

E n g l i s h

主编 黄蔚

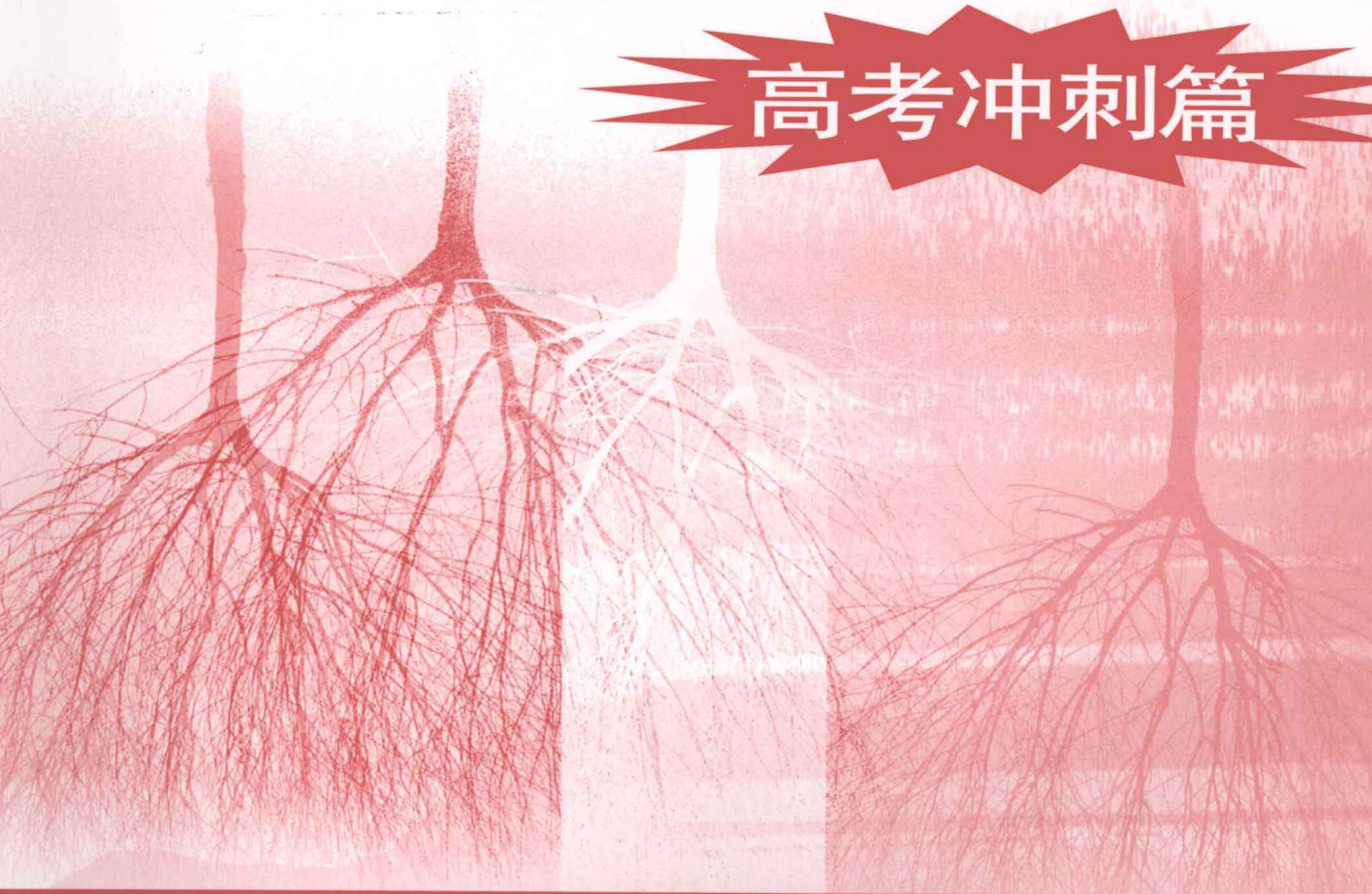
# Fast Reading

for S3

高中英语

# 快速阅读

高考冲刺篇



华东师范大学出版社

主编 黄蔚

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*English Fast Reading*

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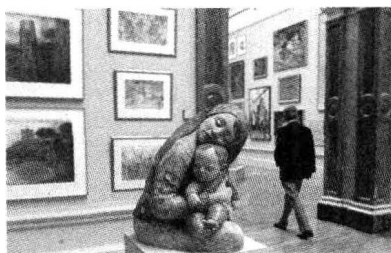
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(A)

Answer the following questions by using the information taken from the advertisements.

**Monday****Design from Finland**

See the work of some young ambitious Scandinavians.

Venue: Guangzhou Art Museum

Price: free

Tel: 830659202

**Tuesday****Break**

Watch Hip hop dancers from New York City perform.

Venue: Guangzhou Tianhe Stadium

Price: ¥ 50-280

Tel: 87760231

**Wednesday****Shanghai Families**

Hu Yan photographed the Shanghai families — from migrant workers to millionaires.

Venue: Shanghai Art H-Space

Price: free

Tel: 63593923

**Thursday****Three Steps over Heaven**

For a cultural evening, check out the Italian Embassy's movie night. This film about a teenage romance is set in Rome.

Venue: Italian Embassy

Price: free

Tel: 65322691

**Friday****Twin Concert**

The Twins are coming to Beijing. The girls will perform their new song "The Flying Bird".

Venue: Worker's Gymnasium

Price: ¥ 100-1,280

Tel: 8008103721

**Saturday****Rainy Day in Beijing**

It's Korean pop star Rain's first solo concert in Beijing.

Venue: Worker's Gymnasium

Price: ¥ 80-1,880

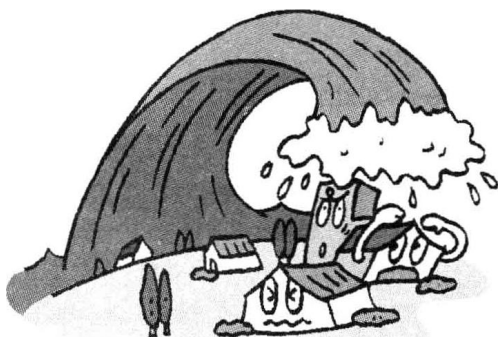
Choose the best answers:

1. On what days can you enjoy a foreign activity according to the list?
  - A. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
  - B. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday.
  - C. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
  - D. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.
  
2. "Three Steps Over Heaven" must be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. a theme of an exhibition
  - B. a title of a book
  - C. a romantic trip in Italy
  - D. a movie's name
  
3. If you go to Shanghai Art H-Space on Wednesday, you will see \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. some workers and millionaires invited to the exhibition
  - B. some Shanghai families taking pictures there
  - C. pictures of both ordinary and rich people in Shanghai
  - D. the artist taking photos of the visiting families

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_



(B)

Wild animals seem to have escaped the Indian Ocean tsunami (海啸), adding weight to concepts that they possess a “sixth sense” for

disasters, experts said on Thursday.

Sri Lankan wildlife officials have said the giant waves that killed over 24,000 people along the Indian Ocean island’s coast seemingly missed wild beasts, with no dead animals found.

“No elephants are dead, not even a dead hare or rabbit. I think animals can sense disasters. They have a sixth sense. They know when things are happening,” H.D. Ratnayake, deputy director of Sri Lanka’s Wildlife Department, said on Wednesday.

The waves washed floodwaters up to 3 km (2 miles) inland at Yala National Park in the southeast, Sri Lanka’s biggest wildlife reserve and home to hundreds of wild elephants and several leopards (美洲豹). “There has been a lot of anecdotal (轶闻的) evidence about dogs barking or birds migrating before volcanic eruptions or earthquakes. But it has not been proven,” said Matthew van Lierop, an animal behavior specialist at Johannesburg Zoo. “There have been no specific studies because you can’t really test it in a lab or field setting,” he said.

Other authorities agreed with this assessment. “Animals seem to be able to pick up certain phenomena, especially birds. There are many reports of birds detecting approaching disasters,” said Clive Walker, who has written several books on African wildlife. \*

Animals certainly rely on the known senses such as smell or hearing to avoid danger such as enemies.

The concept of an animal “sixth sense” — or some other magical power — is an enduring one which the evidence on Sri Lanka’s coast is likely to add to.

The Romans saw owls as signs of impending disaster and many ancient cultures viewed elephants as sacred animals with special powers or attributes(属性).

The tsunami was triggered by an earthquake in the Indian Ocean on Sunday. It killed tens of thousands of people in Asia and East Africa.

Choose the best answers:

4. What can we infer from the first paragraph?
- A. Experts discovered that wild animals may have a "sixth sense".
  - B. It is more likely that wild animals survived the tsunami by their "sixth sense".
  - C. Wild animals, like human beings, have an instinct for disasters.
  - D. The wild animals in the Indian Ocean must have a "sixth sense" to escape from the tsunami.
5. According to Matthew van Lierop, \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. dogs and birds may sense the danger of coming disaster
  - B. no scientific test proves that the animals have an instinct for disasters
  - C. dogs and birds react strangely before volcanic eruptions or earthquakes
  - D. scientists need to do more in the lab field setting in order to prove it
6. The author mentions Romans and many ancient cultures so as to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. prove that animals have some magical power
  - B. add to the evidence that animals possess a "sixth sense"
  - C. prove that owls and elephants have a "sixth sense"
  - D. criticize the ancient people for being superstitious(迷信的)
7. What is the author's attitude towards the animal "sixth sense"?
- A. Objective.
  - B. Indifferent.
  - C. Puzzled.
  - D. Suspicious.

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_



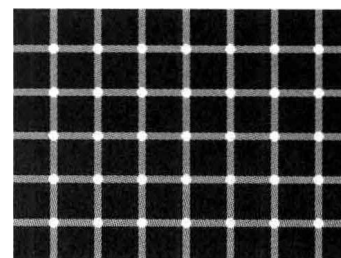
## (C)

What your eye really sees and what your brain thinks it sees are not always the same. The brain tends to see what it expects to see. Sometimes there are not enough clues in an image. Then the brain fills in the missing pieces. Other times there is too much stimulation (刺激) in an image. Then the brain becomes tired. It continues to act even when the stimulation stops. When either of these things happen, you will usually see an optical illusion (视觉错觉).

The invention of motion pictures relied on an optical illusion. Think about the pictures you see in a movie theater. The pictures are not really moving. What you see is really a series of still pictures that are shown to you very quickly. Your brain cannot process the still pictures as fast as they are shown. As a result, it fills in the motion that it expects to see between pictures.

The colors you *perceive* on a computer screen are also optical illusions. Actually there are only three colors of dots on your computer screen: red, green, and blue. When you see many different combinations of dots, your brain is fooled into thinking it sees a variety of colors on the screen.

There are also many other kinds of optical illusions that trick your brain. Look at the right picture, where dark squares are listed in rows. Do you see many gray dots, some brighter than others, in the white spaces? The dots are caused by light receptors in your eyes that help you see strong light and dark patterns. In the places where you see dots, the receptors are not doing their job!



Cartoonist W. E. Hill created the following famous eye trick.

Look at the drawing. What is the first thing you see? Some people see a young woman looking over her right shoulder. Other people see an old woman gazing downward. If you have trouble seeing both, here are some hints: The young woman's chin and jaw are the older woman's nose. The young woman's necklace is the old woman's mouth. Now

what do you see?

Words: About 350

Suggested reading time: 4.5 min.

Choose the best answers:

8. According to the passage, what can we learn about optical illusions?

- A. They are tricks created by your brain.
- B. All optical illusions are the same.
- C. Most people see the same thing in an image.
- D. They are purposeful mistakes made by cartoonists.

9. Which one of the following is true about motion pictures?

- A. They are pictures moving more quickly than your brain.
- B. They are optical illusions created by movie makers.
- C. Your brain imagines that these pictures are still.
- D. The brain fills in the missing pieces between pictures.

10. What does the italicized word "perceive" probably mean?

- A. Process.
- B. Imagine.
- C. See.
- D. Create.

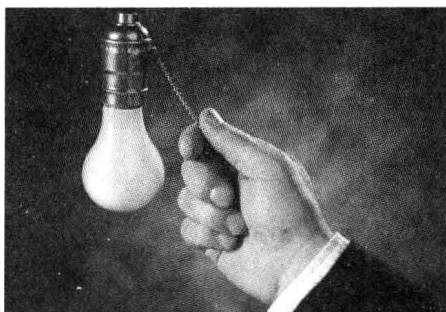
11. Which conclusion can we draw about cartoonist W. E. Hill?

- A. He created an illusion of an old woman.
- B. He drew many optical illusions.
- C. He made a joke with the readers.
- D. He created the optical illusion on purpose.

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_



(D)

Two students from Mr. Shaw's class were chosen to show their ideas at the annual invention convention. It was the fourth year that Mr. Shaw's students would present their work at the convention. The class's projects had included models, drawings, and even a recipe for a new way to make ice creams.

Kat invented a rolling rake(耙子) to help her with yard work. "We have a huge yard," said Kat. "In the fall, the wind blows the leaves around till they're everywhere. I took apart four rakes to make my invention. I then attached the heads to a pole. The pole hooks onto the back of my bike. I ride around on the lawn, dragging the rakes behind me. I get plenty of exercise, and I don't get hurt on my hands!"

A judge raised her hand. "Don't the wheels of your bicycle leave *tread* marks on the lawn?"

"I thought about that," Kat said. "I fitted the bike with extra wide tires that don't have any tread. In other words, there's no pattern of ridges(犁垄) cut into them that could make holes in the lawn."

Eric invented a design for windows that collect the sun's power. "I think we should try to use renewable resources," said Eric. "These are energy sources that don't run out or can be replaced. When you heat your home with fuels, you use energy sources that are limited. When you heat a room with large, south-facing windows, you use solar energy. These windows collect the sun's energy and direct it to special tiles(瓷砖). The tiles absorb, or soak up, heat during the day and then release it at night."

One of the judges had a question. "How do you block the sun's heat during the summer?"

Eric pointed to his drawing. "You plant deciduous trees(落叶树), such as maple, oak, beech or ash trees, outside the windows. Their leaves block the sunshine in the summer, but when they lose their leaves in the winter, the sun comes in. You also design your house with special panels called overhangs above the south windows. They block out the sun when it's high in the sky, as it is in the summertime. In the winter, when the sun is lower in the sky, the overhangs let the sun in."

Eric received a second-place ribbon for his design. Kat was invited to submit her idea to a gardening magazine. Mr. Shaw was proud of his students.

Words: About 420

Suggested reading time: 5.5 min.

Choose the best answers:

12. Which of the following dictionary definitions matches the word "tread"?
- A. To step or walk.
  - B. The upper part of a step in a staircase.
  - C. The pattern of ridges made or cut in the face of a tire.
  - D. To move your arms and hands in the water in a way that keeps your body upright.
13. What may be the purpose of the annual invention convention?
- A. To show to the judges that students are creative.
  - B. To encourage students to see ordinary things in inventive ways.
  - C. To help the students to cooperate and compete with each other.
  - D. None of the above.
14. What do Kat's and Eric's inventions have in common?
- A. They are both problem-solving inventions.
  - B. Both inventions are energy-consuming.
  - C. They both have something to do with planting trees.
  - D. All of the above.
15. According to Eric, overhangs are used to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. block out the sun in the winter
  - B. absorb the heat from the sun
  - C. add some decoration to the window
  - D. reduce the heat during the summer

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_



(E)

Read the following passage and then choose the most suitable heading from this list for each paragraph of the passage. Note that there is one extra heading.

- A. Messages in different roses
- B. A Greek story of the rose
- C. Human history of loving roses
- D. Cultivating the perfect red roses
- E. A Roman mythic story about the rose
- F. Red roses starting from China

16. 

People have been passionate about roses since the beginning of time. In fact, it is said that the floors of Cleopatra's palace were carpeted with delicate rose petals, and that the wise and knowing Confucius had a 600-book library specifically on how to care for roses.

17. 

The rose is a legend on its own. The story goes that during the Roman Empire, there was an incredibly beautiful maiden named Rhodanthe. Her beauty drew many zealous suitors who pursued her relentlessly. Exhausted by their pursuit, Rhodanthe was forced to take refuge from her suitors in the temple of her friend Diana. Unfortunately, Diana became jealous. And when the suitors broke down her temple gates to get near their beloved Rhodanthe, she became angry turning Rhodanthe into a rose and her suitors into thorns.

18. 

In a Greek legend, the rose was created by Chloris, the Greek goddess of flowers. It was just a lifeless seed of a nymph that Chloris found one day in a clearing in the woods. She asked the help of Aphrodite, the goddess of love, who gave her beauty

Dionysus, the god of wine, added nectar to give her a sweet scent, and the three Graces gave her charm, brightness and joy. Then Zephyr, the West Wind, blew away the clouds so that Apollo, the sun god, could shine and made this flower bloom. And so the Rose was born and was immediately crowned the Queen of Flowers.

19.

The first true primary red rose seen in Europe was "Slater's Crimson China" introduced in 1792 from China, where it had been growing wild in the mountains. Immediately, rose breeders began using it to hybridize red roses for cultivation. Ever since, the quest for the perfect red rose has been the Holy Grail of rosarians: a fragrant, disease-resistant, long-lasting, long-stemmed, reblooming, perfectly formed rose with a clear non-fading vivid red color. Absolute perfection still hasn't been attained, and of course never will!

20.

There is a special rose language invented as a secret means of communication between lovers who were not allowed to express their love for each other openly. In the mid 18th century the wife of the British ambassador in Constantinople described this in her letters, which were published after her death. These letters inspired many books on the language of flowers, each describing the secret message hidden in each flower. A red rose bud stands for budding desire and an open white rose asks "Will you love me?" An open red rose means "I'm full of love and desire," while an open yellow rose asks "Don't you love me any more?"

Words: About 435

Suggested reading time: 5.5 min

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### (A)



The boss of a big company needed to call one of his employees about an urgent problem with one of the main computers. He dialed the employee's home phone number and was greeted with a child's whisper.

"Hello."

"Is your daddy home?" he asked.

"Yes," whispered the small voice.

"May I talk with him?"

The child whispered, "No."

Surprised, and wanting to talk with an adult, the boss asked, "Is your Mommy there?"

"Yes."

"May I talk with her?"

Again the small voice whispered, "No."

Hoping there was somebody with whom he could leave a message, the boss asked, "Is anybody else there?"

"Yes," whispered the child, "a policeman."

Wondering what a cop would be doing at his employee's home, the boss asked,

"May I speak with the policeman?"

"No, he's busy," whispered the child.

"Busy doing what?"

"Talking to Daddy and Mommy and the Fireman," came the whispered answer.

Growing concerned and even worried as he heard what sounded like a helicopter through the earpiece on the phone, the boss asked, "What is that noise?"

"A hello-copper," answered the whispering voice.

"What is going on there?" asked the boss, now truly alarmed.

In an awed whispering voice the child answered, "The search team just landed the hello-copper."

Alarmed, concerned, and even more than just a little frustrated, the boss asked, "What are they searching for?"

Still whispering, the young voice replied along with a muffled giggle(闷笑), "Me."

Choose the best answers:

1. Why did the boss make the phone call?
  - A. He intended to find what the boy was doing.
  - B. He was concerned about what happened in his employee's home.
  - C. He wanted to consult his employee about a technical problem.
  - D. He was angry that his employee was late for work.
  
2. The boss felt more than a little frustrated because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. he could not understand the situation
  - B. the little boy did not let him talk to the police
  - C. no one could find the little boy
  - D. he was concerned about his computer problem
  
3. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
  - A. The boy set fire to the house.
  - B. The little boy called the police.
  - C. The helicopter came to rescue the family.
  - D. The child was up to some mischief.

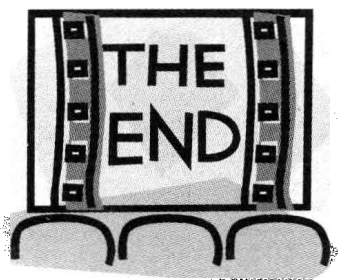
Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_



## (B)



## Things You Learn from the Movies:

1. Large, loft-style apartments in New York City are well within the price range of most people—whether they are employed or not.
2. At least one of a pair of identical twins is born evil.
3. Should you decide to defuse(解除) a bomb, don't worry which wire to cut. You will always choose the right one.
4. Most laptop computers are powerful enough to overcome the communication system of any invading society.
5. It does not matter if you are heavily outnumbered in a fight involving martial arts: your enemies will wait patiently to attack you one by one by dancing around in a threatening manner until you have knocked out their predecessors(前辈).
6. When you turn out the light to go to bed, everything in your bedroom will still be clearly visible, just slightly bluish.
7. If you are blonde and pretty, it is possible to become a world expert on nuclear at the age of 22.
8. Honest and hard working policemen are traditionally gunned down three days before their retirement.
9. You're very likely to survive any battle in any war unless you make the mistake of showing someone a picture of your sweetheart back home.
10. Should you wish to pass yourself off as a German or Russian officer, it will not be necessary to speak the language. A German or Russian accent will do.
11. The Eiffel Tower can be seen from any window in Paris.
12. A man will show no pain while taking the most ferocious(凶猛的) beating, but will wince when a woman tries to clean his wounds.
13. All bombs are fitted with electronic timing devices with large red readouts so you know exactly when they're going to go off.
14. If you decide to start dancing in the street, everyone you meet will know all the steps.