主编 王秀珍 谢灵敏

CET710分
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大学英语4级考试

短篇新闻
+段落翻译

COLLEGE ENGLISH TEST
Band 4

2016年新题型

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4

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前　言

　　作为英语老师，我们亲眼目睹和经历了我国高校"大学英语"课程教学与测试的改革、发展和完善的过程。早在20世纪五六十年代，"大学英语"被称作"公共英语"，它是我国普通高校大学生的公共必修课之一，与当今"大学英语"课程相比，无论是师资队伍、教材资源、生源水平还是电教课件等，均不可同日而语。随着我国改革开放的春风吹遍大地，经济建设的号角吹响，对外交流的工具——英语的重要性逐渐被人们所认识。一批学术造诣颇高的专家学者制定了文理科和工科的"公共英语"课程教学大纲，指导不同类型高校的公共英语教学。随后，该课程的两本教学大纲在实施过程中有了求同存异、合二为一的强烈需求，于是第一部指导我国高校该课程的教学大纲应运而生，"公共英语"更名为"大学英语"，并统一了教学目标、步骤、具体教学要求，为我国大学英语教学水平的提升奠定了坚实基础。为了检测各高校大学英语的教学大纲执行情况，教育部又批准成立了全国高校大学英语四、六级考试委员会，对修满该课程两学年或四学期，即1－4级16学分的大学生准予自愿报名参加每年6月或12月组织的全国统一考试。毫无疑问，该重大改革对促进我国大学英语教学水平的提高功不可没。长期以来，专家们密切关注我国各高校在教学实施环节中出现的问题，如盲目攀比CET4/6及格率、应试教学等，及时对测试进行调节，并指导教学步入正常状态。如：设作文最低分以提高学生英语实际运用能力，取消CET4成绩与学位挂钩以减少对考试成绩过分关注，增加复合式听写（Compound Dictation）、简答题（Short Answer Questions）、翻译（Translation）等主观题型以提高学生的"动手"能力。为使CET4/6试卷更完善、更具权威性，改革的步伐仍在前行，最近全国四、六级考试委员会公布的题型变更样题就是又一实证。在此次题型变更中，删除了短对话和复合式听写，增加了短篇新闻听力题型，原来第一个长对话后的3道题增加到4道。

　　为了帮助大学英语学习者更快适应新题型的变化，我们特地编写了《大学英语四级考试短篇新闻＋段落翻译》一书，供大家训练使用。本书由武汉大学王秀珍教授带领一支工作在教学第一线的年轻教师编写团队完成。全书含三部分内容：第一部分为CET4短篇新闻听力题型综述和60篇短篇新闻测试题。这60篇新闻组成20套模拟测试题，每套模拟测试题安排3篇新闻及7道练习题，可供教师或学生分套进行培训或自我培训。该部分由王秀珍、谢灵敏、孙言、陈晓佳、彭林霞、何颖共同完成。每篇新闻长度适中，选材新颖，体现了新闻的特色，适用于学习者考前培训时使用。第二部分是段落翻译，共含30个汉语段落，要求学习者在规定时间内将其翻译成英语。这相比原来CET4测试题中句子层面的部分句子汉译英而言难度增大，既考核学生在段落层面的多句翻译能力，也考核他们在语义理解、句法运用、短语与词汇掌握方面的综合能力。它考核面宽，对教学的反拨作用非常好。该部分由黄群丹、赵亚荣、王燕、张琼尹协作完成。第三部分是两套大学英语四级模拟测试题，其中听力部分按照最新题型编写。本书附录中提供短篇新闻听力题的录音文字和答案、段落翻译参考答案和解析、两套模拟试题录音文字及参考答案和解析。由于时间短，编写经验不足，难免有疏漏之处，敬请广大读者不吝赐教。

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编　者

2016年

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目　录

第一部分　短篇新闻听力

（一）综述篇

一、CET4 短篇新闻听力题型简介

1. CET4 听力测试题型改革的目的

2016 年 6 月全国大学英语四级考试试题中的部分题型再次有了较大的变化,这是继 2013 年 12 月 CET4 在阅读测试题型上有较大调整之后,在听力测试题型上进行的一次重大调整。原有的听力部分测试题型有四种:1)短对话听力测试题;2)长对话听力测试题;3)篇章听力测试题;4)短文(选词和语块设空)听写题。这次调整去掉了 1)和 4),取而代之的是短篇新闻听力测试题。该题型调整旨在使听力测试的语料更真实、新鲜、原汁原味;而且,调整后的题型将重点放在测试考生从短篇新闻听力材料中真正快速、准确地获取信息的能力上,而无需考核他们对所听信息加工处理后进行推测、判断或计算的能力。所以,新题型更突出"听",听懂即可。

2. CET4 短篇新闻听力测试题样题

为了使报考 CET4 的考生们对听力题型调整有充分的了解和思想准备,国家教育部考试中心通过中央电视台在 2015 年 12 月向全国公众发布了听力题型重大变革的通知,通过广而告之的方式使全国高等院校大学生及相关部门对其有一定了解。同时,全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会亦在网上公布了听力题型调整方案及样题,使考生对 2016 年 6 月首次采用听力新题型进行测试有了较充分的思想准备。为了方便广大学习者快捷获取信息,做好培训准备工作,我们特将听力测试题调整的方案和样题转载如下(本书仅综述 CET4 的题型变化):

关于全国大学英语四、六级考试听力试题调整的说明

为了适应新的形势下社会对大学生英语听力能力需求的变化,进一步提高听力测试的效度,全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会自 2016 年 6 月考试起将对四、六级考试的听力试题作部分调整。调整的相关内容如下。

一、四级听力试题的调整

1. 取消短对话
2. 取消短文听写
3. 新增短篇新闻(3 段)

其余测试内容不变。调整后四级听力部分的试题结构见下表:

测试内容	测试题型	题量	分值比例
短篇新闻 3 段	选择题(单选)	7 题	7%(每题 1 分)
长对话 2 篇	选择题(单选)	8 题	8%(每题 1 分)
听力篇章 3 篇	选择题(单选)	10 题	20%(每题 2 分)

三、样题
1. 大学英语四级考试听力样题见附件1。
2. 大学英语六级考试听力样题见附件2。（略）

大学英语四级考试听力样题

Part II   **Listening Comprehension**   **(25 minutes)**

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report 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 **Answer Sheet 1** with a single line through the centre.*

注意：此部分试题请在**答题卡 1** 上作答。

Questions 1 and 2 will be based on the following news item.

1. A) Christmas-time attacks made by Somali rebels.
   B) An explosion at a bus station in central Nairobi.
   C) The killing of more than 70 Ugandans in Kampala.
   D) Blasts set off by a Somali group in Uganda's capital.

2. A) On Christmas Eve.   B) Just before midnight.
   C) During a security check.   D) In the small hours of the morning.

Questions 3 and 4 will be based on the following news item.

3. A) It is likely to close many of its stores.
   B) It is known for the quality of its goods.
   C) It remains competitive in the recession.
   D) It will expand its online retail business.

4. A) Expand its business beyond groceries.
   B) Fire 25, 000 of its current employees.
   C) Cut its DVD publishing business.
   D) Sell the business for one pound.

Questions 5 to 7 will be based on the following news item.

5. A) All taxis began to use meters.
   B) All taxis got air conditioning.
   C) Advertisements were allowed on taxis.
   D) Old taxis were replaced with new cabs.

6. A) A low interest loan scheme.   B) Environmentalists' protests.
   C) Taxi passengers' complaints.   D) Permission for car advertising.

7. A) There are no more irregular practices.
   B) All new cabs provide air-conditioning.
   C) New cabs are all equipped with meters.
   D) New legislation protects consumer rights.

Section B (omitted)

Section C (omitted)

Tape Script of Listening Comprehension

Section A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report 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 **Answer Sheet 1** with a single line through the centre.*

Questions 1 and 2 will be based on the following news item.

Kenyan police say one person was killed and 26 injured in an explosion at a bus station in central Nairobi. The blast hit a bus about to set off for the Ugandan capital Kampala. Last July, the Somali group al-Shabab said it was behind the blasts in the Ugandan capital which killed more than 70 people. Will Ross reports from the Kenyan capital.

The explosion happened beside a bus which was about to set off for an overnight journey from Nairobi to the Ugandan capital Kampala. Some eyewitnesses report that a bag was about to be loaded on board, but it exploded during a security check. Windows of the red bus were left smashed, and blood could be seen on the ground beside the vehicle. Just hours earlier, Uganda's police chief had warned of possible Christmas-time attacks by Somali rebels.

1. What is the news report mainly about?

2. When did the incident occur?

Questions 3 and 4 will be based on the following news item.

Woolworths is one of the best known names on the British High Street. It's been in business nearly a century. Many of its 800 stores are likely to close following the company's decision to call in administrators after an attempt to sell the business for a token £1 failed.

The company has huge debts. The immediate cause for the collapse has been Britain's slide toward recession, which has cut into consumer spending. However, the business had been in trouble for years.

Known for low-priced general goods, Woolworths has struggled in the face of competition from supermarkets expanding beyond groceries and a new generation of Internet retailers.

Many of the store group's 25,000 employees are likely to lose their jobs. Some profitable areas such as the DVD publishing business will survive.

3. What do we learn about Woolworths from the news report?
4. What did Woolworths attempt to do recently?

Questions 5 to 7 will be based on the following news item.

Cairo is known for its overcrowded roads, irregular driving practices and shaky old vehicles, but also for its air pollution. In recent months, though, environmental studies indicate there have been signs of improvement. That's due in part to the removal of many of the capital's old-fashioned black and white taxis. Most of these dated back to the 1960s and 70s and were in a poor state of repair.

After new legislation demanded their removal from the roads, a low interest loan scheme was set up with three Egyptian banks so drivers could buy new cars. The government pays about $900 for old ones to be discarded and advertising on the new vehicles helps cover repayments.

The idea has proved popular with customers — they can now travel in air-conditioned comfort and because the new cabs are metered, they don't have to argue over fares. Banks and car manufacturers are glad for the extra business in tough economic times. As for the taxi drivers, most are delighted to be behind the wheel of new cars, although there have been a few complaints about switching from black and white to a plain white colour.

5. What change took place in Cairo recently?
6. What helped bring about the change?
7. Why do customers no longer argue with new cab drivers?

Section B (omitted)

Section C (omitted)

参考答案

Section A

1. B   2. C   3. A   4. D   5. D   6. A   7. C

Section B (omitted)

Section C (omitted)

二、CET4 短篇新闻听力语料分析

1. 新闻的定义

众所周知,新闻指的是对新近发生事件的报道。新闻具有两个基本特点:真实与新鲜。新闻报道必须做到迅速与及时,否则就成为过时的报道或信息。在新闻报道中围绕"真实"和"新鲜",需要有新闻的主角(who)、发生的事情(what)、发生的时间(when)、发生的地点(where)、发生的原因(why)、以及如何发生或发生的过程(how)。这5个W和1个H是构成新闻必不可少的几个要素,也是在英语听力测试中考生围绕其听取相关信息的几个重要渠道。

2. 短篇新闻听力语料的特点

1) 言简意赅

因为新闻报道必须做到迅速与及时,它不太可能是长篇大论或学术性论文。它通常围绕5个W和1个H行文,往往无需华丽的词藻进行修饰或润色,只需要行文流畅、词语朴实、句子结构简单明了,让受众听明白所报道的内容即可。

2) 重点突出

从公布的样题我们不难看出,字数130-200不等的三篇短文均紧紧围绕各自的主题:肯尼亚巴士爆炸事件、英国老牌企业伍尔沃斯在经济不景气时遇到的困境与出路、埃及社会变革带来出租车的更新换代等,重点突出,文中没有冗长的铺垫、深层次的分析或对前景的展望等内容。

3) 真实客观

为了新闻报道的真实性和客观性,在围绕5个W和1个H撰文的过程中,必须做到就事论事,不应将撰文人的观点强加于受众,这一点十分重要。三篇短文中没有作者的抨击或赞扬,用词也比较中性。当然,新闻记者有时不可避免地会带有一定的个人色彩,受众可从字里行间褒贬词的选用等了解他们的态度是否中立或客观。如报道蓄意歪曲事实,则可看出撰文者主观上的别有用心和专业上的不称职。

三、CET4 短篇新闻听力样题分析

1. 篇章分析

从公布的样题可看到 Section A 中含有 3 篇新闻短文,均取自于英国电台 BBC 的新闻报

道。为了降低难度,专家们对超纲词和内容作了一定的处理。3篇短文总计461个词。

第一篇听力短文 140词,共8句。该新闻主要报道了一起突发事件,即肯尼亚内罗毕市中心汽车站有一辆准备夜间出发驶向乌干达首都坎帕拉的大巴士发生了爆炸,1人死亡、26人受伤。几名在场目击者说,有一个准备拿上车的包在安检时爆炸了,红色巴士的车窗炸得粉碎,地面可见血迹。

- 新闻的主要内容(What is the news report mainly about?):a bus explosion/a blast
- 爆炸发生的地点(Where did the bus explode?):at a bus station in central Nairobi
- 爆炸发生的时间(When did the explosion occur?):during a security check

通过 what, where, when 提出的问题,我们从该听力材料获取的主要信息是:The news report is mainly about an explosion at a bus station in central Nairobi, the capital of Kenya.

第二篇听力短文 130词,共9句。该新闻主要报道了英国经济不景气时期,著名百年老企业伍尔沃斯所遇到的困境:它欠下巨额债务,其旗下多家商店很可能要关门停业,很多员工面临失业。该公司试图在激烈竞争中保全尚能盈利的产品,如DVD发行业,以渡难关。

- 新闻的主要内容(What do we learn about Woolworths?):the difficult situation Woolworths has to face(the close of its many stores, its huge debts, the unemployment)and measures to solve the problem
- 困境的直接原因(What was the immediate cause of Woolworths' collapse?):Britain's slide toward recession
- 伍尔沃斯曾经的对策(What did Woolworths attempt to do?):to sell the business for £1 but failed
- 伍尔沃斯新的对策(What has Woolworths struggled to do recently?):to keep profitable areas like the DVD publishing business

通过围绕 what 设计的几个问答题,我们对这篇新闻的主旨大意有了清楚的了解:Woolworths is likely to close many of its stores due to Britain's slide toward recession, but some of its profitable areas will survive.

第三篇听力短文 191词,共9句。该短篇新闻是关于埃及社会变革的报道:世人皆知埃及首都开罗街道拥挤、司机驾驶违规、车况破旧、汽车尾气重。但后来情况有了改观,这得益于政府的新规:提供低息贷款、旧车补贴以鼓励出租车更新换代,并鼓励新车张贴广告以抵销部分购车费。此举得到乘客们的欢迎,因为新车有空调,乘坐舒适;车装计价器明码标价,双方不必再为车费争执;司机虽对车的颜色略有微词,但驾驶着新车感觉很爽。在经济低迷期,银行和汽车制造商也十分欢迎该新规出台,因为有利润可赚。

- 新闻的主要内容(What is the main idea of the news report?):the change from old taxis to new cabs
- 是什么带来变化(What caused the change?):new legislation, followed by such policies as a low interest loan scheme, etc.
- 乘客满意的原因(Why has the change proved popular with customers?):feeling comfortable in air-conditioned and metered cabs
- 出租车司机的态度(What is the taxis drivers' attitude toward the change?):feeling delighted to drive new cabs
- 银行、汽车制造商的反应(How do banks and car manufacturers respond to the change?):being happy about the change as it brings about extra business

通过围绕 what, why, how 设计的提问,我们对这篇新闻内容有了较透彻的了解:A new

legislation in Egypt has encouraged taxi drivers to replace their old cars with new cabs with air conditioning and meters. The change has made customers comfortable and avoided argument over fares. Drivers feel delighted in their new cars, and banks and car manufacturers are also pleasant to earn extra profits.

2. 句子结构分析

根据对样篇篇章的分析,我们知道三篇短文共有 26 句,其中简单句和并列句 16 句,占总句数 61.54%,主从复合句 10 句,占总句数 38.46%。主从复合句中宾语从句 4 处,定语从句 3 处,时间状语从句 2 处,原因状语从句 1 处,目的状语从句 1 处,让步状语从句 1 处。这说明短篇新闻听力材料内容特点为:1)句子结构通常比较简单。2)样篇 1 是关于突发事件的报道,为显示其真实性和权威性,通常要引用官方人士或组织、目击者的证词,所以宾语从句要多些。3)样篇 2 是经济类的新闻报道,会常出现专有名词或比较正式的大词,如果句子结构再复杂,可能会影响测试的效度。因此,该篇简单句较多,在 9 句中有 7 句是简单句。尽管有两句句子比较长,但由于结构不复杂,对听力理解不会造成很大的困难。4)样篇 3 是有关社会变革的报道,题材听众比较熟悉,所以在 9 句中出现了 4 句主从复合句,在内容和结构上难度比较平衡。这种格局的安排既不会难倒考生,也可尽量避免因为容易即使不听也能猜出答案的结果。

四、测试题设计的分析

针对三篇短篇新闻听力材料共设计了 7 道题。样篇 1(140 词)和样篇 2(130 词)各设计了 2 道题,样篇 3(191 词)设计了 3 道题。这 7 道题大致可分成两大类:

1) 针对新闻主旨大意,即从宏观的角度设计测试题,如:

What is the news report mainly about?

What do we learn about Woolworths from the news report?

What change took place in Cairo recently?

2) 针对新闻具体细节,即从微观的角度设计测试题,如:

When did the incident occur?

What did Woolworths attempt to do recently?

What helped bring about the change?

Why do customers no longer argue with the new cab drivers?

五、测试题参考答案选项设计的分析

从 7 道题参考答案选项的设计风格,我们发现其内容与原文的表述高度一致,或是变化词性、采用不同方式表达相同意思,使选项内容与原文意思保持一致,例如:

Question 1 的参考答案为 B) An explosion at a bus station in central Nairobi,该选项与原文第一行 an explosion at a bus station in central Nairobi 的表述高度一致。

Question 2 的参考答案为 C) During a security check,该选项与原文第二段第三行 but it exploded during a security check 的表述高度一致。

Question 3 的参考答案为 A) It is likely to close many of its stores,该选项与原文第二行 Many of its 800 stores are likely to close 的意思一致。虽然它们的主语和宾语有变化,动词由 are 变成 is,数字 800 也去掉了,但所表达的意思并未因某些改变而不同。

Question 4 的参考答案为 D) Sell the business for one pound,该选项与原文第三行 an attempt to sell the business for a token £1 的意思一致。设计的问题 What did Woolworths

attempt to do recently? 中将原文的名词 attempt 变为动词,不定式 to do 的内容基本未变,只是少了 token 一词,但并不影响句子的意思。

Question 5 的参考答案为 D) Old taxis were replaced with new cabs,该选项与原文第三行 the removal of many of the capital's old-fashioned black and white taxis 的意思基本上是一致的。虽然有不少词语的变化,如 the removal of 由动词词组 were replaced with 代替,old-fashioned black and white taxis 简化为 old taxis,但它们的意思没有变。new cabs 虽在上面句子中未出现,但隐含在上文 improvement 中,何况短文就是谈论新出租车的。

Question 6 的参考答案为 A) A low interest loan scheme,该选项与原文第二段第一行 a low interest loan scheme 的表述高度一致。

Question 7 的参考答案为 C) New cabs are all equipped with meters,该选项与原文第三段第二行 because the new cabs are metered 的意思一致。虽然原文 meter 是动词(are metered),选项中将此词变为名词(are all equipped with meters),但意思未变。

六、应对短篇新闻听力测试题的几点建议

1. 听力题型难度的分析

从长度和题目设计来分析:短对话的长度远远小于短篇新闻的长度,毫无疑问,此次题型变化增加了考题的难度。但是,短对话测试题通常围绕"判断说话人之间的关系"、"推断对话发生的地点"等来设计,除考核听力能力外,还考核学生是否掌握推断等技巧;更有甚者,凡涉及数字题时,还常常考核他们加减乘除的计算能力。而短篇新闻样题中设计的测试题均将重点放在考核学生能否准确获取信息上。从这点来讲,短对话测试题的难度在某种程度上是高于短篇新闻的。

从题型熟悉程度来分析:短对话测试题已进行了数十年,备考者对该题型非常熟悉,而短篇新闻听力测试题型首次在 2016 年 6 月使用,相对陌生。但只要学习者抓紧时间,认真备考,难度会相应降低的。

因此,考生们一定要加强信心,分析新题型的难点与容易之处,做好考前培训工作,相信大家会取得成功的。

2. 应对建议

1) 宏观的建议
- 多阅读中外报刊杂志,以了解国内外的时事和相关新词及用语。这既可拓展视野,又可慢慢地积累新的知识;
- 坚持收听中外电台的新闻,可将读和听有机地结合起来,会起到事半功倍的效果;
- 利用课余时间有计划地背诵国名、地名和一些常用的缩略词;
- 熟记数字表达的方式,并进行必要的训练。

2) 微观的建议
- 在考试时,利用宣读考试说明的短暂时间快速浏览相关考题的选项,从中找出蛛丝马迹,猜测即将要听的内容,以做好心理准备迎考;
- 如果选项涉及数字,在听的时候要特别关注材料中提及的数字信息,虽未必会像短对话题那样要求做加减乘除,但要听准数字,才能作出正确的选择;
- 要特别关注围绕 5 个 W 和 1 个 H 的信息,即宏观上的主旨大意和微观上的细节,并快速记下相关信息,这有利于对正确答案的选择;
- 特别注意所听材料中是否有与选项高度一致的、或是用词有变化但意思吻合的地方,一旦发现有,很有可能就是正确答案。

（二）训练篇

In this part, there are 60 news reports. They are put into 20 groups from Group A to Group T.

Group A

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report 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).*

Questions 1 and 2 will be based on the following news item.

1. A) 128 million.
   C) 17 million.
   B) 28 million.
   D) 7 million.

2. A) The widely-used primary skills.
   B) The increasing number of schools.
   C) The well-educated African providers.
   D) The development of educational technology.

Questions 3 and 4 will be based on the following news item.

3. A) A Swedish scientist and an Irish scientist.
   B) A Chinese scientist and a Swedish scientist.
   C) An Irish scientist and a Japanese scientist.
   D) An Irish scientist and a Chinese scientist.

4. A) It is indeed a novel therapy.
   B) It is a new treatment for cancer.
   C) It has saved many people's lives.
   D) It has found a fatal virus.

Questions 5 to 7 will be based on the following news item.

5. A) Helping developing countries be active in the world economy.
   B) Asking developed countries to donate more money to the poor.
   C) Guiding poor countries to go through the financial crisis.
   D) Calling for more partners into international organizations.

6. A) Greece has a very long history.
   B) Greek economy develops slowly.
   C) Greece has encountered a debt crisis.
   D) Greek population is decreasing sharply.

7. A) It meets ups and downs.   B) It is sliding very sharply.
   C) It has hit the highest point.   D) It is recovering slowly.

Group B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report 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).*

Questions 1 and 2 will be based on the following news item.

1. A) More Indian women can fill the top positions.
   B) India has more women than men in companies.
   C) India seeks more women on corporate boards.
   D) More Indian women like to do business work.

2. A) 115.   B) About 400.
   C) About 150.   D) 174.

Questions 3 and 4 will be based on the following news item.

3. A) The mayor of Paris is keen on cycling on the streets.
   B) A survey was held in 2014 to encourage people to ride.
   C) Cyclists in Paris will be allowed to ride through some red lights.
   D) Cycle lanes will be widened according to the city plan.

4. A) They will let the flow of cycle traffic go smoothly.
   B) They will benefit French people in their health.
   C) They will promote more consumption on bikes.
   D) They will become more acceptable to the youth.

Questions 5 to 7 will be based on the following news item.

5. A) The meaning of the lunar new year.
   B) China's various traditional cultures.
   C) Chinese famous artist Huang Yongyu.
   D) The new stamp of Chinese Monkey Year.

6. A) To celebrate the upcoming of the lunar new year.
   B) To give all the stamp lovers a double treat.
   C) To attract people to collect the newest stamps.
   D) To make the artist's stamp design more popular.

7. A) Drawing a cartoon monkey mother.
   B) Drawing two baby monkeys instead of one.
   C) Selling the new stamps as early as possible.
   D) Selling the new stamps by all the post offices.

Group C

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report 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).*

Questions 1 and 2 will be based on the following news item.

1. A) £9.98 billion.   B) £2.38 billion.
   C) £8.77 billion.   D) £31 billion.

2. A) The cost will be three times over budget.
   B) The huge rise is due to wrong estimation.
   C) The initial cost was estimated at £1.6 billion.
   D) Total costs will be paid by the Olympic committee.

Questions 3 and 4 will be based on the following news item.

3. A) Drinking coffee does harm to one's health.
   B) Researchers usually love to drink black coffee.
   C) Researchers tend to drink a cup of hot coffee a day.
   D) Drinking coffee can help one live longer.

4. A) It can help one think quickly and clearly.
   B) It can protect against all diseases.
   C) It can make people put on weight.
   D) It can do a lot of good to one's memory.

Questions 5 to 7 will be based on the following news item.

5. A) A church charitable activity in Washington D.C.
   B) A free removable clothing closet for poor people.

C）A school bus only used by poor children.

D）A food truck called "Bread of Heaven".

6. A）In spring.   B）In summer.

    C）In autumn.   D）In winter.

7. A）$ 200.   B）$ 2,000.

    C）$ 200,000.   D）$ 20,000.

Group D

Directions: *In this section, you will hear three news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report 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）.*

Questions 1 and 2 will be based on the following news item.

1. A）75%.   B）35%.

    C）10%.   D）20%.

2. A）People with social intelligence.   B）People with creative ideas.

    C）People with low income.   D）People with high salary.

Questions 3 and 4 will be based on the following news item.

3. A）1,005,540.   B）1,005,504.

    C）1,105,540.   D）1,105,504.

4. A）Greece.   B）Italy.

    C）Spain.   D）Malta.

Questions 5 to 7 will be based on the following news item.

5. A）The start of America's holiday shopping season.

B）The lower unemployment rate in the United States.

C）The shrewd American retail outlets and businessmen.

D）The average consumption level of all Americans.

6. A）Instant information helps them find deals easily.

B）People nowadays own tablets or smartphones.

C）They have a long shopping season to surf the net.

D）Rising wages guarantee their purchasing power.