# **个人世纪硕士生英语系列教程**

总主编 孙启耀 陈 颖 张月秋

English Series for Postgraduates of 21st Century



主编 封丽丽 张雅军



# English Series for Postgraduates of 21st Century

21 世纪硕士生英语系列数程

# Test

# 测试

主 编 封丽丽 张雅军副主编 韩晓辉 赵 莉

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### 内容简介

(21 世纪硕士生英语系列教程)是为满足硕士生英语教学的需求 而编写的。该教程主要以硕士生为主要对象,同时也兼顾其他具有中 高级英语程度的读者的需要。

本教程突出实用性,同时又具有科学性和系统性。各分册皆以提高能力为主要目标,同时又注意英语知识、英语国家文化的传播,是读者提高实用英语能力的难得的教材。全套教材分为精读、泛读(上、下)、写作、听力、测试六个分册。

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# 使用说明

本书为《21 世纪硕士生英语系列教程》的《测试》教程。本教程中所有试题均按《非英语专业硕士研究生英语教学大纲》和《非英语专业硕士研究生英语学位课程考试大纲》的规定和要求,针对全国非英语专业硕士研究生英语学位课程考试设计和编写的。每套试题的形式和题量与国家标准考试样题相同;试题难度、覆盖率、干扰项等均与样题接近。

本教程各份试题的语言材料均由作者悉心整理和精选之后按"两纲"的规定和要求进行 拟题。读者若能按试题要求认真答完每套试题,不仅对于巩固英语基础知识、提高英语语言 综合运用能力以及提高应试能力有帮助,而且可以测出自己的英语水平是否达到了"两纲" 要求。

本教程可用于英语学位课程考试前帮助学生提高英语语言综合运用能力,有助于学生通过硕士研究生学位英语考试;亦可用于教学过程中检验学生对其它教程掌握的情况,以便及时调整教学要点和教学方法。

本教程的使用可采取学生课后自测与教师课上指导相结合的方式进行。

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# 第一部分 非英语专业硕士研究生英语学位 课程考试介绍

# 非英语专业硕士研究生英语学位课程考试大纲 (试行稿)

《非英语专业硕士研究生英语学位课程考试大纲》(Non-English Major Graduate Student English Qualifying Test,简称 GET)是根据《非英语专业研究生英语(第一外语)教学大纲(试行稿)》制定的。本大纲规定了硕士研究生英语学位课程通过考试的内容、形式、时间和计分。考试目的在于考核已修完研究生英语课程的学生是否达到教学大纲所规定的各项要求,以及实际掌握和运用英语的能力。

## 一、基础英语部分

本考试共有六个部分:听力理解(占 15%)、词汇(占 10%)、完型填空(占 15%)、阅读理解(占 30%)、翻译(占 20%)、写作(占 10%)。分两份试卷:试卷一(Paper One)包括前四个部分,共 80 题;试卷二(Paper Two)包括翻译和写作,共 3 题。全部题目按顺序统一编号。

第一部分听力理解(Part I Listening Comprehension): 听力理解部分主要测试考生掌握听力材料中心思想和主要内容的能力, 判断对话情景、场合、人物关系、身份和说话人的意图及话语含义的能力。共 15 题, 考试时间为 15 分钟左右, 主要测试考生能否一遍听懂语速为每分钟 120 个词的对话和短文。本部分共有二节:

A节(Section A):共9题。每题为一段对话,问句后有15秒间隙,要求考生从所给出的四个选择项中选出一个最佳答案。

B节(Section B):共6题。题目或为问句或为未完成的句子,分别安排在(2-3)篇听力材料之后。要求考生在15秒的间隙中从所给出的四个选择项中选出一个最佳答案。

第二部分词汇(Part Ⅱ Vocabulary): 词汇部分主要测试考生运用词汇和短语的能力。 测试教学大纲的词汇表、词组表及词根、词缀表所覆盖的内容。着重测试研究生阶段所学的 词和基础词的多种词性及词义搭配、易混词的区别及难词的认识。词汇与词组的比例为 7: 3。共 20 题,分 A、B 两节,考试时间为 10 分钟。

A节(Section A):共10题。每题为一英文句,句中有一词或固定词组,下面划有横线,要求从所给的四个选择项中选出该划线词或词组的最佳同义词或最佳释义。

B节(Section B):共10题。每题为一英文句,句中有一个空白,要求从所给的四个选择项中选出最恰当的词或词组,使该句成为逻辑合理、表达正确的英文句。

第三部分完形填空(Part Ⅲ Cloze Test):主要测试考生在语篇水平上的理解能力和实际运用语言的能力。测试内容可以是句型、结构,也可以是词汇、词组和习惯用语,共15 题。 考试时间为10分钟。测试的形式是在一篇主题熟悉、难度适中的短文(约200—250词)中 留有 15 个空白,每个空白为一题。要求考生从所给出的四个选择项中选择最佳答案。选择项可以是一个单词,也可以是短语。

第四部分阅读理解(Part IV Reading Comprehension):这部分的目的是测试学生通过阅读获取信息的能力,既要求准确,也要求有一定速度。主要测试下述能力:

- 1. 掌握所读材料的中心思想、主要内容和细节:
- 2. 对所读材料的内容进行一定的判断和推理;
- 3. 理解某些词和句子的意义及上下文之间的逻辑关系;
- 4. 领会作者的观点和判断作者的态度。

阅读材料的选择原则:

- 1.题材广泛,可以包括社会、文化、科普常识、历史地理、日常生活知识和人物传记等。 所涉及的背景知识应能为考生所了解;
  - 2. 体裁多样,可以包括叙事、议论、描述、说明和应用文等;
  - 3. 文章应有一定的难度。

这部分共 30 题,时间为 45 分钟。测试要求考生阅读若干篇材料,每篇材料后有若干个问题。考生应根据文章内容从每题所给的四个选择项中选出一个最佳答案。此部分总阅读量(不包括题目及选择项)为 1600—1800 词。

第五部分翻译(Part V Translation):共2题。考试时间为40分钟。本部分共有二节:

A 节(Section A)英译汉:内容为一般性或科学常识性的论述文。要求译文忠实原文,表达正确。考试时间为 20 分钟。这一节是总量为 120 词左右的英语短文或难句。

B节(Section B)汉译英:内容为一般性或科学常识性的短文。要求译文忠实于原文,表达基本正确,无重大语言错误。考试时间为 20 分钟。这一节是总量为 120 词左右汉字的段落或语句。

第六部分写作(Part VI Writing):写作部分的目的是测试考生用英语书面表达思想的一般能力。写作要求切题、能正确表达思想,意义连贯,无重大语言错误。摘要要求概括内容准确。考试时间为 30 分钟。要求考生写出不少于 420 词左右的短文(或段落)。试卷上可能给出题目、情景、写作提纲或材料表格,要求写出短文;或给出文章(中文或英文),要求写英文摘要或大意。考摘要或大意时,应适当增加阅读原文时间。

试卷六个部分的题目数、计分和考试时间列表如下:

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卷别	序号	节号	题号	各部分名称	题数	计分	考试时间
	I	A节	1-9	听力理解:对话	9	9分	15 /\ bb
		B节	10 - 15	听力理解:短文	6	6分	15 分钟
试	п	A节	16 - 25	选择释义	10	5分	10 /\ bh
卷	П	B节	26 – 35	填 空	10	10 5分	10 分钟
	Ш		36 – 50	完型填空	15	15分	10 分钟
	IV		51 - 80	阅读理解	30	30分	45 分钟
试	v	A节		英译汉	1	10分	20 分钟
卷	V	B节		汉译英	1	10分	20 分钟
_	VI			短文写作	1	10分	30 分钟
				合 计	83	100分	150 分钟

考试时间及记分

## 二、专业英语部分

本考卷共有二部分:翻译(占50%),阅读和写作(占50%)。

第一部分翻译(Part I Translation):这部分主要测试学生专业英语的翻译能力。考试时间为60分钟。本部分共有二节:

A节(Section A)英译汉,考试时间为 30 分钟。总量为 170 词左右的有关专业的短文或若干段落,要求译文忠实原文,汉语通顺。

B节(Section B)汉译英,考试时间为 30 分钟。总量为 120 词左右的一篇有关专业的短文或若干段落。要求译文忠实于原文,表达正确,无重大语言错误。

第二部分阅读和写作(Part Ⅱ Reading and Writing):这一部分主要测试考生阅读本专业英语材料的能力及用英语书面表达本专业内容的写作能力。考试时间为 60 分钟。要求考生在阅读完 2700 词的有关专业材料后,根据要求用英文写出 150 词左右的摘要或报告,或根据要求回答问题或写出短文。

#### 考试时间及记分

序号	节号	题号	各部分名称	题数	计分	考试时间
I	A节 B节	1 2	英译汉 汉译英	1	25 分 25 分	30 分钟 30 分钟
II		3	阅读和写作	1	50分	60 分钟
	合	计		3	100分	120 分钟

注:硕士生英语考试不得使用字典。

## 非英语专业硕士研究生英语学位课程考试样题

#### MODEL SAMPLE

## Non – English Major Graduate Student English Qualifying Test(GET)

## 考试注意事项

- 一、本考试由两份试卷组成:试卷一(Paper one)包括听力理解、词汇、完型填空与阅读理解四部分,共80题,按顺序统一编号;试卷二(Paper Two)包括翻译与写作两部分,共3题。两份试卷答题时间不得通用。试卷一为80分钟,统一收卷后,再进行试卷二的答题。
- 二、试卷一(题号 1—80)为客观评分题,答案一律用中性(HB)铅笔做在机读答题纸上, 在对应题号下所选的字母中间划黑道,如[A][B][C][D]。
- 三、试卷二为主观评分题,答案分别做在 ANSWER SHEET II上,答题前仔细读一下试卷二前的注意事项。

四、试卷一、试卷二上均不得作任何记号,答案一律写在答题纸上,否则答案无效。

五、试卷一为80分钟,听力理解部分时间以放完录音带为准,大约15分钟;其余部分所占时间与得分均标在试卷上,由考生自行掌握。

六、试卷二为 70 分钟。考试终了时间一到,考生一律停笔,将试卷及答题纸留在座位上,待监考教师收点无误后,经主考教师宣布本考试结束方可离开考场。

#### PAPER ONE

### Part I LISTENING COMPREHENSION (15 minutes, 15 points) Section A (1 point each)

Directions: In this section, you will hear nine short conversations between two speakers. At the end of each conversation, a third voice will ask a question about what was said. The question will be spoken only once. Choose the best answer from the four choices given by marking the corresponding letter with a single bar across the square bracket on your.

1. a. Pass her some chill.

- b. Leave the window closed.
- c. Open the window wide.
- d. Tell what he's feeling.
- 2. a. She'd rather work in a book-store than work anywhere else.
  - b. She has no other work experience.
  - c. She can't find a better job.
  - d. It will take another fifteen years to be experienced in a new job.
- 3. a. By overnight express.

b. By special delivery.

c. By certified mail.

d. By registered mail.

4. a. In a bathroom.

b. On a phone call.

c. At a swimming-pool.

- d. On their way home.
- 5. a. She hasn't learned all the words by heart before acting out.
  - b. She doesn't know how to move on the stage.
  - c. She has no idea about how to draw a line.
  - d. She doesn't know the procedure of an action.
- 6. a. John shouldn't have resigned his work.
  - b. She blamed John for not having worked very hard.
  - c. John was treated unfairly.
  - d. John was promoted only once.
- 7. a. It is spacious.
  - b. It doesn't suit her at all.
  - c. It is a perfect flat to live in.
  - d. It is of good location in spite of being small.
- 8. a. He's going to pick up his orders.
  - b. He's going to be away for some time.
  - c. He's going to have his holiday meals.
  - d. He's going to make new food orders.
- 9. a. He was working hard.
  - b. She came back too late.
  - c. There was loud music so he didn't hear her coming in.
  - d. He was asleep.

#### Section B (1 point each)

Directions: In this section, you will hear three short passages. At the end of each passage, there will be some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be read to you only once. After each question, there will be a pause. During the pause, you must choose the best answer from the four choices given by marking the corresponding letter with a single bar across the square bracket on your Machine-scoring Answer Sheet.

- 10. a. Children need discipline.
  - b. Parents are rule-makers.
  - c. What's important is a questioning mind.
  - d. Freedom of choice: a safety valve for children's behavior.
- 11. a. do what they are not allowed to.
  - b. do whatever they like.
  - c. make trouble.
  - d. ask parents a lot of questions.
- 12. a. people by last name.
  - b. professional services.
  - c. city and government services.
  - d. area codes and public schools.
- 13. a. just redial and try again.
  - b. ask the person you're talking to if he can call back.

c. call the operator and explain what happened. d. go straight to the phone company and ask for a refund. b. 20 times. d. 50 times. 14. a. 10 times. c. 30 times. 15. a. they hadn't been informed of the decision. b. they hadn't been asked for advice. c. they just don't want to see any new city in the country. d. they simply don't want to change their town into a big city. Part I VOCABULARY (10 minutes, 10 points) Section A (0.5 point each) Directions: There are ten sentences in this section. Each sentence has one word or a set of words underlined. Below the sentence are four words or phrases marked a, b, c and d. Choose the word or the phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined one. Mark the corresponding letter with a single bar across the square bracket on your Machine-scoring Answer Sheet... 16. Research indicates that children are quite capable of telling a deliberate lie to get out of trouble. a. noticeable b. intentional d. harmless c. possible 17. Graduate education and research are critical to us and to the nation. c. blamable d. crucial a. urgent b. pressing 18. In a word that aims to eliminate hunger and disparities in wealth, globe equilibrium is vital. b. balance c. inequality d. discretion 19. Cars do "tell" their owners when something is wrong by making peculiar noises. d. terrific a. eccentric b. strange c. awesome 20. Many were attracted by the prospect of securing land at low cost, and some were simply fleeing oppression. a. great disaster b. hard expression c. bad treatment d. indifferent feelings 21. "A rational tax structure is a must if the country is to continue growing so fast," the bank rightly says. a. inductive b. fixed c. proportional d. sensible 22. Culture like nonverbal behavior tends to be elusive, and has a potent influence in intercultural communication. b. visible a. hidden c. consequential d. powerful 23. He lay still in the bed and seemed very detached from what was going on. a. interested in b. hostile to c. indifferent to d. afraid of 24. The blow knocked him unconscious and it was several minutes before he regained consciousness. b. came to a. came on c. came in d. came with 25. The expanded aid package is to be presented at the meeting as evidence that Japan recognizes its global responsibilities and intends to live up to them.

c. undertake

d. assume

b. bear

a. fulfill

· 6 ·

## Section B (0.5 point each)

Directions: There are ten sentences in this section. Each sentence has something omitted. Choos
the word or words from the four choices given to best complete each sentence.
26. The interest on my small savings is
a. neglectful b. negligent c. nugatory d. negligible
27. From what he said, I that he believed Tom had stolen his watch.
a. impart b. refer c. infer d. imply
28. The new computer can be to the needs of both home and business users.
a. adopted b. advocated c. adapted d. adjoined
29. When it became clear that management and the union could not settle their differences, th
President to settle the argument.
a. interacted b. intervened c. interconnected c. interviewed
30. After a concert tour of Europe, Canada and the U.S., he will work on a five
language opera.
a. confine b. indulge c. resume d. undergo
31. Experiments carried out in Greenland recently have the best evidence yet that
Issac Newton's 305-year-old law of gravity may be wrong.
a. yielded b. executed c. submitted d. proved
32. Some people apparently have an almost incredible ability to the right answer.
a. come up with b. look up to
c. put up with d. bring up to
33. Workers in America are getting higher wages while turning out poor products that do no
the test of international competition.
a. put up with b. stick up for
c. stand up to d. face up to
34. If you insist on carrying out this mad experiment, you will have to th
consequences.
a. run into b. stand for c. bear out d. answer for
35 his city ways, he is a country boy at heart.
a. Owing to b. Judging from c. By d. For all
Part II CLOZE TEST (10 minutes, 15 points)
Directions: Read the passage through. Then go back and choose one item of suitable word (s
marked a, b, c or d for each blank in the passage. Mark the corresponding letter of the word
(s) you have chosen with a single bar across the square bracket on your Machine-scoring
Answer Sheet.
Promptness is important in American business, academic, and social settings. The 36
of punctuality is taught to young children in school. Today slips and the use of bells signal to the
child that 37 and time itself are to be respected.
People who keep appointments are considered dependable. If people are 38 to joint to joint to joint to joint the second terms of the people are 38 to joint terms of the second terms of t
interview, appointments, or classes, they are often 39 unreliable and irresponsible. In the
business setting, "time is money" and companies may 40 their executives for tardiness to
business meetings. Of course, it is not always possible to be punctual. Social and busines

etiquette also provides rules for late arrivals. Calling 41 the telephone if one is going to be more than a few minutes late for 42 appointments is 43 polite and is often expected. Keeping a friend waiting 44 ten to twenty minutes is considered rude. 45 , arriving thirty minutes late to some parties is acceptable.

Respecting deadlines is also important in academic and professional circles. <u>46</u> that deadlines for class assignments or business reports will be met. Students who <u>47</u> assignments late may be surprised to <u>48</u> that the professor will <u>49</u> their grades or even refuse to grade their work. <u>50</u> it is a question of arriving on time or of meeting a deadline, people are culturally conditioned to regulate time.

36. a. purpose	b. importance	c. function	d. role
37. a. punctuality	b. tardiness	c. significance	d. regularity
38. a. left	b. off	c. late	d. impossible
39. a. viewed as	b. expected	c. appointed	d. predicted
40. a. laugh	b. ignore	c. fine	d. reduce
41. a. on	b. in	c.at	d. to
42. a. early	b. late	c. made	d. scheduled
43. a. claimed	b. considered	c. found	d. thought
44. a. beyond	b. at	c. up	d.on
45. a. Therefore		b. On the other ha	and
c. Moreover		d. Naturally	
46. a. It is necessary		b. Be sure	
c. It is expected		d. People assume	
47. a. hand in	b. hand off	c. hand over	d. hand on
48. a. think	b. approve	c. find	d. expect
49. a. omit	b. vary	c. belittle	d. lower
50. a. Either	b. Whether	c. Neither	d. Although
<del>T</del> T			•

#### Part N READING COMPREHENSION (45 minutes, 30 points)

Directions: In this part of the test, there are five short passages for you to read. Read each passage carefully, and then do the questions that follow. Choose the best answer a, b, c or d, and mark the corresponding letter with a single bar across the square bracket on your Answer Sheet.

#### Passage One

Disregard for odds and complete confidence in one's self have produced many of our great successes. But every young man who wants to go into business for himself should appraise himself as a candidate for the one per cent to survive. What has he to offer that is new or better? Has he special talents, special know-how, a new invention or service, or more capital than the average competitor? Has he the most important qualification of all, a willingness to work harder than anyone else? A man who is working for himself without limitation of hours or personal sacrifice can run circles around any operation that relies on paid help. But he must forget the eight-hour day, the forty-hour week, and the annual vacation. When he stops work, his income stops unless he hires a substitute. Most small operations have their busiest day on Saturday, and the owner uses Sunday to catch up on his correspondence, book-keeping,

inventorying, and maintenance chores. The successful self-employed man invariably works harder and worries more than the man on a salary. His wife and children make corresponding sacrifices of family unity and continuity; they never know whether their man will be home or in a mood to enjoy family activities.

- 51. Which title best expresses the main idea of this passage?
  - a. Why small businesses fail.
- b. Young men in industry.
- c. How to become a success.
- d. Running one's own business.
- 52. According to the author, a self-employed man can do a better job than others only when he
  - a. has had the luck to succeed
  - b. has an immovable confidence in himself
  - c. overworks himself at the sacrifice of family
  - d. hires more workers to substitute him
- 53. From the passage, we can most safely conclude that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. small businesses are the ones that lose money
  - b. a willingness to work will overcome loss of income
  - c. working for one's self may invariably lead to success
  - d. salaried workers are doomed to suffer heavy losses
- 54. The author of this passage would most likely believe in \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. individual initiative
- b. corporations
- c. government aid to small business
- d. a single life

#### Passage Two

All these islands are very beautiful, and distinguished by various qualities. They are accessible and full of a great variety of trees stretching up to the stars, the leaves of which I believe are never shed, for I saw them as green and flourishing as they are usually in Spain in the month of May. Some of them were blossoming, and some were bearing fruit, some were in other conditions. Each one was thriving in its own way. The nightingale and various other birds without number were singing, in the month of November, when I was exploring them.

There are besides seven or eight kinds of palm trees, which far excel ours in height and beauty, just as all the other trees, herbs and fruits do. There are also excellent pine trees, vast plains and meadows, a variety of birds, a variety of honey, and a variety of metals, except iron.

All these people lack every kind of iron. They are also without weapons, which indeed are unknown. Nor are they competent to use them, not on account of deformity of body, for they are well formed, but because they are timid and full of fear.

They carry for weapons, however, reeds baked in the sun, on the lower ends of which they fasten some shafts of dried wood rubbed down to a point. Indeed they do not venture to use these always. It frequently happened when I sent two or three of my men to some of the villages, that they might speak with the natives, a compact troop of the Indians would march out, and as soon as they saw our men approaching, they would take flight.

- 55. This passage was most probably written by a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. naturalist
- b. explorer
- c. journalist
- d. philosopher
- 56. From this selection we may draw the inference that the author was bred in \_\_\_\_

a. a ∞lder climate

b. an uncivilized country

c. New Zealand

d. the British Isles

57. According to the description, these islands the author explored are most likely located in

a. the Antarctic Circle
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b. arid regions

c. temperate areas

d. tropical zones

58. The reason the natives are not warlike at all is that they \_\_\_\_\_

a. are without weapons of any kind

b. have never been attacked by outsiders

c. have abundant food and other necessities

d. are naturally timid

#### Passage Three

Opinion poll surveys show that the public see scientists in a rather unflattering light.

Commonly, the scientist is also seen as being male. It is true that most scientists are male, but the picture of science as a male activity may be a major reason why fewer girls than boys opt for science, except when it comes to biology, which is seen as "female."

The image most people have of science and scientists comes from their own experience of school science, and from the mass media. Science teachers themselves see it as a problem that so many school pupils find school science an unsatisfying experience, though over the last few years more and more pupils, including girls, have opted for science subjects.

In spite of excellent documentaries, and some good popular science magazines, scientific stories in the media still usually alternate between miracle and scientific threat. The popular stereotype of science is like the magic of fairy tales: it has potential for enormous good or awful harm. Popular fiction is full of "good" scientists saving the world, and "mad" scientists trying to destroy it.

From all the many scientific stories which might be given media treatment, those which are chosen are usually those which can be framed in terms of the usual news angles: novelty, threat, conflict or the bizarre. The routine and often tedious work of the scientist slips from view, to be replaced with a picture of scientists forever offending public moral sensibilities (as in embryo research), threatening public health (as in weapons research), or fighting it out with each other (in giving evidence at public enquiries such as those held on the issues connected with nuclear power).

The mass media also tends to over-personalize scientific work, depicting it as the product of individual genius, while neglecting the social organization which makes scientific work possible. A further effect of this is that science comes to be seen as a thing in itself: a kind of unpredictable force; a tide of scientific progress.

It is no such thing, of course. Science is what scientists do; what they do is what a particular kind of society facilitates, and what is done with their work depends very much on who has the power to turn their discoveries into technology, and what their interests are.

59. According to the passage, ordinary people have a poor opinion of science and scientists

a science is badly taught in schools

	b. opinion polls are unflattering					
c. scientists are shown negatively in the media						
	d. science is considered to be dangerous					
	60. Fewer girls than boys study science because					
	a. they think that science is too difficult					
	b. they are often unsuccessful in science at school					
	c. science is seen as a man's job					
	d. science is considered to be dangerous					
	61. Media treatment of science tends to concentrate on					
	a. the routine, everyday work of scientists					
	b. discoveries that the public will understand					
	c. the more sensational aspects of science					
	d. the satisfactions of scientific work					
	62. According to the author, over-personalization of scientific work will lead science into					
	··					
	a. isolation from the rest of the world					
	b. improvements on school system					
	c. association with "femaleness"					
	d. trouble in recruiting young talent					
	63. According to the author, scientific work is stimulated by					
	a. ambition b. social demands					
	c. technological problems d. internal pressures					
	64. The author believes that the popular view of science is					
	a. accurate b. well-informed					
	c. over-optimistic d. biased					
	Daggage Form					

#### Passage Four

A massive pool of warm ocean water is causing changes in the atmosphere that could produce unusual weather around the world in the next few months, the US National Weather Service reported on Monday.

As a result of this phenomenon, known as El Nino, more rainfall than normal is likely this winter across some areas of the United States, with unusually warm or cold weather in other parts of the country.

Currently the phenomenon is marked by a warm pool of water along the equator extending from the international date line nearly to the coast of South America. That water is nearly 4 degrees Fahrenheit above normal, explained Vemon Kousky of the climate centre.

This warm water "spreads almost a quarter of the way around the globe. So it's massive and it has an impact on our weather. It has a global influence ... because it disturbs the atmosphere," said Dave Rodnehuis, director of the climate centre.

"El Nino is probably the most important climate event beyond the annual cycle of seasons," he added.

Because the changes tended to be first noticed around Christmas, the phenomenon was given the name El Nino, which is Spanish for child, a term often used to refer to the baby Jesus.

The phenomenon occurs every three to five years, sometimes in a mild form and sometimes strongly affecting weather patterns worldwide. Details of its causes are not fully understood, but when it occurs, unusually warm air can be pumped into Canada, Alaska and the northern United States. At the same time, conditions tend to be wetter than normal along the US Southeast Coast and the Gulf of Mexico. And the Atlantic and Caribbean hurricane season tends to be milder than usual.

The strong El Nino of 1982—1983 was blamed for worsening the devastating drought in Africa, causing a series of severe winter storms to come ashore in California, spawning the first typhoon to strike French Polynesia in 75 years—followed by five more in five months—deluging Peru and Ecuador with torrential rains and promoting the worst drought in two centuries in Australia.

Overall damage was estimated at between \$ 2 billion and \$ 8 billion by a United Nations analysis and the death toll topped 1,500 worldwide.

That doesn't mean that the disruption will be as great this time, however. A mild El Nino in 1986-1987 was barely noticed, for example.

65. According to the climate centre, the current phenomenon of El Nino is characteristic of

- 66. As a result of this phenomenon of El Nino, which part of the U. S. is likely to have more rainfall than normal?
  - a. Along the Southeast Coast.
  - b. Along the West coast.
  - c. In the northern United States.
  - d. In the Middle West of the U.S..
- 67. This phenomenon of nature was given the name El Nino, only because \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. El Nino is Spanish for child
  - b. El Nino is used to refer to the baby Jesus
  - c. it coincides with the birthday of Jesus
  - d. babies love Santa Clause most
- 68. Scientists the world over get alarmed about El Nino on account of \_\_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. unusual weather in the U.S..
  - b. the altered annual cycle of season
  - c. the impact on weather patterns worldwide
  - d. ocean water nearly 4 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than normal
- 69. The number of climate changes brought about by El Nino, according to the passage, is
  - a. six
- b. five
- c. four
- d. two
- 70. Which of the following shows that El Nino can be in some case more of a blessing than only ruinous?
  - a. More rainfall along the Gulf of Mexico.
  - · 12 ·

a. more rainfall than usual

b. a series of severe winter storms

c. mild changes in the atmosphere

d. a warm pool of water along the equator