

根据教育部最新考试大纲调整范围编写



大学英语  
六级考试

# 历年实考试题解析

(1995 年~1999 年)

主编 大学英语考试命题研究室



Original College English Test Papers for Band 6

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- C) Mr. Jones. D) The man and the woman.
8. A) The woman enjoyed the movie very much.  
 B) The woman saw a horror movie.  
 C) The man asked the woman to be careful at night.  
 D) The man went to the show with the woman.
9. A) He doesn't write well enough.  
 B) He is not a professional writer.  
 C) He hasn't got any professional experience.  
 D) He didn't perform well in the interview.
10. A) He doesn't think it necessary to refuel the car.  
 B) He can manage to get the gasoline they need.  
 C) He hopes the woman will help him select a fuel.  
 D) He thinks it is difficult to get fuel for the car.

## 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) Because they can't afford to.  
 B) Because they think small houses are more comfortable to live in.  
 C) Because big houses are usually built in the countryside.  
 D) Because they prefer apartments.
12. A) Because many young people have moved into comfortable apartments.  
 B) Because many old houses in the bad part of the town are not inhabited.  
 C) Because many older people sell their houses after their children leave.  
 D) Because many people have quit their old houses to build new ones.
13. A) They have to do their own maintenance.  
 B) They have to furnish their own houses.  
 C) They will find it difficult to make the rest of the payment.  
 D) They will find it difficult to dispose of their old-style furniture.

### Passage Two

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

14. A) They are not active hunters. B) They don't sleep much.  
 C) They are often seen alone. D) They don't eat much.
15. A) To catch the birds.  
 B) To look for shade in the heat of the day.  
 C) To catch other animals.  
 D) To look for a kill made by another animal.

16. A) They are larger in size. B) They run faster.  
C) They have to hunt more to feed the young. D) They are not as lazy as the males.

### Passage Three

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

17. A) Less than 30 minutes. B) From 30 to 45 minutes.  
C) At least 45 minutes. D) More than 45 minutes.
18. A) He should show respect for the interviewer.  
B) He should show confidence in himself.  
C) He should talk enthusiastically.  
D) He should be dressed properly.
19. A) Speaking confidently but not aggressively.  
B) Talking loudly to give a lasting impression.  
C) Talking a lot about the job.  
D) Speaking politely and emotionally.
20. A) Professional knowledge is a decisive factor in job interview.  
B) Finding a job is more difficult than one can imagine.  
C) A job seeker should create a good image during an interview.  
D) Self-confidence is most important for a job seeker.

### Part II

### Reading Comprehension

(35 minutes)

**Directions:** There are 4 reading 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:

The process of perceiving other people is rarely translated (to ourselves or others) into cold, objective terms. "She was 5 feet 8 inches tall, had fair hair, and wore a colored skirt." More often, we try to get inside the other person to pinpoint his or her attitudes, emotions, motivations, abilities, ideas and characters. Furthermore, we sometimes behave as if we can accomplish this difficult job very quickly—perhaps with a two-second glance.

We try to obtain information about others in many ways. Berger suggests several methods for reducing uncertainties about others: watching, without being noticed, a person interacting with others, particularly with others who are known to you so you can compare the observed person's behavior with the known others' behavior; observing a person in a situation where social behavior is relatively unrestrained or where a wide variety of behavioral responses are called for; deliberately structuring the physical or social environment so as to observe the person's responses to specific stimuli; asking people who have had or have frequent contact with the person about him or her; and using various strategies in face-to-face interaction to uncover information about another person—questions, self-disclosures (自我表露), and so on. Getting to know someone is a never-ending task, largely because people are constantly changing and the methods we use to obtain information are often imprecise. You may have known someone for ten years and still know very little about him. If we accept the idea that we won't ever fully know another person, it enables us to deal more easily with those things

the stimulus/ stimuli of praise 3 -

that get in the way of accurate knowledge such as secrets and <sup>诈骗</sup>deceptions. It will also keep us from being too surprised or shocked by seemingly inconsistent behavior. *Ironically* (讽刺性地), those things that keep us from knowing another person too well (e. g., secrets and deceptions) may be just as important to the development of a satisfying relationship as those things that enable us to obtain accurate knowledge about a person (e. g., disclosures and truthful statements).

21. The word "pinpoint" (para. 1, Line 3) basically means \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) appreciate      B) obtain      C) interpret      D) identify 确定

22. What do we learn from the first paragraph?

- A) People are better described in cold, objective terms.  
B) The difficulty of getting to know a person is usually underestimated. 低估  
C) One should not judge people by their appearances.  
D) One is usually subjective when assessing other people's personality. 个性

23. It can be inferred from Berger's suggestions that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) People do not reveal their true self on every occasion.  
B) in most cases we should avoid contacting the observed person directly.  
C) the best way to know a person is by making comparisons.  
D) face-to-face interaction is the best strategy to uncover information about a person

24. In developing personal relationships, secrets and deceptions, in the author's opinion, are \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) personal matters that should be seriously dealt with  
B) barriers that should be done away with.  
C) as significant as disclosures and truthful statements  
D) things people should guard against

25. The author's purpose in writing the passage is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) to give advice on appropriate conduct for social occasions  
B) to provide ways of how to obtain information about people  
C) to call the reader's attention to the negative side of people's characters  
D) to discuss the various aspects of getting to know people

**Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage:**

<sup>竞争</sup>The competition among producers of personal computers is essentially a race to get the best, most innovative products to the marketplace. Marketers in this environment frequently have to make a judgement as to their competitors' role when making marketing strategy decisions. If major competitors are changing their products, then a marketer may want to follow suit to remain competitive. Apple Computer, Inc. has introduced two new, faster personal computers, the Macintosh II and Macintosh SE, in anticipation of the introduction of a new PC by IBM, one of Apple's major competitors.

Apple's new computers are much faster and more powerful than its earlier models. The improved Macintosh is able to run programs that previously were impossible to run on an Apple PC, including IBM-compatible (兼容的) programs. This compatibility feature illustrates computer manufacturers' new attitude of giving customers the features they want. Making Apple computers capable of running IBM software is Apple's effort at making the Macintosh compatible with IBM computers and thus more popular in the office, where Apple hopes to increase sales. Users of the new Apple can also add accessories (附件) to make their machines

specialize in specific uses, such as engineering and writing.

The new computers represent a big improvement over past models, but they also cost much more. Company officials do not think the higher price will slow down buyers who want to step up to a more powerful computer. Apple wants to stay in the high-price end of the personal computer market to finance research for even faster, more sophisticated computers. 期待

Even though Apple and IBM are major competitors, both companies realize that their competitor's computers have certain features that their own models do not. The Apple line has always been popular for its sophisticated color *graphics* (图形), whereas the IBM machines have always been favored in offices. In the future, there will probably be more compatibility between the two companies' products, which no doubt will require that both Apple and IBM change marketing strategies.

26. According to the passage, Apple Computer, Inc. has introduced the Mackintosh II and the Mackintosh SE

~~because~~ because \_\_\_\_\_.

- ☒ A) IBM is changing its computer models continuously  
☒ B) it wants to make its machines specialize in specific uses  
☐ C) it wants to stay ahead of IBM in the competitive computer market  
☒ D) it expects its major competitor IBM to follow its example

27. Apple hopes to increase Mackintosh sales chiefly by \_\_\_\_\_.

- ☒ A) making its new models capable of running IBM software  
B) improving the color graphics of its new models  
C) copying the marketing strategies of IBM  
D) giving the customers what they want

28. Apple sells its new computer models at a high price because \_\_\_\_\_.

- ☒ A) they have new features and functions  
☐ B) they are more sophisticated than other models  
C) they have new accessories attached  
☒ D) it wants to accumulate funds for future research

29. It can be inferred from the passage that both Apple and IBM try to gain a competitive advantage by \_\_\_\_\_.

- ☐ A) copying each other's technology  
☒ B) incorporating features that make their products distinctive  
☒ C) making their computers more expensive  
☒ D) making their computers run much faster

The best title for the passage would be \_\_\_\_\_.

- ☐ A) Apple's Efforts to Stay Ahead of IBM  
☐ B) Apple's New Computer Technology  
☐ C) Apple's New personal Computers  
☐ D) Apple's Research Activities

Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following passage:

It is a curious paradox that we think of the physical sciences as "hard", the social sciences as "soft", and the biological sciences as somewhere in between. This is interpreted to mean that our knowledge of physical systems is more certain than our knowledge of biological systems, and these in turn are more certain than our knowledge of social systems. In terms of our capacity to sample the relevant universes, however, and



the probability that our images of these universes are at least approximately correct, one suspects that a reverse order is more reasonable. We are able to sample earth's social systems with some degree of confidence that we have a reasonable sample of the total universe being investigated. Our knowledge of social systems, therefore, while it is in many ways extremely inaccurate, is not likely to be seriously overturned by new discoveries. Even the folk knowledge in social systems on which ordinary life is based in earning, spending, organizing, marrying, taking part in political activities, fighting and so on, is not very dissimilar from the more sophisticated images of the social system derived from the social sciences, even though it is built upon the very imperfect samples of personal experience.

In contrast, our image of the astronomical universe, even of earth's geological history, can easily be subject to revolutionary changes as new data comes in and new theories are worked out. If we define the "security" our image of various parts of the total system as the probability of their suffering significant changes, then we would reverse the order of hardness and see the social sciences as the most secure, the physical sciences as the least secure, and again the biological sciences as somewhere in between. Our image of the astronomical universe is the least secure of all simply because we observe such a fantastically small sample of it and its record-keeping is trivial as compared with the rich records of the social systems, or even the limited records of biological systems. Records of the astronomical universe, despite the fact that we see distant things as they were long ago, are limited in the extreme.

Even in regard to such a close neighbour as the moon, which we have actually visited, theories about its origin and history are extremely different, contradictory, and hard to choose among. Our knowledge of physical evolution is incomplete and highly insecure.

31. The word "paradox" (Para. 1, Line 1) means "\_\_\_\_\_".

- A) implication      B) contradiction      C) interpretation      D) confusion

32. According to the author, we should reverse our classification of the physical sciences as "hard" and the social sciences as "soft" because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) a reverse ordering will help promote the development of the physical sciences  
B) our knowledge of physical systems is more reliable than that of social systems  
C) our understanding of the social systems is approximately correct  
D) we are better able to investigate social phenomena than physical phenomena

33. The author believes that our knowledge of social systems is more secure than that of physical systems because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) it is not based on personal experience  
B) new discoveries are less likely to occur in social sciences  
C) it is based on a fairly representative quantity of data  
D) the records of social systems are more reliable

34. The chances of the physical sciences being subject to great changes are the biggest because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) contradictory theories keep emerging all the time  
B) new information is constantly coming in  
C) the direction of their development is difficult to predict  
D) our knowledge of the physical world is inaccurate

35. We know less about the astronomical universe than we do about any social system because \_\_\_\_\_.

- 125  
-17  
-9  
-22  
-10  
32
- A) theories of its origin and history are varied
  - B) our knowledge of it is highly insecure
  - C) only a very small sample of it has been observed
  - D) few scientists are involved in the study of astronomy

**Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following passage:**

In the early days of nuclear power, the United States made money on it. But today *opponent* opponents have so complicated its development that no nuclear plants have been ordered or built here in 12 years.

The greatest fear of nuclear power opponents has always been a reactor "meltdown" (堆内熔化). Today, the chances of a meltdown that would threaten U. S. public health are very little. But to even further reduce the possibility, engineers are testing new reactors that rely not on human judgement to shut them down but on the laws of nature. Now General Electric is already building two advanced reactors in Japan. But don't expect them ever on U. S. shores unless things change in Washington.

The procedure for licensing nuclear power plants is a bad dream. Any time during, or even after, construction, an objection *申訴* by any group or individual can bring everything to a halt while the matter is investigated or taken to court. Meanwhile, the builder must add nice-but-not-necessary improvements, some of which force him to knock down walls and start over. In every case where a plant has been opposed, the Nuclear Regulation Commission has ultimately granted a license to construct or operate. But the victory often costs so much that the utility ends up *最終* abandoning the plant anyway.

A case in point is the Shoreham plant on New York's Long Island. Shoreham was a virtual twin to the Millstone plant in Connecticut, both ordered in the mid-'60s. Millstone, completed for \$ 101 million, has been generating electricity for two decades. Shoreham, however, was singled out by anti-nuclear activists who, by sending in endless protests, drove the cost over \$ 5 billion and delayed its use for many years.

Shoreham finally won its operation license. But the plant has never produced a watt of power. Governor Mario Cuomo, an opponent of a Shoreham start-up, used his power to force New York's public-utilities commission to accept the following settlement: the power company could pass the cost of Shoreham along to its consumers only if it agreed not to operate the plant! Today, a perfectly good facility, capable of servicing hundreds of thousands of homes, sits rusting *(rusty) 生锈的 废弃的*.

36. What has made the procedure for licensing nuclear power plants a bad dream?

- B*
- A) The inefficiency of the Nuclear Regulation Commission.
  - B) The enormous cost of construction and operation.
  - C) The length of time it takes to make investigations.
  - D) The objection of the opponents of nuclear power.

37. It can be inferred from Paragraph 2 that \_\_\_\_\_.

- B*
- A) it is not technical difficulties that prevent the building of nuclear power plants in the U. S.
  - B) there are not enough safety measures in the U. S. for running new nuclear power plants
  - C) there are already more nuclear power plants than necessary in the U. S.
  - D) the American government will not allow Japanese nuclear reactors to be installed in the U. S.

38. Any objection, however trivial it may be, can \_\_\_\_\_.

- A*
- A) force the power companies to cancel the project
  - B) delay the construction or operation of a nuclear plant

- C) cause a serious debate within the Nuclear Regulation Commission  
D) take the builders to court

39. Governor Mario's chief intention in proposing the settlement was to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) stop the Shoreham plant from going into operation  
B) help the power company to solve its financial problems  
C) urge the power company to further increase its power supply  
D) permit the Shoreham plant to operate under certain conditions

40. The author's attitude towards the development of nuclear power is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) negative B) neutral C) positive D) questioning

### 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 that best completes the sentence. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

41. They \_\_\_\_\_ to enter the building by the back door; however, the front door was locked.

- A) weren't supposed B) wouldn't be supposed  
C) were supposed D) would be supposed

42. \_\_\_\_\_ human behavior may be caused by eating substances that ~~upset~~ the delicate chemical balance in the brain.

- A) Deliberate B) Consistent C) Primitive D) Abnormal

43. The captured criminals were \_\_\_\_\_ in chains through the streets.

- A) exhibited B) displayed C) paraded D) revealed

44. In reading stories we anticipate what is to come base then on our memory of what has gone before.

- A) based B) basing C) to base D) to be based

45. The world's governments have done \_\_\_\_\_ nothing to combat the threat of nuclear accidents.

- A) inherently B) vitally C) virtually D) identically

46. I guess Jones didn't have a chance to win the election. Almost all of the people in the city voted for his \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) candidate B) opponent C) alternative D) participant

47. The background music in an assembly line is designed \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) not being listened to B) being not listened to  
C) not to be listened to D) to be not listened to

48. Teaching students of threshold level is hard work but the effort is very \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) precious B) rewarding C) worth D) challenging

49. The boy students in this school are nearly \_\_\_\_\_ as the girl students to say they intend to get a college degree in business.

- A) as likely twice B) likely as twice  
C) as twice likely D) twice as likely

50. The explorer lost his way so he climbed to the top of the hill to \_\_\_\_\_ himself.

- A) spot B) locate C) place D) situate

1. The city has decided to \_\_\_\_\_ smoking. 达成协议. 不被罚. 发现  
A) do away with 消除 B) take away 拿走 C) get away with 逃脱 D) put away 放好

2. Perhaps it wouldn't be \_\_\_\_\_ to go and see such a film.  
A) worthy you while B) worth of while C) worthy of while D) worth your while

3. The old building is in a good state of \_\_\_\_\_ except for the wooden floors. preserve the house  
A) observation B) preservation 保持. 维持 C) conservation 保护. 保存 D) compensation 补偿

4. While some office jobs would seem \_\_\_\_\_ to many people, there are quite a few jobs that are stimulating, exciting and satisfying. 刺激的. 兴奋的. 有趣的.  
A) hostile B) tedious 枯燥的 C) fantastic 奇妙的. 罕见的 D) courageous 勇敢的

5. \_\_\_\_\_ she wondered if she had made a mistake. hostile position  
A) Not until long afterwards that B) Not long until afterwards C) It was not until long afterwards that D) It was long afterwards until

6. The people who objected to the new approach were told that since work had already started there was no point in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) denying 否认 B) upsetting 使烦恼 C) protesting 反对. 抗议 D) competing 竞争

7. The ceremony will \_\_\_\_\_ as soon as the minister arrives. deny the existence of God  
A) complete B) commence 开始. 举行 C) disperse 分散. 驱散 D) descend 下降

8. So confused \_\_\_\_\_ that he didn't know how to start his lecture. 还搞成疑问  
A) since he became B) would he become C) that he became D) did he become

9. Since the couple could not \_\_\_\_\_ their differences, they decided to get a divorce. synthetic  
A) reconcile 和解 B) comply 遵从. 顺从 C) coincide 巧合. 同时发生 D) resign 使顺从. 使听任

10. After the collision, he examined the considerable \_\_\_\_\_ to his car.  
A) ruin 毁灭 B) destruction 破坏. 摧毁 C) damage 损害 D) injury 伤害

11. Output is now six times \_\_\_\_\_ it was before 1990.  
A) that B) what C) that which D) of that

12. The heavily populated area was a breeding place for \_\_\_\_\_ diseases. 可疑的. 传染性的  
A) infectious 传染性的 B) powerful 强大的 C) influential 有影响的 D) suspicious 可疑的

13. It is unfortunate that, owing to lack of money, these experiments must now be \_\_\_\_\_ before the objective has been achieved. infective  
A) transferred B) testified C) terminated 停止. 终止 D) transformed 转变

14. The synthetic vitamins are identical \_\_\_\_\_ those naturally present in our food. be identical with/to  
A) for B) of C) as D) with

15. Just as a book is often judged \_\_\_\_\_ by the quality and appearance of its cover, a person is judged immediately by his appearance.  
A) previously B) uniquely C) outwardly 外表的 D) initially 最初

66. Recycling wastes slows down the rate at which we use up the Earth's finite resources.

- A) in B) of C) with D) ~~at~~

67. Gasoline is ignited by the spark plugs in the engine.

- A) ignited B) inspired C) excited D) illuminated

68. He might have chosen another career but, at the time, he didn't have enough money to attend graduate school.

- A) might have chosen B) might choose  
C) had to choose D) must have chosen

69. Many visitors praised the magnificent architecture of the Palace, known to foreigners as the Forbidden City.

- A) known to foreigners for the Forbidden City  
B) known for foreigners to be the Forbidden City  
C) known to foreigners as the Forbidden City  
D) known for foreigners as the Forbidden City

70. The travelers resumed their journey after a short break.

- A) recovered B) resumed C) renewed D) restored

## 试卷二

### Part IV

### Error Correction

(15 minutes)

**Directions:** This part consists of a short passage. In this passage, there are altogether 10 mistakes, one in each numbered line. You may have to change a word, add a word or delete a word. If you change a word, cross it out and write the correct word in the corresponding blank. If you add a word, put an insertion mark (^) in the correct place and write the missing word in the blank. If you delete a word, cross it out and be sure to put a slash (/) in the blank.

#### Example:

Television is rapidly becoming the literatures of our periods. Many of the arguments having used for the study of literature as a school subject are valid for ^study of television.

We are all naturally attracted to people with ideas, beliefs and interests like our own. Similarly, we feel comfortable with people with physical qualities similar to as ours.

You may have noticed about how people who live or work closely together come to behave in a similar way. Unconsciously we copy those we are close to or love or admire. So a sportsman's individual way of walking with raised shoulders is imitated by an admired fan; a pair of lovers both shake their heads in the same way; an employer finds himself duplicating his boss's habit if wagging (摆动) a pen between his fingers while thinking.

In every case, the influential person may consciously notice the imitation but he will feel comfortably in its presence. And if he does

1. time

2. /

3. the

4. with

5. /

73. those

74. admiring

75. employees

76. unconsciously

77. comfortable



notice the matching of his gestures or movements, he finds it pleasing  
he is influencing people; they are drawn to them. ~~him~~ <sup>him</sup> friends.

Sensitive people have been mirroring their friend and acquaintances  
all their lives, and winning affection and respect in this way  
without ~~aware~~ <sup>aware</sup> of their methods. Now, for people who want to win  
agreement or trust, affection or sympathy, some psychologists  
recommend the deliberate use of physical imitation.

78. him  
79. friends  
80. heavy

## Part V .

## Writing

(30 minutes)

**Directions:** For this part, you are allowed thirty minutes to write a composition on the topic *My View on the Negative Effects of Some Advertisements*. You should write at least 120 words and you should base your composition on the outline (given in Chinese) below:

1. 现在有些不良的商业广告
2. 这些广告的副作用和危害性
3. 我对这些广告的态度

### My View on the Negative Effects of Some Advertisements

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---

---

---

---

renew ✓  
restore ✓  
resume ✓  
recovered ✓

(1995 年 6 月试题)

## 试卷一

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. 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 suggested answers 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.	B) 3hours.
C) 4 hours.	D) 5hours.

From the conversation we know that the two are 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) Enjoyable.                      B) Inspiring.                      C) Moving.                      D) Dull.
2. A) It will take about one month to repair the watch.  
B) The woman should have saved more money.  
C) It is a good idea to keep the old watch.  
D) The watch is no longer worth repairing.
3. A) Arguing.                      B) Protesting.                      C) Complaining.                      D) Bargaining.
4. A) Families with cars                      B) American's heavy dependence on cars.  
C) Roads and highways.                      D) Traffic problems in America.
5. A) The apples and pears might not be so good.  
B) The apples are not as good as the pears.  
C) The apples and pears are very good.  
D) The apples and pears are as good as they look.
6. A) Her teaching assistant would grade the exam papers.  
B) She would collect the exam papers herself.  
C) She would mark the exam papers herself.  
D) She would not give her students an exam.
7. A) She could help him with the problems.                      B) He should go out for a while.  
C) She could go out together with him.                      D) He should do the problems himself.
8. A) Customer and salesman.                      B) Colleagues.  
C) Employee and boss.                      D) Classmates.
9. A) The first house they saw is too expensive.  
B) They may save some money for the time being.

- C) She is happy with the price set by the seller.
  - D) Less money will be spent in maintaining the house.
10. A) It was probably Mr. Brown's phone number that the woman wrote down.
- B) It was just an hour ago that the man met Mr. Brown.
  - C) The woman forgot to write down the phone number.
  - D) The woman needed a sheet of paper to put down the number.

## 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) Because they were driven by steam power.
- B) Because they did the work that animals used to do.
  - C) Because they pulled cars full of coal.
  - D) Because they were made of iron. ✓
12. A) He wanted the railroad to be successful. ✓
- B) He wanted to have a more powerful steam engine.
  - C) He wanted to own the land near the railroad.
  - D) He wanted to build his own railroads.
13. A) Because the train could not run as fast as the horse.
- B) Because the engine failed to build up steam.
  - C) Because the engine broke down and the train stopped. ✓
  - D) Because the engine broke into several parts.

### Passage Two

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

14. A) Love. ✓ B) Conflict. C) Violence. D) Mystery.
15. A) The main character remains the same.
- B) The main character dies in the end.
  - C) The main character gains his ends. ✓
  - D) The main character undergoes a change.
16. A) We can learn how bad persons can improve themselves.
- B) We can learn how to deal with people.
  - C) We can understand life a little better. ✓
  - D) We can find better ways to cope with conflicts.

### Passage Three

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

17. A) Because both have a limited supply of air, water, and other resources. ✓
- B) Because the Earth moves around the sun as fast as a spaceship.
  - C) Because we can travel to outer space.
  - D) Because the Earth never stops moving.

18.A) About 80 miles per second. ✓

B) About 70 miles per second.

C) About 18 miles per second.

D) About 17 miles per second.

19.A) Because the Earth is heavily polluted. ✓

B) Because nature cannot recycle its resources.

C) Because there are more and more people living on the Earth.

D) Because no more new resources can be added.

20.A) Nature has changed our environment over the years.

B) We must avoid wasting resources and polluting our environment. ✓

C) Our resources are nearly used up.

D) Trips to other planets will help eliminate pollution.

## Part II

## Reading Comprehension

(35 minutes)

**Directions:** There are 4 reading 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:**

A new era is upon us. Call it what you will: the service economy, the information age, the knowledge society. It all translates to a fundamental change in the way we work. Already we're partly there. The percentage of people who earn their living by making things has fallen dramatically in the Western World. Today the majority of jobs in America, Europe and Japan (two thirds or more in many of these countries) are in the service industry, and the number is on the rise. More women are in the work force than ever before. There are more part-time jobs. More people are self-employed. But the breadth of the economic transformation can't be measured by numbers alone, because it also is giving rise to a radical new way of thinking about the nature of work itself. Long-held notions about jobs and careers, the skills needed to succeed, even the relation between individuals and employers—all these are being challenged.

We have only to look behind us to get some sense of what may lie ahead. No one looking ahead 20 years possibly could have foreseen the ways in which a single invention, the chip (集成块), would transform our world thanks to its applications in personal computers, digital communications and factory robots. Tomorrow's achievements in biotechnology, artificial intelligence or even some still unimagined technology could produce a similar wave of dramatic changes. But one thing is certain: information and knowledge will become even more vital, and the people who possess it, whether they work in manufacturing or services, will have the advantage and produce the wealth. Computer knowledge will become as basic a requirement as the ability to read and write. The ability to solve problems by applying information instead of performing routine tasks will be valued above all else. If you cast your mind ahead 10 years, information services will be predominant. It will be the way you do your job. ✓

21. A characteristic of the information age is that \_\_\_\_\_.

☒ A) the service industry is relying more and more on the female work force

☐ B) manufacturing industries are steadily increasing

☐ C) people find it harder to earn a living by working in factories

☐ D) most of the job opportunities can now be found in the service industry