



10套历年全真试卷一律配
详细解答和录音文字材料，
另配磁带五盒

英语专业八级考试系列丛书

英语专业 8 级考试

历年全真试卷与详解

考生须知

- 一、《英语专业八级考试历年全真试卷与详解》由10套试卷组成，全为近年考过的真题。试题配有参考答案和详细的解答，并配录音文字材料和五盘录音带，是参加英语专业八级考试的考生临考前实战演练的首选题库。
- 二、考生要仔细阅读题目的说明与要求，认真答题，充分发挥潜力。
- 三、做题时要科学安排时间，严格按照规定答题。
- 四、多项选择题每题只能选一个答案，多选则该题无分。选定后用HB铅笔在答题纸上相应字母的中部划一条横线，如 [A] [B] [C] [D]，采用其它符号均被视为无效。划线要有一定的浓度，要盖住字母底色。
- 五、若需对答案进行改动，必须先用橡皮擦净待改答案上的划线，然后重新答题划线。

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英语专业 8 级考试

历年全真试卷与详解

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PART ONE

英语专业八级考试
题型及应试技巧

英语专业八级考试是由高等学校外语专业教学指导委员会主办的(非教育部主办),对英语专业高年级学生英语水平进行衡量的一种外语水平考试。是目前我国体现最高英语水平的等级考试。它在每年的三月份举办一次,考试分为上午和下午两场,上午做听力、阅读、改错,下午做翻译和写作。对时间的要求比较严格。

随着考试的日益正规化,参考人数的不断增加,专业八级考试(TEM-8)的权威性及其社会影响也在不断地提高。考试已得到越来越多的人的认可。但市面上帮助学生了解 TEM-8 考试的书籍却不多,谈到 TEM-8 考试应试技巧的书籍就更少,为此我们针对 TEM-8 考试的各种题型编写了应试技巧,旨在帮助广大学生全面地了解 TEM-8 考试的性质、目的、内容所测试的语言能力等,从而做到知己知彼,顺利通过 TEM-8 考试。

I 专业八级考试大纲

国家教委《高等学校英语专业基础阶段英语教学大纲》规定,高等学校英语专业高年级英语的教学任务是“继续打好语言基本功,进一步扩大知识面,重点应放在培养英语综合技能,充实文化知识,提高交际能力上。”同时,《大纲》也指出,“大纲的执行情况主要通过统一测试进行检查。”“测试和评分应力求尽快达到标准化和电脑化,使具有科学性、客观性和可行性”。

根据《大纲》中的上述要求,英语专业八级考试大纲规定了以下原则及考试内容:

一、考试目的:

本考试的目的是检查大纲执行的情况,特别是大纲所规定的八级水平所要达到的综合语言技能和交际能力,促进大纲的进一步贯彻,提高教学质量。

二、考试性质与范围:

本考试是一种测试应试者单项和综合语言能力的参照性水平考试。考试的范围包括大纲所规定的听、读、写、译四个方面的技能。由于大规模口试的条件目前尚不具备,所以有关说的技能暂缓测试。

三、考试时间与命题:

英语专业八级考试于每年3月份举行。由英语专业八级考试命题小组负责命题与实施。

四、考试形式:

为了较好地考核学生运用各项基本技能的能力,既照顾到科学性、客观性,又照顾到可行性以及高级英语水平测试的特点,本考试的形式采用主观试题和客观试题相结合,单项技能测试与综合技能测试高度相结合的方法。从总体上来说,客观试题占总分的百分之四十,主观试题占总分的百分之六十。客观试题与主观试题在各项试题中的具体分布见“考试内容一览表”。

五、考试内容:

本考试共有五个部分:听力理解、校对与改错、阅读理解、翻译、写作。五部分共分成两份试卷。试卷一(Paper One)包括前三部分;试卷二(Paper Two)包括后两部分。TEM-8 考试的项目、时间、题数及比重见下表。

项 目	时间(分钟)	题数	比重
I 听力理解	25	15	15%
Gap-filling	15	10	10%
II 校对改错	15	10	10%
III 阅读理解			
Section A	25	15	15%
Section B	10	10	10%
IV 翻译	60	2	20%
V 写作	60	1	20%
总计	210	63	100%

六、及格标准:

TEM-8 考试以 60 分为及格分数。考试及格者由高等院校外语专业教学指导委员会颁发合格证书。成绩分为三个等级:60-69 分合格;70-79 分良好;80 分以上为优秀。

七、考试对象:

全国高等院校英语及相关专业全日制本科四年级的学生。

II 专业八级考试题型及要求

听力理解

Listening Comprehension

(一)测试要求

1. 能听懂交际场合中各种英语会话和讲话。
2. 能听懂 VOA 或 BBC 节目中有关政治、经济、历史、文化教育、科技等方面的记者现场报道。
3. 能听懂有关政治、经济、文化教育、语言文学、科普方面的一般讲座及讲座后的答问。
4. 能听懂同样题材的电视时事短片及电视剧。

(二)题型

听力理解部分包括四个项目:Section A, Section B, Section C 与 Section D。前三项,考试时间共 20 分钟。

Section A: Talk

Section B: Conversation or Interview

Section C: News Broadcast

以上各项均由五道选择题组成。每道选择题后有 15 秒间隙。要求学生从试卷所给的四个选择项中选出一个最佳答案。录音语速为每分钟 140—170 词。

Section D: Note-taking and Gap-filling

本项目是由一个 700 词左右的讲座组成。要求学生边听边做笔记。然后作填空练习。考试时间约 20 分钟,其中听录音时间约为 5 分钟,答题时间为 15 分钟。

校对与改错

Proofreading and Error Correction

(一) 测试要求

要求学生运用语法、修辞、结构等知识识别短文内的语病并作出改正。

(二) 题型

本题由一篇 200 词左右的短文组成,短文中有 10 行标有题号。该 10 行均含有一个语误。要求学生根据“增添”、“删去”或“改变其中的某一单词或短语”三种方法中的一种,改正错误。考试时间共 15 分钟。

阅读理解

Reading Comprehension

(一) 测试要求

1. 能读懂一般英美报刊杂志上的社论,政治和书评,既能理解其主旨和大意,又能分辨出其中的事实与细节。
2. 能读懂一般历史传记及文学作品,既能理解其字面意义又能理解其隐含意义。
3. 能分析上述题材的文章的思想观点,通篇布局,语言技巧及修辞手法。

(二) 题型

阅读理解部分包括二个项目:Section A 和 Section B。各项目的题型如下:

Section A: Reading Comprehension

A 项由数段短文组成,其后共有选择题 15 道,要求学生根据短文的内容,隐含意义及文章特征,在 30 分钟内完成试题。短文共有 2500 词左右。

Section B: Skimming and Scanning

B 项测试学生的速读能力,由数段短文组成,短文后共有 10 道选择题。短文共约 3000 个词。要求学生运用速读及跳读的技巧在 10 分钟内根据短文内容完成试题。

翻译

Translation

(一) 测试要求

汉译英项目要求应试者运用汉译英的理论与技巧,翻译我国报刊杂志上的论述文和国情介绍,以及一般文学作品的节录。速度为每小时约 250 汉字。译文必须忠实原意,语言通顺。英译汉项目要求应试者运用英译汉的理论与技巧,翻译英、美报刊杂志上的有关政治、经济、历史、文化等方面的论述以及文学原著的节录。速度为每小时约 250 词。译文要求忠实原意,语言流畅。

(二) 题型

本题为两项:Section A 及 Section B。考试时间共计 60 分钟。

Section A:

A 项由一段 300 词左右的汉语短文所组成,其中有一段 150 词左右的段落被底线划出。要求根据上下文将此

段译成英语。

Section B:

B 项由一段 300 词左右的短文所组成,其中有一段 150 词左右的段落被底线划出。要求根据上下文将此段译成汉语。

写作

Writing

(一) 测试要求

学生能根据所给题目及要求撰写一篇 300 词左右的说明文或议论文。该作文必须语言通顺,用词得体,结构合理,文体恰当,具有说服力。

(二) 题型

题型由题目及要求两部分组成。要求应试者按题撰写。考试时间为 60 分钟。

III 专业八级考试答题和计分

本考试分为试卷一和试卷二。试卷一(I, II, III)除 I. Section D 与 II. 校对与改错外,要求考生从每题所给的 A, B, C, D 四个选项中选出一个最佳答案,并按规定用 2B 铅笔在答题纸上划线,做在试卷上的答案无效。每题只能选择一个答案,多选作废。多项选择题只计算答对的题数,答错不扣分。多项选择题由机器阅卷。听力理解中的 Section D 与第二部分校对与改错做在另外的答题纸上。做在试卷上的答案一律作废。试卷二(IV 和 V)为主观试题,要求考生用钢笔或圆珠笔把翻译和作文直接写在答题卷上。主观试题按统一的评分标准评分。试卷各部分采用计权的方法,折算成百分制。以 60 分为及格标准。

IV 专业八级考试各种题型的应对方法

听力理解

Listening Comprehension

针对 TEM-8 考试听力部分的特点,我们可以从局部和通篇理解两个方面加以探讨。综观 TEM-8 的听力考题,我们可以发现所有的试题类型都基于由 what, who, where, when, why 和 how 所包括的内容,即事件、人物、地点、时间、原因和方式。TEM-8 考试听力材料由长短不一、针对某一现象或事件的叙述性短文和对话(或面试、访谈)构成。考生必须在一个大情景下抓住事情的要点和事件的发展线索后才能答题。大多数英语专业学生具有良好的听力基本功,他们需要提高的是听力的广度和深度,因此,考生在日常的学习生活中必须有意识地多听多练。同时,我们建议同学们在练习听力时注意以下几个问题:

1. 选择准确的听力材料

实际上,“听”和“说”不分家的原则也体现在 TEM-8 考试中。TEM-8 考试听力均选自一般口语性较强、反映现代生活的英语资料。因此,考生可以集中精力多听一些大众媒介英语,进行实战演习。所选听力材料在难度上应低于阅读材料,因为读不懂的东西一般听不懂。来源于报刊、杂志、电影、电视的英语是练习听力的极好的材料。英语专业的学生,特别是高年级学生,可以通过看原版电影或听电影录音剪辑来练习听力。一般学校都会有

丰富的音像资料,许多城市还专门开辟了英语电视频道,电视英语新闻对考生应付 TEM-8 考试第三部分有很大的帮助。

2. 选用恰当的练习方法

练习听力时,大家可采取“精听”和“泛听”两种方式结合来训练自己,前者的重点在于深度,后者则注重广度。精听的目的在于从 what, who, where, when, why 和 how 等角度入手,弄清与之有关的所有问题,即所有细节性问题;而泛听则是听懂大意即可。通过这两方面长期不懈的努力,考生最终能获得用英语进行思维的能力。如果能做到用英语思考问题,那么做对几道试题是不会有太多困难的,因为试题从广义上也就分为两大类,局部理解题和通篇理解题,前者属于我们精听的范畴,而后者则属于我们泛听的对象。听的目的在于懂,那么,如何衡量自己是否听懂呢?一个行之有效的办法就是“复述”。我们在听完一个片段后,可将所听的内容重复一遍,如果具有较高的准确度,就说明真正听懂了;否则需要再听一遍,如果连听几遍还无法较为满意地复述,说明所听内容太难,应予以更换。

与此同时,我们还应通过“读”帮助“听”,特别是在听新闻方面。与其他听力材料相比,新闻具有其鲜明的特点。新闻的内容特别广泛,几乎覆盖我们生活的各个方面。听英语新闻的最大一个障碍是对新闻词汇的生疏。因此,在学习听新闻的初级阶段,我们可以阅读一些大众媒体文献,如报纸、刊物,从中积累一些新闻用语,一些重要组织的名称如 EEC (European Economic Community) 欧洲经济共同体、IMF (International Monetary Fund) 国际货币基金组织、OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) 石油输出国组织、NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) 国家航空和航天局;单词如 upsurge (高涨)、manoeuvre (策略)、escalation (升级)、allegation (断言) 等等。对现实生活各个领域的词汇都略知一二,是听懂新闻的基础。新闻作为一种语言测试题型也是语言在现实生活中真实运用的体现。在 TEM-8 考试中,新闻的内容均为考生所熟悉的一般性政治、经济、娱乐等方面的信息,在题材上不会给考生造成障碍,其目的只是测试考生从 VOA 或 BBC 获取新闻的能力。与其他听力练习一样,提高听英语新闻的能力的唯一途径也是多听。在英语新闻听力训练初级阶段,考生可借助有文字稿的教材帮助训练。考生在训练时应提倡首先在不看文字材料的情况下直接听录音答题,在多次不能听懂时再看文字稿。经过一段时间这样的训练后,多数同学的听力能力都能有明显提高。在达到完全脱稿就能基本听懂新闻的要求后,考生可过渡到定时定量收听英语新闻的练习。练习时还要注意我们在前面提到的一个问题,即听懂是一个方面,如果能做到在听懂后能将一则新闻的重要细节和大意在脑海里回顾一遍或复述一遍,这对我们听力能力达到质的飞跃有极大的帮助。倘若坚持“听”与“复述”相结合的练习,对大家的听力及用英语进行思维的能力有很大的提高。

TEM-8 听力第四部分是一个将听力和做笔记填空结合的题型。该项目是一个 700 字左右的讲座,考生边听边做笔记,然后完成填空练习。听讲座记笔记是学生学习生活不可缺少的环节,这一题型正是考察学生根据听力材料做笔记并整理笔记完成工作的能力。TEM-8 听力第四部分这一题型实际上分为理解、找出要点、笔录和填空等步骤。值得注意的是考试中考生所需要填空的单词均是有关讲座内容的实词,而不是语法功能词,因为该项目的测试目的是考察考生对讲座内容的理解。考生在平时训练时可选择听一些就某一问题进行探讨、有一定深度的录音材料,一边听一边就重要的情节做笔记,然后根据笔记写出一篇摘要。考生如果能成功地做到这一点,就无须担心考试中的这一题型,因为考试中考生用于填空的文字材料也就是基于听力录音的一篇内容摘要。

以上谈到的是考生必须在平时打下牢固的语言基础,下面我们来看看考试过程中应注意的一些技巧。没有扎实的语言基础,谈论技巧是毫无意义的,这里所谈的技巧是以平时坚实的语言训练为基础的。

1. 预读考题

听力与语法、阅读不同,语法、阅读可以读完再回读,但听力的内容是暂时、一次性的,因此学会抓要点、关键词,以意群为单位理解全文,就变得相当重要。在八级考试的听力部分中,问题都已印在考卷上,同时在各部分题目前试题上都印有一段题目指令,磁带上也录有相应指令,由于每年考试这部分指令都基本相同,考生只要熟悉这些内容,就可以利用播放指令的这段时间,或利用两道题目之间的 10 秒停顿间隙,快速浏览一下已印在试卷上的问题和四个选项,从而获取听音前的思考线索和对听音内容的背景提示,这样在听的过程中,就可以有针对性地有选择地听原文,从而抓住相关信息,滤除不相关的内容,减轻听的负担和记忆的负荷,以提高听的有效性,同时,通过阅读干扰项,多些背景提示,再分析四个选项的异同,以此作为线索,听的时候,做到有的放矢。例如看到下面一题时,我们即可知道整个录音很可能与抢劫有关。

What strikes the woman most about the male robber is his _____.

- A. clothes B. age C. physique D. appearance.

我们一旦获悉即将听到的一篇材料与抢劫有关的信息后,大脑就很自然地启动一些我们所储存的关于抢劫的情景,这样就几乎达到了兵马未动,粮草先行的境地,从而主动权就掌握在考生手里。反之,如果不进行试题预读,我们可能在听完全部材料的三分之一后才知道其中议题是抢劫。这就是预读的重要性。不仅如此,我们还可以利用多余的答题时间来达到预读的目的。题与题之间一般有 15 秒的答题时间,如果考生只用 5 秒就做好了第一题,那么余下的 10 秒就可以用于预读第 2 题、第 3 题等。TEM-8 考试听力的四个部分中,只有第四部分考生不能预读,因为考生在做完笔录后才发给该部分答卷即 ANSWER SHEET ONE。

2. 仔细审题

审题似乎是一个老生常谈的话题,但却是十分重要的问题。这里所说的审题并非指考生完全看不懂题目,而是指由于审题不仔细而捕捉不到问题的核心。我们来看看下面一道题:

The modern electronic anti-noise devices _____

- A. are an update version of the traditional methods.
B. share similarities with the traditional methods.
C. are as inefficient as the traditional methods.
D. are based on an entirely new working principle.

以上问题的核心在于领会 modern electronic anti-noise devices (现代抗噪音电子装置) 的定义,而不仅仅是抗噪音电子装置,更不是一般的 anti-noise devices (抗噪音装置)。录音中很可能出现有关 anti-noise device 在各个不同发展时期不同特点的信息,如果不认真审题,就会出现张冠李戴的错误。另外,审题的仔细还表现在领悟特殊形式的题干,如否定式 Which of the following is INCORRECT,或排除式 All the following are true EXCEPT,等等。正确审题是答题的关键,否则听力能力再好的考生也不会有好的成绩。

3. 领会讲话者的语气

听懂说话者的语气可帮助我们回答问题。这一点在 TEM-8 听力第二部分(对话或面试)显得更为重要。例如,Well, I'm afraid I do. But I might be mistaken. 表示了说话者不肯定的语气。有时字面意思与说话者所要表达的意图相反,这时考生更多的是依赖讲话者的口气来答题。如, I'd be sacked if I accepted your offer. 所表达的是拒绝。讲话的口气是多种多样的,它可以表达惊奇、犹豫、挑战、讽刺、安慰、决心等,正确领会它们会收到事半功倍的效果。

4. 听与记录同时进行

考生可在听的过程中适当做些笔录因为仅凭脑力无法记住长达数分钟的讨论或对话。考生在记录时不必拘于形式,做一些只要自己能明白的简单符号记录即可,特别是众多的数字、时间、日期、人名、地名更需要我们做些笔记。而且,TEM-8 听力第四部分正是考察“听”和“记”的同步能力。

TEM-8 听力第四部分记笔记填空是较为复杂的听力测试项目,有其自身特点,掌握这些特点对考生大有好处。该部分录音通常是一篇具有较强逻辑性的篇章,从几个方面论证或叙述一个问题。因为考生须填空的词是基于整个问题要点及其重要细节的实词,所以考生在记笔记时应重点盯住这些内容,而非繁文褥节。举个例子,如果录音中出现了关于一个问题的三四个例证,如为了说明 fast food 而列举了 Kentucky Fried Chicken, McDonalds, Pizza Hut 等等,考生最多记住一两个即可。另外,用于填空的词不一定非得是录音中出现的词,凡是在语义上与原文一致且语法上与填空短文相适应的单词均可。本书练习题该部分并不局限于书中所给出的答案,可能的答案也许有更多,大家可自行掌握。填空时,考生一定要注意所填单词的词性准确无误。我们发现,有的考生能找出一个意义相应的词,但不是很注意词性,因为该填动词的地方一定要填动词,如不能用 intense 来代替 intensify。另外,倘若所填单词在句首,该单词首字母要大写。

最后,希望广大考生千万不要盲目信仰应试技巧而忽视语言基本能力的训练,因为技巧只不过是扎实语言基本功为基础的一点儿辅助性的东西而已。

校对与改错

Proofreading and Error Correction

校对与改错是英语专业学生高年级考试(TEM-8)的第二部分。该部分采用主观测试题型。该项目包含两个部分:答题要求和一篇要求修改的短文。答题要求部分说明修改短文的三种方法:加入、删去和改动某一单词,并举例说明。要求修改的短文长度为 200 字左右。短文的体裁和题材不超出学生所熟悉的范围。短文内含 10 个错误;错误都出现在标有题号的行内。错误一般涉及单个词;每行只出现一个错误。要求修改的单词既有功能词(如介词、冠词等),也有实义词(动词、名词等)。错误既涉及句内也涉及句际。

校对与改错部分的测试目的是检查学生在实际语境中灵活运用语言的能力。该项目考查学生的语法和词汇知识,但更侧重评估学生的综合语言能力。校对改错部分要求学生在 15 分钟内找出 10 个错误,并根据要求用三种方法之一改正错误。

这一部分要求考生掌握三种知识:

1. 语法知识

众所周知,英语语言能力包括众多因素,其中之一是语法知识。没有系统的语法知识,学习者就很难全面、准确地以口头或书面的形式表达思维或意念。对于把英语作为外语的学生来说,语法知识的掌握尤为重要,因为它

有助于提高语言的准确性、逻辑性。鉴于此,校对改错项目的一个测试点是检验高年级学生语法知识的掌握程度及其运用能力。一般地说,该项目中要求改正的错误里包括一些语法错误。例如:

定语从句(1996年第三题),
情态动词(1997年第一题),
冠词(1997年第九题),
介词(1998年第四题),
反身代词(1998年第六题),等等。

校对改错项目要求学生运用已学过的语法知识,来判断句子的正误,找出语病,并作修正。这里要强调的一点是,TEM-8考试的这个项目不是孤立地测试学生的语法知识;它更偏重学生运用语法知识的能力,即怎样把书本知识转化成实际能力。因此,对于学生来说,在平时一要巩固已学过的语法知识,理清概念;二要注重提高运用语言知识解决具体问题的能力。

2. 词汇与搭配

校对改错项目的另一测试点是学生对常用词汇、搭配和用法的了解及运用。比如:

外层空间应为 outer space,而不是 out space(1996年第5题),
做动作应为 perform an act,而不是 make an act(1997年第8题),
姿势应为 posture,而不是 post(1997年第10题),
站起来应为 get to their feet,而不是 get on their feet(1998年第4题),等等。

词汇测试面涵盖各类词性的词,同时侧重考核它们的搭配与用法。归根结底,词汇测试部分主要是检验高年级学生在词汇方面是否达到英语专业高年级教学大纲所规定的要求。

词汇的积累不是一朝一夕即可完成,它需要在平时的学习过程中逐步积累,积少成多。因此,对于学生来说,平时自己在学习时要注意扩大、巩固已有的词汇量;这点是非常重要的。同时,在学习、掌握词汇的过程中,特别要注意提高自己灵活运用词汇的能力。

3. 篇章结构

在第1、第2点中我们提到校对改错项目的两个测试点:语法和词汇。同时我们也再三强调,这个项目尽管涉及以上两点的评估,但它不是简单、孤立地检验学生的语法词汇知识。该项目仍着眼于语言的运用。也就是说,该项目旨在测试在具体语境或上下文中使用语法或词汇的能力。在校对改错这个特定的考试环境中,它所提供的具体语境或上下文是一篇200来字的短文。这篇短文由十来个在意义上相关联的句子构成;而需要修改的语病都出现在这些在意义上是有机组合的句中。鉴于这个特点,学生就要从篇章结构这个角度去判断句子的正误。也就是说,学生要跳出单句的框架,从语段(表达一相关层次意思的句子组合)的角度来进行判断。

从语篇角度看,校对改错项目内的错误可大致分为两类:

1) 句内错误:一般对此类错误的判断无须超越句子本身。如:

1996年试卷的第6题
water rising away from the depths of the earth during(6)
(删去 away)
1999年试卷的第4题
hour of hunting yields in average about 100 edible calories(4)
(把 in 改成 on)

2) 句际错误:对此类错误的判断要基于上下文之上,也就是牵涉到句与句之间的关系了。如:

1997年试卷的第5题
departure. This is what his body wants to do, therefore(5)
(把 therefore 改成加 but)
1999年试卷的第5题
as an hour of gathering produces 240. (5)
(把 as 改成 while)

对第二类错误的判断要求学生从篇章角度出发,把文中的句子看作表达一完整意思的有机体。只有这样,学

生才能找出错误所在。

在历年的考试中,学生大都能判断出第一类错误,而对第二类错误(句际错误)的判断准确率就相对较低。历年试卷中难易度系数偏低题目也大都为此类错误。因此,学生平时要加强对篇章的理解能力的训练,了解、熟悉篇章结构的特点:语段内句子之间的关系、语段之间的关系;它们的类别;各种不同关系的表示法,等等。只有在此基础上,学生才能灵活正确地使用语言知识,做到准确答题。

阅读理解

Reading Comprehension

阅读理解是语言学习中最重要的一项基本技能之一,阅读是获取语言知识最直接、最有效的方法,阅读能力则是衡量掌握语言综合能力的一项重要标志。学习阅读,学会阅读,提高英语阅读能力,是最终掌握英语,提高整体英语水平的必由之路。英语专业八级考试中也设立了阅读理解部分,而且阅读部分在整个考试中占相当大的比重,该部分的得分直接影响到整个考试的成败,因此无论是教师还是考生都对此非常重视。八级考试中的阅读理解部分主要是依据国家教委批准的《高等学校英语专业英语教学大纲》中对英语阅读教学内容和要求的规定,运用科学的测试手段,检验英语专业学生对于高级英语阅读能力和技巧的掌握,从而检查各有关院校对于大纲规定的教学内容和教学要求的完成和执行情况。

应该说到准备八级考试的时候,学生已经具备了相当的阅读经验和阅读能力,现在的关键是多做练习,大量阅读,通过阅读来提高阅读水平。如果还存在一些不良阅读习惯的话,比如用手指着读,默读时出声等等,就应毫不犹豫地痛下功夫去改正。下面列出了一些常用的阅读技巧,仅作提醒之用。希望考生能仔细对照自己的情况,尽快改掉不良习惯,以便提高自己的阅读效率。

1. 略读

略读(skimming)是常用的阅读方法之一,其主要特征是选择性地阅读。通常的阅读要求看到每一个词,每次注目看1-2个词。略读不需要看到每一个词,眼睛跳动的频率和幅度都有较大的提高,有时甚至从上一行跳到下一行。略读不可能使你对所读内容全部了解,但是你能大大地提高阅读速度,也能获得大量的信息。

略读的主要作用是了解文章的大意。经过略读之后,你对所读内容已经有了大致的了解,再仔细阅读,这时你的印象会更深刻,理解更透彻。

大部分读者不需要正规的训练和指导就可以进行略读。但是有意识地训练会大大地提高你的略读速度和效率。进行略读训练的最简单的方法是强迫自己在规定的时间内读完某一篇,开始训练时,可以把略读速度定为平常阅读的5/4倍,以后逐步提高。略读的关键是增加眼跳的幅度,高度集中注意力,努力捕捉那些能引起注意或者你认为重要的内容。

2. 扫读

扫读(scanning)是以最快的速度扫视所读材料,在找到所需信息时才仔细阅读该项内容。如查找某个人名、地名、时间、地点等,也即在寻找特定信息、寻找具体事实、寻找答题所需内容时都用这种方法。

3. 研读

研读(study reading)就是仔细阅读,对文章有透彻深刻理解。根据考题,运用上下文、逻辑关系、背景知识进行判断和推论。对难句的理解和翻译用得着这种方法。

提高阅读速度的一个重要内容是扩大词汇量。其必要性表现在以下几个方面:

1. 词汇量决定了你的阅读理解能力,词汇量越大,你阅读得越广,视野就越开阔,你阅读理解的得分就越高。
2. 有限的词汇量必然会影响到你阅读理解能力的提高。生词的含义只有在上下文中才能完全展现出来,并易于被识记、理解、掌握。换句话说,是上下文给某个词以特定含义,而这个特定含义往往是字典无法提供的。有的人或许会说,我们从中学到大学英语词汇都是通过背生词表来记单词的。但是这样说的读者忽视了很重要的一点:所学课文后面的词汇表都是为课文服务的,而且,教师上课时对某些词或表达方式所举的实例,实质上是为它们设置上下文。不少教师鼓励学生背句子、段落、或整篇文章,都是出于同一目的,即要学生在上下文中理解并掌握词汇和短语。

3. 多读是扩大词汇量的最好的方法。不仅要读不同体裁的书和文章,而且要多接触不同题材,才能适应考试的需要。

下边我们谈谈怎样解决TEM-8中的阅读问题:

1. 找出段落的中心思想

任何阅读材料都有主要意思,即大意(main idea)。文字材料的大意有不同的层次。一个比较长的句子可以说很多事情,但一般只有一个大意,可以用几个词概括;一个段落包括很多句子,但也只有一个大意,通常是段落的主

题句(topic sentence)包含段落的大意。通常人们说“大意”指的是整篇材料的中心思想。

非小说体的阅读材料通常有比较明显的大意,其结构也比较清楚。文章的开头部分(introduction)就比较明确地指出文章的中心思想。文章主体部分的每一段也有主题句,通常在段首或段尾。文章的结尾还要对全文作一个总的概括。

为了找出段落的中心思想,读者应该在了解上下文的基础上,寻求作者对生活所做出的直接或间接的评论。这些评论有时作者直接说出,有时隐含在篇章中,有时通过他人说出。为了便于找出作品的中心思想,阅读时你可以考虑以下几个问题:

- (1) 作品是否表明了有关社会生活的某种重要的东西? 它是否帮助你形成新的生活观?
- (2) 作品是否表明了某个普遍真理?
- (3) 你同意作品的中心思想或作者的观点吗?

2. 如何对待阅读中的词汇问题

阅读过程中不可避免地要遇到生词。大纲中规定允许有 3% 的生词,也就是说 2000 个词中允许有 60 个左右的生词,但一般不会有这么多的生词。有的人一遇到生词就停下来查字典,有的则读完一两页后查字典,有的人则完全不管生词。其实阅读中遇到生词只要不影响你对篇章主要意思的理解,一般应该继续往下读。如果生词的确影响你对内容的理解,查字典当然是一种办法,但很不方便,而且频繁地查字典不仅影响阅读速度,而且影响对文章内容的整体理解。所以在平时阅读时,遇生词最好的方法是通过上下文猜测。以下几条建议可帮助你猜测词义:

- (1) 看看上下文中有没有生词的另一种说法,即找同义词。有时上下文会对一个生词作解释,或者提供一些暗示。
- (2) 看看生词在文章中的词性,即看这个词是名词、动词、形容词、副词或其他词类。另外再看看这个词在文中与哪些词搭配使用,再根据自己的其他知识,就可以进行正确的猜测。
- (3) 分析生词的构成,尤其是词的前缀和后缀。英语中很多词都是加前缀或后缀变来的。比如你认识这两个词 write 和 similar,根据前缀 re- 和后缀 -ity 的含义,你就可以准确地猜出 rewrite 和 similarity 这两个词的意思。
- (4) 看看同一生词是否在上下文的其他地方出现,把两处的语境相比较,也许能更加准确地猜出词义。
- (5) 充分利用你关于所阅读的内容已有的知识。

为了巩固阅读过程中的生词,在读完一篇后,你可以把本篇中最重要的生词查一下字典,准确地了解这生词在文中的意思。因为我们训练的篇章都是大纲规定的题材,在真题中也可能遇到这方面的文章,甚至单词。

3. 推论出段落的隐含意思

有时,为了某种目的,作者往往不直接说出某一意思,而是含蓄地表达。这种隐含的意思有时是篇章的主要意思。所以阅读短文经常需要推论(making inference)。有时一句话的含义需要推论,有时整个篇章的含义需要推论。以下几条建议可以帮助你进行推论:

- (1) 结合作者的思想观点、写作背景进行推论。
- (2) 寻找作者直接陈述的诸多事件之间的联系。
- (3) 仔细体会某些重要词的含蓄意义及其感情色彩。比如 politician 和 statesman 的意思都是“政治家”,但前者有贬义的色彩,即“政客”,后者则没有。
- (4) 从作者的语气、语调、措辞等文体特征,读出作者的“言外之意”(reading beyond the lines)。
- (5) 得出某一推断后,尽量从上下文中寻找证据。
- (6) 充分利用自己已有的各方面的知识,把文章中所述的事情和自己的阅历或熟悉的事情联系起来考虑。

4. 预测下文内容

预测下文内容也是提高阅读效率的重要手段。预测与猜测不同。猜测是对自己没有把握的文字意思的假设,预测则是假想下文将会发生什么事情。预测之所以能够提高阅读效率,是因为它使你产生某种“期待”(expectations)。带着这种期待去读下文,你会努力为你的假想寻找证据,你的注意力将更加集中在文中的主要内容上。

当然,预测也不是随意的,必须根据已经发生的事情或已了解的内容加上你自己的一般常识进行符合逻辑的预测。当你继续阅读下文时,你的预测要么被肯定,要么被否定。无论是肯定还是否定,都会加深你对原文的理解。以下是几条建议:

- (1) 如果你对段落的主题思想已有初步的了解,想一想关于这一主题通常要描写哪些方面的事情,这些事情在本文中会发生吗?
- (2) 运用你的英语语言知识及语言在具体语境中的习惯用法,预测文章将要写什么。

以上的介绍没有特别将正常阅读和快速阅读分开,是因为无论阅读哪一部分的试题,都会用到诸如 scanning、skimming 的方法,但是由于八级阅读分为正常阅读和快速阅读两部分,有必要提醒考生,两者所给的时间是不同的。通常,正常阅读是四至五篇,答十五题。快速阅读是六至七篇,答十题,而后者时间只有十分钟。所以,我们决不能在一篇上花太多的时间,只能采用跳读或寻读的方法来尽快获取信息,每篇文章,先读试题和选项,然后再有的放矢地进行阅读。做题时,如果遇到有些题解不了,或是文章中某几句看不懂的情况,应该暂时放弃,先做其他

题或继续阅读其他部分。在做完其他试题后,有时间,再来做这些没有把握的试题。千万不能为了一道题或一段文字而停滞不前。及时丢卒保车,才能保证总成绩。

阅读能力的提高不是靠短时间的突击就能提高的,需要我们持之以恒,长期进行正确的操练。英语专业八级考试是科学的语言测试,具有相当的信度和效度,靠投机取巧是不可能取得好成绩的,所以,我们衷心希望考生们能通过训练,真正地提高自己的语言能力,在八级考试中取得好的成绩。

四

翻译

Translation

英语八级考试中的汉译英试题是对学生综合应用语言的一个测试。它既是对学生汉语水平的测试,又是对英语专业学生四年专业学习之后综合应用英语能力的检测。实践证明,我们的学生在四年的英语学习过程中,忽略了对汉语的学习,因而在对汉语词语和句子的理解过程中出现了一些可笑的问题;同时,汉译英测试也反映出学生在用英语表达过程中,由于母语干扰或其它方面原因,也有很多典型的错误。这里我们仅从理解和表达两个角度,分析英语专业八级考试汉译英常见的一些问题,并通过分析这些问题,指出英语专业本科阶段汉译英教学中,加强学生基本功是该课程的一个核心任务。

一般认为,理解汉语对于汉语是母语的中国来说,不应该构成什么问题;翻译过程的第二阶段,即表达阶段,才是问题出现比较多的地方。但是,在我们的学生中,的确存在着因为汉语功底不扎实而造成错误理解的问题。这种错误主要出现在对一些不能够从字面上推测意义的习语上,例如部分学生对“寒暄”、“破天荒”、“干脆”等词语会产生错误的理解。我们有同学将“寒暄”译成了“coldly talk for a while”,这说明习语的理解对于汉语功底不深厚、光顾着学习外语却忽视母语学习的外语专业学生来说的确是一个很突出的问题。

其次,学生还会出现断句的错误。汉语是形成机制不发达的语言,汉语句子在断句问题上并不严格,因此对句子停顿的认识很多情况下完全取决于读者的语感。学生对此往往认识并不充分,不敢果断断句,以为原文中的一个长句一定要用英语的一个长句来表达,因而出现跟原文风格不一致的译文,甚至在组织译文言语的时候出现很多语法错误。当然,汉语功底的欠缺、语感的薄弱往往也会造成错误的断句,从而导致错误的翻译。例如,2000 年八级考试中,第一句话是“世界上第一代博物馆属于自然博物馆,它是通过化石、标本等向人们介绍地球和各种生物的演化历史”。很多同学用 which 这个关系代词来形成了一个结构很复杂的主从复合句,但是在组织这个句子时出现很多错误,造成修饰关系不明的情况。如果我们果断断句,翻译成:

The world's first generation museums are museums of natural history. They introduce to the people with fossils and specimens the evolution of the earth and various living organism on it. 用这样两个单句来处理,就可以避免语法错误,而且可以使句子语义鲜明。

此外,断句的错误还表现在词组间关系的断定上,比如,“科学知识”和“科学技术”,后者“科学”和“技术”之间是一种并列关系。这种修饰和并列关系在汉语中并没有形式上的分别,这种关系是一种意合关系,需要读者发挥自己的判断力和语感。很多同学把这两个短语分别译成了“science and knowledge”和“scientific technology”,由此可见我们在理解上还存在问题,学生的汉语功底还不够深厚。

另外,对原文的理解还需要结合一定的背景知识,例如 95 年八级考试汉译英试题中提到“奥斯特丁”这位作家,如果我们不熟悉这位作家,我们就可能连她的姓氏如何拼写也不知道。再比如说,“我的导师是亚裔人”(1998 年八级考试),不能简单地翻译成“My tutor is an Asian”,因为所谓“亚裔”,是指亚洲的血缘,但并没明确国籍,根据上下文,却应该是美国国籍,因此这句话应该翻译为“My tutor is an Asian American.”,同样的道理,在同一篇文章中出现的“除有一名来自德国外,其余 5 位均是亚裔学生”也应该处理成

“... except one of German origin, the rest five were all of Asian origin”。

1999 年八级考试试题中也出现了类似的句子“现今 80 万温哥华居民中,有一半不是本地出生的,每 4 个居民中就有一个是亚洲人。25 万华人对温哥华的经济转型起着决定性的作用”也应该根据以上的理由翻译为

“Of the present 1.8 million residents Vancouver, half are not native, and one in every four is of Asian origin. The 250,000 Chinese have been playing a decisive role in the economic transformation of Vancouver.”

由此看来,缺乏一定的背景知识,我们就不可能把这些句子处理正确。

对于政论文的翻译来说,一定政治意识的缺乏会造成错误的理解和表达。例如,“振兴”、“统一”等,考虑到中国的历史,我们应该将他们分别理解和表达为“revitalization”或“rejuvenation”和“reunification”。再例如“个体户”、“国营企业”、“三资企业”、“计划生育”等概念,要求翻译时必须准确理解原意,然后在译文中作适当的表达,因而需要同学们熟悉官方的翻译法。从这个意义上说,政论翻译,尤其在译名问题上,涉及到继承传统译名的情况比较多,因此我们应该多读一些国内的外文刊物,如《中国日报》、《北京周报》、《人民日报》(海外英文版)等,增强政治意识,统一翻译口径,这样才能够把汉译英做好。

总之,TEM-8 翻译考试对译文的要求是忠实原文和语言通顺。翻译的功能是将原有的文字资料转换成另一种语言,从而使读者用其熟悉的语言了解原本用另一种语言表述的信息。鉴于此,衡量译文的一个重要标准就是看其所转换的信息是否准确,是否忠实于原文。译者对原文的把握、理解是关键所在。译者要对原文的思想、语气、风格有透彻的理解和准确的把握。如果在这方面出现偏差,译文就会与原文有出入,也就很难做到忠实于原文。

质量高的译文除了忠实于原文外,在语言上也要力求做到通顺。具体地说,就是所译语言要符合规范、行文自然、流畅,不带有过多生硬翻译的痕迹。就英译汉而言,译文应该断句恰当,句式正确,选词妥贴,段与段、句与句之间呼应自然,有一定文采。对于汉译英来说,要求译文的句式处理恰当,选词妥贴,英语比较地道。在 TEM-8 翻译考试里,语言通顺对汉译英项目来说尤为重要。译文英语不地道,不仅会失去原文的文体风格,而且还会误传原意。

五 写作 Writing

写作项目是全国高校英语专业学生八级考试(TEM-8)五大项目之一,它的分值占总分的 20%,考试时间为 60 分钟。该项目要求考生在规定的时间内根据提示写出 300 字左右的文章。文章力求做到观点清楚、例证充分、结构严谨、层次清楚、合乎逻辑、语言得体、无重大语法错误。

要想写好一篇文章,考生应该注意以下几点:

1. 审题

在写作考试中要写出符合题目要求。高质量的作文,第一步是审题。所谓审题,就是通过阅读写作题目及相关信息或要求,正确领会题目的含义,了解题目要求,为构思合乎具体写作要求的文章思路及框架打下基础。

数年来 TEM-8 写作项目已形成自身的特色。这个特色就是,该项目内的几个部分(观点、情景、标题、写作要求)具有内在的联系,从而构成一个整体。因此,审题就意味着不是仅仅浏览一个标题,而是要兼顾其他部分。只有这样,学生才能真正明确写作目的,领会写作要求。

以 TEM-8—1997 的写作项目为例。该年的标题是 SOWING THE SEEDS, NURTURING GROWTH AND HARVESTING THE REWARDS。如果我们孤立地看题目的话,就很难领会该篇作文的具体要求和目的。但是,一旦我们把标题与前面的情景与观点部分联系起来,这个标题的含义就变得清晰:它要求学生用标题所含的耕作过程来比拟获得大学学业成就的过程。同时,对具体语篇模式的要求(即 ANALOGY)也显示在这部分中间。至于对作文修辞框架的要求,则出现在标题下面的一段文字中。

总而言之,提高审题的准确性有利于学生理解题目含义,了解写作要求,进而有针对性地构思作文内容、布局等。

然而,在历年写作阅卷中我们发现,审题有误仍是学生经常犯的错误之一。归纳起来有以下几点:1)不熟悉 TEM-8 写作的设计特点,以为只看标题即可着手写作。这常常导致在文章内容上出现严重偏差。2)对情景观点部分的理解一知半解,未经仔细斟酌就提笔写作。这往往会造成学生采用错误的语篇模式。3)忽略写作项目中对作文修辞框架的提示。这容易使得作文思路或结构混乱或失衡。

2. 行文的统一性和连贯性

一篇优秀的作文应该具有以上两个特点。就 TEM-8 写作项目而言,这主要体现在作文的内容和框架上。按照写作要求,一篇合格的作文由三个部分组成。第一部分包括作者的论点(THESIS STATEMENT)。论点应明确、清楚。第二部分是作文的主体。这部分的要求是通过恰当、合适的语篇模式(如:CAUSE AND EFFECT, COMPARISON AND CONTRAST, 等等)来论证前面提出的论点。论证的过程要做到结构严谨、层次分明、合乎逻辑。要做到结构严谨,就需要学生在写作中抓住中心,并围绕中心展开讨论。结构严谨的作文同时也应是层次分明的作文。为了使论证过程具有说服力,作文应采用一种层次结构。所谓层次结构指构成语篇的句子或者各段之间在逻辑意义上存在着一种主从关系,它们或者是解释关系,或者是因果关系,或者是总分关系。书卷语体通常属于这类结构,即一个语篇往往由不同层次的语段构成。此外,作文应有逻辑性,文中观点的阐述要合乎情理,观点之间的衔接要自然、顺畅。第三部分为作文的结尾。一篇思想内容完整的作文离不开一个好的结尾。一般来说,结尾部分的内容应为前面部分的总结。因此,这部分应与前面部分保持论点上的一致性和统一性。结尾部分忌讳的是牛头不对马嘴,前后没有连贯性,因而破坏作文的完整性。

3. 语言的规范性和准确性

作文的思想内容都必须通过语言形式来表达。TEM-8 作文要求语言得体、通顺,无重大语法错误。如果作文句不成句,用词不当,语法错误连篇,就很难将作者的意图表达清楚。

但是,历年来的写作项目反映出学生在作文的统一性、连贯性和语言的规范性方面还普遍存在一些问题。概括起来有以下几点:

1) 作文中的论点未展开。这主要表现为没有按照要求在第一部分中阐明观点,而是东拉西扯,写了与题目有关或无关的细节或现象。比如在以 IN SUPPORT OF DORMITORY POLICIES 为题的作文中,一些学生不是开门见山地点明主题思想,而是列举了一些寝室里的情况或评论一些不良现象。最后由于篇幅有限,就在结束时提一句寝室制度就草草收尾。

2) 作文结构不严谨,段落没有主题句,且句际段落关系不明显。这个现象在作文中带有一定的普遍性。有些学生在写作时没有理清思路,按照一定的逻辑框架写,而是想到什么就写什么,因此文章显得松散。

3) 作文首尾不一致。作文开头与结尾部分内容衔接不上,或自相矛盾。

4) 作文缺乏连贯性(COHERENCE)。在对历年来考生作文的分析中,我们发现以下几个现象:

- A. 差的作文中简单句多,而好的作文中则少;
- B. 差的作文中从句和连词出现的频率大大低于好的作文;
- C. 差的作文中各种照应的使用低于好的作文;
- D. 差的作文中关键词和同义/近义词出现的频率低于好的作文。

以上的部分简单地讨论了 TEM-8 写作项目的要求、预期达到的标准以及学生作文中反映出来的一些带有共性的问题。在结束之前,我们就如何提高写作能力谈几点看法:

1. 写作能力的培养要从最基本概念做起,一步一个脚印,扎实地进行基本功训练。

2. 就 TEM-8 写作项目而言,要提高驾驭文章整体思路的能力就要加强逻辑思维训练,通过各类写作手法的操练来提高这方面的能力。此外,要提高语言的准确性,学会使用各种语篇纽带,如 LOGICAL, GRAMMATICAL, SEMANTIC CONNECTORS,使作文思路清晰,论点鲜明,例证充分,语言得体,真正达到写作的要求。

Part Two 试卷部分

2002 年
英语专业八级考试历年全真试卷

试 卷 一 (95 min)

Part I Listening Comprehension (40 min)

In Sections A, B and C you will hear everything ONCE ONLY. Listen carefully and then answer the questions that follow. Mark the correct answer to each question on your Coloured Answer Sheet.

SECTION A TALK

Questions 1 to 5 refer to the talk in this section. At the end of the talk you will be given 15 seconds to answer each of the following five questions. Now listen to the talk.

- According to the passage, during the 18th and 19th centuries cities were small in size mainly because _____.
A. the urban population was stable
B. few people lived in cities
C. transport was backward
D. it was originally planned
- Cities survived in those days largely as a result of _____.
A. the trade activities they undertook
B. the agricultural activities in the nearby areas
C. their relatively small size
D. the non-economic roles they played
- City dwellers were engaged in all the following economic activities EXCEPT _____.
A. commerce B. distribution C. processing D. transportation
- Urban people left cities for the following reasons EXCEPT _____.
A. more economic opportunities
B. a freer social and political environment
C. more educational opportunities
D. a more relaxed religious environment
- Why did the early cities fail to grow as quickly as expected throughout the 18th century?
A. Because the countryside attracted more people.
B. Because cities did not increase in number.
C. Because the functions of the cities changed.
D. Because the number of city people was stable.

SECTION B INTERVIEW

Questions 6 to 10 are based on an interview. At the end of the interview you will be given 15 seconds to answer each of the following five questions. Now listen to the interview.

- According to Janet, the factor that would most affect negotiations is _____.
A. English language proficiency B. different cultural practices
C. different negotiation tasks D. the international Americanized style
- Janet's attitude towards the Americanized style as a model for business negotiations is _____.
A. supportive B. negative C. ambiguous D. cautious
- Which of the following can NOT be seen as a difference between Brazilian and American negotiators?
A. Americans prepare more points before negotiations.
B. Americans are more straightforward during negotiations.
C. Brazilians prefer more eye contact during negotiations.
D. Brazilians seek more background information.
- Which group of people seems to be the most straightforward?

- The British.
 - Germans.
 - Americans.
 - Not mentioned.
- Which of the following is NOT characteristic of Japanese negotiators?
A. Reserved. B. Prejudiced. C. Polite. D. Prudent.

SECTION C NEWS BROADCAST

Question 11 is based on the following news. At the end of the news item, you will be given 15 seconds to answer the question. Now listen to the news.

- The news item is mainly about _____.
A. a call for research papers to be read at the conference
B. an international conference on traditional Tibetan medicine
C. the number of participants at the conference and their nationalities
D. the preparations made by the sponsors for the international conference

Questions 12 and 13 are based on the following news. At the end of the news item, you will be given 30 seconds to answer the questions. Now listen to the news.

- The news item mainly concerns _____ in Hong Kong.
A. Internet centres B. an IBM seminar
C. e-government D. broadcasting
- The aims of the three policy objectives include all the following EXCEPT _____.
A. improvement of government efficiency B. promotion of e-commerce
C. integration of service delivery D. formulation of Digital 21 Strategy

Questions 14 and 15 are based on the following news. At the end of the news item, you will be given 30 seconds to answer the questions. Now listen to the news.

- Which of the following records was the second best time of the year by Donovan Bailey?
A. 9.98. B. 9.80. C. 9.91. D. 9.95.
- The record shows that Bailey was _____.
A. still suffering from an injury B. getting back in shape
C. unable to compete with Greene D. less confident than before

SECTION D NOTE - TAKING AND GAP - FILLING

Fill in each of the gaps with ONE word. You may refer to your notes. Make sure the word you fill in is both grammatically and semantically acceptable.

Study Activities in University

In order to help college and university students in the process of learning, four key study activities have been designed and used to encourage them to make knowledge their own.

- Essay writing: central focus of university work esp. in the humanities,
e. g. (1) _____.
benefits: 1) helping to select interesting content in books and to express understanding.
2) enabling teachers to know progress and to offer (2) _____.
3) familiarizing students with exam forms.
- Seminars and classroom discussion: another form to internalize knowledge in specialized contexts.
benefits: 1) (3) _____ enables you to know the effectiveness of and others' response to your speech immediately.
2) Within the same period of time, more topics can be dealt with than in (4) _____.
3) The use of a broader range of knowledge is encouraged.
- Individual tutorials: a substitute for group discussion.
format: from teacher (5) _____ to flexible conversation.
benefit: encouraging ideas and interaction.
- Lectures: a most (6) _____ used study activity.
disadvantages: 1) less (7) _____ than discussions or tutorials.
2) more demanding in note-taking.
advantages: 1) providing a general (8) _____ of a subject under discussion.
2) offering more easily understood versions of a theory.
3) updating students on (9) _____ developments.

4) allowing students to follow different (10) _____.

10. _____

Part II Proofreading and Error Correction (15 min)

The following passage contains TEN errors. Each line contains a maximum of ONE error. In each case, only ONE word is involved. You should proofread the passage and correct it in the following way.

- For a wrong word, underline the wrong word and write the correct one in the blank provided at the end of the line.
- For a missing word, mark the position of the missing word with a “^” sign and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank provided at the end of the line.
- For an unnecessary word, cross out the unnecessary word with a slash “/” and put the word in the blank provided at the end of the line.

Example

When ^ art museum wants a new exhibit,
it ne^er buys things in finished form and hangs
them on the wall. When a natural history museum
wants an exhibition, it must often build it.

- (1) an
(2) never
(3) exhibit

There are great impediments to the general use of a standard in pronunciation comparable to that existing in spelling (orthography). One is the fact that pronunciation is learnt ‘naturally’ and unconsciously, and orthography is learnt deliberately and consciously. Large numbers of us, in fact, remain throughout our lives quite unconscious with what our speech sounds like when we speak out, and it often comes as a shock when we firstly hear a recording of ourselves. It is not a voice we recognize at once, whereas our own handwriting is something which we almost always know. We begin the ‘natural’ learning of pronunciation long before we start learning to read or write, and in our early years we went on unconsciously imitating and practicing the pronunciation of those around us for many more hours per every day than we ever have to spend learning even our difficult English spelling. This is ‘natural’, therefore, that our speech – sounds should be those of our immediate circle; after all, as we have seen, speech operates as a means of holding a community and giving a sense of ‘belonging’. We learn quite early to recognize a ‘stranger’, someone who speaks with an accent of a different community – perhaps only a few miles far.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Part III Reading Comprehension (40 min)**SECTION A READING COMPREHENSION (30 min)**

In this section there are four reading passages followed by a total of fifteen multiple-choice questions. Read the passages and then mark your answers on your Coloured Answer Sheet.

TEXT A

Do you ever feel as though you spend all your time in meetings?

Henry Mintzberg, in his book *The Nature of Managerial Work*, found that in large organizations managers spent 22 per cent of their time at their desk, 6 per cent on the telephone, 3 per cent on other activities, but a whopping 69 per cent in meetings.

There is a widely-held but mistaken belief that meetings are for “solving problems” and “making decisions.” For a start, the number of people attending a meeting tends to be inversely proportional to their collective ability to reach conclusions and make decisions. And these are the least important elements.

Instead hours are devoted to side issues, playing elaborate games with one another. It seems, therefore, that meetings serve some purpose other than just making decisions.

All meetings have one thing in common: role-playing. The most formal role is that of chairman. He sets the agenda,

and a good chairman will keep the meeting running on time and to the point. Sadly, the other, informal role – players are often able to gain the upper hand. Chief is the “constant talker”, who just loves to hear his or her own voice.

Then there are the “can’t do” types who want to maintain the status quo. Since they have often been in the organization for a long time, they frequently quote historical experience as an excuse to block change: “It won’t work, we tried that last year and it was a disaster.” A more subtle version of the “can’t do” type, the “yes, but...” has emerged recently. They have learnt about the need to sound positive, but they still can’t bear to have things change.

Another whole sub-set of characters are people who love meetings and want them to continue until 5:30 pm or beyond. Irrelevant issues are their specialty. They need to call or attend meetings, either to avoid work, or to justify their lack of performance, or simply because they do not have enough to do.

Then there are the “counter-dependents”, those who usually disagree with everything that is said, particularly if it comes from the chairman or through consensus from the group. These people need to fight authority in whatever form.

Meetings can also provide attenders with a sense of identification of their status and power. In this case, managers arrange meetings as a means of communicating to others the boundaries of their exclusive club; who is “in”, and who is not.

Because so many meetings end in confusion and without a decision, another game is played at the end of meetings, called reaching a false consensus. Since it is important for the chairman to appear successful in problem-solving and making a decision, the group reaches a false consensus. Everyone is happy, having spent their time productively. The reality is that the decision is so ambiguous that it is never acted upon, or, if it is, there is continuing conflict, for which another meeting is necessary.

In the end, meetings provide the opportunity for social intercourse, to engage in battle in front of our bosses, to avoid unpleasant or unsatisfying work, to highlight our social status and identity. They are, in fact, a necessary though not necessarily productive psychological sideshow. Perhaps it is our civilized way to moderating, if not preventing, change.

16. On role-playing, the passage seems to indicate that chairman _____.
- A. talks as much as participants B. is usually a “constant talker”
C. prefers to take the role of an observer D. is frequently outshone by participants
17. Which of the following is NOT a distinct characteristic of the three types of participants?
- A. Submissiveness. B. Stubbornness.
C. Disobedience. D. Lack of focus.
18. The passage suggests that a false consensus was reached at the end of a meeting in order to _____.
- A. make room for another meeting B. bring an illusory sense of achievement
C. highlight the importance of a meeting D. go ahead with the agreed programme

TEXT B

Cooperative competition. Competitive cooperation. Confused? Airline alliances have travellers scratching their heads over what’s going on in the skies. Some folks view alliances as a blessing to travellers, offering seamless travel, reduced fares and enhanced frequent-flyer benefits. Others see a conspiracy of big businesses, causing decreased competition, increased fares and fewer choices. Whatever your opinion, there’s no escaping airline alliances: the marketing hype is unrelenting, with each of the two mega-groupings, Oneworld and Star Alliance, promoting itself as the best choice for all travellers. And, even if you turn away from their ads, chances are they will figure in any of your travel plans. By the end of the year, Oneworld and Star Alliance will between them control more than 40% of the traffic in the sky. Some pundits predict that figure will be more like 75% in 10 years.

But why, after years of often ferocious competition, have airlines decided to band together? Let’s just say the timing is mutually convenient. North American airlines, having exhausted all means of earning customer loyalty at home, have been looking for ways to reach out to foreign flyers. Asian carriers are still hurting from the region-wide economic downturn that began two years ago—just when some of the airlines were taking delivery of new aircraft. Alliances also allow carriers to cut costs and increase profits by pooling manpower resources on the ground (rather than each airline maintaining its own ground crew) and code-sharing—the practice of two partners selling tickets and operating only one aircraft.

So alliances are terrific for airlines—but are they good for the passenger? Absolutely, say the airlines: think of the lounges, the joint FFP (frequent flyer programme) benefits, the round-the-world fares, and the global service networks. Then there’s the promise of “seamless” travel: the ability to, say, travel from Singapore to Rome to New York to Rio de Janeiro, all on one ticket, without having to wait hours for connections or worry about your bags. Sounds utopian? Peter Buecking, Cathay Pacific’s director of sales and marketing, thinks that seamless travel is still evolving. “It’s fair to say that these links are only in their infancy. The key to seamlessness rests in infrastructure and information sharing. We’re working on this.” Henry Ma, spokesperson for Star Alliance in Hong Kong, lists some of the other benefits for consumers: “Global travellers have an easier time making connections and planning their itineraries.” Ma claims alliances also assure passengers consistent service standards.

Critics of alliances say the much-touted benefits to the consumer are mostly pie in the sky, that alliances are all about reducing costs for the airlines, rationalizing services and running joint marketing programmes. Jeff Blyskal, associate editor of Consumer Reports magazine, says the promotional ballyhoo over alliances is much ado about nothing. “I don’t see much of a gain for consumers: alliances are just a marketing gimmick. And as far as seamless travel goes, I’ll believe it when I see it. Most airlines can’t even get their own connections under control, let alone coordinate with another airline.”

Blyskal believes alliances will ultimately result in decreased flight choices and increased costs for consumers. Instead of two airlines competing and each operating a flight on the same route at 70% capacity, the allied pair will share the route and run one full flight. Since fewer seats will be available, passengers will be obliged to pay more for tickets.

The truth about alliances and their merits probably lies somewhere between the travel utopia presented by the players and the evil empires portrayed by their critics. And how much they affect you depends on what kind of traveller you are.

Those who've already made the elite grade in the FFP of a major airline stand to benefit the most when it joins an alliance: then they enjoy the FFP perks and advantages on any and all of the member carriers. For example, if you're a Marco Polo Club "gold" member of Cathay Pacific's Asia Miles FFP, you will automatically be treated as a valuable customer by all members of Oneworld, of which Cathay Pacific is a member—even if you've never flown with them before.

For those who haven't made the top grade in any FFP, alliances might be a way of simplifying the earning of frequent flyer miles. For example, I belong to United Airline's Mileage Plus and generally fly less than 25,000 miles a year. But I earn miles with every flight I take on Star Alliance member—All Nippon Airways and Thai Airways.

If you fly less than I do, you might be smarter to stay out of the FFP game altogether. Hunt for bargains when booking flights and you might be able to save enough to take that extra trip anyway. The only real benefit infrequent flyers can draw from an alliance is an inexpensive round—the world fare.

The bottom line: for all the marketing hype, alliances aren't all things to all people—but everybody can get some benefit out of them.

19. Which is the best word to describe air travellers' reaction to airline alliances?
A. Delight. B. Indifference. C. Objection. D. Puzzlement
20. According to the passage, setting up airline alliances will chiefly benefit _____.
A. North American airlines and their domestic travellers
B. North American airlines and their foreign counterparts
C. Asian airlines and their foreign travellers
D. Asian airlines and their domestic travellers
21. Which of the following is NOT a perceived advantage of alliances?
A. Baggage allowance. B. Passenger comfort.
C. Convenience. D. Quality.
22. One disadvantage of alliances foreseen by the critics is that air travel may be more expensive as a result of _____.
A. less convenience B. higher operation costs
C. less competition D. more joint marketing
23. According to the passage, which of the following categories of travellers will gain most from airline alliances?
A. Travellers who fly frequently economy class. B. Travellers who fly frequently business class.
C. Travellers who fly occasionally during holidays. D. Travellers who fly economy class once in a while.

TEXT C

It is nothing new that English use is on the rise around the world, especially in business circles. This also happens in France, the headquarters of the global battle against American cultural hegemony. If French guys are giving in to English, something really big must be going on. And something big is going on.

Partly, it's that American hegemony. Didier Benichou, CEO of a French e-commerce software company, feels compelled to speak English perfectly because the Internet software business is dominated by Americans. He and other French businessmen also have to speak English because they want to get their message out to American investors, possessors of the world's deepest pockets.

The triumph of English in France and elsewhere in Europe, however, may rest on something more enduring. As they become entwined with each other politically and economically, Europeans need a way to talk to one another and to the rest of the world. And for a number of reasons, they've decided upon English as their common tongue.

So when German chemical and pharmaceutical company Hoechst merged with French competitor Rhone Poulenc last year, the companies chose the vaguely Latinate Aventis as the new company name—and settled on English as the company's common language. When monetary policymakers from around Europe began meeting at the European Central Bank in Frankfurt last year to set interest rates for the new Euro, they held their deliberations in English. Even the European Commission, with 11 official languages and a traditionally French-speaking bureaucracy, effectively switched over to English as its working language last year.

How did this happen? One school attributes English's great success to the sheer weight of its merit. It's a Germanic language, brought to Britain around the fifth century A. D. During the four centuries of French-speaking rule that followed Norman Conquest of 1066, the language morphed into something else entirely. French words were added wholesale, and most of the complications of Germanic grammar were shed while few of the complications of French were added. The result is a language with a huge vocabulary and a simple grammar that can express most things more efficiently than either of its parents. What's more, English has remained ungoverned and open to change—foreign words, coinages, and grammatical shifts—in a way that French, ruled by the purist Académie Française, has not.

So it's a swell language, especially for business. But the rise of English over the past few centuries clearly owes at least as much to history and economics as to the language's ability to economically express the concept win-win. What

happened is that the competition—first Latin, then French, then, briefly, German—faded with the waning of the political, economic, and military fortunes of, respectively, the Catholic Church, France, and Germany. All along, English was increasing in importance: Britain was the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, and London the world's most important financial centre, which made English a key language for business. England's colonies around the world also made it the language with the most global reach. And as that former colony the U. S. rose to the status of the world's preeminent political, economic, military, and cultural power, English became the obvious second language to learn.

In the 1990s more and more Europeans found themselves forced to use English. The last generation of business and government leaders who hadn't studied English in school was leaving the stage. The European Community was adding new members and evolving from a paper-shuffling club into a serious regional government that would need a single common language if it were ever to get anything done. Meanwhile, economic barriers between European nations have been disappearing, meaning that more and more companies are beginning to look at the whole continent as their domestic market. And then the Internet came along.

The Net had two big impacts. One was that it was an exciting, potentially lucrative new industry that had its roots in the U. S., so if you wanted to get in on it, you had to speak some English. The other was that by surfing the Web, Europeans who had previously encountered English only in school and in pop songs were now coming into contact with it daily.

None of this means English has taken over European life. According to the European Union, 47% of Western Europeans (including the British and Irish) speak English well enough to carry on a conversation. That's a lot more than those who can speak German (32%) or French (28%), but it still means more Europeans don't speak the language. If you want to sell shampoo or cell phones, you have to do it in French or German or Spanish or Greek. Even the U. S. and British media companies that stand to benefit most from the spread of English have been hedging their bets—CNN broadcasts in Spanish; the Financial Times has recently launched a daily German-language edition.

But just look at who speaks English: 77% of Western European college students, 69% of managers, and 65% of those aged 15 to 24. In the secondary schools of the European Union's non-English-speaking countries, 91% of students study English, all of which means that the transition to English as the language of European business hasn't been all that traumatic, and it's only going to get easier in the future.

24. In the author's opinion, what really underlies the rising status of English in France and Europe is _____.
A. American dominance in the Internet software business
B. a practical need for effective communication among Europeans
C. Europeans' eagerness to do business with American businessmen
D. the recent trend for foreign companies to merge with each other
25. Europeans began to favour English for all the following reasons EXCEPT its _____.
A. inherent linguistic properties B. association with the business world
C. links with the United States D. disassociation from political changes
26. Which of the following statements forecasts the continuous rise of English in the future?
A. About half of Western Europeans are now proficient in English.
B. U. S. and British media companies are operating in Western Europe.
C. Most secondary school students in Europe study English.
D. Most Europeans continue to use their own language.
27. The passage mainly examines the factors related to _____.
A. the rising status of English in Europe
B. English learning in non-English-speaking E. U. nations
C. the preference for English by European businessmen
D. the switch from French to English in the European Commission

TEXT D

As humankind moves into the third millennium, it can rightfully claim to have broken new ground in its age-old quest to master the environment. The fantastic achievements of modern technology and the speed at which scientific discoveries are translated into technological applications attest to the triumph of human endeavour.

At the same time, however, some of these applications threaten to unleash forces over which we have no control. In other words, the new technology man now believes allows him to dominate this wider cosmos could well be a Frankenstein monster waiting to turn on its master.

This is an entirely new situation that promises to change many of the perceptions governing life on the planet. The most acute challenges facing the future are likely to be not only those pitting man against his fellow man, but those involving humankind's struggle to preserve the environment and ensure the sustainability of life on earth.

A conflict waged to ensure the survival of the human species is bound to bring humans closer together. Technological progress has thus proved to be a double-edged sword, giving rise to a new form of conflict: a clash between Man and Nature.

The new conflict is more dangerous than the traditional one between man and his fellow man, where the protagonists at least shared a common language. But when it comes to the reactions of the ecosystems to the onslaught of modern technology, there is no common language.

Nature reacts with weather disturbances, with storms and earthquakes, with mutant viruses and bacteria—that is, with phenomena having no apparent cause and effect relationship with the modern technology that supposedly triggers them.

As technology becomes ever more potent and nature reacts ever more violently, there is an urgent need to rethink how best to deal with the growing contradictions between Man and Nature.

For a start, the planet, and hence all its inhabitants, must be perceived as an integral whole, not as a dichotomous mass divided geographically into the rich and developed and the poor and underdeveloped.

Today, globalization encompasses the whole world and deals with it as an integral unit. It is no longer possible to say that conflict has shifted from its traditional east-west axis to a north-south axis. The real divide today is between summit and base, between the higher echelons of the international political structure and its grassroots level, between governments and NGOs, between state and civil society, between public and private enterprise.

The mesh structure is particularly obvious on the Internet. While it is true that to date the Internet seems to be favouring the most developed sectors of the international community over the less developed, this need not always be the case. Indeed, it could eventually overcome the disparities between the privileged and the underdeveloped.

On the other hand, the macro-world in which we live is exposed to distortions because of the unpredictable side-effects of a micro-world we do not and cannot totally control.

This raises the need for a global system of checks and balances, for mandatory rules and constraints in our dealings with Nature, in short, for a new type of veto designed to manage what is increasingly becoming a main contradiction of our time: the one between technology and ecology.

A new type of international machinery must be set in place to cope with the new challenges. We need a new look at the harnessing of scientific discoveries, to maximize their positive effects for the promotion of humanity as a whole and to minimize their negative effects. We need an authority with veto powers to forbid practices conducive to decreasing the ozone hole, the propagation of AIDS, global warming, desertification—an authority that will tackle such global problems.

There should be no discontinuity in the global machinery responsible for world order. The UN in its present form may fall far short of what is required of it, and it may be undemocratic and detrimental to most citizens in the world, but its absence would be worse. And so we have to hold on to the international organization even as we push forward for its complete restructuring.

Our best hope would be that the functions of the present United Nations are gradually taken over by the new machinery of veto power representing genuine democratic globalization.

28. The mention of Man's victory over Nature at the beginning of the passage is to highlight ____.

- A. a new form of conflict
B. Man's creative powers
C. the role of modern technology
D. Man's ground-breaking work

29. According to the passage, which is NOT a responsibility of the proposed international authority?

- A. Monitoring effects of scientific discoveries.
B. Dealing with worldwide environmental issues.
C. Vetoing human attempts to conquer Nature.
D. Authorizing efforts to improve human health.

30. When commenting on the present role of the UN, the author expresses his ____.

- A. dissatisfaction
B. disillusionment
C. objection
D. doubt

SECTION B SKIMMING AND SCANNING

(10 min)

In this section there are seven passages with ten multiple-choice questions. Skim or scan them as required and then mark your answers on your Coloured Answer Sheet.

TEXT E

First read the question.

31. What is the most appropriate topic of the following passage?

- A. Strikes.
B. Pensions.
C. Retirement Ages.
D. Government decisions.

Now go through TEXT E quickly to answer question 31.

In addition to the national social security system, 17 special pension schemes are among the social advantages that government employees are not prepared to give up.

Under the national scheme, retirement is at the age of 65, whereas the special schemes offer retirement at 55 or even 50.

Most of the pension schemes are in the red and have to be topped up by the state. The total state contribution in 1994 was F125 billion (\$ 25 billion).

The prime minister says he wants to keep the special schemes. There are three solutions for keeping them afloat: lengthening the contribution period, increasing contributions, or reducing the pensions paid out. The movement chose the first solution in the plan that it announced on November 15. Private sector employees were required in 1993 to contribute for 40 instead of 37.5 years, in order to qualify for a full pension. State employees could still retire after 37.5 years' service provided they had reached the age limit.

The prime minister's announcement touched off strikes on the railways, Paris's transport services and government departments. Facing increasing opposition to this proposal, the prime minister said on December 5 that working, more years

would no longer be a condition for reforming the special pension schemes.

A government commission that will examine pensions will, however, be free to propose changes in the retirement age in certain professions. But it will take into consideration the hardships involved in the work and the constraints of working hours.

At the moment, the minimum retirement age is 60—as in the private sector before 1983—for 65 percent of public service employees. It is 55, or even 50, for 35 per cent of employees considered to be doing work “involving special risks or exceptional fatigue.”

Primary school teachers can retire at 55, but the limit for new, better qualified recruits is 60. Postal workers at sorting offices can retire at 55. The retiring age for police officers is 50, prison officers 50, nurses 55, and railwaymen 50 and 55 for others. The 30,000 employees of the Paris Metro have an average retirement age of 53.

Two-thirds of the “active” employees and those working in conditions that can damage health in the public gas and electric utility retire at 55. Retirement age for notary's clerks is 55 for women, and 60 for men. For miners, retirement is at 55.

Comparing the national pension scheme and the special schemes is not easy, because state employees receive bonuses—some of them substantial—which are not included in calculating their contributions or their pensions.

TEXT F

First read the question.

32. In the following passage the author intends to ____.

- A. explain how the Gulf Stream is formed
B. compare global warming with global cooling
C. explain the composition of the sea currents
D. deliver a warning of a coming ice age

Now go through TEXT F quickly to answer question 32.

It seems obvious that trapping more of the sun's heat will make the planet hotter. But what seems obvious isn't always true. According to some respected scientists, there is a chance that global warming could plunge us into, of all things, an ice age.

The argument hinges on the Gulf Stream, the ocean current that brings warm surface water north and east and heats Europe. As it travels, some of the water evaporates; what's left is saltier and thus denser. Eventually the dense surface water sinks to the sea bottom, where it flows back southward. And then, near the equator, warm, fresh water from tropical rivers and rain dilutes the salt once again, allowing the water to rise to the surface, warm up and begin flowing north again.

But with global warming, melting ice from Greenland and the Arctic Ocean could pump fresh water into the North Atlantic; so could the increased rainfall be predicted for northern latitudes in a warmer world. Result: the Gulf Stream's water wouldn't get saltier after all and wouldn't sink so easily. Without adequate re-supply, the southerly underwater current would stop, and the Gulf Stream would in turn be shut off.

If that happens, Europe will get very cold. Rome is, after all, at the same latitude as Chicago, and Pads is about as far north as North Dakota. More snow will fall, and the bright snow cover will reflect more of the sun's energy back into space, making life even chillier. Beyond that, the Gulf Stream is tied into other ocean currents, and shutting it down could rearrange things in a way that would cause less overall evaporation.

Worst of all, the experts believe, such changes could come on with astonishing speed—perhaps within a decade or less. And while we might have a great deal of trouble adjusting to a climate that gets 2°C warmer over the next century, an ice age by mid-century would be unimaginably devastating. The lingering uncertainty about whether our relentless production of greenhouse gases will keep heating our planet or ultimately cool it suggests that we should make a better effort to leave the earth's thermostat alone.

TEXT G

First read the question.

33. What is the main theme of the following passage?

- A. Strengths of paper books over E-books.
B. Projected extinction of paper books.
C. Market prospects of E-books.
D. The history of paper books.

Now go through TEXT G quickly to answer question 33.

Experts predict that the printed paper and glue book will be rendered obsolete by electronic text delivery systems, of which one, the Microsoft Reader, is already on the market, offering “books” on a pocket PC manufactured by Hewlett-Packard. This is not impossible; already much of the written communication that used to be handled by letters, newspapers and magazines has shifted to computer screens and to the vast digital library available over the Internet. If the worst comes true and the paper book joins the papyrus scroll and parchment codex in extinction, we will miss, I predict, a number of things about it.

The book as furniture. Shelves rows of books warm and brighten the starkest room. By bedside and easy chair, books promise a cozy, swift and silent release from this world into another. For ease of access and speed of storage, books are tough to beat.

The book as sensual pleasure. Smaller than a breadbox, bigger than a TV remote, the average book fits into the hu-

man hand with a seductive nestling, a kiss of texture, whether of cover cloth, glazed jacket or flexible paperback. The weight can rest on the little finger of the right hand for hours without strain, while the thumb holds the pages open and the fingers of the other hand turn them.

The rectangular block of type, a product of five and a half centuries of printers' lore, yields to decipherment so gently that one is scarcely aware of the difference between immersing oneself in an imaginary world and scanning the furniture of one's own room.

The book as souvenir. One's collection comes to symbolize the contents of one's mind. Books read in childhood, in yearning adolescence, at college and in the first self-conscious years of adulthood travel along, often, with readers as they move from house to house. My mother's college texts sat untouched in a corner of our country bookcase.

The bulk of my own college books are still with me, rarely consulted but always there, reminders of moments, of stages, in a pilgrimage. The decades since add their own drifts and strata of volumes read or half read or intended to be read. Books preserve, daintily, the redolence of their first reading—this beach, that apartment, that summer afternoon, this flight to Indonesia.

Books as ballast. As movers and the moved both know, books are heavy freight, the weight of refrigerators and sofas broken up into cardboard boxes. They make us think twice about changing addresses. How many aging couples have decided to stay put because they can't imagine what to do with the books? How many divorces have been forestalled by love of the jointly acquired library?

Books hold our beams down. They act as counterweight to our fickle and flighty natures. In comparison, any electronic text delivery device would lack substance. Further, speaking of obsolescence, it would be outdated in a year and within 15 years as inoperable as my formerly treasured Wang word processor from the mid-80's. Electronic equals immaterial. Without books, we might melt into the airwaves, and be just another set of blips.

TEXT H

First read the question.

34. The passage intends primarily to _____ in some Asian cities.

- A. explain how porters work B. introduce top-end eateries
C. provide advice on tipping D. describe how taxis are metered

Now go through TEXT H quickly to answer question 34.

It's difficult to determine what constitutes an appropriate tip in any country. In Japan, if you leave a couple of coins on the table, the waiter is liable to chase after you to return your forgotten change. In New York, on the other hand, if you leave less than 15%, your reservation might not hold up next time. Asia, with its multiplicity of cultures and customs, is a particularly difficult terrain. To make your next trip a little easier, here's a guide to tipping across the region:

HONG KONG

Tipping is de rigueur in this money-mad metropolis at all but the lowest establishments. Even bathrooms in posh hotels have little dishes for loose change.

Restaurants: Most places automatically add a 10% service charge to the bill, but the surcharge often ends up in the pocket of the owner, not the staff kitty. If the service is good, add another 10% to the bill, up to HK \$ 100 if you've in an especially nice restaurant.

Porters: HK \$ 10 should do it at all but the nicest hotels where a crisp HK \$ 20 bill may be more acceptable.

Taxis: Round up to the nearest dollar, although many drivers will do this on their own when making change.

MANILA

Tipping is common in Manila, and anything above 10% will gain you undying loyalty.

Restaurants: Even if a service charge is included, custom dictates adding another 5%—10% to the bill.

Porters: Service in top hotels is good and should be rewarded with 20 pesos per bag.

Taxis: Most cabs are metered, and rounding up to the next five pesos is a good rule of thumb.

SEOUL

Tipping is not part of Korean culture, although it has become a matter of course in international hotels where a 10% service charge is often added.

Restaurants: If you're at a Korean barbecue joint, there's no need to add anything extra. But a sleek Italian restaurant may require a 10% contribution.

Porters: If you're at a top-end hotel, international standards apply, so expect to give 500—1,000 won per bag.

Taxis: Drivers don't expect a tip, so unless you're feeling remarkably generous, keep the change for yourself.

SINGAPORE

According to government mandate in the Lion City, tipping is a no-no. It's basically outlawed at Changi Airport and officials encourage tourists not to add to the 10% service charge that many high-end hotels add on to the bill.

Porters: Hotel staff are the one exception to the no-tipping rule. As a general guide, S \$ 1 should be adequate for baggage-lugging service.

Taxis: Drivers don't expect tipping, but they won't refuse if you want to round up the fare to the next Singaporean

dollar.

TEXT I

First read the questions.

35. If you want to see a performance by the Beijing Peking Opera Theatre, which phone number would you ring?

- A. 6841 - 9283. B. 6848 - 5462.
C. 6301 - 6688. D. 6523 - 3320.

36. Supposing you have some free time after 7 pm on July 1st, which performance or exhibition can you go to?

- A. Traditional Chinese music. B. Chinese modern operas.
C. Peking Opera. D. Lao Dao's recent paintings.

Now go through TEXT I quickly to answer questions 35 & 36.

WHAT'S ON

CONCERTS

New concert hall: The movie theatre of the National Library of China has been turned into a concert hall after months of renovation.

The Guotu Concert Hall will open to the public for the first time on June 30. After the opening ceremony, the China National Song and Dance theatre will present highlights of Chinese modern operas from the past 50 years.

Programme: excerpts from Chinese modern operas including "The White-haired Girl," "Red Rocks" and more.

Time: 7:30 pm, June 30

Place: Guotu Concert Hall at the National Library of China

Tel: 6841 - 9283

Chinese music: The Traditional Band of China National Song and Dance Theatre will perform traditional Chinese music, under Liu Wenjin, composer and director of the theatre.

Programme: "Butterfly Lovers", "Moonlight Reflected on Number Two Spring", "The Night is Deep" and other traditional pieces.

Time: 7:30 pm, July 1 - 2

Place: Guotu Concert Hall at the National Library of China

Tel: 6848 - 5462

EXHIBITIONS

One-man show: Lao Dao is presenting most recent paintings at the Wanfung Gallery.

Titled "Spanning the Space", the exhibition features about 30 works created from synthetic materials. The paintings are composed of mottled ancient doors with faded couplets pasted on them, leading the viewers into ancient stories hidden behind the door.

Time: 9 am - 5 pm until July 1st

Place: 136 Nanchizi Dajie, Dongcheng District

Tel: 6523 - 3320

Charm of ink: The Huangshicheng Gallery is hosting a solo show of ink-and-colour paintings by veteran calligrapher and painter Qin Tang. More than just visually appealing, Qin's work impresses the viewer with its vividness and simplicity.

Time: 9 am - 5 pm until July 5th

Place: Nanchizi Dajie, Dongcheng District

Tel: 6528 - 9103

STAGE

Peking Opera: The Liyuan Theatre presents traditional Peking Opera excerpts in short programmes for foreign audiences and in original styles. With an explanation in English, the performances are from the Beijing Opera Theatre.

Time: 7:30 pm July 3 - 5

Place: Liyuan Theatre, Qianmen Jianguo Hotel, Xuanwu District

Tel: 6301 - 6688

TEXT J

First read the questions.

37. Who is the author of Culture/Metaculture?

- A. Linda Anderson. B. Peter Childs.
C. Adam Roberts. D. Francis Mulhern.

38. Which of the following books draws on case studies?

- A. Modernism. B. Science Fiction.
C. Autobiography. D. Culture/Metaculture.

Now go through TEXT J quickly to answer questions 37 & 38.

Autobiography

Linda Anderson, University of Newcastle, UK

This wide-ranging introduction to the study of autobiography offers a historical overview of autobiographical writing from St Augustine to the present day. Linda Anderson follows the important developments in autobiographical criticism in the last thirty years, paying particular attention to psychoanalytic, post-structuralist and feminist approaches. This volume:

- outlines the main theoretical issues and concepts of this difficult area
- looks at the different forms from confessions to narratives to memoirs to diaries
- considers the major writers of this historical tradition.

Culture/Metaculture

Francis Mulhern, Middlesex University, UK

Culture/Metaculture is a stimulating introduction to the meanings of "culture" in contemporary Western society. This essential survey examines:

- culture as an antidote to "mass" modernity, in the work of Thomas Mann, Julien Benda, Karl Mannheim and F. R. Leavis
- post-war theories of "popular" culture and the rise of Cultural Studies, paying particular attention to the key figures of Raymond Williams and Stuart Hall
- theories of "metaculture", or the ways in which culture, however defined, speaks of itself.

Modernism

Peter Childs, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education, UK

With its battle cry of "Make it New", the modernist movement shook the foundations of the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century literary establishment. Modernism offers an outstanding analysis of this literary and cultural revolution.

Peter Childs' immensely readable account:

- details the origins of the modernist movement and the influence of thinkers such as Darwin, Marx, Freud, Nietzsche, Saussure and Einstein
- explores the radical changes which occurred in the literature, drama, art and film of the period
- traces "modernism at work" in the writing of Joyce, Woolf, Mansfield, Forster, Yeats, Ford, Eliot, Beckett and other key literary figures.

Science Fiction

Adam Roberts, Royal Holloway, University of London, UK

Science fiction is one of the most vigorous and exciting areas of modern culture, ranging from groundbreaking novels of ideas to blockbusters on the cinema screen. This outstanding volume offers a clear and critically engaged account of the phenomenon. Adam Roberts:

- provides a concise history of science fiction and the ways in which the genre has been defined
- examines the interactions between science fiction and science fact
- anchors each chapter with a case study drawn from short story, book or film, from Frank Herbert's Dune to Barry Sonnenfeld's Men in Black.

TEXT K

First read the questions.

39. What are cookies in the following passage?

- A. Computer data. B. Shopping habits.
C. Websites. D. Passwords.

40. How many pieces of advice are offered by the author to protect online shoppers' privacy?

- A. 1. B. 2. C. 3. D. 4.

Now go through TEXT K quickly to answer questions 39 & 40.

We all enjoy a little extra-special every now and then, whether it's a prime table at our favourite restaurant or an upgrade on that long flight across the Pacific. Being recognized makes us feel valued—and we've more likely to do business with someone who takes the time to go that extra mile. E-commerce sites know this, and they're doing everything they can to create personalized environments so we'll want to spend money online. How? By employing cookies.

Cookies are bits of data stored on your computer's hard drive when you visit a website. They can only be read by the site that sets them. Companies use them to store information about you and to track your behaviour on a particular website and, of course, your shopping habits.

Cookies help companies personalize their websites. This is how an online bookstore knows you're you, or how a news website knows to show you headlines from your hometown. Retailers use cookies to promote products they think you might like or to target ads that you might find appealing. Cookies also record user IDs and passwords so you don't have to log in

each time you visit a site.

Cookies, however, have a darker side too, and all kinds of privacy issues lurk at every bend. On their own, cookies are generally harmless, if mildly intrusive. One potential problem, though, crops up when you enter personal information on a survey. This can be easily linked up with cookies about your surfing habit and the website knows pretty much everything there is to know about you. Often this information is used simply to show you an advertisement for a product you might want to buy. But privacy advocates worry that this information could be misused.

Here's what you can do as an online shopper to protect your privacy:

- Accept only cookies that get sent back to the originating server. Both Microsoft Explorer and Netscape Communicator offer this option.
- Shop only with sites that post online privacy policies.
- Be careful about what sort of information you give out in surveys.
- Set up a secondary profile using an anonymous e-mail account and bogus ID. It's clandestine, but you'll surf with greater anonymity. Of course, when you actually want to buy something you'll have to give out your real name and address.

试卷二 (120 min)

Part IV Translation (60 min)

SECTION A CHINESE TO ENGLISH

Translate the following text into English. Write your translation on ANSWER SHEET THREE.

大自然对人的恩赐,无论贫富,一律平等。所以人们对于大自然,全都一致并深深地依赖着。尤其在乡间,上千年人们一直以不变的方式生活着。种植庄稼和葡萄,酿酒和饮酒,喂牛和挤奶,锄草和栽花;在周末去教堂祈祷和做礼拜,在节日到广场拉琴、跳舞和唱歌;往日的田园依旧是今日的温馨家园。这样,每个地方都有自己的传说,风俗也就衍传了下来。

SECTION B ENGLISH TO CHINESE

Translate the following underlined part of the text into Chinese. Write your translation on ANSWER SHEET THREE.

The word "winner" and "loser" have many meanings. When we refer to a person as a winner, we do not mean one who makes someone else lose. To us, a winner is one who responds authentic any by being credible, trustworthy, responsive, and genuine, both as an individual and as a member of a society.

Winners do not dedicate their lives to a concept of what they imagine they should be; rather, they are themselves and as such do not use their energy putting on a performance, maintaining pretence and manipulating others. They are aware that there is a difference between being loving and acting loving, between being stupid and acting stupid, between being knowledgeable and acting knowledgeable. Winners do not need to hide behind a mask.

Winners are not afraid to do their own thinking and to use their own knowledge. They can separate facts from opinions and don't pretend to have all the answers. They listen to others, evaluate what they say, but come to their own conclusions. Although winners can admire and respect other people, they are not totally defined, demolished, bound, or awed by them.

Winners do not play "helpless", nor do they play the blaming game. Instead, they assume responsibility for their own lives.

Part V Writing (60 min)

All of us would agree that in order to be successful in the present-day society, we university graduates have to possess certain personal qualities that can enable us to realize our aim. What do you think is the most important personal quality of a university graduate? Write a composition of about 300 words on the following topic:

THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSONAL QUALITY OF A UNIVERSITY STUDENT

In the first part of your writing you should present your thesis statement, and in the second part you should support the thesis statement with appropriate details. In the last part you should bring what you have written to a natural conclusion or a summary.

Marks will be awarded for content, organization, grammar and appropriacy. Failure to follow the above instructions may result in a loss of marks.

Write your composition on ANSWER SHEET FOUR.

Part Two 试卷部分

2001 年 英语专业八级考试历年全真试卷

试 卷 一 (95 min)

Part I Listening Comprehension (40 min)

In Sections A, B and C you will hear everything ONCE ONLY. Listen carefully and then answer the questions that follow. Mark the correct response to each question on your Coloured Answer Sheet.

SECTION A TALK

Questions 1 to 5 refer to the talk in this section. At the end of the talk you will be given 15 seconds to answer each of the following five questions. Now listen to the talk.

- Changes in the size of the World Bank's operations refer to _____.
A. the expansion of its loan programme
B. the inclusion of its hard loans
C. the inclusion of its soft loans
D. the previous lending policies
- What actually made the Bank change its overall lending strategy?
A. Reluctance of people in poor countries to have small families.
B. Lack of basic health services and inequality in income distribution.
C. The discovery that a low fertility rate would lead to economic development.
D. Poor nutrition and low literacy in many poor countries of the world.
- The change in emphasis of the Bank's lending policies meant that the Bank would _____.
A. be more involved in big infrastructure projects
B. adopt similar investment strategies in poor and rich countries
C. embark upon a review of the investment in huge dams and steel mills
D. invest in projects that would benefit the low-income sector of society
- Which of the following is NOT a criticism of the bank?
A. Colossal travel expenses of its staff.
B. Fixed annual loans to certain countries.
C. Limited impact of the Bank's projects.
D. Role as a financial deal maker.
- Throughout the talk, the speaker is _____ while introducing the World Bank.
A. biased B. unfriendly C. objective D. sensational

SECTION B CONVERSATION

Questions 6 to 10 are based on a conversation. At the end of the conversation you will be given 15 seconds to answer the question. Now listen to the conversation.

- The man sounds surprised at the fact that _____.
A. many Australians are taking time off to travel
B. the woman worked for some time in New Zealand
C. the woman raised enough money for travel
D. Australians prefer to work in New Zealand
- We learn that the woman liked Singapore mainly because of its _____.
A. cleaness B. multi-ethnicity
C. modern characteristics D. shopping opportunities
- From the conversation we can infer that Kaifeng and Yinchuan impressed the woman with their _____.
A. respective locations B. historic interests
C. ancient tombs D. Jewish descendants
- Which of the following words can best describe the woman's feelings about Tibet?
A. Amusement. B. Disbelief. C. Ecstasy. D. Delight
- According to the conversation, it was that made the woman ready to stop traveling.
A. the unsettledness of travel B. the difficulties of trekking
C. the loneliness of travel D. the unfamiliar environment

SECTION C NEWS BROADCAST

Questions 11 and 12 are based on the following news. At the end of the news item, you will be given 30 seconds to answer the questions. Now listen to the news.

- Mike Tyson was put in prison last August because he _____.
A. violated the traffic law
B. illegally attacked a boxer
C. attacked sb. after a traffic accident
D. failed to finish his contract
- The license granted to Tyson to fight will be terminated _____.
A. by the end of the year B. in over a year
C. in August D. in a few weeks

Question 13 is based on the following news. At the end of the news item, you will be given 15 seconds to answer the question. Now listen to the news.

- The Russian documents are expected to draw great attention because _____.
A. they cover the whole story of the former US president
B. the assassin used to live in the former Soviet Union
C. they are the only official documents released about Kennedy
D. they solved the mystery surrounding Kennedy's assassination

Question 14 and 15 are based on the following news. At the end of the news item, you will be given 30 seconds to answer the questions. Now listen to the news.

- In the recent three months, Hong Kong's unemployment rate has _____.
A. increased slowly B. decreased gradually
C. stayed steady D. become unpredictable
- According to the news, which of the following statements is TRUE?
A. Business conditions have worsened in the past three months.
B. The past three months have seen a declining trend in job offers.
C. The rise of unemployment rate in some sectors equals the fall in others.
D. The unemployment rate in all sectors of the economy remains unchanged.

SECTION D NOTE - TAKING AND GAP - FILLING

Fill each of gaps with ONE word. You may refer to your notes. Make sure the word you fill in is both grammatically and semantically acceptable.

The Press Conference

The press conference has certain advantages. The first advantage lies with the (1) _____ nature of the event itself; public officials are supposed to submit to scrutiny by responding to various questions at a press conference. Secondly, statements previously made at a press conference can be used as a (2) _____ in judging following statements or policies. Moreover, in case of important events, press conferences are an effective way to break the news to groups of reporters. However, from the point of view of (3) _____, the press conference possesses some disadvantages, mainly in its (4) _____ and news source. The provider virtually determines the manner in which a press conference proceeds. This, sometimes, puts news reporters at a(n) (5) _____, as can be seen on live broadcasts of news conferences. Factors in getting valuable information preparation; a need to keep up

to date on journalistic subject matter;

—(6) _____ of the news source;

1) news source's (7) _____ to

provide information;

2) news-gathering methods.

Conditions under which news reporters cannot trust the information

provided by a news source

— not knowing the required information;

— knowing and willing to share the information, but without

(8) _____ skills;

— knowing the information, but unwilling to share;

— willing to share, but unable to recall.

(9) _____ of questions asked

Ways of improving the questions:

no words with double meanings;

no long questions;

— specific time, place, etc.;

— (10) questions;

— clear alternatives, or no alternatives in answers.

Part II Proofreading and Error Correction (15 min)

The following passage contains TEN errors. Each line contains a maximum of ONE error. In each case, only ONE word is involved. You should proofread the passage and correct it in the following way.

For a wrong word, underline the wrong word and write the correct one in the blank provided at the end of the line.

For a missing word, mark the position of the missing word with a “^” sign and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank provided at the end of the line.

For an unnecessary word, cross out the unnecessary word with a slash “/” and put the word in the blank provided at the end of the line.

Example

When ^ art museum wants a new exhibit, (1) an
it never buys things in finished form and hangs (2) never
them on the wall. When a natural history museum
wants an exhibition, it must often build it. (3) exhibit

During the early years of this century, wheat was seen as the very lifeblood of Western Canada. People on city streets watched the yields and the price of wheat in almost as much feeling as if they were growers. The marketing of wheat became an increasing favorite topic of conversation.

War set the stage for the most dramatic events in marketing the western crop. For years, farmers mistrusted speculative grain selling as carried on through the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. Wheat prices were generally low in the autumn, so farmers could not wait for markets to improve. It had happened too often that they sold their wheat soon shortly after harvest when farm debts were coming due, just to see prices rising and speculators getting rich. On various occasions, producer groups, asked firmer control, but the government had no wish to become involving, at least not until wartime when wheat prices threatened to run wild.

Anxious to check inflation and rising life costs, the federal government appointed a board of grain supervisors to deal with deliveries from the crops of 1917 and 1918. Grain Exchange trading was suspended, and farmers sold at prices fixed by the

1. _____
2. _____

3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

8. _____

board. To handle with the crop of 1919, the government appointed the first Canadian Wheat Board, with total authority to buy, sell, and set prices.

9. _____
10. _____

Part III Reading Comprehension (40 min)

SECTION A READING COMPREHENSION (30 min)

In this section there are four reading passages followed by a total of fifteen multiple-choice questions. Read the passages and then mark answers on your Coloured Answer Sheet.

TEXT A

“Twenty years ago, Blackpool turned its back on the sea and tried to make itself into an entertainment centre.” say Robin Wood, a local official. “Now the thinking is that we should try, to refocus on the sea and make Blackpool a family destination again.” To say that Blackpool neglected the sea is to put it mildly. In 1976 the European Community, as it then was called, instructed member nations to make their beaches conform to certain minimum standards of cleanliness within ten years. Britain, rather than complying, took the novel strategy of contending that many of its most popular beaches were not swimming beaches at all. Because of Britain’s climate the sea – bathing season is short, and most people don’t go in above their knees anyway – and hence can’t really be said to be swimming. By averaging out the number of people actually swimming across 365 days of the year, the government was able to persuade itself, if no one else, that Britain had hardly any real swimming beaches.

As one environmentalist put it to me: “You had the ludicrous situation in which Luxembourg had mere listed public bathing beaches than the whole of the United Kingdom. It was preposterous.”

Meanwhile, Blackpool continued to discharge raw sewage straight into the sea. Finally after much pressure from both environmental groups and the European Union, the local water authority built a new waste – treatment facility for the whole of Blackpool and neighbouring communities. The facility came online in June 1996. For the first time since the industrial revolution Blackpool’s waters are safe to swim in.

That done, the town is now turning its attention to making the sea – front mere visually attractive. The promenade, once a rather elegant place to stroll, had become increasingly tatty and neglected. “It was built in Victorian times and needed a thorough overhaul anyway,” says Wood, “so we decided to make aesthetic improvements at the same time, to try to draw people back to it.” Blackpool recently spent about \$ 1.4 million building new kiosks for vendors and improving seating around the Central Pier and plans to spend a further \$ 15 million on various amenity projects.

The most striking thing about Blackpool these days compared with 20 years ago is how empty its beaches are. When the tide is out, Blackpool’s beaches are a vast plain of beckoning sand. They look spacious enough to accommodate comfortably the entire populace of northern England. Ken Welsby remembers days when, as he puts it, “you couldn’t lay down a handkerchief on this beach, it was that crowded.”

Welsby comes from Preston, 20 miles down the road, and has been visiting Blackpool all his life. Now retired, he had come for the day with his wife, Kitty, and their three young grandchildren who were gravely absorbed in building a sandcastle. “Two hundred thousand people they’d have on this beach sometimes,” Welsby said. “You can’t imagine it now, can you?”

Indeed I could not. Though it was a bright sunny day in the middle of summer. I counted just 13 people scattered along a half mile or so of open sand. Except for those rare times when hot weather and a public holiday coincide, it is like this nearly always now.

“You can’t imagine how exciting it was to come here for the day when we were young,” Kitty said. “Even from Preston, it was a big treat. Now children don’t want the beach. They want arcade games and rides in helicopters and goodness knows what else.” She stared out over the glittery water. “We’ll never see those days again. It’s sad really.”

“But your grandchildren seem to be enjoying it,” I pointed out.

“For the moment,” Ken said. “For the moment.”

Afterward I went for a long walk along the empty beach, then went back to the town centre and treated myself to a large portion of fish – and – chips wrapped in paper. The way they cook it in Blackpool, it isn’t so much a meal as an invitation to a heart attack, but it was delicious. Far out over the sea the sun was setting with such splendor that I would almost have sworn I could hear the water hiss where it touched.

Behind me the lights of Blackpool Tower were just twinkling on, and the streets were beginning to fill with happy evening throngs. In the purple light of dusk the town looked peaceful and happy – enchanting even – and there was an engaging air of expectancy, of fun about to happen. Somewhat to my surprise, I realized that this place was beginning to grow on me.

16. At the beginning, the passage seems to suggest that Blackpool _____.

- A. will continue to remain as an entertainment centre
- B. complied with EC’s standards of cleanliness
- C. had no swimming beaches all along

- D. is planning to revive its former attraction
17. We can learn from the passage that Blackpool used to _____.
A. have as many beaches as Luxembourg
B. have seriously polluted drinking water
C. boast some imposing seafront sights
D. attract few domestic holiday makers
18. What Blackpool's beaches strike visitors most is their _____.
A. emptiness B. cleanliness C. modernity D. monotony

TEXT B

Pundits who want to sound judicious are fond of warning against generalizing. Each country is different, they say, and no one story fits all of Asia. This is, of course, silly: all of these economies plunged into economic crisis within a few months of each other, so they must have had something in common.

In fact, the logic of catastrophe was pretty much the same in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and South Korea. (Japan is a very different story.) In each case investors—mainly, but not entirely, foreign banks who had made short-term loans—all tried to pull their money out at the same time. The result was a combined banking and currency crisis: a banking crisis because no bank can convert all its assets into cash on short notice; a currency crisis because panicked investors were trying not only to convert long-term assets into cash, but to convert baht or rupiah into dollars. In the face of the stampede, governments had no good options. If they let their currencies plunge inflation would soar and companies that had borrowed in dollars would go bankrupt; if they tried to support their currencies by pushing up interest rates, the same firms would probably go bust from the combination of debt burden and recession. In practice, countries' split the difference—and paid a heavy price regardless.

Was the crisis a punishment for bad economic management? Like most clichés, the catchphrase "crony capitalism" has prospered because it gets at something real: excessively cozy relationships between government and business really did lead to a lot of bad investments. The still primitive financial structure of Asian business also made the economies peculiarly vulnerable to a loss of confidence. But the punishment was surely disproportionate to the crime, and many investments that look foolish in retrospect seemed sensible at the time.

Given that there were no good policy options, was the policy response mainly on the fight track? There was frantic blame-shifting when everything in Asia seemed to be going wrong: now there is a race to claim credit when some things have started to go right. The International Monetary Fund points to Korea's recovery—and more generally to the fact that the sky didn't fall after all—as proof that its policy recommendations were right. Never mind that other IMF clients have done far worse, and that the economy of Malaysia—which refused IMF help, and horrified respectable opinion by imposing capital controls—also seems to be on the mend. Malaysia's prime Minister, by contrast, claims full credit for any good news—even though neighbouring economies also seem to have bottomed out.

The truth is that an observer without any axe to grind would probably conclude that none of the policies adopted either on or in defiance of the IMF's advice made much difference either way. Budget policies, interest rate policies, banking reform—whatever countries tried, just about all the capital that could flee, did. And when there was no more money to run, the natural recuperative powers of the economies finally began to prevail. At best, the money doctors who purported to offer cures provided a helpful bedside manner; at worst, they were like medieval physicians who prescribed bleeding as a remedy for all ills.

Will the patients stage a full recovery? It depends on exactly what you mean by "full". South Korea's industrial production is already above its pre-crisis level; but in the spring of 1997 anyone who had predicted zero growth in Korean industry over the next two years would have been regarded as a reckless doomsayer. So if by recovery you mean not just a return to growth, but one that brings the region's performance back to something like what people used to regard as the Asian norm, they have a long way to go.

19. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT the writer's opinion?
A. Countries paid a heavy price for whichever measure taken.
B. Countries all found themselves in an economic dilemma.
C. Withdrawal of foreign capital resulted in the crisis.
D. Most governments chose one of the two options.
20. The writer thinks that those Asian countries _____.
A. well deserved the punishment
B. invested in a senseless way at the time
C. were unduly punished in the crisis
D. had bad relationships between government and business
21. It can be inferred from the passage that IMF policy recommendations _____.
A. were far from a panacea in all cases

- B. were feasible in their recipient countries
C. failed to work in their recipient countries
D. were rejected unanimously by Asian countries

22. At the end of the passage, the writer seems to think that a full recovery of the Asian economy is _____.
A. due B. remote C. imaginative D. unpredictable

TEXT C

Human migration: the term is vague. What people usually think of is the permanent movement of people from one home to another. More broadly, though, migration means all the ways—from the seasonal drift of agricultural workers within a country to the relocation of refugees from one country to another.

Migration is big, dangerous, compelling. It is 60 million Europeans leaving home from the 16th to the 20th centuries. It is some 15 million Hindus, Sikhs, and Muslims swept up in a tumultuous shuffle of citizens between India and Pakistan after the partition of the subcontinent in 1947.

Migration is the dynamic undertow of population change; everyone's solution, everyone's conflict. As the century turns, migration, with its inevitable economic and political turmoil, has been called "one of the greatest challenges of the coming century."

But it is much more than that. It is, as has always been, the great adventure of human life. Migration helped create humans, drove us to conquer the planet, shaped our societies, and promises to reshape them again.

"You have a history book written in your genes," said Spencer Wells. The book he's trying to read goes back to long before even the first word was written, and it is a story of migration.

Wells, a tall, blond geneticist at Stanford University, spent the summer of 1998 exploring remote parts of Transcaucasia and Central Asia with three colleagues in a Land Rover, looking for drops of blood. In the blood, donated by the people he met, he will search for the story that genetic markers can tell of the long paths human life has taken across the Earth.

Genetic studies are the latest technique in a long effort of modern humans to find out where they have come from. But however the paths are traced, the basic story is simple: people have been moving since they were people. If early humans hadn't moved and intermingled as much as they did, they probably would have continued to evolve into different species. From beginnings in Africa, most researchers agree, groups of hunter-gatherers spread out, driven to the ends of the Earth.

To demographer Kingsley Davis, two things made migration happen. First, human beings, with their tools and language, could adapt to different conditions without having to wait for evolution to make them suitable for a new niche. Second, as populations grew, cultures began to differ, and inequalities developed between groups. The first factor gave us the keys to the door of any room on the planet; the other gave us reasons to use them.

Over the centuries, as agriculture spread across the planet, people moved toward places where metal was found and worked and to centres of commerce that then became cities. Those places were, in turn, invaded and overrun by people later generations called barbarians.

In between these storm surges were steadier but similarly profound fides in which people moved out to colonize or were captured and brought in as slaves. For a while the population of Athens, that city of legendary enlightenment was as much as 35 percent slaves.

"What strikes me is how important migration is as a cause and effect in the great world events," Mark Miller, co-author of *The Age of Migration* and a professor of political science at the University of Delaware, told me recently.

It is difficult to think of any great events that did not involve migration. Religions spawned pilgrims or settlers; wars drove refugees before them and made new land available for the conquerors; political upheavals displaced thousands or millions; economic innovations drew workers and entrepreneurs like magnets; environmental disasters like famine or disease pushed their bedraggled survivors anywhere they could replant hope.

"It's part of our nature, this movement," Miller said, "It's just a fact of the human condition."

23. Which of the following statements is INCORRECT?
A. Migration exerts a great impact on population change.
B. Migration contributes to Mankind's progress.
C. Migration brings about desirable and undesirable effects.
D. Migration may not be accompanied by human conflicts.
24. According to Kingsley Davis, migration occurs as a result of the following reasons EXCEPT _____.
A. human adaptability B. human evolution
C. cultural differences D. inter-group inequalities
25. Which of the following groups is NOT mentioned as migrants in the passage?
A. Farmers. B. Workers. C. Settlers. D. Colonizers.
26. There seems to be a(n) _____ relationship between great events and migration.
A. loose B. indefinite C. causal D. remote

TEXT D

How is communication actually achieved? It depends, of course, either on a common language or on known conventions, or at least on the beginnings of these. If the common language and the conventions exist, the contributor, for example, the creative artist, the performer, or the reporter, tries to use them as well as he can. But often, especially with original artists and thinkers, the problem is in one way that of creating a language, or creating a convention, or at least of developing the language and conventions to the point where they are capable of bearing his precise meaning. In literature, in music, in the visual arts, in the sciences, in social thinking, in philosophy, this kind of development has occurred again and again. It often takes a long time to get through, and for many people it will remain difficult. But we need never think that it is impossible; creative energy is much more powerful than we sometimes suppose. While a man is engaged in this struggle to say new things in new ways, he is usually more than ever concentrated on the actual work, and not on its possible audience. Many artists and scientists share this fundamental unconcern about the ways in which their work will be received. They may be glad if it is understood and appreciated, hurt if it is not, but while the work is being done there can be no argument. The thing has to come out as the man himself sees it.

In this sense it is true that it is the duty of society to create conditions in which such men can live. For whatever the value of any individual contribution, the general body of work is of immense value to everyone. But of course things are not so formal, in reality. There is not society on the one hand and these individuals on the other. In ordinary living, and in his work, the contributor shares in the life of his society, which often affects him both in minor ways and in ways sometimes so deep that he is not even aware of them. His ability to make his work public depends on the actual communication system: the language itself, or certain visual or musical or scientific conventions, and the institutions through which the communication will be passed. The effect of these on his actual work can be almost infinitely variable. For it is not only a communication system outside him; it is also, however original he may be, a communication system which is in fact part of himself. Many contributors make active use of this kind of internal communication system. It is to themselves, in a way, that they first show their conceptions, play their music, present their arguments. Not only as a way of getting these clear, in the process of almost endless testing that active composition involves. But also, whether consciously or not, as a way of putting the experience into a communicable form. If one mind has grasped it, then it may be open to other minds.

In this deep sense, the society is in some ways already present in the act of composition. This is always very difficult to understand, but often, when we have the advantage of looking back at a period, we can see, even if we cannot explain, how this was so. We can see how much even highly original individuals had in common, in their actual work, and in what is called their "structure of feeling", with other individual workers of the time, and with the society of that time to which they belonged. The historian is also continually struck by the fact that men of this kind felt isolated at the very time when in reality they were beginning to get through. This can also be noticed in our own time, when some of the most deeply influential men feel isolated and even rejected. The society and the communication are there, but it is difficult to recognize them, difficult to be sure.

27. Creative artists and thinkers achieve communication by _____.

- A. depending on shared conventions
- B. fashioning their own conventions
- C. adjusting their personal feelings
- D. elaborating a common language

28. A common characteristic of artists and scientists involved in creative work is that _____.

- A. they care about the possible reaction to their work
- B. public response is one of the primary concerns
- C. they are keenly aware of public interest in their work
- D. they are indifferent toward response to their work

29. According to the passage, which of the following statements is INCORRECT?

- A. Individual contributions combined possess great significance to the public.
- B. Good contributors don't neglect the use of internal communication system.
- C. Everyone except those original people comes under the influence of society.
- D. Knowing how to communicate is universal among human beings.

30. It is implied at the end of the passage that highly original individuals feel isolated because they _____.

- A. fail to acknowledge and use an acceptable form of communication
- B. actually differ from other individuals in the same period
- C. have little in common with the society of the time
- D. refuse to admit parallels between themselves and the society

SECTION B SKIMMING AND SCANNING (10 min)

In this section there are seven passages with ten multiple-choice questions. Skim or scan them as required and then mark an-

swers on your Coloured Answer Sheet.

TEXT E

First read the question.

31. The purpose of the passage is to _____.

- A. review some newly-published interior-design books
- B. explore the potential market for interior-design books
- C. persuade people to buy some good books
- D. stress the importance of reading good books

Now go through TEXT E quickly to answer question 31.

Do your relationships keep failing? When you leave your home in the morning are you already feeling stressed? Is there no time in your life for fun any more? Cancel your appointment with the doctor. What you need is a good interior-design book. Publishers have created a new genre of books for the home, titles that go beyond paint charts and superficial style and instead show you how your home can be transformed and even heal your life.

Dawna Walter is one of the authors leading the way in Britain with her book *Organized Living* that attempts to show how even a tidy sock drawer can improve the quality of your life. Walter is the owner of the Holding Company, a shop on London's Kings Road which sells hundreds of storage ideas for the home. It has been such a hit that Walter is planning to open four new outlets in the near future. Born in America, Dawna Walter is a fast talker, a self-confessed perfectionist, and a tidiness fundamentalist. "If it takes 10 minutes for you to find a matching pair of socks in the morning, then you are not in control and your outlook just isn't any good. Being organized saves you a couple of hours every week and gives you more time to do the things you enjoy," she explains.

Her book contains dozens of ideas for streamlining your life. In the kitchen she recommends filing magazine recipes immediately, and organizing them by types - of dishes or particular cooks, and using ice-cube trays to freeze sauces in individual portions. Her ideas seem common sense but nevertheless require you to be at least slightly obsessive. CDs are a case in point: "How often do you want to find one particular CD and can't? Now, how much easier it would be if you placed them in alphabetical order? That will only take an hour. Then divide out the ones you listen to regularly into a separate section."

Another recent book in the British market was Sarah Shurety's Chinese-inspired Feng Shui For Your Home. Within 14 days of publication every copy had been sold. Shurety's room-by-room guide to creating a harmonious living space, based on the ancient Chinese tradition Feng Shui, contains rules for how to create the best atmosphere and promote health, wealth and happiness. Dinner party hosts are told to place quiet people at the head of the table and facing the door so that they will feel more garrulous; those looking for romance learn to place pink flowers by their beds; and house-buyers are warned to beware of properties built on sloping foundations if they want stability in their lives.

The book *Creating Space*, by Elizabeth Wilhide, claims that readers following its advice will not just improve their homes but transform their lives. Wilhide believes that as we increasingly work from home, we need to reassess the way our houses work (especially when there are children in the household) if we want to avoid being overrun by junk and that feeling of "being mentally weighed down." Unfortunately, she admits, she finds it difficult to follow her own advice. She sheepishly confesses to having "dumping zones" in her house, a handbag "that doesn't bear looking into", and a car "that's a no-go zone" But she is undaunted by these small failures. In the future, she says she is determined to tidy up her own life and follow the path to stress-free health, wealth and happiness.

TEXT F

First read the question.

32. The writer of the passage mainly intends to _____.

- A. criticize Germany's tax system
- B. help companies ease their tax burden
- C. examine the current corporate tax rates
- D. propose ways to reform the tax system

Now go through TEXT F quickly to answer question 32.

One major reason for Germany's high unemployment and the evident weakness of business investment is the nature of the tax system, which tends to discourage both individual effort and investment. Nominal corporate tax rates are, in fact, very high and it is these rates that potential investors primarily look at. However, the actual burden borne by companies is not as great as it might seem, because the tax base is fairly narrow. This combination in itself tends to encourage tax avoidance at both the personal and corporate levels. Moreover, by international standards, firms in Germany are still taxed quite heavily.

A reform of corporate taxation, therefore, should start by, reducing tax rates, cutting subsidies and broadening the taxable base. The resulting positive impact on growth would be reinforced if there were also a substantial easing of the net