



2012

年

新大纲

考研英语 模拟考场

主编 / 张锦芯

✓ 名师专家精编

✓ 全真模拟训练

根据英语（一）新大纲最新修订

全书包括精心编制的15套模拟试题，选材广泛，关注历年真题常涉领域

帮助考生模拟演练，检查复习效果，发现问题与不足，在最后阶段进行有针对性的提高



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2012年

考研英语 模拟考场

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郑重声明

张锦芯教授主编的《考研英语模拟考场》一书，是深受广大考生欢迎的英语模拟题型考研书，该书以其名师的底蕴、逼近真题的难度、精到的解析等，成为全国考研的畅销书。

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难度接近 真题

模拟训练 提高

考研英语复习进行到后期，做模拟题是不可或缺的一种重要复习方法。考生通过做好的模拟题，不仅可以起到实战演练的作用，更重要的是还可以检查复习效果，发现自身的问题与不足，在后期复习中有针对性地加以提高。

张锦芯教授主编的这本《考研英语模拟考场》是集作者多年教学、研究与考研辅导的经验编写而成的，书中 15 套模拟题前半部分略易，后半部分略难，整体难度适中，在题材和体裁的选择上都注重覆盖面广泛，关注真题近年涉及较多的领域。本书以难度和命题思路接近真题著称，多年来考生给予广誉。

考研是一项系统工程，在做英语模拟试题的同时，考生还需要在其他方面下工夫。相关图书如下：

考研英语 《考研英语词汇活学活用巧链记》《考研英语新教程》《历年考研英语真题名家详解》《考研英语阅读 200 篇》《考研英语阅读 Part B 全突破》

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考研数学 《考研数学高分复习全书》《考研历届数学真题题型解析》《考研数学最新精选 600 题》《考研数学经典冲刺 5 套卷》

经过认真复习，我们相信您定可以轻松上阵，考取高分，圆考研名校梦。

根据教育部考试中心公布的 2012 年考研英语大纲的要求，并根据历年试题的命题特点，我们编写了 15 套模拟试题，目的是帮助考生熟悉考试的形式，了解命题的思路，检验复习的效果，诊断自己的弱点，提高复习的效率，体验临场实战的感觉。

本书向来以在选材、难度、命题角度上贴近真题而受到广大考生的欢迎，历经十余年在同类考研书中销售量一直名列前茅，长销不衰。除了它模拟的准确性以外，正是我们每年根据当年的形势对它所做的大幅度修订，给了它强大的生命力，使它日臻完善。

本书针对性强，考虑到经过相当一段时间的复习后，考生已经掌握了应试所需要的基本知识和技能，这时候，考生需要通过做成套的模拟题，综合检验自己的水平，诊断自己的弱点和面临的困难，确定在哪些方面还需要做出更多努力。

针对这一目的，我们建议考生先做模拟试题 1~3 套，对自己作一个全面的诊断。做题时，完全按考试规定的时间，用 180 分钟做完一套题（包括作文）。考生在前三套题上所得的综合平均分数，基本上就能代表自身目前的水平。在阅读完答案、题解、参考译文后，再回到考题，认真分析，确定自己的弱点和弱项。

例如，自己在完形填空部分得了多少分？丢的分多半是哪类题？是词的搭配没掌握，还是根据上下文找出线索、确定词义的能力比较差？再如，阅读理解 Part A 是否得到了至少 26 分？自己阅读文章的主要障碍是什么，是词汇量不够，不能理解疑难长句，还是缺乏把握文章重要信息的能力？自己做题的主要障碍是什么，是细节题不会做，还是涉及段落主题和作者主要观点、态度的题不会做？出现的偏差是什么原因，是没有真正看懂原文相关地方的意思，还是自己在做题时作了太多不必要的推理和引申，加进了太多自己的主观推测？

把自己的弱点作系统诊断后，考生可以有两种选择：一是在做模拟试题 4~10 套时分项去做，即连续做这 7 套的完形填空，然后再连续做这 7 套的阅读理解 Part A，以此类推。这样做的好处是在短时间内使某专项的应试能力快速提高，集中克服自己在这方面的弱点。二是把诊断出的弱点写下来，继续一套一套地做题，在做题时对照自己的弱点，提醒自己找出办法克服它们。

做模拟试题 11~15 套时一定要完整地做完，严格控制时间，掌握做题速度，增强临场的感觉。考生可以用做最后 3 套题所得的平均分来判断自己的水平。如果发现仍然有问题，及时回到书中做相应部分的试题，进行针对性的训练。

本书每套模拟试题后都附有参考译文及答案详解。作文部分不仅提供了范文，而且还教给考生如何审题、如何写出提纲，还提供了写作同一题材的作文可以使用的一些词汇、词组和句型。这种设计，都是为了让考生扎扎实实地学习一些东西。因此，在使用本书时，考生一定要多动脑筋，多记忆，多动手。例如，遇到疑难长句时，不妨自己先动手翻译一下，然后再对照“参考译文”找出自己的问题；写作文时可以尝试应用书中提供一些词组和句型，不能只背不动手写，要通过实际的运用来提高自己的写作能力。



本书的主编是中国人民大学张锦芯教授，参加编写工作的都是多年从事考研辅导的教师，他们对历年考题的命题思路和考生存在的问题都有明确的认识。本书编者包括张锦芯、李守京、田育英教授，白洁、郭庆民、王敏、赵艳萍、韩满玲、王红、陈丽丽副教授。在编写过程中，新华社译审陈金岚同志参加了部分审订工作，杨贻芳、郝彩虹、王大方、左名霞、张锦和翟崇生等同志协助编写了其中一部分，陶灿梅、武敏、汪明等同志承担了部分资料的整理和打印工作。这里一并表示感谢。

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预祝考生顺利通过考试。

编者

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全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语 全真模拟试题一

Section I Use of English

Directions:

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

A variety of illegal acts committed by people in the course of their employment, for their own personal gain, are collectively known as white-collar crime. Embezzlement, theft and trading securities 2 insider information are common forms of white-collar crime. The majority of cases involve low-level employees who steal because they are under 2 financial stress. Many plan to 3 the money back as soon as possible but may never do so. Their crimes are usually never 4 because the amounts of money are small, and no one notices the 5.

6, there are some very large cases of white-collar crime, such as multimillion-dollar stock market or banking scams that take years to discover and are extremely difficult and expensive to 7.

White-collar crime is not 8 to the business sector. Government employment, especially 9 the city level, also provides opportunities to 10 one's pockets. 11, building inspectors accept bribes and full-time employees receive 12 payments.

Although white-collar crime is less 13 than street crime, it involves 14 more money and harm to the public than crimes committed by street criminals. It is 15 that there are more criminals 16 the office suites than in the streets, yet the 17 of white-collar makes it difficult to uncover the offenses and pursue the offenders. As the economy 18 from manufacturing to services and electronic commerce, opportunities for white-collar crime 19, while the technology needed to stop such crimes will 20.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. [A] due to | [B] in consequence of | [C] on the basis of | [D] for the benefit of |
| 2. [A] temporary | [B] constant | [C] persistent | [D] transient |
| 3. [A] put | [B] return | [C] set | [D] send |
| 4. [A] disclosed | [B] exposed | [C] retained | [D] discovered |
| 5. [A] loss | [B] shortage | [C] deficiency | [D] deficit |
| 6. [A] Moreover | [B] However | [C] Likewise | [D] Accordingly |
| 7. [A] pursue | [B] persecute | [C] proceed | [D] prosecute |
| 8. [A] restrained | [B] constrained | [C] confined | [D] bound |



- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 9. [A] in | [B] at | [C] on | [D] of |
| 10. [A] line | [B] fill | [C] pack | [D] stuff |
| 11. [A] Such as | [B] For example | [C] By the same token | [D] To begin with |
| 12. [A] welfare | [B] commission | [C] pension | [D] allowance |
| 13. [A] disastrous | [B] hazardous | [C] significant | [D] violent |
| 14. [A] no | [B] little | [C] far | [D] further |
| 15. [A] possibly | [B] liable | [C] logical | [D] likely |
| 16. [A] in | [B] with | [C] of | [D] on |
| 17. [A] nature | [B] feature | [C] property | [D] essence |
| 18. [A] ranges | [B] shifts | [C] transfers | [D] transforms |
| 19. [A] degenerate | [B] upgrade | [C] decrease | [D] multiply |
| 20. [A] pick up | [B] pay back | [C] make out | [D] lag behind |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

The United States experienced some of the most extreme weather events in its history this spring, including deadly outbreaks of tornadoes, near-record flooding, drought and wildfires. Damages from these disasters have already passed \$32 billion, and the hurricane season, which is just beginning, is projected to be above average, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Government scientists said Wednesday that the frequency of extreme weather has increased over the past two decades, in part as a result of global warming caused by the accumulation of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. But they were careful not to blame humans for this year's rash of deadly events, saying that in some ways weather patterns were returning to those seen at the beginning of the last century. "Looking at long-term patterns since 1980, indeed, extreme climatological and meteorological events have increased," said Thomas R. Karl, director of NOAA's National Climatic Data Center. "But in the early part of the 20th century, there was also a tendency for more extreme events followed by a quiet couple of decades."

Presenting a new NOAA report on 2011 extreme weather, Dr. Karl said that extremes of precipitation have increased as the planet warms and more water evaporates from the oceans. He also said models suggest that as carbon dioxide builds up in the atmosphere and heats the planet, droughts will increase in frequency and intensity. "But it is difficult and unlikely to discern a human fingerprint, if there is one, on

the drought record of the United States,” he said.

Some other climate scientists were more categorical about the human contribution to extreme climate events. Kevin Trenberth, distinguished senior scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research, said that when the greenhouse effect caused by burning fossil fuels is added to the natural variability of climate, weather disasters can be expected to occur more frequently. “Global warming is contributing to an increased incidence of extreme weather because the environment in which all storms form has changed from human activities,” Dr. Trenberth said in a telephone interview Wednesday. “Records are not just broken, they are smashed. It is as clear a warning as we are going to get about prospects for the future.”

April was a particularly devastating month for tornadoes and rainfall, with 875 tornadoes reported during the month and heavy rain and snowmelt contributing to Mississippi River flooding later in the spring that surpassed the historic floods of 1927 and 1937. So far this year, there have been nearly 1,400 preliminary tornado reports nationwide; those reports will most likely be whittled down to about 900 confirmed tornadoes, the second-highest annual total recorded in modern times. The record is 1,011 confirmed tornadoes in 2008. The year also is on track to be one of the deadliest, with 536 fatalities so far from tornadoes, placing 2011 in sixth place in United States history and the deadliest since 1936.

21. While scientists see more deadly weather, they
- [A] have dispute over the causes.
 - [B] don't think the situation is deteriorating.
 - [C] admit that it is not the worst in history.
 - [D] assess the damages as being below average.
22. According to Dr. Karl, extreme weather is mainly attributable to
- [A] arbitrary human activities.
 - [B] changing weather patterns.
 - [C] an increase in climatological events.
 - [D] human failure to control the weather.
23. Which of the following would blame human activities for the increase in extreme weather?
- [A] Thomas R. Karl.
 - [B] Kevin Trenberth.
 - [C] The NOAA.
 - [D] Government scientists.
24. Those who blame human activities attribute heightened extreme weather to
- [A] the natural climatological and meteorological variability.
 - [B] the increased frequency and intensity of storms and droughts.
 - [C] the higher levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
 - [D] the global warming caused by evaporation from the ocean.
25. The number of tornadoes mentioned in the last paragraph indicates that
- [A] the tornadoes have been the number one killers in United States since 1927.
 - [B] 2011 will see the greatest number of tornadoes in the history of the United States.



[C] flooding has caused the greatest number of casualties in recent years.

[D] the frequency of extreme weather has dramatically increased in recent years.

Text 2

Galloway, a mostly middle-class community northwest of Atlantic City, is part of a wave of districts across the nation trying to remake homework amid concerns that high-stakes testing and competition for college have fueled a nightly grind that is stressing out children and depriving them of play and rest, yet doing little to raise achievement, particularly in elementary grades.

Such efforts have drawn criticism from some teachers and some parents who counter that students must study more, not less, if they are to succeed. Even so, the anti-homework movement has been reignited in recent months by the documentary *Race to Nowhere*, about burned-out students caught in a pressure-cooker educational system. “There is simply no proof that most homework as we know it improves school performance,” said Vicki Abeles, the filmmaker and a mother of three from California. “And by expecting kids to work a ‘second shift’ in what should be their downtime, the presence of schoolwork at home is negatively affecting the health of our young people and the quality of family time.”

So teachers at Mango Elementary School in Fontana, Calif., are replacing homework with “goal work” that is specific to individual student’s needs and that can be completed in class or at home at his or her own pace. The Brooklyn School of Inquiry, a gifted and talented program, has made homework optional. “I think people confuse homework with rigor,” said Donna Taylor, the Brooklyn School’s principal, who views homework for children under 11 as primarily benefiting parents by helping them feel connected to the classroom.

Research has long suggested that homework in small doses can reinforce basic skills and help young children develop study habits, but that there are diminishing returns. Still, efforts to roll back homework have been opposed by those who counter that there is not enough time in the school day to cover required topics and that homework reinforces classroom learning. In Coronado, Calif., the school board rejected a proposal by the superintendent to eliminate homework on weekends and holidays after some parents said that was when they had time to help their children and others worried it would result in more homework on weeknights.

Homework wars have divided communities for over a century. In the 1950s, the Sputnik launching ushered in heavier workloads for American students in the race to keep up with the Soviet Union. The 1983 report “A Nation at Risk” and, more recently, the testing pressures of the No Child Left Behind law, also resulted in more homework for children at younger ages. A few public and private schools have renounced homework in recent years, but most have sought a middle ground. In Galloway, the policy would stipulate that homework cover only topics already addressed in class. Dr. Giaquinto, Galloway’s superintendent, said the goal of the proposed policy was to make homework “meaningful and manageable,” noting that teachers would have to coordinate assignments so that a student’s total homework would not exceed the time limit.

26. From the first paragraph we learn that

[A] most schools disapprove of testing and competition for college.

[B] homework can be done most efficiently by school students at night.

[C] Galloway has come up with an innovative way of raising achievement.

- [D] Galloway's effort to reduce the amount of homework has caused a stir.
27. Criticisms of homework are mainly based on the premise that
- [A] burnt-out students are negatively affected by heavy schoolwork at home.
 - [B] homework in the form of reading documents contributes little to success.
 - [C] more homework does not necessarily mean higher achievement.
 - [D] homework exerts an unbearable pressure on school students.
28. The school board in Coronado believes that
- [A] reduction in homework does harm to students' acquisition of basic skills.
 - [B] students should have enough time in school day to study the required topics.
 - [C] eliminating homework actually benefits nobody other than parents.
 - [D] parents feel connected to school when their children do schoolwork at home.
29. Increased homework had resulted from
- [A] parents' expectation of their children to achieve more.
 - [B] America's effort to keep its competitiveness.
 - [C] school principals' attempt to keep their school ahead.
 - [D] school teachers' attempt to keep their curricula intensive.
30. Which of the following hasn't joined the anti-homework endeavor?
- [A] Galloway school district.
 - [B] Mango Elementary School.
 - [C] Brooklyn School of Inquiry.
 - [D] The school board in Coronado.

Text 3

It's a cliché—but true—that a huge obstacle to a stronger economic recovery is the lack of confidence in a strong recovery. If consumers and businesses were more confident, they would be spending, hiring and lending more freely. Instead, we're deluged with reports suggesting that, because the recession was so deep, it will take many years to regain anything like the pre-crisis prosperity. Just last week, for example, the McKinsey Global Institute released a study estimating that the country needs 21 million additional jobs by 2020 to reduce the unemployment rate to 5 percent. The study was skeptical that this would happen. Pessimism and slow growth become a vicious cycle.

Battered confidence most obviously reflects the ferocity and shock of the financial collapse and the ensuing recession, including the devastating housing collapse. But there's another, less appreciated cause: disillusion with modern economics. Probably without realizing it, most Americans had accepted the fundamental promises of contemporary economics. These were: First, we know enough to prevent another Great Depression; second, although we can't prevent every recession, we know enough to ensure sustained and, for the most part, strong recoveries. These propositions, endorsed by most economists, had worked themselves into society's belief structure.

Embracing them does not preclude economic disappointments, setbacks, worries or risks. But for

most people most of the time, it does preclude economic calamity. People felt protected. If you stop believing them, then you act differently. You begin shielding yourself, as best you can, against circumstances and dangers that you can't foresee but that you fear are there. You become more cautious. You hesitate more before making a big commitment—buying a home or car, if you're a consumer; hiring workers, if you're an employer; starting a new business, if you're an entrepreneur; or making loans, if you're a banker. Almost everyone is hunkered down in some way.

One disturbing fact from the McKinsey report is this: The number of new businesses, a traditional source of jobs, was down 23 percent in 2010 from 2007; the level was the lowest since 1983, when America had about 75 million fewer people. Large corporations are standoffish. They have about \$2 trillion of cash and securities on their balance sheets, which could be used for hiring and investing in new products.

It's not that economics achieved nothing. The emergency measures thrown at the crisis in many countries—exceptionally low interest rates, “stimulus” programs of extra spending and tax cuts—probably averted another Depression. But it's also true that there's now no consensus among economists as to how to strengthen the recovery. Economists suffer from what one of them calls “the pretense-of-knowledge syndrome.” They act as if they understand more than they do and presume that their policies, whether of the left or right, have benefits more predictable than they actually are. It's worth remembering that the recovery's present slowdown is occurring despite measures taken to speed it up.

So modern economics has been oversold, and the public is now disbelieving. The disillusion feeds stubbornly low confidence.

31. The McKinsey report is mentioned to show
- [A] unemployment rate will be kept high for some time.
 - [B] economic recovery is made slow by lack of confidence.
 - [C] lack of confidence pervades the present economic culture.
 - [D] lack of confidence results mainly from slow growth.
32. A mistaken idea of modern economics is that
- [A] confidence and economic recovery are closely related.
 - [B] beliefs in economic recovery need to be constantly boosted.
 - [C] economic depressions never happen when people are confident.
 - [D] sustained growth can be ensured with proper economic measures.
33. Were they more open-minded about economic calamities, people would
- [A] take care not to trigger them in the first place.
 - [B] become more cautious in making purchase decisions.
 - [C] become less hesitant in economic activities.
 - [D] feel more protected from unforeseeable dangers.
34. The high unemployment rate is mainly caused by
- [A] the failure of new and small businesses to generate a profit.
 - [B] the reluctance of big companies to expand their business.
 - [C] the disillusion of people with contemporary economics.
 - [D] the improper policy of extremely low interest rates.

35. The “pretense-of-knowledge syndrome” refers to
- [A] the belief of economists about how economic things work.
 - [B] the illness that is damaging the health of today’s economy.
 - [C] the consensus that there is no quick fix for economic recession.
 - [D] the ineffective measures taken to correct the economic crisis.

Text 4

Sometimes geopolitical lessons come from the strangest places. With Eric Schmidt stepping down as CEO of Google and replaced by founder Larry Page, I can’t help but wonder if world leaders are taking note. Google perfected the horizontal business model. To the delight of enthusiasts of David Ricardo, the comparative economist, the company does one thing really well—search—and has built an ecosystem for others to flourish using it as a platform.

Contrast this with IBM and AT&T, long past their expiration dates as successful vertical companies. It’s no coincidence that the Soviet Union and IBM, two raging, top-down, command-and-control systems, collapsed at about the same time. What do I mean by vertical? In its heyday, IBM did everything from soup to nuts. Designed chips, wrapped plastic around them, wrote operating systems and applications, and then sold and serviced mainframes. The giant captured half of computer-industry sales and 80 percent of profits until horizontal companies Intel and Microsoft knocked it out at its knees. AT&T owned phones and switches and long-distance lines until a very horizontal Internet and companies like Skype changed the economics of the phone call. These same dynamics are now driving the world economy into a productive horizontal enterprise. And it’s about time.

Economies are about increasing the standard of living of their participants. If you don’t have an economic system to create productivity, you end up stealing it from your neighbors. Think Roman Empire. Or the British who colonized large parts of the world to lock up natural resources to plug into their manufacturing. Both very vertical. As of 1989, the United States of America became the world’s sole superpower. But what is America going to do with this status? Unlike past empires, there’s no incentive to take over the rest of the world. Why take over a country and deal with the headaches of a welfare system, and have to fix the plumbing in Uzbekistan, when you can buy its output on the cheap, even ordering its goods over the Web? Despite all the protests, globalization instills peace. Trade now represents 26 percent of world GDP, up from 18 percent in 1990.

Globalization has linked the free world in a smart horizontal alliance. Computers, cell phones, and fiber optics are not made in any single country to be exported worldwide, but instead have components and labor from more than 30 inseparable countries, including China and Vietnam. Horizontal rules!

Without much forethought or planning, the world has structured itself into a horizontal wealth-creating and peace-maintaining system—a productive system that actually increases the standard of living of all the participants, not just those in the United States. America still sits on top of the heap, sure, but wealth has increased for every country, company, and person that contributes. And they get rich not by stealing from the rest of the world, but by adding value to the food chain. Just ask Google.

36. A horizontal company is one that
- [A] only deals with comparable businesses in its transaction.
 - [B] focuses its business mainly on what it is outstanding.



- [C] has developed a long line of business all the way up.
[D] tries hard to meet the needs of the enthusiasts for its service.
37. IBM's failure is similar to that of the Soviet Union in that
[A] the downfall of the latter led to the collapse of the former.
[B] both were destroyed by horizontal companies like Google.
[C] both had intended to expand their business around the world.
[D] both developed the vertical model which lacked efficiency.
38. Unlike Britain, the United States
[A] does not intend to conquer the world with military power.
[B] does not exploit natural resources of other countries for its use.
[C] does not want to produce everything for the world to consume.
[D] helps the rest of the world to develop without colonizing them.
39. What does the author think of globalization?
[A] It benefits those countries who embrace it.
[B] It helps to disseminate freedom around the world.
[C] It opens up new economic colonies for America.
[D] It represents a new way of imperialist expansion.
40. It is implied in the last paragraph that Google could create miracle because
[A] it has distributed its service to every corner of the world.
[B] it has adapted successfully to the changed economics.
[C] it has helped to raise the living standards of the world.
[D] it has not stolen technology from the rest of the world.

Part B

Directions:

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

Surveillance systems and antiviral treatments will help contain a disease, but they cannot halt it the way a vaccine could. Such a treatment would have to come from the makers of vaccines for the more ordinary, seasonal strains of flu. Yet despite all the advances in biological science, this industry still relies on capital-intensive, inflexible and old-fashioned technologies, such as producing vaccines from millions of chicken eggs.

(41) _____. There are usually several different strains of influenza active at any time, and these variations evolve. Alan Barrett of the University of Texas says travel by carriers of influenza, be they people in aeroplanes or birds on the wing, means regional mutations quickly spread around the world. Hence, even when flu subsides at the end of the northern hemisphere's winter, the disease merely shifts to the southern hemisphere (which is now entering its winter). Six months later, it moves back. When the

mutations are gradual, as with seasonal flu, it is known as drift; when they are abrupt, as with the new strain of H1N1, you have a shift on your hands.

(42) _____. The firms then prepare their genetic cocktails and develop them inside live chicken eggs in sterile conditions. The resulting vaccine provokes the patient's immune system into producing antibodies, and that primes it for an attack by the worrying strains of flu.

If a global pandemic is declared and manufacturers are asked to produce a vaccine for H1N1, they are unlikely to be able to respond quickly enough. Firms can produce perhaps a billion doses of seasonal vaccine every year. The details of dosing for a pandemic vaccine are not yet known, but it is clear that even if all the capacity was switched to pandemic flu there would still be a huge global shortfall. (43) _____.

Switching production also poses risks. A lack of vaccines for seasonal flu guarantees that many unprotected people will die of the otherwise mundane version of influenza. (44) _____.

The main problem is that egg-based manufacturing cannot mount a rapid response. It could take only a few more weeks for the WHO and CDC to develop a "seed" strain of the pandemic virus, but experts say producers would then need four to six months before they could create large volumes of vaccine.

(45) _____.

A number of companies have been hoping to get such technologies to the market by 2011 or 2012, and some might be able to help with any shortfall should there be a pandemic later this year. The WHO called such novel approaches a risky "leap of faith." But if a crisis does engulf the world, that may be a leap some are willing to make.

[A] Nor is there any guarantee that, having switched production, a second wave of an H1N1 strain will indeed be deadly. So producing pandemic vaccines as a precaution may turn out to be a waste of resources with deadly results. Or it may save millions of lives. No one knows.

[B] To help the vaccine manufacturers plan, the WHO issues guidelines every six months listing the three strains of seasonal flu that appear to pose the biggest threat during the relevant hemisphere's approaching winter.

[C] The production of flu vaccine has developed to cope with seasonal flu. The disease may seem no more than a nuisance to many, but the flu still kills perhaps 500,000 people a year around the world. It is hard to develop a perfect vaccine against seasonal influenza because it is so fleet-footed.

[D] Officials shut down most of the economy to halt the spread of a previously unknown strain of the mongrel H1N1 virus, which is comprised of avian, swine and human influenza viruses. The hope is that the outbreak has now peaked.

[E] Could more innovative manufacturing techniques help? One promising approach involves growing vaccines not in eggs but in cell cultures, which is speedy and easily scaled up. Another is to add adjuvants, which are catalysts that improve the efficacy of a vaccine and reduce the amount of active ingredient required.

[F] Anthony Fauci, head of America's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, says the American government has been funding many such firms in preparation for bioterrorism and pandemics. But he points out that none of the firms has so far got a pandemic flu vaccine past safety trials.

[G] Keiji Fukuda of the WHO summed it up this way: "There's much greater vaccine capacity than there was a few years ago, but there is not enough vaccine capacity to instantly make vaccines for the entire world's population for influenza."