

2010 年全国硕士研究生招生考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

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 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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

Text 1

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.

21. 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
22. Newspaper reviews in England before World War II were characterized by
- [A] free themes
 - [B] casual style
 - [C] elaborate layout
 - [D] radical viewpoints
23. 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.
24. 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.
25. 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

Text 2

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.

26. 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.

27. 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.

28. The word "about-face" (Para. 3) most probably means

- [A] loss of goodwill.
- [B] increase of hostility.
- [C] change of attitude.
- [D] enhancement of dignity.

29. 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.

30. 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.

Text 3

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 the 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.

31. 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.
32. 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.
33. 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.
34. 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.

35. 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.

Text 4

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 lobby 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 the 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 interests. But by giving in to critics now they are inviting pressure to make more concessions.

36. 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] re-evaluate some of their assets.
37. 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.
38. 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.
39. 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.
40. The author's attitude towards standard-setters is one of
- [A] satisfaction.
 - [B] skepticism.
 - [C] objectiveness.
 - [D] sympathy.

Part B

Directions:

For questions 41-45, choose the most suitable paragraphs from the list A-G and fill them into the numbered boxes to form a coherent text. **Paragraph E** has been correctly placed. There is one paragraph which does not fit in with the text. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET1. (10 points)

- [A] The first and more important is the consumer's growing preference for eating out; the consumption of food and drink in places other than homes has risen from about 32 percent of total consumption in 1995 to 35 percent in 2000 and is expected to approach 38 percent by 2005. This development is boosting wholesale demand from the food service segment by 4 to 5 percent a year across Europe, compared with growth in retail demand of 1 to 2 percent. Meanwhile, as the recession is looming large, people are getting anxious. They tend to keep a tighter hold on their purse and consider eating at home a realistic alternative.
- [B] Retail sales of food and drink in Europe's largest markets are at a standstill, leaving European grocery retailers hungry for opportunities to grow. Most leading retailers have already tried e-commerce, with limited success, and expansion abroad. But almost all have ignored the big, profitable opportunity in their own backyard: the wholesale food and drink trade, which

appears to be just the kind of market retailers need.

[C] Will such variations bring about a change in the overall structure of the food and drink market?

Definitely not. The functioning of the market is based on flexible trends dominated by potential buyers. In other words, it is up to the buyer, rather than the seller, to decide what to buy. At any rate, this change will ultimately be acclaimed by an ever-growing number of both domestic and international consumers, regardless of how long the current consumer pattern will take hold.

[D] All in all, this clearly seems to be a market in which big retailers could profitably apply their gigantic scale, existing infrastructure, and proven skills in the management of product ranges, logistics, and marketing intelligence. Retailers that master the intricacies of wholesaling in Europe may well expect to rake in substantial profits thereby. At least, that is how it looks as a whole. Closer inspection reveals important differences among the biggest national markets, especially in their customer segments and wholesale structures, as well as the competitive dynamics of individual food and drink categories. Big retailers must understand these differences before they can identify the segments of European wholesaling in which their particular abilities might unseat smaller but entrenched competitors. New skills and unfamiliar business models are needed too.

[E] Despite variations in detail, wholesale markets in the countries that have been closely examined—France, Germany, Italy, and Spain—are made out of the same building blocks. Demand comes mainly from two sources: independent mom-and-pop grocery stores which, unlike large retail chains, are too small to buy straight from producers, and food service operators that cater to consumers when they don't eat at home. Such food service operators range from snack machines to large institutional catering ventures, but most of these businesses are known in the trade as "horeca": hotels, restaurants, and cafés. Overall, Europe's wholesale market for food and drink is growing at the same sluggish pace as the retail market, but the figures, when added together, mask two opposing trends.

[F] For example, wholesale food and drink sales came to \$268 billion in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom in 2000—more than 40 percent of retail sales. Moreover, average overall margins are higher in wholesale than in retail; wholesale demand from the food service sector is growing quickly as more Europeans eat out more often; and changes in the competitive dynamics of this fragmented industry are at last making it feasible for wholesalers to consolidate.

[G] However, none of these requirements should deter large retailers (and even some large food producers and existing wholesalers) from trying their hand, for those that master the intricacies of wholesaling in Europe stand to reap considerable gains.

41. → 42. → 43. → 44. → E → 45.

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your

translation should be written clearly on ANSWER SHEET 2. (10 points)

One basic weakness in a conservation system based wholly on economic motives is that most members of the land community have no economic value. Yet these creatures are members of the biotic community and, if its stability depends on its integrity, they are entitled to continuance.

When one of these noneconomic categories is threatened and, if we happen to love it, we invent excuses to give it economic importance. At the beginning of the century songbirds were supposed to be disappearing. (46) Scientists jumped to the rescue with some distinctly shaky evidence to the effect that insects would eat us up if birds failed to control them. The evidence had to be economic in order to be valid.

It is painful to read these roundabout accounts today. We have no land ethic yet, (47) but we have at least drawn nearer the point of admitting that birds should continue as a matter of intrinsic right, regardless of the presence or absence of economic advantage to us.

A parallel situation exists in respect of predatory mammals and fish-eating birds. (48) Time was when biologists somewhat overworked the evidence that these creatures preserve the health of game by killing the physically weak, or that they prey only on "worthless" species. Here again, the evidence had to be economic in order to be valid. It is only in recent years that we hear the more honest argument that predators are members of the community, and that no special interest has the right to exterminate them for the sake of a benefit, real or fancied, to itself.

Some species of trees have been "read out of the party" by economics-minded foresters because they grow too slowly, or have too low a sale value to pay as timber crops. (49) In Europe, where forestry is ecologically more advanced, the noncommercial tree species are recognized as members of the native forest community, to be preserved as such, within reason. Moreover, some have been found to have a valuable function in building up soil fertility. The interdependence of the forest and its constituent tree species, ground flora, and fauna is taken for granted.

To sum up: a system of conservation based solely on economic self-interest is hopelessly lopsided. (50) It tends to ignore, and thus eventually to eliminate, many elements in the land community that lack commercial value, but that are essential to its healthy functioning. It assumes, falsely, that the economic parts of the biotic clock will function without the uneconomic parts.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

You are supposed to write for the Postgraduates' Association a notice to recruit volunteers for an international conference on globalization. The notice should include the basic qualifications for applicants and the other information which you think is relevant.

You should write about 100 words on ANSWER SHEET 2.

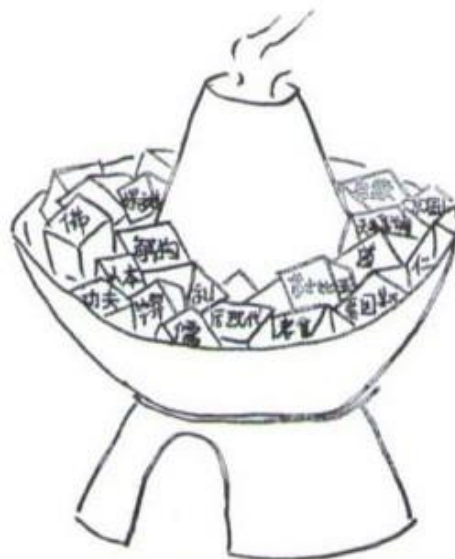
Do not sign your own name at the end of the notice. Use "Postgraduates' Association" instead. (10 points)

Part B**52. Directions:**

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following drawing. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the drawing briefly,
- 2) explain its intended meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on ANSWER SHEET 2. (20 points)



文化“火锅”，既美味又营养

2011年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

Text 1

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.

21. We learn from Paragraph 1 that Gilbert's appointment has
- [A] incurred criticism.
 - [B] raised suspicion.
 - [C] received acclaim.
 - [D] aroused curiosity.
22. Tommasini regards Gilbert as an artist who is
- [A] influential.
 - [B] modest.
 - [C] respectable.
 - [D] talented.
23. 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.
24. 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.
25. Regarding Gilbert's role in revitalizing the Philharmonic, the author feels
- [A] doubtful.
 - [B] enthusiastic.
 - [C] confident.
 - [D] puzzled.

Text 2

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.”

26. When McGee announced his departure, his manner can best be described as being
- [A] arrogant.
 - [B] frank.
 - [C] self-centered.
 - [D] impulsive.
27. 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.
28. The word "poached" (Line 3, Paragraph 4) most probably means
- [A] approved of.
 - [B] attended to.
 - [C] hunted for.
 - [D] guarded against.
29. 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.
30. 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

Text 3

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.

31. 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.
32. According to Paragraph 2, sold media feature
- [A] a safe business environment.
 - [B] random competition.
 - [C] strong user traffic.
 - [D] flexibility in organization.
33. 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.
34. 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.
35. 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.

Text 4

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.

36. 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.
37. 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.
38. 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.
39. According to Paragraph 4, the message conveyed by celebrity magazines is
- [A] soothing.
 - [B] ambiguous.
 - [C] compensatory.
 - [D] misleading.
40. 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.

Part B

Directions:

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent text by choosing from the list A-G and filling them into the numbered boxes. **Paragraphs E and G** have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

- [A] No disciplines have seized on professionalism with as much enthusiasm as the humanities. You can, Mr. Menand points out, become a lawyer in three years and a medical doctor in four. But the regular time it takes to get a doctoral degree in the humanities is nine years. Not surprisingly, up to half of all doctoral students in English drop out before getting their degrees.
- [B] His concern is mainly with the humanities: literature, languages, philosophy and so on. These are disciplines that are going out of style: 22% of American college graduates now major in business compared with only 2% in history and 4% in English. However, many leading American universities want their undergraduates to have a grounding in the basic canon of ideas that every educated person should possess. But most find it difficult to agree on what a “general education” should look like. At Harvard, Mr. Menand notes, “the great books are read because they have been read” – they form a sort of social glue.
- [C] Equally unsurprisingly, only about half end up with professorships for which they entered graduate school. There are simply too few posts. This is partly because universities continue to produce ever more PhDs. But fewer students want to study humanities subjects: English departments awarded more bachelor’s degrees in 1970-71 than they did 20 years later. Fewer students require fewer teachers. So, at the end of a decade of thesis-writing, many humanities students leave the profession to do something for which they have not been trained.
- [D] One reason why it is hard to design and teach such courses is that they cut across the insistence by top American universities that liberal-arts education and professional education should be kept separate, taught in different schools. Many students experience both varieties. Although more than half of Harvard undergraduates end up in law, medicine or business, future doctors and lawyers must study a non-specialist liberal-arts degree before embarking on a professional qualification.

- [E] Besides professionalising the professions by this separation, top American universities have professionalised the professor. The growth in public money for academic research has speeded the process: federal research grants rose fourfold between 1960 and 1990, but faculty teaching hours fell by half as research took its toll. Professionalism has turned the acquisition of a doctoral degree into a prerequisite for a successful academic career: as late as 1969 a third of American professors did not possess one. But the key idea behind professionalisation, argues Mr. Menand, is that “the knowledge and skills needed for a particular specialisation are transmissible but not transferable.” So disciplines acquire a monopoly not just over the production of knowledge, but also over the production of the producers of knowledge.
- [F] The key to reforming higher education, concludes Mr. Menand, is to alter the way in which “the producers of knowledge are produced”. Otherwise, academics will continue to think dangerously alike, increasingly detached from the societies which they study, investigate and criticise. “Academic inquiry, at least in some fields, may need to become less exclusionary and more holistic.” Yet quite how that happens, Mr. Menand does not say.
- [G] The subtle and intelligent little book *The Marketplace of Ideas: Reform and Resistance in the American University* should be read by every student thinking of applying to take a doctoral degree. They may then decide to go elsewhere. For something curious has been happening in American universities, and Louis Menand, a professor of English at Harvard University, captured it skillfully.

G	→	41.	→	42.	→	E	→	43.	→	44.	→	45.
---	---	-----	---	-----	---	---	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on ANSWER SHEET 2. (10 points)

With its theme that “Mind is the master weaver,” creating our inner character and outer circumstances, the book *As a Man Thinketh* by James Allen is an in-depth exploration of the central idea of self-help writing.

(46) Allen’s contribution was to take an assumption we all share – that because we are not robots we therefore control our thoughts – and reveal its erroneous nature. Because most of us believe that mind is separate from matter, we think that thoughts can be hidden and made powerless; this allows us to think one way and act another. However, Allen believed that the unconscious mind generates as much action as the conscious mind, and (47) while we may be able to sustain the illusion of control through the conscious mind alone, in reality we are continually faced with a question: “Why cannot I make myself do this or achieve that?”

Since desire and will are damaged by the presence of thoughts that do not accord with desire, Allen concluded: “We do not attract what we want, but what we are.” Achievement happens because you as a person embody the external achievement; you don’t “get” success but become it. There is no gap between mind and matter.

Part of the fame of Allen’s book is its contention that “Circumstances do not make a person, they reveal him.” (48) This seems a justification for neglect of those in need, and a rationalization of exploitation, of the superiority of those at the top and the inferiority of those at the bottom.

This, however, would be a knee-jerk reaction to a subtle argument. Each set of circumstances, however bad, offers a unique opportunity for growth. If circumstances always determined the life and prospects of people, then humanity would never have progressed. In fact, (49) circumstances seem to be designed to bring out the best in us, and if we feel that we have been “wronged” then we are unlikely to begin a conscious effort to escape from our situation. Nevertheless, as any biographer knows, a person’s early life and its conditions are often the greatest gift to an individual.

The sobering aspect of Allen’s book is that we have no one else to blame for our present condition except ourselves. (50) The upside is the possibilities contained in knowing that everything is up to us; where before we were experts in the array of limitations, now we become authorities of what is possible.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

Write a letter to a friend of yours to

- 1) recommend one of your favorite movies and
- 2) give reasons for your recommendation.

You should write about 100 words on ANSWER SHEET 2.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use “Li Ming” instead.

Do not write the address. (10 points)

Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following drawing. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the drawing briefly,
- 2) explain its intended meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on ANSWER SHEET 2. (20 points)



旅程之“余”

2012年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

Text 1

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.

21. 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.
22. 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.
23. 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.
24. 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.
25. The author suggests in the last paragraph that the effect of peer pressure is
- [A] harmful.
 - [B] desirable.
 - [C] profound.
 - [D] questionable.

Text 2

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.

26. The phrase “reneging on” (Line 3, Para. 1) is closest in meaning to
- [A] condemning.
 - [B] reaffirming.
 - [C] dishonoring.
 - [D] securing.
27. 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.
28. According to Paragraph 4, Entergy seems to have problems with its
- [A] managerial practices.
 - [B] technical innovativeness.
 - [C] financial goals.
 - [D] business vision.
29. 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.
30. 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.

Text 3

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."

31. 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.
32. It can be inferred from Paragraph 2 that credibility process requires
- [A] strict inspection.
 - [B] shared efforts.
 - [C] individual wisdom.
 - [D] persistent innovation.
33. 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.
34. 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.
35. 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.

Text 4

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.

36. 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.
37. 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.
38. 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.
39. 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.
40. John Donahue's attitude towards the public-sector system is one of
- [A] disapproval.
 - [B] appreciation.
 - [C] tolerance.
 - [D] indifference.

Part B

Directions:

In the following text, some sentences have been removed. For Questions 41 – 45, choose the most suitable one from the list A – G to fit into each of the numbered blanks. There are two extra choices, which do not fit in any of the blanks. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

Think of those fleeting moments when you look out of an aeroplane window and realise that you are flying, higher than a bird. Now think of your laptop, thinner than a brown-paper envelope, or your cellphone in the palm of your hand. Take a moment or two to wonder at those marvels. You are the lucky inheritor of a dream come true.

The second half of the 20th century saw a collection of geniuses, warriors, entrepreneurs and visionaries labour to create a fabulous machine that could function as a typewriter and printing press, studio and theatre, paintbrush and gallery, piano and radio, the mail as well as the mail carrier. (41) _____

The networked computer is an amazing device, the first media machine that serves as the mode of production, means of distribution, site of reception, and place of praise and critique. The computer is the 21st century's culture machine.

But for all the reasons there are to celebrate the computer, we must also act with caution. (42) _____ I call it a secret war for two reasons. First, most people do not realise that there are strong commercial agendas at work to keep them in passive consumption mode. Second, the majority of people who use networked computers to upload are not even aware of the significance of what they are doing.

All animals download, but only a few upload. Beavers build dams and birds make nests. Yet for the most part, the animal kingdom moves through the world downloading. Humans are unique in their capacity to not only make tools but then turn around and use them to create superfluous material goods – paintings, sculpture and architecture – and superfluous experiences – music, literature, religion and philosophy. (43) _____

For all the possibilities of our new culture machines, most people are still stuck in download mode. Even after the advent of widespread social media, a pyramid of production remains, with a small number of people uploading material, a slightly larger group commenting on or modifying that content, and a huge percentage remaining content to just consume. (44) _____

Television is a one-way tap flowing into our homes. The hardest task that television asks of anyone is to turn the power off after he has turned it on. (45) _____

What counts as meaningful uploading? My definition revolves around the concept of “stickiness” – creations and experiences to which others adhere.

- [A] Of course, it is precisely these superfluous things that define human culture and ultimately what it is to be human. Downloading and consuming culture requires great skills, but failing to move beyond downloading is to strip oneself of a defining constituent of humanity.
- [B] Applications like tumblr.com, which allow users to combine pictures, words and other media in creative ways and then share them, have the potential to add stickiness by amusing, entertaining and enlightening others.
- [C] Not only did they develop such a device but by the turn of the millennium they had also managed to embed it in a worldwide system accessed by billions of people every day.
- [D] This is because the networked computer has sparked a secret war between downloading and uploading – between passive consumption and active creation – whose outcome will shape our collective future in ways we can only begin to imagine.
- [E] The challenge the computer mounts to television thus bears little similarity to one format being replaced by another in the manner of record players being replaced by CD players.
- [F] One reason for the persistence of this pyramid of production is that for the past half-century, much of the world's media culture has been defined by a single medium – television – and television is defined by downloading.
- [G] The networked computer offers the first chance in 50 years to reverse the flow, to encourage thoughtful downloading and, even more importantly, meaningful uploading.

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written clearly on ANSWER SHEET 2. (10 points)

Since the days of Aristotle, a search for universal principles has characterized the scientific enterprise. In some ways, this quest for commonalities defines science. Newton's laws of motion and Darwinian evolution each bind a host of different phenomena into a single explicatory framework.

(46) In physics, one approach takes this impulse for unification to its extreme, and seeks a theory of everything – a single generative equation for all we see. It is becoming less clear, however, that such a theory would be a simplification, given the dimensions and universes that it might entail. Nonetheless, unification of sorts remains a major goal.

This tendency in the natural sciences has long been evident in the social sciences too. (47) Here, Darwinism seems to offer justification, for if all humans share common origins, it seems reasonable to suppose that cultural diversity could also be traced to more constrained beginnings. Just as the bewildering variety of human courtship rituals might all be considered forms of sexual selection, perhaps the world's languages, music, social and religious customs and even history are governed by universal features. (48) To filter out what is unique from what is shared might enable us to understand how complex cultural behavior arose and what guides it in evolutionary or cognitive terms.

That, at least, is the hope. But a comparative study of linguistic traits published online today supplies a reality check. Russell Gray at the University of Auckland and his colleagues consider the evolution of grammars in the light of two previous attempts to find universality in language.

The most famous of these efforts was initiated by Noam Chomsky, who suggested that humans are born with an innate language-acquisition capacity that dictates a universal grammar. A few generative rules are then sufficient to unfold the entire fundamental structure of a language, which is why children can learn it so quickly.

(49) The second, by Joshua Greenberg, takes a more empirical approach to universality, identifying traits (particularly in word order) shared by many languages, which are considered to represent biases that result from cognitive constraints.

Gray and his colleagues have put them to the test by examining four family trees that between them represent more than 2,000 languages. (50) Chomsky's grammar should show patterns of language change that are independent of the family tree or the pathway tracked through it, whereas Greenbergian universality predicts strong co-dependencies between particular types of word-order relations. Neither of these patterns is borne out by the analysis, suggesting that the structures of the languages are lineage-specific and not governed by universals.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

Some international students are coming to your university. Write them an email in the name of the Students' Union to

- 1) extend your welcome and
- 2) provide some suggestions for their campus life here.

You should write about 100 words on ANSWER SHEET 2.

Do not sign your name at the end of the letter. Use "Li Ming" instead.

Do not write the address. (10 points)

Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following drawing. In your essay you should

- 1) describe the drawing briefly
- 2) explain its intended meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on ANSWER SHEET 2. (20 points)



2013年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

In 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.

21. Priestly criticizes her assistant for her
- [A] insensitivity to fashion.
 - [B] obsession with high fashion.
 - [C] poor bargaining skill.
 - [D] lack of imagination.
22. 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.
23. The word “indictment” (Line 3, Para.2) is closest in meaning to
- [A] tolerance.
 - [B] indifference.
 - [C] enthusiasm.
 - [D] accusation.
24. 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.
25. 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.

Text 2

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?

26. 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.
27. “the industry” (Line 5, Para.3) refers to
- [A] internet browser developers.
 - [B] digital information analysts.
 - [C] e-commerce conductors.
 - [D] online advertisers.
28. 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.
29. 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.
30. The author’s attitude towards what Brendon Lynch said in his blog is one of
- [A] indulgence.
 - [B] understanding.
 - [C] appreciation.
 - [D] skepticism.

Text 3

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.

31. 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.
32. 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.
33. 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.
34. 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.
35. 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.

Text 4

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.

36. 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.
37. 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.
38. 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.
39. 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.
40. 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.

Part B

Directions:

In the following text, some sentences have been removed. For Questions 41-45, choose the most suitable one from the list A-G to fit into each of the numbered blanks. There are two extra choices, which do not fit in any of the blanks. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

The social sciences are flourishing. As of 2005, there were almost half a million professional social scientists from all fields in the world, working both inside and outside academia. According to the *World Social Science Report 2010*, the number of social-science students worldwide has swollen by about 11% every year since 2000.

Yet this enormous resource is not contributing enough to today's global challenges, including climate change, security, sustainable development and health. (41)_____ Humanity has the necessary agro-technological tools to eradicate hunger, from genetically engineered crops to artificial fertilizers. Here, too, the problems are social: the organization and distribution of food, wealth and prosperity.

(42)_____ This is a shame – the community should be grasping the opportunity to raise its influence in the real world. To paraphrase the great social scientist Joseph Schumpeter: there is no radical innovation without creative destruction.

Today, the social sciences are largely focused on disciplinary problems and internal scholarly debates, rather than on topics with external impact. Analyses reveal that the number of papers including the keywords “environmental change” or “climate change” have increased rapidly since 2004. (43)_____

When social scientists do tackle practical issues, their scope is often local: Belgium is interested mainly in the effects of poverty on Belgium, for example. And whether the community's work contributes much to an overall accumulation of knowledge is doubtful.

The problem is not necessarily the amount of available funding. (44)_____ This is an adequate amount so long as it is aimed in the right direction. Social scientists who complain about a lack of funding should not expect more in today's economic climate.

The trick is to direct these funds better. The European Union Framework funding programs have long had a category specifically targeted at social scientists. This year, it was proposed that the system be changed: Horizon 2020, a new program to be enacted in 2014, would not have such a category. This has resulted in protests from social scientists. But the intention is not to neglect social science; rather, the complete opposite. (45)_____ That should create more collaborative endeavors and help to develop projects aimed directly at solving global problems.

- [A] The idea is to force social scientists to integrate their work with other categories, including health and demographic change; food security; marine research and the bio-economy; clean, efficient energy; and inclusive, innovative and secure societies.
- [B] The solution is to change the mindset of the academic community, and what it considers to be its main goal. Global challenges and social innovation ought to receive much more attention from scientists, especially the young ones.
- [C] It could be that we are evolving two communities of social scientists: one that is discipline-oriented and publishing in highly specialized journals, and one that is problem-oriented and publishing elsewhere, such as policy briefs.
- [D] However, the numbers are still small: in 2010, about 1,600 of the 100,000 social-sciences papers published globally included one of these keywords.
- [E] These issues all have root causes in human behavior: all require behavioral change and social innovations, as well as technological development. Stemming climate change, for example, is as much about changing consumption patterns and promoting tax acceptance as it is about developing clean energy.
- [F] Despite these factors, many social scientists seem reluctant to tackle such problems. And in Europe, some are up in arms over a proposal to drop a specific funding category for social-science research and to integrate it within cross-cutting topics of sustainable development.
- [G] During the late 1990s, national spending on social sciences and the humanities as a percentage of all research and development funds – including government, higher education, non-profit and corporate – varied from around 4% to 25%; in most European nations, it is about 15%.

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

It is speculated that gardens arise from a basic human need in the individuals who made them: the need for creative expression. There is no doubt that gardens evidence an irrepressible urge to create, express, fashion, and beautify and that self-expression is a basic human urge; (46) yet when one looks at the photographs of the gardens created by the homeless, it strikes one that, for all their diversity of styles, these gardens speak of various other fundamental urges, beyond that of decoration and creative expression.

One of these urges has to do with creating a state of peace in the midst of turbulence, a “still point of the turning world,” to borrow a phrase from T. S. Eliot. (47) A sacred place of peace, however crude it may be, is a distinctly human need, as opposed to shelter, which is a distinctly animal need. This distinction is so much so that where the latter is lacking, as it is for these unlikely gardeners, the former becomes all the more urgent. Composure is a state of mind made possible by the structuring of one’s relation to one’s environment. (48) The gardens of the homeless, which are in effect homeless gardens, introduce *form* into an urban environment where it either didn’t exist or was not discernible as such. In so doing they give composure to a segment of the inarticulate environment in which they take their stand.

Another urge or need that these gardens appear to respond to, or to arise from, is so intrinsic that we are barely ever conscious of its abiding claims on us. When we are deprived of green, of plants, of trees, (49) most of us give in to a demoralization of spirit which we usually blame on some psychological conditions, until one day we find ourselves in a garden and feel the oppression vanish as if by magic. In most of the homeless gardens of New York City the actual cultivation of plants is unfeasible, yet even so the compositions often seem to represent attempts to call forth the spirit of plant and animal life, if only symbolically, through a clumplike arrangement of materials, an introduction of colors, small pools of water, and a frequent presence of petals or leaves as well as of stuffed animals. On display here are various fantasy elements whose reference, at some basic level, seems to be the natural world. (50) It is this implicit or explicit reference to nature that fully justifies the use of the word *garden*, though in a “liberated” sense, to describe these synthetic constructions. In them we can see biophilia – a yearning for contact with nonhuman life – assuming uncanny representational forms.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

Write an e-mail of about 100 words to a foreign teacher in your college, inviting him/her to be a judge for the upcoming English speech contest.

You should include the details you think necessary.

You should write neatly on ANSWER SHEET.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the e-mail. Use “Li Ming” instead.

Do not write the address. (10 points)

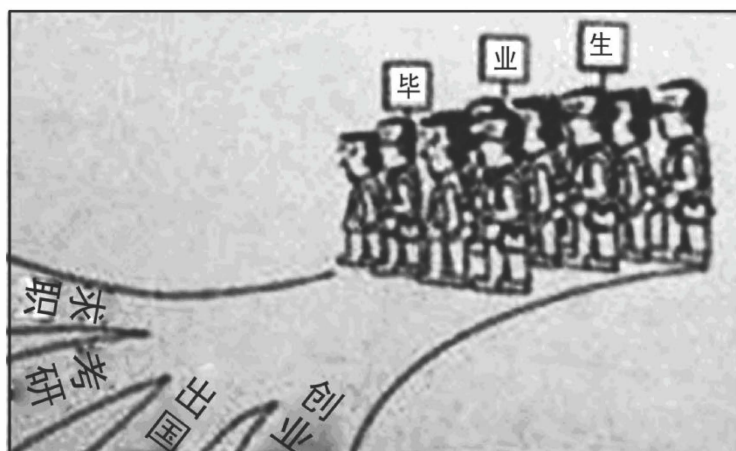
Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following drawing. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the drawing briefly,
- 2) interpret its intended meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



选 择

2014年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

In 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.

21. 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.
22. 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.
23. 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.
24. According to Paragraph 3, being unemployed makes one feel
- [A] uneasy.
 - [B] insulted.
 - [C] enraged.
 - [D] guilty.
25. 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.

Text 2

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.

26. 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.
27. 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.
28. 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.
29. 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.
30. 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.

Text 3

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.

31. 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.
32. 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.
33. 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.
34. 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.
35. 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.

Text 4

“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 2½ 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.

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

Part B

Directions:

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For Questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent text by choosing from the list A-G and filling them into the numbered boxes. Paragraphs A and E have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

- [A] Some archaeological sites have always been easily observable – for example, the Parthenon in Athens, Greece; the pyramids of Giza in Egypt; and the megaliths of Stonehenge in southern England. But these sites are exceptions to the norm. Most archaeological sites have been located by means of careful searching, while many others have been discovered by accident. Olduvai Gorge, an early hominid site in Tanzania, was found by a butterfly hunter who literally fell into its deep valley in 1911. Thousands of Aztec artifacts came to light during the digging of the Mexico City subway in the 1970s.
- [B] In another case, American archaeologists René Million and George Cowgill spent years systematically mapping the entire city of Teotihuacán in the Valley of Mexico near what is now Mexico City. At its peak around AD 600, this city was one of the largest human settlements in the world. The researchers mapped not only the city's vast and ornate ceremonial areas, but also hundreds of simpler apartment complexes where common people lived.
- [C] How do archaeologists know where to find what they are looking for when there is nothing visible on the surface of the ground? Typically, they survey and *sample* (make test excavations on) large areas of terrain to determine where excavation will yield useful information. Surveys and test samples have also become important for understanding the larger landscapes that contain archaeological sites.
- [D] Surveys can cover a single large settlement or entire landscapes. In one case, many researchers working around the ancient Maya city of Copán, Honduras, have located hundreds of small rural villages and individual dwellings by using aerial photographs and by making surveys on foot. The resulting settlement maps show how the distribution and density of the rural population around the city changed dramatically between AD 500 and 850, when Copán collapsed.

- [E] To find their sites, archaeologists today rely heavily on systematic survey methods and a variety of high-technology tools and techniques. Airborne technologies, such as different types of radar and photographic equipment carried by airplanes or spacecraft, allow archaeologists to learn about what lies beneath the ground without digging. Aerial surveys locate general areas of interest or larger buried features, such as ancient buildings or fields.
- [F] Most archaeological sites, however, are discovered by archaeologists who have set out to look for them. Such searches can take years. British archaeologist Howard Carter knew that the tomb of the Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamun existed from information found in other sites. Carter sifted through rubble in the Valley of the Kings for seven years before he located the tomb in 1922. In the late 1800s British archaeologist Sir Arthur Evans combed antique dealers' stores in Athens, Greece. He was searching for tiny engraved seals attributed to the ancient Mycenaean culture that dominated Greece from the 1400s to 1200s BC. Evans's interpretations of these engravings eventually led him to find the Minoan palace at Knossos (Knósós), on the island of Crete, in 1900.
- [G] Ground surveys allow archaeologists to pinpoint the places where digs will be successful. Most ground surveys involve a lot of walking, looking for surface clues such as small fragments of pottery. They often include a certain amount of digging to test for buried materials at selected points across a landscape. Archaeologists also may locate buried remains by using such technologies as ground radar, magnetic-field recording, and metal detectors. Archaeologists commonly use computers to map sites and the landscapes around sites. Two- and three-dimensional maps are helpful tools in planning excavations, illustrating how sites look, and presenting the results of archaeological research.

41.	→	A	→	42.	→	E	→	43.	→	44.	→	45.
-----	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Music means different things to different people and sometimes even different things to the same person at different moments of his life. It might be poetic, philosophical, sensual, or mathematical, but in any case it must, in my view, have something to do with the soul of the human being. Hence it is metaphysical; but the means of expression is purely and exclusively physical: sound. I believe it is precisely this permanent coexistence of metaphysical message through physical means that is the strength of music. (46) It is also the reason why when we try to describe music with words, all we can do is articulate our reactions to it, and not grasp music itself.

Beethoven's importance in music has been principally defined by the revolutionary nature of his compositions. He freed music from hitherto prevailing conventions of harmony and structure. Sometimes I feel in his late works a will to break all signs of continuity. The music is abrupt and seemingly disconnected, as in the last piano sonata. In musical expression, he did not feel restrained by the weight of convention. (47) By all accounts he was a freethinking person, and a courageous one, and I find courage an essential quality for the understanding, let alone the performance, of his works.

This courageous attitude in fact becomes a requirement for the performers of Beethoven's music. His compositions demand the performer to show courage, for example in the use of dynamics. (48) Beethoven's habit of increasing the volume with an extreme intensity and then abruptly following it with a sudden soft passage was only rarely used by composers before him.

Beethoven was a deeply political man in the broadest sense of the word. He was not interested in daily politics, but concerned with questions of moral behavior and the larger questions of right and wrong affecting the entire society.

(49) Especially significant was his view of freedom, which, for him, was associated with the rights and responsibilities of the individual: he advocated freedom of thought and of personal expression.

Beethoven's music tends to move from chaos to order as if order were an imperative of human existence. For him, order does not result from forgetting or ignoring the disorders that plague our existence; order is a necessary development, an improvement that may lead to the Greek ideal of spiritual elevation. It is not by chance that the Funeral March is not the last movement of the Eroica Symphony, but the second, so that suffering does not have the last word. (50) One could interpret much of the work of Beethoven by saying that suffering is inevitable, but the courage to fight it renders life worth living.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

Write a letter of about 100 words to the president of your university, suggesting how to improve students' physical condition.

You should include the details you think necessary.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use "Li Ming" instead.

Do not write the address. (10 points)

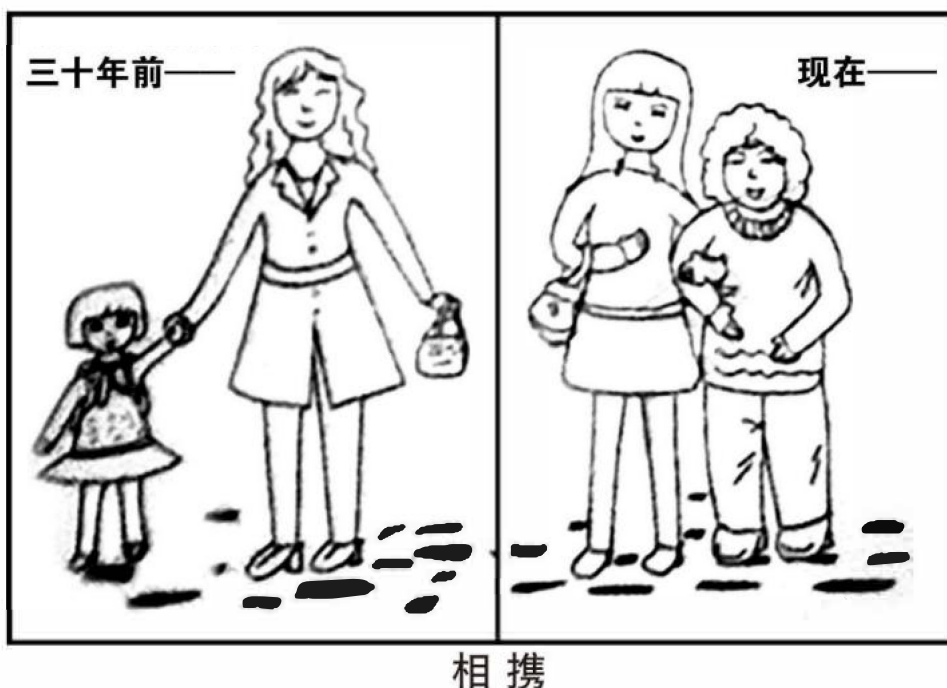
Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following drawing. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the drawing briefly,
- 2) interpret its intended meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



2015年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

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.

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

Text 2

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.

26. 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.
27. The author's attitude toward California's argument is one of
- [A] disapproval.
 - [B] indifference.
 - [C] tolerance.
 - [D] cautiousness.
28. 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.
29. 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.
30. 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.

Text 3

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”.

31. 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.
32. The phrase “flagged up” (Para. 2) is the closest in meaning to
- [A] found.
 - [B] revised.
 - [C] marked.
 - [D] stored.
33. 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.
34. 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.
35. 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*

Text 4

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.

36. 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.
37. 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.
38. 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.
39. 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.
40. 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.

Part B

Directions:

In the following text, some sentences have been removed. For Questions 41-45, choose the most suitable one from the list A-G to fit into each of the numbered blanks. There are two extra choices, which do not fit in any of the blanks. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

How does your reading proceed? Clearly you try to comprehend, in the sense of identifying meanings for individual words and working out relationships between them, drawing on your implicit knowledge of English grammar. (41) _____ You begin to infer a context for the text, for instance, by making decisions about what kind of speech event is involved: Who is making the utterance, to whom, when and where.

The ways of reading indicated here are without doubt kinds of comprehension. But they show comprehension to consist not just of passive assimilation but of active engagement in inference and problem-solving. You infer information you feel the writer has invited you to grasp by presenting you with specific evidence and clues. (42) _____

Conceived in this way, comprehension will not follow exactly the same track for each reader. What is in question is not the retrieval of an absolute, fixed or “true” meaning that can be read off and checked for accuracy, or some timeless relation of the text to the world. (43)

Such background material inevitably reflects who we are. (44)
_____ This doesn’t, however, make interpretation merely relative or even pointless. Precisely because readers from different historical periods, places and social experiences produce different but overlapping readings of the same words on the page—including for texts that engage with fundamental human concerns—debates about texts can play an important role in social discussion of beliefs and values.

How we read a given text also depends to some extent on our particular interest in reading it. (45) _____ Such dimensions of reading suggest—as others introduced later in the book will also do—that we bring an implicit (often unacknowledged) agenda to any act of reading. It doesn’t then necessarily follow that one kind of reading is fuller, more advanced or more worthwhile than another. Ideally, different kinds of reading inform each other, and act as useful reference points for and counterbalances to one another. Together, they make up the reading component of your overall literacy, or relationship to your surrounding textual environment.

- [A] Are we studying that text and trying to respond in a way that fulfils the requirement of a given course? Reading it simply for pleasure? Skimming it for information? Ways of reading on a train or in bed are likely to differ considerably from reading in a seminar room.
- [B] Factors such as the place and period in which we are reading, our gender, ethnicity, age and social class will encourage us towards certain interpretations but at the same time obscure or even close off others.
- [C] If you are unfamiliar with words or idioms, you guess at their meaning, using clues presented in the context. On the assumption that they will become relevant later, you make a mental note of discourse entities as well as possible links between them.
- [D] In effect, you try to reconstruct the likely meanings or effects that any given sentence, image or reference might have had: These might be the ones the author intended.
- [E] You make further inferences, for instance, about how the text may be significant to you, or about its validity – inferences that form the basis of a personal response for which the author will inevitably be far less responsible.
- [F] In plays, novels and narrative poems, characters speak as constructs created by the author, not necessarily as mouthpieces for the author's own thoughts.
- [G] Rather, we ascribe meanings to texts on the basis of interaction between what we might call textual and contextual material: between kinds of organization or patterning we perceive in a text's formal structures (so especially its language structures) and various kinds of background, social knowledge, belief and attitude that we bring to the text.

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written clearly on ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Within the span of a hundred years, in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, a tide of emigration – one of the great folk wanderings of history – swept from Europe to America. (46) This movement, driven by powerful and diverse motivations, built a nation out of a wilderness and, by its nature, shaped the character and destiny of an uncharted continent.

(47) The United States is the product of two principal forces – the immigration of European peoples with their varied ideas, customs, and national characteristics and the impact of a new country which modified these traits. Of necessity, colonial America was a projection of Europe. Across the Atlantic came successive groups of Englishmen, Frenchmen, Germans, Scots, Irishmen, Dutchmen, Swedes, and many others who attempted to transplant their habits and traditions to the new world. (48) But the force of geographic conditions peculiar to America, the interplay of the varied national groups upon one another, and the sheer difficulty of maintaining old-world ways in a raw, new continent caused significant changes. These changes were gradual and at first scarcely visible. But the result was a new social pattern which, although it resembled European society in many ways, had a character that was distinctly American.

(49) The first shiploads of immigrants bound for the territory which is now the United States crossed the Atlantic more than a hundred years after the 15th-and-16th-century explorations of North America. In the meantime, thriving Spanish colonies had been established in Mexico, the West Indies, and South America. These travelers to North America came in small, unmercifully overcrowded craft. During their six- to twelve-week voyage, they survived on barely enough food allotted to them. Many of the ships were lost in storms, many passengers died of disease, and infants rarely survived the journey. Sometimes storms blew the vessels far off their course, and often calm brought unbearably long delay.

To the anxious travelers the sight of the American shore brought almost inexpressible relief. Said one recorder of events, “The air at twelve leagues’ distance smelt as sweet as a new-blown garden.” The colonists’ first glimpse of the new land was a sight of dense woods. (50) The virgin forest with its richness and variety of trees was a real treasure-house which extended from Maine all the way down to Georgia. Here was abundant fuel and lumber. Here was the raw material of houses and furniture, ships and potash, dyes and naval stores.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

You are going to host a club reading session. Write an email of about 100 words recommending a book to the club members.

You should state reasons for your recommendation.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the letter, use “Li Ming ” instead.

Do not write the address. (10 points)

Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160–200 words based on the following picture. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the picture briefly,
- 2) interpret its intended meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



手机时代的聚会

2016年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

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 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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

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.

21. 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.
22. 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.
23. 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.
24. 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.
25. 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

Text 2

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.

26. 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.
27. 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.
28. 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.
29. 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.
30. 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.

Text 3

“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.

31. The author views Milton Friedman's statement about CSR with
- [A] tolerance.
 - [B] skepticism.
 - [C] approval.
 - [D] uncertainty.
32. 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.
33. The expression "more lenient" (Para.4) is closest in meaning to
- [A] less controversial.
 - [B] more effective.
 - [C] more lasting.
 - [D] less severe.
34. 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.
35. 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.

Text 4

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.”

36. *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.
37. 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.
38. 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.
39. 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.
40. 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

Part B

Directions:

Read the following text and answer the questions by choosing the most suitable subheading from the list A-G for each of the numbered paragraphs (41-45). There are two extra subheadings. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

- [A] Create a new image of yourself
- [B] Have confidence in yourself
- [C] Decide if the time is right
- [D] Understand the context
- [E] Work with professionals
- [F] Know your goals
- [G] Make it efficient

No matter how formal or informal the work environment, the way you present yourself has an impact. This is especially true in first impressions. According to research from Princeton University, people assess your competence, trustworthiness, and likeability in just a tenth of a second, solely based on the way you look.

The difference between today's workplace and the "dress for success" era is that the range of options is so much broader. Norms have evolved and fragmented. In some settings, red sneakers or dress T-shirts can convey status; in others not so much. Plus, whatever image we present is magnified by social-media services like LinkedIn. Chances are, your headshots are seen much more often now than a decade or two ago. Millennials, it seems, face the paradox of being the least formal generation yet the most conscious of style and personal branding. It can be confusing.

So how do we navigate this? How do we know when to invest in an upgrade? And what's the best way to pull off one that enhances our goals? Here are some tips:

41.	
-----	--

As an executive coach, I've seen image upgrades be particularly helpful during transitions – when looking for a new job, stepping into a new or more public role, or changing work environments. If you're in a period of change or just feeling stuck and in a rut, now may be a good time. If you're not sure, ask for honest feedback from trusted friends, colleagues and professionals. Look for cues about how others perceive you. Maybe there's no need for an upgrade and that's OK.

42.	
-----	--

Get clear on what impact you're hoping to have. Are you looking to refresh your image or pivot it? For one person, the goal may be to be taken more seriously and enhance their professional image. For another, it may be to be perceived as more approachable, or more modern and stylish. For someone moving from finance to advertising, maybe they want to look more "SoHo." (It's OK to use characterizations like that.)

43.	
-----	--

Look at your work environment like an anthropologist. What are the norms of your environment? What conveys status? Who are your most important audiences? How do the people you respect and look up to present themselves? The better you understand the cultural context, the more control you can have over your impact.

44.	
-----	--

Enlist the support of professionals and share with them your goals and context. Hire a personal stylist, or use the free styling service of a store like J. Crew. Try a hair stylist instead of a barber. Work with a professional photographer instead of your spouse or friend. It's not as expensive as you might think.

45.	
-----	--

The point of a style upgrade isn't to become more vain or to spend more time fussing over what to wear. Instead, use it as an opportunity to reduce decision fatigue. Pick a standard work uniform or a few go-to options. Buy all your clothes at once with a stylist instead of shopping alone, one article of clothing at a time.

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Mental health is our birthright. (46) We don't have to learn how to be mentally healthy; it is built into us in the same way that our bodies know how to heal a cut or mend a broken bone. Mental health can't be learned, only reawakened. It is like the immune system of the body, which under stress or through lack of nutrition or exercise can be weakened, but which never leaves us. When we don't understand the value of mental health and we don't know how to gain access to it, mental health will remain hidden from us. (47) Our mental health doesn't really go anywhere; like the sun behind a cloud, it can be temporarily hidden from view, but it is fully capable of being restored in an instant.

Mental health is the seed that contains self-esteem – confidence in ourselves and an ability to trust in our common sense. It allows us to have perspective on our lives – the ability to not take ourselves too seriously, to laugh at ourselves, to see the bigger picture, and to see that things will work out. It's a form of innate or unlearned optimism. (48) Mental health allows us to view others with sympathy if they are having troubles, with kindness if they are in pain, and with unconditional love no matter who they are. Mental health is the source of creativity for solving problems, resolving conflict, making our surroundings more beautiful, managing our home life, or coming up with a creative business idea or invention to make our lives easier. It gives us patience for ourselves and toward others as well as patience while driving, catching a fish, working on our car, or raising a child. It allows us to see the beauty that surrounds us each moment in nature, in culture, in the flow of our daily lives.

(49) Although mental health is the cure-all for living our lives, it is perfectly ordinary as you will see that it has been there to direct you through all your difficult decisions. It has been available even in the most mundane of life situations to show you right from wrong, good from bad, friend from foe. Mental health has commonly been called conscience, instinct, wisdom, common sense, or the inner voice. We think of it simply as a healthy and helpful flow of intelligent thought. (50) As you will come to see, knowing that mental health is always available and knowing to trust it allow us to slow down to the moment and live life happily.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

Suppose you are a librarian in your university. Write a notice of about 100 words, providing the newly-enrolled international students with relevant information about the library.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the notice. Use “Li Ming” instead.

Do not write the address. (10 points)

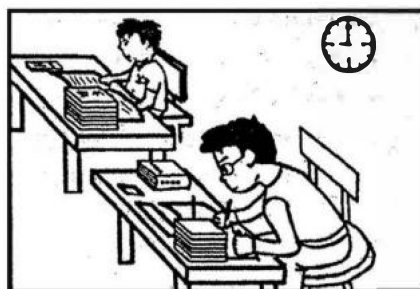
Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following pictures. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the pictures briefly,
- 2) interpret the meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



与其只提要求，不如做个榜样

2017年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

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.

21. 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.
22. 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.
23. The word "expedited" (Line 4, Para. 5) is closest in meaning to
- [A] quieter.
 - [B] cheaper.
 - [C] wider.
 - [D] faster.
24. 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.
25. 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

Text 2

“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.

26. 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.
27. 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.
28. 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.
29. 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.
30. 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.

Text 3

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.

31. 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.
32. 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.
33. 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.
34. 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.
35. 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

Text 4

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.

36. 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.
37. 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.
38. 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.
39. 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.
40. The author's attitude toward the court's ruling is
- [A] sarcastic.
 - [B] tolerant.
 - [C] skeptical.
 - [D] supportive.

Part B

Directions:

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For questions 41 -45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent text by choosing from the list A—G and filling them into the numbered boxes. **Paragraphs B and D** have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

- [A] The first published sketch, “A Dinner at Poplar Walk” brought tears to Dickens’s eyes when he discovered it in the pages of *The Monthly Magazine*. From then on his sketches, which appeared under the pen name “Boz” in *The Evening Chronicle*, earned him a modest reputation.
- [B] The runaway success of *The Pickwick Papers*, as it is generally known today, secured Dickens’s fame. There were Pickwick coats and Pickwick cigars, and the plump, spectacled hero, Samuel Pickwick, became a national figure.
- [C] Soon after *Sketches by Boz* appeared, a publishing firm approached Dickens to write a story in monthly installments, as a backdrop for a series of woodcuts by the then-famous artist Robert Seymour, who had originated the idea for the story. With characteristic confidence, Dickens successfully insisted that Seymour’s pictures illustrate his own story instead. After the first installment, Dickens wrote to the artist and asked him to correct a drawing Dickens felt was not faithful enough to his prose. Seymour made the change, went into his backyard, and expressed his displeasure by committing suicide. Dickens and his publishers simply pressed on with a new artist. The comic novel, *The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club*, appeared serially in 1836 and 1837 and was first published in book form in 1837.
- [D] Charles Dickens is probably the best-known and, to many people, the greatest English novelist of the 19th century. A moralist, satirist, and social reformer, Dickens crafted complex plots and striking characters that capture the panorama of English society.
- [E] Soon after his father’s release from prison, Dickens got a better job as errand boy in law offices. He taught himself shorthand to get an even better job later as a court stenographer and as a reporter in Parliament. At the same time, Dickens, who had a reporter’s eye for transcribing the life around him, especially anything comic or odd, submitted short sketches to obscure magazines.

[F] Dickens was born in Portsmouth, on England's southern coast. His father was a clerk in the British Navy pay office – a respectable position, but with little social status. His paternal grandparents, a steward and a housekeeper, possessed even less status, having been servants, and Dickens later concealed their background. Dickens's mother supposedly came from a more respectable family. Yet two years before Dickens's birth, his mother's father was caught stealing and fled to Europe, never to return. The family's increasing poverty forced Dickens out of school at age 12 to work in Warren's Blacking Warehouse, a shoe-polish factory, where the other working boys mocked him as "the young gentleman." His father was then imprisoned for debt. The humiliations of his father's imprisonment and his labor in the blacking factory formed Dickens's greatest wound and became his deepest secret. He could not confide them even to his wife, although they provide the unacknowledged foundation of his fiction.

[G] After *Pickwick*, Dickens plunged into a bleaker world. In *Oliver Twist*, he traces an orphan's progress from the workhouse to the criminal slums of London. *Nicholas Nickleby*, his next novel, combines the darkness of *Oliver Twist* with the sunlight of *Pickwick*. The popularity of these novels consolidated Dickens' as a nationally and internationally celebrated man of letters.

D	→	41.	→	42.	→	43.	→	44.	→	B	→	45.
---	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	---	---	-----

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

The growth of the use of English as the world's primary language for international communication has obviously been continuing for several decades.

(46) But even as the number of English speakers expands further there are signs that the global predominance of the language may fade within the foreseeable future.

Complex international, economic, technological and cultural changes could start to diminish the leading position of English as the language of the world market, and UK interests which enjoy advantage from the breadth of English usage would consequently face new pressures. Those realistic possibilities are highlighted in the study presented by David Graddol. (47) His analysis should therefore end any self-contentedness among those who may believe that the global position of English is so stable that the young generations of the United Kingdom do not need additional language capabilities.

David Graddol concludes that monoglot English graduates face a bleak economic future as qualified multilingual youngsters from other countries are proving to have a competitive advantage over their British counterparts in global companies and organisations. Alongside that, (48) many countries are introducing English into the primary-school curriculum but British schoolchildren and students do not appear to be gaining greater encouragement to achieve fluency in other languages.

If left to themselves, such trends will diminish the relative strength of the English language in international education markets as the demand for educational resources in languages, such as Spanish, Arabic or Mandarin grows and international business process outsourcing in other languages such as Japanese, French and German, spreads.

(49) The changes identified by David Graddol all present clear and major challenges to the UK's providers of English language teaching to people of other countries and to broader education business sectors. The English language teaching sector directly earns nearly £ 1.3 billion for the UK in invisible exports and our other education related exports earn up to £ 10 billion a year more. As the international education market expands, the recent slowdown in the numbers of international students studying in the main English-speaking countries is likely to continue, especially if there are no effective strategic policies to prevent such slippage.

The anticipation of possible shifts in demand provided by this study is significant: (50) It gives a basis to all organisations which seek to promote the learning and use of English, a basis for planning to meet the possibilities of what could be a very different operating environment. That is a necessary and practical approach. In this as in much else, those who wish to influence the future must prepare for it.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

You are to write an email to James Cook, a newly-arrived Australian professor, recommending some tourist attractions in your city. Please give reasons for your recommendation.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the email. Use “Li Ming” instead.

Do not write the address. (10 points)

Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following pictures. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the pictures briefly,
- 2) interpret the meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



“有书”与“读书”

2018年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

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

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

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.

-
- 21. Who will be most threatened by automation?
 - [A] Leading politicians.
 - [B] Low-wage laborers.
 - [C] Robot owners.
 - [D] Middle-class workers.
- 22. 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.
- 23. Education in the age of automation should put more emphasis on
 - [A] creative potential.
 - [B] job-hunting skills.
 - [C] individual needs.
 - [D] cooperative spirit.
- 24. 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.
- 25. 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.

Text 2

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.

26. 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.
27. The phrase "beef up" (Line 2, Para. 2) is closest in meaning to
- [A] sharpen.
 - [B] define.
 - [C] boast.
 - [D] share.
28. 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".
29. 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.
30. 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 SocialMedia.
 - [D] The Platforms for Projection of Personal Interests.

Text 3

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.

-
- 31. 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.
- 32. The NHS trust responded to Denham's verdict with
 - [A] empty promises.
 - [B] tough resistance.
 - [C] necessary adjustments.
 - [D] sincere apologies.
- 33. 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.
- 34. 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.
- 35. The author's attitude toward the application of AI to healthcare is
 - [A] ambiguous.
 - [B] cautious.
 - [C] appreciative.
 - [D] contemptuous.

Text 4

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.

-
36. 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.
37. 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.
38. 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.
39. In the last paragraph, the author seems to view legislators with
- [A] respect.
 - [B] tolerance.
 - [C] discontent.
 - [D] gratitude.
40. 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.

Part B

Directions:

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For Questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent article by choosing from the list A-G and filling them into the numbered boxes. Paragraphs C and F have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

- [A] In December of 1869, Congress appointed a commission to select a site and prepare plans and cost estimates for a new State Department Building. The commission was also to consider possible arrangements for the War and Navy Departments. To the horror of some who expected a Greek Revival twin of the Treasury Building to be erected on the other side of the White House, the elaborate French Second Empire style design by Alfred Mullett was selected, and construction of a building to house all three departments began in June of 1871.
- [B] Completed in 1875, the State Department's south wing was the first to be occupied, with its elegant four-story library (completed in 1876), Diplomatic Reception Room, and Secretary's office decorated with carved wood, Oriental rugs, and stenciled wall patterns. The Navy Department moved into the east wing in 1879, where elaborate wall and ceiling stenciling and marquetry floors decorated the office of the Secretary.
- [C] The State, War, and Navy Building, as it was originally known, housed the three Executive Branch Departments most intimately associated with formulating and conducting the nation's foreign policy in the last quarter of the nineteenth century and the first quarter of the twentieth century – the period when the United States emerged as an international power. The building has housed some of the nation's most significant diplomats and politicians and has been the scene of many historic events.
- [D] Many of the most celebrated national figures have participated in historical events that have taken place within the EEOB's granite walls. Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Lyndon B. Johnson, Gerald Ford, and George H. W. Bush all had offices in this building before

becoming president. It has housed 16 Secretaries of the Navy, 21 Secretaries of War, and 24 Secretaries of State. Winston Churchill once walked its corridors and Japanese emissaries met here with Secretary of State Cordell Hull after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

- [E] The Eisenhower Executive Office Building (EEOB) commands a unique position in both the national history and the architectural heritage of the United States. Designed by Supervising Architect of the Treasury, Alfred B. Mullett, it was built from 1871 to 1888 to house the growing staffs of the State, War, and Navy Departments, and is considered one of the best examples of French Second Empire architecture in the country.
- [F] Construction took 17 years as the building slowly rose wing by wing. When the EEOB was finished, it was the largest office building in Washington, with nearly 2 miles of black and white tiled corridors. Almost all of the interior detail is of cast iron or plaster; the use of wood was minimized to insure fire safety. Eight monumental curving staircases of granite with over 4,000 individually cast bronze balusters are capped by four skylight domes and two stained glass rotundas.
- [G] The history of the EEOB began long before its foundations were laid. The first executive offices were constructed between 1799 and 1820. A series of fires (including those set by the British in 1814) and overcrowded conditions led to the construction of the existing Treasury Building. In 1866, the construction of the North Wing of the Treasury Building necessitated the demolition of the State Department building.

41. → C → 42. → 43. → F → 44. → 45.

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Shakespeare's lifetime was coincident with a period of extraordinary activity and achievement in the drama. (46) By the date of his birth Europe was witnessing the passing of the religious drama, and the creation of new forms under the incentive of classical tragedy and comedy. These new forms were at first mainly written by scholars and performed by amateurs, but in England, as everywhere else in western Europe, the growth of a class of professional actors was threatening to make the drama popular, whether it should be new or old, classical or medieval, literary or farcical. Court, school, organizations of amateurs, and the traveling actors were all rivals in supplying a widespread desire for dramatic entertainment; and (47) no boy who went to a grammar school could be ignorant that the drama was a form of literature which gave glory to Greece and Rome and might yet bring honor to England.

When Shakespeare was twelve years old the first public playhouse was built in London. For a time literature showed no interest in this public stage. Plays aiming at literary distinction were written for schools or court, or for the choir boys of St. Paul's and the royal chapel, who, however, gave plays in public as well as at court. (48) But the professional companies prospered in their permanent theaters, and university men with literary ambitions were quick to turn to these theaters as offering a means of livelihood. By the time that Shakespeare was twenty-five, Lyly, Peele, and Greene had made comedies that were at once popular and literary; Kyd had written a tragedy that crowded the pit; and Marlowe had brought poetry and genius to triumph on the common stage – where they had played no part since the death of Euripides. (49) A native literary drama had been created, its alliance with the public playhouses established, and at least some of its great traditions had been begun.

The development of the Elizabethan drama for the next twenty-five years is of exceptional interest to students of literary history, for in this brief period we may trace the beginning, growth, blossoming, and decay of many kinds of plays, and of many great careers. We are amazed today at the mere number of plays produced, as well as by the number of dramatists writing at the same time for this London of two hundred thousand inhabitants. (50) To realize how great was the dramatic activity, we must remember further that hosts of plays have been lost, and that probably there is no author of note whose entire work has survived.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

Write an email to all international experts on campus inviting them to attend the graduation ceremony. In your email you should include time, place and other relevant information about the ceremony.

You should write about 100 words neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not use your own name at the end of the email. Use “Li Ming” instead.

(10 points)

Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the picture below. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the picture briefly,
- 2) interpret the meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



选课进行时

2019年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

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 predominance 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.

21. 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.
22. 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.
23. It is argued that the influence of transient investment on public companies can be
- [A] indirect.
 - [B] adverse.
 - [C] minimal.
 - [D] temporary.
24. 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.
25. 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

Text 2

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.

26. 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.
27. 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.
28. 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.
29. 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.
30. 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.

Text 3

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.

31. 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.
32. 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.
33. 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.
34. The author's attitude toward Google's pledges is one of
- [A] affirmation.
 - [B] skepticism.
 - [C] contempt.
 - [D] respect.
35. 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

Text 4

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."

36. 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.
37. 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.
38. 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.
39. Who are most likely to welcome the Supreme Court ruling?
- [A] Internet entrepreneurs.
 - [B] Big-chain owners.
 - [C] Third-party sellers.
 - [D] Small retailers.
40. 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.

Part B

Directions:

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For Questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent text by choosing from the list A-G and filling them into the numbered boxes. **Paragraphs C and F** have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

- [A] These tools can help you win every argument – not in the unhelpful sense of beating your opponents but in the better sense of learning about the issues that divide people. Learning why they disagree with us and learning to talk and work together with them. If we readjust our view of arguments – from a verbal fight or tennis game to a reasoned exchange through which we all gain mutual respect, and understanding – then we change the very nature of what it means to “win” an argument.
- [B] Of course, many discussions are not so successful. Still, we need to be careful not to accuse opponents of bad arguments too quickly. We need to learn how to evaluate them properly. A large part of evaluation is calling out bad arguments, but we also need to admit good arguments by opponents and to apply the same critical standards to ourselves. Humility requires you to recognize weakness in your own arguments and sometimes also to accept reasons on the opposite side.
- [C] None of these will be easy but you can start even if others refuse to. Next time you state your position, formulate an argument for what you claim and honestly ask yourself whether your argument is any good. Next time you talk with someone who takes a stand, ask them to give you a reason for their view. Spell out their argument fully and charitably. Assess its strength impartially. Raise objections and listen carefully to their replies.
- [D] Carnegie would be right if arguments were fights, which is how we often think of them. Like physical fights, verbal fights can leave both sides bloodied. Even when you win, you end up no better off. Your prospects would be almost as dismal if arguments were even just competitions – like, say, tennis games. Pairs

of opponents hit the ball back and forth until one winner emerges from all who entered. Everybody else loses. This kind of thinking is why so many people try to avoid arguments, especially about politics and religion.

- [E] In his 1936 work *How to Win Friends and Influence People*, Dale Carnegie wrote: “There is only one way...to get the best of an argument – and that is to avoid it.” This aversion to arguments is common, but it depends on a mistaken view of arguments that causes profound problems for our personal and social lives – and in many ways misses the point of arguing in the first place.
- [F] These views of arguments also undermine reason. If you see a conversation as a fight or competition, you can win by cheating as long as you don’t get caught. You will be happy to convince people with bad arguments. You can call their views stupid, or joke about how ignorant they are. None of these tricks will help you understand them, their positions or the issues that divide you, but they can help you win – in one way.
- [G] There is a better way to win arguments. Imagine that you favor increasing the minimum wage in our state, and I do not. If you yell, “Yes,” and I yell, “No,” neither of us learns anything. We neither understand nor respect each other, and we have no basis for compromise or cooperation. In contrast, suppose you give a reasonable argument: that full-time workers should not have to live in poverty. Then I counter with another reasonable argument: that a higher minimum wage will force businesses to employ fewer people for less time. Now we can understand each other’s positions and recognize our shared values, since we both care about needy workers.

41.	→	42.	→	F	→	43.	→	44.	→	C	→	45.
-----	---	-----	---	---	---	-----	---	-----	---	---	---	-----

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese.

Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

It was only after I started to write a weekly column about the medical journals, and began to read scientific papers from beginning to end, that I realised just how bad much of the medical literature frequently was. I came to recognise various signs of a bad paper: the kind of paper that purports to show that people who eat more than one kilo of broccoli a week were 1.17 times more likely than those who eat less to suffer late in life from pernicious anaemia. (46) There is a great deal of this kind of nonsense in the medical journals which, when taken up by broadcasters and the lay press, generates both health scares and short-lived dietary enthusiasms.

Why is so much bad science published? A recent paper, titled “The Natural Selection of Bad Science”, published on the Royal Society’s open science website, attempts to answer this intriguing and important question. It says that the problem is not merely that people do bad science, but that our current system of career advancement positively encourages it. What is important is not truth, but publication, which has become almost an end in itself. There has been a kind of inflationary process at work: (47) nowadays anyone applying for a research post has to have published twice the number of papers that would have been required for the same post only 10 years ago. Never mind the quality, then, count the number.

(48) Attempts have been made to curb this tendency, for example, by trying to incorporate some measure of quality as well as quantity into the assessment of an applicant’s papers. This is the famed citation index, that is to say the number of times a paper has been quoted elsewhere in the scientific literature, the assumption being that an important paper will be cited more often than one of small account. (49) This would be reasonable if it were not for the fact that scientists can easily arrange to cite themselves in their future publications, or get associates to do so for them in return for similar favours.

Boiling down an individual’s output to simple metrics, such as number of publications or journal impacts, entails considerable savings in time, energy and ambiguity. Unfortunately, the long-term costs of using simple quantitative metrics to assess researcher merit are likely to be quite great. (50) If we are serious about ensuring that our science is both meaningful and reproducible, we must ensure that our institutions encourage that kind of science.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

Suppose you are working for the “Aiding Rural Primary School” project of your university. Write an email to answer the inquiry from an international student volunteer, specifying the details of the project.

You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

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

Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the picture below. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the picture briefly,
- 2) interpret the implied meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



途 中

2020 年全国硕士研究生招生考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

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 quality 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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A Directions:

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

Text 1

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.

21. 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.
22. 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.
23. 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.
24. Glasgow is mentioned in Paragraph 3 to present
- [A] a contrasting case.
 - [B] a supporting example.
 - [C] a background story.
 - [D] a related topic.
25. What is the author’s attitude towards the proposal?
- [A] Skeptical.
 - [B] Objective.
 - [C] Favourable.
 - [D] Critical.

Text 2

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, and 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 preparing 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.

26. 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.

27. 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.

28. How does the author feel about the success of Sci-Hub?

- [A] Relieved.
- [B] Puzzled.
- [C] Concerned.
- [D] Encouraged.

29. 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.

30. 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.

Text 3

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.

31. 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.

32. 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.

33. 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.

34. 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.

35. 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.

Text 4

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.

36. 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.
37. 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.
38. 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.
39. 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.
40. 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

Part B

Directions:

Read the following text and answer the questions by choosing the most suitable subheading from the list A-G for each of the numbered paragraphs (41-45). There are two extra subheadings. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

- [A] Eye fixations are brief
- [B] Too much eye contact is instinctively felt to be rude
- [C] Eye contact can be a friendly social signal
- [D] Personality can affect how a person reacts to eye contact
- [E] Biological factors behind eye contact are being investigated
- [F] Most people are not comfortable holding eye contact with strangers
- [G] Eye contact can also be aggressive.

In a social situation, eye contact with another person can show that you are paying attention in a friendly way. But it can also be antagonistic such as when a political candidate turns toward their competitor during a debate and makes eye contact that signals hostility. Here's what hard science reveals about eye contact:

41.	
-----	--

We know that a typical infant will instinctively gaze into its mother's eyes, and she will look back. This mutual gaze is a major part of the attachment between mother and child. In adulthood, looking someone else in a pleasant way can be a complimentary sign of paying attention. It can catch someone's attention in a crowded room, "Eye contact and smile" can signal availability and confidence, a common-sense notion supported in studies by psychologist Monica Moore.

42.	
-----	--

Neuroscientist Bonnie Auyeung found that the hormone oxytocin increased the amount of eye contact from men toward the interviewer during a brief interview when the direction of their gaze was recorded. This was also found in high-functioning men with some autistic spectrum symptoms, who may tend to avoid eye contact. Specific brain regions that respond during direct gaze are being explored by other researches, using advanced methods of brain scanning.

43.	
-----	--

With the use of eye-tracking technology, Julia Minson of the Harvard Kennedy School of Government concluded that eye contact can signal very different kinds of messages, depending on the situation. While eye contact may be a sign of connection or trust in friendly situations, it's more likely to be associated with dominance or intimidation in adversarial situations. "Whether you're a politician or a parent, it might be helpful to keep in mind that trying to maintain eye contact may backfire if you're trying to convince someone who has a different set of beliefs than you," said Minson.

44.	
-----	--

When we look at a face or a picture, our eyes pause on one spot at a time, often on the eyes or mouth. These pauses typically occur at about three per second, and the eyes then jump to another spot, until several important points in the image are registered like a series of snapshots. How the whole image is then assembled and perceived is still a mystery although it is the subject of current research.

45.	
-----	--

In people who score high in a test of neuroticism, a personality dimension associated with self-consciousness and anxiety, eye contact triggered more activity associated with avoidance, according to the Finnish researcher Jari Hietanen and colleagues "Our findings indicate that people do not only feel different when they are the centre of attention but that their brain reactions also differ." A more direct finding is that people who scored highly for negative emotions like anxiety looked at others for shorter periods of time and reported more comfortable feelings when others did not look directly at them.

Part C Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Following the explosion of creativity in Florence during the 14th century known as the Renaissance, the modern world saw a departure from what it had once known. It turned from God and the authority of the Roman Catholic Church and instead favoured a more humanistic approach to being. Renaissance ideas had spread throughout Europe well into the 17th century, with the arts and sciences flourishing extraordinarily among those with a more logical disposition. (46) with the Church's teachings and ways of thinking eclipsed by the Renaissance, the gap between the Medieval and modern periods had been bridged leading to new and unexplored intellectual territories.

During the Renaissance, the great minds of Nicolaus Copernicus, Johannes Kepler and Galileo Galilei demonstrated the power of scientific study and discovery. (47) Before each of their revelations, many thinkers at the time had sustained more ancient ways of thinking, including the geo-centric view that the Earth was at the centre of our universe. Copernicus theorized in 1543 that all of the planets that we knew of revolved not around the Earth, but the Sun, a system that was later upheld by Galileo at his own expense. Offering up such a theory during a time of high tension between scientific and religious minds was branded as heresy and any such heretics that continued to spread these lies were to be punished by imprisonment or even death.

(48) Despite attempts by the Church to suppress this new generation of logicians and rationalists, more explanations for how the universe functioned were being made at a rate that the people could no longer ignore. It was with these great revelations that a new kind of philosophy founded in reason was born.

The Church's long standing dogma was losing the great battle for truth to rationalists and scientists. This very fact embodied the new ways of thinking that swept through Europe during most of 17th century. (49) As many took on the duty of trying to integrate reasoning and scientific philosophies into the world, the Renaissance was over and it was time for a new era - the Age of Reason.

The 17th and 18th centuries were times of radical change and curiosity, Scientific method, reductionism and the questioning of Church ideals was to be encouraged, as were ideas of liberty, tolerance and progress. (50) Such actions to seek knowledge and to understand what information we already knew were captured by the Latin phrase 'sapere aude' or 'dare to know', after Immanuel Kant used it in his essay *An Answer to the Question: What is Enlightenment?*. It was the purpose and responsibility of great minds to go forth and seek out the truth, which they believed to be founded in knowledge.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

The Students Union of your university has assigned you to inform the international students about an upcoming singing contest. Write a notice in about 100 words.

Write your answer on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not use your own name in the notice. (10 points)

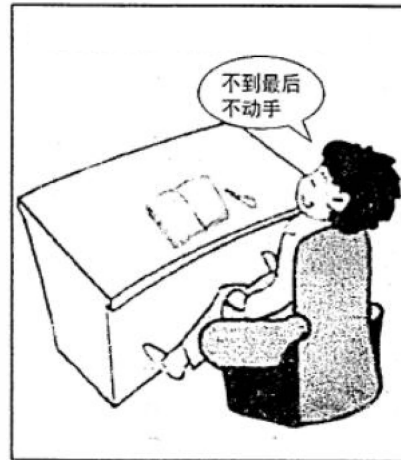
Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the picture below. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the picture briefly,
- 2) interpret the implied meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



习惯

2021年全国硕士研究生招生考试英语（一）试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

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 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 a 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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

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 percent, 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.

21. The author holds that this year's increase in rail passengers fares _____.

[A] will ease train operation's burden

- [B] has kept pace with inflation
- [C] is a big surprise to commuters
- [D] remains an unreasonable measure

22. The stockbroker in paragraph 2 is used to stand for_____.

- [A] car drivers
- [B] rail travellers
- [C] local investors
- [D] ordinary tax payers

23. It is indicated in paragraph 3 that train operators_____.

- [A] are offering compensations to commuters
- [B] are trying to repair relations with the unions
- [C] have failed to provide an adequate source
- [D] have suffered huge losses owing to the strikes

24. 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

25. 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 Nationalization Bring Hope?
- [D] Ever-rising Fares Aren't Sustainable

Text 2

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 and multiple islands. "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."

26. According to the first two paragraphs, CCT programs aim to_____.

- [A] facilitate health care reform
- [B] help poor families get better off
- [C] improve local education systems
- [D] lower deforestation rates

27. The study based on an area in Mexico is cited to show that_____.

- [A] cattle rearing 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

28. 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

29. 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
- [D] it can boost grain production

30. 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.

Text 3

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 a non-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, prostitutes and buffoonish 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".

31. According to Paragraph 1, the author's posts on Twitter _____.

- [A] illustrated the development of Victorian photography
- [B] highlighted social media's role in Victorian studies
- [C] re-evaluated the Victorian's notion of public image
- [D] changed people's impression of the Victorians

-
32. What does the author say about the Victorian portraits he has collected?
- [A] They are rare among photographs of that age.
 - [B] They show effects of different exposure times.
 - [C] They mirror 19th-century social conventions.
 - [D] They are in popular use among historians.
33. 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.
34. 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
35. 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 slowly in the Victorian period?

[D] How did smiling in photographs become a post-Victorian norm?

Text 4

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 their own or their partners' websites and services over those of 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 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 pre-empt 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.

36. 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

37. 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

38. 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.

39. Judge Patricia Millett argues that the appeals court's decision _____.

- [A] focuses on trivialities

[B] conveys an ambiguous message

[C] is at odds with its earlier rulings

[D] is out of touch with reality

40. 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.

Part B

Directions :

In the following text, some sentences have been removed. For questions 41–45, choose the most suitable one from the list A–G to fit into each of numbered blanks. There are two extra choices, which do not fit in any of the blanks. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

In the movies and on television, artificial intelligence (AI) is typically depicted as something sinister that will upend our way of life. When it comes to AI in business, we often hear about it in relation to automation and the impending loss of jobs, but in what ways is AI changing companies and the larger economy that don't involve doom-and-gloom mass unemployment predictions?

A recent survey of manufacturing and service industries from Tata Consultancy Services found that companies currently use AI more often in computer-to-computer activities than in automating human activities. One common application? Preventing electronic security breaches, which, rather than eliminating IT jobs, actually makes those personnel more valuable to employers, because they help firms prevent hacking attempts.

Here are a few other ways AI is aiding companies without replacing employees:

Better Hiring Practices

Companies are using artificial intelligence to remove some of the unconscious bias from hiring decisions. "There are experiments that show that, naturally, the results of interviews are

much more biased than what AI does,” says Domingos. In addition, (41) _____. One company that’s doing this is called Blendoor. It uses analytics to help identify where there may be bias in the hiring process.

More Effective Marketing

Some AI software can analyze and optimize marketing email subject lines to increase open rates. One company in the UK, Phrasee, claims their software can outperform humans by up to 10 percent when it comes to email open rates. This can mean millions more in revenue. (42) _____. These are “tools that help people use data, not a replacement for people,” says Patrick H. Winston, a professor of artificial intelligence and computer science at MIT.

Saving Customers Money

Energy companies can use AI to help customers reduce their electricity bills, saving them money while helping the environment. Companies can also optimize their own energy use and cut down on the cost of electricity. Insurance companies, meanwhile, can base their premiums on AI models that more accurately assess risk. (43) _____

Improved Accuracy

“Machine learning often provides a more reliable form of statistics, which makes data more valuable,” says Winston. It “helps people make smarter decisions.” (44) _____

Protecting and Maintaining Infrastructure

A number of companies, particularly in energy and transportation, use AI image processing technology to inspect infrastructure and prevent equipment failure or leaks before they happen. “If they fail first and then you fix them, it’s very expensive,” says Domingos. “ (45) _____”

[A] I replace the boring parts of your job. If you're doing research, you can have AI go out and look for relevant sources and information that otherwise you just wouldn't have time for.

[B] One accounting firm, EY, uses an AI system that helps review contracts during an audit. This process, along with employees reviewing the contracts, is faster and more accurate.

[C] There are also companies like Acquisio, which analyzes advertising performance across multiple channels like Adwords, Bing and social media and makes adjustments or suggestions about where advertising funds will be most effective.

[D] You want to predict if something needs attention now and point to where it's useful for [employees] to go to.

[E] "Before, they might not insure the ones who felt like a high risk or charge them too much," says Domingos, "or they would charge them too little and then it would cost [the company] money."

[F] We're also giving our customers better channels versus picking up the phone ... to accomplish something beyond human scale.

[G] AI looks at résumés in greater numbers than humans would be able to, and selects the more promising candidates.

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

World War II was the watershed event for higher education in modern western societies. (46)
Those societies came out of the war with levels of enrollment that had been roughly constant at 3-5% of the relevant age groups during the decades before the war. But after the war, great social and political changes arising out of the successful war against Fascism created a growing demand in European and American economies for increasing numbers of graduates with more than a

secondary school education. (47) And the demand that rose in those societies for entry to higher education extended to groups and social classes that had not thought of attending to a university before the war. These demands resulted in a very rapid expansion of the systems of higher education, beginning in the 1960s and developing very rapidly though unevenly in the 1970s and 1980s.

The growth of higher education manifests itself in at least three quite different ways, and these in turn have given rise to different sets of problems. There was first the rate of growth: (48) in many countries of Western Europe the numbers of students in higher education doubled within five-year periods during the decade of the 1960s and doubled again in seven, eight, or 10 years by the middle of the 1970s. Second, growth obviously affected the absolute size both of systems and individual institutions. And third, growth was reflected in changes in the proportion of the relevant age group enrolled in institutions of higher education.

Each of these manifestations of growth carried its own peculiar problems in its wake. For example, a high growth rate placed great strains on the existing structures of governance, of administration, and above all of socialization. When a very large proportion of all the members of an institution are new recruits, they threaten to overwhelm the processes whereby recruits to a more slowly growing system are inducted into its value system and learn its norms and forms. When a faculty or department grows from, say, five to 20 members within three or four years, (49) and when the new staff are predominantly young men and women fresh from postgraduate study, they largely define the norms of academic life in that faculty and its standards. And if the postgraduate student population also grows rapidly and there is loss of a close apprenticeship relationship between faculty members and students, the student culture becomes the chief socializing force for new postgraduate students, with consequences for the intellectual and academic life of the institution—this was seen in America as well as in France, Italy, West Germany, and Japan. (50) High growth rates increased the chances for academic innovation; they also weakened the forms and processes by which teachers and students are admitted into a

community of scholars during periods of stability or slow growth. In the 1960s and 1970s, European universities saw marked changes in their governance arrangements, with the empowerment of junior faculty and to some degree of students as well. They also saw higher levels of student discontent, reflecting the weakening of traditional forms of academic communities.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

One foreign friend of yours has recently graduated from college and intends to find a job in China. Please write an email to him/her to make some suggestions.

You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

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

Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the pictures below. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the picture briefly,
- 2) interpret its intended meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



2022 年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语（一） 试题

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

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] cope with | [B] consisted of | [C] hinted at | [D] extended in |
| 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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

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 melt 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 Picro 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."

21. 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

22. Van Oosten believes that certain plastic objects are _____.

- [A] immune to decay
- [B] improperly shaped
- [C] inherently flawed
- [D] complex in structure

23. 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

24. The author thinks that preservation of plastics is_____.

- [A] costly
- [B] unworthy
- [C] unpopular
- [D] challenging

25. 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

Text 2

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.

26. 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

27. 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

28. 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.

29. 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

30. 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.

Text 3

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 results is not surprising. Scientists are increasingly seeking out visual artists to help them 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 scenes 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. Artists and scientists alike are immersed in discovery and invention, and challenge and critique are core to both, too.

31. 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

32. 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

33. 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

34. 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

35. 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

Text 4

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.

Society also suffers from excessive employment protections. Stringent job dismissal regulations adversely affect productivity growth and hamper both prosperity and overall well-being.

Across the Tasman Sea, 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 206 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.

36.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

37.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

38. Which of the following measures would 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.

39. 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.

40. 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

Part B

Directions:

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

(41) Teri Byrd

I was a zoo and wildlife park employee for years. Both the wildlife park and zoo claimed to be operating for the benefit of the animals and for conservation purposes. This claim was false. Neither one of them actually participated in any contributions whose bottom line is much more important than the condition of the animals. Animals despise being captives in zoos. No matter how you enhance enclosures, they do not allow for freedom, a natural diet or adequate time for transparency with these institutions, and it's past time to eliminate zoos from our culture.

(42) Karen R. Sime

As a zoology professor, I agree with Emma Marris that zoo displays can be sad and cruel. But she underestimates the educational value of zoos. The zoology program at my university attracts students for whom zoo visits were the crucial formative experience that led them to major in biological sciences. These are mostly students who had no opportunity as children to travel to wilderness areas, wildlife refuges or national parks.

Although good TV shows can help stir children's interest in conservation, they cannot replace the excitement of a zoo visit as an intense, immersive and interactive experience. Surely there must be some middle ground that balances zoos treatment of animals with their educational potential.

(43) Reg Newberry

Emma Marris's article is an insult and a disservice to the thousands of passionate who work tirelessly to improve the lives of animals and protect our planet. She uses outdated research and decades-old examples to undermine the noble mission of organization committed to connecting children to a world beyond their own. Zoos are at the forefront of conservation and constantly evolving to improve how they care for animals and protect each species in its natural habitat. Are there tragedies? Of course. But they are the exception not the norm that Ms Marris implies. A distressed animal in a zoo will get as good or better treatment than most of us at our local hospital.

(44) Dean Gallea

As a fellow environmentalist animal-protection advocate and longtime vegetarian, I could properly be in the same camp as Emma Marris on the issue of zoos. But I believe that well-run zoos and the heroic animals that suffer their captivity so serve a higher purpose. Were it not for opportunities to observe these beautiful wild creatures close to home many more people would be driven by their fascination to travel to wild areas to seek out, disturb and even hunt them down.

Zoos are in that sense similar to natural history and archeology museums serving to satisfy our need for contact with these living creatures while leaving the vast majority undisturbed in their natural environments.

(45) John Fraser

Emma Marris selectively describes and misrepresents the findings of our research. Our studies focused on the impact of zoo experiences on how people think about themselves and nature and the data points extracted from our studies. Zoos are tools for thinking. Our research provides strong support for the value of zoos in connecting people with animals and with nature. Zoos provide a critical voice for conservation and environmental protection. They afford an opportunity for people from all backgrounds to encounter a range of animals from drone bees to springbok or salmon to better understand the natural world we live in.

[A] Zoos, which spare no effort to take of animals, should not be subjected to unfair criticism.

[B] To pressure zoos to spend less on their animals would lead to inhumane outcomes for the precious creatures in their care.

[C] While animals in captivity deserve sympathy, zoos play a significant role in starting young people down the path of related sciences.

[D] Zoos save people trips to wilderness areas and thus contribute to wildlife conservation.

[E] For wild animals that cannot be returned to their natural habitats, zoos offer the best alternative.

[F] Zoos should have been closed down as they prioritize money making over animals' wellbeing.

[G] Marris distorts our findings which actually prove that zoos serve as an indispensable link between man and

nature.

Part C

Directions: Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

The Man Who Broke Napoleon's Codes - Mark Urban

Between 1807 and 1814 the Iberian Peninsula (comprising Spain and Portugal) was the scene of a titanic and merciless struggle. It took place on many different planes: between Napoleon's French army and the angry inhabitants; between the British, ever keen to exacerbate the emperor's difficulties, and the marshals sent from Paris to try to keep them in check; between new forces of science and meritocracy and old ones of conservatism and birth. (46) It was also, and this is unknown even to many people well read about the period, a battle between those who made codes and those who broke them.

I first discovered the Napoleonic cryptographic battle a few years ago when I was reading Sir Charles Oman's epic History of the Peninsular War. In volume V he had attached an appendix, The Scovell Ciphers. (47) It listed many documents in code that had been captured from the French army of Spain, and whose secrets had been revealed by the work of one George Scovell, an officer in British headquarters. Oman rated Scovell's significance highly, but at the same time, the general nature of his History meant that (48) he could not analyze carefully what this obscure officer may or may not have contributed to that great struggle between nations or indeed tell us anything much about the man himself. I was keen to read more, but was surprised to find that Oman's appendix, published in 1914, was the only considered thing that had been written about this secret war.

I became convinced that this story was every bit as exciting and significant as that of Enigma and the breaking of German codes in the Second World War. The question was, could it be told?

Studying Scovell's papers at the Public Record Office, London, I found that he had left an extensive journal and copious notes about his work in the Peninsula. What was more, many original French dispatches had been preserved in this collection, which I realized was priceless. (49) There may have been many spies and intelligence officers during the Napoleonic Wars, but it is usually extremely difficult to find the material they actually provided or worked on.

Furthermore, Scovell's story involved much more than just intelligence work. His status in Lord Wellington's headquarters and the recognition given to him for his work were all bound up with the class politics of the army at the time. His tale of self-improvement and hard work would make a fascinating biography in its own right, but represents something more than that. (50) Just as the code breaking has its wider relevance in the struggle for Spain, so his attempts to make his way up the promotion ladder speak volumes about British society.

The story of Wellington himself also gripped me. Half a century ago his campaigns were considered a central part of the British historical mythology and spoon-fed to schoolboys. More recently this has not been the case, which is a great shame. A generation has grown up.

Section III Writing

Part A

Write an email to a professor at a British university, inviting him/her to organize a team for the international innovation contest to be held at your university.

You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

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

Part B

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the following picture below. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the picture briefly,
- 2) explain its intended meaning and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



2023 年全国硕士研究生招生考试英语（一）

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

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 local governments or 2.

This word “Caravanserais” is a 3 of the Persian words “Karvan”, which means a group of travellers or a caravan, and “saray”, a palace or enclosed building. The term 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 became more developed, the 6 of caravanserais increased and they served as a safe place for people to rest at night. Travellers on the Silk Road 7 the possibility of being attacked by thieves or being 8 to extreme weather 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, these structures became important centers for cultural 12 and interaction, with travellers sharing their cultures, ideas and beliefs, 13 taking knowledge with them, greatly 14 the development of several civilisations.

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 for merchants looking to sell their wares and 17 supplies for their own journeys. It is 18 that around 12,000 to 15,000 caravanserais were built along the Silk Road, 19 only about 3,000 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. stand up for | C. close 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 |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

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 sympathises with the views of the energy sector, is resisting proposed changes to science standards for pre-teen pupils. “There are as many scientists working against all the panic of global climate change as there are those who are pushing it,” she claims. “Texas is an energy state and we need to recognise that. You need to remember where your bread is buttered.”

Most scientists and experts sharply dispute Hardy’s views. Board members like her “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.

Such debates reflect fierce discussions across the US, 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 center’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.

21. 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.
22. 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
23. 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.
24. 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.
25. 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.

Text 2

Communities throughout New England 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," 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, pointed out Ryan Castle, CEO of a local 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 expert on affordable housing policy. "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 of Massachusetts 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. Boston took things even further, requiring renters to register with the city's Inspectional Services Department.

Horn said similar registration requirements could benefit struggling cities and towns, but “if we want to make a change in the housing market, the main one is we have to build a lot more.”

26. 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.
27. 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.
28. 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.
29. 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.
30. Horn holds that imposing registration requirements is ____
- A. an irrational decision.
 - B. an unfeasible proposal.
 - C. an unnecessary measure.
 - D. an inadequate solution.

Text 3

If you're heading for your nearest branch of Waterstones, the biggest book retailer in the UK, 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 (PRH), a company currently involved in a stand-off with Waterstones.

The problem began late last year, when PRH 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 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. The sales for our May Books of the Month surpassed any month since 2018."

In the meantime, PRH authors have been the losers. 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.

"This is all part of a wider change towards concentration of power," says literary agent Andrew 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.

31. 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.
32. 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.
33. 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.
34. 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.
35. 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.

Text 4

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.

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, another expression of this predatory behavior has emerged: 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.

The advent of electronic publishing and authors' need to find outlets for their papers resulted in thousands of new journals. The birth of predatory journals wasn't far behind. These journals can act as milk cows where every single article in an issue may cite a specific paper or a series of papers. In some instances, there is absolutely no relationship between the content of the article and the citations. The peculiar part is that the journal that the editor is supposedly working for is not profiting at all — it is just providing citations to other journals. Such practices can lead an article to accrue more than 150 citations in the same year that it was published.

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, a citation database, 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.

Scopus itself has all the data necessary to detect this malpractice. Red flags include a

large number of citations to an article within the first year. And for authors who wish to steer clear of citation cartel activities: when an editor, a reviewer, or a support service asks you to add inappropriate references, do not oblige and do report the request to the journal.

36. 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.
37. The support service consultancies tend to ____
- A. recommend journals to their clients.
 - B. list citation patterns for their clients.
 - C. ask authors to include extra citations.
 - D. advise contributors to cite each other.
38. 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.
39. 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.
40. 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.

Part B

Directions:

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For Questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent text by choosing from the list A-H and filling them into the numbered boxes. **Paragraphs A, E and H** have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

- A. This year marks the 150th anniversary of a series of Yellowstone photographs by the renowned landscape photographer William Henry Jackson. He captured the first-ever shots of iconic landmarks such as the Tetons, Old Faithful and the Colorado Rockies. Jackson snapped them on a late 19th-century expedition through the Yellowstone Basin that was conducted by the head of the U.S. Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories, Ferdinand V. Hayden. The team included a meteorologist, a zoologist, a mineralogist, and an agricultural statistician.
- B. Two centuries ago, the idea of preserving nature, rather than exploiting it, was a novel one to many U.S. settlers. One of the turning points in public support for land conservation efforts — and recognizing the magnificence of the Yellowstone region in particular — came in the form of vivid photographs.
- C. As an effective Washington operator, Hayden sensed that he could capitalize on the expedition's stunning visuals. He asked Jackson to print out large copies and distributed them, along with reproductions of Moran's paintings, to each member of Congress. "The visualization, particularly those photographs, really hit home that this is something that has to be protected," says Murphy.
- D. Throughout the trip, Jackson juggled multiple cameras and plate sizes using the "collodion process" that required him to coat the plates with a chemical mixture, then expose them and develop the resulting images with a portable darkroom. The crude technique required educated guesses on exposure times, and involved heavy, awkward equipment — several men had to assist in its transportation. Despite these challenges, Jackson captured dozens of striking photos, ranging from majestic images like his now-famous snapshot of Old Faithful, to casual portraits of expedition members at the camp. While veterans of previous expeditions wrote at length about stunning trail sights, these vivid photographs were another thing entirely.

- E. The journey officially began in Ogden, Utah on June 8, 1871. Over nearly four months, dozens of men made their way on horseback into Montana and traversed along the Yellowstone River and around Yellowstone Lake. That fall, they concluded the survey in Fort Bridger, Wyoming.
- F. Though Native Americans (and later miners and fur trappers) had long recognized the area's riches, most Americans did not. That's why Hayden's expedition aimed to produce a fuller understanding of the Yellowstone River region, from its hot springs and waterfalls to its variety of flora and fauna. In addition to the entourage of scientists, the team also included artists: Painter Thomas Moran and photographer William Henry Jackson were charged with capturing this astounding natural beauty and sharing it with the world.
- G. The bill proved largely popular and sailed through Congress with large majorities in favor. In quick succession, the Senate and House passed legislation protecting Yellowstone in early 1872. That March, President Ulysses S. Grant signed an act into law that established Yellowstone as the world's first national park. While some locals opposed to the designation, the decision was largely accepted — and Jackson's photos played a key role in the fight to protect the area. "I don't believe that the legal protection would have happened in the timeframe that it did without those images," says Heather Hansen, journalist and author of *Prophets and Moguls, Rangers and Rogues, Bison and Bears: 100 Years of the National Park Service*.
- H. Perhaps most importantly, the images provided documentary evidence of the park's sights that later made its way to government officials. Weeks after completing the expedition, Hayden collected his team's observations into an extensive report aimed at convincing senators and representatives, along with colleagues at government agencies like the Department of the Interior, that Yellowstone ought to be preserved.

41 → A → 42 → E → 43 → H → 44 → 45

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese.

Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

There has been some exploration around the use of AI in digital marketing. For example, AI can be used to analyse what type of advertising content or copy would be appropriate to 'speak' to a specific target customer group by revealing information about trends and preferences through the analysis of big data. (46) AI can also be used to identify the lifestyle choices of customers regarding their hobbies, favourite celebrities, music choices, and fashions to provide unique content in marketing messages put out through social media. At the same time AI can also be used to generate content for social media posts and chat sites. AI can also provide a bridge between the need of the brand to communicate emotionally with the customer and identifying their rapidly changing needs.

The main disadvantage of using AI to respond to customers is that there are concerns about trusting personal interactions to machines, which could lead not only to the subsequent loss of interpersonal connections, but also to a decrease in marketing personnel. (47) Some believe that AI is negatively impacting on the marketer's role by reducing creativity and removing jobs, but they are aware that it is a way of reducing costs and creating new information. By allowing AI to develop content some brand marketers may find that they are losing control over the brand narrative. (48) Algorithms that are used to simulate human interactions are creating many of these concerns, especially as no-one is quite sure what the outcomes of using AI to interact with customers will be.

For AI to be successful, data needs to be accessible, but the use of personal data is becoming more regulated and the automated sharing of data is becoming more difficult. (49) If customers are not willing to share data, AI will be starved of essential information and will not be able to function effectively or employ machine learning to improve its marketing content and communication. Therefore, unless customers are prepared to sign release agreements, the use of AI may become somewhat restricted in the future. Not only can AI help to create the marketing content, but it can also provide a non-intrusive way of delivering the content to the target customers. Data can be gathered on where the customer can be engaged, such as location, devices used, website interactions, and sites visited, to display marketing messages in appropriate forms, including emails, social media posts, pop-up advertisements, and banners at an appropriate frequency. (50) The non-intrusive delivery of the marketing messages in a way that is sensitive to the needs of the target customer is one of the critical challenges to the digital marketer.

Understanding humans may be complicated, but we reveal a considerable amount about what appeals to us through our browsing history.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

Write a notice to recruit a student for Prof. Smith's research project on campus sports activities. Specify the duties and requirements of the job.

You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not use your own name at the end of the notice; use "Li Ming" instead. (10 points)

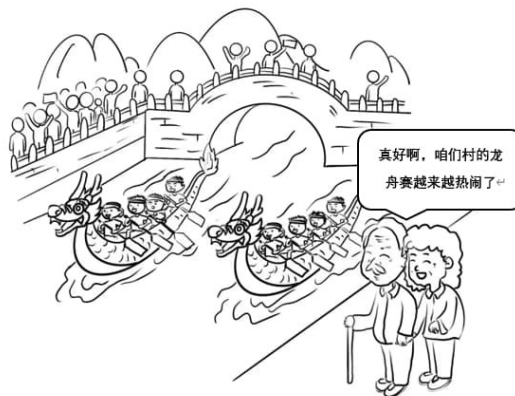
Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 words based on the picture below. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the picture briefly,
- 2) interpret the implied meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



2024 年全国硕士研究生招生考试英语（一）

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

There's nothing more welcoming than a door opening for you. 1 the need to be touched to open or close, automatic doors are essential in 2 disabled access to buildings and helping provide general 3 to commercial buildings.

Self-sliding doors began to emerge as a commercial product in 1960 after being invented six years 4 by Americans Dee Horton and Lew Hewitt. They 5 as a novelty feature, but as their use has grown, their 6 have extended within our technologically advanced world. Particularly 7 in busy locations or during times of emergency, the doors 8 crowd management by reducing the obstacles put in people's way.

9 making access both in and out of buildings easier for people, the difference in the way many of these doors open helps reduce the total area 10 by them. Automatic doors often open to the side, with the panels sliding across one another. Replacing swing doors, these 11 smaller buildings to maximise the usable space inside without having to 12 the way for a large, sticking-out door. There are many different types of automatic door, with each 13 specific signals to tell them when to open. 14 these methods differ, the main 15 remain the same.

Each automatic door system 16 the light, sound, weight or movement in their vicinity as a signal to open. Sensor types are chosen to 17 the different environments they are needed in. 18, a busy street might not 19 a motion-sensored door, as it would constantly be opening for passers-by. A pressure-sensitive mat would be more 20 to limit the surveyed area.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. A. Through | B. Despite | C. Besides | D. Without |
| 2. A. revealing | B. demanding | C. improving | D. tracing |
| 3. A. experience | B. convenience | C. guidance | D. reference |
| 4. A. previously | B. temporarily | C. successively | D. eventually |
| 5. A. held on | B. started out | C. settled down | D. went by |
| 6. A. relations | B. volumes | C. benefits | D. sources |
| 7. A. useful | B. simple | C. flexible | D. stable |
| 8. A. call for | B. yield to | C. insist on | D. act as |
| 9. A. As well as | B. In terms of | C. Thanks to | D. Rather than |
| 10. A. connected | B. shared | C. represented | D. occupied |
| 11. A. allow | B. expect | C. require | D. direct |
| 12. A. adopt | B. lead | C. clear | D. change |
| 13. A. adapting to | B. deriving from | C. relying on | D. pointing at |
| 14. A. Once | B. Since | C. Unless | D. Although |
| 15. A. records | B. positions | C. principles | D. reasons |
| 16. A. controls | B. analyses | C. produces | D. mixes |
| 17. A. decorate | B. compare | C. protect | D. complement |
| 18. A. In conclusion | B. By contrast | C. For example | D. Above all |
| 19. A. identify | B. suit | C. secure | D. include |
| 20. A. appropriate | B. obvious | C. impressive | D. delicate |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

Nearly 2,000 years ago, as the Romans began to pull out of Scotland, they left behind a curious treasure: 10 tons of nails, nearly a million of the things. The nail hoard was discovered in 1960 in a four-metre-deep pit covered by two metres of gravel.

Why had the Romans buried a million nails? The likely explanation is that the withdrawal was rushed, and they didn't want the local Caledonians getting their hands on 10 tons of weapon-grade iron. The Romans buried the nails so deep that they would not be discovered for almost two millennia.

Later civilisations would value the skilled blacksmith's labour in a nail even more than the raw material. As Roma Agrawal explains in her new delightful book *Nuts and Bolts*, early 17th-century Virginians would sometimes burn down their homes if they were planning to relocate. This was an attempt to recover the valuable nails, which could be reused after sifting the ashes. The idea that one might burn down an entire house just to reclaim the nails underlines how scarce, costly and valuable the simple-seeming technology was.

The price of nails fell by 90% between the late 1700s and mid-1900s, as economist Daniel Sichel points out in a research paper. According to Sichel, although the falling price of nails was driven partly by cheaper iron and cheaper energy, most of the credit goes to nail manufacturers who simply found more efficient ways to turn steel into nails.

Nails themselves have changed over the years, but Sichel studied them because they haven't changed much. Roman lamps and Roman chariots are very different from LED strips and sports cars, but Roman nails are still clearly nails. It would be absurd to try to track the changing price of sports cars since 1695, but to ask the same question of nails makes perfect sense.

I make no apology for being obsessed by a particular feature of these objects: their price. I am an economist, after all. After writing two books about the history of inventions, one thing I've learnt is that while it is the enchantingly sophisticated technologies that get all the hype, it's the cheap technologies that change the world.

The Gutenberg printing press transformed civilisation not by changing the nature of writing but by changing its cost — and it would have achieved little without a parallel collapse in the price of surfaces to write on, thanks to an often-overlooked technology called paper. Solar panels had few niche uses until they became cheap; now they are transforming the global energy system.

21. The Romans buried the nails probably for the sake of ____
- A. saving them for future use.
 - B. keeping them from rusting.
 - C. letting them grow in value.
 - D. hiding them from the locals.
22. The example of early 17th-century Virginians is used to ____
- A. highlight the thriftiness of early American colonists.
 - B. illustrate the high status of blacksmiths in that period.
 - C. contrast the attitudes of different civilisations towards nails.
 - D. show the preciousness of nail-making technology at that time.
23. What played the major role in lowering the price of nails after the late 1700s?
- A. Increased productivity.
 - B. Wider use of new energies.
 - C. Fiercer market competition.
 - D. Reduced cost of raw materials.
24. It can be learned from Paragraph 5 that nails ____
- A. have undergone many technological improvements.
 - B. have remained basically the same since Roman times.
 - C. are less studied than other everyday products.
 - D. are one of the world's most significant inventions.
25. Which of the following best summarises the last two paragraphs?
- A. Cheap technologies bring about revolutionary change.
 - B. Technological innovation is integral to economic success.
 - C. Technology defines people's understanding of the world.
 - D. Sophisticated technologies develop from small inventions.

Text 2

Parenting tips obtained from hunter-gatherers in Africa may be the key to bringing up more contented children, researchers have suggested. The idea is based on studies of communities such as the Kung of Botswana, where each child is cared for by many adults. Kung children as young as four will help to look after younger ones and “baby-wearing”, in which infants are carried in slings, is considered the norm.

According to Dr Nikhil Chaudhary, an evolutionary anthropologist at Cambridge University, these practices, known as alloparenting, could lead to less anxiety for children and parents.

Dr Annie Swanepoel, a child psychiatrist, believes that there are ways to incorporate them into western life. In Germany, one scheme has paired an old people’s home with a nursery. The residents help to look after the children, an arrangement akin to alloparenting. Another measure could be encouraging friendships between children in different school years, to mirror the unsupervised mixed-age playgroups in hunter-gatherer communities.

In a paper published in the *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, researchers said that the western nuclear family was a recent invention which broke with evolutionary history. This abrupt shift to an “intensive mothering narrative”, which suggests that mothers should manage childcare alone, was likely to have been harmful. “Such narratives can lead to maternal exhaustion and have dangerous consequences,” they wrote.

By contrast, in hunter-gatherer societies adults other than the parents can provide almost half of a child’s care. One previous study looked at the Efé people of the Democratic Republic of Congo. It found that infants had an average of 14 alloparents a day by the time they were 18 weeks old, and were passed between caregivers eight times an hour.

Chaudhary said that parents now have less childcare support from family and social networks than during most of humans’ evolutionary history, but introducing additional caregivers could reduce stress and maternal depression, which could have a “knock-on” benefit to a child’s wellbeing. An infant born to a hunter-gatherer society could have more than ten caregivers — this contrasts starkly to nursery settings in the UK where regulations call for a ratio of one carer to four children aged two to three.

While hunter-gatherer children learnt from observation and imitation in mixed-age playgroups, researchers said that western “instructive teaching”, where pupils are asked to sit still, may contribute to conditions such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Chaudhary said that Britain should explore the possibility that older siblings helping their parents “might also enhance their own social development.”

26. According to the first two paragraphs, alloparenting refers to the practice of ____
- A. sharing childcare among community members.
 - B. assigning babies to specific adult caregivers.
 - C. teaching parenting skills to older children.
 - D. carrying infants around by their parents.
27. The scheme in Germany is mentioned to illustrate ____
- A. an attempt to facilitate intergenerational communication.
 - B. an approach to integrating alloparenting into western society.
 - C. the conventional parenting style in western culture.
 - D. the differences between western and African ways of living.
28. According to Paragraph 4, the “intensive mothering narrative” ____
- A. alleviates parenting pressure.
 - B. consolidates family relationships.
 - C. results in the child-centered family.
 - D. departs from the course of evolution.
29. According to Paragraph 6, what can we learn about the nurseries in the UK?
- A. They tend to fall short of official requirements.
 - B. They have difficulty finding enough caregivers.
 - C. They ought to improve their carer-to-child ratio.
 - D. They should try to prevent parental depression.
30. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
- A. Instructive Teaching: A Dilemma for Anxious Parents
 - B. For a Happier Family, Learn from the Hunter-gatherers
 - C. Mixed-age Playgroup, a Better Choice for Lonely Children
 - D. Tracing the History of Parenting: from Africa to Europe

Text 3

A Polish digital artist who uses classical painting styles to create dreamy fantasy landscapes, Greg Rutkowski has made illustrations for games such as *Dungeons & Dragons and Magic: The Gathering*. And he's become a sudden hit in the new world of text-to-image AI generation.

His distinctive style is now one of the most commonly used prompts in the new open-source AI art generator Stable Diffusion. The tool, along with other popular image-generation AI models, allows anyone to create impressive images based on text prompts. For example, type in "Wizard with sword and a glowing orb of magic fire fights a fierce dragon Greg Rutkowski," and the system will produce something that looks not a million miles away from works in Rutkowski's style.

But these open-source programs are built by scraping images from the internet, often without permission and proper attribution to artists. As a result, they are raising tricky questions about ethics and copyright. And artists like Rutkowski have had enough.

According to the website Lexica, which tracks over 10 million images and prompts generated by Stable Diffusion, Rutkowski's name has been used as a prompt around 93,000 times. Rutkowski was initially surprised but thought it might be a good way to reach new audiences. Then he tried searching for his name to see if a piece he had worked on had been published. The online search brought back work that had his name attached to it but wasn't his.

"It's been just a month. What about in a year? I probably won't be able to find my work out there because the internet will be flooded with AI art," Rutkowski says. "That's concerning."

Other artists besides Rutkowski have been surprised by the apparent popularity of their work in text-to-image generators — and some are now fighting back. Karla Ortiz, an illustrator based in San Francisco who found her work in Stable Diffusion's data set, has been raising awareness about the issues around AI art and copyright.

Artists say they risk losing income as people start using AI-generated images based on copyrighted material for commercial purposes. But it's also a lot more personal, Ortiz says, arguing that because art is so closely linked to a person, it could raise data protection and privacy problems.

“There is a coalition growing within artist industries to figure out how to tackle or mitigate this,” says Ortiz. The group is in its early days of mobilization, which could involve pushing for new policies or regulation. One suggestion is that AI models could be trained on images in the public domain, and AI companies could forge partnerships with museums and artists, Ortiz says.

31. What can be learned about Rutkowski from the first two paragraphs?

- A. He is enthusiastic about using AI models.
- B. He is popular with users of an AI art generator.
- C. He attracts admiration from other illustrators.
- D. He specializes in classical painting digitalization.

32. The problem with open-source AI art generators is that they ____

- A. lack flexibility in responding to prompts.
- B. produce artworks in unpredictable styles.
- C. make unauthorized use of online images.
- D. collect user information without consent.

33. After searching online, Rutkowski found ____

- A. a unique way to reach audiences.
- B. a new method to identify AI images.
- C. AI-generated work bearing his name.
- D. heated disputes regarding his copyright.

34. According to Ortiz, AI companies are advised to ____

- A. campaign for new policies or regulation.
- B. offer their services to public institutions.
- C. strengthen their relationships with AI users.
- D. adopt a different strategy for AI model training.

35. What is the text mainly about?

- A. Artists' responses to AI art generation.
- B. AI's expanded role in artistic creation.
- C. Privacy issues in the application of AI.
- D. Opposing views on AI development.

Text 4

The miracle of the Chesapeake Bay lies not in its depths, but in the complexity of its natural construction, the interaction of fresh and saline waters, and the mix of land and water. The shallows provide homes for hundreds of species while storing floodwaters, filtering pollutants from water, and protecting nearby communities from potentially destructive storm surges.

All this was put at great risk late last month, when the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling in an Idaho case that provides the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) far less authority to regulate wetlands and waterways. Specifically, a 5-4 majority decided that wetlands protected by the EPA under its Clean Water Act authority must have a “continuous surface connection” to bodies of water. This narrowing of the regulatory scope was a victory for builders, mining operators and other commercial interests often at odds with environmental rules. And it carries “significant repercussions for water quality and flood control throughout the United States,” as Justice Brett Kavanaugh observed.

In Maryland, the good news is that there are many state laws in place that provide wetlands protections. But that’s a very shortsighted view, particularly when it comes to the Chesapeake Bay. The reality is that water, and the pollutants that so often come with it, don’t respect state boundaries. The Chesapeake draws from a 64,000-square-mile watershed that extends into Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, West Virginia, the District of Columbia and Delaware. Will those jurisdictions extend the same protections now denied under *Sackett v. EPA*? Perhaps some, but all? That seems unlikely.

It is too easy, and misleading, to see such court rulings as merely standing up for the rights of land owners when the consequences can be so dire for their neighbors. And it’s a reminder that the EPA’s involvement in the Chesapeake Bay Program has long been crucial as the means to transcend the influence of deep-pocketed special interests in neighboring states. Pennsylvania farmers, to use one telling example, aren’t thinking about next year’s blue crab harvest in Maryland when they decide whether to spread animal waste on their fields, yet the runoff into nearby creeks can have enormous impact downstream.

And so we would call on state lawmakers from Richmond to Albany to consider reviewing their own wetlands protections and see for themselves the enormous stakes involved. We can offer them a visit to Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge in Dorchester County where bald eagles fly over tidal marshes so shallow you could not paddle a boat across them but teeming with aquatic life. It’s worth the scenic drive.

36. The Chesapeake Bay is described in Paragraph 1 as ____
- A. a valuable natural environment.
 - B. a controversial conservation area.
 - C. a place with commercial potential.
 - D. a headache for nearby communities.
37. The U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in the Idaho case ____
- A. reinforces water pollution control.
 - B. weakens the EPA's regulatory power.
 - C. will end conflicts among local residents.
 - D. may face opposition from mining operators.
38. How does the author feel about future of the Chesapeake Bay?
- A. Worried.
 - B. Puzzled.
 - C. Relieved.
 - D. Encouraged.
39. What can be inferred about the EPA's involvement in the Chesapeake Bay Program?
- A. It has restored the balance among neighboring jurisdictions.
 - B. It has triggered a radical reform in commercial fisheries.
 - C. It has set a fine example of respecting state authorities.
 - D. It has ensured the coordination of protection efforts.
40. The author holds that the state lawmakers should ____
- A. be cautious about the influence of landowners.
 - B. attach due importance to wetlands protections.
 - C. recognize the need to expand wildlife refuges.
 - D. improve the wellbeing of endangered species.

Part B

Directions:

Read the following comments on a report about American museums returning artifacts to their countries of origin and a list of statements summarizing the comments. Choose the best statement from the list A-G for each numbered name (41-45). There are two extra choices which you do not need to use. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

(41) Hannah

Simply, there are people in Nigeria who cannot travel to the Smithsonian Institution to see that part of their history and culture represented by the Benin Bronzes. These should be available to them as part of their cultural heritage and history and as a source of national pride. There is no good reason that these artifacts should be beyond the ordinary reach of the educational objectives or inspiration of the generations to which they were left. They serve no purpose in a museum in the United States or elsewhere except as curious objects. They cannot be compared to works of art produced for sale which can be passed from hand to hand and place to place by purchase.

(42) Buck

We know very exact reproductions of artwork can be and are regularly produced. Perhaps museums and governments might explore some role for the use of nearly exact reproductions as a means of resolving issues relating to returning works of art and antiquities. The context of any exhibit is more important to me than whether the object being displayed is 2000 years old or 2 months old. In many cases the experts have a hard time agreeing on what is the real object and what is a forgery. Again, the story an exhibit is trying to tell is what matters. The monetary value of the objects on display is a distant second place in importance.

(43) Sara

When visiting the Baltimore Museum of Art, I came across a magnificent 15th-century Chinese sculpture. It inspired me to learn more about the culture that it represented. Artifacts in museums have the power to inspire, and perhaps spark that need to learn and understand the nature of their creators. Having said that, I do feel that whatever artifacts find their way to public museums should, in fact, be sanctioned as having been obtained on loan, legally purchased, or obtained by treaty. Stealing artifacts from other peoples' cultures is obscene; it robs not only the physical objects, but the dignity and spirit of their creators.

(44) Victor

Ancient art that is displayed in foreign countries by all means should be returned to the original country. The foreign countries have no right to hold back returning the items. I would ask that the foreign nations and the original country discuss the terms of transfer. Yes, there is the risk that the original country will not have as good security as do the foreign countries. But look at what happened to Boston's Gardner Museum theft in 1990, including the loss of Rembrandt, Vermeer, Manet, and other masterpieces. Nothing is absolutely safe, nowhere. And now Climate Change agitators are attacking publicly displayed works in European museums.

(45) Julia

To those of you in the comments section who are having strong feelings about artifacts being removed from cities in the US and Britain and returned to their countries of origin, I would ask you to consider: why do you think Americans have more of a right to easily access the Benin Bronzes than the people of Nigeria? Why are people who live within a day's drive of London entitled to go and see the Elgin Marbles whenever they want, but the people of Athens aren't? What intrinsic factors make the West a suitable home for these artifacts but preclude them from being preserved and displayed by their countries of origin? If your conclusion is that the West is better able to preserve these artifacts, think about why you're assuming that to be true.

- A. It is clear that the countries of origin have never been compensated for the stolen artifacts.
- B. It is a flawed line of reasoning to argue against returning artifacts to their countries of origin.
- C. Museum visitors can still learn as much from artifacts' copies after the originals are returned.
- D. Reproductions, even if perfectly made, cannot take the place of the authentic objects.
- E. The real value of artifacts can only be recognized in their countries of origin rather than anywhere else.
- F. Ways to get artifacts from other countries must be decent and lawful.
- G. Concern over security is no excuse for refusing to return artifacts to their countries of origin.

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese.

Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

“Elephants never forget” — or so they say — and that piece of folklore seems to have some foundation.

The African savanna elephant, also known as the African bush elephant, is distributed across 37 African countries. They move between a variety of habitats, including forests, grasslands, woodlands, wetlands and agricultural land. (46) They sometimes travel more than sixty miles to find food or water, and are very good at working out where other elephants are — even when they are out of sight. Using tracking devices, researchers have shown that they have “remarkable spatial acuity.” When finding their way to waterholes, they headed off in exactly the right direction, on one occasion from a distance of roughly thirty miles. What is more, they almost always seem to choose the nearest waterhole. (47) The researchers are convinced that the elephants always know precisely where they are in relation to all the resources they need, and can therefore take shortcuts, as well as following familiar routes.

Although the cues used by African elephants for long-distance navigation are not yet understood, smell may well play a part.

Elephants are very choosy eaters, but until recently little was known about how they selected their food. (48) One possibility was that they merely used their eyes and tried out the plants they found, but that would probably result in a lot of wasted time and energy, not least because their eyesight is actually not very good.

(49) The volatile chemicals produced by plants can be carried a long way, and they are very characteristic: Each plant or tree has its own particular odor signature. What is more, they can be detected even when they are not actually visible. New research suggests that smell is a crucial factor in guiding elephants — and probably other herbivores — to the best food resources.

The researchers first established what kinds of plant the elephants preferred either to eat or avoid when foraging freely. They then set up a “food station” experiment, in which they gave the elephants a series of choices based only on smell. (50) The experiment showed that elephants may well use smell to identify patches of trees that are good to eat, and secondly to assess the quality of the trees within each patch. Free-ranging elephants presumably also use this information to locate their preferred food.

Their well-developed hippocampal structures may enable elephants, like rats and people, to construct cognitive maps.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

Read the following email from an international student and write a reply.

Dear Li Ming,

I've got a class assignment to make an oral report on an ancient Chinese scientist, but I'm not sure how to prepare for it. Can you give me some advice?

Thank you for your help.

Yours,

Paul

Write your answer in about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not use your own name in your email; use "Li Ming" instead. (10 points)

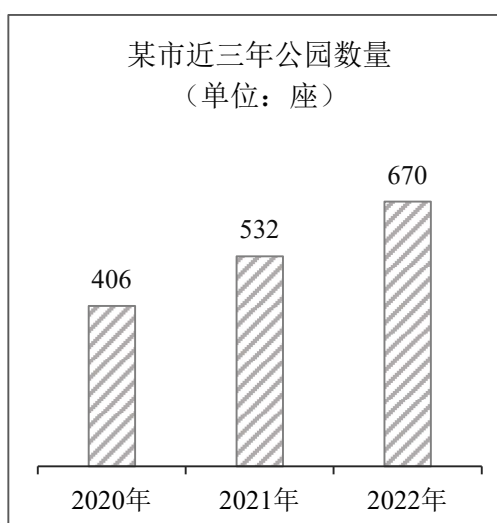
Part B

52. Directions:

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

- 1) describe the picture and the chart briefly,
- 2) interpret the implied meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

Write your answer in 160-200 words on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



2025 年全国硕士研究生招生考试英语（一）

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

Located in the southern Peloponnesian peninsula, Pavlopetri (the modern name of the site) emerged as a Neolithic settlement around 3500 B.C. This area of the Aegean Sea is 1 to earthquakes and tsunamis, which caused the city to 2 sink. The slow sea level rise in the Mediterranean 3 the city more than 3,000 years ago.

For millennia, the city's 4 lay unseen below some 13 feet of water. They were covered by a thick layer of sand 5 the island of Laconia. In recent decades, shifting 6 and climate change have eroded a natural barrier that 7 Pavlopetri. In 1967, a scientific survey of the Peloponnesian coast was 8 data to analyze changes in sea levels 9 British oceanographer Nicholas Flemming first spotted the sunken 10. A year later, he returned with a few students to 11 the location and map the site. The team identified some 15 buildings, courtyards, a network of streets, and two chamber tombs. 12 the exciting initial finds, the site would lie 13 for decades before archaeologists would return.

In 2009 archaeologists Chrysanthi Gallon and Jon Henderson 14 excavation of Pavlopetri in cooperation with the Greek Ministry of Culture. Since the 1960s, underwater archaeology 15 and tools had made huge advances. The team 16 robotics, sonar mapping, and state-of-the-art graphics to survey the site. From 2009 to 2013 they were able to bring the underwater town to 17. Covering about two and a half acres, Pavlopetri's three main roads 18 some 50 rectangular buildings, all of which had open courtyards. Excavations revealed a large number of Minoan-style loom weights, 19 Pavlopetri was a thriving trade center with a 20 textile industry.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. relevant | B. prone | C. available | D. alien |
| 2. A. accidentally | B. frequently | C. gradually | D. temporarily |
| 3. A. disguised | B. submerged | C. relocated | D. isolated |
| 4. A. legends | B. programs | C. remains | D. surroundings |
| 5. A. across | B. off | C. under | D. via |
| 6. A. currents | B. rivers | C. seasons | D. winds |
| 7. A. elevated | B. separated | C. comprised | D. protected |
| 8. A. gathering | B. restoring | C. updating | D. supplying |
| 9. A. when | B. until | C. after | D. once |
| 10. A. belongings | B. resources | C. products | D. structures |
| 11. A. preserve | B. select | C. display | D. examine |
| 12. A. Despite | B. Unlike | C. Besides | D. Among |
| 13. A. unchallenged | B. unknown | C. unorganized | D. undisturbed |
| 14. A. suspended | B. transferred | C. resumed | D. canceled |
| 15. A. policies | B. theories | C. documents | D. techniques |
| 16. A. ordered | B. provided | C. employed | D. adjusted |
| 17. A. effect | B. light | C. reality | D. mind |
| 18. A. crossed | B. connected | C. blocked | D. altered |
| 19. A. expecting | B. suggesting | C. predicting | D. recalling |
| 20. A. robust | B. diverse | C. marginal | D. dependent |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D.

Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (40 points)

Text 1

The grammar school boy from Stratford-upon-Avon has landed a scholarly punch after groundbreaking research showed that Shakespeare does benefit children's literacy and emotional development. But only if you act him out.

A study found that a "rehearsal room" approach to teaching Shakespeare broadened children's vocabulary and the complexity of their writing as well as their emotional literacy. "The research shows that the way actors work makes a big difference to the way children use language and also how they think about themselves," Jacqui O'Hanlon of the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC), which commissioned the study, said.

The randomised control trial involved hundreds of year 5 pupils — aged nine and ten — at 45 state primary schools that had not been "previously exposed to RSC pedagogy." They were split into target and control groups and asked to write, for example, a message in a bottle as Ferdinand following the shipwreck in *The Tempest*. The target group were given a 30-minute drama-based activity to accompany the passage.

The peer-reviewed results showed that the target group of pupils drew on a wider vocabulary, used words "classed as more sophisticated or rarer", and wrote at greater length. They also "appear to be more comfortable writing in role...while [control] pupils imagine how they themselves would react to being shipwrecked, [target] children put themselves in the shoes of a literary character and express that character's emotion". The Time to Act study, which is published by the RSC this week, also found that while control pupils relied on "desert island clichés" such as palm trees, target pupils were "more expansive [giving] a broader picture of the sky, the sea and the atmospheric conditions".

O'Hanlon said she had been most surprised by the "emotional literacy that was evident in the [target] children's writing" and that they were "more resilient in their writing, more hopeful". She added "The emotional understanding was very evident and it is probably related to the [rehearsal room process] where you are used to trying to imagine your way through. They were comfortable in describing different emotional states and part of what you do in drama is put yourself in different shoes." The study showed the importance of embedding arts in education, she said.

But could the results be replicated with any old dramatist? O'Hanlon said more research would be needed but suggested that Shakespeare's use of 20,000 words, compared with the everyday 2,000 words, gave a "massive expansion of language into children's lives", which was combined with children "using their whole bodies to bring words to life".

21. The “rehearsal room” approach requires pupils to ____
- A. rewrite the lines from Shakespeare.
 - B. watch RSC actors’ performances.
 - C. play the roles in Shakespeare.
 - D. study drama under RSC artists.
22. The study divided the pupils into two groups to find whether ____
- A. the change in instruction enhances learning outcomes.
 - B. expanding vocabulary helps develop reading fluency.
 - C. emotion affects understanding of sophisticated works.
 - D. the classroom activity stimulates interest in the arts.
23. Control pupils’ reliance on “desert island clichés” shows their ____
- A. weakness in description.
 - B. omission of small details.
 - C. casual style of writing.
 - D. preference for big words.
24. What can promote children’s emotional literacy according to O’Hanlon?
- A. Writing in an imaginative manner.
 - B. Identifying with literary characters.
 - C. Drawing inspiration from nature.
 - D. Concentrating on real-life situations.
25. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that ____
- A. the new teaching method may work best with Shakespeare.
 - B. the language of Shakespeare may be formidable for pupils.
 - C. other old dramatists may be included in primary education.
 - D. pupils may be reluctant to work on other old dramatists.

Text 2

I was shocked to learn recently that some scientists want to scale back their research in an effort to decrease carbon emissions. The crisis is here, they said, and we need to cut back on our energy-intensive modelling. At the very least, we need to make our energy use far more sustainable.

It is unarguable that our laboratories, scientific instruments, rockets and satellites — the tools we scientists need to measure the planet's pulse — demand significant amounts of energy both in their construction and operation. And it is equally true that science's unrelenting appetite for information has caused a mushrooming of energy-intensive data centres around the world. According to the International Energy Agency, these buildings now consume about 1 percent of the world's electricity.

However, this is a price we must pay for understanding the world. How can we inform decision makers about the best ways to bring down carbon emissions if we can't track the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, where it's coming from and who's producing it? The carbon emissions from technological research are well spent: ultimately this research will safeguard the future of our planet.

It can be hard for scientists to make the case because our work is complex, often takes place behind closed doors and does not always lend itself to easy interpretation or explanation. But demonstrating the efficacy of science will be crucial if we are to solve humanity's greatest challenges. It is all too easy to feel paralysed in the face of daunting problems such as climate change and to do nothing. But then I think of a friend's daughter who turned her fears into action: she became a wind energy engineer and now thrives on delivering renewable energy, limiting emissions.

Recognising the hope that science and engineering can bring was the impetus behind the creation of the Millennium Technology Prize, which is now entering its 20th year as a celebration of human ingenuity. One of the past winners, Professor Martin Green from the University of New South Wales, Australia, is the inventor of the Passivated Emitter and Rear Cell technology which is now found in most of the world's solar panels. Thanks to his invention, we have a real chance to decrease the world's carbon emissions.

Every day, scientists, technologists and engineers are discovering new ways to exploit renewable energy sources and develop techniques not just to use power more intelligently but to power our intelligence. A great example of this is Europe's largest supercomputer, LUMI in Finland, which is astonishingly carbon-negative. Established in an old paper mill, it is powered by a nearby river and its remote heat warms the people who live in the surrounding town of Kajaani.

If the world is to meet its net-zero ambitions, we must think hard about how we can deliver sustainable computing and deliver more LUMIs.

26. The author expressed great surprise at some scientists' ____
- A. unwillingness to cut carbon emissions.
 - B. intention to reduce their research.
 - C. suspicions about sustainable energy.
 - D. waste of electricity in their projects.
27. The author believes that carbon emissions from research ____
- A. have caused grave consequences.
 - B. have aroused groundless worries.
 - C. are hard to handle at present.
 - D. are justifiable in the long run.
28. The example of Green in Paragraph 5 is used to illustrate ____
- A. the achievements of great scientists.
 - B. the urgency of addressing climate change.
 - C. the rewards of scientific endeavours.
 - D. the value of fostering human ingenuity.
29. It can be learned from the last two paragraphs that LUMI ____
- A. is a model of sustainability efforts.
 - B. is a triumph against energy shortage.
 - C. owes much to global net-zero initiatives.
 - D. aims to explore the power of intelligence.
30. Which of the following statements would the author agree with?
- A. Emission-free modelling demands extra funding.
 - B. The need for supercomputers is difficult to meet.
 - C. Energy-intensive research work is inevitable.
 - D. The goals of researchers ought to be realistic.

Text 3

Ever since taking on Netflix Inc. at its own game, old Hollywood has struggled to turn a profit in streaming, with the likes of Disney+, Peacock and Paramount+ losing billions of dollars each year, sparking concerns that the services will never be as profitable as cable once was. But the age of streaming has been a boon for some unintended winners: pirates that use software to rip a film or television show in seconds from legitimate online video platforms and host the titles on their own, illegitimate services, which rake in about \$2 billion annually from ads and subscriptions.

With no video production costs, illegal streaming sites have achieved profit margins approaching 90%, according to the Motion Picture Association (MPA), a trade group representing Hollywood studios that's working to crack down on the thousands of illegal platforms that have cropped up in recent years.

Initially the rise of legitimate online businesses such as Netflix actually helped curb digital piracy, which had largely been based on file uploads. But now piracy involving illegal streaming services as well as file-sharing costs the US economy about \$30 billion in lost revenue a year and some 250,000 jobs, estimates the US Chamber of Commerce's Global Innovation Policy Center. The global impact is about \$71 billion annually.

"The people who are stealing our movies and our television shows and operating piracy sites are not mom and pop operations," says Charlie Rivkin, chief executive officer of the MPA. "This is organized crime." Rivkin joined the MPA in 2017 after the organization failed five years earlier to build consensus between Hollywood and Silicon Valley to win passage of legislation in Congress aimed at stopping online piracy. In 2017 the association formed the Alliance for Creativity and Entertainment (ACE), an enforcement task force of about 100 detectives circling the globe to help local authorities arrest streaming pirates.

ACE says it's helped shrink the number of illegal streaming services in North America to 126, from more than 1,400 in 2018, aided in part by the MPA's support for a 2020 federal law that made large-scale streaming of copyright material a serious crime.

Consulting firm Parks Associates predicts that legitimate US streaming services' cumulative loss from piracy since 2022 will reach \$113 billion in the next two years. "While there is some optimism that emerging countermeasures and best practices may see piracy begin to plateau by 2027, there is no consensus among stakeholders as to when it may begin to decline," says analyst Steve Hawley.

31. According to Paragraph 1, legitimate streaming services ____
- A. have drawn lessons from Hollywood.
 - B. have surpassed cable in revenue.
 - C. are unpopular with advertisers.
 - D. are confronted with a real threat.
32. It can be learned that streamers like Netflix ____
- A. played a part in the fight against illegal file-sharing.
 - B. reaped benefits from the war with digital pirates.
 - C. promised to become big job creators in the US.
 - D. used to collaborate with file-uploading platforms.
33. It can be inferred from Paragraph 4 that the MPA ____
- A. was denied cooperation by Silicon Valley.
 - B. led a national protest against online piracy.
 - C. was urged to form an enforcement task force.
 - D. failed to win support from local authorities.
34. According to Hawley, digital piracy ____
- A. cannot be checked in spite of new legislation.
 - B. will possibly overwhelm legitimate streamers.
 - C. is unlikely to diminish in the near future.
 - D. has been underestimated by some analysts.
35. Which of the following is emphasized in the text?
- A. The need to coordinate anti-piracy action.
 - B. The criminal nature of copyright violation.
 - C. The prospect of eliminating online piracy.
 - D. The economic harm from illegal streaming.

Text 4

Visit any antiques store and you'll encounter artifacts from the past: photographs, letters, a brochure detailing the Sinclair dinosaur exhibit from the 1964-1965 World's Fair, the ephemera of history. Yet these objects aren't truly ephemeral, because they're still here, decades, even centuries later. Why? Because they're tangible.

Have you pondered the life cycle of intangible formats, digital information, given that those who produce these artifacts seldom make provision for their long-term preservation? For millennia, we've known what we've known due to artifacts that have survived, often despite their original creators' neglect. The thing itself is the medium that delivers the information. At the time of creation, no attempts were made at intentional preservation, yet analog materials have a chance of surviving and serving as the historical record that biographers, historians, and novelists rely on. Libraries and archives have traditionally shouldered the responsibility of organization, preservation, and access to information. Thus, librarians digitize the tangible so that researchers the world over can quickly search and access their holdings. The result is an embarrassment of historical riches, which brings its own needle-and-haystack problems.

Librarians' selfless devotion can act against us when users point to universality of access by holding up a cellphone and saying, "it's all in here" as evidence that libraries are less vital for researchers today. Yet how was that universality of access made possible and, perhaps more importantly, how is it maintained? Who curates what is preserved? When it comes to born-digital information, the terrifying answer can be: if not librarians and archivists, then no one. Digital information requires a great deal more care than analog.

Even when a digital object is preserved, it may only be the carrier that's saved, not the information itself. As technology advances and a format becomes obsolete, the object is useless. Have you ever stared helplessly at a ZIP disk, thinking: how do I get the files off this? Without constant migration of digital assets, a nightmare about the foreseeable future is what keeps historians up at night: a historical record that abruptly stops when digital replace analog.

As a librarian whose day job revolves around special collections and digital assets, I share the night terrors of historians, and I'd be lying if I said a comprehensive preservation solution currently exists. Yet researchers can take some comfort in the fact that there are a multitude of librarians devoted to discovering, organizing, and preserving digital information for researchers current and future. Librarians are uniquely positioned to understand how end users seek and use information. Thus we play an integral role in identifying, preserving, and providing accessibility to digital artifacts so that, while future researchers may find the digital realm a challenging place to ply their trade, they won't find it an impossible one.

36. The author mentions the artifacts from the past to ____
- A. introduce the collection of antiques.
 - B. contrast them with everyday items.
 - C. bring up the issue of preservation.
 - D. comment on their historical value.
37. Compared with digital objects, tangible artifacts ____
- A. are less subject to their creators' neglect.
 - B. convey information in a more direct way.
 - C. require more intentional preservation.
 - D. are less likely to suffer serious damage.
38. According to Paragraph 3, librarians' work may result in ____
- A. oversupply of materials.
 - B. undervaluation of libraries.
 - C. researchers' underperformance.
 - D. users' overreliance on technology.
39. The "ZIP disk" is cited as an example to show ____
- A. the hazard of retrieving files through unusual means.
 - B. the infeasibility of constantly migrating digital assets.
 - C. the possibility of losing information in obsolete formats.
 - D. the inconvenience of storing information on analog devices.
40. Which of the following statements best summarizes the text?
- A. Hard work should be done to preserve artifacts.
 - B. Contributions of librarians should be recognized.
 - C. Accessing databases is essential to researchers.
 - D. Keeping digital historical records is a challenge.

Part B

Directions:

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For questions 41-45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent text by choosing from the list A-H and filling them into the numbered boxes. **Paragraphs A, C, and H** have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

- A. Peters likes to photograph butterflies in a landscape, celebrating the beauty of their surroundings as well as the insects themselves. His pictures of a Glanville fritillary rising from the sea-pinks beside the chalk cliffs of Compton Bay on the Isle of Wight are particularly glorious. These take-off shots are even more challenging because they require a wide-angle lens, which means he must be less than 2cm from the butterfly. It's incredibly difficult to get that close to a skittish sun-warmed insect. Unlike some photographers, who "cheat" by keeping insects in a fridge to slow them down, Peters refuses to tamper with wild butterflies.
- B. Peters' signature shot is a butterfly "take-off", showing the multiple wing-beats of one butterfly in one frame as it lifts off from a flower. How does he capture it? Technology helps. A typical digital SLR camera shoots 20 frames a second. He uses a high-speed OM System which shoots 120 frames a second.
- C. Britain has relatively few butterfly species compared with mainland Europe and 80% are in decline, mostly because intensive chemical farming has reduced many species to tiny fragments of habitat and small nature reserves. Global heating is benefiting some species but others are too isolated to find suitable new habitat, and gardening habits — paving over gardens and using pesticides — aren't helping either. Butterflies may not pollinate as many plants as wild bees and hoverflies, but because British butterflies are the best-studied group of insects in the world, they are an extremely useful indicator of the wider declines in flying insects.
- D. Five years ago, at summer's end, Andrew Fusek Peters was diagnosed with bowel cancer. "I was waiting for surgery, feeling really ill, sitting in my garden. It was amazing weather and there were painted lady butterflies everywhere," he says. "They were a symbol of fragile life, of hope and defiance, and something appealed to my soul."

- E. That makes it sound easy, and artificial, but Peters insists it is still a massive challenge. He typically takes between 10,000 and 20,000 shots to get one butterfly take-off sequence in focus. At such high shutter speeds, the depth of field is tiny, and as butterflies do not fly in a straight line they swiftly flutter out of focus. As well as thousands of attempts, it takes patience and fieldcraft to anticipate a butterfly's likely flight-line — and catch it — in focus.
- F. So what's the appeal of a long, sweaty day in pursuit of an elusive, fast-moving wild animal? "It just feels bloody brilliant," says Peters. "If I've had a full day of good encounters with butterflies, met interesting butterfly people and I've got some good shots, that becomes a vault in my spiritual bank. It's a happy feeling."
- G. A children's author and poet who had become a keen amateur photographer, Peters watched the butterflies and idly wondered if he could capture them in flight. It swiftly became an obsession as he recovered from a successful operation to remove the cancer. In recent summers, he has travelled the length and breadth of Britain to photograph all 58 native species of butterfly. Now the fruits of those summers have been published in a beautiful new book.
- H. A butterfly takes off so quickly it is still impossible to react quickly enough to capture that take-off but if he half-presses the shutter, the camera saves the 70 previous frames before the moment he actually takes the picture. "It's time travel, so I don't miss the moment of take-off," he says. After he's captured the butterfly taking off, he layers 10 to 15 frames together in Photoshop.

41. → 42. → C → 43. → H → 44. → A → 45.

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Innovation and research have relied on public participation in science for centuries. It was a musician who discovered the planet Uranus in the 18th century by making his own telescope with mirrors composed of copper and tin. (46) Recent decades have seen science move into a convention where engagement in the subject can only be done through institutions, such as a university. Citizen science provides an opportunity for greater public engagement and the democratisation of science.

In the information era, large data sets, small teams and financial restrictions have slowed scientific process. (47) But by utilising the natural curiosity of the general public it is possible to overcome many of these challenges by engaging non-scientists directly in the research process. Anyone can be a citizen scientist, regardless of age, nationality or academic experience. You don't even need any formal training, just an inquisitive mind and the enthusiasm to join one of the thousands of citizen science projects to generate new knowledge and the means to understand a genuine scientific outcome.

(48) Scientists have employed a variety of ways to engage the general public in their research, such as making data analysis into an online game or sample collection into a smartphone application. They've implored citizens to help with bug counting and categorising cancer cells, and even identifying distant galaxies.

This form of accessible science means that great minds are able to join the race to create and develop projects with the potential to change the world. A citizen science-based approach can extend the field of vision and include different ideas and different brains to problem-solve and create, making innovation faster and more effective.

The rise of citizen science has grown alongside the rise of do-it-yourself biology laboratories around the world. (49) These groups of people are part of a rapidly expanding biotechnological social movement of citizen scientists and professional scientists seeking to take discovery out of institutions and put it into the hands of anyone with the enthusiasm.

There are around 40 official do-it-yourself biology centres across the globe in locations including Paris, London, Sydney, and Tel Aviv. (50) They pool resources, collaborate, think outside the box, and find solutions and ways around obstacles to explore science for the sake of science without the traditional boundaries of working inside a formal setting. So is it time to take the Petri dish out of the laboratory and into the garage?

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

Read the following email from your classmate Paul and write him a reply.

Dear Li Ming,

I was really excited to hear that you'd invite some young craftsmen to demonstrate their innovative craft-making on campus. May I know more about what they'll Show? Also, I'd like to help with your preparation work. Please let me know what I can do.

Yours,

Paul

Write your answer in about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not use your own name in your email; use "Li Ming" instead. (10 points)

Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160-200 based on the following table. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the table briefly,
- 2) explain its intended meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)

年份	空调（台）	洗衣机（台）	电冰箱（台）
2014	75.2	83.7	85.5
2017	96.1	91.7	95.3
2020	117.7	96.7	101.8
2023	145.9	98.2	103.4

近年来全国居民平均每百户年末主要耐用消费品拥有量