



考研专业课辅导系列

全国名校外国语学院二外英语 考研真题详解

(第8版)

主编：圣才考研网
www.100exam.com

买一
送五



240元大礼包

- 送1 视频课程（10小时，价值100元）
- 送2 3D电子书（价值30元）
- 送3 3D题库【历年真题+章节题库+模拟试题】（价值30元）
- 送4 手机版【电子书/题库】（价值60元）
- 送5 圣才学习卡（价值20元）

详情登录：圣才考研网（www.100exam.com）首页的【购书大礼包】，
刮开本书所贴防伪标的密码享受购书大礼包增值服务。

特别提醒：本书提供名师考前直播答疑，手机电脑均可观看，扫一扫
本书右上角二维码下载电子书学习。

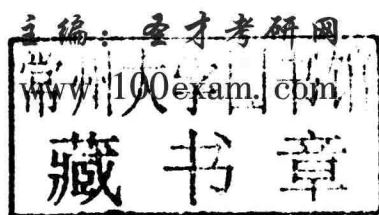
本书提供
名师考前
直播答疑



中国石化出版社
HTTP://WWW.SINOPEC-PRESS.COM
教·育·出·版·中·心

考研专业课辅导系列

全国名校外国语学院二外英语 考研真题详解 (第8版)



中国石化出版社

内 容 提 要

本书是详解全国名校外国语学院专业考研科目“二外英语”历年真题的复习资料。它根据众多院校“二外英语”试题的结构和难易程度,从全国14所院校“二外英语”历年试题中挑选了20套近年试题,并提供了详细的参考答案及解析。

圣才考研网(www.100exam.com)提供全国所有高校各个专业的考研考博辅导方案【网络课程、3D电子书、3D题库等】(详细介绍参见本书书前彩页)。购书享受大礼包增值服务【100元视频课程+30元3D电子书+30元3D题库+60元手机版电子书/题库+20元圣才学习卡】。扫一扫本书封面的二维码,可免费下载本书手机版;摇一摇本书手机版,可找所有学习本书的学友,交友学习两不误;本书提供名师考前直播答疑,手机电脑均可观看,直播答疑在考前推出(具体时间见网站公告)。

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

全国名校外国语学院二外英语考研真题详解/圣才
考研网主编. —8版. —北京:中国石化出版社,
2016.1

(考研专业课辅导系列)

ISBN 978-7-5114-3781-5

I. ①全… II. ①圣… III. ①英语-研究生-入学考
试-题解 IV. ①H319.6

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2015)第315971号

未经本社书面授权,本书任何部分不得被复制、抄袭,或者
以任何形式或任何方式传播。版权所有,侵权必究。

中国石化出版社出版发行

地址:北京市东城区安定门外大街58号

邮编:100011 电话:(010)84271850

读者服务部电话:(010)84289974

<http://www.sinopec-press.com>

E-mail: press@sinopec.com

武汉市新华印刷有限责任公司印刷

全国各地新华书店经销

*

787×1092毫米16开本16.75印张4彩页419千字

2016年1月第8版 2016年1月第1次印刷

定价:35.00元

《考研专业课辅导系列》

编 委 会

主编：圣才考研网(www.100exam.com)

编委：赵立亭 周宇婷 栾惠婷 张 艳 潘志坚
周品芳 韩艳丽 李奋发 张文娟 孙汉中
卢雅琴 邹护璐 祝留艳 孙涌香 廖横杰
汤秀娟 宋 鹏 刘化航 孙富海 高安定

序 言

目前我国硕士研究生入学考试中“二外英语”考试科目没有采取全国统考的方式，没有统一的考试大纲，而是采取各招生院校自行命题、自行组织考试的办法，但是各校的考试要求、命题特点大同小异，一些学校的试题类型、内容难易程度都非常相似，因此，研究一些学校的考研试题非常有价值。我们参照一些名校二外英语硕士研究生入学考试大纲和要求，认真研究了50多所高校300多份考研科目“二外英语”真题，精心挑选部分试题和相关资料，并进行了详细的解答，以减轻考生寻找试题及整理答案的痛苦，让读者用最少的时间获得最多的重点题、难点题(包括参考答案)，这是本书的目的所在。

本书是根据众多院校“二外英语”试题的结构和难易程度，从全国14所院校“二外英语”历年试题中挑选了20套近年试题，并提供了详细的参考答案及解析。可以说，通过本书，读者可以了解外国语学院硕士研究生入学考试“二外英语”的最高水平和各个院校“二外英语”的出题思路。对于准备参加外国语学院考研科目“二外英语”的考生来说，本书是一本不可多得的辅导资料。

购买本书享受大礼包增值服务，登录圣才考研网(www.100exam.com)，刮开所购图书封面防伪标的密码，即可享受大礼包增值服务：①视频课程(10小时，价值100元)；②本书3D电子书(价值30元)；③3D题库【历年真题+章节题库+模拟试题】(价值30元)；④手机版【电子书/题库】(价值60元)；⑤圣才学习卡(价值20元)，可在圣才学习网旗下所有网站进行消费。扫一扫本书封面的二维码，可免费下载本书手机版；摇一摇本书手机版，可找所有学习本书的学友，交友学习两不误；本书提供名师考前直播答疑，手机电脑均可观看，直播答疑在考前推出(具体时间见网站公告)。

圣才考研网(www.100exam.com)是圣才学习网旗下的考研考博专业网站，提供考研公共课和全国500所院校考研考博专业课辅导【一对一辅导、网授精讲班等】、3D电子书、3D题库(免费下载，免费升级)、全套资料(历年真题及答案、笔记讲义等)国内外经典教材名师讲堂、考研教辅图书等。

考研辅导：www.100exam.com(圣才考研网)

资格考试：www.100xuexi.com(圣才学习网)

圣才学习网编辑部

目 录

第1章 全国名校外国语学院二外英语考研真题分析	(1)
1.1 二外英语考研真题分析	(1)
1.2 重点院校二外英语考研真题比较	(3)
第2章 全国名校外国语学院二外英语考研真题详解	(5)
北京第二外国语学院 2015 年二外英语考研真题	(5)
参考答案及解析	(13)
北京第二外国语学院 2014 年二外英语考研真题	(20)
参考答案及解析	(28)
对外经济贸易大学 2015 年二外英语考研真题	(34)
参考答案及解析	(39)
北京航空航天大学 2012 年二外英语考研真题	(45)
参考答案及解析	(51)
北京航空航天大学 2011 年二外英语考研真题	(57)
参考答案及解析	(64)
上海外国语大学 2008 年二外英语考研真题	(70)
参考答案及解析	(76)
浙江大学 2009 年二外英语考研真题	(80)
参考答案及解析	(88)
武汉大学 2015 年二外英语考研真题	(93)
参考答案及解析	(101)
武汉大学 2014 年二外英语考研真题	(107)
参考答案及解析	(115)
南京大学 2009 年二外英语考研真题	(123)
参考答案及解析	(127)
中山大学 2015 年二外英语考研真题	(131)
参考答案及解析	(140)
中山大学 2014 年二外英语考研真题	(145)
参考答案及解析	(153)
厦门大学 2012 年二外英语考研真题	(159)
参考答案及解析	(168)
四川大学 2011 年二外英语考研真题	(174)
参考答案及解析	(181)
四川外语学院 2012 年二外英语考研真题	(187)
参考答案及解析	(196)

四川外语学院 2011 年二外英语考研真题	(201)
参考答案及解析	(210)
南开大学 2012 年二外英语考研真题	(215)
参考答案及解析	(219)
南开大学 2011 年二外英语考研真题	(224)
参考答案及解析	(232)
天津外国语大学 2014 年二外英语考研真题	(237)
参考答案及解析	(244)
山东大学 2015 年二外英语考研真题	(249)
参考答案及解析	(256)

第1章 全国名校外国语学院 二外英语考研真题分析

“二外英语”是全国各院校日语、法语、德语、俄语等外国语专业(不含英语)研究生入学考试科目,考生第二外语为英语。一般来说,“二外英语”总分为100分,考试时间为3小时。

1.1 二外英语考研真题分析

“二外英语”为全国各大院校自主命题,而非全国统考,没有统一的考试大纲,考生在备考“二外英语”时往往目标不明确,定位不准确,所以对各大院校的二外英语历年真题分析则显得尤为重要。分析各大院校的二外英语试题能够为考生准确定位自己的英语水平提供很好的参照,也使考生对“二外英语”考试有一个全面的了解,更加清晰地了解出题者的思路,从而正确地制定出复习方法和学习步骤,使复习具有针对性,使复习的效果更上一层楼。

1. 考核要求

对于“二外英语”,全国各大院校自主命题,而且各院校的考核要求水平也有差异,所以没有相应的考试大纲来说明其考核要求。通过分析各大院校的二外英语历年试题,可看出二外英语大致相当于大学公共英语四、六级水平,而且,二外英语历年试题中有些是出自四、六级考试的真题,有些是出自英语专业四级考试真题(大致相当于公共英语六级水平),还有些是出自考研英语真题,虽然比重不大,但从此可看出目前高校对考生二外英语的大体要求,下面根据大学英语四、六级考试大纲以及非英语专业本科生《大学英语课程教学要求》,对“二外英语”的考核要求归纳如下:

词汇方面,要求掌握4000基本常用词汇,了解词形、语义、常用的搭配、同义词、反义词等。

语法方面,掌握主谓一致关系、表语从句、宾语从句、定语从句和状语从句等句型、直接引语和间接引语的用法、动词不定式和分词的用法、各种时态、主动语态、被动语态和强调、倒装、平行结构等。

阅读方面,要求考生既能理解个别句子的意义,也能理解上下文的逻辑关系;既理解字面的意思,也能理解隐含的意思;既理解事实和细节,也能理解所读材料的主旨和大意;能就文章的内容进行判断、推理和信息转换。选材的原则是:(1)题材广泛,可以包括人物传记、社会、文化等方面,但是所涉及的背景知识应能为学生所理解;(2)体裁多样,可以包括叙述文、说明文、议论文等;(3)文章语言难度适中,文中无法猜测而又影响理解的关键词,用汉语注明词义。

翻译方面,掌握基本的日常、文化、科技等一般性题材的翻译技能。

写作方面,主要测试考生用英语表达思想或传递信息的能力及对英文写作基础知识的实际运用。写作要求切题,能正确表达思想,内容连贯,思路清晰,语言通顺。

2. 试题类型和出题形式

通过分析全国众多院校“二外英语”的历年真题,其题目类型大致包括词汇、语法、完形填空、改错、阅读理解、翻译和写作等内容,各题目类型的出题形式灵活多样,而考核内容也不尽相同,具体归纳如下:

(1) 词汇题

词汇题的考核内容较为广泛,包括对名词、形容词、动词、冠词等多种词性、各种短语及固定搭配结构的判断和理解,其中包括对同义词、近义词、反义词的辨认与区分等;根据上下文对词和词组意义的判断等。

出题形式主要有以下几种:

①题目为一个留有空白的英文句子,要求考生从所给的四个选项选出最恰当的词或词组。如:

Most people are not yet aware that water is a precious resource that must be _____.

- A. conserved B. enriched C. preserved D. reserved

②要求对单句中划有底横线的词进行替换选择,即从所给出的四个选择项中选出一个最佳替换词。如:

The little boy had had a long day, he was feeling drowsy.

- A. lazy C. exhausted B. sleepy D. sad

(2) 语法题

语法题测试的重点包括时态、语态、语气、非谓语动词形式、强调、倒装、平行结构等。

出题形式主要有以下几种:

①题目为一个留有空白的英文句子,要求考生从时态、句型等语法角度,从所给的四个选项选出可用在句中的最恰当的词、词组或句子。如:

_____ a little earlier this morning! I missed the school bus by only a minute and had to wait in the cold for nearly an hour!

- A. If I had got up B. If only I get up
C. If only I had got up D. If I got up

②要求在句子的空白处填入正确的介词、副词等,使句子完整。如:

Some scientists believe that language has a great impact _____ people's thinking.

(3) 完形填空题

该部分主要考查考生对不同语境中规范的语言要素(包括词汇、短语和句子结构)的掌握程度,以及对语段特征(如衔接与连贯等)的辨识能力。

出题形式主要有以下几种:

①在一篇文章中留出10~20个空白,要求考生从每题所给出的四个选项选出最佳答案,使填空后的文章意义通顺、连贯,结构完整。

②在一篇文章中留出10~20个空白,并给出一个词汇表格,要求考生从表格中选出符合句意的单词,形式上要注意词的性、数的变化。

③在一篇文章中留出10~20个空白,要求考生根据上下文填出合适的词,没有选项或给出所填单词的首写字母。

④在一个句子中留出1个空白,要求考生根据上下文写出所给单词的正确形式填入空白

处。如：

Probability is the mathematical study of the _____ of an event's occurrence. (likely)

(4) 改错题

这部分主要考查考生运用语法、词汇、修辞等语言知识识别所给句子的语病并改正的能力。

出题形式主要有以下几种：

①给出的为一个单句，要求考生找出错误，并根据“增添”、“删除”或“改变其中的某一单词或短语”三种方法中的一种改正语误。

②给出的为一个单句，句子中有四处标有下划线，要求考生选出有错误的一项。如：

The TV set was of more inferior quality so that I took it back and asked for a better one.

A

B

C

D

(5) 阅读理解题

阅读理解题出题形式主要有：

①要求考生阅读若干篇短文，每篇短文后有若干个问题。考生应根据文章内容从4个选项中选出一个最佳答案。

②要求考生阅读一篇短文，短文后有若干个问题。考生应根据文章内容作出简要回答。问题多种多样，既可以针对整篇文章，如概括文章主旨大意，也可以对文中的某个观点进行评论，要求简要说明理由等。

③给出一篇文章，文中一般有5个空白处，空白处可能位于段首、段落中间、段尾，选项部分一般为7段文字，每段可能为一个句子，也可能是两三个句子。要求考生从选项中选5段文字放回到文章中相应的5个空白处。（各院校留出的空白处个数并不统一，一般选项部分要比空白处多出几个。）

(6) 翻译题

翻译题出题形式主要有以下几种：

①单句或段落的英汉互译。

②给出一篇包含若干下划线句的文章，要求考生根据全文意思将这些句子译出，一般英译汉常采用这种形式。

(7) 写作题

写作题出题形式一般为根据所给出的图画或 Topic，写一篇作文，体裁多是发表观点的议论文。字数要求不一，多的400词左右，少的100词左右。有的院校还会涉及到请假条、便条、询问信等应用文的考察。

1.2 重点院校二外英语考研真题比较

通过分析比较全国重点院校的二外英语考研历年试题，可以看出有些院校的历年试题之间以及不同院校的试题之间都会存在差异，具体来说，不同点主要体现在：

一、少数院校试卷的题型和分值会在上一年试题的基础上作一些改动

一般而言，大多数院校“二外英语”历年试题具有很强的沿袭性，即其试卷结构及分值比重变动很小或者跟去年一样，但也有部分院校的题型和分值发生较大变动，对此考生一定要引起注意。考生应对所报考院校最新的题型和分值情况给予足够的重视。

二、不同院校的试题在试卷结构、难易程度、题量和分值等方面存在差异

1. 不同院校的试题的试卷结构不同

二外英语试卷包括词汇、语法、完形填空、改错、阅读理解、翻译和写作等内容，但各院校均有自己所侧重的方面，不会面面俱到。比如北京外国语大学等院校不考写作，上海外国语大学等院校不考翻译。

需要注意的是，各院校的试卷结构不是一成不变的，以往的试题只是提供参照的依据，考生在备考时应尽量多涉及一些题型，提高综合应试能力。

2. 不同院校的试题的难易程度不同

各院校在出题时都会从总体上平衡整个试卷的难易程度，难度大一些的题目相当于大学英语六级水平，低一点的相当于大学四级水平，试卷的总体难度水平相差不会太大。这里所说不同院校的试题的难易程度不同是相对的，由于院校的试卷结构不同，其考察的侧重点也就不同，有的院校侧重翻译，有的院校侧重阅读，有的院校侧重词汇，对于擅长不同题型的考生，其难易程度也会不同。

3. 不同院校的试题的题量和分值不同

各院校“二外英语”的试题一般满分都为 100 分，考试时间为 3 个小时。题量的差异主要是因为题量和分值比重并不对等所致，一般而言，题量大的试题，分值比重应该较高，但有些院校并非如此，从而使得试题题量相对偏大，如一般院校词汇题为每小题 1 分，阅读题为每小题 2 分，而有的院校词汇题为每小题 0.5 分，阅读题每小题 1.5 分，这就意味着分值虽然相同，但对应的题量却不同。

总之，在备考“二外英语”之前，考生一定要对各院校的二外英语历年真题仔细研究，对“二外英语”考试有一个完整的概念，从而准确地制定出复习方法和学习步骤，做到系统、有效地复习。“二外英语”归根接底是考查考生的基本功，考生应该早动手，早复习，扎扎实实巩固语言功底，并要多做一些重点院校二外英语考研真题，弥补复习的广度和深度。

第2章 全国名校外国语学院 二外英语考研真题详解

北京第二外国语学院 2015 年二外英语考研真题

I. Cloze (15 points / 1 point each)

Directions: There are 15 blanks in the following passage. For each blank there are four choices marked A), B), C), and D). Choose the ONE answer that best fits into the passage and write the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet.

Clothes, decorations, physique, hair and facial features give a great deal of information about us. For instance, we wear clothes to keep us warm, 1 unlike animals, we do not have a protective covering of hair. But for the 2 of communication, we 3 in clothes of different colors, styles and materials; we use cosmetics and perfume; we 4 beards and sideburns.

Strict 5 govern the clothes we wear. We do not wear football boots with a dinner jacket, 6 a boiler suit to work in an insurance office. Fashionable and smart 7 are associated with good qualities and well-dressed people have been 8 to get more help and cooperation from 9 strangers. For example, a woman is often given more 10 of help with her broken-down car when she is dressed 11 than when she is dressed less appealingly.

Rebels consider themselves to be 12 from other people in society, and often 13 their physical appearance to show this. In the last two decades in Britain, there 14 a number of youth movements with 15 uniforms.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1. A) when | B) because | C) so | D) but |
| 2. A) reason | B) aim | C) purpose | D) way |
| 3. A) wear | B) put | C) dress | D) get |
| 4. A) grow | B) keep | C) remain | D) prefer |
| 5. A) rules | B) laws | C) regulations | D) principles |
| 6. A) never | B) neither | C) and | D) or |
| 7. A) clothes | B) wearing | C) clothing | D) overall |
| 8. A) discovered | B) known | C) identified | D) regarded |
| 9. A) all | B) full | C) mere | D) complete |
| 10. A) willingness | B) offers | C) ways | D) pieces |
| 11. A) attractively | B) naively | C) interestingly | D) colorfully |
| 12. A) distant | B) distinguished | C) deviant | D) different |
| 13. A) convert | B) transform | C) alter | D) vary |
| 14. A) has been | B) have been | C) were | D) was |
| 15. A) identical | B) similar | C) same | D) distinct |

II. Grammar and Vocabulary (25 points / 1 point each)

Directions: There are 25 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 and write the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet.

1. She said she wouldn't call us the next day, _____ she?
A) would B) wouldn't C) did D) didn't
2. A thorough check of the accounts has revealed _____ a tax evader.
A) him being B) him to be
C) that he be D) that he had been
3. _____ allowing for his age, he still acts very immaturity.
A) But B) Yet C) Although D) Even
4. They _____ so tired if they _____ for a whole day.
A) wouldn't feel... didn't walk
B) wouldn't feel... weren't walking
C) wouldn't be feeling... weren't walking
D) wouldn't be feeling... hadn't been walking
5. The examination has been cancelled. You _____ all that revision, after all.
A) didn't need to have done B) needn't have done
C) need to do D) needn't do
6. The research requires more money than _____.
A) have been put in B) has been put in
C) being put in D) to be put in
7. Overpopulation poses a terrible threat to the human race. Yet it is probably _____ a threat to the human race than environmental destruction.
A) no more B) not more C) even more D) much more
8. It is not uncommon for there _____ problems of communication between the old and the young.
A) being B) would be C) be D) to be
9. It is absolutely essential that William _____ his study in spite of some learning difficulties.
A) will continue B) continued
C) continue D) continues
10. _____ ghost exists in the world. That's your illusion.
A) No such a thing as B) No such a thing as a
C) No such thing as a D) No such thing as
11. My daughter has walked eight miles today. We never guessed that she could walk _____ far.
A) / B) such C) that D) as
12. The statistics _____ that living standards in the area have improved drastically in recent times.
A) proves B) is proving C) are proving D) prove
13. There are only ten apples left in the baskets, _____ the spoilt ones.
A) not counting B) not to count
C) don't count D) having not counted

14. It was _____ we had hoped.
 A) more a success than B) a success more than
 C) as much of a success as D) a success as much as
15. There used to be a petrol station near the park, _____?
 A) didn't it B) doesn't there
 C) usedn't it D) didn't there
16. The economists are not quite optimistic about the economic _____ for the whole world.
 A) outlook B) lookout C) foresight D) project
17. Jenny is not in the _____ for going to the party tonight.
 A) temper B) condition C) mood D) health
18. There is no _____ in applying for that job, as you are not properly qualified.
 A) reason B) point C) result D) chance
19. The road is completely _____ deep at night.
 A) isolated B) lonely C) deserted D) neglected
20. This is the _____ piano on which the composer created some of his greatest works.
 A) true B) original C) real D) genius
21. The economic recession has meant that job _____ is a rare thing.
 A) security B) safety C) protection D) secureness
22. Many people nowadays save money to _____ for their old age.
 A) cater B) supply C) provide D) equip
23. The tone of the article _____ the writer's mood at the time.
 A) reproduced B) reflected C) imagined D) imitated
24. The majority of nurses are women, but in the higher ranks of the medical profession women are in a _____.
 A) minority B) scarcity C) rarity D) minimum
25. Professor Johnson's retirement _____ from next January.
 A) carries into effect B) takes effect
 C) has effect D) puts into effect

III. Reading Comprehension (35 points)

Section A (20 points / 1 point each)

Directions: For passages 1 to 4, each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements.

For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). Decide on the best choice and write the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet.

Passage 1

Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage.

Scientists claim that air pollution causes a decline in the world's average air temperature. In order to prove that theory, ecologists have turned to historical data in relation to especially huge volcanic eruptions. They suspect that volcanoes effect weather changes that are similar to air pollution.

One source of information is the effect of the eruption of Tambora, a volcano in Sumbawa, the

Dutch East Indies (the former name of the Republic of Indonesia), in April 1815. The largest recorded volcanic eruption of Tambora threw 150 million tons of fine ash into the stratosphere. The ash from the volcano spreads worldwide in a few days and remains in the air for years. Its effect is to turn incoming solar radiation into space and thus cool the earth. For example, records of weather in England show that between April and November 1815, the average temperature had fallen 4.5 °F. During the next twenty-four months, England suffered one of the coldest periods of its history. Farmers' records from April 1815 to December 1818 indicate frost throughout the spring and summer and sharp decreases in crop and livestock markets. Since there was a time lag of several years between cause and effect, by the time the world agricultural commodity community had deteriorated, no one realized the cause.

Ecologists today warn that we face a twofold menace. The ever-present possibility of volcanic eruptions, such as that of Mt. St. Helens in Washington, added to man's pollution of the atmosphere with oil, gas, coal, and other polluting substances, may bring us increasingly colder weather.

1. According to the passage, the effects of Tambora's eruption were _____.
 - A) of several day's duration worldwide
 - B) felt mainly in the Dutch East Indies
 - C) evident in the decreased world temperature
 - D) immediately evident to the world's scientists
2. Which of the following was the cause of cold weather in England from 1815 to 1818?
 - A) England's proximity to the North Sea.
 - B) Volcanic ash in the atmosphere.
 - C) Floods in the area.
 - D) Pollution caused by the Industrial Revolution.
3. No one realized the cause of the deterioration of the world agricultural commodity market because _____.
 - A) there was a long interval between cause and effect
 - B) the weather was difficult for us to forecast
 - C) weather forecasts were inaccurate
 - D) ecologists didn't exist until modern times
4. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT the cause of dropping temperature?
 - A) Volcanic eruptions.
 - B) Mountain torrents.
 - C) Crop and livestock production.
 - D) The floods after the storm.
5. The "twofold menace" in the last paragraph refers to _____.
 - A) volcanic eruptions and the oil shortage
 - B) the pollution of the atmosphere and the gas shortage
 - C) the pollution of the atmosphere and the increasingly colder weather
 - D) volcanic eruptions and the colder weather

Passage 2

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage.

Diego Chiapello, legally blind since birth, isn't one of Italy's famous "mama's boys" who live

with their parents into adulthood. The 27-year-old lives alone in Milan, works as a network administrator, loves diving and dreams of sailing across the Atlantic with sight-impaired crew.

Obviously, he's not your average disabled person—but especially so in Italy. The country has more barriers to integration than almost anywhere else on the Continent; among European countries, Italy ranks third from the bottom in accessibility for the disabled, ahead of only Greece and Portugal. People who use wheelchairs, especially, find it difficult to navigate the country's cobblestone streets, ride buses or visit restaurants, shops and museums. Less than a quarter of Italy's disabled hold jobs compared with 47 percent for Europe.

But the biggest obstacle for the country's physically challenged may, in fact, be the fabled Italian family. Because of the social defect that still attaches to disabilities, "they tend to keep disabled people at home" and out of public view, explains Giovanni Marri, head of an employment training center in Milan that caters to the handicapped. Thus while 15 percent of the country's families include a disabled person, according to surveys, only 2 percent of Italians report going to school with a disabled person and only 4 percent work with one.

Italians are beginning to recognize the problem. Over the past decade, the government has passed laws targeting everything from workplace discrimination to accessibility requirements. A recent study by the European Union found that 85 percent of Italians admit that public transportation and infrastructure are inadequate for the handicapped, and 97 percent say action is needed. But the biggest barrier is psychological. "Italian companies are afraid of hiring disabled people," says Chiapello. The only way to alter that, he says, is for Italy's disabled to do what he did—get out of the house and demand change.

6. Which of the following words best describes "mama's boys" in the first paragraph?

- A) Ordinary.
- B) Optimistic.
- C) Dependent.
- D) Desirable.

7. In this passage, Chiapello is cited as an example of _____.

- A) unusual disabled Italians
- B) courageous blind sailors
- C) typical handicapped people
- D) vulnerable disabled Europeans

8. In Italy, where are the disabled people most likely to be?

- A) In nursing homes.
- B) At home.
- C) In school.
- D) At work.

9. Italy's general public will most probably agree that _____.

- A) physical inadequacies are the biggest obstacle for the disabled
- B) things should be done to remove the barriers against the disabled
- C) workplace prejudices toward the disabled are hardly recognizable
- D) disabled people should reduce the need of going to public places

10. What is the passage mainly about?

- A) Italy has not done enough in aiding the disabled.
- B) Italy's disabled people should get out of their houses.
- C) Italian people have been blind to troubles of the disabled.
- D) Italian ways of aiding the disabled should be encouraged.

Passage 3

Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage.

The three biggest lies in America are: (1) "The check is in the mail." (2) "Of course I'll expect you in the morning." (3) "It was a computer error."

Of these three little white lies, the worst of the lot by far is the third. It's the only one that can never be true. Today, if a bank statement cheats you out of \$900 that way, you know what the clerk is sure to say: "It was a computer error." Nonsense. The computer is reporting nothing more than what the clerk typed into it.

The most irritating case of all is when the computerized cash register in the grocery store shows that an item costs more than it actually does. If the innocent buyer points out the mistake, the checker, bagger and manager all come together and offer the familiar explanation: "It was a computer error."

It wasn't, of course. That high-tech cash register is really nothing more than an electric eye. The eye reads the Universal Product Code—that ribbon of black and white lines on the package—and then checks the code against a price list stored in memory. If the price list is right, you'll be charged accurately.

Grocery stores update the price list each day—that is, somebody sits at a keyboard and types in the prices. If the price they type in is too high, there are only two explanations: carelessness or dishonesty. But somehow "a computer error" is supposed to excuse everything.

One reason we let people hide behind a computer is the common misperception that huge, modern computers are "electric brains" with "artificial intelligence." At some point there might be a machine with intelligence, but none exists today. The smartest computer on Earth right now is no more "intelligent" than your average screwdriver. At this point in the development of computers, the only thing any machine can do is what a human has instructed it to do.

11. We are told that a high-tech cash register is really just _____.
A) an electric instrument of sight
B) a simple adding machine
C) a way to keep employees honest
D) an expensive piece of window dressing
12. Grocery store price lists are updated by _____.
A) a scanner
B) a telephone hookup
C) an adding machine
D) an employee
13. According to the passage, which of the following statements is TRUE?
A) That high-tech cash register is anything but an electric eye.
B) The grocery stores update the price list every other day.
C) There is no machine with intelligence today.
D) In the grocery, the checker is the manager himself.
14. Which of the following describes the main idea of the passage?
A) Computers are stupid and inefficient.
B) Computer errors are basically human errors.