

大学英语六级考试

历年全真试题诠释

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1993 年 1 月六级真题

Part I

Listening Comprehension

(20 minutes)

Section A

Directions: In this section, you will hear ten short conversations. At the end of each conversation, a question will be asked about what was said. Both 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) 2 hours.

C) 4 hours.

B) 3 hours.

D) 5 hours.

From the conversation we know that the two were talking about some work they will start at 9 o'clock in the morning and have to finish at 2 in the afternoon. Therefore, D) "5 hours" is the correct answer. You should choose [D] on the Answer Sheet and mark it with a single line through the centre.

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

1. A) It was misleading.

C) It was rather boring.

B) It was enjoyable.

D) It was just so.

2. A) Pop music.

B) Classical music.

C) Folk music.

D) All kinds of music.

3. A) He will fly directly to his destination.

C) He is still not sure how to get there.

B) He has to change at Albany.

D) He must change at Jacksonville.

4. A) It's late.

B) It's crowded.

C) It's empty.

D) It's on time.

5. A) Unusual.

B) Enthusiastic.

C) Serious.

D) Threatening.

6. A) Her name is on the top of the list.

C) She is expecting a job interview.

B) She will be the last to be interviewed.

D) She must fix a date for the job.

7. A) The husband is not so observant.

B) The wife is annoyed at her husband's complaint.

C) The husband hasn't told the truth.

D) The wife is going to the hairdresser's.

8. A) The students miss their professor very much.

B) The professor didn't give the lesson.

C) A new course will begin next Monday.

9. A) She accepted their request.

C) She agreed to consider their request.

10. A) At work. B) Back at home. C) At the meeting. D) Away from home.

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three 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.*

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

C) Fashionable clothes.

D) Informal clothes.

C) They want to have their children.

D) They enjoy modern dances.

B) They can't agree on the color of the room.

C) They can't agree on the kind of furniture.

D) The speaker likes to keep things neat while her twin sister doesn't.

Questions 14 to 17 are based on the passage you have just heard.

C) In the third semester.

D) In the fourth semester.

C) Her husband wants her to.

D) Her mother wants her to.

C) His girl friend. D) His teacher.

B) He has still to make a decision.

C) He has decided to give up his job.

D) He has still to take a part-time job.

Questions 18 to 20 are based on the passage you have just heard.

19. A) David had been selling cars. C) David had become a salesman.

- B)David had taught business. D)David had made a lot of money.
20. A)Rich people are not happy.
B)Being rich is the best thing in the world.
C)Being rich is not always a good thing.
D)Rich people are usually with their families.

Part II Reading Comprehension (35 minutes)

Directions: *There are four 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.

Protests at the use of animals in research have taken a new and fearful character in Britain with the attempted murder of two British scientists by the terrorist technique of the pre-planted car-bomb.

The research community will rightly be alarmed at these developments, which have two objectives; to arouse public attention and to frighten people working in research with animals. The first need is that everything should be done to identify those responsible for the crimes and to put them on trail. The Defence Research Society has taken the practical step of offering a reward of 10,000 pounds for information leading to those responsible, but past experience is not encouraging. People are unlikely to be tempted by such offers. The professional police will similarly be confronted by the usual problem of finding a needle in a haystack.

That is why the *intellectual* (知识分子) community in Britain and elsewhere must act more vigorously in its own defence. There are several steps that can be taken, of which the chief one is to demand of all the organizations that exist with the declared objectives of safeguarding the interests of animals that they should declare clearly where they stand on violence towards people. And it will not be enough for the chairmen and chairwomen of these organizations to utter *placatory* (安抚的) statements on behalf of all their members. These people should also undertake that it will be a test of continuing membership in their organizations that members and would be members should declare that they will take no part in acts of violence against human beings. Even such undertakings would not be fully effective; people, after all, can lie. But at least they would distinguish the organizations entitled to a continuing voice in the dialogue with the research community about the rights of animals in research from the organizations that deserve no say.

21. The words "these developments" (Para. 2, Line 1) most probably refer to _____.

- A) the acts of violence against scientists

- B)the use of animals in research
 - C)the techniques of planting bombs in cars
 - D)the establishment of new animal protection organization
22. Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
- A)The police abandoned their efforts to find the criminals.
 - B)The terrorists escaped with the help of their organizations.
 - C)The attempted murder caused grave anxiety among British scientists.
 - D)People sympathized murder caused grave anxiety among British scientists.
23. The author's purpose in writing his article is to demand that animal-protecting organizations ____.
- A)declare their objectives clearly
 - B)give up the use of violence
 - C)continue the dialogue with the scientific community
 - D)help to find those responsible for the attempted murder
24. In the author's opinion _____.
- A)since people can lie, the problem about the rights of scientists can't be solved
 - B)animal-protection organizations about be held responsible for acts of violence against scientists
 - C)animal-protection organizations should be declared illegal
 - D)the scientists should take effective measure to protect themselves
25. What does the word "they" (Para. 3, Line 4) refer to?
- A)The animal-protecting organizations.
 - B)The organizations that will talk with the research community.
 - C)Those who support the use of animals in research.
 - D)Those who support the animal-protection organizations.

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage.

The earlier type of suburb, which was most dependent on the railroad, had a special advantage that could be fully appreciated only after it had disappeared. These suburbs, spread out along a railroad line, were discontinuous and properly spaced; and without the aid of *legislation* (法规) they were limited in population as well as area; for the biggest rarely held as many as ten thousand people, and under five thousand was more usual. In 1950, for example, Bronxville, New York, a typical upper-class suburb, had 6,778 people, while Riverside, Illinois, founded as early as 1869, had only 9,153.

The size and scale of the suburb, that of a neighborhood unit, was not entirely the result of its open planing, which favored low densities. Being served by a railroad line, with station stops from three to five miles apart, there was a natural limit to the spread of any particular commu-

nity. House had to be sited “within easy walking distance of the railroad station”, as some old residents would point out; and only those wealthy enough to afford a horse and a carriage dared to penetrate farther into the open country.

Through its spaced station stops, the railroad suburb was at first kept from spreading or excessively increasing in numbers, for a natural greenbelt, often still under cultivation as park, gardens, remained between the suburbs and increased the available recreation area. Occasionally, in a few happy areas like Westchester, between 1915 and 1935 a parkway, like the Bronx River parkway, accompanied by continuous strip of park for *pedestrian* (散步的人) use, not yet overrun by a constant stream of urban traffic, added to the perfection of the whole suburban pattern. Whatever one might say of the social disadvantages this was in many ways a perfect physical environment. But it lasted less than a generation.

26. What was the special advantage of the old type of suburb?

- A) Its nearness to the railroad. C) Its small size in area and population.
- B) The vastness of its open space. D) The high social status of its residents.

27. The size of the old suburb was limited because _____.

- A) people wanted to live near a railroad station.
- B) it was originally planned by railroad companies.
- C) there was a law governing the size of the suburb.
- D) local inhabitants didn't like to out in the country.

28. “happy areas” (Para 3, Line 4) were areas where _____.

- A) life was enjoyed by everyone
- B) more roads were built to bypass the heavy traffic
- C) a greenbelt was available solely for recreation
- D) people could have lots of fun

29. It is evident that the writer _____.

- A) finds urban life uncomfortable
- B) prefers life in the countryside
- C) feels disappointed in the changes of suburbs
- D) advocates the idea of returning to nature

30. The topic discussed in the passage is “_____”.

- A) the size and scale of suburban neighborhood units
- B) the advantage of old-type suburbs
- C) the location of railroad stations
- D) the concept of the suburban pattern

Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following passage.

Recent stories in the newspapers and magazines suggest that teaching and research contra-

dict each other, that research plays too prominent a part in academic promotions, and that teaching is badly underemphasized. There is an element of truth in these statements, but they also ignore deeper and more important relationships.

Research experience is an essential element of hiring and promotion at a research university because it is the emphasis on research that distinguishes such a university from an arts college. Some professors, however, neglect teaching for research and that presents a problem.

Most research universities reward outstanding teaching, but the greatest recognition is usually given for achievements in research. Part of the reason is the difficulty of judging teaching. A highly responsible and tough professor is usually appreciated by top students who want to be challenged, but disliked by those whose records are less impressive. The mild professor gets overall ratings that are usually high, but there is a sense of disappointment in the part of the best students, exactly those for whom the system should present the greatest challenges. Thus, a university trying to promote professors primarily on the teaching qualities would have to confront this confusion.

As modern science moves faster, two forces are exerted on professor: one in the time needed to keep on with the profession; the other is the time needed to teach. The training of new scientists requires outstanding teaching at the research university as well as the arts college. Although scientists are usually "made" in the elementary schools, scientists can be "lost" by poor teaching at the college and graduate school levels. The solution is not to separate teaching and research, but to recognize that the combination is difficult but vital. The title of professor should be given only to those who profess, and it is perhaps time for universities to reserve it for those willing to be an earnest part of the community of scholars. Professors unwilling to teach can be called "distinguished research investigators" or something else.

The pace of modern science makes it increasingly difficult to be a great researcher and a great teacher. Yet many are described in just those terms. Those who say we can separate teaching and research simply do not understand the system but those who say the problem will disappear are not fulfilling their responsibilities.

31. What idea does the author want to convey in the first paragraph?

- A) It is wrong to overestimate the importance of teaching.
- B) Teaching and research are contradictory to each other.
- C) Research can never be emphasized too much.
- D) The relationship between teaching and research should not be simplified.

32. In academic promotions research universities still attach more importance to research partly because ____.

- A) research improves the quality of teaching
- B) students who want to be challenged appreciate research professors

- C)it is difficult to evaluate teaching quality objectively
D)professors with achievements in research are usually responsible and tough
33. According to the fourth paragraph, which of the following will the author probably agree with?
- A)Distinguished professors at research universities should concentrate on research only.
B)The separation of teaching from research can lower the quality of future scientists.
C)It is of utmost importance to improve teaching in elementary schools in order to train new scientists.
D)The rapid developments of modern science makes it impossible to combine teaching with research.
34. The title of professor should be given only to those who, first and foremost, do _____.
A)teaching B)field work C)scientific research D)investigation
35. The phrase“the problem”(Para. 5, Line 3)refers to _____.
A)raising the status of teaching
B)the combination of teaching with research
C)the separation of teaching from research
D)improving the status of research

Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following passage.

I have had just about enough of being treated like a second-class citizen, simply because I happened to be that put upon member of society—a customer. The more I go into shops and hotels, banks and post offices, railway stations, airports and the like, the more I'm convinced that things are being run solely to suit the firm, the system, or the union. There seems to be a new *motto* (座右铭) for the so-called 'service' organization—Staff Before Service. How often, for example, have you queued for what seems like hours at the Post Office or the supermarket because there weren't enough staff on duty at all the service counters? Surely in these days of high unemployment it must be possible to increase counter staff. Yet supermarkets, hinting darkly at higher prices, claim that bringing all their cash registers into operation at any time would increase expenses. And the Post Office says we cannot expect all their service counters to be occupied 'at times when demand is low'.

It's the same with hotels. Because waiters and kitchen staff must finish when it suits them, dining rooms close earlier or menu choice is diminished. As for us guests (and how the meaning of that word has been cut away little by little), we just have to put up with it. There's also the nonsense of so many friendly hotel night porters having been gradually withdrawn from service in the interests of 'efficiency' (i. e. profits) and replaced by coin-eating machines which supply everything from beer to medicine, not to mention the creeping threat of the tea-making set in your room: a kettle with tea bags, milk bags and lump sugar. Who wants to wake up to a raw tea

bag? I don't, especially when I am paying for 'service'.

Our only hope is to hammer out irritation whenever and wherever we can and, if all else fails, restore that other, older saying—Take Our Custom(买卖)Elsewhere.

36. The author feels that nowadays customers are _____.
A) not worthy of special treatment
B) not provided with proper service
C) considered to be inferior members of society
D) regarded as privileged
37. In the author's opinion, the quality of service is changing because _____.
A) the staff are less considerate than their employers
B) customers are becoming more demanding
C) customers are unwilling to pay extra money
D) more consideration is given to the staff than customers
38. According to the author, long queues at counters are caused by _____.
A) the diminishing supply of good staff C) inefficient staff
B) lack of cooperation among staff D) deliberate under staffing
39. The disappearance of old-style hotel porters can be attributed to the fact that _____.
A) self-service provides a cheaper alternative
B) the personal touch is less appreciated nowadays
C) machines are more reliable than human beings
D) few people are willing to do this type of work
40. The author's final solution to the problem discussed in the passage is _____.
A) to put up with whatever service is provided
B) to make strong complaints wherever necessary
C) to fully utilize all kinds of coin-eating machines
D) to go where good service is available

Part III

Vocabulary

(20 minutes)

Directions: There are thirty 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 sentence. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

41. When Mobammed, a friend of mine from the Middle East, first went to the United Kington to attend the university, _____.
A) he's never before studied C) he would never before study
B) he couldn't before study D) he hasn't before studied
42. America will never again have as a nation the spirit of adventure as it _____ before the

West was settled.

A)has B)did C)was D)would

43. The cars were _____ because it was impossible to go any further in the fog.

A)sacrificed B)transported C)abandoned D)removed

44. The new designs of the Christmas stamps are always waited for with keen _____.

A)irritation B)prediction C)reception D)anticipation

45. Buck Helm, a retired salesman, survived _____ alive for 90 hours in his car.

A)being buried B)having buried C)burying D)to be buried

46. We have had to raise our prices because of the increase in the cost of _____ materials.

A)primitive B)rough C)original D)raw

47. Indeed, almost every scientist now finds it impossible to read all the works relevant to his own subject, _____ extensively outside of it.

A)much more to read C)much less reading

B)much less to read D)still more reading

48. It is up to the Government to tackle the air pollution problem and _____ measures in line with the council's suggestions.

A)set about B)work out C)fill up D)bring over

49. All that day my father in _____ as he had lost his wallet.

A)great anxiety B)ambition C)ill humour D)hospitality

50. We preferred to postpone the meeting _____ it without the presence of our president.

A)rather than hold B)than to hold C)rather than held D)to holding

51. Many people, if not most, _____ literary taste as an elegant accomplishment, by acquiring which they will complete themselves, and make themselves finally fit as members of a correct society.

A)look on B)look down C)look in D)look into

52. What a good listener is able to do is to process what he hears on the basis of the context _____.

A)it occurring in B)occurred in it C)occurring in it D)it occurs in

53. The car accident was _____ to the driver's violation of the traffic regulations.

A)assigned B)contributed C)attributed D)transferred

54. She is a very _____ student. She's always talking about travelling to outer space.

A)imaginary B)imaginative C)imaginable D)imagining

55. His lectures on Roman history would do credit _____ a real expert.

A)in B)to C)of D)with

56. My grandpa gave me a watch, which is made of gold, _____ I keep to this day.

A)and thus B)and C)so D)and which

57. I have devoted four weekends to writing papers and now I feel I _____ a rest.
 A)deserve B)preserve C)conceive D)receive
58. I found myself _____ to the spot where the experiment was being performed whenever I had some time to spare.
 A)draws B)drawing C)drawn D)drew
59. The construction of a 5-million-ton iron and steel works is now under _____.
 A)conclusion B)contribution C)continuation D)consideration
60. Mary found it difficult to _____ Jim's father when he disapproved of their marriage.
 A)stand for B)stand out C)stand by D)stand up to
61. President Banda's background as a doctor has given him _____ into the medical problems that face the country.
 A)a view B)a vision C)an insight D)a sight
62. I wish _____ to Stockholm when I was in Sweden. I hear it's a beautiful city.
 A)I went B)I had gone C)I have gone D)having gone
63. He _____ his job in order to engage in full-time writing.
 A)upheld B)resigned from C)undertook D)took over
64. The West is traditionally the land of the pioneers and the cowboys, where _____ could be easily made in cattle or land.
 A)fortunes B)property C)opportunities D)treasure
65. I didn't sent out my application form last week, but I _____.
 A)had to B)should have C)would do D)might have to
66. Vostok is close to the coldest spot in the world, where an _____ minus 128.6F was recorded in 1983.
 A)unreliable B)extra C)incredible D)impossible
67. It is human nature to think back to a Golden Age _____ one's country was strong and respected.
 A)when B)provided C)as D)unless
68. I don't mind a bit if you bring your friends in for a drink, but it is rather too much when sixteen people arrive _____ for dinner.
 A)unusually B)excessively C)consequently D)unexpectedly
69. Faced with all the difficulties, the girl _____ her mother for comfort.
 A)turned over B)turned from C)turned to D)turned up
70. David is the _____ holder of the world 5,000-meter world record, but there is no guarantee that he will win in the Olympic Games.
 A)current B)predominant C)prevailing D)decisive

(15 minutes)

Example :

72.

74.

79.

80. _____

(30 minutes)

• 11 •

motorcycles and City Traffic . You should base your composition on the following outline (given in Chinese):

1. 近年来中国城市中的摩托车
2. 摩托车的优点和缺点
3. 你对我国城市中摩托车发展前景的看法

Your must write your composition in no less than 120 words on Composition Sheet and remember to write it in readable handwriting .

1993 年 6 月六级真题

Part I

Listening Comprehension

(20 minutes)

Section A

Directions: In this section, you will hear ten short conversations. At the end of each conversation, a question will be asked about what was said. Both 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) 2 hours.

C) 4 hours.

B) 3 hours.

D) 5 hours.

From the conversation we know that the two were talking about some work they will start at 9 o'clock in the morning and have to finish at 2 in the afternoon. Therefore, D) "5 hours" is the correct answer. You should choose [D] on the Answer Sheet and mark it with a single line through the centre.

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

1. A) No, it's open only to teachers and postgraduates.
B) Yes, he can study there if he is writing a research paper.
C) Yes, because he is a senior student.
D) Yes, but he needs the approval by his professor.
2. A) It was pretty good.
B) It was rather dull.
C) It was not well organized.
D) It was attended by many people.
3. A) The effects of the flood.
B) The heroic fight against a flood.
C) The cause of the flood.
D) Floods of the past twenty years.
4. A) They were both busy doing their own work.
B) They waited for each other at different places.
C) They went to the street corner at different times.
D) The man went to the concert but the woman didn't.
5. A) The air is polluted.
B) The people there are terrible.
C) It's too windy.
D) The beaches are dirty.
6. A) In Mexico.
B) In California.
C) In the city.
D) In New Mexico.
7. A) The woman blames the man for his absence.

- B)The woman thinks that everything was all right.
 C)The woman thanks the man for his efforts.
 D)The woman doesn't think it was the man's fault.
8. A)He has too many dreams. C)He doesn't put his ideas into practice.
 B)He likes to sleep. D)He doesn't have very many ideas.
9. A)Getting extra credits.
 B)The requirements of an M. A. thesis.
 C)The credit hours required for an M. A. degree.
 D)Taking more selected courses.
10. A)They get a bargain right away.
 B)They have a look at the advertisement.
 C)They throw away their TV set.
 D)They go and buy a big TV set.

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three 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)Because many people don't know how to behave in social situations.
 B)Because most people are shy by nature.
 C)Nobody will laugh at you for being shy.
 D)Shyness is difficult to overcome.
12. A)By prediction. B)By recording. C)By observation. D)By examination.
13. A)To observe people's attitude towards strangers.
 B)To see how people get along with their friends.
 C)To test people's behaviour in social life.
 D)To find out how shy people are.

Passage Two

Questions 14 to 17 are based on the passage you have just heard.

14. A)A housewife. B)A singer. C)A teacher. D)A musician.
15. A)The violin was too expensive.
 B)She was too young to play the violin.
 C)The violin was too big for her.
 D)Her mother wanted her to play the piano.