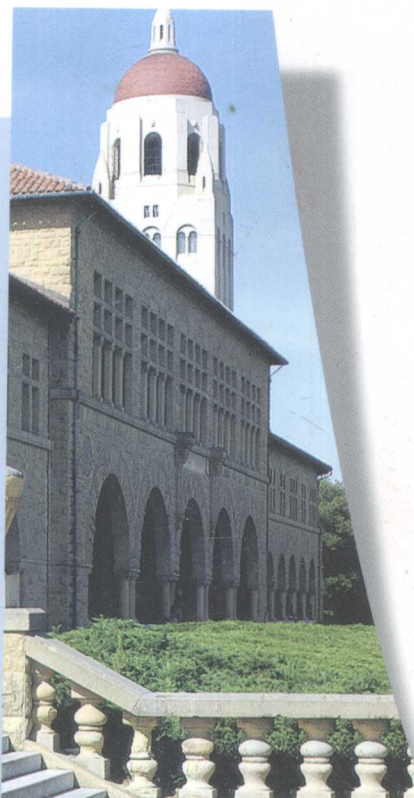


TOEFL

阅读教程



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说 明

本 TOEFL 系列由《TOEFL 听力解答》、《TOEFL 听力教程》、《TOEFL 语法教程》、《TOEFL 阅读教程》构成，由全国数十名 TOEFL 著名教师和研究专家历经数年集体编撰而成；体现了近二十年的 TOEFL 考试精华以及 2000—2002 年的最新考试趋势，真实地剖析和反映了 ETS 的出题思想。

本系列不仅适合于目前的笔试，而且适合于未来的 TOEFL 机考，因此实效性和实战性极强。广大同学只要使用本系列教材进行艰苦卓绝的训练，就一定能获得理想的成绩。

2002 年 6 月

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练习一

Questions 1 - 11

- By the mid-nineteenth century, the term "icebox" had entered the American language, but ice was still only beginning to affect the diet of ordinary citizens in the United States. The ice trade grew with the growth of cities. Ice was used in hotels, taverns, and hospitals, and by some forward-looking city dealers in fresh meat, fresh fish, and butter. After the Civil War (1861-1865), as ice was used to refrigerate freight cars, it also came into household use. Even before 1880, half the ice sold in New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, and one-third of that sold in Boston and Chicago, went to families for their own use. This had become possible because a new household convenience, the icebox, a precursor of the modern refrigerator, had been invented.
- 5) Making an efficient icebox was not as easy as we might now suppose. In the early nineteenth century, the knowledge of the physics of heat, which was essential to a science of refrigeration, was rudimentary. The commonsense notion that the best icebox was one that prevented the ice from melting was of course mistaken, for it was the melting of the ice that performed the cooling. Nevertheless, early efforts to economize ice included wrapping the ice in blankets, which kept the ice from doing its job. Not until near the end of the nineteenth century did inventors achieve the delicate balance of insulation and circulation needed for an efficient icebox.
- 10) But as early as 1803, an ingenious Maryland farmer, Thomas Moore, had been on the right track. He owned a farm about twenty miles outside the city of Washington, for which the village of Georgetown was the market center. When he used an icebox of his own design to transport his butter to market, he found that customers would pass up the rapidly melting stuff in the tubs of his competitors to pay a premium price for his butter, still fresh and hard in neat, one-pound bricks. One advantage of his icebox, Moore explained, was that farmers would no longer have to travel to market at night in order to keep their produce cool.

- 20) What does the passage mainly discuss?
- (A) The influence of ice on the diet
(B) The development of refrigeration
(C) The transportation of goods to market
(D) Sources of ice in the nineteenth century
2. According to the passage, when did the word "icebox" become part of the language of the United States?

- (A) In 1803
(B) Sometime before 1850
(C) During the Civil War
(D) Near the end of the nineteenth century
3. The phrase "forward-looking" in line 4 is closest in meaning to
(A) progressive
(B) popular
(C) thrifty
(D) well-established
4. The author mentions fish in line 5 because
(A) many fish dealers also sold ice
(B) fish was shipped in refrigerated freight cars
(C) fish dealers were among the early commercial users of ice
(D) fish was not part of the ordinary person's diet before the invention of the icebox
5. The word "it" in line 6 refers to
(A) fresh meat
(B) the Civil War
(C) ice
(D) a refrigerator
6. According to the passage, which of the following was an obstacle to the development of the icebox?
(A) Competition among the owners of refrigerated freight cars
(B) The lack of a network for the distribution of ice
(C) The use of insufficient insulation
(D) Inadequate understanding of physics
7. The word "rudimentary" in line 12 is closest in meaning to
(A) growing
(B) undeveloped
(C) necessary
(D) uninteresting
8. According to the information in the second paragraph, an ideal icebox would
(A) completely prevent ice from melting
(B) stop air from circulating
(C) allow ice to melt slowly
(D) use blankets to conserve ice
9. The author describes Thomas Moore as having been "on the right track" (line 18-19) to indicate that
(A) the road to the market passed close to Moore's farm
(B) Moore was an honest merchant
(C) Moore was a prosperous farmer
(D) Moore's design was fairly successful
10. According to the passage, Moore's icebox allowed him to
(A) charge more for his butter
(B) travel to market at night
(C) manufacture butter more quickly
(D) produce ice all year round
11. The "produce" mentioned in line 25 could include
(A) iceboxes
(B) butter
(C) ice
(D) markets

Questions 12-22

By the 1820's in the United States, when steamboats were common on western waters, these boats were mostly powered by engines built in the West (Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, or Louisville), and of a distinctive western design specially suited to western needs. The first steam engines in practical use in England and the United

- 5) States were of low-pressure design. This was the type first developed by James Watt, then manufactured by the firm of Boulton and Watt, and long the standard industrial engine. Steam was accumulated in a large, double-acting vertical cylinder, but the steam reached only a few pounds of pressure per square inch. It was low-pressure engines of this type that were first introduced into the United States by Robert Fulton.

- 10) he imported such a Boulton and Watt engine from England to run the *Clermont*. But this type of engine was expensive and complicated, requiring many precision-fitted moving parts.

The engine that became standard on western steamboats was of a different and novel design. It was the work primarily of an unsung hero of American industrial

- 15) progress, Oliver Evans (1755-1819). The self-educated son of a Delaware farmer, Evans early became obsessed by the possibilities of mechanized production and steam power. As early as 1802 he was using a stationary steam engine of high-pressure design in his mill. Engines of this type were not unknown, but before Evans they were generally considered impractical and dangerous.

- 20) Within a decade the high-pressure engine, the new type, had become standard on western waters. Critics ignorant of western conditions often attacked it as wasteful and dangerous. But people who really knew the Ohio, the Missouri, and the Mississippi insisted, with good reasons, that it was the only engine for them. In shallow western rivers the weight of vessel and engine was important; a heavy engine added to the
- 25) problem of navigation. The high-pressure engine was far lighter in proportion to horsepower, and, with less than half as many moving parts, was much easier and cheaper to repair. The main advantages of low-pressure engines were safe operation and economy of fuel consumption, neither of which meant much in the West.

12. What was the *Clermont* (line 10)?

(A) A river
(B) A factory
(C) A boat
(D) An engine

used on western steamboats?

(A) Watt
(B) Boulton
(C) Fulton
(D) Evans

13. Who developed the kind of steam engine 14. The word "novel" in line 14 is closest in

meaning to

(A) fictional

(B) intricate

(C) innovative

(D) powerful

(A) engines

(B) mechanized production and steam

power

(C) possibilities

(D) steamboats

15. What opinion of Evans is suggested by the use of the term "unsung hero" in line 14?
- (A) More people should recognize the importance of his work.
- (B) More of this inventions should be used today.
- (C) He should be credited with inventing the steam engine.
- (D) More should be learned about his early life.
16. What does the author imply about Evans?
- (A) He went to England to learn about steam power.
- (B) He worked for Fulton.
- (C) He traveled extensively in the West.
- (D) He taught himself about steam engines.
17. The word "stationary" in line 17 is closest in meaning to
- (A) single
- (B) fixed
- (C) locomotive
- (D) modified
18. The word "they" in line 18 refers to
19. What does the author imply about the western rivers?
- (A) It was difficult to find fuel near them.
- (B) They flooded frequently.
- (C) They were difficult to navigate.
- (D) They were rarely used for transportation.
20. The word "it" in line 23 refers to
- (A) decade
- (B) high-pressure engine
- (C) weight
- (D) problem
21. The word "vessel" in line 24 is closest in meaning to
- (A) fuel
- (B) crew
- (C) cargo
- (D) craft
22. Which of the following points was made by the critics of high-pressure engines?
- (A) They are expensive to import.
- (B) They are not powerful enough for western waters.
- (C) They are dangerous.
- (D) They weigh too much.

Questions 23 – 32

The word laser was coined as an acronym for Light Amplification by the Stimulated Emission of Radiation. Ordinary light, from the Sun or a light bulb, is emitted spontaneously, when atoms or molecules get rid of excess energy by themselves, without any outside intervention. Stimulated emission is different because it occurs when an atom or molecule holding onto excess energy has been stimulated to emit it as light.

- 5) Albert Einstein was the first to suggest the existence of stimulated emission in a paper published in 1917. However, for many years physicists thought that atoms and molecules always were much more likely to emit light spontaneously and that stimulated emission thus always would be much weaker. It was not until after the Second World War that physicists began trying to make stimulated emission dominate. They sought ways by which one atom or molecule could stimulate many others to emit light, amplifying it to much higher powers.

The first to succeed was Charles H. Townes, then at Columbia University in New York. Instead of working with light, however, he worked with microwaves, which have a much longer wavelength, and built a device he called a “maser.” For Microwave Amplification by the Stimulated Emission of Radiation. Although he thought of the key idea in 1951, the first maser was not completed until a couple of years later. Before long, many other physicists were building masers and trying to discover how to produce stimulated emission at even shorter wavelengths.

- 15) The key concepts emerged about 1957. Townes and Arthur Schawlow, then at Bell Telephone Laboratories, wrote a long paper outlining the conditions needed to amplify stimulated emission of visible light waves. At about the same time, similar ideas crystallized in the mind of Gordon Gould, then a 37-year-old graduate student at Columbia, who wrote them down in a series of notebooks. Townes and Schawlow published their ideas in a scientific journal, Physical Review Letter, but Gould filed a patent application. Three decades later, people still argue about who deserves the credit for the concept of the laser.

23. The word “coined” in line 1 could best be replaced by

(A) created
(B) mentioned
(C) understood
(D) discovered

(A) need
(B) device
(C) influence
(D) source

24. The word “intervention” in line 4 can best be replaced by

25. The word “it” in line 5 refers to
(A) light bulb
(B) energy
(C) molecule

- (D) atom
26. Which of the following statements best describes a laser?
- (A) A device for stimulating atoms and molecules to emit light
- (B) An atom in a high-energy state
- (C) A technique for destroying atoms or molecules
- (D) An instrument for measuring light waves
27. Why was Towne's early work with stimulated emission done with microwaves?
- (A) He was not concerned with light amplification.
- (B) It was easier to work with longer wavelengths.
- (C) His partner Schawlow had already begun work on the laser.
- (D) The laser had already been developed.
28. In his research at Columbia University, Charles Townes worked with all of the following EXCEPT
- (A) stimulated emission
- (B) microwaves
- (C) light amplification
- (D) a maser
29. In approximately what year was the first maser built?
- (A) 1917
- (B) 1951
- (C) 1953
- (D) 1957
30. The word "emerged" in line 20 is closest in meaning to
- (A) increased
- (B) concluded
- (C) succeeded
- (D) appeared
31. The word "outlining" in line 21 is closest in meaning to
- (A) assigning
- (B) studying
- (C) checking
- (D) summarizing
32. Why do people still argue about who deserves the credit for the concept of the laser?
- (A) The researchers' notebooks were lost.
- (B) Several people were developing the idea at the same time.
- (C) No one claimed credit for the development until recently.
- (D) The work is still incomplete.

Questions 33 – 41

In the early days of the United States, postal charges were paid by the recipient and Charges varied with the distance carried. In 1825, the United States Congress permitted local postmasters to give letters to mail carriers for home delivery, but these carriers received no government salary and their entire compensation depended on what they

- 5) were paid by the recipients of individual letters.

In 1847 the United States Post Office Department adopted the idea of a postage stamp, which of course simplified the payment for postal service but caused grumbling by those who did not like to prepay. Besides, the stamp covered only delivery to the post office and did not include carrying it to a private address. In Philadelphia, for example,

- 10) with a population of 150,000, people still had to go to the post office to get their mail.

The confusion and congestion of individual citizens looking for their letters was itself enough to discourage use of the mail. It is no wonder that, during the years of these cumbersome arrangements, private letter-carrying and express businesses developed.

- 15) Although their activities were only semilegal, they thrived, and actually advertised that between Boston and Philadelphia they were a half-day speedier than the government mail. The government postal service lost volume to private competition and was not able to handle efficiently even the business it had.

Finally, in 1863, Congress provided that the mail carriers who delivered the mail from the post offices to private addresses should receive a government salary, and that

- 20) there should be no extra charge for that delivery. But this delivery service was at first confined to cities, and free home delivery became a mark of urbanism. As late as 1887, a town had to have 10,000 people to be eligible for free home delivery. In 1890, of the 75 million people in the United States, fewer than 20 million had mail delivered free to their doors. The rest, nearly three-quarters of the population, still received no mail unless they went to their post office.

33. What does the passage mainly discuss? disadvantage of the postage stamp?
 (A) The increased use of private mail services (A) It had to be purchased by the sender in advance.
 (B) The development of a government (B) It increased the cost of mail
 (C) A comparison of urban and rural delivery.
 postal services (C) It was difficult to affix to letters.
 (D) The history of postage stamps (D) It was easy to counterfeit.

34. The word "varied" in line 2 could best be replaced by
 (A) increased
 (B) differed
 (C) returned
 (D) started
36. Why does the author mention the city of Philadelphia in line 9?
 (A) It was the site of the first post office in the United States.
 (B) Its postal service was inadequate for its population.
 (C) It was the largest city in the United States in 1847.
35. Which of the following was seen as a

- (D) It was commemorated by the first United States postage stamp. (A) Deliver a higher volume of mail.
 (B) Deliver mail more cheaply.
 37. The word "cumbersome" in line 13 is (C) Deliver mail faster.
 (D) Deliver mail to rural areas.
 (A) burdensome
 (B) handsome
 (C) loathsome
 (D) quarrelsome
 38. The word "they" in line 15 refers to (A) A salary
 (B) Housing
 (C) Transportation
 (D) Free postage stamps
 (A) Boston and Philadelphia
 (B) businesses
 (C) arrangements
 (D) letters
 39. The private postal services of the nineteenth century claimed that they (A) granted
 (B) scheduled
 (C) limited
 (D) recommended
 could do which of the following better than the government?

Questions 42 – 50

When Jules Verne wrote *Journey to the Center of the Earth* in 1864, there were many conflicting theories about the nature of the Earth's interior. Some geologists thought that it contained a highly compressed ball of incandescent gas, while others suspected that it consisted of separate shells, each made of a different material. Today, well over a century later, there is still little direct evidence of what lies beneath our feet. Most of our knowledge of the Earth's interior comes not from mines or boreholes, but from the study of seismic waves—powerful pulses of energy released by earthquakes.

- The way that seismic waves travel shows that the Earth's interior is far from uniform. The continents and the seabed are formed by the crust—a thin sphere of relatively light, solid rock. Beneath the crust lies the mantle, a very different layer that extends approximately halfway to the Earth's center. There the rock is the subject of a battle between increasing heat and growing pressure.
- 10) In its high levels, the mantle is relatively cool; at greater depths, high temperatures make the rock behave more like a liquid than a solid. Deeper still, the pressure is even more intense, preventing the rock from melting in spite of a higher temperature.

Beyond a depth of around 2,900 kilometers, a great change takes place and the

mantle gives way to the core. Some seismic waves cannot pass through the core and others are bent by it. From this and other evidence, geologists conclude that the outer
20) core is probably liquid, with a solid center. It is almost certainly made of iron, mixed with smaller amounts of other elements such as nickel.

The conditions in the Earth's core make it a far more alien world than space. Its solid iron heart is subjected to unimaginable pressure and has a temperature of about 9,000°F. Although scientists can speculate about its nature, neither humans nor machines will ever be able to visit it.

42. The word "conflicting" in line 2 is closest in meaning to
(A) controlling
(B) outdated
(C) opposing
(D) important
43. The word "beneath" in line 5 is closest in meaning to
(A) below
(B) up
(C) benefit
(D) prior to
44. What is today's richest source of information about the Earth's interior for geologists?
(A) Boreholes
(B) Shells
(C) Seismic waves
(D) Mines
45. The word "There" in line 12 refers to the
(A) mantle
(B) crust
(C) seabed
(D) Earth's center
46. Which of the following is a primary characteristic of the Earth's mantle?
(A) Light, solid rock
(B) Uniformity of composition
(C) Dramatically increasing pressure
(D) Compressed, incandescent gas
47. The phrase "gives way to" in line 18 is closest in meaning to
(A) runs along
(B) rubs against
(C) turns into
(D) floats on
48. The word "it" in line 19 refers to
(A) mantle
(B) core
(C) change
(D) depth
49. Why does the author state in line 22 that the Earth's core is "more alien" than space?
(A) Government funds are not available to study the Earth's core.
(B) Scientists aren't interested in the characteristics of the Earth's core.
(C) It is impossible to go to the Earth's core to do research.

- (D) The Earth's core is made of elements that are dangerous to humans. (A) report (B) learn (C) worry (D) hypothesize
50. The word "speculate" in line 24 is (A) report (B) learn (C) worry (D) hypothesize
42. The word "conflicting" in line 2 is closest in meaning to (A) controlling (B) outdated (C) opposing (D) important
43. The word "beneath" in line 5 is closest in meaning to (A) below (B) up (C) benefit (D) prior to
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48. The word "it" in line 19 refers to (A) mantle (B) core (C) change (D) depth
49. Why does the author state in line 32 that the Earth's core is "more alien" than space? (A) Government funds are not available to study the Earth's core. (B) Scientists aren't interested in the characteristics of the Earth's core. (C) It is impossible to go to the Earth's core to do research.

练习二

Questions 1 - 11

Before the 1500, the western plains of North America were dominated by farmers. One group, the Mandans, lived in the upper Missouri River country, primarily in present-day North Dakota. They had large villages of houses built close together. The tight arrangement enabled the Mandans to protect themselves more easily from the attacks of others who might seek to obtain some of the food these highly capable farmers stored from one years to the next.

- The women had primary responsibility for the fields. They had to exercise considerable skill to produce the desired results. for their northern location meant fleeting growing seasons. Winter often lingered; autumn could be ushered in by severe frost. For good measure, during the spring and summer, drought, heat, hail, grasshoppers, and other frustrations might await the wary grower.

- Under such conditions, Mandan women had to grow maize capable of weathering adversity. They began as early as it appeared feasible to do so in the spring, clearing the land, using fire to clear stubble from the fields and then planting. From this point until the first green corn could be harvested, the crop required labor and vigilance.

- Harvesting proceeded in two stages. In August the Mandans picked a smaller amount of the crop before it had matured fully. This green corn was boiled, dried, and shelled, with some of the maize slated for immediate consumption and the rest stored in animal-skin bags. Later in the fall, the people picked the rest of the corn. They saved the best of the harvest for seeds for trade, with the remainder eaten right away or stored for later use in underground reserves. With appropriate banking of the extra food, the Mandans protected themselves against the disaster of crop failure and accompanying hunger.

- The women planted another staple, squash, about the first of June, and harvested it near the time of the green corn harvest. After they picked it, they sliced it, dried it, and strung the slices before they stored them. Once again, they saved the seed from the best of the year's crop. The Mandans also grew sunflowers and tobacco; the latter was the particular task of the old men.

1. The Mandans built their houses close together in order to

- (A) guard their supplies of food
(B) protect themselves against the weather
(C) allow more room for growing corn
(D) share farming implements
2. The word “enabled” in line 4 is closest in meaning to
(A) covered
(B) reminded
(C) helped
(D) isolated
3. The word “considerable” in line 8 is closest in meaning to
(A) planning
(B) much
(C) physical
(D) new
4. Why does the author believe that the Mandans were skilled farmers?
(A) They developed effective fertilizers.
(B) They developed new varieties of corn.
(C) They could grow crops in most types of soil.
(D) They could grow crops despite adverse weather.
5. The word “consumption” in line 18 is closest in meaning to
(A) decay
(B) planting
(C) eating
(D) conversion
6. Which of the following processes does the author imply was done by both men and women?
(A) Clearing fields
(B) Planting corn
(C) Harvesting corn
(D) Harvesting squash
7. The word “disaster” in line 22 is closest in meaning to
(A) control
(B) catastrophe
(C) avoidance
(D) history
8. According to the passage, the Mandans preserved their food by
(A) smoking
(B) drying
(C) freezing
(D) salting
9. The word “it” in line 25 refers to
(A) June
(B) corn
(C) time
(D) squash
10. Which of the following crops was cultivated primarily by men?
(A) Corn
(B) Squash
(C) Sunflower
(D) Tobacco
11. Throughout the passage, the author implies that the Mandans
(A) planned for the future
(B) valued individuality