

21 世纪英语题库

大学英语四级考试

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前 言

大学英语四级模拟试题集可以比喻成一个春天的百花园,种类繁多,争奇斗艳。我们编写的这本《21 世纪英语题库——大学英语四级考试》就是想给这个百花园再添上一朵小花。不过,这朵小花还是有其特点,也就是本书的综合性与实用性。我们想通过这本书尽量体现当前大学英语四级考试的要旨和内容。

本书的特点是:第一,根据四级考试大纲和全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会“关于公布全国大学英语四、六级考试第一、二批新题型的通知”精神编写此书,编写过程中是按内容分类,然后组成套题,使各套题之间衔接紧密、自然、科学。第二,该书题型新、内容新。阅读理解中的大部分短文选自原文报刊杂志;作文部分的许多短文也是新写的参考样文。第三,本书题量较大,共由 25 套题组成,其中最后三套为已曝光的四级考试真题。本书适合阶段性辅助教学和练习用。第四,试题涵盖面广,有一定的难度,贴近四级考试真题,是一本很好的模拟训练材料。第五,本书配有听力录音磁带。

参加本书编写的有(按姓氏笔画为序):马明、王勃然、卢卉艳、刘熠、刘永刚、李耸、杨柏艳、杨国宏、张春良、张丽杰。其中杨国宏、马明编写阅读理解和翻译部分,王勃然、李耸也担任了部分阅读理解编写工作;刘永刚、张春良、王勃然编写听力部分;杨柏艳编写完型填空和听写填空部分;卢卉艳、张丽杰编写词汇与语法结构部分;刘熠编写简短回答与复合式听写部分;李耸担任作文部分的编写及第 23~25 套真题的编辑和本书的统稿工作。

在本书的编写过程中,还始终得到金启军副教授的关心和帮助,并审阅了作文的部分短文。此外,东北大学外语系的许多教师和打字室的同志也给予了大量的帮助与支持,在此一并表示感谢。

由于编者水平有限,书中不妥之处在所难免,敬请广大读者不吝批评指正。

编 者

1999 年 6 月

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Model Tests

Test 1

Part I Listening Comprehension (20 minutes)

Section A

Directions: In this section, you will hear 10 short conversations. At the end of each conversation, a question will be asked about what was said. The conversation and the question will be spoken only once. After each question there will be a pause. During the pause, you must read the four choices marked A), B), C) and D), and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Example: You will hear:

You will read:

- A) At the office.
- B) In the waiting room.
- C) At the airport.
- D) In a restaurant.

Sample Answer [~~A~~] [B] [C] [D]

From the conversation we know that the two were talking about some work they have to finish in the evening. This is most likely to have taken place at the office. Therefore, A) "At the office" is the best answer. You should choose answer [A] on the Answer Sheet and mark it with a single line through the centre.

1. A) Businessmen. B) Mathematicians.
C) Professors. D) Students.
2. A) Cafeteria. B) Home.
C) Hotel. D) Classroom.
3. A) The sandwich is very expensive.
B) There are few people buying sandwiches.
C) The sandwich is delicious.
D) The counter is on the right side.
4. A) Twenty-six. B) Sixty. C) Seventeen. D) Seventy.
5. A) At a doctor's office. B) At a bank.
C) At a gas station. D) At a supermarket.
6. A) Make copies. B) Book tickets.
C) Make corrections on the original. D) Answer the phone.
7. A) No medicine could solve the man's problem.
B) The man should eat less to lose weight.
C) Nothing could help the man if he ate too much.

- D) The man should have the right foods.
8. A) He found biology easy to learn.
B) He passed the biology test very easily.
C) He helped everyone with their maths.
D) He was more interested in football than in biology.
9. A) On the phone. B) At an office.
C) In a hotel. D) At home.
10. A) At an information counter. B) At a primary school.
C) At a bookstore. D) At a post office.

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions.*

Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D). Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 11 to 13 are based on the passage you have just heard.

11. A) Near a river. B) In the middle of a road.
C) In a forest. D) In the middle of a field.
12. A) Before they put up their tent. B) Before they cooked their meal.
C) Before they had their meal. D) After they had their meal.
13. A) Because a bear entered the tent.
B) Because a pack of wolves attacked them.
C) Because the tent caught fire.
D) Because their tent was full of water.

Passage Two

Questions 14 to 16 are based on the passage you have just heard.

14. A) 400 years old. B) 3 000 years old.
C) 5 000 years old. D) 6 000 years old.
15. A) When they were forced to do so.
B) When they had no money.
C) When they were afraid of being fined.
D) When they were not able to work on their farms.
16. A) It is about 244 meters high.
B) It is made of two million three hundred thousand stones.
C) It is built along the Nile River.
D) It is the largest pyramid in Egypt.

Passage Three

Questions 17 to 20 are based on the passage you have just heard.

17. A) Take long walks in park. B) Eat a lot of meat.
C) Play with visitor's hats. D) Walk around in the room.
18. A) Because the visitor was going to leave early.
B) Because the visitor paid no attention to Jack.
C) Because the visitor would take Jack away.
D) Because the visitor stayed till it's time for the walk.
19. A) Walked around the room several times.
B) Sat down directly in front of the visitor.
C) Looked at him.
D) Beat the visitor.
20. A) To show his respect.
B) To let the visitor take him for a walk.
C) To give the visitor a present.
D) To let the visitor leave.

Part II

Reading Comprehension

(35 minutes)

Directions: There are 4 passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements.

For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following passage.

Usually spirits, ghosts, or supernatural beings are believed to cause "good" and "evil" things to happen. Within the context of religion expression and experience, evil includes the whole range of puzzling and unjust troubles that harm human societies. The very nature of existence brings with it countless injustices: wars, failed crops and famine; natural disasters and illnesses that unmercifully strike those who lead exemplary lives. In short, people wonder why the world is not perfect and just, and it is usual for religions to explain these events as the acts of supernatural beings.

In Greek legends, all evil was attributed to Pandora, who was created to bring about the ruin of man. She opened the box presented by Zeus out of curiosity, thus releasing all the world's sins, troubles, and diseases.

A more typical explanation of evil is the belief in dualism(二元论), the struggle of supernatural beings working for "good" against the awesome forces of "evil". The devil(Satan or Lucifer) has long controlled Western thought as the personification of evil, forming a central part of contemporary religions. Among the more recent reminders of the existence of the devil came one in 1987 when Pope(教皇) Paul II emphasized that "the struggle against the devil is present even today because the devil is alive and functioning in the world." Dualism implies the presence of more

than one supernatural being, suggesting that all the major religions in the world admire not only one god. Although each emphasizes a single supreme being, all have lesser gods: angels, saints and devils.

21. This passage is mainly about _____.
A) spirits, ghosts and supernatural beings
B) dualism
C) evil and its history
D) the religious explanation of the sources of evil
22. As far as religion is concerned, which of the following is not evil?
A) Crime. B) Illness. C) Death. D) Hunger.
23. Why do people think that it is the supernatural beings that cause evil?
A) Because they don't understand the very reason why the world is unjust.
B) Because they are right to think so.
C) Because they are too curious.
D) Because they hate evil.
24. According to Greek legends, our world would be _____ now if Pandora had held back her curiosity.
A) perfect and fair B) as it is
C) not perfect and just D) worse than it is
25. Which of the following forms the centre of modern Western religions?
A) Pandora. B) Satan. C) Angels. D) Saints.

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage.

In November, Medicare takes the first step toward what will be a historic change. New types of senior health plans are on the drawing board. The government is preparing for a pouring-in of anxious telephone calls from its senior citizens.

At present, Medicare is delivered in one of two ways. The most popular is the traditional fee-to-service plan, now called Original Medicare. You can see any doctor who'll accept you as a patient. The government covers most of the cost. As a backup, seniors typically buy private Medigap insurance(医疗辅助保险), which helps pay the bills that Medicare doesn't.

Alternatively(或者), you might join a Medicare HMO(Health Maintenance Organization). There, you're under the care of a single main doctor, who decides on the medical treatment you'll get. HMOs offer broad enough benefits that you don't have to bother with private Medigap.

Seniors have always seemed happy enough with these two options. But our lawmakers had bigger ideas. Last summer, they authorized four new kinds of senior health plans. To privatize the program, they added high-income options and lengthened the reach of managed care. They called it the collection Medicare Choice.

Before I go any further, two misunderstandings must be clarified. First, basic Medicare benefits have not been cut. You'll simply be offered new ways of managing your care. Second, you are not required to choose a new plan. Do nothing, and you'll keep the Medicare coverage you already

have.

If you leave the Original Medicare for one of the Choice plans, you'll no longer need Medigap insurance. But what if you come to hate your new plan? Original Medicare will take you back. But you're guaranteed a return to Medigap only, if this is the first time that you've changed your mind, and providing that this is within the first 12 months. Otherwise, you're out of luck.

26. From which of the following is this passage most likely taken from?
- A) A newspaper article.
 - B) A government document.
 - C) A medical book.
 - D) A TV advertisement.
27. How does the government expect the senior citizens will respond to the new health plans?
- A) They will be dissatisfied.
 - B) They will be curious.
 - C) They will be content.
 - D) They will be excited.
28. Which are the two forms that present Medicare takes?
- A) Original Medicare and Medigap insurance.
 - B) Medigap insurance and Medicare HMO.
 - C) Original Medicare and Medicare HMO.
 - D) High-income options and Managed care.
29. How is the health plans made more private?
- A) Basic Medicare benefits have not been cut and the choice of one new plan is not required.
 - B) People are free to choose either the Original Medicare or the new plans.
 - C) High-income choices are added and the range of managed care is enlarged.
 - D) People are allowed to give up their choice plans if they want to.
30. If you want to quit your new choice plan, which of the following is true?
- A) You can do it only once and within 12 months after your choice.
 - B) You can do it more than once and at any time if you don't want Medigap any more.
 - C) You are completely free to do it if you are lucky.
 - D) You are to do it once every 12 months.

Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following passage.

Much has been written about sharks(鲨鱼) with imaginary hair-raising fears. But the fact is that very little known about them. Even identifying a shark in the water can be very difficult.

The back, or dorsal, fin(鳍) of a shark is one of its clearest characteristics. However, it may easily be confused with the fin or wing tip of other sea animals that do not usually harm people. The porpoise, a small whale, has a dorsal fin, but shows a part of its back as it moves in the water. The swordfish also has a dorsal fin but in addition a portion of its tail may emerge. And when a devilfish moves, each of its wing tips may break the surface and give the appearance of sharks swimming side by side.

Sharks are among the earth's oldest groups of animals. Some types are known to have survived almost unchanged for as long as 250 million years. Their ability for survival, strength, and speed is almost unequalled in the entire animal world. A shark's teeth are arranged in rows and can number as many as 280 in the tiger shark to more than 1 500 in the whale shark. Shark's teeth

are the largest in the fish world. Some are grinding teeth, like ours, some are pointed, and some have jagged(不齐却很锋利的)edges.

31. What is the passage mainly about?
- A) All that we know about sharks. B) Sharks' fins.
C) Sharks' surviving ability. D) Some characteristics of sharks.
32. What can you see when a swordfish is swimming in the water?
- A) Its back fin and part of its tail. B) Its back fin and a part of its back.
C) Its wing tips. D) Only its dorsal fin.
33. Why is it difficult for people to distinguish sharks from other sea animals with back fins?
- A) Because their back fins are all the same.
B) Because they are very similar in appearance.
C) Because they are all quick-swimmers.
D) Because they all show their back fins when swimming.
34. What's the writer's attitude towards sharks?
- A) Afraid. B) Subjective. C) Loving. D) Objective.
35. What is the writer likely to talk about in the paragraph following the passage?
- A) Human being's teeth.
B) Other characteristics of sharks.
C) Examples to show that sharks attack people.
D) Differences between sharks and other sea animals.

Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following passage.

That teaching is a college professor's primary role is evident. In reality, however, the respectable saying "publish or perish(死亡)" has become the virtual rule of law on many campuses, where research, not performance in the classroom, is the overwhelming factor in determining a professor's status and salary.

Now, thoughtful critics are asking whether a system that increasingly favors research over teaching is to blame for the startling undereducation of many of today's undergraduates. "The great myth is that tenure(终身职位) comes on the basis of community service, teaching and research in equal measures" says J Huston of Rice University. The truth is that "writing is the way to become rich, to make a name."

To make things worse, as junior instructors struggle to fatten tenure files and tenured professors compete for grants, what has emerged is a massive, a massively wasteful academic-publishing industry, which has produced us a faculty of scholars frequently so narrow in their studies and specialized in their scholarship that they are simply incapable of teaching introductory courses.

Happily, the age of teachers who never teach may be drawing to a close. A new reward system will soon be carried out to allow faculty to focus on different tasks during different phases of their careers. Each would count equally toward professional advancement. Senior staff might make the classroom their top priority, while junior professors would focus on the other.

36. What is the main idea of the passage?

- A) Many university instructors are neglecting their primary role, teaching.
 - B) Teaching should be considered as important as research.
 - C) The academic-publishing industry has produced overspecialized scholars.
 - D) Today's undergraduates are undereducated.
37. Which of the following is the closest in meaning to the phrase "publish or perish" (para. 1, line 2)?
- A) If you are not a publisher, you will die.
 - B) Universities neglect their most primary role, teaching.
 - C) Universities overemphasize research in the present reward system.
 - D) Research and teaching are not equal in the eyes of university instructors.
38. What is the effect of the research-centered reward system on scholars?
- A) They become unable to teach.
 - B) They become excellent in their majors.
 - C) They become wealthy and famous.
 - D) They become unfit to teach fundamental courses.
39. What will junior professors be encouraged to do according to the new reward system?
- A) Teaching.
 - B) Researching.
 - C) Community service.
 - D) Publishing business.
40. Why is research considered more important than teaching by scholars?
- A) It grants them tenure.
 - B) It brings them more benefits than teaching.
 - C) It is ruled by law.
 - D) They prefer research to teaching.

Part III

Vocabulary and Structure

(20 minutes)

Directions: There are 30 incomplete sentences in this part. For each sentence there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). Choose the ONE answer that best completes the sentences. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

41. Please pass me that book, _____ with a blue cover.
- A) one
 - B) the one
 - C) this
 - D) such
42. A ballet is theatrical entertainment that _____ the arts of dancing, stage design, and music into one.
- A) replaces
 - B) promotes
 - C) simplifies
 - D) blends
43. These two novels were published in 1900 and 1920 _____.
- A) singly
 - B) respectively
 - C) separately
 - D) individually
44. Slang and substandard language are not generally _____ in published scientific papers.
- A) abundant
 - B) apparent
 - C) accepted
 - D) recognized
45. Tickets for the first three rows are not available to those of ordinary social standing; they are _____ for celebrities.
- A) retained
 - B) occupied
 - C) preserved
 - D) reserved

46. The scientists were conducting an experiment and expected a good _____.
 A) effect B) result C) consequence D) affect
47. I could feel my heart _____ heavily as I finished the race.
 A) jumping B) striking C) beating D) moving
48. These children _____ their hands in time to the music.
 A) rub B) pat C) strike D) clap
49. She prefers to choose a tall, handsome and, _____, considerate young man as her boy friend.
 A) after all B) in all C) at all D) above all
50. This book is very popular at present, so it is _____ at any bookstore.
 A) applicable B) valuable C) available D) advisable
51. We had a party last month, and it was a lot of fun, so let's have _____ one this month.
 A) another B) the other C) more D) other
52. The ambitious young man decided to _____ politics after graduation.
 A) take over B) set out C) go into D) give in
53. When the businessman _____ all his letters, he did some gardening to relax himself.
 A) write B) will write C) wrote D) had written
54. Western Nebraska generally receives less snow than _____ eastern Nebraska.
 A) in B) it does in C) does D) in it does
55. John lost himself in the woods. He _____ to go alone.
 A) ought not to allow B) ought to not allow
 C) ought not to have been allowed D) ought to not have been allowed
56. Amelia Earhart, _____ woman to make a solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean, was born in 1898.
 A) the first B) was the first
 C) she was the first D) the first who was a
57. The goods _____ when we arrived at the airport.
 A) were just being unloaded B) had just unloaded
 C) were just unloading D) were just been unloaded
58. Advertising is distinguished from other forms of communication _____ the advertiser pays for the message to be delivered.
 A) in that B) in which C) in this way D) in order that
59. One common-sense reason _____ children learn to speak is that they imitate those around them.
 A) which B) what C) why D) of which
60. Noah Webster's Dictionary was _____ in 1828 and has been extremely influential in American language usage ever since then.
 A) the first published B) first published
 C) the first to be published D) to be first published
61. The people at the party worried about Janet because no one was aware _____ she had gone.

- A) of the place where B) the place
C) of where D) where that
62. Yesterday we went to see him, _____ that he had gone abroad two weeks ago.
A) only to learn B) only learn
C) only learning D) only having learned
63. _____ travel was once an uncertain and dangerous event, it is now an easily planned adventure.
A) Since B) While C) Before D) As
64. When I entered the room, I noticed a _____ look come over her face.
A) surprising B) surprise C) surprised D) having surprised
65. It's no use _____ with William. You might as well _____ with a wall.
A) arguing, argue B) arguing, arguing C) to argue, arguing D) to argue, argue
66. It is eight o'clock. I am surprised at _____.
A) its being so late B) so late its being
C) it being so late D) that it is so late
67. Because of air pollution being greatly reduced, this city is still _____.
A) a good place to live B) lived as a good place
C) a good place to live in D) living in as a good place
68. "Mr Green is likely _____ about this meeting. Why hasn't he come?"
A) to notify B) to be notified
C) to have been notified D) being notified
69. "Which rug did your wife buy?" "The blue one, but I _____ bought the brown one."
A) will rather have B) would rather have C) rather had D) would have rather
70. Jet airplanes have made the world a much smaller place _____.
A) to live in it B) in which to live C) in it to live D) on which to live

Part IV

Cloze

(15 minutes)

Directions: There are 20 blanks in the following passage. For each blank there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D) at the back of the passage. You should choose the ONE that best fits into the passage. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Man has three basic needs: food, clothing and shelter. If a man lives in a warm climate, clothing is not 71 necessary. 72, man cannot live 73 food, and, he has 74 chance of survival without shelter. Mankind needs shelter to 75 him from the weather, wild animals, insects, and his enemies.

Long before man learned how to build house, he looked for 76 shelters, as the animals did. He found that he could protect himself by climbing up into trees or 77 crawling into caves. The first shelters or homes 78 built by man were very 79. For his building 80, he used 81 he could find easily around him: rocks, tree branches, dried grasses, animal skins. It was a long time 82 man began to build 83 shelters because, 84 man learnt to farm, he lived by hunting. And,

in 85 to hunt, he had to be able to move from one hunting ground to another. 86 the first man-made shelters were those that could be easily transported.

The first permanent shelters were 87 built twenty to forty thousand years ago by fish-eating people who lived in one place as 88 as the fish supply lasted. Fish-eaters could stay in one place for several years. However, 89 man learned to farm, he could live longer in one place. Thus he was able to build a permanent home. Once again he built his home with the materials he found 90 hand.

- | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| 71. A) certainly | B) completely | C) absolutely | D) wholly |
| 72. A) But | B) Then | C) Because | D) However |
| 73. A) on | B) with | C) by | D) without |
| 74. A) few | B) much | C) little | D) plenty |
| 75. A) survive | B) protect | C) save | D) keep |
| 76. A) man-made | B) natural | C) animal | D) comfortable |
| 77. A) in | B) through | C) by | D) for |
| 78. A) exactly | B) actually | C) possibly | D) approximately |
| 79. A) simple | B) modern | C) natural | D) good |
| 80. A) places | B) tools | C) materials | D) instruments |
| 81. A) that | B) what | C) which | D) these |
| 82. A) when | B) after | C) before | D) that |
| 83. A) natural | B) permanent | C) temporary | D) hunting |
| 84. A) since | B) later | C) until | D) when |
| 85. A) addition | B) relation | C) regard | D) order |
| 86. A) Then | B) Thus | C) For | D) And |
| 87. A) surely | B) likely | C) possibly | D) necessarily |
| 88. A) far | B) soon | C) long | D) early |
| 89. A) in case | B) once | C) as soon as | D) even if |
| 90. A) in | B) at | C) on | D) with |

Part V

Writing

(30 minutes)

Directions: For this part, you are allowed thirty minutes to write a composition on the topic *On Part-time Jobs on Campus*. You should write at least 100 words and you should base your composition on the outline (given in Chinese) below:

On Part-time Jobs on Campus

1. 校园里有许多学生在打工。
2. 打工的有利方面。
3. 打工的不利方面。

Test 2

Part I

Listening Comprehension

(20 minutes)

Section A

Directions: In this section, you will hear 10 short conversations. At the end of each conversation, a question will be asked about what was said. The conversation and the question will be spoken only once. After each question there will be a pause. During the pause, you must read the four choices marked A), B), C) and D), and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Example: You will hear:

You will read:

- A) At the office.
- B) In the waiting room.
- C) At the airport.
- D) In a restaurant.

Sample Answer[~~A~~][B][C][D]

From the conversation we know that the two were talking about some work they have to finish in the evening. This is most likely to have taken place at the office. Therefore, A) "At the office" is the best answer. You should choose answer [A] on the Answer Sheet and mark it with a single line through the centre.

1. A) 60 dollars
B) 120 dollars
C) 200 dollars
D) 240 dollars
2. A) He will be busy next week.
B) He will not be busy next week.
C) He is not busy this week.
D) He will have more experiments to do next week.
3. A) Every day.
B) Every day except Friday.
C) Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.
D) Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.
4. A) By train.
B) By bus.
C) By car.
D) By taxi.
5. A) It's 10 minutes fast.
B) It's 10 minutes slow.
C) It's 20 minutes fast.
D) It stops working.
6. A) He was sick, but he is getting better.
B) Only one class was available to him.
C) He doesn't need to study hard.
D) He has just returned from vacation.

7. A) In a post office.
 B) In an office.
 C) In a meeting room.
 D) In a market.
8. A) The afternoon will be more crowded.
 B) The doctors are not friendly.
 C) It's a busy year for the clinic.
 D) A lot of people are sick during this season.
9. A) Ask the man to teach her how to drive.
 B) Learn to drive.
 C) Leave the man alone.
 D) Teach the man how to drive.
10. A) She did poorly on the mid-term exam.
 B) She got more than eighty percent right.
 C) Eighty percent of the students did quite well.
 D) She did much better than she expected.

Section B

Directions: In this section, you will hear 3 short passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D). Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 11 to 13 are based on the passage you have just heard.

11. A) Detect silver buried in the ground.
 B) Detect gold buried in the ground.
 C) Detect silver in the river.
 D) Detect gold in the river.
12. A) In a river.
 B) In a cave.
 C) In a house.
 D) In a box.
13. A) A small gold ring.
 B) A small gold watch.
 C) A small gold coin.
 D) A small gold cup.

Passage Two

Questions 14 to 16 are based on the passage you have just heard.

14. A) 1 000 kilometers from the sea.
 B) 800 kilometers from the sea.
 C) 500 kilometers from the sea.
 D) 100 kilometers from the sea.
15. A) 5%.
 B) 80%.
 C) 90%.
 D) 50%.
16. A) Because it is near the sea.
 B) Because it is warmer than other places.
 C) Because it is colder than other places.
 D) It is not mentioned in the passage.

Passage Three

Questions 17 to 20 are based on the passage you have just heard.

17. A) An extremely critical teacher.
 B) An extremely selfish teacher.
 C) An extremely beautiful teacher.
 D) An extremely talented teacher.