

Intermediate

上海外语口译证书培训与考试系列丛书

英语中级口译证书考试

历届真题精解 阅读

陈德民 主 编



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英语中级口译证书考试 历届真题精解·阅读

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前言

《上海英语中级口译证书》考试是对应试者的单项和综合英语能力水平进行检验的标准化考试,分笔试和口试两个阶段。第一阶段的笔试分为四部分:听力、阅读、英译汉和汉译英。鉴于阅读在考试中所占的比重以及在外语学习中的重要性,本书特精选了过去十多年中级口译考试的阅读理解题,结集成册,并将其分门别类,分为社会政治、经济商贸、卫生健康、旅游地理、人文娱乐、学校教育、考古发现、科学技术、环境保护以及职场就业等10个版块,每篇文章都配有详细的解析,以供读者参考。

中级口译的阅读题为客观题,采用客观选择题形式,要求考生从试卷给出的四个选择项中选出一个最佳答案;阅读材料均选自英语原版书刊,共6篇文章,要求在45分钟内完成。测试目的为考查考生的英语阅读理解技能、概括中心思想能力、推理与释义能力、词汇量以及与英语国家、社会、经济、文化、教育等相关的知识。阅读材料的题材涉及到政治、经济、社会生活、教育科技、健康卫生等各个层面,测试题目主要包括主旨题、细节题、语义题、推断题、观点态度题等类型。

关于解题的步骤,是先看文章后看题目,还是先看题目后看文章,则见仁见智。需要指出的是,据我们对历年真题的分析,大多数题目考查的是文章的基本内容,也就是说细节题占据了相当大的比重,而这些题目根据关键词定位大多可以在原文中找到相应的答案,因此先看题目有助于考生在最短时间内找到解题线索。当然这仅是一种思路,考生可根据实际情况和个人的解题习惯,在习题练习的过程中仔细体会与摸索,寻找到适合自己的解题方法。

解题时要注意由点及面,点面结合,可先做细节和语义题。有些细节题的关键词在文章中无法明确定位,比如有些判定正误题的题项出自文章几个段落,此时建议暂时搁置,待对全文有完整了解后再行作答。同理,主旨题因涉及到对文章中心要义、思想内涵等方面的提炼与概括,一般可放在最后解答。即便有些考题会将主旨题前置,但解题时可换一下顺序,摆脱完全按序解题的做法。

另外,需要注意的是,文章篇幅的长度与题目的难度并不一定成正比,有时即便原文篇幅较长,或内容较难理解,但设计的题目却可能并不特别复杂,因此可根据关键词快速定位,仔细阅读相关语句即可得出答案。而看似较为简单易懂的文章,做起来却也不能掉以轻心,无论是审题还是解答都应准确把握主题,抓住关键细节,从而确保取得优异成绩。

对于本书的使用,可以先练习解题的技巧和方法,总结解题规律:按照规定的考试时间,根据前述的解题技巧做题,争取逐步提高做题效率及正确率。答题完毕后不要急于翻看答案,而应将题目再检查一遍,确认选项后再比对答案,并参考题后解析对致错原因加以分析,确认是理解上的偏差抑或做题技巧的缺失,进而避免同类错误的重犯。此外,答题完毕仅为第一步,可另安排时间“品读”,即通读

全文找出生词与知识点,总结出彩的句子及表达方式。考生既需重视解题技巧,同时应将目标定在英语水平的切实提高上,利用阅读来扩大词汇量、增强语感、储备基本知识,进而促进自己的英语听、说、读、写、译水平的整体提高。

本书选材广泛,题材丰富,内容涉及到英语文化的各个方面,可供读者用于备考中级口译、及大学英语四、六级考试,也可供中级英语水平学习者使用。通过在同类版块中安排主题相似、角度各异的文章,读者可以对相关主题有全面了解,进而加深认识。比如在社会政治版块,就有数篇文章先后讲到了美国的司法体制及选举制度等,可以帮助读者了解美国的政治制度和司法体系。总之,本书丰富的阅读材料可帮助读者通过阅读来了解西方国家的社会政治、历史地理、教育科技、风俗文化、医疗卫生等情况,通过阅读商贸投资、卫生健康、职场就业等内容版块寻觅所需信息,由此既可实现英语学习的目的,也能取得增长知识、拓宽视野之效果。希望读者能从这本阅读试题集中欣赏到英语阅读的乐趣,汲取异国语言文化的养分,进而提高自身的英语水平,最终促进英语口译水平的提高,这不管是对全体编者最大的褒奖。

本书主编为陈德民教授,副主编为纪家举老师,参加编写的有纪家举、曹胜男、张永红、于德江、滕永青和苏庆伟老师。本书编者均为从事大学英语教学多年的一线教师,多次参与中级口译考试的试题解析和阅卷工作,具有丰富的教学及备考经验。由于时间仓促,书中难免存有疏漏之处,敬请同行和读者批评指正。同时,编者在此谨对上海英语口译考试委员会专家组各位成员的辛勤劳动深表感谢,本书的编写中包含着各位专家教授的努力和智慧。

目 录

社会政治	1
经济商贸	68
卫生健康	107
旅游地理	158
人文娱乐	187
学校教育	217
考古发现	235
科学技术	249
环境保护	260
职场就业	274

社 会 政 治

Passage 1

Questions 1~5

With rapid growth identified as the most pressing of global population problems, the scene shifts immediately to villages in rural Kenya or urban slums in Karaas or bedrooms in Sedale where couples are making decisions about their reproductive behavior. Unlike other global issues which can be shaped directly by the actions of national and international power brokers, resolution of the problems posed by the magnitude and pace of contemporary population growth in the world ultimately depends upon the actions and behavior of a very large number of individual actors. Rapid population growth is the direct result of regular decisions made in private by literally many millions of persons throughout the world.

Hence, we are all actors in the population drama. Each of us has the potential to aggravate the problem of rapid growth just as each of us can change the distribution of populations simply by moving. Population trends therefore represent nothing more than the combined decisions of many individuals, couples, and families. And, because these decisions are shaped and conditioned by commonly held values, goals, and aspirations, there are patterns to them and the actors appear to follow the broad outlines of a script.

It is then evident that efforts to decrease the rate of population growth must eventually influence the decisions and behavior of many millions of couples if they are to be successful. Values and attitudes—the script that guides this behavior—must be altered. To be even more specific, it means that couples, overwhelmingly poor and predominantly rural, in Africa, Asia, and Latin America where population growth is so high, must choose to limit the number of their children to fewer than three and must have the means to accomplish their goal. Similarly, couples in Europe, North America, and other low-fertility regions must continue to maintain their present patterns of having small families. Each couple must stick to its decision for some twenty to thirty years, or throughout their reproductive life span. In the economically less-developed world, this decision will be one that stands in stark contrast to those made by their parents and to the weight of cultural tradition. (0103)

【内容概要】

本文分析了人口增长的主要原因。第一段说明人口增长的主要原因是由于全世界夫妇所做出的决定；第二段说明我们每个人所做的决定都影响着世界人口的变化；第三段的结论是，要减缓世界人口的增长速度，需要人人都来改变关于人口的价值观和生活态度。

【词语解析】

aspiration *n.* 志向, 抱负

magnitude *n.* 重大, 重要性

overwhelmingly *ad.* 压倒性地, 不可抵抗地

predominantly *ad.* 占主导地位地, 显著地

1. It can be concluded from the passage that _____.

- (A) large families may be considered as a heavy burden by the rural poor
 (B) the actions of national and international power brokers have an important effect upon the decision made by the rural poor
 (C) the actions of those with the highest fertility, the rural poor, ultimately determine the rate of population growth
 (D) having large families had more advantages than disadvantages in those poor areas
2. The word “aggravate” (para. 2) is closest in meaning to “_____.”
 (A) make clear (B) encounter
 (C) settle (D) make serious
3. According to the author, the most effective way to decrease the rate of population growth is _____.
 (A) by making it a national policy that each couple must not give birth to more than three children
 (B) by exerting more international pressure upon those high-fertility regions
 (C) by modifying the widely held values which guide the actions of many individuals and couples
 (D) by providing the rural poor with means for limiting the family size
4. It is obvious that the author of the passage _____.
 (A) shows indifference to the situation in the developed countries
 (B) is very concerned about global population problems
 (C) feels confident that the problem of population growth can be soon resolved
 (D) is pessimistic about the future of those high-fertility regions
5. The author has written the passage mainly for _____.
 (A) general readers (B) power brokers
 (C) economists (D) decision makers

【解析】

1. 答案为 C。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解能力。文章在第一段第一句就指出人口快速增长成为全球人口问题最紧迫的一环,并举例 villages in rural Kenya or urban slums in Karaas or bedrooms in Sedale where couples are making decisions about their reproductive behavior,可判定选项 C 正确,with the highest fertility(能育性,繁殖力)对应了原文的 reproductive(生殖的);选项 A 和 D 原文并未提及,且选项 D 本身所述有误,故均予排除;根据第一段第二句 Unlike other global issues which can be shaped directly by the actions of national and international power brokers,可判定选项 B 错, power broker 意为“政治掮客”。
2. 答案为 D。本题考查根据上下文正确理解词语的能力。aggravate 出自第二段第二句 Each of us has the potential to aggravate the problem of rapid growth,前文第一段最后一句提到人口的快速增长是世界范围内的个人决定导致的直接后果,接着指出每个人都是 population drama 中的演员,下文提到“正如我们每个人仅通过移动就可以改变人口的分布一样”,都是强调了个人之于人口快速增长的严重性,此处 aggravate 对于人口的增长问题从意义上讲应是否定的,因此可判定选项 D 正确;另外可根据构词法进行选择,grave 为“严重”之意,前面加前缀 ag-表示动词,也可选出选项 D。
3. 答案为 C。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解能力,答案依据为第三段。该段第一句首先提到减少人口增长必须要 influence the decisions and behavior of many millions of couples,接着在第二句指出 Values and attitudes—the script that guides this behavior— must be

altered, 据此可判定选项 C 正确, modify 对应了原文的 alter, 两者都有“改变”之意; 从第三句开始 (To be even more specific), 文章明确指出了世界各地应采取的不同做法, 选项 A, B 和 D 只是这些做法的一方面, 比较片面, 且选项 A 将其作为 a national policy, 选项 B 的释义 international pressure 原文均未提到, 应予以排除。

4. 答案为 B。本题考查对作者态度的理解把握能力。全文都在讲人口增长的一系列问题, 说明作者对人口增长很关注, 可判定选项 B 正确, 排除选项 A; 作者在第三段指出了减少人口增长率的方法, 表明其并不悲观, 但在本段倒数第二句指出, 每对夫妇的决定需坚持二三十年, 甚至 throughout their reproductive life span, 说明作者并不认为这一问题可以很快得到解决, 可排除选项 C 和 D。
5. 答案为 A。本题考查对作者语言风格的理解把握能力。本文浅显易懂, 指出人口的快速增长是个人行为导致的结果, 解决这一问题需要每个人、每对夫妇的努力, 写给普通读者的可能性最大, 与其他身份的人物关系不大, 可判定选项 A 正确。

Passage 2

Questions 6~10

Extract 1

We, the undersigned, write with reference to the Hightown Local Plan, Consultative Draft, March 1985, published by the Hightown District Council.

While we understand the need for a Relief Road to ease the problems of increasing traffic in the area as a whole, we would like to express our concern at the proposed route. As shown in the Consultative Draft, the Relief Road will cross Fernwood Road, Golfcourse Way and High Lane, effectively cutting in half a prime residential area.

As residents of this particular area, we feel obliged to protest at the proposal on the following grounds:

- * There will be a substantial increase in traffic in the area not only with the through-traffic, but also from traffic joining the Relief Road at the junction planned close to Fernwood Road.

- * At present, the area in question is a quiet residential area. With the Relief Road and the volume of traffic envisaged, there is no doubt that ...

Extract 2

It is foreseen that the Relief Road will be a dual, two-lane carriageway and that there will be junctions at Fernwood Road and at the south end of High Lane. It is felt that such a road is required to allow for the growth of traffic envisaged over the next twenty years and that this route will be essential for through-traffic joining the Hightown Bypass. Thus the Relief Road and the Hightown Bypass together will provide substantial relief to the traffic problems experienced in recent years in the center of Fernwood following the construction of the new Container Port at Highport in 1980.

It is intended that construction of the Relief Road be begun in 1989. This, however, will be subject to approval by regional and central governments. The Planning Committee feel that the road is vital to a proper development of the area as a whole and that therefore delays should be avoided. Thus arrangements will be made, through public meetings, for direct representations to be made to the Council regarding the proposals.

Extract 3

Both John and I hope that you are all settling down OK. You must write and tell us

what the new house is like.

By the way, your move was probably a good thing for you. We've just heard about the new Local Plan for Hightown and have been busy drumming up support to fight a proposal to bring a Relief Road right through here. In fact, as far as we can see, it would have run right along the back of your garden in Golfcourse Way. I can just imagine what Mike would have had to say about the prospect of massive lorries trundling past his back garden night and day! Fortunately, as far as the plans are concerned, we're not directly affected—I mean, the road won't go past our house—but it will cut through two or three roads here, which will mean that we'd obviously get a lot more traffic through this ... (0203)

【内容概要】

本文包括三个摘录。第一条摘录是一份居民递交的抗议书,认为疏导路会使附近的居民受到影响;第二条是一份官方的计划书,陈述疏导路的建设对整个地区发展的意义;第三条可能摘自个人信件,对将要建设的新道路所带来的弊端表达了担忧。

【词语解析】

trundle v. 沉重地滚过

6. Which is the most likely end to the final sentence in Extract 1 "... there is no doubt that ..."?
 - (A) shopkeepers will flourish.
 - (B) the district will be adversely affected.
 - (C) other roads will be needed.
 - (D) it will become attractive to new residents.
7. Extract 2 is probably from _____.
 - (A) an official planning document
 - (B) an application by a firm of contractors
 - (C) a popular newspaper article
 - (D) a letter to a casual acquaintance
8. The language of Extract 2 might best be described as _____.
 - (A) aggressive and hard-hitting
 - (B) impersonal and matter-of-factly
 - (C) tentative and vague
 - (D) friendly and persuasive
9. It is possible that the writers of Extract 1 and Extract 3 _____.
 - (A) have just moved into new houses
 - (B) have also written Extract 2
 - (C) work with the planning committee
 - (D) share a common view
10. Which of the following can be the main reason for the recent traffic problems at Fernwood?
 - (A) The construction of the new Container Port.
 - (B) The construction of the Relief Road.
 - (C) The construction of the Hightown Bypass.
 - (D) The construction of the new Residential Area.

【解析】

6. 答案为 B。本题考查对文章中隐含意思的推测能力。there is no doubt that 出自摘录 1 第三段最后一句,该段第一句指出 we feel obliged to protest at the proposal, 可以看出当事人不同意这条疏导路的开通,并列出两条原因:一是会加剧交通负荷,二是破坏目前安静的居住环境,可见其所承接的意思是会给当地居民带来负面的影响,可判定选项 B 正确,adversely 意为“不利地,有害地”;居民们认为疏导路的开通会破坏居民区的宁静,肯定不会再要求修别的路,排除选项 C;选项 A 和 D 指的是积极影响,均予排除。

7. 答案为 A。本题考查对作者态度和语言风格的理解把握能力。摘录 2 的语气和措辞都比较正式,先排除选项 C 和 D,也没有个人主观色彩,并非一份申请书,排除选项 B;该摘录第二段第三句指出 the Planning Committee 认为这条疏导路对整个地区发展有重要意义,可推断选项 A 正确。
8. 答案为 B。本题考查对作者语言风格的理解把握能力。四个选项的意思分别为:“挑衅的,用力打击的”(A),“客观的,就事论事的”(B),“试探的,含糊的”(C),“友好的,有说服力的”(D)。如上题所述,摘录 2 语气和措辞比较客观,就事论事,常用 it 作为句子主语,无个人观点掺杂其中,可判定选项 B 正确,排除选项 A、D;该摘录明确指出疏导路可使所在地区受益,不应再有所耽搁,排除选项 C。
9. 答案为 D。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解能力。摘录 3 第二段第四句提到路修好后 massive lorries trundling past his back garden night and day,势必影响居民休息;最后一句指出新路会在房子附近 cut through two or three roads,交通会更加拥挤。结合第 6 题对摘录 1 的分析,两者都担心疏导路建设带来的负面影响,对其存有疑虑,可判定选项 D 正确。
10. 答案为 A。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解能力。题干关键词为 the recent traffic problems at Fernwood,将答案定位在摘录 2 第一段最后一句:the traffic problems experienced in recent years in the center of Fernwood following the construction of the new Container Port,可直接判定选项 A 正确。

Passage 3

Questions 11~15

More than a hundred years ago, before the Civil War, a crew of bronc-busting cowboys stood outside a large horse corral. With them was their boss Bradford Grimes, a cattleman who owned a large South Texas ranch near the Gulf of Mexico.

Inside the corral was a herd of wild mustangs, horses that had never been ridden. They milled around, snorting and rearing.

One of the bronco busters roped a strong stallion and held him to be saddled. Then another cowboy climbed up and tried to ride. At first the animal trotted nervously, humping a little and shying from side to side. Then it went off in high jumps, spinning and shaking and jolting its rider. Finally it put its head between its front legs, bucked high in the air, and threw the cowboy off into the dust.

Just then Mrs. Grimes, the cattleman's wife, came to the ranch house door and cried out. "Bradford! Bradford! Those Blacks are worth a thousand dollars apiece. One might get killed."

The cowboys laughed, but they knew she was telling the truth. For they were all Black slaves. Bradford Grimes was their owner.

Most of the first Black cowboys were slaves, brought by their masters from the old South. On the plantations in South, the slaves cut cotton. On the ranches in Texas they had to learn a new trade—breaking horses and handling cattle. Some were taught by Mexican cowboys, some by Indians who knew the ways of horses and cattle.

Grimes was only one of hundreds of slave-owning ranchers who ran cattle in Texas. The ranchers had brought their families and slaves from Mississippi, Georgia, and other southern states. They came on horseback, on foot, and in buggies and wagons. They drove hogs,

oxen, and stock.

Some ranchers settled near the Mexican border, but there they found that it was too easy for their slaves to escape. Even slaves as far north as Austin, the capital of Texas, came to think of Mexico as the promised land. As early as 1845, the year that Texas became a state, a Texas newspaper reported the escape of twenty-five Blacks. "They were mounted on some of the best horses than could be found," the story said, "and several of them were armed." Thousands of other Black slaves escaped in the same way.

East of the Nieces River, farther from the Mexican border, most slaves found it hard to escape. So there they stayed, learning to become cowboys in bleak, rough country and learning to chase wild cattle through heavy coastal brush.

All-Black cattle crews were common throughout central and eastern Texas. There were even a few free Blacks who owned ranches before the Civil War. Ashworth was one of them, and he owned 2,500 cattle, as well as some slaves of his own. He employed a white schoolmaster to tutor his children. Black cowboys helped to tame and settle a wild country. (0109)

【内容概要】

本文介绍了美国内战前黑人奴隶牛仔的生活,他们由奴隶主从南方买来,在农场里学习如何驾驭牛马,很多奴隶不堪忍受这样的生活想方设法逃离。没有成功逃离的黑人奴隶定居了下来,最后甚至拥有了自己的农场,客观上也为开拓荒凉之地做出了贡献。

【词语解析】

trot *v.* 小跑,急走

11. The word "bronc-busting" in the beginning sentence of the passage can be paraphrased as _____.
(A) driving hogs (B) cutting cotton
(C) breaking horses (D) handling cattle
12. Most of the first Black slaves that became cowboys _____.
(A) had been brought to Texas by their owners from the old South
(B) came on their own to look for the promised land
(C) came from the ranches in Mexico looking for work on Texas cattle ranches
(D) had been employed by Bradford Grimes who owned a large South Texas ranch
13. How did the Black slaves on the ranches in Texas differ from those on the plantations in the old South?
(A) They cut cotton.
(B) They escaped from slavery.
(C) They took care of cattle.
(D) They rode the best horses that could be found.
14. What do you think most slaves thought about living and working on ranches?
(A) They liked it so much that they were going to find others to bring back.
(B) They were unhappy and wanted to run away.
(C) They wanted to buy slaves and start ranches of their own.
(D) They enjoyed their working and living conditions in the promised hand.
15. According to the passage, Blacks helped to _____.
(A) tame the animals in Texas (B) solve living problems in Texas

(C) conquer the US

(D) settle the new territory

【解析】

11. 答案为 C。本题考查根据上下文正确理解词语的能力。bronc-busting 出自第一段第一句,该句提到一队 bronc-busting cowboys 站在一个大的马畜栏外面,可基本判定该词与马有关。另外,第三段第一句提到 One of the bronco busters roped a strong stallion and held him to be saddled,此句中 stallion 是“种马,公马”的意思,即使不认识该词也可根据 saddle(名词为“鞍,马鞍”,动词意为“给马装上马鞍”)得知 stallion 是一种马;该段下文提到另一位牛仔跨上它,试图将它制服,据此可判定 bronco buster 的工作与马有关,bronc-busting 的意思应为选项 C, break horses 意为“驯马”。
12. 答案为 A。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解能力,答案依据为第六段。该段第一句的 Most of the first Black cowboys were slaves,对应了题干中的 Most of the first Black slaves that became cowboys,这一句指出这些成为牛仔的黑奴是 brought by their masters from the old South,据此可判定选项 A 正确。
13. 答案为 C。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解能力,答案依据为第六段。该段第二句提到这些奴隶在南方种植园的任务是 cut cotton,接着在第三句指出他们在德州的农场必须 learn a new trade,其中一项就是要 handling cattle,据此可判定选项 C 正确。
14. 答案为 B。本题考查对文章中隐含意思的推测能力。文章倒数第四段提到了德州的黑奴将墨西哥视为乐土(the promised land)而设法逃离所在的农场,倒数第三段则指出多数奴隶要想逃跑并不容易,只能留在那里,几个形容词 bleak, rough 和 heavy 等说明了其生存环境的恶劣,可判定他们在农场的生活并不幸福,可判定选项 B 正确。
15. 答案为 D。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解能力,答案依据为文章最后一句话, tame 意为“驯养,驯服”,settle 意为“在……定居”,其宾语为 a wild country, wild 意为“未开垦的”,可判定选项 D 正确;原文的 tame 用的是引申义,选项 A 误读了此意,而选项 B 和 C 所用的动词与原文不符,均予以排除。

Passage 4

Questions 16~20

Sixty percent of all ethnic minorities in Britain live in London. Ethnic minorities only make up a small fraction of Britain's population as a whole, but coming to London you could quite easily be mistaken for thinking there were many more. I have taken this for granted having grown up with this fantastic diversity of culture, background and influence. I have people all around me who talk with varying accents, speak different languages, share distinct foods and celebrate special festivals. However, London is far from being without its racial problems.

The Campaign Against Racism and Fascism (CARF), a London based group, tells me that there is little doubt that, with the massive upsurge of xenophobia against asylum-seekers too, the fallout is affecting anyone perceived to be foreign or different. Recent attacks on black people have a ferocity that appalls police and community organizers alike. On March 4th this year, a 19-year-old Sudanese student, unconcernedly chatting to his white friend on a bus traveling through Wardsworth in south London, was suddenly stabbed in the stomach three times by a white youth brandishing a knife.

Police investigations on this and other racist attacks have left many doubting the police's supposed commitment to tackling racial crime. Some say it has all been talk about target

indicators with few results on the ground. But on March 24th this year, the Met. Police's Racial and Violent Crimes Task Force, drawing on the slow, painstaking intelligence on racial harassment gathered by their 32 Community Safety Units, carried out its first large-scale operation. In dawn raids on homes in all over London, one hundred people were arrested for offenses including racially aggravated criminal damage, grievous bodily harm, distributing racist literature and threats to kill. Over thirty people have been charged with racial offenses.

Every year on our August public holiday, London, especially Notting Hill, comes alive for the Carnival. This celebration of variety, difference and the end of slavery—where I have seen people of all backgrounds, mixing, laughing and dancing together—is, I hope, the future of inter-racial relations in London. (0103)

【内容概要】

本文主要讲述了英国的种族歧视与种族矛盾问题。第一段讲述英国伦敦生活着多个种族并且充满着种族矛盾；第二段和第三段用具体的事实和实例说明种族矛盾的严重性；最后一段说明作者对未来的期望，希望各种族之间能够和平共处。

【词语解析】

xenophobia *n.* 对外国人的憎恨、恐惧

16. The word “this” in “I have taken this for granted” (para. 1) refers to which of the following?
 - (A) Sixty percent of all ethnic minorities in UK live in London.
 - (B) Minorities only constitute a small part of UK's population.
 - (C) There are more minority people in Britain than it appears.
 - (D) It is unwise for many more to come to London.
17. The killing of the Sudanese student is to illustrate _____.
 - (A) the brutality of attacks on black people
 - (B) the fallout affecting anyone in poverty
 - (C) the traffic problems in south London
 - (D) the unconcerned attitude of police
18. The word “xenophobia” (para. 2) means “_____”.
 - (A) partiality
 - (B) arbitrariness
 - (C) discrimination
 - (D) antipathy
19. The word “intelligence” (para. 3) is closest in meaning to “_____”.
 - (A) mentality
 - (B) aptitude
 - (C) information
 - (D) interpretation
20. What is the main topic of this passage?
 - (A) The increasing rate of crime in London.
 - (B) The center of England's cultural diversity.
 - (C) The people's criticism of London police.
 - (D) The poor inter-racial relations in London.

【解析】

16. 答案为C。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解能力。I have taken this for granted 出自第一段第三句, this 指代的是此句承接的上文 but coming to London you could quite easily be mistaken for thinking there were many more, but 表明所述内容是作者强调的重点, 可判

定选项 C 正确。

17. 答案为 A。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解能力,答案依据为第二段。该段第二句指出 Recent attacks on black people have a ferocity, 然后下文就提到了苏丹学生被杀的例子,可判定选项 A 正确,brutality(残忍,野蛮的行为)对应了原文的 ferocity(残忍,暴行)。
18. 答案为 D。本题考查根据上下文正确理解词语的能力。xenophobia 出自第二段第一句,asylum 意为“避难所,庇护所”,asylum-seeker 指的是到伦敦寻求庇护的外国人,原文中 CARF 告知作者随着对外国人恐惧的高涨(upsurge),其附带的结果(fallout)会影响到外国人,由 against 可判定 xenophobia 意为对外国人不利的事物,排除选项 A(partiality 为“偏袒,偏爱”之意);arbitrariness 意为“任意,专横,独断”,discrimination 意为“歧视”,antipathy 意为“憎恶,反感”,结合下文提到的对黑人的暴行,antipathy 语气最重,较为符合原文,可判定选项 D 正确。
19. 答案为 C。本题考查根据上下文正确理解词语的能力。intelligence 出自第三段第三句,根据其后的 on racial harassment(有关种族骚扰)和 gathered by,从搭配来讲应选 C,原文提到警方先利用所收集到的信息,然后开展行动,从逻辑上讲也是合理的。intelligence 有“情报”的意思,intelligence agency 意为“情报局”。
20. 答案为 D。本题考查对文章主旨大意的归纳能力。通读全文可以看出作者讲述的主要对象是英国伦敦存在的一些种族矛盾问题,可判定选项 D 正确。

Passage 5

Questions 21 ~ 25

When a ship carrying 825 Kurdish asylum-seekers and immigrants hit a sandbank just off Italy, the ageing residents of the nearby village of Badolato thanked God for their Christmas present. It was December 27, 1997. Boats raced to the ship and ferried its human cargo to land. The Kurds were penniless and did not speak Italian, but for the villagers of Badolato, on the toe of Italy, they had one priceless asset—youth. Most of the houses in the 1000-year-old village, 250m above the Mediterranean, had been abandoned over four decades. A population of 7000 had dwindled to 700.

Few babies were being born—most local couples had one child at the most. The elementary school had closed, businesses were failing, buildings were crumbling. It was just a matter of time before Badolato became a ghost town. And then the Ararat arrived: a Russian-made rust bucket that had left Istanbul for Rome six days earlier. The perils and \$2,400 price tag had deterred elderly Kurds from making the journey, so the new arrivals were mostly under 40. They had not planned to make a life in Calabria, one of Italy's poorest, but that was what they were offered.

Central and regional governments gave the Kurds food and money, and promised to settle them in empty houses. Officials promised them work in new enterprises that would make the most of their skills. The Kurds were astounded and grateful. Their children would grow up Italian. Within days television crews were in Badolato, reporting how a shipload of people seeking a new life had chanced upon a place crying out for new blood. The government proclaimed Badolato a beacon for the rest of Italy, with the arrivals providing a practical solution to Italy's shrinking population. Badolato was supposed to be a trailblazer.

But things began to sour. Money promised for language classes and business start-ups did not arrive. Workshops and initiatives for the newly arrived civil engineers, tile-makers

and laborers did not materialize. A Kurdish restaurant opened, but hired only one refugee. It closed last November.

The Kurds found themselves turfed out of their houses after three months. The owners wanted rent, and the government, after granting residence permits, stopped paying. So the refugees moved back to the abandoned school. By the beginning of this month there were just 40 Kurds left, including four families, all still living in the school. Most of the others have found work in Germany, Sweden and France.

Gerardo Mannello, the mayor, insisted that hope was alive. Bureaucratic bungling had slowed the money. Fresh projects were being planned. "It is not too late," he said. (0303)

【内容概要】

本文介绍了来自土耳其的库尔德人到达意大利 Badolato 所面临的前后不同的境遇。文章开头提到前往 Badolato 寻求避难的库尔德人受到当地居民的欢迎,因为当地人口正在减少,亟须补充人口;第二段从供需两方面分析了造成这种局面的原因:一方面 Badolato 经济衰落,建筑破败,出生率低,另一方面这批库尔德难民以青壮年居多,恰好可作为当地人口的补充;第三段谈到政府对寻求避难的库尔德人表示欢迎,给他们送钱送物,许诺以多种优惠条件;第四、五两段指出政府的承诺迟迟没有兑现,导致一些库尔德人离开另寻出路;最后一段引用市长的话指出官僚政治导致推迟拨款,但表示为时还不晚。

【词语解析】

Kurdish *adj.* 库尔德人的

peril *n.* 危险

bucket [俚]交通工具(指行驶缓慢的旧车[船])

Mount Ararat 亚拉腊山,位于土耳其东部。据基督教《圣经》记载,大洪水后诺亚方舟即停于亚拉腊山。文中隐含上帝派人来救助当地村民的意思。

21. The word "they" in the sentence "... they had one priceless asset..." most probably refers to _____.
 (A) villagers of Badolato (B) Italian youth
 (C) asylum-seekers (D) new-born babies
22. According to the passage, which of the following signs does NOT indicate that Badolato is going to become a ghost town?
 (A) Businesses were declining.
 (B) Few babies were being born.
 (C) Derelict houses could be seen everywhere.
 (D) A lot of people emigrated from the city.
23. All of the following are the reasons most Kurdish asylum-seekers are under the age of 40 EXCEPT that _____.
 (A) the journey is full of perils (B) most Kurdish people cannot afford the trip
 (C) old people are too old to take a trip (D) Badolato needs new blood
24. Which of the following best describes the government's initial reaction to the new arrivals?
 (A) Supportive. (B) Indifferent.
 (C) Disappointed. (D) Condescending.
25. What can be inferred from the passage?
 (A) Italy's population is increasing after Kurds' arrival.

- (B) The Italian government benefited a lot from the bureaucratic bungling.
 (C) The German government offered more chances for Kurdish people to survive.
 (D) Finally, Badolato became the real trailblazer for the shrinking population.

【解析】

21. 答案为 C。本题考查根据上下文正确理解词语的能力,答题依据为第一段。they had one priceless asset 出自该段第四句,they 可能指该句前面出现的 the Kurds 和 the villagers of Badolato,根据此句上下文得知在 Badolato 村大量房子闲置,人口急剧下降,可推断村民之所以欢迎到此寻求避难的库尔德人,是因为这些人年轻,会给村庄带来新鲜的血液(one priceless asset—youth)。因此判定句中的 they 应指寻求避难的库尔德人即 Kurdish asylum-seekers,asylum 意为“庇护,避难”,选项 C 为正确答案。
22. 答案为 D。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解,答题依据为第二段。根据该段首句 Few babies were being born 可判定选项 B 符合原文;根据第二句 businesses were failing, buildings were crumbling 判定选项 A 和 C 与原文一致,选项 C 的 derelict 为“破败的,倒塌的”之意,与 crumbling(崩毁,倒塌)对应;只有选项 D 原文没有提及,应选此项。
23. 答案为 D。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解,答题依据为第二段。根据该段第五句,第一个分句主语为 The perils 和 \$ 2,400 price tag, deter sb. from doing 意为“阻止某人做某事”,可判定选项 A、B、C 的内容与原文一致,选项 D 所述只是一客观情况,并非这批库尔德人年轻化的原因,此题应选 D。
24. 答案为 A。本题考查对文章基本内容的理解,答题依据为第三段。根据该段前两句,中央和地方政府给钱给物,并作出种种承诺,可见政府的态度应该是支持的,故可判定选项 A 正确,选项 D 的 condescending 意为“屈尊的,俯就的”。
25. 答案为 A。本题考查对文章中隐含意思的推测能力。第六段第二句提到 Bureaucratic bungling had slowed the money, bureaucratic 意为“官僚政治的”,bungle 意为“搞坏(事情),做坏(工作)”,句中并未提到政府从中受益,可排除选项 B;第三段最后一句虽提到 Badolato was supposed to be a trailblazer,但根据第五段得知难民们没有得到很好的安置,很多人已离开,可见 Badolato 并不会为本国不断缩减的人口提供有效的解决方案,也就谈不上是真正的开拓者(trailblazer),选项 D 错;原文只提到有些库尔德人在德国找到工作,但并未提及德国为他们提供了更多的机会,排除选项 C;由排除法可判定选项 A 正确,从文章中也可看出库尔德人到来之后客观上增加了意大利的人口。

Passage 6

Questions 26 ~ 30

A million motorists leave their cars full up with petrol and with the keys in the ignition every day. The vehicles are sitting in petrol stations while drivers pay for their fuel. The Automobile Association (AA) has discovered that cars are left unattended for an average three minutes—and sometimes considerably longer—as drivers buy drinks, sweets, cigarettes and other consumer items—and then pay at the cash till. With payment by the credit card more and more common, it is not unusually for a driver to be out of his car for as long as six minutes, providing the car thief with a golden opportunity.

In an exclusive AA survey, carried out at a busy garage on a main road out of London, 300 motorists were questioned over three days of the holiday period. Twenty four percent admitted that they “always” or “sometimes” leave the keys in their cars. This means that nationwide, a million cars daily become easy targets for the opportunist thief.