

上海外语口译证书培训与考试系列丛书

英语高级口译证书考试历届 真题精解·口语与口译

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口 语

口语试题 1 (1209)

News report:

On June 2, Beijing Normal University announced the founding of the National Lottery Development Institute (NLDI), a scientific research institution on lottery studies, which offers master's degrees in the subject. The institute aims at nurturing senior public management personnel suitable for all kinds of lottery organizations and providing an array of training courses on lotteries. Some people doubt the necessity of the subject, saying the nature of lottery is gambling; while others argue that the lottery industry currently faces a severe talent shortage, hindering its long-term development. They say that lottery has generated billions of yuan in public welfare funds.

Topic: Is it necessary to cultivate lottery masters?

Questions for reference:

1. What are the advantages of developing lottery industry in China?
2. What are the possible disadvantages of lottery to the general public?
3. Do you support the establishment of the academic program of lottery masters? Give your reasons.

【背景介绍】

北京师范大学国家彩票发展研究院成立,将招收彩票硕士生。其设置专业招生的理由为,近来中国彩票业以超 25% 的速度增长,从业者超百万人,但是人才匮乏,从业者素质偏低,并且缺乏培养此类人才的机构。支持者认为此举填补了相关领域的空白,对彩票业的健康发展有一定的积极意义。而反对者则对彩票硕士的教育办学定位、具体研究方向等都存在着质疑。

【词语准备】

academic 学术的	adjust 调整
allocate 分配	array 一批
collaboration 合作	cultivate 培养
educational objective 教育目标	founding 建立
fund 资金	gamble 赌博
hinder 阻碍	institute 学院,研究院
lottery 彩票	mobilize 调动
necessity 必要性	nurture 培养
orientation 方向	personnel 人士

respective 各自的
standardize 标准化

sector 区域

【句子操练】

1. Some people have shown doubts about the lottery system because of the low winning threshold.
2. The institute wants to improve the management abilities of future lottery operators.
3. The research, teaching and services of lotteries in China are not mature and setting up a lottery institute will fill in the blank.
4. If the lottery system is not reformed, the future lottery masters will find it difficult to bring their talent into full play.
5. Universities should stick to their respective characteristics in cultivating talents, rather than adjusting majors and educational objectives according to social demands.
6. China's lottery industry started only 20 years ago and it needs to be standardized.

【参考答案】

My name is... My registration number is... My topic is: Is it necessary to cultivate lottery masters?

Recently, Beijing Normal University announced the news of cultivating masters researching on lottery studies. According to the news, the institute will mobilize the teaching resources of some departments to develop an international degree program in collaboration with other universities, aiming at nurturing senior public management personnel suitable for all kinds of lottery organizations and providing an array of training courses on lotteries. This new move has triggered a heated debate among the public.

Some people think it necessary because the academic development of the lottery sector will contribute to the improvement and development of the lotteries as well as China's social progress. In recent years, doubts have been shown about the management and operation of the lottery system and the lottery industry is currently facing a severe talent shortage, hindering its long-term development. Therefore, more academic resources should be allocated to the sector to address these problems. The institute's motive of improving the management abilities of future lottery operators by cultivating lottery masters is one of the ways worth trying.

Other people doubt the necessity of the subject. In their opinion, universities should stick to their respective characteristics in cultivating talents, rather than adjusting majors and educational objectives according to social demands. Otherwise, universities will end in social service stations or career training centers. For example, regardless of its educational idea or academic specialties, Beijing Normal University has nothing to do with lottery studies. They also doubt if the lottery master's program will be in line with its educational orientation.

In my opinion, if there's something we have to do immediately to improve the lottery situation, it's the lottery system that we should reform and standardize to ensure the

fairness of lotteries and the good use of public welfare funds. Otherwise, even if the lottery masters are cultivated, they will find it difficult to bring their talent into full play.

口语试题 2(1203)

Topic: Should virtue be a standard for recruiting civil servants?

Questions for reference:

1. It is reported that the 2012 nationwide civil servants' recruitment exam will put more emphasis on evaluating the virtue of the exam-takers. Virtue, not proficiency in work, should be the first and foremost standard in recruiting civil servants. What do you think of this new practice?
2. But some opponents argue that this practice will easily cause inequality or even under-the-table deals in recruitment, because moral principles, such as one's virtue, are difficult to measure or test. What do you think of this argument?
3. Some other opponents further argue that one's virtue can change with time or environment. A newly recruited civil servant might become corrupted without proper supervision and management. Comment on this argument.

【背景介绍】

国家公务员考试倍受社会各界关注。有消息称,2012 年度国家公务员招考不仅仅看重笔试和面试成绩,更注重对考生“德”的考察。考生政治品德不良,社会责任感和为人民服务意识较差者不得录用为国家公务员。对“德”的考察让公务员考试成为更多人关注的焦点。它是能坚持成为“德才兼备,以德为先”标准的有力选拔举措呢?抑或是沦为替幕后交易大开后门的途径呢?这成为了当今的热门话题。

【词语准备】

caliber 才干	corrupt 腐败的
decline 下降	effectiveness 有效性
evaluate 评价	fierce 激烈的
implementation 执行	improperly 不适当地
inequality 不平等	moral principle 道德准则
morality 道德	proficiency 能力
proportion 比例	recruit 招收
supervision 监督	under-the-table deal 幕后交易
witness 见证	

【句子操练】

1. For future recruitment of new civil servants, virtue is even more important than their competence.
2. Some people think that virtue's being taken as a standard for recruiting civil servants is a good idea.
3. Taking virtue as a standard aims at stopping the decline in morality of civil servants.

4. It's quite necessary to evaluate exam-takers' virtue when recruiting future civil servants, which will make sure the group is virtuous from the beginning.
5. Generally speaking, if a government official violates principles, the reason is often problems with their morality rather than his caliber at work.
6. Virtue should be the first and foremost standard because a good civil servant should be examples of virtue for society.
7. Virtue is hard to measure or test and taking it as a standard will easily cause inequality or under-the-table deals in the exams.

【参考答案】

My name is. . . My registration number is. . . My topic is: Should virtue be a standard for recruiting civil servants?

As is known to all, nationwide civil servants' recruitment exam is widely considered as one of the most important exams in China, which has attracted great attention and witnessed fierce competition. It was reported that the 2012 nationwide civil servants' recruitment exam will put more emphasis on evaluating the virtue of the exam-takers.

Since the news was released, a heated debate has been triggered. Supporters think the new regulation was reasonable. Taking virtue as a standard aims at stopping the decline in morality of civil servants and is helpful for establishing a better environment and cultivating a better atmosphere. On the other hand, opponents think it will cause more problems than it will solve. They raised many doubts, i. e., what proportion should the evaluation of virtue account for in the final decision? How can we make sure this element is fair and just?

In my opinion, it's right to enlarge the proportion of virtue when recruiting civil servants for government departments, because virtue should be the first and foremost thing to consider in recruiting civil servants and we need morally noble civil servants who can serve the people in the country in a better way. It is good to see the government's purpose of emphasizing the civil servants' social responsibility and awareness of serving the people. However, virtue is technically a kind of moral principles, which is hard to measure or compare scientifically and objectively in specific terms. If operated improperly, it will easily cause inequality or under-the-table deals in the exams. Therefore, setting a good standard for evaluating virtue is the key to the smooth implementation of this regulation. Also, strict and constant supervision plays an important role in the effectiveness of the regulation.

口语试题 3(1109)

Topic: Should the National Museum hold trademark shows?

Questions for reference:

1. What do you think should be the major mission of the National Museum of China?
2. Do you agree with the view that showing a commercial brand in our national museum is a humiliation to Chinese culture? Why or why not?

3. Some people hold that the showing of a luxury brand can be a perfect combination of art and business, and it will make the museum more lively, modern and inclusive. What is your comment?

【背景介绍】

以“艺术时空之旅”为主题的路易威登展在中国国家博物馆一开幕,即引来许多争议。博物馆方面表示,此次展览的标准是历史与艺术并重。希望借此能对中国的文化创意产业有所启示。而不少人则认为,作为一个刚刚开幕不久的国家级博物馆,有很多中华文明可以展示,轻易就被一个国际奢侈品牌登堂入室,十分不值。

【词语准备】

commercialism 营利主义	creativity 创造性
exhibition 展览	humiliation 耻辱
inspire 激发	relic 遗物
renovated 翻新的	spark 引起
tighten 使变紧	undoubtedly 毫无疑问地
various 多种多样的	

【句子操练】

1. The museum is set up to present this country's history and culture to the world.
2. The museum should hold exhibitions displaying the best of this great country's culture, civilization and history.
3. The respect this newly reopened museum is showing to a commercial brand seems to be a humiliation to Chinese culture.
4. The exhibition of famous commercial brands is not to satisfy the people's cultural demand, but only to satisfy the museum's financial demand.
5. It was a careful and prudent decision after listening to various opinions.
6. The museum has strict criteria for exhibits and it has hoped that this type of exhibitions would inspire domestic cultural creativity.
7. When introducing this brand's exhibition, the museum follows a standard of emphasizing on both history and art.

【参考答案】

My name is... My registration number is... My topic is: Should the National Museum hold trademark shows?

As the news told, the exhibition of the French luxury brand Louis Vuitton was held in the National Museum of China from May to August this year. This was the first time the newly renovated museum cooperated with an international commercial brand. The exhibition has sparked heated arguments from the public about whether the National Museum, as the country's leading cultural palace, should hold such an exhibition that reminds us of commercialism. As we all know, Louis Vuitton products are now very popular among China's rich people, and such brand has often been a kind of status symbol to some people. That's why some people would be willing to tighten their belt to buy a Louis Vuitton bag.

In my opinion, no matter how popular LV commodities are, LV is only a luxury brand, which has been more commercial than art since its launching. It would be all right undoubtedly to have a Louis Vuitton exhibition in China, but holding a commercial exhibition in the National Museum of China is difficult for the general public to accept. The National Museum is home to thousands of years' of Chinese cultural relics. Exhibitions to be held in the National Museum of China are expected, on the one hand, to show the country's culture and civilization, and on the other hand to satisfy the cultural and spiritual demand of the whole nation. The exhibition of famous commercial brands is not to satisfy the people's cultural demand, but only to satisfy the museum's financial demand. The museum should hold exhibitions displaying the best of this great country, matching the nation's old history and civilization. But the huge respect this newly reopened museum is showing to a commercial brand seems to be a humiliation to Chinese culture. The commercial brand does not deserve such a high-level showing there. The exhibition of famous commercial brands is not to satisfy the people's cultural demand, but only to satisfy the museum's financial demand. I hope that the museum should be more cautious when facing similar situations.

口语试题 4(1103)

News report

The Department of Education of Shandong Province recently issued a document, requiring middle and primary schools to “screen and filter” traditional classics carefully. The document says some content of traditional masterpieces, such as Students' Rules(弟子规) or The Three-Character Classic(三字经), does not conform to today's social value and should be deleted before being presented to students. This document has triggered heated debates.

Topic: Should traditional masterpieces be cut?

Questions for reference:

1. Supporters say they believe, in providing education on traditional culture, the good should be retained and the bad discarded. Make your comment on this view.
2. Opponents say cutting sections from traditional masterpieces damages their integrity and deprives students of the chance of developing the ability of making independent judgments.

What is your opinion?

3. What is the significance of learning traditional Chinese masterpieces today? What is the correct attitude towards traditional classics?

【背景介绍】

山东省教育厅向全省中小学下发的一纸禁令引发争议。有关专家表示,当前轰轰烈烈的中小學生“读经热”有利益驱动的弊端,应该加以规范和引导。同时,传统文化教育不能断章取义,营造“世外桃源”,而是要积极引导孩子形成独立判断是非的能力。

【词语准备】

arbitrarily 任意地

citizenship 公民权

extract 提取

impair 妨碍

individual 个人

standardize 使规范化

trigger 引发

values 价值观

artificially 人工地

craze 狂热

feudal 封建的

improper 不适当的

obedience 顺从

sterilized 被净化的

unconditional 无条件的

【句子操练】

1. The current craze for traditional classics is a somewhat commercially driven movement, and it should be properly directed and further standardized.
2. Traditional culture should not be extracted arbitrarily from the original texts according to individuals' personal understanding.
3. The important thing is not to cut out the parts thought to be improper, but to help develop children's ability to make independent judgments about what's right and what's wrong.
4. Is it better to artificially create a sterilized academic environment or to give students the opportunity of learning how to tell good from bad?
5. As a legacy of ancient feudal China, the values upheld in the Students' Rules and The Three-Character Classic are different from and even opposite to modern values, which may impair the building of people's modern values and sense of citizenship.
6. It is not good for the students, so something must be done to help them come to a better understanding of these classics. It's necessary for the government to standardize these programs.

【参考答案】

My name is.... My registration number is.... My topic is: Should traditional masterpieces be cut?

A newly-released document, which required middle and primary schools to "screen and filter" traditional classics carefully, has triggered heated debate.

Some people say that certain content of traditional masterpieces actually contradicts to today's social values and should be deleted before being presented to students. For example, in the well-known Three-Character Classic, the outdated concepts, such as unconditional obedience, can be found. Those concepts could be harmful to the students to some extent without careful screening.

However, a great number of people think the document is not reasonable. It is obvious that the authority has a good intention, trying to protect the students from being affected by the outdated concepts. But does it really work? We hope we live in a vacuum without any "dirt" and "bacterium", but in fact it will never come true. In many cases, the "essence"

that has been extracted turns out to be outdated, which keeps happening throughout history. What's more, the essence for one person maybe total poison for another one. We cannot protect the students only by "screening out" what we think is harmful because they will become more and more dependent on others' help in that case. The key point to tackle the problem does not lie in cutting the traditional masterpieces or not, but in the method of education and imparting knowledge. We are not supposed to deprive students of opportunities to develop their ability of making independent judgments. With incomplete portions of a masterpiece, students will be unable to absorb its essence and at the same time lose the opportunity to realize which concepts are outdated or harmful.

In most cases, actually, it would be better to encourage students to discuss and explore than to cram their minds with knowledge. Through discussion and debating, students will reach a better understanding of the content, and the outdated content may serve as useful material to inform students what's right and what's wrong. This is undoubtedly more helpful to them to tell the right from the wrong than simple rote learning and recital. To help the students get the correct understanding of these masterpieces, teachers' explanation and guides are needed, which will actually help to improve students' ability of making sensible judgments.

口语试题 5(1009)

Topic: A Year of Economic Recovery

Questions for reference:

1. Many economists say that the year 2009 was a year of economic recovery for China. What was the goal of the annual GDP growth rate set by the Chinese Government?
2. This recovery was due to the forcefulness of the Chinese government's policies. The best-known and most effective measure is the 4-trillion-yuan stimulus plan. The major investment was put in infrastructure construction. Could you explain what infrastructure means? Name and describe one or two instances of infrastructure construction in 2009.
3. The economic recovery in 2009 has also improved the life of ordinary Chinese people. Say something about how you and your family, or your relatives or friends, have benefited from this economic recovery?

【背景介绍】

在席卷全球的金融危机中,国际贸易的大幅萎缩对很多亚洲国家和地区经济带来巨大冲击,因为出口贸易在这些国家和地区的经济增长中所占比重较高。为此,中国政府积极采取对策,把扩大内需作为重点,努力扩大区域内部的贸易和投资,逐步减少出口贸易在经济增长中所占的比重,推出了一系列举措,其中包括 4 万亿元人民币的经济刺激计划。从最新的经济数据来看,经济刺激已经收到了明显的成效。

【词语准备】

accelerate 加速

batter 打击

boost 促进	consumption 消费
crucial 关键的	economist 经济学家
forcefulness 坚强,有力	implement 执行
indicator 指标	infrastructure 基础设施
maintain 维持	manufacture 生产
massive 巨大的	package 一揽子计划
recovery 复苏	reverse 扭转
stimulus 刺激	thoroughly 充分地

【句子操练】

1. As the financial crisis battered the export, China moved to boost investment in infrastructure such as high-speed railways and domestic consumption like car sales, so as to drive economic growth.
2. China began implementing its massive economic stimulus package right after the outbreak of the financial crisis.
3. Many people think that a quick implementation of the stimulus package had successfully reversed the downward trend of the economy.
4. Some people think that the Chinese economy was seeing a rainbow of recovery after the financial storm.
5. The industrial production is crucial to China's manufacturing-based economy.

【参考答案】

My name is... My registration number is... My topic is: A Year of Economic Recovery.

Many economists say that the year 2009 was a year of economic recovery for China. Judging from the relevant economic data, we can see clear signals that China's economic recovery is accelerating and broadening and some of the key indicators beat market expectations successfully, which helped China win applause at home and abroad. Those people who have once shown much worry and concern over China's economic development are now changing their mind and feel confident again.

It is not difficult to figure out how great efforts the government has made to ease the situation and maintain social stability over the past year. Many people insist that this recovery was due to the forcefulness of the Chinese government's policies. The best-known and most effective measure is the 4-trillion-yuan stimulus plan. It was adopted right after the outbreak of the financial crisis and was soon put into operation. The government also adopted many other pro-growth economic policies such as expanding the "home appliances to the countryside" program. The quick implementation of the stimulus package successfully reversed the downward trend of the economy and quarterly GDP growth picked up remarkably. A rainbow of recovery shows up after the financial storm. Many people believe that so far, this is the world's most effective economic stimulus program. And with the effective implementation of all these policies and measures, we can find everywhere that the

people's lives have been gradually improved.

However, as one economist from the Asian Development Bank said, the Chinese government should get ready to deal with more difficult tasks. It is through the economic stimulus plan that Chinese have managed to overcome the crisis in such a short period of time. However, more severe challenges could be waiting for them. Thus more efforts should be made to promote the Chinese economy's sustained growth.

口语试题 6(1003)

Topic: Profit-making and social responsibility

Questions for reference:

1. Profit is the most important criterion to judge a company's success. Do you agree or not agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.
2. But others say that a company's true virtue should be calculated on two criteria: profit and corporate social responsibility. What do you think of their view?
3. What do you understand by corporate social responsibility? Cite examples to illustrate your point.

【背景介绍】

公司社会责任思想起源于美国,强调企业对股东以外的利益相关者(债权人、员工、客户、供应商、金融机构、所在社区以及所在地政府等)的责任。经过数十年的发展后,公司社会责任思想逐步影响到了世界各地的主要经济体,得到了各国政府、政府间组织和各种非政府组织的广泛关注。在我国,和谐社会已成为社会建设的新理念,片面强调经济增长率的发展模式正逐渐为兼顾环境和社会均衡发展的、可持续增长的模式所替代。在这一背景下,公司社会责任正在日渐兴起,相关的法律制度正在日益完善。

【词语准备】

consumption 消费

corporate social responsibility 公司社会责任

embodiment 体现

harmonious 和谐的

maintenance 维持

similarity 相似性

supervision 监督

systematic 系统的

converging point 交汇点

creator 创造者

expectation 期望

impact 影响

self-awareness 自觉

subcategory 子范畴

sustainability 持续性

voluntariness 自愿

【句子操练】

1. Corporate social responsibility (CSR) refers to the expectations and requirements raised for corporations at a certain historical period of the economic and social development.
2. CSR promotion needs combined efforts, including government guidance, enterprise's self-awareness and supervision of the public opinion, etc.
3. In China, concepts and definitions concerning CSR, which share more or less similarity,

have been put forward after a systematic study on overseas CSR theories.

4. CSR could be divided into three subcategories according to the degree of voluntariness: obligatory, duty-bound and voluntary, which could be a free choice and important embodiment of value-realization by corporations.
5. It is worth mentioning that, China Enterprise Confederation is the first state-level employers' organization in the world that supports the United Nations "Global Compact".

【参考答案】

My name is.... My registration number is.... I will talk about corporate social responsibility today.

I agree that any company should take profit making as one of its major objects, or say in another way, we could say profit making, through manufacturing of products and goods for the society, is a sign of the creation of social wealth for the general public. And in this process, with the making of profits, the enterprise can survive and develop, and the employees can make a living and even improve their life. However, profit making should not be treated as the only object of a company. Here the concept of corporate social responsibility is introduced, which refers to the expectations and requirements raised for corporations at a certain historical period of the economic and social development. In modern market economy, corporations are exercising greater influences on society and people's daily life, and playing a more important role in the economic and social development. Corporation is the creator of both material and spiritual wealth while at the same time having impact on various fields: science, technology, education, culture, environment, etc. It has become a universal expectation and requirement of the modern society that corporations, as the converging point of different social agents, should shoulder more social responsibilities.

With the all-round development of China, Chinese corporations, in its process of development, are having a heightened awareness of CSR, and many of them have indeed done a lot of work by changing from purely profit-making organizations into CSR-oriented corporate citizens. Based on the actualities of Chinese enterprises, the CSR focuses on the following six points: improving business performance and strengthening sustainability of corporate development under the conditions of legal and trust-oriented management and maintenance of a sound market economy order; protecting legal rights of employees, building a harmonious and stable working relationship, consolidating work safety and guaranteeing employees' safety and health. Apart from these, we also need to make more efforts in public welfare participation and environmental protection by reducing resources consumption, so as to speed up the construction of a harmonious society.

口语试题 7(0909)

News report:

Between 2005 and 2007, the China Development Bank offered 1.66 billion yuan worth of loans to 243,000 students from poor families in central China's Henan Province. Last May, the Bank and the Henan Provincial Education Department jointly issued an ultimatum requiring 223 college graduates to pay off the interest on their student loan within 30 days. Nevertheless, the students failed to repay the debts as required. Now the colleges and banks cannot contact these students after their graduation as they have not notified banks of their changes of address. It is in this situation that the China Development Bank and the Education Department decided to publish the personal information of these students in accordance with relevant regulations concerning student loans.

Topic: Does blacklisting student loan defaulters help repayments to banks?

Questions for Reference:

1. Should the personal information of these students be published or not? Give your reasons.
2. How should the student loan system be improved and perfected?
3. What are the possible consequences that might follow if the personal information of such students is published?

【背景介绍】

根据教育部调查显示,由于当前一些学生毕业后就业困难,流动性大,少数学生信用意识较差,已经出现拖欠还贷现象,约有 20% 的贷款毕业生不同程度上存在还贷违约的情况。教育部全国学生贷款管理中心主任崔邦焱表示:国家助学贷款严重违约的学生名单将在新闻媒体上公布,教育部将会同中国人民银行加强宣传,让贷款学生充分认识到违约后果的严重性。

【词语准备】

blacklist 拉入黑名单

defaulter 违约者

dignity 尊严

exposure 揭露

legitimate 合法的

notify 通知

principal 主要的

regulation 规定

ultimatum 最后通牒

consequence 后果

deliberately 故意地

in accordance with 根据

infringe 侵害

litigation 诉讼

nevertheless 然而

psychological pressure 心理压力

sense of inferiority 自卑感

undoubtedly 无疑地

【句子操练】

1. According to relevant regulations and loan contracts, students who borrow money must pay back the loan interest and repay the principal amount within a given period of time.
2. Although banks have creditors' rights over defaulters, by no means should they insult students' dignity and reputation.

3. To expose detailed personal information about students who have not paid back the education loans on time is actually insulting students' dignity and harming their reputation.
4. It's true that some students intentionally or deliberately default on education loans, but this should not be used as the excuse to infringe upon other defaulters' rights, who may be unable to repay the loans for some understandable reasons.
5. The correct way to deal with loan defaulters is to go to court and file litigation against them. Banks and education authorities must resort to legal means when resolving this issue.
6. Banks' exposure of students defaulting on education loans will undoubtedly cast a bigger shadow on these students.

【参考答案】

My name is. . . My registration number is. . . Today I will talk about the question: Does blacklisting student loan defaulters help repayments to banks?

Here is the thing: The students failed to repay the debts as required by banks and they are now out of contact after their graduation as they have not notified banks of their changes of addresses. Therefore some banks have decided to publish the personal information of these students in accordance with relevant regulations concerning student loans. As a consequence, those who fail to contact their schools and banks in time will have their bad credit record included in the central bank's personal credit information database, which will place a black mark on these students' future lives and careers.

This question claims for more comprehensive consideration. Here I want to point out that many people have shown their sympathy for the students. As for students who depend on loans for completing college education, they sometimes have a sense of inferiority and often face some kind of psychological pressure. Faced with the tight employment situation, they are already becoming worried whether they can repay education loans. Now, banks' exposure of students defaulting on education loans will undoubtedly cast a bigger shadow on them. The exposure of their "bad credit record" will make it difficult for them to find a job after graduation. Worse still, the exposure may even deprive an already employed student of a job, further harming his ability to pay off the loan. In other words to expose their personal information will damage students' reputations and may well deprive many students of valuable future jobs and promotion opportunities, putting them in an even more difficult financial position. One of the ways to deal with loan defaulters is to go to court, file litigation against them, and settle the issue through legal means. On the other hand, banks and education authorities could take further measure and improve the loan system so as to avoid the occurrence of defaulting on payment of education loans.

口语试题 8(0903)

Topic: The Retirement Age for Chinese

Questions for reference:

1. Do you agree that the mandatory retirement age for Chinese should be extended? Give your reasons.
2. Some people are opposed to the extension initiative for fear that it might reduce job opportunities for young people. What's your comment on this opinion?
3. China is facing a surplus labor force. What are the possible solutions to such a problem?

【背景介绍】

国务院新闻办公室发布的《中国的人力资源状况》白皮书称,到 2035 年,我国每 2 名纳税人将供养 1 名养老金领取者。人力资源和社会保障部官员表示,是否延长退休年龄还在研究之中,需综合考虑人口结构和就业情况。“延退”再次被提出引发学者及社会的关注。事实上,早在几年前,关于是否推迟退休年龄就曾引发过争论。眼下,“延退”再一次被提出来,立刻成为各大网站的热门话题之一。

【词语准备】

account for 占(比例)

concern 关注

double-edged 双刃的

initiative 倡议

mandatory 强制的

preferential 优惠的

surplus 过剩的

thorough 彻底的

valuable 宝贵的

adjust 调节

discretion 谨慎

energetic 精力旺盛的

longevity 寿命

percentage 比例

rule out 排除

tackle 处理

utmost 最大(限度)的

【句子操练】

1. A great number of senior experts and specialists aged 60 to 70 are re-employed after their retirement because they are experienced, valuable human resources.
2. Some people think that senior experts only account for a small percentage of the total workforce and their re-employment will not have negative impact on employment patterns.
3. Increasing the retirement age would be beneficial to both the state and the individuals.
4. Adjusting the social security system is a big issue, which has to be done with great caution and discretion.
5. To extend the retirement age in terms of policy is a double-edged sword for the population, especially the young people.
6. Striking the right balance between the pros and cons of increasing the retirement age is of utmost importance.

【参考答案】

My name is. . . My registration number is. . . My topic is: The Retirement Age for Chinese.

It has been said that the government is thinking about extending the retirement age of employees. Although the authorities involved have ruled out the possibility of increasing the retirement age for the time being, it still caused much concern and heated discussion.

Back in the 1980s, China's major concern was its huge population, which had to be tackled first. But today, the aging of its population has become a pressing issue. As life expectancy increases with the help of higher living and healthcare standards, many retired people are becoming healthier and still energetic enough to continue their work. For example, a 50-year-old man used to be regarded as aged a few decades ago, while he would more probably be considered a middle-aged person today. On the other hand, people in China retire earlier than in many other countries. In many of the western countries, the retirement age today is usually 65, or even beyond 65. But in China, the average men retire at the age of 60, and women at 55. Moreover, many workers retire earlier than the legal retirement age owing to preferential policies for women and workers in some of heavy industries. The other thing which is worth our consideration is that the life expectancy of Chinese has been raised for a number of times over the past decades, and in many of the big cities in China, it has already reached 80 or over, so our pension scheme is facing an increasingly heavy pressure. Taking into consideration of the above-mentioned situation and some other factors, many people think that the retirement age for Chinese workers should and can be extended.

However, adjusting the social security system is a big issue, which has to be done with caution and discretion. The government should encourage a thorough public discussion on the issue and strike the right balance between the pros and cons before making the decision.

口语试题 9(0809)

Topic: Can cyber love (romance on the Internet) become a sort of real life experience?

Questions for reference:

1. Tell a cyber love story you have ever heard of or read about anywhere.
2. "Cyber love can be a real love in the IT age." Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.
3. Suppose that you got involved in cyber love, what might be your attitude?
4. What effects will cyber love exert on our society? Cite examples to illustrate your points.

【背景介绍】

人们一方面渴望爱情,另一方面又害怕爱情所带来的不安全感,产生了新的矛盾。随着网络的普及,由于网络与爱情之间的某种契合度,人们发现了在虚拟的网络空间可同时满足对爱以及安全感的需求——即以网络为媒介,借用聊天工具等进行互相了解,从而相爱,网恋就应运而生。网恋是虚幻的,看不见,摸不着,因而不可避免地会存在被欺诈的风险。