraph 1, the careers of scientists can be determined by _____.
 - [A]. how many citations their works contain
 - [B]. how many times their papers are cited
 - [C]. the prestige of the people they work with
 - [D]. the status they have in scientific circles
2. The support service consultancies tend to _____.
 - [A]. recommend journals to their clients
 - [B]. list citation patterns their clients
 - [C]. ask authors to include extra citations
 - [D]. advise contributors to cite each other
3. The function of the “milk cow” journals is to _____.
 - [A]. boost citation counts for certain authors
 - [B]. help scholars publish articles at low cost
 - [C]. instruct first-time contributors in citation
 - [D]. increase the readership of new journals
4. What can be learned about Scopus from the last two paragraphs?
 - [A]. It fosters competition among citation providers.
 - [B]. It has the capability to identify suspicious citations.
 - [C]. It hinders the growth of “international” journals.
 - [D]. It is established to prevent citation manipulation.
5. What should an author do to deal with citation manipulators?
 - [A]. Take legal action.
 - [B]. Demand an apology.
 - [C]. Seek professional advice.
 - [D]. Reveal their misconduct.

The outbreak of swine flu that was first detected in Mexico was declared a global epidemic on June 11, 2009. It is the first worldwide epidemic 1 by the World Health Organization in 41 years.

The heightened alert 2 an emergency meeting with flu experts in Geneva that assembled after a sharp rise in cases in Australia, and rising 3 in Britain, Japan, Chile and elsewhere.

But the epidemic is “ 4 ” in severity, according to Margaret Chan, the organization’s director general, 5 the overwhelming majority of patients experiencing only mild symptoms and a full recovery, often in the 6 of any medical treatment.

The outbreak came to global 7 in late April 2009, when Mexican authorities noted an unusually large number of hospitalizations and deaths 8 healthy adults. As much of Mexico City shut down at the height of a panic, cases began to 9 in New York City, the southwestern United States and around the world.

In the United States, new cases seemed to fade 10 warmer weather arrived. But in late September 2009, officials reported there was 11 flu activity in almost every state and that virtually all the 12 tested are the new swine flu, also known as (A) H1N1, not seasonal flu. In the U.S., it has 13 more than one million people, and caused more than 600 deaths and more than 6,000 hospitalizations.

Federal health officials 14 Tamiflu for children from the national stockpile and began 15 orders from the states for the new swine flu vaccine. The new vaccine, which is different from the annual flu vaccine, is 16 ahead of expectations. More than three million doses were to be made available in early October 2009, though most of those 17 doses were of the FluMist nasal spray type, which is not 18 for pregnant women, people over 50 or those with breathing difficulties, heart disease or several other 19 . But it was still possible to vaccinate people in other high-risk groups: health care workers, people 20 infants and healthy young people.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. | [A]. criticized | [B]. appointed | [C]. commented | [D]. designated |
| 2. | [A]. proceeded | [B]. activated | [C]. followed | [D]. prompted |
| 3. | [A]. digits | [B]. numbers | [C]. amounts | [D]. sums |
| 4. | [A]. moderate | [B]. normal | [C]. unusual | [D]. extreme |
| 5. | [A]. with | [B]. in | [C]. from | [D]. by |
| 6. | [A]. progress | [B]. absence | [C]. presence | [D]. favor |
| 7. | [A]. reality | [B]. phenomenon | [C]. concept | [D]. notice |
| 8. | [A]. over | [B]. for | [C]. among | [D]. to |
| 9. | [A]. stay up | [B]. crop up | [C]. fill up | [D]. cover up |
| 10. | [A]. as | [B]. if | [C]. unless | [D]. until |
| 11. | [A]. excessive | [B]. enormous | [C]. significant | [D]. magnificent |
| 12. | [A]. categories | [B]. examples | [C]. patterns | [D]. samples |
| 13. | [A]. imparted | [B]. immersed | [C]. injected | [D]. infected |
| 14. | [A]. released | [B]. relayed | [C]. relieved | [D]. remained |
| 15. | [A]. placing | [B]. delivering | [C]. taking | [D]. giving |
| 16. | [A]. feasible | [B]. available | [C]. reliable | [D]. applicable |
| 17. | [A]. prevalent | [B]. principal | [C]. innovative | [D]. initial |
| 18. | [A]. presented | [B]. restricted | [C]. recommended | [D]. introduced |
| 19. | [A]. problems | [B]. issues | [C]. agonies | [D]. sufferings |
| 20. | [A]. involved in | [B]. caring for | [C]. concerned with | [D]. warding off |

The longest bull run in a century of art-market history ended on a dramatic note with a sale of 56 works by Damien Hirst, *Beautiful Inside My Head Forever*, at Sotheby's in London on September 15th 2008. All but two pieces sold, fetching more than £70m, a record for a sale by a single artist. It was a last victory. As the auctioneer called out bids, in New York one of the oldest banks on Wall Street, Lehman Brothers, filed for bankruptcy.

The world art market had already been losing momentum for a while after rising bewilderingly since 2003. At its peak in 2007 it was worth some \$65 billion, reckons Clare McAndrew, founder of Arts Economics, a research firm – double the figure five years earlier. Since then it may have come down to \$50 billion. But the market generates interest far beyond its size because it brings together great wealth, enormous egos, greed, passion and controversy in a way matched by few other industries.

In the weeks and months that followed Mr. Hirst's sale, spending of any sort became deeply unfashionable. In the art world that meant collectors stayed away from galleries and salerooms. Sales of contemporary art fell by two-thirds, and in the most overheated sector, they were down by nearly 90% in the year to November 2008. Within weeks the world's two biggest auction houses, Sotheby's and Christie's, had to pay out nearly \$200m in guarantees to clients who had placed works for sale with them.

The current downturn in the art market is the worst since the Japanese stopped buying Impressionists at the end of 1989. This time experts reckon that prices are about 40

What makes this slump different from the last, he says, is that there are still buyers in the market. Almost everyone who was interviewed for this special report said that the biggest problem at the moment is not a lack of demand but a lack of good work to sell. The three Ds – death, debt and divorce – still deliver works of art to the market. But anyone who does not have to sell is keeping away, waiting for confidence to return.

- In the first paragraph, Damien Hirst's sale was referred to as "a last victory" because _____.
 - the art market had witnessed a succession of victories
 - the auctioneer finally got the two pieces at the highest bids
 - Beautiful Inside My Head Forever* won over all masterpieces
 - it was successfully made just before the world financial crisis
- By saying "spending of any sort became deeply unfashionable" (Line 1-2, Para. 3), the author suggests that _____.
 - collectors were no longer actively involved in art-market auctions
 - people stopped every kind of spending and stayed away from galleries
 - art collection as a fashion had lost its appeal to a great extent
 - works of art in general had gone out of fashion so they were not worth buying
- Which of the following statements is NOT true?
 - Sales of contemporary art fell dramatically from 2007 to 2008.
 - The art market surpassed many other industries in momentum.
 - The art market generally went downward in various ways.
 - Some art dealers were awaiting better chances to come.
- The three Ds mentioned in the last paragraph are _____.
 - auction houses' favorites
 - contemporary trends
 - factors promoting artwork circulation
 - styles representing Impressionists
- The most appropriate title for this text could be _____.
 - Fluctuation of Art Prices
 - Up-to-date Art Auctions
 - Art Market in Decline
 - Shifted Interest in Arts

I was addressing a small gathering in a suburban Virginia living room – a women’s group that had invited men to join them. Throughout the evening, one man had been particularly talkative, frequently offering ideas and anecdotes, while his wife sat silently beside him on the couch. Toward the end of the evening, I commented that women frequently complain that their husbands don’t talk to them. This man quickly nodded in agreement. He gestured toward his wife and said, “She’s the talker in our family.” The room burst into laughter; the man looked puzzled and hurt. “It’s true,” he explained. “When I come home from work I have nothing to say. If she didn’t keep the conversation going, we’d spend the whole evening in silence.”

This episode crystallizes the irony that although American men tend to talk more than women in public situations, they often talk less at home. And this pattern is wreaking havoc with marriage.

The pattern was observed by political scientist Andrew Hacker in the late 1970s. Sociologist Catherine Kohler Riessman reports in her new book *Divorce Talk* that most of the women she interviewed – but only a few of the men – gave lack of communication as the reason for their divorces. Given the current divorce rate of nearly 50 percent, that amounts to millions of cases in the United States every year – a virtual epidemic of failed conversation.

In my own research, complaints from women about their husbands most often focused not on tangible inequities such as having given up the chance for a career to accompany a husband to his, or doing far more than their share of daily life-support work like cleaning, cooking and social arrangements. Instead, they focused on communication: “He doesn’t listen to me.” “He doesn’t talk to me.” I found, as Hacker observed years before, that most wives want their husbands to be, first and foremost, conversational partners, but few husbands share this expectation of their wives.

In short, the image that best represents the current crisis is the stereotypical cartoon scene of a man sitting at the breakfast table with a newspaper held up in front of his face, while a woman glares at the back of it, wanting to talk.

1. What is most wives’ main expectation of their husbands?
 - [A]. Talking to them.
 - [B]. Trusting them.
 - [C]. Supporting their careers.
 - [D]. Sharing housework.
2. Judging from the context, the phrase “wreaking havoc” (Line 3, Para. 2) most probably means _____.
 - [A]. generating motivation
 - [B]. exerting influence
 - [C]. causing damage
 - [D]. creating pressure
3. All of the following are true EXCEPT _____.
 - [A]. men tend to talk more in public than women
 - [B]. nearly 50 percent of recent divorces are caused by failed conversation
 - [C]. women attach much importance to communication between couples
 - [D]. a female tends to be more talkative at home than her spouse
4. Which of the following can best summarize the main idea of this text?
 - [A]. The moral decaying deserves more research by sociologists.
 - [B]. Marriage break-up stems from sex inequalities.
 - [C]. Husband and wife have different expectations from their marriage.
 - [D]. Conversational patterns between man and wife are different.
5. In the following part immediately after this text, the author will most probably focus on _____.
 - [A]. a vivid account of the new book *Divorce Talk*
 - [B]. a detailed description of the stereotypical cartoon
 - [C]. other possible reasons for a high divorce rate in the U.S.
 - [D]. a brief introduction to the political scientist Andrew Hacker

Over the past decade, many companies had perfected the art of creating automatic behaviors – habits – among consumers. These habits have helped companies earn billions of dollars when customers eat snacks or wipe counters almost without thinking, often in response to a carefully designed set of daily cues.

“There are fundamental public health problems, like dirty hands instead of a soap habit, that remain killers only because we can’t figure out how to change people’s habits,” said Dr. Curtis, the director of the Hygiene Center at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. “We wanted to learn from private industry how to create new behaviors that happen automatically.”

The companies that Dr. Curtis turned to – Procter & Gamble, Colgate- Palmolive and Unilever – had invested hundreds of millions of dollars finding the subtle cues in consumers’ lives that corporations could use to introduce new routines.

If you look hard enough, you’ll find that many of the products we use every day – chewing gums, skin moisturizers, disinfecting wipes, air fresheners, water purifiers, health snacks, teeth whiteners, fabric softeners, vitamins – are results of manufactured habits. A century ago, few people regularly brushed their teeth multiple times a day. Today, because of shrewd advertising and public health campaigns, many Americans habitually give their pearly whites a cavity-preventing scrub twice a day, often with Colgate, Crest or one of the other brands.

A few decades ago, many people didn’t drink water outside of a meal. Then beverage companies started bottling the production of far-off springs, and now office workers unthinkingly sip bottled water all day long. Chewing gum, once bought primarily by adolescent boys, is now featured in commercials as a breath freshener and teeth cleanser for use after a meal. Skin moisturizers are advertised as part of morning beauty rituals, slipped in between hair brushing and putting on makeup.

“Our products succeed when they become part of daily or weekly patterns,” said Carol Berning, a consumer psychologist who recently retired from Procter & Gamble, the company that sold \$76 billion of Tide, Crest and other products last year. “Creating positive habits is a huge part of improving our consumers’ lives, and it’s essential to making new products commercially viable.”

Through experiments and observation, social scientists like Dr. Berning have learned that there is power in tying certain behaviors to habitual cues through ruthless advertising. As this new science of habit has emerged, controversies have erupted when the tactics have been used to sell questionable beauty creams or unhealthy foods.

1. According to Dr. Curtis, habits like hand washing with soap _____.
[A]. should be further cultivated
[B]. should be changed gradually
[C]. are deeply rooted in history
[D]. are basically private concerns
2. Bottled water, chewing gum and skin moisturizers are mentioned in Paragraph 5 so as to _____.
[A]. reveal their impact on people’s habits
[B]. show the urgent need of daily necessities
[C]. indicate their effect on people’s buying power
[D]. manifest the significant role of good habits
3. Which of the following does NOT belong to products that help create people’s habits?
[A]. Tide.
[B]. Crest.
[C]. Colgate.
[D]. Unilever.
4. From the text we know that some of consumers’ habits are developed due to _____.
[A]. perfected art of products
[B]. automatic behavior creation
[C]. commercial promotions
[D]. scientific experiments
5. The author’s attitude toward the influence of advertisement on people’s habits is _____.
[A]. indifferent
[B]. negative
[C]. positive
[D]. biased

Many Americans regard the jury system as a concrete expression of crucial democratic values, including the principles that all citizens who meet minimal qualifications of age and literacy are equally competent to serve on juries; that jurors should be selected randomly from a representative cross section of the community; that no citizen should be denied the right to serve on a jury on account of race, religion, sex, or national origin; that defendants are entitled to trial by their peers; and that verdicts should represent the conscience of the community and not just the letter of the law. The jury is also said to be the best surviving example of direct rather than representative democracy. In a direct democracy, citizens take turns governing themselves, rather than electing representatives to govern for them.

But as recently as in 1968, jury selection procedures conflicted with these democratic ideals. In some states, for example, jury duty was limited to persons of supposedly superior intelligence, education, and moral character. Although the Supreme Court of the United States had prohibited intentional racial discrimination in jury selection as early as the 1880 case of *Strauder v. West Virginia*, the practice of selecting so-called elite or blue-ribbon juries provided a convenient way around this and other antidiscrimination laws.

The system also failed to regularly include women on juries until the mid-20th century. Although women first served on state juries in Utah in 1898, it was not until the 1940s that a majority of states made women eligible for jury duty. Even then several states automatically exempted women from jury duty unless they personally asked to have their names included on the jury list. This practice was justified by the claim that women were needed at home, and it kept juries unrepresentative of women through the 1960s.

In 1968, the Congress of the United States passed the Jury Selection and Service Act, ushering in a new era of democratic reforms for the jury. This law abolished special educational requirements for federal jurors and required them to be selected at random from a cross section of the entire community. In the landmark 1975 decision *Taylor v. Louisiana*, the Supreme Court extended the requirement that juries be representative of all parts of the community to the state level. The *Taylor* decision also declared sex discrimination in jury selection to be unconstitutional and ordered states to use the same procedures for selecting male and female jurors.

1. From the principles of the US jury system, we learn that ____.
 - [A]. both literate and illiterate people can serve on juries
 - [B]. defendants are immune from trial by their peers
 - [C]. no age limit should be imposed for jury service
 - [D]. judgment should consider the opinion of the public
2. The practice of selecting so-called elite jurors prior to 1968 showed ____.
 - [A]. the inadequacy of antidiscrimination laws
 - [B]. the prevalent discrimination against certain races
 - [C]. the conflicting ideals in jury selection procedures
 - [D]. the arrogance common among the Supreme Court judges
3. Even in the 1960s, women were seldom on the jury list in some states because.
 - [A]. they were automatically banned by state laws
 - [B]. they fell far short of the required qualifications
 - [C]. they were supposed to perform domestic duties
 - [D]. they tended to evade public engagement
4. After the Jury Selection and Service Act was passed, ____.
 - [A]. sex discrimination in jury selection was unconstitutional and had to be abolished
 - [B]. educational requirements became less rigid in the selection of federal jurors
 - [C]. jurors at the state level ought to be representative of the entire community
 - [D]. states ought to conform to the federal court in reforming the jury system
5. In discussing the US jury system, the text centers on ____.
 - [A]. its nature and problems
 - [B]. its characteristics and tradition
 - [C]. its problems and their solutions
 - [D]. its tradition and development

The Internet affords anonymity to its users, a blessing to privacy and freedom of speech. But that very anonymity is also behind the explosion of cyber-crime that has 1 across the Web.

Can privacy be preserved 2 bringing safety and security to a world that seems increasingly 3 ?

Last month, Howard Schmidt, the nation’s cyber-czar, offered the federal government a 4 to make the Web a safer place – a “voluntary trusted identity” system that would be the high-tech 5 of a physical key, a fingerprint and a photo ID card, all rolled 6 one. The system might use a smart identity card, or a digital credential 7 to a specific computer, and would authenticate users at a range of online services.

The idea is to 8 a federation of private online identity systems. Users could 9 which system to join, and only registered users whose identities have been authenticated could navigate those systems. The approach contrasts with one that would require an Internet driver’s license 10 by the government.

Google and Microsoft are among companies that already have these “single sign-on” systems that make it possible for users to 11 just once but use many different services.

12 , the approach would create a “walled garden” in cyberspace, with safe “neighborhoods” and bright “streetlights” to establish a sense of a 13 community.

Mr. Schmidt described it as a “voluntary ecosystem” in which “individuals and organizations can complete online transactions with 14 , trusting the identities of each other and the identities of the infrastructure 15 which the transaction runs.”

Still, the administration’s plan has 16 privacy rights activists. Some applaud the approach; others are concerned. It seems clear that such a scheme is an initiative push toward what would 17 be a compulsory Internet “driver’s license” mentality.

The plan has also been greeted with 18 by some computer security experts, who worry that the “voluntary ecosystem” envisioned by Mr. Schmidt would still leave much of the Internet 19 . They argue that all Internet users should be 20 to register and identify themselves, in the same way that drivers must be licensed to drive on public roads.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. [A]. swept | [B]. skipped | [C]. walked | [D]. ridden |
| 2. [A]. for | [B]. within | [C]. while | [D]. though |
| 3. [A]. careless | [B]. lawless | [C]. pointless | [D]. helpless |
| 4. [A]. reason | [B]. reminder | [C]. compromise | [D]. proposal |
| 5. [A]. information | [B]. interference | [C]. entertainment | [D]. equivalent |
| 6. [A]. by | [B]. into | [C]. from | [D]. over |
| 7. [A]. linked | [B]. directed | [C]. chained | [D]. compared |
| 8. [A]. dismiss | [B]. discover | [C]. create | [D]. improve |
| 9. [A]. recall | [B]. suggest | [C]. select | [D]. realize |
| 10. [A]. released | [B]. issued | [C]. distributed | [D]. delivered |
| 11. [A]. carry on | [B]. linger on | [C]. set in | [D]. log in |
| 12. [A]. In vain | [B]. In effect | [C]. In return | [D]. In contrast |
| 13. [A]. trusted | [B]. modernized | [C]. thriving | [D]. competing |
| 14. [A]. caution | [B]. delight | [C]. confidence | [D]. patience |
| 15. [A]. on | [B]. after | [C]. beyond | [D]. across |
| 16. [A]. divided | [B]. disappointed | [C]. protected | [D]. united |
| 17. [A]. frequently | [B]. incidentally | [C]. occasionally | [D]. eventually |
| 18. [A]. skepticism | [B]. tolerance | [C]. indifference | [D]. enthusiasm |
| 19. [A]. manageable | [B]. defendable | [C]. vulnerable | [D]. invisible |
| 20. [A]. invited | [B]. appointed | [C]. allowed | [D]. forced |

Ruth Simmons joined Goldman Sachs's board as an outside director in January 2000; a year later she became president of Brown University. For the rest of the decade she apparently managed both roles without attracting much criticism. But by the end of 2009 Ms. Simmons was under fire for having sat on Goldman's compensation committee; how could she have let those enormous bonus payouts pass unremarked? By February the next year Ms. Simmons had left the board. The position was just taking up too much time, she said.

Outside directors are supposed to serve as helpful, yet less biased, advisers on a firm's board. Having made their wealth and their reputations elsewhere, they presumably have enough independence to disagree with the chief executive's proposals. If the sky, and the share price is falling, outside directors should be able to give advice based on having weathered their own crises.

The researchers from Ohio University used a database that covered more than 10,000 firms and more than 64,000 different directors between 1989 and 2004. Then they simply checked which directors stayed from one proxy statement to the next. The most likely reason for departing a board was age, so the researchers concentrated on those "surprise" disappearances by directors under the age of 70. They found that after a surprise departure, the probability that the company will subsequently have to restate earnings increases by nearly 20

But the researchers believe that outside directors have an easier time of avoiding a blow to their reputations if they leave a firm before bad news breaks, even if a review of history shows they were on the board at the time any wrongdoing occurred. Firms who want to keep their outside directors through tough times may have to create incentives. Otherwise outside directors will follow the example of Ms. Simmons, once again very popular on campus.

1. According to Paragraph 1, Ms. Simmons was criticized for ____.
[A]. gaining excessive profits
[B]. failing to fulfill her duty
[C]. refusing to make compromises
[D]. leaving the board in tough times
2. We learn from Paragraph 2 that outside directors are supposed to be ____.
[A]. generous investors
[B]. unbiased executives
[C]. share price forecasters
[D]. independent advisers
3. According to the researchers from Ohio University, after an outside director's surprise departure, the firm is likely to ____.
[A]. become more stable
[B]. report increased earnings
[C]. do less well in the stock market
[D]. perform worse in lawsuits
4. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that outside directors ____.
[A]. may stay for the attractive offers from the firm
[B]. have often had records of wrongdoings in the firm
[C]. are accustomed to stress-free work in the firm
[D]. will decline incentives from the firm
5. The author's attitude toward the role of outside directors is ____.
[A]. permissive
[B]. positive
[C]. scornful
[D]. critical

Whatever happened to the death of newspapers? A year ago the end seemed near. The recession threatened to remove the advertising and readers that had not already fled to the internet. Newspapers like the San Francisco Chronicle were chronicling their own doom. America's Federal Trade Commission launched a round of talks about how to save newspapers. Should they become charitable corporations? Should the state subsidize them? It will hold another meeting soon. But the discussions now seem out of date.

In much of the world there is little sign of crisis. German and Brazilian papers have shrugged off the recession. Even American newspapers, which inhabit the most troubled corner of the global industry, have not only survived but often returned to profit. Not the 20

It has not been much fun. Many papers stayed afloat by pushing journalists overboard. The American Society of News Editors reckons that 13,500 newsroom jobs have gone since 2007. Readers are paying more for slimmer products. Some papers even had the nerve to refuse delivery to distant suburbs. Yet these desperate measures have proved the right ones and, sadly for many journalists, they can be pushed further.

Newspapers are becoming more balanced businesses, with a healthier mix of revenues from readers and advertisers. American papers have long been highly unusual in their reliance on ads. Fully

87

The whirlwind that swept through newsrooms harmed everybody, but much of the damage has been concentrated in areas where newspapers are least distinctive. Car and film reviewers have gone. So have science and general business reporters. Foreign bureaus have been savagely cut off. Newspapers are less complete as a result. But completeness is no longer a virtue in the newspaper business.

- By saying "Newspapers like ___... their own doom" (Lines3-4, Para.1), the author indicates that newspapers _____.
 - neglected the sign of crisis
 - failed to get state subsidies
 - were not charitable corporations
 - were in a desperate situation
- Some newspapers refused delivery to distant suburbs probably because _____.
 - readers threatened to pay less
 - newspapers wanted to reduce costs
 - journalists reported little about these areas
 - subscribers complained about slimmer products
- Compared with their American counterparts, Japanese newspapers are much more stable because they _____.
 - have more sources of revenue
 - have more balanced newsrooms
 - are less dependent on advertising
 - are less affected by readership
- What can be inferred from the last paragraph about the current newspaper business?
 - Distinctiveness is an essential feature of newspapers.
 - Completeness is to blame for the failure of newspaper.
 - Foreign bureaus play a crucial role in the newspaper business.
 - Readers have lost their interest in car and film reviews.
- The most appropriate title for this text would be _____.
 - American Newspapers: Struggling for Survival
 - American Newspapers: Gone with the Wind
 - American Newspapers: A Thriving Business
 - American Newspapers: A Hopeless Story

We tend to think of the decades immediately following World War II as a time of prosperity and growth, with soldiers returning home by the millions, going off to college on the G. I. Bill and lining up at the marriage bureaus.

But when it came to their houses, it was a time of common sense and a belief that less could truly be more. During the Depression and the war, Americans had learned to live with less, and that restraint, in combination with the postwar confidence in the future, made small, efficient housing positively stylish.

Economic condition was only a stimulus for the trend toward efficient living. The phrase “less is more” was actually first popularized by a German, the architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, who like other people associated with the Bauhaus, a school of design, emigrated to the United States before World War II and took up posts at American architecture schools. These designers came to exert enormous influence on the course of American architecture, but none more so than Mies.

Mies’s signature phrase means that less decoration, properly organized, has more impact than a lot. Elegance, he believed, did not derive from abundance. Like other modern architects, he employed metal, glass and laminated wood – materials that we take for granted today but that in the 1940s symbolized the future. Mies’s sophisticated presentation masked the fact that the spaces he designed were small and efficient, rather than big and often empty.

The apartments in the elegant towers Mies built on Chicago’s Lake Shore Drive, for example, were smaller – two-bedroom units under 1,000 square feet – than those in their older neighbors along the city’s Gold Coast. But they were popular because of their airy glass walls, the views they afforded and the elegance of the buildings’ details and proportions, the architectural equivalent of the abstract art so popular at the time.

The trend toward “less” was not entirely foreign. In the 1930s Frank Lloyd Wright started building more modest and efficient houses – usually around 1,200 square feet – than the spreading two-story ones he had designed in the 1890s and the early 20th century.

The “Case Study Houses” commissioned from talented modern architects by California Arts & Architecture magazine between 1945 and 1962 were yet another homegrown influence on the “less is more” trend. Aesthetic effect came from the landscape, new materials and forthright detailing. In his Case Study House, Ralph Rapson may have mispredicted just how the mechanical revolution would impact everyday life – few American families acquired helicopters, though most eventually got clothes dryers – but his belief that self-sufficiency was both desirable and inevitable was widely shared.

1. The postwar American housing style largely reflected the Americans’ ____.
[A]. prosperity and growth
[B]. efficiency and practicality
[C]. restraint and confidence
[D]. pride and faithfulness
2. Which of the following can be inferred from Paragraph 3 about the Bauhaus?
[A]. It was founded by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe.
[B]. Its designing concept was affected by World War II.
[C]. Most American architects used to be associated with it.
[D]. It had a great influence upon American architecture.
3. Mies held that elegance of architectural design ____.
[A]. was related to large space
[B]. was identified with emptiness
[C]. was not reliant on abundant decoration
[D]. was not associated with efficiency
4. What is true about the apartments Mies built on Chicago’s Lake Shore Drive?
[A]. They ignored details and proportions.
[B]. They were built with materials popular at that time.
[C]. They were more spacious than neighboring buildings.
[D]. They shared some characteristics of abstract art.
5. What can we learn about the design of the “Case Study Houses”?
[A]. Mechanical devices were widely used.
[B]. Natural scenes were taken into consideration.
[C]. Details were sacrificed for the overall effect.
[D]. Eco-friendly materials were employed.

Will the European Union make it? The question would have sounded strange not long ago. Now even the project's greatest cheerleaders talk of a continent facing a "Bermuda triangle" of debt, population decline and lower growth.

As well as those chronic problems, the EU faces an acute crisis in its economic core, the 16 countries that use the single currency. Markets have lost faith that the euro zone's economies, weaker or stronger, will one day converge thanks to the discipline of sharing a single currency, which denies uncompetitive members the quick fix of devaluation.

Yet the debate about how to save Europe's single currency from disintegration is stuck. It is stuck because the euro zone's dominant powers, France and Germany, agree on the need for greater harmonisation within the euro zone, but disagree about what to harmonise.

Germany thinks the euro must be saved by stricter rules on borrowing, spending and competitive-ness, backed by quasi-automatic sanctions for governments that do not obey. These might include threats to freeze EU funds for poorer regions and EU mega-projects, and even the suspension of a country's voting rights in EU ministerial councils. It insists that economic co-ordination should involve all 27 members of the EU club, among whom there is a small majority for free-market liberalism and economic rigour; in the inner core alone, Germany fears, a small majority favour French interference.

A "southern" camp headed by France wants something different: "European economic government" within an inner core of euro-zone members. Translated, that means politicians intervening in monetary policy and a system of redistribution from richer to poorer members, via cheaper borrowing for governments through common Eurobonds or complete fiscal transfers. Finally, figures close to the French government have murmured, euro-zone members should agree to some fiscal and social harmonisation: e.g., curbing competition in corporate-tax rates or labour costs.

It is too soon to write off the EU. It remains the world's largest trading block. At its best, the European project is remarkably liberal: built around a single market of 27 rich and poor countries, its internal borders are far more open to goods, capital and labour than any comparable trading area. It is an ambitious attempt to blunt the sharpest edges of globalisation, and make capitalism benign.

1. The EU is faced with so many problems that ____.
[A]. it has more or less lost faith in markets
[B]. even its supporters begin to feel concerned
[C]. some of its member countries plan to abandon euro
[D]. it intends to deny the possibility of devaluation
2. The debate over the EU's single currency is stuck because the dominant powers ____.
[A]. are competing for the leading position
[B]. are busy handling their own crises
[C]. fail to reach an agreement on harmonisation
[D]. disagree on the steps towards disintegration
3. To solve the euro problem, Germany proposed that ____.
[A]. EU funds for poor regions be increased
[B]. stricter regulations be imposed
[C]. only core members be involved in economic co-ordination
[D]. voting rights of the EU members be guaranteed
4. The French proposal of handling the crisis implies that ____.
[A]. poor countries are more likely to get funds
[B]. strict monetary policy will be applied to poor countries
[C]. loans will be readily available to rich countries
[D]. rich countries will basically control Eurobonds
5. Regarding the future of the EU, the author seems to feel ____.
[A]. pessimistic
[B]. desperate
[C]. conceited
[D]. hopeful

Millions of Americans and foreigners see G.I. Joe as a mindless war toy, the symbol of American military adventurism, but that’s not how it used to be. To the men and women who 1 in World War II and the people they liberated, the G.I. was the 2 man grown into hero, the poor farm kid torn away from his home, the guy who 3 all the burdens of battle, who slept in cold foxholes, who went without the 4 of food and shelter, who stuck it out and drove back the Nazi reign of murder. This was not a volunteer soldier, not someone well paid, 5 an average guy, up 6 the best trained, best equipped, fiercest, most brutal enemies seen in centuries.

His name isn’t much. G.I. is just a military abbreviation 7 Government Issue, and it was on all of the articles 8 to soldiers. And Joe? A common name for a guy who never 9 it to the top. Joe Blow, Joe Palooka, Joe Magrac... a working class name. The United States has 10 had a president or vice-president or secretary of state Joe.

G.I. Joe had a 11 career fighting German, Japanese, and Korean troops. He appears as a character, or a 12 of American personalities, in the 1945 movie The Story of G.I. Joe, based on the last days of war correspondent Ernie Pyle. Some of the soldiers Pyle 13 portrayed themselves in the film. Pyle was famous for covering the 14 side of the war, writing about the dirt-snow-and-mud soldiers, not how many miles were 15 or what towns were captured or liberated. His reports 16 the “Willie” cartoons of famed Stars and Stripes artist Bill Maulden. Boh men 17 the dirt and exhaustion of war, the 18 of civilization that the soldiers shared with each other and the civilians: coffee, tobacco, whiskey, shelter, sleep. 19 Egypt, France, and a dozen more countries, G.I. Joe was any American soldier, 20 the most important person in their lives.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | [A]. served | [B]. performed | [C]. rebelled | [D]. betrayed |
| 2. | [A]. actual | [B]. common | [C]. special | [D]. normal |
| 3. | [A]. loaded | [B]. eased | [C]. removed | [D]. bore |
| 4. | [A]. necessities | [B]. facilities | [C]. commodities | [D]. properties |
| 5. | [A]. and | [B]. nor | [C]. but | [D]. hence |
| 6. | [A]. for | [B]. into | [C]. from | [D]. against |
| 7. | [A]. implying | [B]. meaning | [C]. symbolizing | [D]. claiming |
| 8. | [A]. handed out | [B]. turned over | [C]. brought back | [D]. passed down |
| 9. | [A]. pushed | [B]. got | [C]. made | [D]. managed |
| 10. | [A]. ever | [B]. never | [C]. either | [D]. neither |
| 11. | [A]. disguised | [B]. disturbed | [C]. disputed | [D]. distinguished |
| 12. | [A]. company | [B]. community | [C]. collection | [D]. colony |
| 13. | [A]. employed | [B]. appointed | [C]. interviewed | [D]. questioned |
| 14. | [A]. human | [B]. military | [C]. political | [D]. ethical |
| 15. | [A]. ruined | [B]. commuted | [C]. patrolled | [D]. gained |
| 16. | [A]. paralleled | [B]. counteracted | [C]. duplicated | [D]. contradicted |
| 17. | [A]. neglected | [B]. emphasized | [C]. avoided | [D]. admired |
| 18. | [A]. stages | [B]. illusions | [C]. fragments | [D]. advances |
| 19. | [A]. With | [B]. To | [C]. Among | [D]. Beyond |
| 20. | [A]. on the contrary | [B]. by this means | [C]. from the outset | [D]. at that point |

Homework has never been terribly popular with students and even many parents, but in recent years it has been particularly scorned. School districts across the country, most recently Los Angeles Unified, are revising their thinking on this educational ritual. Unfortunately, L.A. Unified has produced an inflexible policy which mandates that with the exception of some advanced courses, homework may no longer count for more than 10

This rule is meant to address the difficulty that students from impoverished or chaotic homes might have in completing their homework. But the policy is unclear and contradictory. Certainly, no homework should be assigned that students cannot complete on their own or that they cannot do without expensive equipment. But if the district is essentially giving a pass to students who do not do their homework because of complicated family lives, it is going riskily close to the implication that standards need to be lowered for poor children.

District administrators say that homework will still be a part of schooling; teachers are allowed to assign as much of it as they want. But with homework counting for no more than 10

At the same time, the policy addresses none of the truly thorny questions about homework. If the district finds homework to be unimportant to its students' academic achievement, it should move to reduce or eliminate the assignments, not make them count for almost nothing. Conversely, if homework matters, it should account for a significant portion of the grade. Meanwhile, this policy does nothing to ensure that the homework students receive is meaningful or appropriate to their age and the subject, or that teachers are not assigning more than they are willing to review and correct.

The homework rules should be put on hold while the school board, which is responsible for setting educational policy, looks into the matter and conducts public hearings. It is not too late for L.A. Unified to do homework right.

1. It is implied in Paragraph 1 that nowadays homework ____.
 - [A]. is receiving more criticism
 - [B]. is gaining more preferences
 - [C]. is no longer an educational ritual
 - [D]. is not required for advanced courses
2. L.A. Unified has made the rule about homework mainly because poor students.
 - [A]. tend to have moderate expectations for their education
 - [B]. have asked for a different educational standard
 - [C]. may have problems finishing their homework
 - [D]. have voiced their complaints about homework
3. According to Paragraph 3, one problem with the policy is that it may ____.
 - [A]. result in students' indifference to their report cards
 - [B]. undermine the authority of state tests
 - [C]. restrict teachers' power in education
 - [D]. discourage students from doing homework
4. As mentioned in Paragraph 4, a key question unanswered about homework is whether ____.
 - [A]. it should be eliminated
 - [B]. it counts much in schooling
 - [C]. it places extra burdens on teachers
 - [D]. it is important for grades
5. A suitable title for this text could be ____.
 - [A]. A Faulty Approach to Homework
 - [B]. A Welcomed Policy for Poor Students
 - [C]. Thorny Questions about Homework
 - [D]. Wrong Interpretations of an Educational Policy

Pretty in pink: adult women do not remember being so obsessed with the colour, yet it is pervasive in our young girls' lives. It is not that pink is intrinsically bad, but it is such a tiny slice of the rainbow and, though it may celebrate girlhood in one way, it also repeatedly and firmly fuses girls' identity to appearance. Then it presents that connection, even among two-year-olds, between girls as not only innocent but as evidence of innocence. Looking around, I despaired at the singular lack of imagination about girls' lives and interests.

Girls' attraction to pink may seem unavoidable, somehow encoded in their DNA, but according to Jo Paoletti, an associate professor of American Studies, it is not. Children were not colour-coded at all until the early 20th century: in the era before domestic washing machines all babies wore white as a practical matter, since the only way of getting clothes clean was to boil them. What's more, both boys and girls wore what were thought of as gender-neutral dresses. When nursery colours were introduced, pink was actually considered the more masculine colour, a pastel version of red, which was associated with strength. Blue, with its intimations of the Virgin Mary, constancy and faithfulness, symbolised femininity. It was not until the mid-1980s, when amplifying age and sex differences became a dominant children's marketing strategy, that pink fully came into its own, when it began to seem inherently attractive to girls, part of what defined them as female, at least for the first few critical years.

I had not realised how profoundly marketing trends dictated our perception of what is natural to kids, including our core beliefs about their psychological development. Take the toddler. I assumed that phase was something experts developed after years of research into children's behaviour: wrong. Turns out, according to Daniel Cook, a historian of childhood consumerism, it was popularised as a marketing trick by clothing manufacturers in the 1930s.

Trade publications counselled department stores that, in order to increase sales, they should create a "third stepping stone" between infant wear and older kids' clothes. It was only after "toddler" became a common shoppers' term that it evolved into a broadly accepted developmental stage. Splitting kids, or adults, into ever-tinier categories has proved a sure-fire way to boost profits. And one of the easiest ways to segment a market is to magnify gender differences – or invent them where they did not previously exist.

1. By saying "it is... the rainbow" (Line 3, Para. 1), the author means pink ____.
[A]. cannot explain girls' lack of imagination
[B]. should not be associated with girls' innocence
[C]. should not be the sole representation of girlhood
[D]. cannot influence girls' lives and interests
2. According to Paragraph 2, which of the following is true of colours?
[A]. Colours are encoded in girls' DNA.
[B]. Blue used to be regarded as the colour for girls.
[C]. White is preferred by babies.
[D]. Pink used to be a neutral colour in symbolising genders.
3. The author suggests that our perception of children's psychological development was much influenced by ____.
[A]. the observation of children's nature
[B]. the marketing of products for children
[C]. researches into children's behaviour
[D]. studies of childhood consumption
4. We may learn from Paragraph 4 that department stores were advised to ____.
[A]. classify consumers into smaller groups
[B]. attach equal importance to different genders
[C]. focus on infant wear and older kids' clothes
[D]. create some common shoppers' terms
5. It can be concluded that girls' attraction to pink seems to be ____.
[A]. fully understood by clothing manufacturers
[B]. clearly explained by their inborn tendency
[C]. mainly imposed by profit-driven businessmen
[D]. well interpreted by psychological experts

In 2010, a federal judge shook America's biotech industry to its core. Companies had won patents for isolated DNA for decades – by 2005 some 20

On July 29th they were relieved, at least temporarily. A federal appeals court overturned the prior decision, ruling that Myriad Genetics could indeed hold patents to two genes that help forecast a woman's risk of breast cancer. The chief executive of Myriad, a company in Utah, said the ruling was a blessing to firms and patients alike.

But as companies continue their attempts at personalised medicine, the courts will remain rather busy. The Myriad case itself is probably not over. Critics make three main arguments against gene patents: a gene is a product of nature, so it may not be patented; gene patents suppress innovation rather than reward it; and patents' monopolies restrict access to genetic tests such as Myriad's. A growing number seem to agree. Last year a federal task-force urged reform for patents related to genetic tests. In October the Department of Justice filed a brief in the Myriad case, arguing that an isolated DNA molecule "is no less a product of nature...than are cotton fibres that have been separated from cotton seeds."

Despite the appeals court's decision, big questions remain unanswered. For example, it is unclear whether the sequencing of a whole genome violates the patents of individual genes within it. The case may yet reach the Supreme Court.

As the industry advances, however, other suits may have an even greater impact. Companies are unlikely to file many more patents for human DNA molecules – most are already patented or in the public domain. Firms are now studying how genes interact, looking for correlations that might be used to determine the causes of disease or predict a drug's efficacy. Companies are eager to win patents for "connecting the dots," explains Hans Sauer, a lawyer for the BIO.

Their success may be determined by a suit related to this issue, brought by the Mayo Clinic, which the Supreme Court will hear in its next term. The BIO recently held a convention which included sessions to coach lawyers on the shifting landscape for patents. Each meeting was packed.

1. It can be learned from Paragraph 1 that the biotech companies would like ____.
[A]. genes to be patentable
[B]. the BIO to issue a warning
[C]. their executives to be active
[D]. judges to rule out gene patenting
2. Those who are against gene patents believe that ____.
[A]. genetic tests are not reliable
[B]. only man-made products are patentable
[C]. patents on genes depend much on innovation
[D]. courts should restrict access to genetic tests
3. According to Hans Sauer, companies are eager to win patents for ____.
[A]. discovering gene interactions
[B]. establishing disease correlations
[C]. drawing pictures of genes
[D]. identifying human DNA
4. By saying "Each meeting was packed" (Line 4, Para. 6), the author means that.
[A]. the supreme court was authoritative
[B]. the BIO was a powerful organisation
[C]. gene patenting was a great concern
[D]. lawyers were keen to attend conventions
5. Generally speaking, the author's attitude toward gene patenting is ____.
[A]. critical
[B]. supportive
[C]. scornful
[D]. objective

The great recession may be over, but this era of high joblessness is probably beginning. Before it ends, it will likely change the life course and character of a generation of young adults. And ultimately, it is likely to reshape our politics, our culture, and the character of our society for years.

No one tries harder than the jobless to find silver linings in this national economic disaster. Many said that unemployment, while extremely painful, had improved them in some ways: they had become less materialistic and more financially prudent; they were more aware of the struggles of others. In limited respects, perhaps the recession will leave society better off. At the very least, it has awoken us from our national fever dream of easy riches and bigger houses, and put a necessary end to an era of reckless personal spending.

But for the most part, these benefits seem thin, uncertain, and far off. In *The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth*, the economic historian Benjamin Friedman argues that both inside and outside the U.S., lengthy periods of economic stagnation or decline have almost always left society more mean-spirited and less inclusive, and have usually stopped or reversed the advance of rights and freedoms. Anti-immigrant sentiment typically increases, as does conflict between races and classes.

Income inequality usually falls during a recession, but it has not shrunk in this one. Indeed, this period of economic weakness may reinforce class divides, and decrease opportunities to cross them – especially for young people. The research of Till Von Wachter, the economist at Columbia University, suggests that not all people graduating into a recession see their life chances dimmed: those with degrees from elite universities catch up fairly quickly to where they otherwise would have been if they had graduated in better times; it is the masses beneath them that are left behind.

In the Internet age, it is particularly easy to see the resentment that has always been hidden within American society. More difficult, in the moment, is discerning precisely how these lean times are affecting society's character. In many respects, the U.S. was more socially tolerant entering this recession than at any time in its history, and a variety of national polls on social conflict since then have shown mixed results. We will have to wait and see exactly how these hard times will reshape our social fabric. But they certainly will reshape it, and all the more so the longer they extend.

1. By saying “to find silver linings” (Line 1, Para. 2) the author suggests that the jobless try to ____.
[A]. seek subsidies from the government
[B]. make profits from the troubled economy
[C]. explore reasons for the unemployment
[D]. look on the bright side of the recession
2. According to Paragraph 2, the recession has made people ____.
[A]. struggle against each other
[B]. realize the national dream
[C]. challenge their prudence
[D]. reconsider their lifestyle
3. Benjamin Friedman believes that economic recessions may ____.
[A]. impose a heavier burden on immigrants
[B]. bring out more evils of human nature
[C]. promote the advance of rights and freedoms
[D]. ease conflicts between races and classes
4. The research of Till Von Wachter suggests that in the recession graduates from elite universities tend to ____.
[A]. lag behind the others due to decreased opportunities
[B]. catch up quickly with experienced employees
[C]. see their life chances as dimmed as the others'
[D]. recover more quickly than the others
5. The author thinks that the influence of hard times on society is ____.
[A]. trivial
[B]. positive
[C]. certain
[D]. destructive

Given the advantages of electronic money, you might think that we would move quickly to the cashless society in which all payments are made electronically. 1 , a true cashless society is probably not around the corner. Indeed, predictions have been 2 for two decades but have not yet come to fruition. For example, Business Week predicted in 1975 that electronic means of payment would soon “revolutionize the very 3 of money itself,” only to 4 itself several years later. Why has the movement to a cashless society been so 5 in coming?

Although electronic means of payment may be more efficient than a payments system based on paper, several factors work 6 the disappearance of the paper system. First, it is very 7 to set up the computer, card reader, and telecommunications networks necessary to make electronic money the 8 form of payment. Second, paper checks have the advantage that they 9 receipts, something that many consumers are unwilling to 10 . Third, the use of paper checks gives consumers several days of “float” – it takes several days 11 a check is cashed and funds are 12 from the issuer’s account, which means that the writer of the check can earn interest on the funds in the meantime. 13 electronic payments are immediate, they eliminate the float for the consumer.

Fourth, electronic means of payment may 14 security and privacy concerns. We often hear media reports that an unauthorized hacker has been able to access a computer database and to alter information 15 there. The fact that this is not an 16 occurrence means that dishonest persons might be able to access bank accounts in electronic payments systems and 17 from someone else’s accounts. The 18 of this type of fraud is no easy task, and a new field of computer science is developing to 19 security issues. A further concern is that the use of electronic means of payment leaves an electronic 20 that contains a large amount of personal data. There are concerns that government, employers, and marketers might be able to access these data, thereby violating our privacy.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. [A]. Moreover | [B]. However | [C]. Therefore | [D]. Otherwise |
| 2. [A]. off | [B]. back | [C]. over | [D]. around |
| 3. [A]. power | [B]. concept | [C]. history | [D]. role |
| 4. [A]. reverse | [B]. resist | [C]. resume | [D]. reward |
| 5. [A]. silent | [B]. sudden | [C]. slow | [D]. steady |
| 6. [A]. for | [B]. against | [C]. with | [D]. on |
| 7. [A]. expensive | [B]. imaginative | [C]. sensitive | [D]. productive |
| 8. [A]. similar | [B]. original | [C]. temporary | [D]. dominant |
| 9. [A]. collect | [B]. copy | [C]. provide | [D]. print |
| 10. [A]. give up | [B]. take over | [C]. bring back | [D]. pass down |
| 11. [A]. before | [B]. after | [C]. since | [D]. when |
| 12. [A]. kept | [B]. borrowed | [C]. withdrawn | [D]. released |
| 13. [A]. Unless | [B]. Because | [C]. Until | [D]. Though |
| 14. [A]. hide | [B]. express | [C]. ease | [D]. raise |
| 15. [A]. analyzed | [B]. shared | [C]. stored | [D]. displayed |
| 16. [A]. unsafe | [B]. unnatural | [C]. unclear | [D]. uncommon |
| 17. [A]. steal | [B]. choose | [C]. benefit | [D]. return |
| 18. [A]. consideration | [B]. prevention | [C]. manipulation | [D]. justification |
| 19. [A]. call for | [B]. fight against | [C]. adapt to | [D]. cope with |
| 20. [A]. chunk | [B]. chip | [C]. trail | [D]. path |

In an essay entitled “Making It in America,” the author Adam Davidson relates a joke from cotton country about just how much a modern textile mill has been automated: The average mill has only two employees today, “a man and a dog. The man is there to feed the dog, and the dog is there to keep the man away from the machines.”

Davidson’s article is one of a number of pieces that have recently appeared making the point that the reason we have such stubbornly high unemployment and declining middle-class incomes today is largely because of the big drop in demand because of the Great Recession, but it is also because of the advances in both globalization and the information technology revolution, which are more rapidly than ever replacing labor with machines or foreign workers.

In the past, workers with average skills, doing an average job, could earn an average lifestyle. But, today, average is officially over. Being average just won’t earn you what it used to. It can’t when so many more employers have so much more access to so much more above average cheap foreign labor, cheap robotics, cheap software, cheap automation and cheap genius. Therefore, everyone needs to find their extra – their unique value contribution that makes them stand out in whatever is their field of employment.

Yes, new technology has been eating jobs forever, and always will. But there’s been an acceleration. As Davidson notes, “In the 10 years ending in 2009, [U.S.] factories shed workers so fast that they erased almost all the gains of the previous 70 years; roughly one out of every three manufacturing jobs – about 6 million in total – disappeared.”

There will always be change – new jobs, new products, new services. But the one thing we know for sure is that with each advance in globalization and the I. T. revolution, the best jobs will require workers to have more and better education to make themselves above average.

In a world where average is officially over, there are many things we need to do to support employment, but nothing would be more important than passing some kind of G. I. Bill for the 21st century that ensures that every American has access to post-high school education.

1. The joke in Paragraph 1 is used to illustrate ____.
[A]. the impact of technological advances
[B]. the alleviation of job pressure
[C]. the shrinkage of textile mills
[D]. the decline of middle-class incomes
2. According to Paragraph 3, to be a successful employee, one has to ____.
[A]. work on cheap software
[B]. ask for a moderate salary
[C]. adopt an average lifestyle
[D]. contribute something unique
3. The quotation in Paragraph 4 explains that ____.
[A]. gains of technology have been erased
[B]. job opportunities are disappearing at a high speed
[C]. factories are making much less money than before
[D]. new jobs and services have been offered
4. According to the author, to reduce unemployment, the most important is.
[A]. to accelerate the I. T. revolution
[B]. to ensure more education for people
[C]. to advance economic globalization
[D]. to pass more bills in the 21st century
5. Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the text?
[A]. New Law Takes Effect.
[B]. Technology Goes Cheap.
[C]. Average Is Over.
[D]. Recession Is Bad.

A century ago, the immigrants from across the Atlantic included settlers and sojourners. Along with the many folks looking to make a permanent home in the United States came those who had no intention to stay, and who would make some money and then go home. Between 1908 and 1915, about 7 million people arrived while about 2 million departed. About a quarter of all Italian immigrants, for example, eventually returned to Italy for good. They even had an affectionate nickname, “uccelli di passaggio,” birds of passage.

Today, we are much more rigid about immigrants. We divide newcomers into two categories: legal or illegal, good or bad. We hail them as Americans in the making, or brand them as aliens to be kicked out. That framework has contributed mightily to our broken immigration system and the long political paralysis over how to fix it. We don’t need more categories, but we need to change the way we think about categories. We need to look beyond strict definitions of legal and illegal. To start, we can recognize the new birds of passage, those living and thriving in the gray areas. We might then begin to solve our immigration challenges.

Crop pickers, violinists, construction workers, entrepreneurs, engineers, home health-care aides and physicists are among today’s birds of passage. They are energetic participants in a global economy driven by the flow of work, money and ideas. They prefer to come and go as opportunity calls them. They can manage to have a job in one place and a family in another.

With or without permission, they straddle laws, jurisdictions and identities with ease. We need them to imagine the United States as a place where they can be productive for a while without committing themselves to staying forever. We need them to feel that home can be both here and there and that they can belong to two nations honorably.

Accommodating this new world of people in motion will require new attitudes on both sides of the immigration battle. Looking beyond the culture war logic of right or wrong means opening up the middle ground and understanding that managing immigration today requires multiple paths and multiple outcomes, including some that are not easy to accomplish legally in the existing system.

1. “Birds of passage” refers to those who ____.

[A]. stay in a foreign country temporarily

[B]. leave their home countries for good

[C]. immigrate across the Atlantic

[D]. find permanent jobs overseas
2. It is implied in Paragraph 2 that the current immigration system in the US.

[A]. needs new immigrant categories

[B]. has loosened control over immigrants

[C]. should be adapted to meet challenges

[D]. has been fixed via political means
3. According to the author, today’s birds of passage want ____.

[A]. financial incentives

[B]. a global recognition

[C]. the freedom to stay and leave

[D]. opportunities to get regular jobs
4. The author suggests that the birds of passage today should be treated ____.

[A]. as faithful partners

[B]. with legal tolerance

[C]. with economic favors

[D]. as mighty rivals
5. The most appropriate title for this text would be ____.

[A]. Come and Go: Big Mistake

[B]. Living and Thriving: Great Risk

[C]. With or Without: Great Risk

[D]. Legal or Illegal: Big Mistake

Scientists have found that although we are prone to snap overreactions, if we take a moment and think about how we are likely to react, we can reduce or even eliminate the negative effects of our quick, hard-wired responses.

Snap decisions can be important defense mechanisms; if we are judging whether someone is dangerous, our brains and bodies are hard-wired to react very quickly, within milliseconds. But we need more time to assess other factors. To accurately tell whether someone is sociable, studies show, we need at least a minute, preferably five. It takes a while to judge complex aspects of personality, like neuroticism or open -mindedness.

But snap decisions in reaction to rapid stimuli aren't exclusive to the interpersonal realm. Psychologists at the University of Toronto found that viewing a fast-food logo for just a few milliseconds primes us to read 20 percent faster, even though reading has little to do with eating. We unconsciously associate fast food with speed and impatience and carry those impulses into whatever else we're doing. Subjects exposed to fast-food flashes also tend to think a musical piece lasts too long.

Yet we can reverse such influences. If we know we will overreact to consumer products or housing options when we see a happy face (one reason good sales representatives and real estate agents are always smiling), we can take a moment before buying. If we know female job screeners are more likely to reject attractive female applicants, we can help screeners understand their biases – or hire outside screeners.

John Gottman, the marriage expert, explains that we quickly “thin slice” information reliably only after we ground such snap reactions in “thick sliced” long-term study. When Dr. Gottman really wants to assess whether a couple will stay together, he invites them to his island retreat for a much longer evaluation: two days, not two seconds.

Our ability to mute our hard-wired reactions by pausing is what differentiates us from animals: dogs can think about the future only intermittently or for a few minutes. But historically we have spent about 12 percent of our days contemplating the longer term. Although technology might change the way we react, it hasn't changed our nature. We still have the imaginative capacity to rise above temptation and reverse the high-speed trend.

1. The time needed in making decisions may _____.
[A]. predetermine the accuracy of our judgment
[B]. prove the complexity of our brain reaction
[C]. depend on the importance of the assessment
[D]. vary according to the urgency of the situation
2. Our reaction to a fast-food logo shows that snap decisions _____.
[A]. can be associative
[B]. are not unconscious
[C]. can be dangerous
[D]. are not impulsive
3. To reverse the negative influences of snap decisions, we should _____.
[A]. trust our first impression
[B]. think before we act
[C]. do as people usually do
[D]. ask for expert advice
4. John Gottman says that reliable snap reactions are based on _____.
[A]. critical assessment
[B]. “thin sliced” study
[C]. adequate information
[D]. sensible explanation
5. The author's attitude toward reversing the high-speed trend is _____.
[A]. tolerant
[B]. optimistic
[C]. uncertain
[D]. Doubtful

Europe is not a gender-equality heaven. In particular, the corporate workplace will never be completely family-friendly until women are part of senior management decisions, and Europe's top corporate-governance positions remain overwhelmingly male. Indeed, women hold only 14 per cent of positions on European corporate boards.

The European Union is now considering legislation to compel corporate boards to maintain a certain proportion of women – up to 60 per cent. This proposed mandate was born of frustration. Last year, European Commission Vice President Viviane Reding issued a call to voluntary action. Reding invited corporations to sign up for gender balance goals of 40 per cent female board membership. But her appeal was considered a failure: only 24 companies took it up.

Do we need quotas to ensure that women can continue to climb the corporate ladder fairly as they balance work and family?

“Personally, I don't like quotas,” Reding said recently. “But I like what the quotas do.” Quotas get action: they “open the way to equality and they break through the glass ceiling,” according to Reding, a result seen in France and other countries with legally binding provisions on placing women in top business positions.

I understand Reding's reluctance – and her frustration. I don't like quotas either; they run counter to my belief in meritocracy, governance by the capable. But, when one considers the obstacles to achieving the meritocratic ideal, it does look as if a fairer world must be temporarily ordered.

After all, four decades of evidence has now shown that corporations in Europe as well as the US are evading the meritocratic hiring and promotion of women to top positions – no matter how much “soft pressure” is put upon them. When women do break through to the summit of corporate power – as, for example, Sheryl Sandberg recently did at Facebook – they attract massive attention precisely because they remain the exception to the rule.

If appropriate public policies were in place to help all women – whether CEOs or their children's caregivers – and all families, Sandberg would be no more newsworthy than any other highly capable person living in a more just society.

1. In the European corporate workplace, generally ____.
[A]. women take the lead
[B]. men have the final say
[C]. corporate governance is overwhelmed
[D]. senior management is family-friendly
2. The European Union's intended legislation is ____.
[A]. a reflection of gender balance
[B]. a response to Reding's call
[C]. a reluctant choice
[D]. a voluntary action
3. According to Reding, quotas may help women ____.
[A]. get top business positions
[B]. see through the glass ceiling
[C]. balance work and family
[D]. anticipate legal results
4. The author's attitude toward Reding's appeal is one of ____.
[A]. skepticism
[B]. objectiveness
[C]. indifference
[D]. approval
5. Women entering top management become headlines due to the lack of ____.
[A]. more social justice
[B]. massive media attention
[C]. suitable public policies
[D]. greater “soft pressure”

Thinner isn’t always better. A number of studies have 1 that normal-weight people are in fact at higher risk of some diseases compared to those who are overweight. And there are health conditions for which being overweight is actually 2 . For example, heavier women are less likely to develop calcium deficiency than thin women. 3 , among the elderly, being somewhat overweight is often an 4 of good health.

Of even greater 5 is the fact that obesity turns out to be very difficult to define. It is often defined 6 body mass index, or BMI. BMI 7 body mass divided by the square of height. An adult with a BMI of 18 to 25 is often considered to be normal weight. Between 25 and 30 is overweight. And over 30 is considered obese. Obesity, 8 , can be divided into moderately obese, severely obese, and very severely obese.

While such numerical standards seem 9 , they are not. Obesity is probably less a matter of weight than body fat. Some people with a high BMI are in fact extremely fit, 10 others with a low BMI may be in poor 11 . For example, many collegiate and professional football players 12 as obese, though their percentage body fat is low. Conversely, someone with a small frame may have high body fat but a 13 BMI.

Today we have a(n) 14 to label obesity as a disgrace. The overweight are sometimes 15 in the media with their faces covered. Stereotypes 16 with obesity include laziness, lack of will power, and lower prospects for success. Teachers, employers, and health professionals have been shown to harbor biases against the obese. 17 very young children tend to look down on the overweight, and teasing about body build has long been a problem in schools.

Negative attitudes toward obesity, 18 in health concerns, have stimulated a number of anti-obesity 19 . My own hospital system has banned sugary drinks from its facilities. Many employers have instituted weight loss and fitness initiatives. Michelle Obama has launched a high-visibility campaign 20 childhood obesity, even claiming that it represents our greatest national security threat.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | [A]. denied | [B]. concluded | [C]. doubted | [D]. ensured |
| 2. | [A]. protective | [B]. dangerous | [C]. sufficient | [D]. troublesome |
| 3. | [A]. Instead | [B]. However | [C]. Likewise | [D]. Therefore |
| 4. | [A]. indicator | [B]. objective | [C]. origin | [D]. example |
| 5. | [A]. impact | [B]. relevance | [C]. assistance | [D]. concern |
| 6. | [A]. in terms of | [B]. in case of | [C]. in favor of | [D]. in respects of |
| 7. | [A]. measures | [B]. determines | [C]. equals | [D]. modifies |
| 8. | [A]. in essence | [B]. in contrast | [C]. in turn | [D]. in part |
| 9. | [A]. complicated | [B]. conservative | [C]. variable | [D]. straightforward |
| 10. | [A]. so | [B]. while | [C]. since | [D]. unless |
| 11. | [A]. shape | [B]. spirit | [C]. balance | [D]. taste |
| 12. | [A]. start | [B]. qualify | [C]. retire | [D]. stay |
| 13. | [A]. strange | [B]. changeable | [C]. normal | [D]. constant |
| 14. | [A]. option | [B]. reason | [C]. opportunity | [D]. tendency |
| 15. | [A]. employed | [B]. pictured | [C]. imitated | [D]. monitored |
| 16. | [A]. compared | [B]. combined | [C]. settled | [D]. associated |
| 17. | [A]. Even | [B]. Still | [C]. Yet | [D]. Only |
| 18. | [A]. despised | [B]. corrected | [C]. ignored | [D]. grounded |
| 19. | [A]. discussions | [B]. businesses | [C]. policies | [D]. studies |
| 20. | [A]. for | [B]. against | [C]. with | [D]. without |

What would you do with \$590m? This is now a question for Gloria MacKenzie, an 84-year-old widow who recently emerged from her small, tin-roofed house in Florida to collect the biggest undivided lottery jackpot in history. If she hopes her new-found fortune will yield lasting feelings of fulfilment, she could do worse than read *Happy Money* by Elizabeth Dunn and Michael Norton.

These two academics use an array of behavioral research to show that the most rewarding ways to spend money can be counterintuitive. Fantasies of great wealth often involve visions of fancy cars and extravagant homes. Yet satisfaction with these material purchases wears off fairly quickly. What was once exciting and new becomes old-hat; regret creeps in. It is far better to spend money on experiences, say Ms Dunn and Mr Norton, like interesting trips, unique meals or even going to the cinema. These purchases often become more valuable with time – as stories or memories – particularly if they involve feeling more connected to others.

This slim volume is packed with tips to help wage slaves as well as lottery winners get the most “happiness bang for your buck.” It seems most people would be better off if they could shorten their commutes to work, spend more time with friends and family and less of it watching television (something the average American spends a whopping two months a year doing, and is hardly jollier for it). Buying gifts or giving to charity is often more pleasurable than purchasing things for oneself, and luxuries are most enjoyable when they are consumed sparingly. This is apparently the reason McDonald’s restricts the availability of its popular McRib – a marketing trick that has turned the pork sandwich into an object of obsession.

Readers of *Happy Money* are clearly a privileged lot, anxious about fulfilment, not hunger. Money may not quite buy happiness, but people in wealthier countries are generally happier than those in poor ones. Yet the link between feeling good and spending money on others can be seen among rich and poor people around the world, and scarcity enhances the pleasure of most things for most people. Not everyone will agree with the authors’ policy ideas, which range from mandating more holiday time to reducing tax incentives for American homebuyers. But most people will come away from this book believing it was money well spent.

1. According to Dunn and Norton, which of the following is the most rewarding purchase?
 - [A]. A big house.
 - [B]. A special tour.
 - [C]. A stylish car.
 - [D]. A rich meal.
2. The author’s attitude toward Americans’ watching TV is _____.
 - [A]. critical
 - [B]. supportive
 - [C]. sympathetic
 - [D]. ambiguous
3. McRib is mentioned in Paragraph 3 to show that _____.
 - [A]. consumers are sometimes irrational
 - [B]. popularity usually comes after quality
 - [C]. marketing tricks are often effective
 - [D]. rarity generally increases pleasure
4. According to the last paragraph, *Happy Money* _____.
 - [A]. has left much room for readers’ criticism
 - [B]. may prove to be a worthwhile purchase
 - [C]. has predicted a wider income gap in the US
 - [D]. may give its readers a sense of achievement
5. This text mainly discusses how to _____.
 - [A]. balance feeling good and spending money
 - [B]. spend large sums of money won in lotteries
 - [C]. obtain lasting satisfaction from money spent
 - [D]. become more reasonable in spending on luxuries

An article in Scientific American has pointed out that empirical research says that, actually, you think you're more beautiful than you are. We have a deep-seated need to feel good about ourselves and we naturally employ a number of self-enhancing strategies to achieve this. Social psychologists have amassed oceans of research into what they call the "above average effect", or "illusory superiority", and shown that, for example, 70

We rose-tint our memories and put ourselves into self-affirming situations. We become defensive when criticised, and apply negative stereotypes to others to boost our own esteem. We stalk around thinking we're hot stuff.

Psychologist and behavioural scientist Nicholas Epley oversaw a key study into self-enhancement and attractiveness. Rather than have people simply rate their beauty compared with others, he asked them to identify an original photograph of themselves from a lineup including versions that had been altered to appear more and less attractive. Visual recognition, reads the study, is "an automatic psychological process, occurring rapidly and intuitively with little or no apparent conscious deliberation". If the subjects quickly chose a falsely flattering image – which most did – they genuinely believed it was really how they looked.

Epley found no significant gender difference in responses. Nor was there any evidence that those who self-enhanced the most (that is, the participants who thought the most positively doctored pictures were real) were doing so to make up for profound insecurities. In fact, those who thought that the images higher up the attractiveness scale were real directly corresponded with those who showed other markers for having higher self-esteem. "I don't think the findings that we have are any evidence of personal delusion," says Epley. "It's a reflection simply of people generally thinking well of themselves." If you are depressed, you won't be self-enhancing.

Knowing the results of Epley's study, it makes sense that many people hate photographs of themselves viscerally – on one level, they don't even recognise the person in the picture as themselves. Facebook, therefore, is a self-enhancer's paradise, where people can share only the most flattering photos, the cream of their wit, style, beauty, intellect and lifestyles. It's not that people's profiles are dishonest, says Catalina Toma of Wisconsin-Madison University, "but they portray an idealised version of themselves."

1. According to the first paragraph, social psychologists have found that _____.
[A]. our self-ratings are unrealistically high
[B]. illusory superiority is a baseless effect
[C]. our need for leadership is unnatural
[D]. self-enhancing strategies are ineffective
2. Visual recognition is believed to be people's _____.
[A]. rapid matching
[B]. conscious choice
[C]. intuitive response
[D]. automatic self-defence
3. Epley found that people with higher self-esteem tended to _____.
[A]. underestimate their insecurities
[B]. believe in their attractiveness
[C]. cover up their depressions
[D]. oversimplify their illusions
4. The word "viscerally" (Line 2, Para.5) is closest in meaning to _____.
[A]. instinctively
[B]. occasionally
[C]. particularly
[D]. aggressively
5. It can be inferred that Facebook is a self-enhancer's paradise because people can _____.
[A]. present their dishonest profiles
[B]. define their traditional lifestyles
[C]. share their intellectual pursuits
[D]. withhold their unflattering sides

The concept of man versus machine is at least as old as the industrial revolution, but this phenomenon tends to be most acutely felt during economic downturns and fragile recoveries. And yet, it would be a mistake to think we are right now simply experiencing the painful side of a boom and bust cycle. Certain jobs have gone away for good, outmoded by machines. Since technology has such an insatiable appetite for eating up human jobs, this phenomenon will continue to restructure our economy in ways we cannot immediately foresee.

When there is rapid improvement in the price and performance of technology, jobs that were once thought to be immune from automation suddenly become threatened. This argument has attracted a lot of attention, via the success of the book *Race Against the Machine*, by Erik Brynjolfsson and Andrew McAfee, who both hail from MIT's Center for Digital Business.

This is a powerful argument, and a scary one. And yet, John Hagel, author of *The Power of Pull* and other books, says Brynjolfsson and McAfee miss the reason why these jobs are so vulnerable to technology in the first place.

Hagel says we have designed jobs in the U.S. that tend to be “tightly scripted” and “highly standardized” ones that leave no room for “individual initiative or creativity”. In short, these are the types of jobs that machines can perform much better at than human beings. That is how we have put a giant target sign on the backs of American workers, Hagel says.

It's time to reinvent the formula for how work is conducted, since we are still relying on a very 20th century notion of work, Hagel says. In our rapidly changing economy, we more than ever need people in the workplace who can take initiative and exercise their imagination “to respond to unexpected events”. That is not something machines are good at. They are designed to perform very predictable activities.

As Hagel notes, Brynjolfsson and McAfee indeed touched on this point in their book. We need to reframe race against the machine as race with the machine. In other words, we need to look at the ways in which machines can augment human labor rather than replace it. So then the problem is not really about technology, but rather, “how do we innovate our institutions and our work practices?”

1. According to the first paragraph, economic downturns would ____.
 - [A]. ease the competition of man vs. machine
 - [B]. highlight machines' threat to human jobs
 - [C]. provoke a painful technological revolution
 - [D]. outmode our current economic structure
2. The authors of *Race Against the Machine* argue that ____.
 - [A]. technology is diminishing man's job opportunities
 - [B]. automation is accelerating technological development
 - [C]. certain jobs will remain intact after automation
 - [D]. man will finally win the race against machine
3. Hagel argues that jobs in the U.S. are often ____.
 - [A]. performed by innovative minds
 - [B]. scripted with an individual style
 - [C]. standardized without a clear target
 - [D]. designed against human creativity
4. According to the last paragraph, Brynjolfsson and McAfee discussed ____.
 - [A]. the predictability of machine behavior in practice
 - [B]. the formula for how work is conducted efficiently
 - [C]. the ways machines replace human labor in modern times
 - [D]. the necessity of human involvement in the workplace
5. Which of the following could be the most appropriate title for the text?
 - [A]. How to Innovate Our Work Practices?
 - [B]. Machines Will Replace Human Labor
 - [C]. Can We Win the Race Against Machines?
 - [D]. Economic Downturns Stimulate Innovations

When the government talks about infrastructure contributing to the economy the focus is usually on roads, railways, broadband and energy. Housing is seldom mentioned.

Why is that? To some extent the housing sector must shoulder the blame. We have not been good at communicating the real value that housing can contribute to economic growth. Then there is the scale of the typical housing project. It is hard to shove for attention among multibillion-pound infrastructure projects, so it is inevitable that the attention is focused elsewhere. But perhaps the most significant reason is that the issue has always been so politically charged.

Nevertheless, the affordable housing situation is desperate. Waiting lists increase all the time and we are simply not building enough new homes.

The comprehensive spending review offers an opportunity for the government to help rectify this. It needs to put historical prejudices to one side and take some steps to address our urgent housing need.

There are some indications that it is preparing to do just that. The communities minister, Don Foster, has hinted that George Osborne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, may introduce more flexibility to the current cap on the amount that local authorities can borrow against their housing stock debt. Evidence shows that 60,000 extra new homes could be built over the next five years if the cap were lifted, increasing GDP by 0.6

Ministers should also look at creating greater certainty in the rental environment, which would have a significant impact on the ability of registered providers to fund new developments from revenues.

But it is not just down to the government. While these measures would be welcome in the short term, we must face up to the fact that the existing £ 4.5bn programme of grants to fund new affordable housing, set to expire in 2015, is unlikely to be extended beyond then. The Labour party has recently announced that it will retain a large part of the coalition's spending plans if it returns to power. The housing sector needs to accept that we are very unlikely to ever return to the era of large-scale public grants. We need to adjust to this changing climate.

While the government's commitment to long-term funding may have changed, the very pressing need for more affordable housing is real and is not going away.

1. The author believes that the housing sector _____.
[A]. has attracted much attention
[B]. involves certain political factors
[C]. shoulders too much responsibility
[D]. has lost its real value in economy
2. It can be learned that affordable housing has _____.
[A]. increased its home supply
[B]. offered spending opportunities
[C]. suffered government biases
[D]. disappointed the government
3. According to Paragraph 5, George Osborne may _____.
[A]. allow greater government debt for housing
[B]. stop local authorities from building homes
[C]. prepare to reduce housing stock debt
[D]. release a lifted GDP growth forecast
4. It can be inferred that a stable rental environment would _____.
[A]. lower the costs of registered providers
[B]. lessen the impact of government interference
[C]. contribute to funding new developments
[D]. relieve the ministers of responsibilities
5. The author believes that after 2015, the government may _____.
[A]. implement more policies to support housing
[B]. review the need for large-scale public grants
[C]. renew the affordable housing grants programme
[D]. stop generous funding to the housing sector

In our contemporary culture, the prospect of communicating with – or even looking at – a stranger is virtually unbearable. Everyone around us seems to agree by the way they cling to their phones, even without a 1 on a subway.

It's a sad reality – our desire to avoid interacting with other human beings – because there's 2 to be gained from talking to the stranger standing by you. But you wouldn't know it, 3 into your phone. This universal protection sends the 4 : "Please don't approach me."

What is it that makes us feel we need to hide 5 our screens?

One answer is fear, according to Jon Wortmann, an executive mental coach. We fear rejection, or that our innocent social advances will be 6 as "weird." We fear we'll be 7 . We fear we'll be disruptive.

Strangers are inherently 8 to us, so we are more likely to feel 9 when communicating with them compared with our friends and acquaintances. To avoid this uneasiness, we 10 to our phones. "Phones become our security blanket," Wortmann says. "They are our happy glasses that protect us from what we perceive is going to be more 11 ."

But once we rip off the band-aid, tuck our smartphones in our pockets and look up, it doesn't 12 so bad. In one 2011 experiment, behavioral scientists Nicholas Epley and Juliana Schroeder asked commuters to do the unthinkable: Start a 13 . They had Chicago train commuters talk to their fellow 14 . "When Dr. Epley and Ms. Schroeder asked other people in the same train station to 15 how they would feel after talking to a stranger, the commuters thought their 16 would be more pleasant if they sat on their own," The New York Times summarizes. Though the participants didn't expect a positive experience, after they 17 with the experiment, "not a single person reported having been embarrassed."

18 , these commutes were reportedly more enjoyable compared with those without communication, which makes absolute sense, 19 human beings thrive off of social connections. It's that 20 : Talking to strangers can make you feel connected.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. [A]. signal | [B]. permit | [C]. ticket | [D]. record |
| 2. [A]. nothing | [B]. little | [C]. another | [D]. much |
| 3. [A]. beaten | [B]. plugged | [C]. guided | [D]. brought |
| 4. [A]. message | [B]. code | [C]. notice | [D]. sign |
| 5. [A]. under | [B]. beyond | [C]. behind | [D]. from |
| 6. [A]. misapplied | [B]. misinterpreted | [C]. misadjusted | [D]. mismatched |
| 7. [A]. judged | [B]. fired | [C]. replaced | [D]. delayed |
| 8. [A]. unreasonable | [B]. ungrateful | [C]. unconventional | [D]. unfamiliar |
| 9. [A]. comfortable | [B]. confident | [C]. anxious | [D]. angry |
| 10. [A]. attend | [B]. turn | [C]. take | [D]. point |
| 11. [A]. dangerous | [B]. mysterious | [C]. violent | [D]. boring |
| 12. [A]. bend | [B]. resist | [C]. hurt | [D]. decay |
| 13. [A]. lecture | [B]. debate | [C]. conversation | [D]. negotiation |
| 14. [A]. trainees | [B]. employees | [C]. researchers | [D]. passengers |
| 15. [A]. reveal | [B]. choose | [C]. predict | [D]. design |
| 16. [A]. voyage | [B]. flight | [C]. walk | [D]. ride |
| 17. [A]. went through | [B]. did away | [C]. caught up | [D]. put up |
| 18. [A]. In turn | [B]. In fact | [C]. In particular | [D]. In consequence |
| 19. [A]. unless | [B]. whereas | [C]. if | [D]. since |
| 20. [A]. funny | [B]. simple | [C]. logical | [D]. rare |

A new study suggests that contrary to most surveys, people are actually more stressed at home than at work. Researchers measured people's cortisol, which is a stress marker, while they were at work and while they were at home and found it higher at what is supposed to be a place of refuge.

"Further contradicting conventional wisdom, we found that women as well as men have lower levels of stress at work than at home," writes one of the researchers, Sarah Damaske. In fact women even say they feel better at work, she notes. "It is men, not women, who report being happier at home than at work." Another surprise is that the findings hold true for both those with children and without, but more so for nonparents. This is why people who work outside the home have better health.

What the study doesn't measure is whether people are still doing work when they're at home, whether it is household work or work brought home from the office. For many men, the end of the workday is a time to kick back. For women who stay home, they never get to leave the office. And for women who work outside the home, they often are playing catch-up-with-household tasks. With the blurring of roles, and the fact that the home front lags well behind the workplace in making adjustments for working women, it's not surprising that women are more stressed at home.

But it's not just a gender thing. At work, people pretty much know what they're supposed to be doing: working, making money, doing the tasks they have to do in order to draw an income. The bargain is very pure: Employee puts in hours of physical or mental labor and employee draws out life-sustaining moola.

On the home front, however, people have no such clarity. Rare is the household in which the division of labor is so clinically and methodically laid out. There are a lot of tasks to be done, there are inadequate rewards for most of them. Your home colleagues – your family – have no clear rewards for their labor; they need to be talked into it, or if they're teenagers, threatened with complete removal of all electronic devices. Plus, they're your family. You cannot fire your family. You never really get to go home from home.

So it's not surprising that people are more stressed at home. Not only are the tasks apparently infinite, the co-workers are much harder to motivate.

1. According to Paragraph 1, most previous surveys found that home ____.
[A]. offered greater relaxation than the workplace
[B]. was an ideal place for stress measurement
[C]. generated more stress than the workplace
[D]. was an unrealistic place for relaxation
2. According to Damaske, who are likely to be the happiest at home?
[A]. Working mothers.
[B]. Childless husbands.
[C]. Working fathers.
[D]. Childless wives.
3. The blurring of working women's roles refers to the fact that ____.
[A]. their home is also a place for kicking back
[B]. they are both bread winners and housewives
[C]. there is often much housework left behind
[D]. it is difficult for them to leave their office
4. The word "moola" (Line 4, Para. 4) most probably means ____.
[A]. skills
[B]. energy
[C]. earnings
[D]. nutrition
5. The home front differs from the workplace in that ____.
[A]. family labor is often adequately rewarded
[B]. home is hardly a cozier working environment
[C]. household tasks are generally more motivating
[D]. division of labor at home is seldom clear-cut

For years, studies have found that first-generation college students – those who do not have a parent with a college degree – lag other students on a range of education achievement factors. Their grades are lower and their dropout rates are higher. But since such students are most likely to advance economically if they succeed in higher education, colleges and universities have pushed for decades to recruit more of them. This has created “a paradox” in that recruiting first-generation students, but then watching many of them fail, means that higher education has “continued to reproduce and widen, rather than close” an achievement gap based on social class, according to the depressing beginning of a paper forthcoming in the journal *Psychological Science*.

But the article is actually quite optimistic, as it outlines a potential solution to this problem, suggesting that an approach (which involves a one-hour, next-to-no-cost program) can close 63 percent of the achievement gap (measured by such factors as grades) between first-generation and other students.

The authors of the paper are from different universities, and their findings are based on a study involving 147 students (who completed the project) at an unnamed private university. First generation was defined as not having a parent with a four-year college degree. Most of the first-generation students (59.1 percent) were recipients of Pell Grants, a federal grant for undergraduates with financial need, while this was true only for 8.6 percent of the students with at least one parent with a four-year degree.

Their thesis – that a relatively modest intervention could have a big impact – was based on the view that first-generation students may be most lacking not in potential but in practical knowledge about how to deal with the issues that face most college students. They cite past research by several authors to show that this is the gap that must be narrowed to close the achievement gap.

Many first-generation students “struggle to navigate the middle-class culture of higher education, learn the ‘rules of the game,’ and take advantage of college resources,” they write. And this becomes more of a problem when colleges don’t talk about the class advantages and disadvantages of different groups of students. “Because US colleges and universities seldom acknowledge how social class can affect students’ educational experiences, many first-generation students lack insight about why they are struggling and do not understand how students ‘like them’ can improve.”

1. Recruiting more first-generation students has ____.
 - [A]. reduced their dropout rates
 - [B]. narrowed the achievement gap
 - [C]. missed its original purpose
 - [D]. depressed college students
2. The authors of the research article are optimistic because ____.
 - [A]. their findings appeal to students
 - [B]. the recruiting rate has increased
 - [C]. the problem is solvable
 - [D]. their approach is costless
3. The study suggests that most first-generation students ____.
 - [A]. are from single-parent families
 - [B]. study at private universities
 - [C]. are in need of financial support
 - [D]. have failed their college
4. The authors of the paper believe that first-generation students ____.
 - [A]. may lack opportunities to apply for research projects
 - [B]. are inexperienced in handling their issues at college
 - [C]. can have a potential influence on other students
 - [D]. are actually indifferent to the achievement gap
5. We may infer from the last paragraph that ____.
 - [A]. universities often reject the culture of the middle-class
 - [B]. students are usually to blame for their lack of resources
 - [C]. social class greatly helps enrich educational experiences
 - [D]. colleges are partly responsible for the problem in question

Even in traditional offices, “the lingua franca of corporate America has gotten much more emotional and much more right-brained than it was 20 years ago,” said Harvard Business School professor Nancy Koehn. She started spinning off examples. “If you and I parachuted back to Fortune 500 companies in 1990, we would see much less frequent use of terms like journey, mission, passion. There were goals, there were strategies, there were objectives, but we didn’t talk about energy; we didn’t talk about passion.”

Koehn pointed out that this new era of corporate vocabulary is very “team”-oriented – and not by coincidence. “Let’s not forget sports – in male-dominated corporate America, it’s still a big deal. It’s not explicitly conscious; it’s the idea that I’m a coach, and you’re my team, and we’re in this together. There are lots and lots of CEOs in very different companies, but most think of themselves as coaches and this is their team and they want to win. ”

These terms are also intended to infuse work with meaning – and, as Rakesh Khurana, another professor, points out, increase allegiance to the firm. “You have the importation of terminology that historically used to be associated with non-profit organizations and religious organizations: terms like vision, values, passion, and purpose,” said Khurana.

This new focus on personal fulfillment can help keep employees motivated amid increasingly loud debates over work-life balance. The “mommy wars” of the 1990s are still going on today, prompting arguments about why women still can’t have it all and books like Sheryl Sandberg’s Lean In, whose title has become a buzzword in its own right. Terms like unplug, offline, life-hack, bandwidth, and capacity are all about setting boundaries between the office and the home. But if your work is your “passion,” you’ll be more likely to devote yourself to it, even if that means going home for dinner and then working long after the kids are in bed.

But this seems to be the irony of office speak: Everyone makes fun of it, but managers love it, companies depend on it, and regular people willingly absorb it. As a linguist once said, “You can get people to think it’s nonsense at the same time that you buy into it.” In a workplace that’s fundamentally indifferent to your life and its meaning, office speak can help you figure out how you relate to your work – and how your work defines who you are.

1. According to Nancy Koehn, office language has become ____.
[A]. less strategic
[B]. less energetic
[C]. more objective
[D]. more emotional
2. “Team”-oriented corporate vocabulary is closely related to ____.
[A]. sports culture
[B]. gender difference
[C]. historical incidents
[D]. athletic executives
3. Khurana believes that the importation of terminology aims to ____.
[A]. revive historical terms
[B]. promote company image
[C]. foster corporate cooperation
[D]. strengthen employee loyalty
4. It can be inferred that Lean In ____.
[A]. voices for working women
[B]. appeals to passionate workaholics
[C]. triggers debates among mommies
[D]. praises motivated employees
5. Which of the following statements is true about office speak?
[A]. Linguists believe it to be nonsense.
[B]. Regular people mock it but accept it.
[C]. Companies find it to be fundamental.
[D]. Managers admire it but avoid it.

Many people talked of the 288,000 new jobs the Labor Department reported for June, along with the drop in the unemployment rate to 6.1 percent, as good news. And they were right. For now it appears the economy is creating jobs at a decent pace. We still have a long way to go to get back to full employment, but at least we are now finally moving forward at a faster pace.

However, there is another important part of the jobs picture that was largely overlooked. There was a big jump in the number of people who report voluntarily working part-time. This figure is now 830,000(4.4 percent)above its year ago level.

Before explaining the connection to the Obamacare, it is worth making an important distinction. Many people who work part-time jobs actually want full-time jobs. They take part-time work because this is all they can get. An increase in involuntary part-time work is evidence of weakness in the labor market and it means that many people will be having a very hard time making ends meet.

There was an increase in involuntary part-time in June, but the general direction has been down. Involuntary part-time employment is still far higher than before the recession, but it is down by 640,000 (7.9 percent) from its year ago level.

We know the difference between voluntary and involuntary part-time employment because people tell us. The survey used by the Labor Department asks people if they worked less than 35 hours in the reference week. If the answer is “yes,” they are classified as working part-time. The survey then asks whether they worked less than 35 hours in that week because they wanted to work less than full time or because they had no choice. They are only classified as voluntary part-time workers if they tell the survey taker they chose to work less than 35 hours a week.

The issue of voluntary part-time relates to Obamacare because one of the main purposes was to allow people to get insurance outside of employment. For many people, especially those with serious health conditions or family members with serious health conditions, before Obamacare the only way to get insurance was through a job that provided health insurance.

However, Obamacare has allowed more than 12 million people to either get insurance through Medicaid or the exchanges. These are people who may previously have felt the need to get a full-time job that provided insurance in order to cover themselves and their families. With Obamacare there is no longer a link between employment and insurance.

1. Which part of the jobs picture was neglected?
 - [A]. The prospect of a thriving job market.
 - [B]. The increase of voluntary part-time jobs.
 - [C]. The possibility of full employment.
 - [D]. The acceleration of job creation.
2. Many people work part-time because they _____.
 - [A]. prefer part-time jobs to full-time jobs
 - [B]. feel that is enough to make ends meet
 - [C]. cannot get their hands on full-time jobs
 - [D]. haven’ t seen the weakness of the market
3. Involuntary part-time employment in the US _____.
 - [A]. shows a general tendency of decline
 - [B]. is harder to acquire than one year ago
 - [C]. satisfies the real need of the jobless
 - [D]. is lower than before the recession
4. It can be learned that with Obamacare, _____.
 - [A]. it is no longer easy for part-timers to get insurance
 - [B]. full-time employment is still essential for insurance
 - [C]. it is still challenging to get insurance for family members
 - [D]. employment is no longer a precondition to get insurance
5. The text mainly discusses _____.
 - [A]. employment in the US
 - [B]. part-timer classification
 - [C]. insurance through Medicaid
 - [D]. Obamacare’s trouble

Happy people work differently. They’re more productive, more creative, and willing to take greater risks. And new research suggests that happiness might influence 1 firms work, too.

Companies located in places with happier people invest more, according to a recent research paper. 2 , firms in happy places spend more on R&D (research and development). That’s because happiness is linked to the kind of longer-term thinking 3 for making investments for the future.

The researchers wanted to know if the 4 and inclination for risk-taking that come with happiness would 5 the way companies invested. So they compared U.S. cities’ average happiness 6 by Gallup polling with the investment activity of publicly traded firms in those areas.

7 enough, firms’ investment and R&D intensity were correlated with the happiness of the area in which they were 8 . But is it really happiness that’s linked to investment, or could something else about happier cities 9 why firms there spend more on R&D? To find out, the researchers controlled for various 10 that might make firms more likely to invest – like size, industry, and sales – and for indicators that a place was 11 to live in, like growth in wages or population. The link between happiness and investment generally 12 even after accounting for these things.

The correlation between happiness and investment was particularly strong for younger firms, which the authors 13 to “less codified decision making process” and the possible presence of “younger and less 14 managers who are more likely to be influenced by sentiment.” The relationship was 15 stronger in places where happiness was spread more 16 . Firms seem to invest more in places where most people are relatively happy, rather than in places with happiness inequality.

17 this doesn’t prove that happiness causes firms to invest more or to take a longer-term view, the authors believe it at least 18 at that possibility. It’s not hard to imagine that local culture and sentiment would help 19 how executives think about the future. “It surely seems plausible that happy people would be more forward-thinking and creative and 20 R&D more than the average,” said one researcher.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | [A]. why | [B]. how | [C]. where | [D]. when |
| 2. | [A]. In return | [B]. In particular | [C]. In contrast | [D]. In conclusion |
| 3. | [A]. necessary | [B]. famous | [C]. perfect | [D]. sufficient |
| 4. | [A]. individualism | [B]. realism | [C]. optimism | [D]. modernism |
| 5. | [A]. miss | [B]. echo | [C]. spoil | [D]. change |
| 6. | [A]. imagined | [B]. measured | [C]. assumed | [D]. invented |
| 7. | [A]. Sure | [B]. Odd | [C]. Unfortunate | [D]. Often |
| 8. | [A]. divided | [B]. advertised | [C]. overtaxed | [D]. headquartered |
| 9. | [A]. summarize | [B]. overstate | [C]. explain | [D]. emphasize |
| 10. | [A]. factors | [B]. stages | [C]. levels | [D]. methods |
| 11. | [A]. desirable | [B]. sociable | [C]. reliable | [D]. reputable |
| 12. | [A]. resumed | [B]. emerged | [C]. held | [D]. broke |
| 13. | [A]. assign | [B]. attribute | [C]. transfer | [D]. compare |
| 14. | [A]. serious | [B]. civilized | [C]. ambitious | [D]. experienced |
| 15. | [A]. instead | [B]. thus | [C]. also | [D]. never |
| 16. | [A]. rapidly | [B]. directly | [C]. regularly | [D]. equally |
| 17. | [A]. While | [B]. Until | [C]. After | [D]. Since |
| 18. | [A]. arrives | [B]. jumps | [C]. hints | [D]. strikes |
| 19. | [A]. share | [B]. rediscover | [C]. simplify | [D]. shape |
| 20. | [A]. pray for | [B]. lean towards | [C]. send out | [D]. give away |

It's true that high-school coding classes aren't essential for learning computer science in college. Students without experience can catch up after a few introductory courses, said Tom Cortina, the assistant dean at Carnegie Mellon's School of Computer Science.

However, Cortina said, early exposure is beneficial. When younger kids learn computer science, they learn that it's not just a confusing, endless string of letters and numbers – but a tool to build apps, or create artwork, or test hypotheses. It's not as hard for them to transform their thought processes as it is for older students. Breaking down problems into bite-sized chunks and using code to solve them becomes normal. Giving more children this training could increase the number of people interested in the field and help fill the jobs gap, Cortina said.

Students also benefit from learning something about coding before they get to college, where introductory computer-science classes are packed to the brim, which can drive the less-experienced or -determined students away.

The Flatiron School, where people pay to learn programming, started as one of the many coding bootcamps that's become popular for adults looking for a career change. The high-schoolers get the same curriculum, but “we try to gear lessons toward things they're interested in,” said Victoria Friedman, an instructor. For instance, one of the apps the students are developing suggests movies based on your mood.

The students in the Flatiron class probably won't drop out of high school and build the next Facebook. Programming languages have a quick turnover, so the “Ruby on Rails” language they learned may not even be relevant by the time they enter the job market. But the skills they learn – how to think logically through a problem and organize the results – apply to any coding language, said Deborah Seehorn, an education consultant for the state of North Carolina.

Indeed, the Flatiron students might not go into IT at all. But creating a future army of coders is not the sole purpose of the classes. These kids are going to be surrounded by computers – in their pockets, in their offices, in their homes – for the rest of their lives. The younger they learn how computers think, how to coax the machine into producing what they want – the earlier they learn that they have the power to do that – the better.

1. Cortina holds that early exposure to computer science makes it easier to ____.
[A]. complete future job training
[B]. remodel the way of thinking
[C]. formulate logical hypotheses
[D]. perfect artwork production
2. In delivering lessons for high-schoolers, Flatiron has considered their ____.
[A]. experience
[B]. interest
[C]. career prospects
[D]. academic backgrounds
3. Deborah Seehorn believes that the skills learned at Flatiron will ____.
[A]. help students learn other computer languages
[B]. have to be upgraded when new technologies come
[C]. need improving when students look for jobs
[D]. enable students to make big quick money
4. According to the last paragraph, Flatiron students are expected to ____.
[A]. bring forth innovative computer technologies
[B]. stay longer in the information technology industry
[C]. become better prepared for the digitalized world
[D]. compete with a future army of programmers
5. The word “coax” (Line 4, Para. 6) is closest in meaning to ____.
[A]. persuade
[B]. frighten
[C]. misguide
[D]. challenge

Biologists estimate that as many as 2 million lesser prairie chickens – a kind of bird living on stretching grasslands – once lent red to the often grey landscape of the midwestern and southwestern United States. But just some 22,000 birds remain today, occupying about 16

The crash was a major reason the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) decided to formally list the bird as threatened. “The lesser prairie chicken is in a desperate situation,” said USFWS Director Daniel Ashe. Some environmentalists, however, were disappointed. They had pushed the agency to designate the bird as “endangered,” a status that gives federal officials greater regulatory power to crack down on threats. But Ashe and others argued that the “threatened” tag gave the federal government flexibility to try out new, potentially less confrontational conservation approaches. In particular, they called for forging closer collaborations with western state governments, which are often uneasy with federal action, and with the private landowners who control an estimated 95

Under the plan, for example, the agency said it would not prosecute landowners or businesses that unintentionally kill, harm, or disturb the bird, as long as they had signed a range-wide management plan to restore prairie chicken habitat. Negotiated by USFWS and the states, the plan requires individuals and businesses that damage habitat as part of their operations to pay into a fund to replace every acre destroyed with 2 new acres of suitable habitat. The fund will also be used to compensate landowners who set aside habitat. USFWS also set an interim goal of restoring prairie chicken populations to an annual average of 67,000 birds over the next 10 years. And it gives the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA), a coalition of state agencies, the job of monitoring progress. Overall, the idea is to let “states remain in the driver’s seat for managing the species,” Ashe said.

Not everyone buys the win-win rhetoric. Some Congress members are trying to block the plan, and at least a dozen industry groups, four states, and three environmental groups are challenging it in federal court. Not surprisingly, industry groups and states generally argue it goes too far; environmentalists say it doesn’t go far enough. “The federal government is giving responsibility for managing the bird to the same industries that are pushing it to extinction,” says biologist Jay Lininger.

1. The major reason for listing the lesser prairie chicken as threatened is ____.
[A]. its drastically decreased population
[B]. the underestimate of the grassland acreage
[C]. a desperate appeal from some biologists
[D]. the insistence of private landowners
2. The “threatened” tag disappointed some environmentalists in that it ____.
[A]. was a give-in to governmental pressure
[B]. would involve fewer agencies in action
[C]. granted less federal regulatory power
[D]. went against conservation policies
3. It can be learned from Paragraph 3 that unintentional harm-doers will not be prosecuted if they ____.
[A]. agree to pay a sum for compensation
[B]. volunteer to set up an equally big habitat
[C]. offer to support the WAFWA monitoring job
[D]. promise to raise funds for USFWS operations
4. According to Ashe, the leading role in managing the species is ____.
[A]. the federal government
[B]. the wildlife agencies
[C]. the landowners
[D]. the states
5. Jay Lininger would most likely support ____.
[A]. industry groups
[B]. the win-win rhetoric
[C]. environmental groups
[D]. the plan under challenge

That everyone's too busy these days is a cliché. But one specific complaint is made especially mournfully: There's never any time to read.

What makes the problem thornier is that the usual time-management techniques don't seem sufficient. The web's full of articles offering tips on making time to read: "Give up TV" or "Carry a book with you at all times." But in my experience, using such methods to free up the odd 30 minutes doesn't work. Sit down to read and the flywheel of work-related thoughts keeps spinning – or else you're so exhausted that a challenging book's the last thing you need. The modern mind, Tim Parks, a novelist and critic, writes, "is overwhelmingly inclined toward communication... It is not simply that one is interrupted; it is that one is actually inclined to interruption." Deep reading requires not just time, but a special kind of time which can't be obtained merely by becoming more efficient.

In fact, "becoming more efficient" is part of the problem. Thinking of time as a resource to be maximised means you approach it instrumentally, judging any given moment as well spent only in so far as it advances progress toward some goal. Immersive reading, by contrast, depends on being willing to risk inefficiency, goallessness, even time-wasting. Try to slot it in as a to-do list item and you'll manage only goal-focused reading – useful, sometimes, but not the most fulfilling kind. "The future comes at us like empty bottles along an unstoppable and nearly infinite conveyor belt," writes Gary Eberle in his book *Sacred Time*, and "we feel a pressure to fill these different-sized bottles (days, hours, minutes) as they pass, for if they get by without being filled, we will have wasted them." No mind-set could be worse for losing yourself in a book.

So what does work? Perhaps surprisingly, scheduling regular times for reading. You'd think this might fuel the efficiency mind-set, but in fact, Eberle notes, such ritualistic behaviour helps us "step outside time's flow" into "soul time." You could limit distractions by reading only physical books, or on single-purpose e-readers. "Carry a book with you at all times" can actually work, too – providing you dip in often enough, so that reading becomes the default state from which you temporarily surface to take care of business, before dropping back down. On a really good day, it no longer feels as if you're "making time to read," but just reading, and making time for everything else.

1. The usual time-management techniques don't work because ____.
[A]. what they can offer does not ease the modern mind
[B]. what challenging books demand is repetitive reading
[C]. what people often forget is carrying a book with them
[D]. what deep reading requires cannot be guaranteed
2. The "empty bottles" metaphor illustrates that people feel a pressure to ____.
[A]. update their to-do lists
[B]. make passing time fulfilling
[C]. carry their plans through
[D]. pursue carefree reading
3. Eberle would agree that scheduling regular times for reading helps ____.
[A]. encourage the efficiency mind-set
[B]. develop online reading habits
[C]. promote ritualistic reading
[D]. achieve immersive reading
4. "Carry a book with you at all times" can work if ____.
[A]. reading becomes your primary business of the day
[B]. all the daily business has been promptly dealt with
[C]. you are able to drop back to business after reading
[D]. time can be evenly split for reading and business
5. The best title for this text could be ____.
[A]. How to Enjoy Easy Reading
[B]. How to Find Time to Read
[C]. How to Set Reading Goals
[D]. How to Read Extensively

Against a backdrop of drastic changes in economy and population structure, younger Americans are drawing a new 21st-century road map to success, a latest poll has found.

Across generational lines, Americans continue to prize many of the same traditional milestones of a successful life, including getting married, having children, owning a home, and retiring in their sixties. But while young and old mostly agree on what constitutes the finish line of a fulfilling life, they offer strikingly different paths for reaching it.

Young people who are still getting started in life were more likely than older adults to prioritize personal fulfillment in their work, to believe they will advance their careers most by regularly changing jobs, to favor communities with more public services and a faster pace of life, to agree that couples should be financially secure before getting married or having children, and to maintain that children are best served by two parents working outside the home, the survey found.

From career to community and family, these contrasts suggest that in the aftermath of the searing Great Recession, those just starting out in life are defining priorities and expectations that will increasingly spread through virtually all aspects of American life, from consumer preferences to housing patterns to politics.

Young and old converge on one key point: Overwhelming majorities of both groups said they believe it is harder for young people today to get started in life than it was for earlier generations. While younger people are somewhat more optimistic than their elders about the prospects for those starting out today, big majorities in both groups believe those “just getting started in life” face a tougher climb than earlier generations in reaching such signpost achievements as securing a good-paying job, starting a family, managing debt, and finding affordable housing.

Pete Schneider considers the climb tougher today. Schneider, a 27-year-old auto technician from the Chicago suburbs, says he struggled to find a job after graduating from college. Even now that he is working steadily, he said, “I can’t afford to pay my monthly mortgage payments on my own, so I have to rent rooms out to people to make that happen.” Looking back, he is struck that his parents could provide a comfortable life for their children even though neither had completed college when he was young. “I still grew up in an upper middle-class home with parents who didn’t have college degrees,” Schneider said. “I don’t think people are capable of that anymore.”

1. One cross-generation mark of a successful life is ____.
[A]. trying out different lifestyles
[B]. having a family with children
[C]. working beyond retirement age
[D]. setting up a profitable business
2. It can be learned from Paragraph 3 that young people tend to ____.
[A]. favor a slower life pace
[B]. hold an occupation longer
[C]. attach importance to pre-marital finance
[D]. give priority to childcare outside the home
3. The priorities and expectations defined by the young will ____.
[A]. become increasingly clear
[B]. focus on materialistic issues
[C]. depend largely on political preferences
[D]. reach almost all aspects of American life
4. Both young and old agree that ____.
[A]. good-paying jobs are less available
[B]. the old made more life achievements
[C]. housing loans today are easy to obtain
[D]. getting established is harder for the young
5. Which of the following is true about Schneider?
[A]. He found a dream job after graduating from college.
[B]. His parents believe working steadily is a must for success.
[C]. His parents’ good life has little to do with a college degree.
[D]. He thinks his job as a technician quite challenging.

People have speculated for centuries about a future without work. Today is no different, with academics, writers, and activists once again 1 that technology is replacing human workers. Some imagine that the coming work-free world will be defined by 2 : A few wealthy people will own all the capital, and the masses will struggle in an impoverished wasteland.

A different and not mutually exclusive 3 holds that the future will be a wasteland of a different sort, one 4 by purposelessness: Without jobs to give their lives 5 , people will simply become lazy and depressed. 6 , today’s unemployed don’t seem to be having a great time. One Gallup poll found that 20 percent of Americans who have been unemployed for at least a year report having depression, double the rate for 7 Americans. Also, some research suggests that the 8 for rising rates of mortality, mental-health problems, and addiction 9 poorly-educated, middle-aged people is a shortage of well-paid jobs. Perhaps this is why many 10 the agonizing dullness of a jobless future.

But it doesn’t 11 follow from findings like these that a world without work would be filled with unease. Such visions are based on the 12 of being unemployed in a society built on the concept of employment. In the 13 of work, a society designed with other ends in mind could 14 strikingly different circumstances for the future of labor and leisure. Today, the 15 of work may be a bit overblown. “Many jobs are boring, degrading, unhealthy, and a waste of human potential,” says John Danaher, a lecturer at the National University of Ireland in Galway.

These days, because leisure time is relatively 16 for most workers, people use their free time to counterbalance the intellectual and emotional 17 of their jobs. “When I come home from a hard day’s work, I often feel 18 ,” Danaher says, adding, “In a world in which I don’t have to work, I might feel rather different” – perhaps different enough to throw himself 19 a hobby or a passion project with the intensity usually reserved for 20 matters.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | [A]. boasting | [B]. denying | [C]. warning | [D]. ensuring |
| 2. | [A]. inequality | [B]. instability | [C]. unreliability | [D]. uncertainty |
| 3. | [A]. policy | [B]. guideline | [C]. resolution | [D]. prediction |
| 4. | [A]. characterized | [B]. divided | [C]. balanced | [D]. measured |
| 5. | [A]. wisdom | [B]. meaning | [C]. glory | [D]. freedom |
| 6. | [A]. Instead | [B]. Indeed | [C]. Thus | [D]. Nevertheless |
| 7. | [A]. rich | [B]. urban | [C]. working | [D]. educated |
| 8. | [A]. explanation | [B]. requirement | [C]. compensation | [D]. substitute |
| 9. | [A]. under | [B]. beyond | [C]. alongside | [D]. among |
| 10. | [A]. leave behind | [B]. make up | [C]. worry about | [D]. set aside |
| 11. | [A]. statistically | [B]. occasionally | [C]. necessarily | [D]. economically |
| 12. | [A]. chances | [B]. downsides | [C]. benefits | [D]. principles |
| 13. | [A]. absence | [B]. height | [C]. face | [D]. course |
| 14. | [A]. disturb | [B]. restore | [C]. exclude | [D]. yield |
| 15. | [A]. model | [B]. practice | [C]. virtue | [D]. hardship |
| 16. | [A]. tricky | [B]. lengthy | [C]. mysterious | [D]. scarce |
| 17. | [A]. demands | [B]. standards | [C]. qualities | [D]. threats |
| 18. | [A]. ignored | [B]. tired | [C]. confused | [D]. starved |
| 19. | [A]. off | [B]. against | [C]. behind | [D]. into |
| 20. | [A]. technological | [B]. professional | [C]. educational | [D]. interpersonal |

Every Saturday morning, at 9 am, more than 50,000 runners set off to run 5km around their local park. The Parkrun phenomenon began with a dozen friends and has inspired 400 events in the UK and more abroad. Events are free, staffed by thousands of volunteers. Runners range from four years old to grandparents; their times range from Andrew Baddeley's world record 13 minutes 48 seconds up to an hour.

Parkrun is succeeding where London's Olympic "legacy" is failing. Ten years ago on Monday, it was announced that the Games of the 30th Olympiad would be in London. Planning documents pledged that the great legacy of the Games would be to lever a nation of sport lovers away from their couches. The population would be fitter, healthier and produce more winners. It has not happened. The number of adults doing weekly sport did rise, by nearly 2 million in the run-up to 2012 – but the general population was growing faster. Worse, the numbers are now falling at an accelerating rate. The opposition claims primary school pupils doing at least two hours of sport a week have nearly halved. Obesity has risen among adults and children. Official retrospections continue as to why London 2012 failed to "inspire a generation." The success of Parkrun offers answers.

Parkun is not a race but a time trial: Your only competitor is the clock. The ethos welcomes anybody. There is as much joy over a puffed-out first-timer being clapped over the line as there is about top talent shining. The Olympic bidders, by contrast, wanted to get more people doing sport and to produce more elite athletes. The dual aim was mixed up: The stress on success over taking part was intimidating for newcomers.

Indeed, there is something a little absurd in the state getting involved in the planning of such a fundamentally "grassroots" concept as community sports associations. If there is a role for government, it should really be getting involved in providing common goods – making sure there is space for playing fields and the money to pave tennis and netball courts, and encouraging the provision of all these activities in schools. But successive governments have presided over selling green spaces, squeezing money from local authorities and declining attention on sport in education. Instead of wordy, worthy strategies, future governments need to do more to provide the conditions for sport to thrive. Or at least not make them worse.

1. According to Paragraph 1, Parkrun has _____.
[A]. gained great popularity
[B]. created many jobs
[C]. strengthened community ties
[D]. become an official festival
2. The author believes that London's Olympic "legacy" has failed to _____.
[A]. boost population growth
[B]. promote sport participation
[C]. improve the city's image
[D]. increase sport hours in schools
3. Parkrun is different from Olympic games in that it _____.
[A]. aims at discovering talents
[B]. focuses on mass competition
[C]. does not emphasize elitism
[D]. does not attract first-timers
4. With regard to mass sports, the author holds that governments should _____.
[A]. organize "grassroots" sports events
[B]. supervise local sports associations
[C]. increase funds for sports clubs
[D]. invest in public sports facilities
5. The author's attitude to what UK governments have done for sports is _____.
[A]. tolerant
[B]. critical
[C]. uncertain
[D]. sympathetic

With so much focus on children's use of screens, it's easy for parents to forget about their own screen use. "Tech is designed to really suck you in," says Jenny Radesky in her study of digital play, "and digital products are there to promote maximal engagement. It makes it hard to disengage, and leads to a lot of bleed-over into the family routine."

Radesky has studied the use of mobile phones and tablets at mealtimes by giving mother-child pairs a food-testing exercise. She found that mothers who used devices during the exercise started 20 per cent fewer verbal and 39 per cent fewer nonverbal interactions with their children. During a separate observation, she saw that phones became a source of tension in the family. Parents would be looking at their emails while the children would be making excited bids for their attention.

Infants are wired to look at parents' faces to try to understand their world, and if those faces are blank and unresponsive – as they often are when absorbed in a device – it can be extremely disconcerting for the children. Radesky cites the "still face experiment" devised by developmental psychologist Ed Tronick in the 1970s. In it, a mother is asked to interact with her child in a normal way before putting on a blank expression and not giving them any visual social feedback: The child becomes increasingly distressed as she tries to capture her mother's attention. "Parents don't have to be exquisitely present at all times, but there needs to be a balance and parents need to be responsive and sensitive to a child's verbal or nonverbal expressions of an emotional need," says Radesky.

On the other hand, Tronick himself is concerned that the worries about kids' use of screens are born out of an "oppressive ideology that demands that parents should always be interacting" with their children: "It's based on a somewhat fantasised, very white, very upper-middle-class ideology that says if you're failing to expose your child to 30,000 words you are neglecting them." Tronick believes that just because a child isn't learning from the screen doesn't mean there's no value to it – particularly if it gives parents time to have a shower, do housework or simply have a break from their child. Parents, he says, can get a lot out of using their devices to speak to a friend or get some work out of the way. This can make them feel happier, which lets them be more available to their child the rest of the time.

1. According to Jenny Radesky, digital products are designed to ____.
[A]. simplify routine matters
[B]. absorb user attention
[C]. better interpersonal relations
[D]. increase work efficiency
2. Radesky's food-testing exercise shows that mothers' use of devices ____.
[A]. takes away babies' appetite
[B]. distracts children's attention
[C]. slows down babies' verbal development
[D]. reduces mother-child communication
3. Radesky cites the "still face experiment" to show that ____.
[A]. it is easy for children to get used to blank expressions
[B]. verbal expressions are unnecessary for emotional exchange
[C]. children are insensitive to changes in their parents' mood
[D]. parents need to respond to children's emotional needs
4. The oppressive ideology mentioned by Tronick requires parents to ____.
[A]. protect kids from exposure to wild fantasies
[B]. teach their kids at least 30,000 words a year
[C]. ensure constant interaction with their children
[D]. remain concerned about kids' use of screens
5. According to Tronick, kids' use of screens may ____.
[A]. give their parents some free time
[B]. make their parents more creative
[C]. help them with their homework
[D]. help them become more attentive

Today, widespread social pressure to immediately go to college in conjunction with increasingly high expectations in a fast-moving world often causes students to completely overlook the possibility of taking a gap year. After all, if everyone you know is going to college in the fall, it seems silly to stay back a year, doesn't it? And after going to school for 12 years, it doesn't feel natural to spend a year doing something that isn't academic.

But while this may be true, it's not a good enough reason to condemn gap years. There's always a constant fear of falling behind everyone else on the socially perpetuated "race to the finish line," whether that be toward graduate school, medical school or a lucrative career. But despite common misconceptions, a gap year does not hinder the success of academic pursuits – in fact, it probably enhances it.

Studies from the United States and Australia show that students who take a gap year are generally better prepared for and perform better in college than those who do not. Rather than pulling students back, a gap year pushes them ahead by preparing them for independence, new responsibilities and environmental changes – all things that first-year students often struggle with the most. Gap year experiences can lessen the blow when it comes to adjusting to college and being thrown into a brand new environment, making it easier to focus on academics and activities rather than acclimation blunders.

If you're not convinced of the inherent value in taking a year off to explore interests, then consider its financial impact on future academic choices. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, nearly 80 percent of college students end up changing their majors at least once. This isn't surprising, considering the basic mandatory high school curriculum leaves students with a poor understanding of the vast academic possibilities that await them in college. Many students find themselves listing one major on their college applications, but switching to another after taking college classes. It's not necessarily a bad thing, but depending on the school, it can be costly to make up credits after switching too late in the game. At Boston College, for example, you would have to complete an extra year were you to switch to the nursing school from another department. Taking a gap year to figure things out initially can help prevent stress and save money later on.

1. One of the reasons for high-school graduates not taking a gap year is that ____.
[A]. they think it academically misleading
[B]. they have a lot of fun to expect in college
[C]. it feels strange to do differently from others
[D]. it seems worthless to take off-campus courses
2. Studies from the US and Australia imply that taking a gap year helps ____.
[A]. keep students from being unrealistic
[B]. lower risks in choosing careers
[C]. ease freshmen's financial burdens
[D]. relieve freshmen of pressures
3. The word "acclimation" (Para. 3) is closest in meaning to ____.
[A]. adaptation
[B]. application
[C]. motivation
[D]. competition
4. A gap year may save money for students by helping them ____.
[A]. avoid academic failures
[B]. establish long-term goals
[C]. switch to another college
[D]. decide on the right major
5. The most suitable title for this text would be ____.
[A]. In Favor of the Gap Year
[B]. The ABCs of the Gap Year
[C]. The Gap Year Comes Back
[D]. The Gap Year: A Dilemma

Though often viewed as a problem for western states, the growing frequency of wildfires is a national concern because of its impact on federal tax dollars, says Professor Max Moritz, a specialist in fire ecology and management.

In 2015, the US Forest Service for the first time spent more than half of its \$5.5 billion annual budget fighting fires – nearly double the percentage it spent on such efforts 20 years ago. In effect, fewer federal funds today are going towards the agency’s other work – such as forest conservation, watershed and cultural resources management, and infrastructure upkeep – that affect the lives of all Americans.

Another nationwide concern is whether public funds from other agencies are going into construction in fire-prone districts. As Moritz puts it, how often are federal dollars building homes that are likely to be lost to a wildfire?

“It’s already a huge problem from a public expenditure perspective for the whole country,” he says. “We need to take a magnifying glass to that. Like, ‘Wait a minute, is this OK?’ Do we want instead to redirect those funds to concentrate on lower-hazard parts of the landscape?”

Such a view would require a corresponding shift in the way US society today views fire, researchers say.

For one thing, conversations about wildfires need to be more inclusive. Over the past decade, the focus has been on climate change – how the warming of the Earth from greenhouse gases is leading to conditions that worsen fires.

While climate is a key element, Moritz says, it shouldn’t come at the expense of the rest of the equation.

“The human systems and the landscapes we live on are linked, and the interactions go both ways,” he says. Failing to recognize that, he notes, leads to “an overly simplified view of what the solutions might be. Our perception of the problem and of what the solution is becomes very limited.”

At the same time, people continue to treat fire as an event that needs to be wholly controlled and unleashed only out of necessity, says Professor Balch at the University of Colorado. But acknowledging fire’s inevitable presence in human life is an attitude crucial to developing the laws, policies, and practices that make it as safe as possible, she says.

“We’ve disconnected ourselves from living with fire,” Balch says. “It is really important to understand and try and tease out what is the human connection with fire today.”

1. More frequent wildfires have become a national concern because in 2015 they ____.
 - [A]. exhausted unprecedented management efforts
 - [B]. consumed a record-high percentage of budget
 - [C]. severely damaged the ecology of western states
 - [D]. caused a huge rise of infrastructure expenditure
2. Moritz calls for the use of “a magnifying glass” to ____.
 - [A]. raise more funds for fire-prone areas
 - [B]. avoid the redirection of federal money
 - [C]. find wildfire-free parts of the landscape
 - [D]. guarantee safer spending of public funds
3. While admitting that climate is a key element, Moritz notes that ____.
 - [A]. public debates have not settled yet
 - [B]. fire-fighting conditions are improving
 - [C]. other factors should not be overlooked
 - [D]. a shift in the view of fire has taken place
4. The overly simplified view Moritz mentions is a result of failing to ____.
 - [A]. discover the fundamental makeup of nature
 - [B]. explore the mechanism of the human systems
 - [C]. maximize the role of landscape in human life
 - [D]. understand the interrelations of man and nature
5. Professor Balch points out that fire is something man should ____.
 - [A]. do away with
 - [B]. come to terms with
 - [C]. pay a price for
 - [D]. keep away from

Why do people read negative Internet comments and do other things that will obviously be painful? Because humans have an inherent need to 1 uncertainty, according to a recent study in Psychological Science. The new research reveals that the need to know is so strong that people will 2 to satisfy their curiosity even when it is clear the answer will 3 .

In a series of four experiments, behavioral scientists at the University of Chicago and the Wisconsin School of Business tested students' willingness to 4 themselves to unpleasant stimuli in an effort to satisfy curiosity. For one 5 , each participant was shown a pile of pens that the researcher claimed were from a previous experiment. The twist? Half of the pens would 6 an electric shock when clicked.

Twenty-seven students were told which pens were electrified; another twenty-seven were told only that some were electrified. 7 left alone in the room, the students who did not know which ones would shock them clicked more pens and incurred more shocks than the students who knew what would 8 . Subsequent experiments reproduced this effect with other stimuli, 9 the sound of fingernails on a chalkboard and photographs of disgusting insects.

The drive to 10 is deeply rooted in humans, much the same as the basic drives for 11 or shelter, says Christopher Hsee of the University of Chicago. Curiosity is often considered a good instinct – it can 12 new scientific advances, for instance – but sometimes such 13 can backfire. The insight that curiosity can drive you to do 14 things is a profound one.

Unhealthy curiosity is possible to 15 , however. In a final experiment, participants who were encouraged to 16 how they would feel after viewing an unpleasant picture were less likely to 17 to see such an image. These results suggest that imagining the 18 of following through on one's curiosity ahead of time can help determine 19 it is worth the endeavor. "Thinking about long-term 20 is key to reducing the possible negative effects of curiosity," Hsee says. In other words, don't read online comments.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | [A]. protect | [B]. resolve | [C]. discuss | [D]. ignore |
| 2. | [A]. refuse | [B]. wait | [C]. regret | [D]. seek |
| 3. | [A]. hurt | [B]. last | [C]. mislead | [D]. rise |
| 4. | [A]. alert | [B]. tie | [C]. treat | [D]. expose |
| 5. | [A]. message | [B]. review | [C]. trial | [D]. concept |
| 6. | [A]. remove | [B]. weaken | [C]. interrupt | [D]. deliver |
| 7. | [A]. When | [B]. If | [C]. Though | [D]. Unless |
| 8. | [A]. continue | [B]. happen | [C]. disappear | [D]. change |
| 9. | [A]. rather than | [B]. regardless of | [C]. such as | [D]. owing to |
| 10. | [A]. discover | [B]. forgive | [C]. forget | [D]. disagree |
| 11. | [A]. pay | [B]. marriage | [C]. schooling | [D]. food |
| 12. | [A]. lead to | [B]. rest on | [C]. learn from | [D]. begin with |
| 13. | [A]. withdrawal | [B]. persistence | [C]. inquiry | [D]. diligence |
| 14. | [A]. self-reliant | [B]. self-destructive | [C]. self-evident | [D]. self-deceptive |
| 15. | [A]. define | [B]. resist | [C]. replace | [D]. trace |
| 16. | [A]. overlook | [B]. predict | [C]. design | [D]. conceal |
| 17. | [A]. remember | [B]. promise | [C]. choose | [D]. pretend |
| 18. | [A]. relief | [B]. plan | [C]. duty | [D]. outcome |
| 19. | [A]. why | [B]. whether | [C]. where | [D]. how |
| 20. | [A]. consequences | [B]. investments | [C]. strategies | [D]. limitations |

It is curious that Stephen Koziatek feels almost as though he has to justify his efforts to give his students a better future.

Mr. Koziatek is part of something pioneering. He is a teacher at a New Hampshire high school where learning is not something of books and tests and mechanical memorization, but practical. When did it become accepted wisdom that students should be able to name the 13th president of the United States but be utterly overwhelmed by a broken bike chain?

As Koziatek knows, there is learning in just about everything. Nothing is necessarily gained by forcing students to learn geometry at a graffitied desk stuck with generations of discarded chewing gum. They can also learn geometry by assembling a bicycle.

But he's also found a kind of insidious prejudice. Working with your hands is seen as almost a mark of inferiority. Schools in the family of vocational education "have that stereotype...that it's for kids who can't make it academically," he says.

On one hand, that viewpoint is a logical product of America's evolution. Manufacturing is not the economic engine that it once was. The job security that the US economy once offered to high school graduates has largely evaporated. More education is the new principle. We want more for our kids, and rightfully so.

But the headlong push into bachelor's degrees for all – and the subtle devaluing of anything less – misses an important point: That's not the only thing the American economy needs. Yes, a bachelor's degree opens more doors. But even now, 54 percent of the jobs in the country are middle-skill jobs, such as construction and high-skill manufacturing. But only 44 percent of workers are adequately trained.

In other words, at a time when the working class has turned the country on its political head, frustrated that the opportunity that once defined America is vanishing, one obvious solution is staring us in the face. There is a gap in working-class jobs, but the workers who need those jobs most aren't equipped to do them. Koziatek's Manchester School of Technology High School is trying to fill that gap.

Koziatek's school is a wake-up call. When education becomes one-size-fits-all, it risks overlooking a nation's diversity of gifts.

1. A broken bike chain is mentioned to show students' lack of ____.
[A]. practical ability
[B]. academic training
[C]. pioneering spirit
[D]. mechanical memorization
2. There exists the prejudice that vocational education is for kids who ____.
[A]. have a stereotyped mind
[B]. have no career motivation
[C]. are not academically successful
[D]. are financially disadvantaged
3. We can infer from Paragraph 5 that high school graduates ____.
[A]. used to have big financial concerns
[B]. used to have more job opportunities
[C]. are reluctant to work in manufacturing
[D]. are entitled to more educational privileges
4. The headlong push into bachelor's degrees for all ____.
[A]. helps create a lot of middle-skill jobs
[B]. may narrow the gap in working-class jobs
[C]. is expected to yield a better-trained workforce
[D]. indicates the overvaluing of higher education
5. The author's attitude toward Koziatek's school can be described as ____.
[A]. supportive
[B]. tolerant
[C]. disappointed
[D]. cautious

While fossil fuels – coal, oil, gas – still generate roughly 85 percent of the world’s energy supply, it’s clearer than ever that the future belongs to renewable sources such as wind and solar. The move to renewables is picking up momentum around the world: They now account for more than half of new power sources going on line.

Some growth stems from a commitment by governments and farsighted businesses to fund cleaner energy sources. But increasingly the story is about the plummeting prices of renewables, especially wind and solar. The cost of solar panels has dropped by 80 percent and the cost of wind turbines by close to one-third in the past eight years.

In many parts of the world renewable energy is already a principal energy source. In Scotland, for example, wind turbines provide enough electricity to power 95 percent of homes. While the rest of the world takes the lead, notably China and Europe, the United States is also seeing a remarkable shift. In March, for the first time, wind and solar power accounted for more than 10 percent of the power generated in the US, reported the US Energy Information Administration.

President Trump has underlined fossil fuels – especially coal – as the path to economic growth. In a recent speech in Iowa, he dismissed wind power as an unreliable energy source. But that message did not play well with many in Iowa, where wind turbines dot the fields and provide 36 percent of the state’s electricity generation – and where tech giants like Microsoft are being attracted by the availability of clean energy to power their data centers.

The question “what happens when the wind doesn’t blow or the sun doesn’t shine?” has provided a quick put-down for skeptics. But a boost in the storage capacity of batteries is making their ability to keep power flowing around the clock more likely.

The advance is driven in part by vehicle manufacturers, who are placing big bets on battery-powered electric vehicles. Although electric cars are still a rarity on roads now, this massive investment could change the picture rapidly in coming years.

While there’s a long way to go, the trend lines for renewables are spiking. The pace of change in energy sources appears to be speeding up – perhaps just in time to have a meaningful effect in slowing climate change. What Washington does – or doesn’t do – to promote alternative energy may mean less and less at a time of a global shift in thought.

1. The word “plummeting” (Line 3, Para. 2) is closest in meaning to ____.
[A]. stabilizing
[B]. changing
[C]. falling
[D]. rising
2. According to Paragraph 3, the use of renewable energy in America ____.
[A]. is progressing notably
[B]. is as extensive as in Europe
[C]. faces many challenges
[D]. has proved to be impractical
3. It can be learned that in Iowa, ____.
[A]. wind is a widely used energy source
[B]. wind energy has replaced fossil fuels
[C]. tech giants are investing in clean energy
[D]. there is a shortage of clean energy supply
4. Which of the following is true about clean energy according to Paragraphs 5&6?
[A]. Its application has boosted battery storage.
[B]. It is commonly used in car manufacturing.
[C]. Its continuous supply is becoming a reality.
[D]. Its sustainable exploitation will remain difficult.
5. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that renewable energy ____.
[A]. will bring the US closer to other countries
[B]. will accelerate global environmental change
[C]. is not really encouraged by the US government
[D]. is not competitive enough with regard to its cost

The power and ambition of the giants of the digital economy is astonishing-

Amazon has just announced the purchase of the upmarket grocery chain Whole Foods for \$ 13.5bn, but two years ago Facebook paid even more than that to acquire the WhatsApp messaging service, which doesn't have any physical product at all. What WhatsApp offered Facebook was an intricate and finely detailed web of its users' friendships and social lives.

Facebook promised the European commission then that it would not link phone numbers to Facebook identities, but it broke the promise almost as soon as the deal went through. Even without knowing what was in the messages, the knowledge of who sent them and to whom was enormously revealing and still could be. What political journalist, what party whip, would not want to know the makeup of the WhatsApp groups in which Theresa May's enemies are currently plotting? It may be that the value of Whole Foods to Amazon is not so much the 460 shops it owns, but the records of which customers have purchased what.

Competition law appears to be the only way to address these imbalances of power. But it is clumsy. For one thing, it is very slow compared to the pace of change within the digital economy. By the time a problem has been addressed and remedied it may have vanished in the marketplace, to be replaced by new abuses of power. But there is a deeper conceptual problem, too. Competition law as presently interpreted deals with financial disadvantage to consumers and this is not obvious when the users of these services don't pay for them. The users of their services are not their customers. That would be the people who buy advertising from them – and Facebook and Google, the two virtual giants, dominate digital advertising to the disadvantage of all other media and entertainment companies.

The product they're selling is data, and we, the users, convert our lives to data for the benefit of the digital giants. Just as some ants farm the bugs called aphids for the honeydew they produce when they feed, so Google farms us for the data that our digital lives yield. Ants keep predatory insects away from where their aphids feed; Gmail keeps the spammers out of our inboxes. It doesn't feel like a human or democratic relationship, even if both sides benefit.

1. According to Paragraph 1, Facebook acquired WhatsApp for its ____.
 - [A]. digital products
 - [B]. user information
 - [C]. physical assets
 - [D]. quality service
2. Linking phone numbers to Facebook identities may ____.
 - [A]. worsen political disputes
 - [B]. mess up customer records
 - [C]. pose a risk to Facebook users
 - [D]. mislead the European commission
3. According to the author, competition law ____.
 - [A]. should serve the new market powers
 - [B]. may worsen the economic imbalance
 - [C]. should not provide just one legal solution
 - [D]. cannot keep pace with the changing market
4. Competition law as presently interpreted can hardly protect Facebook users because ____.
 - [A]. they are not defined as customers
 - [B]. they are not financially reliable
 - [C]. the services are generally digital
 - [D]. the services are paid for by advertisers
5. The ants analogy is used to illustrate ____.
 - [A]. a win-win business model between digital giants
 - [B]. a typical competition pattern among digital giants
 - [C]. the benefits provided for digital giants' customers
 - [D]. the relationship between digital giants and their users

To combat the trap of putting a premium on being busy, Cal Newport, author of *Deep Work: Rules for Focused Success in a Distracted World*, recommends building a habit of “deep work” – the ability to focus without distraction.

There are a number of approaches to mastering the art of deep work – be it lengthy retreats dedicated to a specific task; developing a daily ritual; or taking a “journalistic” approach to seizing moments of deep work when you can throughout the day. Whichever approach, the key is to determine your length of focus time and stick to it.

Newport also recommends “deep scheduling” to combat constant interruptions and get more done in less time. “At any given point, I should have deep work scheduled for roughly the next month. Once on the calendar, I protect this time like I would a doctor’s appointment or important meeting”, he writes.

Another approach to getting more done in less time is to rethink how you prioritise your day – in particular how we craft our to-do lists. Tim Harford, author of *Messy: The Power of Disorder to Transform Our Lives*, points to a study in the early 1980s that divided undergraduates into two groups: some were advised to set out monthly goals and study activities; others were told to plan activities and goals in much more detail, day by day.

While the researchers assumed that the well-structured daily plans would be most effective when it came to the execution of tasks, they were wrong: the detailed daily plans demotivated students. Harford argues that inevitable distractions often render the daily to-do list ineffective, while leaving room for improvisation in such a list can reap the best results.

In order to make the most of our focus and energy, we also need to embrace downtime, or as Newport suggests, “be lazy”.

“Idleness is not just a vacation, an indulgence or a vice; it is as indispensable to the brain as vitamin D is to the body...[idleness] is, paradoxically, necessary to getting any work done,” he argues.

Srini Pillay, an assistant professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, believes this counter-intuitive link between downtime and productivity may be due to the way our brains operate. When our brains switch between being focused and unfocused on a task, they tend to be more efficient.

“What people don’t realise is that in order to complete these tasks they need to use both the focus and unfocus circuits in their brain,” says Pillay.

1. The key to mastering the art of deep work is to ____.
[A]. keep to your focus time
[B]. list your immediate tasks
[C]. make specific daily plans
[D]. seize every minute to work
2. The study in the early 1980s cited by Harford shows that ____.
[A]. distractions may actually increase efficiency
[B]. daily schedules are indispensable to studying
[C]. students are hardly motivated by monthly goals
[D]. detailed plans may not be as fruitful as expected
3. According to Newport, idleness is ____.
[A]. a desirable mental state for busy people
[B]. a major contributor to physical health
[C]. an effective way to save time and energy
[D]. an essential factor in accomplishing any work
4. Pillay believes that our brains’ shift between being focused and unfocused ____.
[A]. can result in psychological well-being
[B]. can bring about greater efficiency
[C]. is aimed at better balance in work
[D]. is driven by task urgency
5. This text is mainly about ____.
[A]. ways to relieve the tension of busy life
[B]. approaches to getting more done in less time
[C]. the key to eliminating distractions
[D]. the cause of the lack of focus time

Weighing yourself regularly is a wonderful way to stay aware of any significant weight fluctuations. 1 , when done too often, this habit can sometimes hurt more than it 2 .

As for me, weighing myself every day caused me to shift my focus from being generally healthy and physically active, to focusing 3 on the scale. That was bad to my overall fitness goals. I had gained weight in the form of muscle mass, but thinking only of 4 the number on the scale, I altered my training program. That conflicted with how I needed to train to 5 my goals.

I also found that weighing myself daily did not provide an accurate 6 of the hard work and progress I was making in the gym. It takes about three weeks to a month to notice significant changes in your weight 7 altering your training program. The most 8 changes will be observed in skill level, strength and inches lost.

For these 9 , I stopped weighing myself every day and switched to a bimonthly weighing schedule 10 . Since weight loss is not my goal, it is less important for me to 11 my weight each week. Weighing every other week allows me to observe and 12 any significant weight changes. That tells me whether I need to 13 my training program.

I use my bimonthly weigh-in 14 to get information about my nutrition as well. If my training intensity remains the same, but I’m constantly 15 and dropping weight, this is a 16 that I need to increase my daily caloric intake.

The 17 to stop weighing myself every day has done wonders for my overall health, fitness and well-being. I’m experiencing increased zeal for working out since I no longer carry the burden of a 18 morning weigh-in. I’ve also experienced greater success in achieving my specific fitness goals, 19 I’m training according to those goals, not the numbers on a scale.

Rather than 20 over the scale, turn your focus to how you look, feel, how your clothes fit and your overall energy level.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. | [A]. Besides | [B]. Therefore | [C]. Otherwise | [D]. However |
| 2. | [A]. helps | [B]. cares | [C]. warns | [D]. reduces |
| 3. | [A]. initially | [B]. solely | [C]. occasionally | [D]. formally |
| 4. | [A]. recording | [B]. lowering | [C]. explaining | [D]. accepting |
| 5. | [A]. modify | [B]. set | [C]. review | [D]. reach |
| 6. | [A]. definition | [B]. depiction | [C]. distribution | [D]. prediction |
| 7. | [A]. due to | [B]. regardless of | [C]. aside from | [D]. along with |
| 8. | [A]. orderly | [B]. rigid | [C]. precise | [D]. immediate |
| 9. | [A]. claims | [B]. judgments | [C]. reasons | [D]. methods |
| 10. | [A]. instead | [B]. though | [C]. again | [D]. indeed |
| 11. | [A]. track | [B]. overlook | [C]. conceal | [D]. report |
| 12. | [A]. depend on | [B]. approve of | [C]. hold onto | [D]. account for |
| 13. | [A]. share | [B]. adjust | [C]. confirm | [D]. prepare |
| 14. | [A]. results | [B]. features | [C]. rules | [D]. tests |
| 15. | [A]. bored | [B]. anxious | [C]. hungry | [D]. sick |
| 16. | [A]. principle | [B]. secret | [C]. belief | [D]. sign |
| 17. | [A]. request | [B]. necessity | [C]. decision | [D]. wish |
| 18. | [A]. disappointing | [B]. surprising | [C]. restricting | [D]. consuming |
| 19. | [A]. if | [B]. unless | [C]. until | [D]. because |
| 20. | [A]. obsessing | [B]. dominating | [C]. puzzling | [D]. triumphing |

Unlike so-called basic emotions such as sadness, fear, and anger, guilt emerges a little later, in conjunction with a child's growing grasp of social and moral norms. Children aren't born knowing how to say "I'm sorry"; rather, they learn over time that such statements appease parents and friends – and their own consciences. This is why researchers generally regard so-called moral guilt, in the right amount, to be a good thing.

In the popular imagination, of course, guilt still gets a bad rap. It is deeply uncomfortable – it's the emotional equivalent of wearing a jacket weighted with stones. Yet this understanding is outdated. "There has been a kind of revival or a rethinking about what guilt is and what role guilt can serve," says Amrisha Vaish, a psychology researcher at the University of Virginia, adding that this revival is part of a larger recognition that emotions aren't binary – feelings that may be advantageous in one context may be harmful in another. Jealousy and anger, for example, may have evolved to alert us to important inequalities. Too much happiness can be destructive.

And guilt, by prompting us to think more deeply about our goodness, can encourage humans to make up for errors and fix relationships. Guilt, in other words, can help hold a cooperative species together. It is a kind of social glue.

Viewed in this light, guilt is an opportunity. Work by Tina Malti, a psychology professor at the University of Toronto, suggests that guilt may compensate for an emotional deficiency. In a number of studies, Malti and others have shown that guilt and sympathy may represent different pathways to cooperation and sharing. Some kids who are low in sympathy may make up for that shortfall by experiencing more guilt, which can rein in their nastier impulses. And vice versa: High sympathy can substitute for low guilt.

In a 2014 study, for example, Malti looked at 244 children. Using caregiver assessments and the children's self-observations, she rated each child's overall sympathy level and his or her tendency to feel negative emotions after moral transgressions. Then the kids were handed chocolate coins, and given a chance to share them with an anonymous child. For the low-sympathy kids, how much they shared appeared to turn on how inclined they were to feel guilty. The guilt-prone ones shared more, even though they hadn't magically become more sympathetic to the other child's deprivation.

"That's good news," Malti says. "We can be prosocial because we caused harm and we feel regret."

1. Researchers think that guilt can be a good thing because it may help ____.
[A]. regulate a child's basic emotions
[B]. improve a child's intellectual ability
[C]. foster a child's moral development
[D]. intensify a child's positive feelings
2. According to Paragraph 2, many people still consider guilt to be ____.
[A]. deceptive
[B]. burdensome
[C]. addictive
[D]. inexcusable
3. Vaish holds that the rethinking about guilt comes from an awareness that ____.
[A]. emotions are context-independent
[B]. emotions are socially constructive
[C]. emotional stability can benefit health
[D]. an emotion can play opposing roles
4. Malti and others have shown that cooperation and sharing ____.
[A]. may help correct emotional deficiencies
[B]. can result from either sympathy or guilt
[C]. can bring about emotional satisfaction
[D]. may be the outcome of impulsive acts
5. The word "transgressions" (Line 4, Para.5) is closest in meaning to ____.
[A]. teachings
[B]. discussions
[C]. restrictions
[D]. wrongdoings

Forests give us shade, quiet and one of the harder challenges in the fight against climate change. Even as we humans count on forests to soak up a good share of the carbon dioxide we produce, we are threatening their ability to do so. The climate change we are hastening could one day leave us with forests that emit more carbon than they absorb.

Thankfully, there is a way out of this trap – but it involves striking a subtle balance. Helping forests flourish as valuable “carbon sinks” long into the future may require reducing their capacity to absorb carbon now. California is leading the way, as it does on so many climate efforts, in figuring out the details.

The state’s proposed Forest Carbon Plan aims to double efforts to thin out young trees and clear brush in parts of the forest. This temporarily lowers carbon-carrying capacity. But the remaining trees draw a greater share of the available moisture, so they grow and thrive, restoring the forest’s capacity to pull carbon from the air. Healthy trees are also better able to fend off insects. The landscape is rendered less easily burnable. Even in the event of a fire, fewer trees are consumed.

The need for such planning is increasingly urgent. Already, since 2010, drought and insects have killed over 100 million trees in California, most of them in 2016 alone, and wildfires have burned hundreds of thousands of acres.

California plans to treat 35, 000 acres of forest a year by 2020, and 60,000 by 2030 – financed from the proceeds of the state’s emissions-permit auctions. That’s only a small share of the total acreage that could benefit, about half a million acres in all, so it will be vital to prioritize areas at greatest risk of fire or drought.

The strategy also aims to ensure that carbon in woody material removed from the forests is locked away in the form of solid lumber or burned as biofuel in vehicles that would otherwise run on fossil fuels. New research on transportation biofuels is already under way.

State governments are well accustomed to managing forests, but traditionally they’ve focused on wildlife, watersheds and opportunities for recreation. Only recently have they come to see the vital part forests will have to play in storing carbon. California’s plan, which is expected to be finalized by the governor next year, should serve as a model.

1. By saying “one of the harder challenges,” the author implies that ____.
[A]. global climate change may get out of control
[B]. people may misunderstand global warming
[C]. extreme weather conditions may arise
[D]. forests may become a potential threat
2. To maintain forests as valuable “carbon sinks,” we may need to ____.
[A]. preserve the diversity of species in them
[B]. accelerate the growth of young trees
[C]. strike a balance among different plants
[D]. lower their present carbon-absorbing capacity
3. California’s Forest Carbon Plan endeavors to ____.
[A]. cultivate more drought-resistant trees
[B]. reduce the density of some of its forests
[C]. find more effective ways to kill insects
[D]. restore its forests quickly after wildfires
4. What is essential to California’s plan according to Paragraph 5?
[A]. To handle the areas in serious danger first.
[B]. To carry it out before the year of 2020.
[C]. To perfect the emissions-permit auctions.
[D]. To obtain enough financial support.
5. The author’s attitude to California’s plan can best be described as ____.
[A]. ambiguous
[B]. tolerant
[C]. supportive
[D]. cautious

American farmers have been complaining of labor shortages for several years. The complaints are unlikely to stop without an overhaul of immigration rules for farm workers.

Congress has obstructed efforts to create a more straightforward visa for agricultural workers that would let foreign workers stay longer in the U.S. and change jobs within the industry. If this doesn't change, American businesses, communities, and consumers will be the losers.

Perhaps half of U.S. farm laborers are undocumented immigrants. As fewer such workers enter the country, the characteristics of the agricultural workforce are changing. Today's farm laborers, while still predominantly born in Mexico, are more likely to be settled rather than migrating and more likely to be married than single. They're also aging. At the start of this century, about one-third of crop workers were over the age of 35. Now more than half are. And picking crops is hard on older bodies. One oft-debated cure for this labor shortage remains as implausible as it's been all along: Native U.S. workers won't be returning to the farm.

Mechanization isn't the answer, either – not yet, at least. Production of corn, cotton, rice, soybeans, and wheat has been largely mechanized, but many high-value, labor-intensive crops, such as strawberries, need labor. Even dairy farms, where robots do a small share of milking, have a long way to go before they're automated.

As a result, farms have grown increasingly reliant on temporary guest workers using the H-2A visa to fill the gaps in the workforce. Starting around 2012, requests for the visas rose sharply; from 2011 to 2016 the number of visas issued more than doubled. The H-2A visa has no numerical cap, unlike the H-2B visa for nonagricultural work, which is limited to 66,000 a year. Even so, employers complain they aren't given all the workers they need. The process is cumbersome, expensive, and unreliable. One survey found that bureaucratic delays led the average H-2A worker to arrive on the job 22 days late. The shortage is compounded by federal immigration raids, which remove some workers and drive others underground.

In a 2012 survey, 71 percent of tree-fruit growers and almost 80 percent of raisin and berry growers said they were short of labor. Some western farmers have responded by moving operations to Mexico. From 1998 to 2000, 14.5 percent of the fruit Americans consumed was imported. Little more than a decade later, the share of imports was 25.8 percent.

In effect, the U.S. can import food or it can import the workers who pick it.

1. What problem should be addressed according to the first two paragraphs?

[A]. Discrimination against foreign workers in the U.S.

[B]. Biased laws in favor of some American businesses.

[C]. Flaws in U.S. immigration rules for farm workers.

[D]. Decline of job opportunities in U.S. agriculture.

2. One trouble with U.S. agricultural workforce is ____.

[A]. the rising number of illegal immigrants

[B]. the high mobility of crop workers

[C]. the lack of experienced laborers

[D]. the aging of immigrant farm workers

3. What is the much-argued solution to the labor shortage in U.S. farming?

[A]. To attract younger laborers to farm work.

[B]. To get native U.S. workers back to farming.

[C]. To use more robots to grow high-value crops.

[D]. To strengthen financial support for farmers.

4. Agricultural employers complain about the H-2A visa for its ____.

[A]. slow granting procedures

[B]. limit on duration of stay

[C]. tightened requirements

[D]. control of annual admissions

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

[A]. U.S. Agriculture in Decline?

[B]. Import Food or Labor?

[C]. America Saved by Mexico?

[D]. Manpower vs. Automation?

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Dia Mirza and Adrian Grenier have a message for you: It's easy to beat plastic. They're part of a bunch of celebrities starring in a new video for World Environment Day – encouraging you, the consumer, to swap out your single-use plastic staples like straws and cutlery to combat the plastics crisis.

The key messages that have been put together for World Environment Day do include a call for governments to enact legislation to curb single-use plastics. But the overarching message is directed at individuals.

My concern with leaving it up to the individual, however, is our limited sense of what needs to be achieved. On their own, taking our own bags to the grocery store or quitting plastic straws, for example, will accomplish little and require very little of us. They could even be detrimental, satisfying a need to have “done our bit” without ever progressing onto bigger, bolder, more effective actions – a kind of “moral licensing” that allays our concerns and stops us doing more and asking more of those in charge.

While the conversation around our environment and our responsibility toward it remains centered on shopping bags and straws, we're ignoring the balance of power that implies that as “consumers” we must shop sustainably, rather than as “citizens” hold our governments and industries to account to push for real systemic change.

It's important to acknowledge that the environment isn't everyone's priority – or even most people's. We shouldn't expect it to be. In her latest book, *Why Good People Do Bad Environmental Things*, Wellesley College professor Elizabeth R. DeSombre argues that the best way to collectively change the behavior of large numbers of people is for the change to be structural.

This might mean implementing policy such as a plastic tax that adds a cost to environmentally problematic action, or banning single-use plastics altogether. India has just announced it will “eliminate all single-use plastic in the country by 2022.” There are also incentive-based ways of making better environmental choices easier, such as ensuring recycling is at least as easy as trash disposal.

DeSombre isn't saying people should stop caring about the environment. It's just that individual actions are too slow, she says, for that to be the only, or even primary, approach to changing widespread behavior.

None of this is about writing off the individual. It's just about putting things into perspective. We don't have time to wait. We need progressive policies that shape collective action (and rein in polluting businesses), alongside engaged citizens pushing for change.

1. Some celebrities star in a new video to ____.
[A]. demand new laws on the use of plastics
[B]. urge consumers to cut the use of plastics
[C]. invite public opinion on the plastics crisis
[D]. disclose the causes of the plastics crisis
2. The author is concerned that “moral licensing” may ____.
[A]. mislead us into doing worthless things
[B]. prevent us from making further efforts
[C]. weaken our sense of accomplishment
[D]. suppress our desire for success
3. By pointing out our identity “citizens”, the author indicates that ____.
[A]. our focus should be shifted to community welfare
[B]. our relationship with local industries is improving
[C]. we have been actively exercising our civil rights
[D]. we should press our government to lead the combat
4. DeSombre argues that the best way for a collective change should be ____.
[A]. a win-win arrangement
[B]. a self-driven mechanism
[C]. a cost-effective approach
[D]. a top-down process
5. The author concludes that individual efforts ____.
[A]. can be too aggressive
[B]. can be too inconsistent
[C]. are far from sufficient
[D]. are far from rational

Being a good parent is, of course, what every parent would like to be. But defining what it means to be a good parent is undoubtedly very 1 , particularly since children respond differently to the same style of parenting. A calm, rule-following child might respond better to a different sort of parenting than, 2 , a younger sibling.

3 , there’s another sort of parent that’s a bit easier to 4 : a patient parent. Children of every age benefit from patient parenting. Still, 5 every parent would like to be patient, this is no easy 6 . Sometimes parents get exhausted and frustrated and are unable to maintain a 7 and composed style with their kids. I understand this.

You’re only human, and sometimes your kids can 8 you just a little too far. And then the 9 happens: You lose your patience and either scream at your kids or say something that was a bit too 10 and does nobody any good. You wish that you could 11 the clock and start over, We’ve all been there.

12 , even though it’s common, it’s important to keep in mind that in a single moment of fatigue, you can say something to your child that you may 13 for a long time. This may not only do damage to your relationship with your child but also 14 your child’s self-esteem.

If you consistently lose your 15 with your kids, then you are inadvertently modeling a lack of emotional control for your kids. We are all becoming increasingly aware of the 16 of modeling tolerance and patience for the younger generation. This is a skill that will help them all throughout life. In fact, the ability to emotionally regulate or maintain emotional control when 17 by stress is one of the most important of all life’s skills.

Certainly, it’s incredibly 18 to maintain patience at all times with your children. A more practical goal is to try, to the best of your ability, to be as tolerant and composed as you can when faced with 19 situations involving your children. I can promise you this: As a result of working toward this goal. you and your children will benefit and 20 from stressful moments feeling better physically and emotionally.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. | [A]. tedious | [B]. pleasant | [C]. instructive | [D]. tricky |
| 2. | [A]. in addition | [B]. for example | [C]. at once | [D]. by accident |
| 3. | [A]. Fortunately | [B]. Occasionally | [C]. Accordingly | [D]. Eventually |
| 4. | [A]. amuse | [B]. assist | [C]. describe | [D]. train |
| 5. | [A]. while | [B]. because | [C]. unless | [D]. once |
| 6. | [A]. answer | [B]. task | [C]. choice | [D]. access |
| 7. | [A]. tolerant | [B]. formal | [C]. rigid | [D]. critical |
| 8. | [A]. move | [B]. drag | [C]. push | [D]. send |
| 9. | [A]. mysterious | [B]. illogical | [C]. suspicious | [D]. inevitable |
| 10. | [A]. boring | [B]. naive | [C]. harsh | [D]. vague |
| 11. | [A]. turn back | [B]. take apart | [C]. set aside | [D]. cover up |
| 12. | [A]. Overall | [B]. Instead | [C]. However | [D]. Otherwise |
| 13. | [A]. like | [B]. miss | [C]. believe | [D]. regret |
| 14. | [A]. raise | [B]. affect | [C]. justify | [D]. reflect |
| 15. | [A]. time | [B]. bond | [C]. race | [D]. cool |
| 16. | [A]. nature | [B]. secret | [C]. importance | [D]. context |
| 17. | [A]. cheated | [B]. defeated | [C]. confused | [D]. confronted |
| 18. | [A]. terrible | [B]. hard | [C]. strange | [D]. wrong |
| 19. | [A]. trying | [B]. changing | [C]. exciting | [D]. surprising |
| 20. | [A]. hide | [B]. emerge | [C]. withdraw | [D]. escape |

Rats and other animals need to be highly attuned to social signals from others so they can identify friends to cooperate with and enemies to avoid. To find out if this extends to non-living beings, Laleh Quinn at the University of California, San Diego, and her colleagues tested whether rats can detect social signals from robotic rats.

They housed eight adult rats with two types of robotic rat—one social and one asocial—for four days. The robot rats were quite minimalist, resembling a chunkier version of a computer mouse with wheels to move around and colourful markings.

During the experiment, the social robot rat followed the living rats around, played with the same toys, and opened cage doors to let trapped rats escape. Meanwhile, the asocial robot simply moved forwards and backwards and side to side.

Next, the researchers trapped the robots in cages and gave the rats the opportunity to release them by pressing a lever. Across 18 trials each, the living rats were 52 per cent more likely on average to set the social robot free than the asocial one. This suggests that the rats perceived the social robot as a genuine social being, says Quinn. The rats may have bonded more with the social robot because it displayed behaviors like communal exploring and playing. This could lead to the rats better remembering having freed it earlier, and wanting the robot to return the favour when they get trapped, she says.

“Rats have been shown to engage in multiple forms of reciprocal help and cooperation, including what is referred to as direct reciprocity where a rat will help another rat that has previously helped them,” says Quinn.

The readiness of the rats to befriend the social robot was surprising given its minimal design. The robot was the same size as a regular rat but resembled a simple plastic box on wheels. “We’d assumed we’d have to give it a moving head and tail, facial features, and put a scent on it to make it smell like a real rat, but that wasn’t necessary,” says Janet Wiles at the University of Queensland in Australia, who helped with the research.

The finding shows how sensitive rats are to social cues, even when they come from basic robots, says Wiles. Similarly, children tend to treat robots as if they are fellow beings, even when they display only simple social signals. “We humans seem to be fascinated by robots, and it turns out other animals are too,” says Wiles.

1. Quinn and her colleagues conducted a test to see if rats can ____.
 - [A]. pick up social signals from non-living rats
 - [B]. distinguish a friendly rat from a hostile one
 - [C]. attain sociable traits through special training
 - [D]. send out warning messages to their fellows
2. What did the asocial robot do during the experiment?
 - [A]. It followed the social robot.
 - [B]. It played with some toys.
 - [C]. It set the trapped rats free.
 - [D]. It moved around alone.
3. According to Quinn, the rats released the social robot because they ____.
 - [A]. tried to practice a means of escape.
 - [B]. expected it to do the same in return.
 - [C]. wanted to display their intelligence.
 - [D]. considered that an interesting game.
4. Janet Wiles notes that rats ____.
 - [A]. can remember other rats’ facial features.
 - [B]. differentiate smells better than sizes.
 - [C]. respond more to actions than to looks.
 - [D]. can be scared by a plastic box on wheels.
5. It can be learned from the text that rats ____.
 - [A]. appear to be adaptable to new surroundings
 - [B]. are more socially active than other animals
 - [C]. behave differently from children in socializing
 - [D]. are more sensitive to social cues than expected

It is true that CEO pay has gone up—top ones may make 300 times the pay of typical workers on average, and since the mid-1970s, CEO pay for large publicly traded American corporations has, by varying estimates, gone up by about 500

The best model for understanding the growth of CEO pay is that of limited CEO talent in a world where business opportunities for the top firms are growing rapidly. The efforts of America's highest-earning 1

Today's CEO, at least for major American firms, must have many more skills than simply being able to "run the company." CEOs must have a good sense of financial markets and maybe even how the company should trade in them. They also need better public relations skills than their predecessors, as the costs of even a minor slipup can be significant. Then there's the fact that large American companies are much more globalized than ever before, with supply chains spread across a larger number of countries. To lead in that system requires knowledge that is fairly mind-boggling. Plus, virtually all major American companies are becoming tech companies, one way or another. Beyond this, major CEOs still have to do all the day-to-day work they have always done.

The common idea that high CEO pay is mainly about ripping people off doesn't explain history very well. By most measures, corporate governance has become a lot tighter and more rigorous since the 1970s. Yet it is principally during this period of stronger governance that CEO pay has been high and rising. That suggests it is in the broader corporate interest to recruit top candidates for increasingly tough jobs.

Furthermore, the highest CEO salaries are paid to outside candidates, not to the cozy insider picks, another sign that high CEO pay is not some kind of depredation at the expense of the rest of the company. And the stock market reacts positively when companies tie CEO pay to, say, stock prices, a sign that those practices build up corporate value not just for the CEO.

1. Which of the following has contributed to CEO pay rise?
 - [A]. The growth in the number of corporations.
 - [B]. The general pay rise with a better economy.
 - [C]. Increased business opportunities for top firms.
 - [D]. Close cooperation among leading economies.
2. Compared with their predecessors, today's CEOs are required to _____.
 - [A]. foster a stronger sense of teamwork
 - [B]. finance more research and development
 - [C]. establish closer ties with tech companies
 - [D]. operate more globalized companies
3. CEO pay has been rising since the 1970s despite _____.
 - [A]. continual internal opposition
 - [B]. strict corporate governance
 - [C]. conservative business strategies
 - [D]. repeated government warnings
4. High CEO pay can be justified by the fact that it helps _____.
 - [A]. confirm the status of CEOs
 - [B]. motive inside candidates
 - [C]. boost the efficiency of CEOs
 - [D]. increase corporate value
5. The most suitable title for this text would be _____.
 - [A]. CEOs Are Not Overpaid
 - [B]. CEO Pay: Past and Present
 - [C]. CEOs' Challenges of Today
 - [D]. CEO Traits: Not Easy to Define

Madrid was hailed as a public health beacon last November when it rolled out ambitious restrictions on the most polluting cars. Seven months and one election day later, a new conservative city council suspended enforcement of the clean air zone, a first step toward its possible demise.

Mayor José Luis Martínez-Almeida made opposition to the zone a centrepiece of his election campaign, despite its success in improving air quality. A judge has now overruled the city's decision to stop levying fines, ordering them reinstated. But with legal battles ahead, the zone's future looks uncertain at best.

Among other weaknesses, the measures cities must employ when left to tackle dirty air on their own are politically contentious, and therefore vulnerable. That's because they inevitably put the costs of cleaning the air on to individual drivers—who must pay fees or buy better vehicles—rather than on to the car manufacturers whose cheating is the real cause of our toxic pollution.

It's not hard to imagine a similar reversal happening in London. The new ultra-low emission zone (Ulez) is likely to be a big issue in next year's mayoral election. And if Sadiq Khan wins and extends it to the North and South Circular roads in 2021 as he intends, it is sure to spark intense opposition from the far larger number of motorists who will then be affected.

It's not that measures such as London's Ulez are useless. Far from it. Local officials are using the levers that are available to them to safeguard residents' health in the face of a serious threat. The zones do deliver some improvements to air quality, and the science tells us that means real health benefits—fewer heart attacks, strokes and premature births, less cancer, dementia and asthma. Fewer untimely deaths.

But mayors and councilors can only do so much about a problem that is far bigger than any one city or town. They are acting because national governments—Britain's and others across Europe—have failed to do so.

Restrictions that keep highly polluting cars out of certain areas—city centres, “school streets”, even individual roads—are a response to the absence of a larger effort to properly enforce existing regulations and require auto companies to bring their vehicles into compliance. Wales has introduced special low speed limits to minimise pollution. We're doing everything but insist that manufacturers clean up their cars.

1. Which of the following is true about Madrid's clean air zone?
 - [A]. Its effects are questionable.
 - [B]. It has been opposed by a judge.
 - [C]. It needs tougher enforcement.
 - [D]. Its fate is yet to be decided.
2. Which is considered a weakness of the city-level measures to tackle dirty air?
 - [A]. They are biased against car manufacturers.
 - [B]. They prove impractical for city councils.
 - [C]. They are deemed too mild for politicians.
 - [D]. They put too much burden on individual motorists.
3. The author believes that the extension of London's Ulez will _____.
 - [A]. arouse strong resistance
 - [B]. ensure Khan's electoral success
 - [C]. improve the city's traffic
 - [D]. discourage car manufacturing
4. Who does the author think should have addressed the problem?
 - [A]. Local residents.
 - [B]. Mayors.
 - [C]. Councilors.
 - [D]. National governments.
5. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that auto companies _____.
 - [A]. will raise low-emission car production
 - [B]. should be forced to follow regulations
 - [C]. will upgrade the design of their vehicles
 - [D]. should be put under public supervision

Now that members of Generation Z are graduating college this spring—the most commonly-accepted definition says this generation was born after 1995, give or take a year—the attention has been rising steadily in recent weeks. Gen Zs are about to hit the streets looking for work in a labor market that’s tighter than it’s been in decades. And employers are planning on hiring about 17 percent more new graduates for jobs in the U.S. this year than last, according to a survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers. Everybody wants to know how the people who will soon inhabit those empty office cubicles will differ from those who came before them.

If “entitled” is the most common adjective, fairly or not, applied to millennials (those born between 1981 and 1995), the catchwords for Generation Z are practical and cautious. According to the career counselors and experts who study them, Generation Zs are clear-eyed, economic pragmatists. Despite graduating into the best economy in the past 50 years, Gen Zs know what an economic train wreck looks like. They were impressionable kids during the crash of 2008, when many of their parents lost their jobs or their life savings or both. They aren’t interested in taking any chances. The booming economy seems to have done little to assuage this underlying generational sense of anxious urgency, especially for those who have college debt. College loan balances in the U.S. now stand at a record \$1.5 trillion, according to the Federal Reserve.

One survey from Accenture found that 88 percent of graduating seniors this year chose their major with a job in mind. In a 2019 survey of University of Georgia students, meanwhile, the career office found the most desirable trait in a future employer was the ability to offer secure employment (followed by professional development and training, and then inspiring purpose). Job security or stability was the second most important career goal(work-life balance was number one), followed by a sense of being dedicated to a cause or to feel good about serving the greater good.

That’s a big change from the previous generation. “Millennials wanted more flexibility in their lives,” notes Tanya Michelsen, Associate Director of YouthSight, a UK-based brand manager that conducts regular 60-day surveys of British youth, in findings that might just as well apply to American youth. “Generation Zs are looking for more certainty and stability, because of the rise of the gig economy. They have troubles seeing a financial future and they are quite risk averse.”

1. Generation Zs graduating college this spring _____.
[A]. are recognized for their abilities
[B]. are optimistic about the labor market
[C]. are in favor of office job offers
[D]. are drawing growing public attention
2. Generation Zs are keenly aware _____.
[A]. what their parents expect of them
[B]. how valuable a counselor’s advice is
[C]. what a tough economic situation is like
[D]. how they differ from past generations
3. The word “assuage”(line 9, para. 2) is closest in meaning to _____.
[A]. deepen
[B]. define
[C]. maintain
[D]. relieve
4. It can be learned from Paragraph 3 that Generation Zs _____.
[A]. give top priority to professional training
[B]. have a clear idea about their future job
[C]. care little about their job performance
[D]. think it hard to achieve work-life balance
5. Michelsen thinks that compared with millennials, Generation Zs are _____.
[A]. less realistic
[B]. less adventurous
[C]. more diligent
[D]. more generous

It’s not difficult to set targets for staff. It is much harder, 1 , to understand their negative consequences. Most work-related behaviors have multiple components. 2 one and the others become distorted.

Travel on a London bus and you’ll 3 see how this works with drivers. Watch people get on and show their tickets. Are they carefully inspected? Never. Do people get on without paying? Of course! Are there inspectors to 4 that people have paid? Possibly, but very few. And people who run for the bus? They are 5 . How about jumping lights? Buses do so almost as frequently as cyclists.

Why? Because the target is 6 . People complained that buses were late and infrequent. 7 , the number of buses and bus lanes were increased, and drivers were 8 or punished according to the time they took. And drivers hit these targets. But they 9 hit cyclists. If the target was changed to 10 , you would have more inspectors and more sensitive pricing. If the criterion changed to safety, you would get more 11 drivers who obeyed traffic laws. But both these criteria would be at the expense of time.

There is another 12 : people became immensely inventive in hitting targets. Have you 13 that you can leave on a flight an hour late but still arrive on time? Tailwinds? Of course not! Airlines have simply changed the time a 14 is meant to take. A one-hour flight is now billed as a two-hour flight.

The 15 of the story is simple. Most jobs are multidimensional, with multiple criteria. Choose one criterion and you may well 16 others. Everything can be done faster and made cheaper, but there is a 17 . Setting targets can and does have unforeseen negative consequences.

This is not an argument against target-setting. But it is an argument for exploring consequences first. All good targets should have multiple criteria 18 critical factors such as time, money, quality and customer feedback. The trick is not only to 19 just one or even two dimensions of the objective, but also to understand how to help people better 20 the objective.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | [A]. therefore | [B]. however | [C]. again | [D]. moreover |
| 2. | [A]. Emphasize | [B]. Identify | [C]. Assess | [D]. Explain |
| 3. | [A]. nearly | [B]. curiously | [C]. eagerly | [D]. quickly |
| 4. | [A]. claim | [B]. prove | [C]. check | [D]. recall |
| 5. | [A]. threatened | [B]. ignored | [C]. mocked | [D]. blamed |
| 6. | [A]. punctuality | [B]. hospitality | [C]. competition | [D]. innovation |
| 7. | [A]. Yet | [B]. So | [C]. Besides | [D]. Still |
| 8. | [A]. hired | [B]. trained | [C]. rewarded | [D]. grouped |
| 9. | [A]. only | [B]. rather | [C]. once | [D]. also |
| 10. | [A]. comfort | [B]. revenue | [C]. efficiency | [D]. security |
| 11. | [A]. friendly | [B]. quiet | [C]. cautious | [D]. diligent |
| 12. | [A]. purpose | [B]. problem | [C]. prejudice | [D]. policy |
| 13. | [A]. reported | [B]. revealed | [C]. admitted | [D]. noticed |
| 14. | [A]. break | [B]. trip | [C]. departure | [D]. transfer |
| 15. | [A]. moral | [B]. background | [C]. style | [D]. form |
| 16. | [A]. interpret | [B]. criticize | [C]. sacrifice | [D]. tolerate |
| 17. | [A]. task | [B]. secret | [C]. product | [D]. cost |
| 18. | [A]. leading to | [B]. calling for | [C]. relating to | [D]. accounting for |
| 19. | [A]. specify | [B]. predict | [C]. restore | [D]. create |
| 20. | [A]. modify | [B]. review | [C]. present | [D]. achieve |

“Reskilling” is something that sounds like a buzzword but is actually a requirement if we plan to have a future where a lot of would-be workers do not get left behind. We know we are moving into a period where the jobs in demand will change rapidly, as will the requirements of the jobs that remain. Research by the World Economic Forum finds that on average 42 per cent of the “core skills” within job roles will change by 2022. That is a very short timeline.

The question of who should pay for reskilling is a thorny one. For individual companies, the temptation is always to let go of workers whose skills are no longer in demand and replace them with those whose skills are. That does not always happen. AT&T is often given as the gold standard of a company who decided to do a massive reskilling program rather than go with a fire-and-hire strategy. Other companies including Amazon and Disney had also pledged to create their own plans. When the skills mismatch is in the broader economy though, the focus usually turns to government to handle. Efforts in Canada and elsewhere have been arguably languid at best, and have given us a situation where we frequently hear of employers begging for workers, even at times and in regions where unemployment is high.

With the pandemic, unemployment is very high indeed. In February, at 3.5 per cent and 5.5 per cent respectively, unemployment rates in Canada and the United States were at generational lows and worker shortages were everywhere. As of May, those rates had spiked up to 13.3 per cent and 13.7 per cent, and although many worker shortages had disappeared, not all had done so. In the medical field, to take an obvious example, the pandemic meant that there were still clear shortages of doctors, nurses and other medical personnel.

Of course, it is not like you can take an unemployed waiter and train him to be a doctor in a few weeks, no matter who pays for it. But even if you cannot close that gap, maybe you can close others, and doing so would be to the benefit of all concerned. That seems to be the case in Sweden: When forced to furlough 90 per cent of their cabin staff, Scandinavian Airlines decided to start up a short retraining program that reskilled the laid-off workers to support hospital staff. The effort was a collective one and involved other companies as well as a Swedish university.

1. Research by the World Economic Forum suggests _____.
[A]. an increase in full-time employment
[B]. an urgent demand for new job skills
[C]. a steady growth of job opportunities
[D]. a controversy about the “core skills”
2. AT&T is cited to show _____.
[A]. an alternative to the fire-and-hire strategy
[B]. an immediate need for government support
[C]. the importance of staff appraisal standards
[D]. the characteristics of reskilling programs
3. Efforts to resolve the skills mismatch in Canada _____.
[A]. have driven up labour costs
[B]. have proved to be inconsistent
[C]. have met with fierce opposition
[D]. have appeared to be insufficient
4. We can learn from Paragraph 3 that there was _____.
[A]. a call for policy adjustment
[B]. a change in hiring practices
[C]. a lack of medical workers
[D]. a sign of economic recovery
5. Scandinavian Airlines decided to _____.
[A]. create job vacancies for the unemployed
[B]. prepare their laid-off workers for other jobs
[C]. retrain their cabin staff for better services
[D]. finance their staff’s college education

With the global population predicted to hit close to 10 billion by 2050, and forecasts that agricultural production in some regions will need to nearly double to keep pace, food security is increasingly making headlines. In the UK, it has become a big talking point recently too, for a rather particular reason: Brexit.

Brexit is seen by some as an opportunity to reverse a recent trend towards the UK importing food. The country produces only about 60 per cent of the food it eats, down from almost three-quarters in the late 1980s. A move back to self-sufficiency, the argument goes, would boost the farming industry, political sovereignty and even the nation's health. Sounds great — but how feasible is this vision?

According to a report on UK food production from the University of Leeds, UK, 85 per cent of the country's total land area is associated with meat and dairy production. That supplies 80 per cent of what is consumed, so even covering the whole country in livestock farms wouldn't allow us to cover all our meat and dairy needs.

There are many caveats to those figures, but they are still grave. To become much more self-sufficient, the UK would need to drastically reduce its consumption of animal foods, and probably also farm more intensively — meaning fewer green fields and more factory-style production.

But switching to a mainly plant-based diet wouldn't help. There is a good reason why the UK is dominated by animal husbandry: most of its terrain doesn't have the right soil or climate to grow crops on a commercial basis. Just 25 per cent of the country's land is suitable for crop-growing, most of which is already occupied by arable fields. Even if we converted all the suitable land to fields of fruit and veg — which would involve taking out all the nature reserves and removing thousands of people from their homes — we would achieve only a 30 per cent boost in crop production.

Just 23 per cent of the fruit and vegetables consumed in the UK are currently home-grown, so even with the most extreme measures we could meet only 30 per cent of our fresh produce needs. That is before we look for the space to grow the grains, sugars, seeds and oils that provide us with the vast bulk of our current calorie intake.

1. Some people argue that food self-sufficiency in the UK would _____.
[A]. be hindered by its population growth
[B]. contribute to the nation's well-being
[C]. become a priority of the government
[D]. pose a challenge to its farming industry
2. The report by the University of Leeds shows that in the UK _____.
[A]. farmland has been inefficiently utilized
[B]. factory-style production needs reforming
[C]. most land is used for meat and dairy production
[D]. more green fields will be converted for farming
3. Crop-growing in the UK is restricted due to _____.
[A]. its farming technology
[B]. its dietary tradition
[C]. its natural conditions
[D]. its commercial interests
4. It can be learned from the last paragraph that British people _____.
[A]. rely largely on imports for fresh produce
[B]. enjoy a steady rise in fruit consumption
[C]. are seeking effective ways to cut calorie intake
[D]. are trying to grow new varieties of grains
5. The author's attitude to food self-sufficiency in the UK is _____.
[A]. defensive
[B]. doubtful
[C]. tolerant
[D]. optimistic

When Microsoft bought task management app Wunderlist and mobile calendar Sunrise in 2015, it picked two newcomers that were attracting considerable buzz in Silicon Valley. Microsoft's own Office dominates the market for "productivity" software, but the start-ups represented a new wave of technology designed from the ground up for the smartphone world.

Both apps, however, were later scrapped, after Microsoft said it had used their best features in its own products. Their teams of engineers stayed on, making them two of the many "acqui-hires" that the biggest companies have used to feed their great hunger for tech talent.

To Microsoft's critics, the fates of Wunderlist and Sunrise are examples of a remorseless drive by Big Tech to chew up any innovative companies that lie in their path. "They bought the seedlings and closed them down," complained Paul Arnold, a partner at San Francisco-based Switch Ventures, putting an end to businesses that might one day turn into competitors. Microsoft declined to comment.

Like other start-up investors, Mr. Arnold's own business often depends on selling start-ups to larger tech companies, though he admits to mixed feelings about the result: "I think these things are good for me, if I put my selfish hat on. But are they good for the American economy? I don't know."

The US Federal Trade Commission says it wants to find the answer to that question. This week, it asked the five most valuable US tech companies for information about their many small acquisitions over the past decade. Although only a research project at this stage, the request has raised the prospect of regulators wading into early-stage tech markets that until now have been beyond their reach.

Given their combined market value of more than \$5.5 trillion, rifling through such small deals—many of them much less prominent than Wunderlist and Sunrise—might seem beside the point. Between them, the five biggest tech companies have spent an average of only \$3.4 billion a year on sub- \$ 1 billion acquisitions over the past five years—a drop in the ocean compared with their massive financial reserves, and the more than \$130 billion of venture capital that was invested in the US last year.

However, critics say the big companies use such deals to buy their most threatening potential competitors before their businesses have a chance to gain momentum, in some cases as part of a "buy and kill" tactic to simply close them down.

1. What is true about Wunderlist and Sunrise after their acquisitions?

- [A]. Their engineers were retained.
- [B]. Their market values declined.
- [C]. Their tech features improved.
- [D]. Their products were re-priced.

2. Microsoft's critics believe that the big tech companies tend to ____.

- [A]. exaggerate their product quality
- [B]. eliminate their potential competitors
- [C]. treat new tech talent unfairly
- [D]. ignore public opinions

3. Paul Arnold is concerned that small acquisitions might ____.

- [A]. weaken big tech companies
- [B]. worsen market competition
- [C]. harm the national economy
- [D]. discourage start-up investors

4. The US Federal Trade Commission intends to ____.

- [A]. limit Big Tech's expansion
- [B]. encourage research collaboration
- [C]. examine small acquisitions
- [D]. supervise start-ups' operation

5. For the five biggest tech companies, their small acquisitions have ____.

- [A]. brought little financial pressure
- [B]. raised few management challenges
- [C]. set an example for future deals
- [D]. generated considerable profits

We're fairly good at judging people based on first impressions, thin slices of experience ranging from a glimpse of a photo to five-minute interaction, and deliberation can be not only extraneous but intrusive. In one study of the ability she called "thin slicing," the late psychologist Nalini Ambady asked participants to watch silent 10-second video clips of professors and to rate the instructor's overall effectiveness. Their ratings correlated strongly with students' end-of-semester ratings. Another set of participants had to count backward from 1,000 by nines as they watched the clips, occupying their conscious working memory. Their ratings were just as accurate, demonstrating the intuitive nature of the social processing.

Critically, another group was asked to spend a minute writing down reasons for their judgment, before giving the rating. Accuracy dropped dramatically. Ambady suspected that deliberation focused them on vivid but misleading cues, such as certain gestures or utterances, rather than letting the complex interplay of subtle signals form a holistic impression. She found similar interference when participants watched 15-second clips of pairs of people and judged whether they were strangers, friends, or dating partners.

Other research shows we're better at detecting deception from thin slices when we rely on intuition instead of reflection. "It's as if you're driving a stick shift," says Judith Hall, a psychologist at Northeastern University, "and if you start thinking about it too much, you can't remember what you're doing. But if you go on automatic pilot, you're fine. Much of our social life is like that."

Thinking too much can also harm our ability to form preferences. College students' ratings of strawberry jams and college courses aligned better with experts' opinions when the students weren't asked to analyze their rationale. And people made car-buying decisions that were both objectively better and more personally satisfying when asked to focus on their feelings rather than on details, but only if the decision was complex—when they had a lot of information to process.

Intuition's special powers are unleashed only in certain circumstances. In one study, participants completed a battery of eight tasks, including four that tapped reflective thinking (discerning rules, comprehending vocabulary) and four that tapped intuition and creativity (generating new products or figures of speech). Then they rated the degree to which they had used intuition ("gut feelings," "hunches," "my heart"). Use of their gut hurt their performance on the first four tasks, as expected, and helped them on the rest. Sometimes the heart is smarter than the head.

1. Nalini Ambady's study deals with ____.
[A]. the power of people's memory
[B]. the reliability of first impressions
[C]. Instructor-student interaction
[D]. people's ability to influence others
2. In Ambady's study, rating accuracy dropped when participants ____.
[A]. focused on specific details
[B]. gave the rating in limited time
[C]. watched shorter video clips
[D]. discussed with one another
3. Judith Hall mentions driving to show that ____.
[A]. reflection can be distracting
[B]. memory may be selective
[C]. social skills must be cultivated
[D]. deception is difficult to detect
4. When you are making complex decisions, it is advisable to ____.
[A]. collect enough data
[B]. list your preferences
[C]. seek expert advice
[D]. follow your feelings
5. What can we learn from the last paragraph?
[A]. Generating new products takes time.
[B]. Intuition may affect reflective tasks.
[C]. Vocabulary comprehension needs creativity.
[D]. Objective thinking may boost intuitiveness.

Harlan Coben believes that if you’re a writer, you’ll find the time; and that if you can’t find the time, then writing isn’t a priority and you’re not a writer. For him, writing is a 1 job — a job like any other. He has 2 it with plumbing, pointing out that a plumber doesn’t wake up and say that he can’t work with pipes today.

3 , like most writers these days, you’re holding down a job to pay the bills, it’s not 4 to find the time to write. But it’s not impossible. It requires determination and singlemindedness. 5 that most bestselling authors began writing when they were doing other things to earn a living. And today, even writers who are fairly 6 often have to do other work to 7 their writing income.

As Harlan Coben has suggested, it’s a 8 of priorities. To make writing a priority, you’ll have to 9 Some of your day-to-day activities and some things you really enjoy. Depending on your 10 and your lifestyle, that might mean spending less time watching television or listening to music, though some people can write 11 they listen to music. You might have to 12 the amount of exercise or sport you do. You’ll have to make social media an 13 activity rather than a daily, time-consuming 14 . There’ll probably have to be less socialising with your friends and less time with your family. It’s a 15 learning curve and it won’t always make you popular.

There’s just one thing you should try to keep at least some time for, 16 your writing — and that’s reading. Any writer needs to read as much and as widely as they can; it’s the one 17 supporter — Something you can’t do without.

Time is finite. The older you get, the 18 it seems to go. We need to use it as carefully and as 19 as we can. That means prioritising out activities so that we spend most time on the things we really want to do. If you are a writer, that means — 20 — writing.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | [A]. difficult | [B]. normal | [C]. steady | [D]. pleasant |
| 2. | [A]. combined | [B]. compared | [C]. confused | [D]. confronted |
| 3. | [A]. If | [B]. Though | [C]. Once | [D]. Unless |
| 4. | [A]. enough | [B]. strange | [C]. wrong | [D]. easy |
| 5. | [A]. Accept | [B]. Explain | [C]. Remember | [D]. Suppose |
| 6. | [A]. well-known | [B]. well-advised | [C]. well-informed | [D]. well-chosen |
| 7. | [A]. donate | [B]. generate | [C]. supplement | [D]. calculate |
| 8. | [A]. cause | [B]. purpose | [C]. question | [D]. condition |
| 9. | [A]. highlight | [B]. sacrifice | [C]. continue | [D]. explore |
| 10. | [A]. relations | [B]. interests | [C]. memories | [D]. skills |
| 11. | [A]. until | [B]. because | [C]. while | [D]. before |
| 12. | [A]. put up with | [B]. make up for | [C]. hang on to | [D]. cut down on |
| 13. | [A]. intelligent | [B]. occasional | [C]. intensive | [D]. emotional |
| 14. | [A]. habit | [B]. test | [C]. decision | [D]. plan |
| 15. | [A]. tough | [B]. gentle | [C]. rapid | [D]. funny |
| 16. | [A]. in place of | [B]. in charge of | [C]. in response to | [D]. in addition to |
| 17. | [A]. indispensable | [B]. innovative | [C]. invisible | [D]. instant |
| 18. | [A]. duller | [B]. harder | [C]. quieter | [D]. quicker |
| 19. | [A]. peacefully | [B]. generously | [C]. productively | [D]. gratefully |
| 20. | [A]. at most | [B]. in turn | [C]. on average | [D]. above all |

On a recent sunny day, 13,000 chickens roam over Larry Brown's 40 windswept acres in Shiner, Texas. Some rest in the shade of a parked car. Others drink water with the cows. This all seems random, but it's by design, part of what the \$6.1 billion U.S. egg industry bets will be its next big thing: climate-friendly eggs.

These eggs, which are making their debut now on shelves for as much as \$8 a dozen, are still labeled organic and animal-friendly, but they're also from birds that live on farms using regenerative agriculture — special techniques to cultivate rich soils that can trap greenhouse gases. Such eggs could be marketed as helping to fight climate change.

"I'm excited about our progress," says Brown, who harvests eggs for Denver-based NestFresh Eggs and is adding more cover crops that draw worms and crickets for the chickens to eat. The birds' waste then fertilizes fields. Such improvements "allow our hens to forage for higher-quality natural feed that will be good for the land, the hens, and the eggs that we supply to our customers."

The egg industry's push is the first major test of whether animal products from regenerative farms can become the next premium offering. In barely more than a decade, organic eggs went from being dismissed as a niche product in natural foods stores to being sold at Walmart. More recently there were similar doubts about probiotics and plant-based meats, but both have exploded into major supermarket categories. If the sustainable-egg rollout is successful, it could open the floodgates for regenerative beef, broccoli, and beyond.

Regenerative products could be a hard sell, because the concept is tough to define quickly, says Julie Stanton, associate professor of agricultural economics at Pennsylvania State University Brandywine. Such farming also brings minimal, if any, improvement to the food products (though some producers say their eggs have more protein).

The industry is betting that the same consumers paying more for premium attributes such as free-range, non-GMO, and pasture-raised eggs will embrace sustainability. Surveys show that younger generations are more concerned about climate change, and some of the success of plant-based meat can be chalked up to shoppers wanting to signal their desire to protect the environment. Young adults "really care about the planet," says John Brunnquell, president of Egg Innovations. "They are absolutely altering the food chain beyond what I think even if they understand what they're doing."

1. The climate-friendly eggs are produced _____.
[A]. at a considerably low cost
[B]. at the demand of regular shoppers
[C]. as a replacement for organic eggs
[D]. on specially designed farms
2. Larry Brown is excited about his progress in _____.
[A]. reducing the damage of climate change
[B]. accelerating the disposal of wastes
[C]. creating a sustainable system
[D]. attracting customers to his products
3. The example of organic eggs is used in the paragraph 4 to suggest _____.
[A]. the doubts over natural feeds
[B]. the setbacks in the eggs industry
[C]. the potential of regenerative products
[D]. the promotional success of supermarkets
4. It can be learned from the paragraph 6 that young people _____.
[A]. are reluctant to change their diet
[B]. are likely to buy climate-friendly eggs
[C]. are curious about new food
[D]. are amazed at agricultural advances
5. John Brunnquell would disagree with Julie Stanton over regenerative products' _____.
[A]. nutritional value
[B]. standard definition
[C]. market prospect
[D]. moral implication

More Americans are opting to work well into retirement, a growing trend that threatens to upend the old workforce model.

One in three Americans who are at least 40 have or plan to have a job in retirement to prepare for a longer life, according to a survey conducted by Harris Poll for TD Ameritrade. Even more surprising is that more than half of “unretirees” — those who plan to work in retirement or went back to work after retiring — said they would be employed in their later years even if they had enough money to settle down, the survey showed.

Financial needs aren’t the only culprit for the “unretirement” trend. Other reasons, according to the study, include personal fulfillment such as staying mentally fit, preventing boredom or avoiding depression. About 72% of “unretiree” respondents said that they would return to work once retired to keep mentally fit while 59% said it would be tied to making ends meet.

“The concept of retirement is evolving,” said Christine Russell, senior manager of retirement at TD Ameritrade. “It’s not just about finances. The value of work is also driving folks to continue working past retirement.”

One reason for the change in retirement patterns: Americans are living longer. The share of the population 65 and older was 16% in 2018, up 3.2% from the prior year, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. That’s also up 30.2% since 2010. Older Americans are also the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. workforce, and boomers are expected to live longer than previous generations. The percentage of retirement-age people in the labor force has doubled over the past three decades. About 20% of people 65 and older were in the workforce in February, up from an all-time low of 10% in January 1985, according to money manager United Income.

Because of longer life spans, Americans are also boosting their savings to preserve their nest eggs, the TD Ameritrade study showed, which surveyed 2,000 adults between 40 to 79. Six in 10 “unretirees” are increasing their savings in anticipation of a longer life, according to the survey. Among the most popular ways they are doing this, the company said, is by reducing their overall expenses, securing life insurance or maximizing their contributions to retirement accounts. Seniors are living longer, but planning for the extended years is key.

Unfortunately, many people who are opting to work in retirement are preparing to do so because they are worried about making ends meet in their later years, said Brent Weiss, a co-founder at Baltimore-based financial-planning firm Facet Wealth. He suggested that preretirees should speak with a financial adviser to set long-term financial goals.

“The most challenging moments in life are getting married, starting a family and ultimately retiring,” Weiss said. “It’s not just a financial decision, but an emotional one. Many people believe they can’t retire.”

1. The survey conducted by Harris Poll indicates that _____.
[A]. over half of the retirees are physically fit for work
[B]. the old workforce is as active as the younger one
[C]. one in three Americans enjoy earlier retirement
[D]. more Americans are willing to work in retirement
2. It can be inferred from Paragraph 3 that Americans tend to think that _____.
[A]. retirement may cause problems for them
[B]. boredom can be relieved after retirement
[C]. the mental health of retirees is overlooked
[D]. “unretirement” contributes to the economy
3. Retirement patterns are changing partly due to _____.
[A]. labor shortage
[B]. population growth
[C]. longer life expectancy
[D]. rising living costs
4. Many retirees are increasing their savings by _____.
[A]. investing more in stocks
[B]. taking up odd jobs
[C]. getting well-paid work
[D]. spending less
5. With regard to retirement, Brent Weiss thinks that many people are _____.
[A]. unprepared
[B]. unafraid
[C]. disappointed
[D]. enthusiastic

We have all encountered them, in both our personal and professional lives. Think about the times you felt tricked or frustrated by a membership or subscription that had a seamless signup process but was later difficult to cancel. Something that should be simple and transparent can be complicated, intentionally or unintentionally, in ways that impair consumer choice. These are examples of dark patterns.

First coined in 2010 by user experience expert Harry Brignull, “dark patterns” is a catch-all term for practices that manipulate user interfaces to influence the decision-making ability of users. Brignull identifies 12 types of common dark patterns, ranging from misdirection and hidden costs to “roach motel,” where a user experience seems easy and intuitive at the start, but turns difficult when the user tries to get out.

In a 2019 study of 53,000 product pages and 11,000 websites, researchers found that about one in 10 employs these design practices. Though widely prevalent, the concept of dark patterns is still not well understood. Business and nonprofit leaders should be aware of dark patterns and try to avoid the gray areas they engender.

Where is the line between ethical, persuasive design and dark patterns? Businesses should engage in conversations with IT, compliance, risk, and legal teams to review their privacy policy, and include in the discussion the customer/user experience designers and coders responsible for the company’s user interface, as well as the marketers and advertisers responsible for sign-ups, checkout baskets, pricing, and promotions. Any or all these teams can play a role in creating or avoiding “digital deception.”

Lawmakers and regulators are slowly starting to address the ambiguity around dark patterns, most recently at the state level. In March, the California Attorney General announced the approval of additional regulations under the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) that “ensure that consumers will not be confused or misled when seeking to exercise their data privacy rights.” The regulations aim to ban dark patterns — this means prohibiting companies from using “confusing language or unnecessary steps such as forcing them to click through multiple screens or listen to reasons why they shouldn’t opt out.”

As more states consider promulgating additional regulations, there is a need for greater accountability from within the business community. Dark patterns also can be addressed on a self-regulatory basis, but only if organizations hold themselves accountable, not just to legal requirements but also to industry best practices and standards.

1. It can be learned from the first two paragraphs that dark patterns _____.
 - [A]. improve user experiences
 - [B]. leak user information for profit
 - [C]. undermine users’ decision-making
 - [D]. remind users of hidden costs
2. The 2019 study on dark patterns is mentioned to show _____.
 - [A]. their major flaws
 - [B]. their complex designs
 - [C]. their severe damage
 - [D]. their strong presence
3. To handle digital deception, businesses should _____.
 - [A]. listen to customer feedback
 - [B]. talk with relevant teams
 - [C]. turn to independent agencies
 - [D]. rely on professional training
4. The additional regulations under the CCPA are intended to _____.
 - [A]. guide users through opt-out processes
 - [B]. protect consumers from being tricked
 - [C]. grant companies data privacy rights
 - [D]. restrict access to problematic content
5. According to the last paragraph, a key to coping with dark patterns is _____.
 - [A]. new legal requirements
 - [B]. businesses’ self-discipline
 - [C]. strict regulatory standards
 - [D]. consumers safety awareness

Although ethics classes are common around the world, scientists are unsure if their lessons can actually change behavior; evidence either way is weak, relying on contrived laboratory tests or sometimes unreliable self-reports. But a new study published in *Cognition* found that, in at least one real-world situation, a single ethics lesson may have had lasting effects.

The researchers investigated one class session's impact on eating meat. They chose this particular behavior for three reasons, according to study co-author Eric Schwitzgebel, a philosopher at the University of California, Riverside: students' attitudes on the topic are variable and unstable, behavior is easily measurable, and ethics literature largely agrees that eating less meat is good because it reduces environmental harm and animal suffering. Half of the students in four large philosophy classes read an article on the ethics of factory-farmed meat, optionally watched an 11-minute video on the topic and joined a 50-minute discussion. The other half focused on charitable giving instead. Then, unbeknownst to the students, the researchers studied their anonymized meal-card purchases for that semester — nearly 14,000 receipts for almost 500 students. "It's an awesome data set," says Nina Strohminger, a psychologist who teaches business ethics at the University of Pennsylvania and was not involved in the study.

Schwitzgebel predicted the intervention would have no effect; he had previously found that ethics professors do not differ from other professors on a range of behaviors, including voting rates, blood donation and returning library books. But among student subjects who discussed meat ethics, meal purchases containing meat decreased from 52 to 45 percent —and this effect held steady for the study's duration of several weeks. Purchases from the other group remained at 52 percent.

"That's actually a pretty large effect for a pretty small intervention," Schwitzgebel says. Psychologist Nina Strohminger at the University of Pennsylvania, who was not involved in the study, says she wants the effect to be real but cannot rule out some unknown confounding variable. And if real, she notes, it might be reversible by another nudge: "Easy come, easy go."

Schwitzgebel suspects the greatest impact came from social influence — classmates or teaching assistants leading the discussions may have shared their own vegetarianism, showing it as achievable or more common. Second, the video may have had an emotional impact. Least rousing, he thinks, was rational argument, although his co-authors say reason might play a bigger role. Now the researchers are probing the specific effects of teaching style, teaching assistants' eating habits and students' video exposure. Meanwhile Schwitzgebel — who had predicted no effect — will be eating his words.

1. Scientists generally believe that the effects of ethics classes are ____.
[A]. hard to determine
[B]. narrowly interpreted
[C]. difficult to ignore
[D]. poorly summarized
2. Which of the following is a reason for the researchers to study meat eating?
[A]. It is common among students.
[B]. It is a behavior easy to measure.
[C]. It is important to students' health.
[D]. It is a hot topic in ethics classes.
3. Eric Schwitzgebel's previous findings suggest that ethics professors ____.
[A]. are seldom critical of their students
[B]. are less sociable than other professors
[C]. are not sensitive to political issues
[D]. are not necessarily ethically better
4. Nina Strohminger thinks that the effect of the intervention is ____.
[A]. permanent
[B]. predictable
[C]. uncertain
[D]. unrepeatable
5. Eric Schwitzgebel suspects that the students' change in behavior ____.
[A]. can bring psychological benefits
[B]. can be analyzed statistically
[C]. is a result of multiple factors
[D]. is a sign of self-development

Here’s a common scenario that any number of entrepreneurs face today:you’re the CEO of a small business and though you’re making a nice 1 , you need to find a way to take it to the next level. what you need to do is 2 growth by establishing a growth team. A growth team is made up of members from different departments within your company, and it harnesses the power of collaboration to focus 3 on finding ways to grow.

Let’s look at a real-world 4 . Prior to forming a growth team, the software company BitTorrent had 50 employees. Working in the 5 departments of engineering, marketing and product development. This brought them good results until 2012, when their growth plateaued. The 6 was that too many customers were using the basic, free version of their product. And 7 improvements to the premium, paid version, few people were making the upgrade.

Things changed, 8 , when an innovative project marketing manager came aboard, 9 a growth team and sparked the kind of 10 perspective they needed. By looking at engineering issues from a marketing point of view, it became clear that the 11 of upgrades wasn’t due to a quality issue. Most customers were simply unaware of the premium version and what it offered.

Armed with this 12 , the marketing and engineering teams joined forces to raise awareness by prominently 13 the premium version to users of the free version. 14 , upgrades skyrocketed, and revenue increased by 92 percent.

But in order for your growth, team to succeed, it needs to have a strong leader. It needs someone who can 15 the interdisciplinary team and keep them on course for improvement.

This leader will 16 the target area, set clear goals and establish a time frame for the 17 of these goals. This growth leader is also 18 for keeping the team focus on moving forward and steer them clear of distractions. 19 attractive, new ideas can be distracting, the team leader must recognize when these ideas don’t 20 the current goal and need to be put on the back burner.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | [A]. purchase | [B]. profit | [C]. connection | [D]. bet |
| 2. | [A]. define | [B]. predict | [C]. prioritize | [D]. appreciate |
| 3. | [A]. exclusively | [B]. temporarily | [C]. potentially | [D]. initially |
| 4. | [A]. experiment | [B]. proposal | [C]. debate | [D]. example |
| 5. | [A]. identical | [B]. marginal | [C]. provisional | [D]. traditional |
| 6. | [A]. rumor | [B]. secret | [C]. myth | [D]. problem |
| 7. | [A]. despite | [B]. unlike | [C]. through | [D]. besides |
| 8. | [A]. moreover | [B]. however | [C]. therefore | [D]. again |
| 9. | [A]. inspected | [B]. created | [C]. expanded | [D]. reformed |
| 10. | [A]. cultural | [B]. objective | [C]. fresh | [D]. personal |
| 11. | [A]. end | [B]. burden | [C]. lack | [D]. decrease |
| 12. | [A]. policy | [B]. suggestion | [C]. purpose | [D]. insight |
| 13. | [A]. contributing | [B]. allocating | [C]. promoting | [D]. transferring |
| 14. | [A]. As a result | [B]. At any rate | [C]. By the way | [D]. In a sense |
| 15. | [A]. unite | [B]. finance | [C]. follow | [D]. choose |
| 16. | [A]. share | [B]. identify | [C]. divide | [D]. broaden |
| 17. | [A]. announcement | [B]. assessment | [C]. adjustment | [D]. accomplishment |
| 18. | [A]. famous | [B]. responsible | [C]. available | [D]. respectable |
| 19. | [A]. Before | [B]. Once | [C]. while | [D]. Unless |
| 20. | [A]. serve | [B]. limit | [C]. summarize | [D]. alter |

In the quest for the perfect lawns, homeowners across the country are taking a shortcut – and it is the environment that is paying the price. About eight million square meters of plastic grass is sold each year but oppositions has now spread to the highest gardening circles. The Chelsea Flower Show has banned fake grass from this year’s event, declaiming it to be not part of its ethos. The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), which norms the annual show in west London, says it has introduced the ban because of the damage plastic grass does to the environment and biodiversity.

Ed Horne of the RHS said: we launched our sustainability strategy last year and fake grass is just not in line with our ethos and views on plastic. We recommend using real grass because of its environment benefits, which include supporting wildlife, alleviating flooding and cooling the environment.

The RHS’s decision comes as compaginers try to raise awareness of the problem fake grass cause. A Twitter account, which claims to “cut through the greenwash” of artificial grass, already has more than 20,000 followers. It is trying to encourage people to sign two petitions, one calling for a ban on the sale of plastic grass and another calling for an “ecological damage” tax on such lawns. They have gathered 7,276 and 11,282 signatures.

However, supporters of fake grass point out that there’s also an environmental impact with natural lawns, which need mowing and therefore usually consume electricity or petrol. The industry also points out that real grass require considerable amounts of water, weed killer or other treatments and that people who lay fake grass tend to use their garden more. The industry also claims that people who lay fake grass spend on average of £500 trees or shrubs for their garden, which provides habitat for insects.

In response to another petition last year about banning fake lawns, which gathered 30 , 000 signatures , the government responded that it has “no plans to ban the use of artificial grass.”

It added: “We prefer to help people and organizations make the right choice rather than legislating on such matters. However, the use of artificial grass must comply with the legal and policy safeguards in place to protect biodiversity and ensure sustainable drainage, while measures such as the strengthened biodiversity duty should serve to encourage public authorities to consider sustainable alternatives.”

1. The RHS thinks that plastic grass _____.
[A]. is harmful to the environment.
[B]. is a hot topic in gardening circles
[C]. is overpraised in the annual show
[D]. is ruining the view of west London
2. The petitions mentioned in Paragraph 3 reveal the campaigners’ _____.
[A]. disappointment with the RHS.
[B]. resistance to fake grass use.
[C]. anger over the proposed tax.
[D]. concern about real grass supply
3. In Paragraph 4., supporters of fake grass point out _____.
[A]. the necessity to lower the costs of fake grass
[B]. the disadvantage of growing real grass.
[C]. the way to take care of artificial lawns
[D]. the challenges of insect habitat protection
4. what would the government do with regard to artificial grass?
[A]. Urge legislation to restrict its use.
[B]. Take measures to guarantee its quality
[C]. Remind its users to obey existing rules
[D]. Replace it with sustainable alternatives
5. It can be learned from the text that fake grass _____.
[A]. is being improved continuously
[B]. has seen a market share decline.
[C]. is becoming increasingly affordable
[D]. has been a controversial product.

It's easy to dismiss as absurd the federal government's ideas for plugging the chronic funding gap of our national parks. Can anyone really think it's a good idea to allow Amazon deliveries to your tent in Yosemite or food trucks to line up under the redwood trees at Sequoia National Park?

But the government is right about one thing: U.S. national parks are in crisis. Collectively, they have a maintenance backlog of more than \$12 billion. Roads, trails, restrooms, visitor centers and other infrastructure are crumbling.

But privatizing and commercializing the campgrounds would not be a cure-all. Campgrounds are a tiny portion of the overall infrastructure backlog, and businesses in the parks hand over, on average, only about 5% of their revenues to the National Park Service.

Moreover, increased privatization would certainly undercut one of the major reasons why 300 million visitors come to the parks each year: to enjoy nature and get a break from the commercial drumbeat that overwhelms daily life.

The real problem is that the parks have been chronically starved of funding. An economic survey of 700 U.S. taxpayers found that people would be willing to pay a significant amount of money to make sure the parks and their programs are kept intact. Some 81% of respondents said they would be willing to pay additional taxes for the next 10 years to avoid any cuts to the national parks.

The national parks provide great value to U.S. residents both as places to escape and as symbols of nature. On top of this, they produce value from their extensive educational programs, their positive impact on the climate through carbon sequestration, their contribution to our cultural and artistic life, and of course through tourism. The parks also help keep America's past alive, working with thousands of local jurisdictions around the country to protect historical sites and to bring the stories of these places to life.

The parks do all this on a shoestring. Congress allocates only 3 billion a year to the national park system — an amount that has been flat since 2001 (in inflation-adjusted dollars) with the exception of a one-time boost in 2009. Meanwhile, the number of annual visitors has increased more than 50% since 1980, and now stands at 330 million visitors per year.

1. What problem are US national parks faced with?
 - [A]. Decline of business profits
 - [B]. Inadequate commercialization
 - [C]. Lack of transportation services
 - [D]. Poorly maintained infrastructure
2. Increased privatization of the campgrounds may _____.
 - [A]. spoil visitor experience
 - [B]. help preserve nature
 - [C]. bring operational pressure
 - [D]. boost visits to parks
3. According to paragraph 5, most respondents in the survey would _____.
 - [A]. go to national parks on a regular basis.
 - [B]. advocate a bigger budget for the national parks.
 - [C]. agree to pay extra for the national parks.
 - [D]. support the national parks' recent reforms.
4. The national parks are valuable in that they _____.
 - [A]. lead the way in tourism
 - [B]. have historical significance
 - [C]. sponsor research on climate
 - [D]. provide an income for the locals.
5. It can be concluded from the text that the national park system _____.
 - [A]. is able to cope with staff shortages
 - [B]. is able to meet visitors' demands
 - [C]. is in need of a new pricing policy
 - [D]. is in need of a funding increase.

The Internet may be changing merely what we remember, not our capacity to do so, suggests Columbia University psychology professor Betsy Sparrow. In 2011, Sparrow led a study in which participants were asked to record 40 factoids in a computer (“an ostrich’s eye is bigger than its brain,” for example). Half of the participants were told the information would be erased, while the other half were told it would be saved. Guess what? The latter group made no effort to recall the information when quizzed on it later, because they knew they could find it on their computers. In the same study, a group was asked to remember both the information and the folders it was stored in. They didn’t remember the information, but they remembered how to find the folders. In other words, human memory is not deteriorating but “adapting to new communications technology,” Sparrow says.

In a very practical way, the Internet is becoming an external hard drive for our memories, a process known as “cognitive offloading.” Traditionally, this role was fulfilled by data banks, libraries, and other humans. Your father may never remember birthdays because your mother does, for instance. Some worry that this is having a destructive effect on society but Sparrow sees an upside. Perhaps, she suggests, the trend will change our approach to learning from a focus on individual facts and memorization to an emphasis on more conceptual thinking - something that is not available on the Internet. “I personally have never seen all that much intellectual value in memorizing things,” Sparrow says, adding that we haven’t lost our ability to do it.

Still other experts say it’s too soon to understand how the Internet affects our brains. There is no experimental evidence showing that it interferes with our ability to focus, for instance, wrote psychologists Christopher Chabris and Daniel J. Simons. And surfing the web exercised the brain more than reading did among computer-savvy older adults in a 2008 study involving 24 participants at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at the University of California, Los Angeles.

“There may be costs associated with our increased reliance on the Internet, but I’d have to imagine that overall the benefits are going to outweigh those costs,” observes psychology professor Benjamin Storm. “It seems pretty clear that memory is changing, but is it changing for the better? At this point, we don’t know.”

1. Sparrow’s study shows that with the Internet, the human brain will ____.
 - [A]. analyze information in detail
 - [B]. collect information efficiently
 - [C]. switch its focus of memory
 - [D]. extend its memory duration
2. The process of “cognitive offloading” ____.
 - [A]. helps us identify false information
 - [B]. keeps our memory from failing
 - [C]. enables us to classify trivial facts
 - [D]. lessens our memory burdens
3. Which of the following would Sparrow support about the Internet?
 - [A]. It may reform our learning approach
 - [B]. It may impact our society negatively
 - [C]. It may enhance our adaptability to technology
 - [D]. It may interfere with our conceptual thinking
4. It is indicated in Para 3 that how the Internet affects our brains ____.
 - [A]. requires further academic research
 - [B]. is most studies in older adults
 - [C]. is reflected in our reading speed
 - [D]. depends on our web-surfing habits
5. Neither Sparrow nor Storm would agree that ____.
 - [A]. our reliance on the Internet will be costly
 - [B]. the Internet is weakening our memory
 - [C]. memory exercise is a must for our brain
 - [D]. our ability to focus declines with age

Teenagers are paradoxical. That's a mild and detached way of saying something that parents often express with considerably stronger language. But the paradox is scientific as well as personal. In adolescence, helpless and dependent children who have relied on grown-ups for just about everything become independent people who can take care of themselves and help each other. At the same time, once cheerful and compliant children become rebellious teenage risk-takers.

A new study published in the journal *Child Development* by Eveline Crone of the University of Lerdén and colleagues, suggests that the positive and negative sides of teenagers go hand in hand. The study is part of a new wave of thinking about adolescence. For a long time, scientists and policy makers concentrated on the idea that teenagers were a problem needed to be solved. The new work emphasizes that adolescence is a time of opportunity as well as risk.

The researchers studied "prosocial" and rebellious traits in more than 200 child and young adults, ranging from 11 to 28 years old. The participants filled out questions about how often they did things that were altruistic and positive, like sacrificing their own interests to help a friend or rebellious and negative, like getting drunk or staying out late.

Other studies have shown that rebellious behavior increased as you become a teenager and then fades away as you grow older. But the new study shows that, interestingly, the same pattern holds for prosocial behavior. Teenagers were more likely than younger children or adults to report that they did things like selfishly help a friend.

Most significantly, there was a positive correlation between prosociality and rebelliousness. The teenagers who were more rebellious were also more likely to help others. The good and bad sides of adolescence seem to develop together.

Is there some common factor that underlies these apparently contradictory developments? One idea is that teenager behavior is related to what researchers call "reward sensitivity." Decision-making always involves balancing rewards and risks, benefits and costs "Reward sensitivity" measures how much reward it takes to outweigh risk.

Teenagers are particularly sensitive to social rewards-winning the game, impressing a new friend, getting that boy to notice you. Reward sensitivity, like prosocial behavior and risk-taking, seems to go up in adolescence and then down again as we age. Somehow, when you hit 30, the chance that something exciting and new will happen at that party just doesn't seem to outweigh the effort of getting up off the couch.

1. According to Paragraph 1, children growing into adolescence tend to ____.
[A]. develop opposite personality traits
[B]. see the world in an unreasonable way
[C]. have fond memories of their past
[D]. show attention for their parents
2. It can be learned from Paragraph 2 that Crone's study ____.
[A]. explores teenagers' social responsibilities
[B]. examines teenagers' emotional problems
[C]. provides a new insight into adolescence
[D]. highlights negative adolescent behavior
3. What does Crone's study find about prosocial behavior?
[A]. It results from the wish to cooperate
[B]. It is cultivated through education
[C]. It is subject to family influence
[D]. It tends to peak in adolescence
4. It can be learned from the last two paragraphs that teenagers ____.
[A]. overstress their influence on others
[B]. care a lot about social recognition
[C]. become anxious about their future
[D]. endeavor to live a joyful life
5. What is the text mainly about?
[A]. why teenagers are self-contradictory
[B]. why teenagers are risk-sensitive
[C]. How teenagers develop prosociality
[D]. How teenagers become independent