

Model Test Four

Part I Writing (30minutes)

Directions: For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to write an essay. Suppose you have two ways to learn about other countries: one is to travel abroad and the other to obtain the information online. You are to make a choice. Write an essay to explain the reasons for your choice. You should write at least 120 words but no more than 180 words.

Part II Listening Comprehension (25 minutes)

Section A

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

1. A) Because the storm had cut power to them.
B) Because the roads to them had been flooded.
C) Because there might be mud slides.
D) Because there might be tsunami.
2. A) It is expected to last until Saturday afternoon.
B) It has caused over 300 traffic deaths.
C) It is the strongest one in years.
D) It will be at its strongest on Saturday afternoon.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

3. A) A car crash. B) A bushfire. C) A burglary. D) A terrorist attack.
4. A) More than 15 homes had moved out.
B) More than 50 homes had joined the fight.
C) They had not had the fire under control yet.
D) They had found a way to put out the fire.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

5. A) They are useful in terms of security but have rusted.
B) They are useful in terms of security but not beautiful.
C) They are no longer strong enough to protect the tower.
D) They are no longer needed as a photo spot.
6. A) It is the most visited monument in the world.
B) It is totally free of charge for visiting.
C) The entry to the forecourt of the tower is free.
D) The entry to the forecourt of the tower will be charged.
7. A) Less visitor entrances. C) Ornamental lights.
B) More security guards. D) Better elevators.

Section B

Questions 8 to 11 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

8. A) He played tennis for his high school team.
B) He played football for his high school team.
C) He played tennis starting from his junior year.
D) He played tennis starting from his senior year.
9. A) Tennis. B) Basketball. C) Golf. D) Volleyball.

10. A) Because he has a lot in common with the woman.
B) Because he thinks the woman is a good player.
C) Because his team lacks girl players.
D) Because his team can learn a lot from the woman.
11. A) Join the man to watch a match. B) Visit a new stadium with the man.
C) Watch the man play in a match. D) Join the man to play in a match.

Questions 12 to 15 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

12. A) An interview between a customer and a shopping assistant.
B) An interview between an airport staff and a passenger.
C) A conversation between two working staff about the airport's future improvement.
D) A conversation between an air-hostess and a passenger about the inflight meal service.
13. A) Because many people want to stay in shape.
B) Because he wants to take every chance to improve his health.
C) Because many people are tired after long flights.
D) Because massaging will be a good way to kill time.
14. A) Seasonal ones. B) Fresh ones. C) Local ones. D) Juicy ones.
15. A) Disappointing. B) Satisfying. C) Outdated. D) Lovely.

Section C

Questions 16 to 18 are based on the passage you have just heard.

16. A) Because the planets are the same size as Earth.
B) Because the planets are similar in many aspects to Earth.
C) Because the planets are capable of supporting life.
D) Because the planets have water on their surface.
17. A) They are rocky planets. B) They are gaseous like Jupiter.
C) They are covered by water. D) They are covered by sea ice.
18. A) Because it has the right temperature and enough greenhouse gases.
B) Because it has the right amount of water and enough greenhouse gases.
C) Because it has the right atmosphere and enough greenhouse gases.
D) Because it has the right gravity and enough greenhouse gases.

Questions 19 to 21 are based on the passage you have just heard.

19. A) They should be widely used in the field of social services.
B) They should be blamed for the increasing unemployment.
C) They should be taxed the same amount as the people they replace.
D) They should be taxed more than the ordinary people.
20. A) They will surely face massive unemployment.
B) They will need less income tax to spend.
C) They will have less income tax to spend.
D) They will have no need to cope with the changes.
21. A) Psychologists. C) Room cleaners.
B) Police officers. D) Doctors.

Questions 22 to 25 are based on the passage you have just heard.

22. A) People who sleep late are smarter and more creative.
B) People who sleep late are always late for their jobs.
C) People who sleep late are easily irritated.
D) People who sleep late are slow and ineffective in their jobs.
23. A) You will feel exhausted all day long. B) You can't justify your lateness.
C) You will be late for your work. D) You can't find persuasive excuses.

24. A) Because they can fully enjoy themselves late at night.
 B) Because they can fully concentrate their attention late at night.
 C) Because they can read the most fascinating book late at night.
 D) Because they can make rapid progress in mentality late at night.
25. A) Group intelligence tests. C) Deductive reasoning tests.
 B) Emotional intelligence tests. D) Inductive reasoning tests.

Part III Reading Comprehension (40 minutes)

Section A

Questions 26 to 35 are based on the following passage.

Ask a left-wing Briton what they believe about the safety of nuclear power, and you can guess their answer. Ask a right-wing American about the risks posed by climate change, and you can also make a ___26___ guess than if you didn't know their political affiliation. Issues like these feel like they should be ___27___ by science, not our political tribes, but sadly, that's not what happens.

Psychology has long shown that education and intelligence won't stop your politics from ___28___ your broader worldview, even if those beliefs do not match the hard evidence. Instead, your ability to weigh up the facts may depend on a less well-recognised trait-___29___.

There is now a mountain of ___30___ to show that politics doesn't just help predict people's views on some scientific issues; it also affects how they interpret new information. This is why it is a ___31___ to think that you can somehow "correct" people's views on an issue by giving them more facts, since study after study has shown that people have a tendency to ___32___ reject facts that don't fit with their existing views.

But smarter people shouldn't be susceptible to prejudice swaying their opinions, right? Wrong. Other research shows that people with the most education, highest mathematical abilities, and the strongest tendencies to be reflective about their beliefs are the most ___33___ to resist information which should contradict their prejudices. This undermines the simplistic assumption that prejudices are the result of too much gut instinct and not enough deep thought. Rather, people who have the ___34___ for deeper thought about an issue can use those cognitive powers to justify what they already believe and find reasons to dismiss apparently ___35___ evidence.

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|------------------|----------------|
| A) better | I) flexibility |
| B) competitively | J) identical |
| C) contrary | K) informed |
| D) curiosity | L) likely |
| E) evidence | M) mistake |
| F) explained | N) selectively |
| G) facility | O) shaping |
| H) fact | |

Section B

How to Fix the Internet

[A] We have to fix the internet. After 40 years, it has begun to corrode, both itself and us. It is still a marvelous and miraculous invention, but now there are bugs in the foundation, bats in the belfry, and trolls in the basement.

[B] I do not mean this to be one of those technophobic rants insulting the internet for rewiring our brains to give us the nervous attention span of Donald Trump on Twitter or pontificating about how we have to log off and smell the flowers. Those worries about new technologies have existed ever since Plato was concerned that the technology of writing would threaten memorization and oratory (演讲术). I love the internet and all of its digital offshoots. What I feel sad for is its decline.

[C] There is a bug in its original design that at first seemed like a feature but has gradually, and now rapidly, been exploited by hackers and trolls and malevolent actors: Its packets are encoded with the address of their destination but not of their authentic origin. With a circuit-switched network, you can track or trace back the origins of the information, but that's not true with the packet-switched design of the internet.

[D] Compounding this was the architecture that Tim Berners-Lee and the inventors of the early browsers created for the World Wide Web. It brilliantly allowed the whole of the earth's computers to be webbed together and navigated through hyperlinks. But the links were one-way. You knew where the links took you. But if you had a webpage or piece of content, you didn't exactly know who was linking to you or coming to use your content.

[E] All of that protected the potential for anonymity. You could make comments anonymously. Go to a webpage anonymously. Consume content anonymously. With a little effort, send email anonymously. And if you figured out a way to get into someone's servers or databases, you could do it anonymously.

[F] For years, the benefits of anonymity on the net outweighed its drawbacks. People felt more free to express themselves, which was especially valuable if they were holding different opinions or hiding a personal secret. This was celebrated in the famous 1993 New Yorker cartoon, "On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog."

[G] Now the problem is nobody can tell if you're a troll. Or a hacker. Or a bot. Or a Macedonian (马其顿的) teenager publishing a story that the Pope has supported Trump. This has poisoned civil discourse, enabled hacking, permitted cyberbullying, and made email a risk.

[H] The lack of secure identification and authentication (身份认证) inherent in the internet's genetic code had also prevented easy transactions, obstructed financial inclusion, destroyed the business models of content creators, unleashed the overflow of spam (垃圾邮件), and forced us to use passwords and two-factor authentication schemes that would have confused Houdini. The trillions being spent and the IQ points of computer science talent being allocated to tackle security issues make it a drag, rather than a spur, to productivity in some sectors.

[I] In Plato's Republic, we learn the tale of the Ring of Gyges. Put it on, and you're invisible and anonymous. The question that Plato asks is whether those who put on the ring will be civil and moral. He thinks not. The internet has proven him correct. The web is no longer a place of community, no longer a marketplace. Every day more sites are eliminating comments sections.

[J] If we could start from scratch, here's what I think we would do: Create a system that enables content producers to negotiate with aggregators (整合者) and search engines to get a royalty whenever their content is used, like ASCAP has negotiated for public performances and radio airings of its members' works. Embed (嵌入) a simple digital wallet and currency for quick and easy small payments for songs, blogs, articles, and whatever other digital content is for sale. Encode emails with an authenticated return or originating address. Enforce critical properties and security at the lowest levels of the system possible, such as in the hardware or in the programming language, instead of leaving it to programmers to incorporate security into every line of code they write. Build chips and machines that update the notion of an internet packet. For those who want, their packets could be encoded or tagged with metadata (元数据) that describe what they contain and give the rules for how it can be used.

[K] Most internet engineers think that these reforms are possible, from Vint Cerf, the original TCP/IP coauthor, to Milo Medin of Google, to Howard Shrobe, the director of cybersecurity at MIT. "We don't need to live in cyber hell," Shrobe has argued. Implementing them is less a matter of technology than of cost and social will. Some people, understandably, will resist any reduction of anonymity, which they sometimes label privacy.

[L] So the best approach, I think, would be to try to create a voluntary system, for those who want to use it, to have verified identification and authentication. People would not be forced to use such a system. If they wanted to communicate and surf anonymously, they could. But those of us who choose, at times, not to be anonymous and not to deal with people who are anonymous should have that right as well. That's the way it works in the real world.

[M]The benefits would be many. Easy and secure ways to deal with your finances and medical records. Small payment systems that could reward valued content rather than the current incentive to concentrate on clickbait for advertising. Less hacking, spamming, cyberbullying, trolling, and spewing of anonymous hate. And the possibility of a more civil discourse.

36. The one-way hyperlinks enable users to do many things online anonymously.
37. Although anonymity can make people conceal their identity online, now it has poisoned their online life.
38. To adopt the voluntary system would be advantageous to our online life in a number of aspects.
39. There are several ways to reduce anonymity if we can rebuild the internet from the very beginning.
40. The author suggested inventing a system to let people go online anonymously or not as they wish.
41. The author thinks the internet should be fixed not because he is afraid of new technologies but because problems arise in it.
42. Public opposition could become one of the biggest obstacles to carrying out the reforms.
43. The hazard of anonymity mentioned by Plato has been shown on the internet.
44. People used to think that anonymity online did more good than harm.
45. It is the design of the internet that makes it impossible to find out where the information comes from.

Section C

Passage One

Questions 46 to 50 are based on the following passage.

In today's world, online social media has become more powerful and the most destructive thing over worldwide. Although with time all generations have come to embrace the changes social network has brought about, teenagers and young adults are the most fanatic users of these sites. According to various research studies in the field of online social networks, it has been revealed that these sites are impacting the lives of the youth greatly. When using these sites such as Twitter, Facebook or Myspace, there are both positive and negative effects on the youth.

Firstly, social media helps the youth and any other user updated with what is happening around the world, and helps the teenagers stay connected and interact with each other even if they are many miles apart. This strengthens their relationship. Even if they finished school and moved to different locations, they stay connected and update one another.

In addition, social media sites have provided a platform whereby the youth can create groups and pages based on their common discipline and end up building connections and opportunities for their respective careers by updating various topics to discuss. Youth who have been interviewed say that social media has become their lifestyle and it makes their lives easier and more efficient.

While on the one hand social network sites seem to bring people together and stay connected, on the other hand it causes many physical and mental health problems such as eyes infection, back problems, etc. Other negative effects of social networking various people suggested included encouraging poor spelling and grammar, exposing underage to online predators (捕食者), allowing spread of misinformation that is seen as fact, decreasing productivity as those who are supposed to be working spend time in the sites to chat, providing a perfect platform for cyberbullying and providing details that increase risks of identity theft.

"The more social media we have, the more we think we're connecting, yet we are really disconnecting from each other."

In conclusion, social networking clearly portrays both positive and negative effects on the youth. It is the decision of individuals whether to use it in a right way or wrong.

46. According to the first paragraph, _____.
 - A) both online and offline social media have developed quickly
 - B) social media sites are always being attacked
 - C) the effects of social media were welcomed in the beginning
 - D) the most crazy fans of social media are the youth

47. What is young people's purpose in adopting the platform offered by social media sites?
- A. To improve their academic performance.
 - B) To lay the foundation for their future careers.
 - C) To practice their debate skills.
 - D) To change their way of living.
48. What does the author mainly imply about the disadvantages of social networking?
- A) Increasing the prevalence of oral errors.
 - B) Putting minors in danger.
 - C) Spreading falsehoods and rumors.
 - D) Leaking users' personal information.
49. The author's attitude towards social media is_____.
- A) objective
 - B) positive
 - C) negative
 - D) impassive
50. What's the main topic of this passage?
- A) The introduction of online social media history.
 - B) The research on online social media.
 - C) The influence of online social media on the youth.
 - D) The correct way to use online social media.

Passage Two

Questions 51 to 55 are based on the following passage.

Cutting toxic levels of city air pollution to safer levels is simple, but not easy-it requires resolve. Yet, despite the key culprit (罪犯) in the UK being well known-diesel (柴油机的) vehicles-the government has been asleep at the wheel for years.

Levels of nitrogen dioxide (二氧化氮) have been illegally high across much of the UK since 2010. In 2015 86% of major urban areas broke annual limits. Cutting this pollution means choking off diesel emissions and there is a wide range of effective measures available.

Creating zones in city centres where polluting cars are either banned or charged is important, while making cities safe for cycling cuts traffic too.

Cleaner buses and taxis have an important role to play and change to the perverse taxes that encourage people to buy diesel over cleaner cars is needed. There is also some support for a revival of a scrappage scheme which saw dirty old bangers taken off the road.

The environment and transport departments were well aware of all this and proposed many of these measures internally, only for the Treasury to reject most of them, arguing they “ would be politically very difficult, especially given the impacts on motorists.”

Motorists happen to be particularly badly exposed to air pollution, but the real political difficulty for the government is two humiliating legal defeats in two years where judges ruled its air pollution plans were so bad they were illegal.

Ministers have now been forced to come up with a third plan, but clean air zones and car tax changes take time to clean up the air. Yet the UK government is also in the slow lane when it comes to emergency measures.

When foul air descended on Paris in December, officials there swung into action. Public transport was made free and the number of cars allowed on roads was restricted, alternately barring those with odd and even licence plates. In the UK, during the same December smog, the government sent a few tweets.

At the root of the problem are diesel cars, which successive governments across Europe have utterly failed to ensure meet legal emissions limits when driving in real-world conditions on the road. The gaming of regulatory tests by carmakers was blown open by the Volkswagen scandal. The scandal of governments prioritising supposed driver freedom over the lungs and health of their citizens is only now playing out.

51. What does the author think of fixing air pollution in the first paragraph?
- A) It is a piece of cake.
 - B) It needs political will.
 - C) It is the main problem.
 - D) It has a long way to go.

52. The aim of those in favor of a scrappage scheme is _____.
A) to reduce diesel emissions B) to encourage the use of old cars
C) to retire low-end old vehicles D) to cut down on traffic accidents
53. It can be inferred from the passage that the Treasury _____.
A) was quite clear about the current situation of air pollution
B) opposed almost every proposal about reducing air pollution
C) believed the anti-pollution measures to be unaffordable
D) made such objections partly due to the effects on drivers
54. Why do the UK ministers have to put forward a third air pollution plan?
A) Because drivers are suffering the most from air pollution.
B) Because the first two plans were found illegal by the judges.
C) Because long-term solutions are ignored by the government.
D) Because emergency measures are falling behind.
55. Which of the following measures did the French government take when smog suddenly arrived in December?
A) Establishing clean air zones. C) Limiting vehicles based on license plate number.
B) Reforming car taxes. D) Posting several announcements on Twitter.

Part IV

Translation

(30 minutes)

西汉时期，中国的船队就达到了印度和斯里兰卡 (Sri Lanka)，用中国的丝绸换取了琉璃 (colored glaze)、珍珠等物品。中国唐代是中国历史上对外交流的活跃期。据史料记载，唐代中国通使交好的国家多达 70 多个，那时候的首都长安来自各国的使臣、商人、留学生云集成群。这个大交流促进了中华文化远播世界，也促使了各国文化和物产传入中国。