淘金考研英语
阅读180篇

3

提高冲刺

10套模拟冲刺训练

Test ❶

Part Ⓐ

Text 1

Technology is supposed to make our lives easier, allowing us to do things more quickly and efficiently. But too often it seems to make things harder. This spiral of complexity, often called "feature creep," costs consumers time, but it also costs businesses money. Product returns in the U.S. cost a hundred billion dollars a year, and a recent study by Elke den Ouden, of Philips Electronics, found that at least half of returned products have nothing wrong with them. Consumers just couldn't figure out how to use them. Companies now know a great deal about problems of usability and consumer behavior, so why is it that feature creep proves unstoppable?

In part, feature creep is the product of the so-called internal-audience problem: the people who design and sell products are not the ones who buy and use them, and what engineers and marketers think is important is not necessarily what's best for consumers. The engineers tend not to notice when more options make a product less usable. And marketing and sales departments see each additional feature as a new selling point, and a new way to lure customers.

You might think, then, that companies could avoid feature creep by just paying attention to what customers really want. But that's where the trouble begins, because although consumers find overloaded gadgets unmanageable, they also find them attractive. It turns out that when we look at a new product in a store we tend to think that the more features there are, the better. It's only once we get the product home and try to use it that we realize the virtues of simplicity.

It seems odd that we don't anticipate feature fatigue and thus avoid it. But, as numerous studies have shown, people are not, in general, good at predicting what will make them happy in the future. As a result, we will pay more for more features because we systematically overestimate how often we'll use them. We also overestimate our ability to figure out how a complicated product works.

The fact that buyers want bells and whistles but users want something clear and simple creates a peculiar problem for companies. A product that doesn't have enough features may fail to catch our eye in the store. But a product with too many features is likely to annoy consumers and generate bad word of mouth, as BMW's original iDrive system did.

1. In the first paragraph, the author mainly discusses
   A. the benefits brought by the advanced technology.
   B. the recent study conducted by Elke den Ouden.
   C. the loss incurred by the feature creep of technology.
   D. many problems of usability known by the consumers.
2. Which of the following is true according to the second paragraph?
   A. It is the audience problem that leads to feature creep.
   B. What matters to designers and marketers is not good for consumers.
   C. Feature creep brings blessings to the people in marketing and sales.
   D. The engineers will not pay attention to the quality of the products.
3. Companies find it difficult to avoid feature creep because consumers

A. find complex gadgets easy to manage.

B. are attracted by gadgets with more features.

C. do not like the gadgets featured by simplicity.

D. know the virtues of complexity very well.

4. It is stated in Paragraph 4 that the buyers generally

A. are too confident of their ability to use the complicated products properly.

B. are deeply convinced that all the products work in a simple way.

C. are fed up with the more and more features of the products.

D. are quite clear about the products which will make them happy in the future.

5. By saying "buyers want bells and whistles" (Line 1, Paragraph 5), the author means that they want to buy

A. a variety of products which they could use to generate loud noises.

B. the product which will generate good word of mouth for its features.

C. the product which has many features but doesn't annoy consumers.

D. the product with many non-essential but often engaging features.

Text 2

Humanity's greatest accomplishment of the past five decades, declared Bill Gates this week, is the reduction in the number of deaths among young children by half, to 10 million a year in 2007. The world's most successful capitalist heaped praise on the World Health Organization (WHO), while unveiling an ambitious new global scheme to eliminate polio within a few years. For his part, the agency's top polio man, Bruce Aylward, described the fight against the disease in the language of markets: "Elimination is the venture capital of public health: the risks are huge but so too are the rewards."

The use of this sort of language captures a change in public health in the past decade. The Gates Foundation, with its pots of money and businesslike approach, has transformed the bureaucratic and disheartened world of public health. It has helped revive ailing campaigns, including the fight against polio. This will now get a fresh $600m-plus, from British and German taxpayers, from the Rotary Club International, as well as from the Gates Foundation ($255m).

The decline from 350,000 new cases in 1988 (when the goal of rapid polio eradication was first declared) to 2,000 cases now (chiefly in Nigeria, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan) looks like a near victory. But the final stretch is the hardest. Only one in 200 cases is readily vulnerable to early detection (as opposed to most victims of smallpox—a serious infectious disease that causes spots which leave deep marks on the skin, already eliminated). Polio is also far more infectious.

Other obstacles are that the usual vaccine has not worked well in densely populated, disease-ridden central India. Researchers are now trying to find a vaccine that fits those conditions better. Neal Halsey, of Johns Hopkins University, says the "live" vaccines used commonly today must be backed up with further doses of "inactivated" vaccines. These need to become cheaper.

The fighting in Afghanistan and Pakistan has hampered vaccination programs there. So have rumors among Muslims in northern Nigeria that the vaccination program was in fact a conspiracy to sterilize children. That allowed the polio virus to strengthen and spread. The Nigerian strain may have now reached a dozen other countries.

The final push towards elimination will certainly be costly, though several recent studies suggest that it is cheaper to spend money on a big elimination effort now than to pay the price later for sustained vigilance and health costs. The prospect of a global revival is concentrating minds. That is why, despite the daunting challenges and potential donor fatigue, the world may end up making a go of elimination this time.

6. According to Paragraph 2, a change in the world of public health refers to the fact that public health
   A. is more businesslike than what it used to be.
   B. has received pots of money from the Gates Foundation.
   C. is no longer bureaucratic and demoralized.
   D. restarts the campaigns which had slim chance of success.

7. It can be inferred from the third paragraph that eradication of polio is the hardest in that
   A. there are still as many as 2,000 new cases at present.
   B. it is very infectious and not easy to be detected earlier.
   C. there were as many as 350,000 new cases in 1988.
   D. it is impossible to be detected at an early stage.

8. Muslims in northern Nigeria is cited as an example to show that
   A. eradication of polio has been hampered by the conspiracy of Muslims.
   B. eradication of polio met many obstacles there.
   C. vaccination program was harmful to the children there.
   D. vaccination program strengthened and spread virus.

9. By saying "the world may end up making a go of elimination this time" (Lines 4–5, Paragraph 6), the author implies that the world may
   A. manage to eradicate polio.   B. fail to achieve the eradication of polio.
   C. give up the goal of eradication of polio.   D. begin to eliminate polio.

10. Which of the following would be the best title of the text?
   A. The Success of Eradication of Polio   B. The Ambition of Gates Foundation
   C. The Greatest Accomplishment in Public Health   D. Eradication of Polio so Near, yet So Far

Text 3

来源：New Scientist
主题：社会生活
建议用时：15 分钟

Nice guys knew it, now two studies have confirmed it: bad boys get the most girls. The finding may help explain why a nasty suite of anti-social personality traits known as the "dark triad" persists in the human population, despite their potentially grave cultural costs.

The traits are the self-obsession of narcissism; the impulsive, thrill-seeking and unfeeling behavior of psychopaths; and the deceitful and exploitative nature of Machiavellianism. At their extreme, these traits would be highly detrimental for life in traditional human societies. People with these personalities risk being shunned by others and shut out of relationships, leaving them without a mate, hungry and vulnerable to predators.

But being just slightly evil could have an upside: a prolific sex life, says Peter Jonason at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. "We have some evidence that the three traits are really the same thing and may represent a successful evolutionary strategy." Jonason and his colleagues subjected 200 college students to personality tests designed to rank them for each of the dark triad traits. They

also asked about their attitudes to sexual relationships and about their sex lives, including how many partners they'd had and whether they were seeking brief affairs. The study found that those who scored higher on the dark triad personality traits tended to have more partners and more desire for short-term relationships. But the correlation only held in males.

James Bond epitomizes this set of traits, Jonason says. "He's clearly disagreeable, very extroverted and likes trying new things—killing people, new women." Just as Bond seduces woman after woman, people with dark triad traits may be more successful with a quantity style or shotgun approach to reproduction, even if they don't stick around for parenting. "The strategy seems to have worked. We still have these traits," Jonason says.

This observation seems to hold across cultures. David Schmitt of Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, presented preliminary results at the same meeting from a survey of more than 35,000 people in 57 countries. He found a similar link between the dark triad and reproductive success in men. "It is universal across cultures for high dark triad scorers to be more active in short-term mating," Schmitt says. "They are more likely to try and poach other people's partners for a brief affair." Matthew Keller of the University of Colorado in Boulder remarks: "They still have to explain why it hasn't spread to everyone? There must be some cost of the traits." One possibility, both Keller and Jonason suggest, is that the strategy is most successful when dark triad personalities are rare. Otherwise, others would become more wary and guarded.

11. Unlike others, people with slight dark triad personalities are more likely to
    A. run the risk of being avoided by others.   B. be left alone and attacked by predators.
    C. enjoy a productive and successful sex life.   D. ruin the good relationship.

12. On which of the following statements would Jonason and his colleagues most probably agree?
    A. Both men and women scoring higher had more partners in life.
    B. There is a tie between the dark triad and sex success among all the people.
    C. Being a monster could bring people a prolific sex life.
    D. A close tie between the dark triad and sex success could be found in males.

13. The word "epitomize" (Line 1, Paragraph 4) most probably means
    A. enjoy.   B. appreciate.   C. typify.   D. despise.

14. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that
    A. the dark triad personality traits have spread to both men and women.
    B. people are extremely cautious about people with dark triad personalities.
    C. the dark triad personality traits may cost people much sometimes.
    D. the strategy is most successful without dark triad personalities.

15. Which of the following would be the best title for this text?
    A. Dark Triad Personality Traits   B. Bad Is Good as a Mating Strategy
    C. Dark Side of Human Beings   D. Being Evil and Lucky

Text 4

来源：The Economist
主题：文化教育
建议用时：13 分钟

In 1956, when the cold war was at its peak, America deployed a "secret sonic weapon", as a newspaper headline put it at the time. That weapon was Dizzy Gillespie, a famed jazz musician, who was given the task of changing the world's view of American culture through rhythm and beat. Crowds poured into the street to dance. Cultural diplomacy died down after the cold war ended.

But the attacks of September 11th 2001 convinced the State Department to send out America's musicians once again to woo hearts and minds with melody.

Rhythm Road, a program run by the State Department and a non-profit organization, Jazz at Lincoln Centre, has made informal diplomats out of both musicians and audiences. Since it began in 2005, musicians have travelled to 96 countries. One band went to Mauritania, a country in northwestern Africa, after last year's coup; many depart for countries that have strained relationships with America. The musicians travel to places where some people have never seen an American.

Jazz, so participants in the program, is well-suited to diplomacy. It is collaborative, allowing individuals both to harmonize and play solo—much like a democracy, says Ari Roland, who plays bass for a band that left New York to tour the Middle East on March 31st. Jazz is also a reminder of music's power. It helped break down racial barriers, as enthusiasts of all colors gathered to listen to jazz when segregation was still the law of the land.

The State Department spent 10 million US dollars on cultural diplomacy programs in the year to September 30th 2008. But most expect funding for the initiative to increase under Barack Obama, who pledged his support for cultural diplomacy during his campaign. Rhythm Road now sends out hip-hop and bluegrass bands as well.

There are some dissenters. Nick Cull, the director of the Public Diplomacy Program at the University of Southern California, thinks that these diplomatic projects would be more productive if they were not administered by the same agency that oversees the country's foreign-policy agenda. And there is also clamor for Mr. Obama to appoint a secretary of culture in his cabinet. What good, they ask, is sending American culture abroad, when the country is not giving it proper attention at home?

16. Why was Dizzy Gillespie regarded as a "secret sonic weapon" in 1956?
    A. He was deployed to help the U.S. gain the victory of the cold war.
    B. He was assigned to beat enemies at the peak of the cold war.
    C. He had the power to influence the world during the cold war.
    D. He could help to reshape a new image of American culture to the world.

17. What is the position of cultural diplomacy in American politics?
    A. It has always been highly valued throughout history.
    B. It was a vital weapon in the second half of the 20th century.
    C. It was neglected for decades after once being successful.
    D. It was welcomed by American citizens during the war.

18. The word "well-suited" (Line 1, Paragraph 3) most probably implies
    A. the participants of the program are all well dressed.
    B. jazz music is collaborative as well as individual.
    C. the participants are suitable for the program.
    D. jazz music best represents the democratic spirit.

19. The Rhythm Road program
    A. only involves professional musicians.   B. is a cultural and political program.
    C. aims at America's opponent countries.   D. sends out mainly bands of Jazz music.

20. The last paragraph suggests that
    A. the cultural democracy programs are not successful and productive at all.
    B. Barack Obama fails to realize his pledges for support to cultural democracy.
    C. the government should emphasize American culture only at home.
    D. authorities should give more attention to American culture domestically.

Part B

来源:Time
主题:科普信息
建议用时:20分钟

A. Using a pair of charged particles, group leader Christopher Monroe and his team place each in a vacuum and keep them in position with electric fields. An ultra-fast laser pulse triggers the atoms to emit photons simultaneously. If the photons interact in just the right way, their parent atoms enter a quantum state known as entanglement, in which atom B adopts the properties of atom A even though they're in separate chambers a meter apart. When A is measured, the information that had been previously encoded on it disappears in accordance with the rules of the quantum world. But all is not lost: because B is entangled with A, B now contains the information that was once carried on A. That information, in a very real sense, has been teleported.

B. Physics and magic aren't often mistaken, but increasingly, physicists themselves seem to be trying to change that. Last year, a team at the University of California announced that it had developed materials that could lead to an invisibility clothing. Last month, a team of scientists from the Joint Quantum Institute (JQI) has joined the fun. The current object of their research? Teleportation.

C. Gordon Moore was rewarded for his prescience with a sort of immortality: the famed "Moore's Law" is one of the venerable truths of the computer world. The rest of us were rewarded with ever faster and ever smaller computers. At some point soon, however, miniaturization will reach a point that's too tiny to be practical. It's then, many hope, that what's known as quantum computing—based on information-sharing particles—will take over.

D. Depending on your favorite science fiction stories, teleportation is either a very bad idea or a very cool one. For scientists, it's just very complex, so much so that at this point, teleportation is not a matter of moving matter but one of transporting information. Already, physicists have been able to exchange information between light particles or atoms, so long as they were right next to each other. The current experiment marks the first in which information has traveled a significant distance—1 meter—between two isolated atoms.

E. Quantum-computing technology, however, holds a lot more potential than that, if only because of its massive information-storage capacity. One of the marvelous little wrinkles of the quantum world is a condition known as superposition, in which a particle can occupy two states at the same time. Thus, the capacity of a computer can be doubled with the application of the new technology.

F. O.K., so parents might not be inviting the JQI team to perform at their kids' birthday parties anytime soon, but what the quantum trick lacks in showmanship, it makes up for in practical applications for future computers. In 1965, Intel co-founder Gordon Moore predicted that the number of transistors that could be placed on a computer chip would double every two years—which is precisely what has happened.

G. The next step for the JQI team is to improve the photons' precision and the rate of communication between the particles. What we won't see soon—or ever, according to Monroe—is a device that can teleport humans from one point to another. "There's way too many atoms," says Monroe. "At the other end of the transporter, you need to have some blob of atoms that represents the object being teleported, which is not possible now. I mean, what would that look like?"

Order:

B → 21. ____ → 22. ____ → 23. ____ → 24. ____ → 25. ____ → G

Part C

Life is unfair, as even the *Bible* acknowledges. We can't all hit a baseball like DiMaggio or sing like the Beatles. But how much do we understand about those who can? Not enough, says Malcolm Gladwell, in his new book, *Outliers: The Story of Success*. (26)We attribute the Beatles' fabulous success to their amazing musical talents, whereas Gladwell has a different explanation—as a determinant of success, talent is overrated, compared with, among other things, luck.

Outliers opens with a typically Gladwellian puzzle: why are so many professional hockey players born early in the year? (27)It turns out that Canadian Youth Leagues group players by age, based on a calendar year, so a player born in January will be the oldest on his team, enjoying a big difference in size and maturity. The early birds get more playing time and coaching, advantages that become self-reinforcing, spelling the difference between a National Hockey League career and a job as a high-school coach. Life is unfair.

(28)Similarly, Gladwell calculates that the best year for a software genius to be born was 1955—just old enough for the start of the personal-computer revolution in the mid-1970s. That is the year when Bill Gates and Steve Jobs were born. Obviously, not everyone born that year became a billionaire; Gates and Jobs had distinctive talents, but they also had unique opportunities growing up. Almost invariably, Gladwell says, geniuses are made, not born, and it was their families, schools and societies that made them.

(29)As evidence Gladwell brings to bear his own history, as the son of a Jamaican woman of limited means who won a scholarship to study at the University of London. Her marriage to an Englishman there began the family's ascent into the educated elite. He maintains that his mother was the beneficiary of her own mother's initiative and a favorable environment. And so are we all.

The reader should feel free to cite counterexamples—Shakespeare, the son of a provincial trader in hides and grain? Einstein, dreaming away in an obscure patent office?—you won't discomfort Gladwell. (30)He always builds an argument out of absorbing anecdotes and eye-opening statistics, then happily moves on to his next point, leaving the reader with a faint hint of buyer's remorse about the almost too-perfect package of ideas. No other writer today can pull this sort of thing off so well. If I hadn't just read Gladwell's book, I'd be jealous of his talent, instead of his luck.

答案详解

Part A

Text 1

词◆汇◆突◆破

spiral /ˈspaɪərəl/ *n.* 螺旋　　　**complexity** /kəmˈpleksɪtɪ/ *n.* 复杂性　　　**creep** /kriːp/ *n.* 蔓延

usability /ˌjuːzəˈbɪlətɪ/ *n.* 可用性　　**unstoppable** /ʌnˈstɒpəbl/ *a.* 无法停止的　　**internal-audience** *n.* 内部观众

marketer /ˈmɑːkɪtə/ *n.* 市场营销人员　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**lure** /ljuə/ *v.* 引诱

gadget /ˈgædʒɪt/ *n.* 小配件　　**odd** /ɒd/ *a.* 奇怪的　　　　**anticipate** /ænˈtɪsɪpeɪt/ *v.* 预期

overestimate /ˌəʊvəˈestɪmeɪt/ *v.* 过高估计　**peculiar** /pɪˈkjuːlɪə/ *a.* 奇特的　　**generate** /ˈdʒenəˌreɪt/ *v.* 导致

难◆句◆分◆析

■ In part, **feature creep is the product of** the so-called **internal-audience problem**: the people who design and sell products are not the ones who buy and use them, and what engineers and marketers think is important is not necessarily what's best for consumers. (Para. 2)

【解析】本句主干部分的意思是"功能蔓延是内部观众问题的产物"。冒号后的部分是 internal-audience problem 的同位语,进一步解释什么是 internal-audience problem;两个 who 都引导定语从句,修饰 the people 和 the ones,分别限定人群的种类;第一个 what 引导主语从句,第二个 what 引导表语从句。

■ **The fact** that buyers want bells and whistles but users want something clear and simple **creates a peculiar problem** for companies. (Para. 5)

【解析】本句主干部分的意思是"(顾客购买产品时想要有诱人的附属功能的产品,但用的时候则希望产品简单易操作)这个事实(为公司)带来了问题"。that 引导同位语从句,解释 The fact 的具体内容。

解◆题◆思◆路

1. [C] 主旨大意题,考查段落大意。根据题干定位到第一段。其中讲到随着科技的进步,产品的功能蔓延导致许多问题,故 C 项与之相符。A 项 benefits 与文意相悖;B 项 the recent study 仅为一个例证,并非本段讨论的主要问题;D 项 many problems of usability 仅在本段提及并未展开。

2. [C] 推理判断题。根据题干定位在第二段。本段末明确提出市场营销部门还把这些附加功能视为新的卖点用以吸引客户, 故 C 项正确。A 项 the audience problem 是对原文 internal-audience 的曲解;B 项 is not good 是对原文 not necessarily what's best for 的曲解;D 项 quality 未提及。

3. [B] 事实细节题。考查因果细节,根据 avoid feature creep 定位到第三段。本段中 because 引导的从句解释了功能蔓延的根源,即人们首先是被产品的复杂功能所吸引,故 B 项正确。A 项"发现复杂的产品容易操作"与原文"消费者觉得过多的功能让产品变得很难操纵"相悖;C 项"不喜欢简单的产品"未提及;D 项"非常了解复杂的好处"与原文"把产品买回家使用时才发现简易的优点"相悖。

4. [A] 推理判断题。根据题干定位到第四段。本段最后一句明确说明我们过高估计了自己使用这类功能复杂的产品的能力,故 A 项与之相符。B 项 deeply convinced"深信"以及 all 过于绝对化;C 项 be fed up with"已经厌烦"未提及;D 项 are quite clear about"已经很清楚"与文意"人们都不太擅长预测将来什么会令他们快乐"相悖。

5. [D] 语义理解题。根据题干定位到第五段。此类题需从上下文进行推断。but 提示了前后文的转折关系,后文表明使用者希望产品简单易操作,因此推断前文意思应为购买者则喜欢花哨复杂的产品,因此才会产生 a peculiar problem,故 D 项与之相符。A 项 loud noises 是对 bells and whistles 的曲解;B 项张冠李戴;C 项"拥有很多功能却又不会让消费者感到心烦的产品"并未提及。

全◆文◆翻◆译◆划◆线◆点◆评

(1)科技本应该让我们生活得更加容易,帮助我们更迅速、高效地完成工作。但科技也似乎经常让事情变得更难。生活因科技而变得复杂,这样的不良循环通常被称为"功能蔓延",不仅浪费消费者的时间,也增加了企业的生产成本。在美国,每年因退货造成的损失达 1000 亿美元。菲利浦电子公司的艾尔克·邓·奥登的一项最新研究发现,至少有一半退回的产品本身没有任何问题。消费者只是不知道如何使用它们而已。现在很多公司知道了大量关于可用性的问题和消费者行为的信息,但为什么功能蔓延还是势不可挡呢?

在某种程度上,功能蔓延是所谓的内部观众问题:设计和销售产品的人并不是购买和使用产品的人,而且工程师和市场营销人员认为重要的对于消费者来说未必最好。工程师们往往不会注意到更多的产品选项令产品更加不好用,(2)而同时市场营销部门还把这些附加功能视为新的卖点用以吸引客户。

你可能会认为要避免功能蔓延,公司只要专注于提供客户真正想要的就行了。(3)但是这就产生了问题,因为虽然消费者觉得过多的功能让产品变得很难操纵,但同时也认为它们很有吸引力。结果就导致我们在商场看到

一种新产品时,认为功能越多就代表产品越好,只有当我们买回家使用时才发现简易的优点。

这看起来很奇怪,我们不希望患上功能疲劳症,因此我们也在极力避免功能疲劳现象。但是许多研究表明,一般而言,人类都不太擅长预测将来什么会令他们快乐。结果我们就会为产品的更多功能买单,因为我们总是过高地估计自己用到该产品的这些功能的次数。(4)同时我们也过高地估计了自己使用这类功能复杂的产品的能力。

(5)顾客购买产品时想要有诱人的附属功能的产品,但用的时候则希望产品简单易操作,这就为公司带来了问题。在商店里,没有足够多功能的产品可能没有办法吸引消费者的眼球。但是拥有过多功能的产品又使消费者心烦,进而影响该产品的口碑,就像宝马原来的智能驾驶控制系统一样。

Text 2

词◆汇◆突◆破

unveil /ʌnˈveɪl/ *v.* 揭开,公布　　**eliminate** /ɪˈlɪmɪneɪt/ *v.* 根除　　**polio** /ˈpəʊlɪəʊ/ *n.* 小儿麻痹症

bureaucratic /ˌbjʊərəʊˈkrætɪk/ *a.* 官僚的　**disheartened** /dɪsˈhɑːtnd/ *a.* 死气沉沉的

infectious /ɪnˈfekʃəs/ *a.* 有传染性的　**vaccine** /ˈvæksiːn/ *n.* 疫苗　　**hamper** /ˈhæmpə/ *v.* 妨碍

conspiracy /kənˈspɪrəsɪ/ *n.* 阴谋　　**sterilize** /ˈsterɪlaɪz/ *v.* 使不育　**vigilance** /ˈvɪdʒələns/ *n.* 警惕

revival /rɪˈvaɪvəl/ *n.* 复兴　　**fatigue** /fəˈtiːg/ *n.* 疲劳　　**make a go of** 做……获得成功

难◆句◆分◆析

■ **The Gates Foundation,** with its pots of money and businesslike approach, **has transformed the bureaucratic and disheartened world of public health**. (Para. 2)

【解析】本句主干的意思是"盖茨基金会已改变了公众健康领域……的局面";介词短语 with... approach 作方式状语,表示盖茨基金会通过投入大量资金及商业化运作的方式来改变公众健康领域的官僚作风和死气沉沉的局面。

■ **The final push** towards elimination **will** certainly **be costly**, though several recent studies suggest that it is cheaper to spend money on a big elimination effort now than to pay the price later for sustained vigilance and health costs. (Para. 6)

【解析】本句主句意为"根除小儿麻痹症的最后努力当然要付出巨大的代价",在由 though 引导的让步状语从句中,主要用比较结构 than 来对比了"现在努力根除该疾病"和"以后长期防疫及健康"二者之间代价的大小。

解◆题◆思◆路

6. [C] 推理判断题。根据题干定位到第二段。可以发现 change 与原文"改变了(transform)公众健康领域的官僚作风和死气沉沉的局面"对应,C 项符合此意。A 项中的 businesslike 形容的不是这个改变,而是改变的方式;B 项是促成改变的条件;D 项是改变的结果。

7. [B] 事实细节题,考查因果细节。根据题干和 hardest 定位到第三段。其中说到"最后阶段最艰难,每 200 例中只有一例可以在早期查出,小儿麻痹症传染性也强得多。",B 项与之完全相符。A、C 两项并非原因,而是陈述一个事实;D 项的 impossible 过于绝对。

8. [B] 事实细节题,考查例证细节。根据 Muslims in northern Nigeria 定位到第五段。可以发现文中第四、五段讲述的都是疫苗接种(vaccine)在各国遇到的阻碍(obstacles),因此 B 项符合文意。A 项 conspiracy 张冠李戴;C、D 项陈述的只是 Muslims 的错误观念。

9. [A] 语义理解题。根据题干在第六段找到该句,可以发现该句原意为"全世界仍可能最终成功根除小儿麻痹症"。A 项中 manage to 与原句 make a go of 意义相同,即"成功地做某事"。B 项 fail to、C 项 give up 与原意相反,排除;D 项 begin 也与原意不符。

10. [D] 主旨大意题。本文主要讲述了世界在致力于根除小儿麻痹症的过程中取得的成绩(The decline from 350,000 new cases in 1988 to 2,000 cases now) 和遇到的阻碍 (But the final stretch is the hardest.),D 项 so near 与 so far 与之相符。A 项 success 言之过早;B 项涵盖内容太过宽泛;C 项 greatest 太过绝对。

全◆文◆翻◆译◆划◆线◆点◆评

本周比尔·盖茨宣称,人类在过去50年中取得的最伟大成就是使儿童死亡人数减半,降至2007年的每年1000万人。这位世界上最成功的资本家在宣布几年内在全球根除小儿麻痹症这一雄心勃勃的新计划时,对世界卫生组织赞不绝口。世界卫生组织小儿麻痹症项目负责人布鲁斯·艾尔沃德用市场学的语言描述对抗该疾病的斗争,在他看来,"根除该疾病是公众健康的风险投资:风险巨大,回报也同样丰厚。"

(6)这种说法突出了过去十年间公众健康方面的变化。盖茨基金会通过投入大量资金及商业化运作,已改变了公众健康领域的官僚作风和死气沉沉的局面,使多项状况不佳的活动重现活力,其中包括对抗小儿麻痹症的项目。该项目将得到一笔6亿多美元的新捐款,分别来自英德两国纳税人、国际扶轮社及盖茨基金会(2.55亿美元)。

(10)每年的新发病例从1988年(当时第一次提出了迅速根除小儿麻痹症的目标)的35万例下降到现在的2000例(主要出现在尼日利亚、印度、巴基斯坦和阿富汗),看起来胜利在望。(7)(10)但最后阶段才是最艰难的。每200例中只有一例可以在早期查出(与已根除的天花的大部分病例不同,天花是一种传染性很强的病,它使人产生丘疹,而丘疹会在人的皮肤上留下深深的疤痕)。小儿麻痹症传染性也强得多。

(8)其他的问题还有,常用的疫苗在印度中部人口密集的病发地区效果欠佳。研究人员正在努力开发更适合当地情况的疫苗。约翰·霍普金斯大学的尼尔·霍西说,现在常用的"活"疫苗必须加入一定剂量的"惰性"疫苗。疫苗的价格应更便宜。

阿富汗和巴基斯坦的战争使那里的疫苗接种计划受阻。(8)尼日利亚北部的穆斯林中有谣言说,疫苗接种实际上是让儿童绝育的阴谋。这使得小儿麻痹症病毒更加肆虐传播。并且尼日利亚人的这种谣言可能已传到了其他一些国家。

根除小儿麻痹症的最后努力当然要付出巨大的代价,虽然最近几项研究表明,现在努力根除该疾病的花费比以后长期防疫及健康所付出的代价要小。全球复苏的前景是对该疾病万众一心。(9)这就是为什么,虽然该疾病带来的挑战巨大,且捐赠者可能产生疲劳情绪,但全世界仍可能最终成功根除它。

Text 3

词◆汇◆突◆破

triad /ˈtraɪəd/ *n.* 三合一
unfeeling /ʌnˈfiːlɪŋ/ *a.* 无情的
exploitative /ɪkˈsplɔɪtətɪv/ *a.* 剥削的
shun /ʃʌn/ *v.* 避免
correlation /ˌkɒrɪˈleɪʃn/ *n.* 相关
extroverted /ˈekstrəvɜːtɪd/ *a.* 性格外向
poach /pəʊtʃ/ *v.* 偷猎

narcissism /ˈnɑːsɪsɪzm/ *n.* 自恋　**impulsive** /ɪmˈpʌlsɪv/ *a.* 冲动的
psychopath /ˈsaɪkəʊpæθ/ *n.* 精神病患者
Machiavellianism /ˌmækɪəˈvelɪənɪzm/ *n.* 马基雅维里主义,又称权术主义
predator /ˈpredətə/ *n.* 掠夺者　**prolific** /prəˈlɪfɪk/ *a.* 多产的
epitomize /ɪˈpɪtəmaɪz/ *v.* 概括
seduce /sɪˈdjuːs/ *v.* 引诱　　　**shotgun** /ˈʃɒtgʌn/ *n.* 猎枪
wary /ˈweərɪ/ *a.* 机警的

难◆句◆分◆析

■ **The finding may help explain why** a nasty suite of anti-social personality traits known as the "dark triad" persists in the human population, despite their potentially grave cultural costs. (Para. 1)

[解析] 本句主干部分的意思是"这项发现也许可以解释一种现象"。why引导宾语从句,说明解释的内容,意为"为什么反社会人格虽然可能会给社会文化带来极大隐患,但却一直存在于人群中";known as the "dark triad"作后置定语修饰a nasty suite of anti-social personality traits,意为"通常所说的'暗黑三合一'"。

解◆题◆思◆路

11. [B] 主旨大意题。考查文章标题,从全文可以看出,文章主要讨论"暗黑三合一"的三种反社会人格对两性关系的影响,开篇即说明"男人不坏,女人不爱",最后一段又点出"在其存在比例极低的前提下,此特质才最成

功",故 B 项"择偶策略:坏就是好"最贴切。A 项只涉及"暗黑三合一",表达不全面;C 项 dark side 欠准确,原文并非讨论人类的阴暗面,而是三种性格特质;D 项 being evil 是对原文 slightly evil 的过度引申。

12. [C] 事实细节题。根据 slight dark 定位到第三段,该段第一句明确说明一点坏的特质也许是优势:比如有丰富多彩的性生活,故 C 项正确。A、B、D 所讲的几种情况均是在 at their extreme 这一前提下才会发生的,而非题干中限定的 slight 的情况,故可排除。

13. [D] 事实细节题。根据 Jonason and his colleagues 定位在第三段,最后一句表明研究发现"暗黑三合一"特质测试中得分越高的人,倾向于拥有越多的性伙伴。但这种相关性只存在于男性身上,故 D 项与之相符。原文只提到男性,A 项错在 Both men and women;B 项错在 all the people;C 项 Being a monster 原文并没提到。

14. [C] 语义理解题。根据题干定位到第四段,本段主要列举詹姆斯·邦德的例子,原因是邦德身上集合了这组人格特质,故 C 项"成为……的典型"正确。A 项、B 项和 D 项均表示某人的某种情感或态度,但第四段乔纳森所说的话中只解说了詹姆斯·邦德的人格特质具体是什么样的,却并没有提到邦德对自身人格特质的评价或感受,故这三项均不正确。

15. [C] 推理判断题。根据题干定位到第五段。其中讲到"拥有这些特质肯定要付出代价的",故 C 项与之相符。A 项 to both men and women 引申过度,文章只提到 men;B 项 extremely 是对原文 more 的曲解;D 项 without 是对原文 rare 的曲解。

全◆文◆翻◆译◆划◆线◆点◆评

"好人"都知道这个道理:"男人不坏,女人不爱",现在,已有两项研究为此提供了佐证。(15)<u>这项发现也许可以解释为什么俗称"暗黑三合一"的三种反社会人格的恶劣组合,虽然可能会给社会文化带来极大的隐患,但却一直存在于人群中。</u>

这三种特质分别是:以自我为中心的自恋癖;易冲动、喜欢寻求刺激、冷漠无情的心理变态;欺骗和利用他人的马基雅维利主义。这几种特质如果被发挥到了极致,会给传统的人类社会生活带来极大的危害。带有如此人格特质的人有可能会被他人孤立,被排除在人际圈子之外,他们将难以找到伴侣,找到饭碗,且容易受到掠夺和伤害。

(11)<u>然而,只是有一点点坏或许反而是优势:比如有丰富多彩的性生活</u>,位于拉斯克鲁塞斯的新墨西哥州立大学的彼得·乔纳森说:"有证据表明,这三种特质实际上是同一个东西,而且代表着一种成功的进化策略。"乔纳森和他的同事以 200 名大学生为样本进行了人格测试,按他们身上的"暗黑三合一"特质对他们进行打分排序。实验人员也询问了他们对于性关系和性生活的看法,包括他们曾有多少名性伙伴,以及他们是否寻求短期性关系。(12)<u>研究发现,"暗黑三合一"特质测试中得分越高的人,倾向于拥有越多的性伙伴,也更喜欢短期性关系。不过,这种相关性只存在于男性身上。</u>

(13)<u>乔纳森说詹姆斯·邦德身上就集合了这组人格特质。</u>"很显然,他脾气暴躁,性格外向,喜欢尝试新事物——杀几个人,新泡几个妞儿。"正如女人一个又一个在邦德面前沦陷,通过数量至上或所谓的"霰弹"策略,拥有"暗黑三合一"特质的人或许在繁衍后代方面更加成功,即便他们不留下来承担父亲应尽的责任也是一样。"这种策略似乎挺成功,因为人们身上仍然有这些特质,"乔纳森说。

此项研究得到的这种相关性似乎在各种文化中都存在。在一次会议中,伊利诺斯州位于皮奥里亚的布拉德利大学的戴维·施密特拿出的初步报告涵盖了 57 个国家中的 35000 多人。他也在男性身上发现了"暗黑三合一"特质和繁殖成功率之间的类似联系。"'暗黑三合一'特质测试得分越高的人,越热衷于短期性关系,这是跨越文化的共通行为,"施密特说。"他们更可能去接近别人的伴侣,以期建立一段露水情缘。"(14)<u>波尔得科罗拉多大学的马修·凯勒说:"他们还得解释这些特质为何没有扩散到所有人身上?拥有这些特质肯定要付出什么代价。"</u>凯勒和乔纳森都认为,一种可能性是,只有其存在比例极低的前提下,"暗黑三合一"特质才最成功;否则,其他人会提高戒心,时刻防备。

Text 4

词◆汇◆突◆破

deploy /dɪˈplɔɪ/ *v.* 部署
coup /ku:/ *n.* 政变
collaborative /kəˈlæbəreɪtɪv/ *a.* 协作性的
bass /beɪs/ *n.* 贝斯
segregation /ˌsegrɪˈgeɪʃn/ *n.* 种族隔离
clamor /ˈklæmə/ *n.* 大声的抗议

sonic /ˈsɒnɪk/ *a.* 声音的
strained /streɪnd/ *v.* 紧张的
harmonize /ˈhɑːmənaɪz/ *v.* 使……协调
enthusiast /ɪnˈθjuːzɪæst/ *n.* 热衷者
dissenter /dɪˈsentə/ *n.* 持异议者
cabinet /ˈkæbɪnɪt/ *n.* 内阁

难◆句◆分◆析

■ **It is collaborative,** allowing individuals both to harmonize and play solo—much like a democracy, **says Ari Roland,** who plays bass for a band that left New York to tour the Middle East on March 31st. (Para. 3)

【解析】句子主干部分的意思是"爵士乐的协作能力很强,阿里·罗兰德说道"。 allowing 引导的现在分词短语对 collaborative 起补充说明的作用,可译为"可以多人协奏也可以单人独奏——和民主政治很相像"。who 引导的非限定性定语从句修饰 Ari Roland。

■ **Nick Cull,** the director of the Public Diplomacy Program at the University of Southern California, **thinks that** these diplomatic projects would be more productive if they were not administered by the same agency that oversees the country's foreign-policy agenda. (Para. 5)

【解析】句子主干部分的意思是"尼克·卡尔认为,如果音乐外交不是由同一机构掌管的话将会变得更富成效。"。the director of... 作 Nick Cull 的同位语,if 引导条件状语从句,可译为"如果能将负责实施音乐外交计划的机构与监督国家的外交政策日程的机构区分开来的话"。

解◆题◆思◆路

16. [D] 事实细节题,考查因果细节。根据 Dizzy Gillespie 定位到第一段,该题难点是段中并没有明显的因果信号词,而是用 who 引导的定语从句来表达因果逻辑,强调了由于迪兹·吉莱斯皮通过节奏和拍子来改变世界对美国文化的看法,所以他就是"秘密声音武器",故选 D 项。A、B 项把迪兹·吉莱斯皮理解为军事上参与战争,与文化参与背道而驰;文中还提到迪兹·吉莱斯皮的任务是去改变世界对美国的看法,而非整个世界的局势,故排除 C 项。

17. [C] 推理判断题。根据 cultural diplomacy 定位到第一段,该段提到文化外交在冷战结束后逐渐冷却,9·11 事件的爆发才促使美国重拾对文化外交的重视,故选 C 项。根据第一段最后两句可知文化外交经历过高潮和低谷,而非一直很管用、很受重视,故 A、B 项与事实不符;D 项 welcomed 一词文中未提及。

18. [D] 语义理解题。根据题干直接定位到第三段。要结合上下文来理解,该词所在的句子后面紧接着的句子是起解释说明作用的,即因为爵士乐和民主政治很相像,从而推断出爵士乐很适合用来开展外交,故选 D 项。A、C 项都是字面解释;B 项则把爵士乐之所以被看作适合用来开展外交的原因介绍了一下。

19. [B] 事实细节题。根据 Rhythm Road 定位到第二段。该段中提到这项计划是由国务院和一家非赢利组织林肯中心爵士乐社共同开展的,从而使得音乐家以及观众共同成为了民间的外交家,故可以合理推得 Rhythm Road 这一项目既涉及文化,又涉及政治,故选 B 项。根据原文所述,该计划不仅涉及职业音乐家,还包括听众在内,故 A 项"只涉及职业音乐家"的论断错误;此外文中提到音乐家前往的很多国家与美国关系紧张, 但并不能就此推断这些国家就是美国的敌对国家,C 项推断过度;在第四段中指出 Rhythm Road 又增派了嘻哈乐团和乡村音乐乐团进行文化交流,故 D 项中主要指派爵士乐团进行文化交流的判断是错误的。

20. [D] 推理判断题。答案在最后一段。该段强调对于文化外交,在美国国内还是有人持异议的,并要求政府对文化活动在本国的开展予以重视,故选 D 项。文中提到文化外交计划在一定条件下能更富有成效,并未讲该计划完全不成功,A 项推理过度;B 项中奥巴马承诺支持文化外交的内容并不在最后一段中, 而是在倒

数第二段中出现，故排除 B 项；最后一段最后一句提到有人认为应重视在国内开展文化活动，C 项的 only 一词过于绝对，不符合文意。

全◆文◆翻◆译◆划◆线◆点◆评

1956 年，当冷战达到顶峰时期时，正如当时报纸标题所示，美国开始采取所谓的"秘密声音武器"。(16)这一武器就是著名爵士音乐家迪兹·吉莱斯皮，他肩负重任，要通过节奏和拍子来改变世界对美国文化的看法；那时，人们涌上街头载歌载舞。(17)然而，文化外交却随着冷战的结束而淡化，但 2001 年的 9·11 事件使得美国国务院再一次以音乐家作为武器，通过旋律来赢取世人的心。

(19)旋律之路是由国务院和一家非赢利组织林肯中心爵士乐社开展的一项计划，这一计划使许多音乐家和听众同时也成为了业余外交家。自从 2005 年该计划实施以来，音乐家们已经前往了 96 个国家。去年，一个乐队曾来到政变后的毛里塔尼亚，而很多则前往那些与美国关系紧张的国家，音乐家们还到过对美国一无所知的地方。

(18)爵士乐是这个计划的重要参与者，它非常适合外交。爵士乐的协作能力很强，可以多人协奏也可以单人独奏——和民主政治很相像，阿里·罗兰德说，他曾于 3 月 31 日从纽约前往中东的一支乐队担任贝司手。爵士乐再一次向人们展示了音乐的力量，音乐曾经帮助消弭过种族隔阂。在那个种族隔离法还未废止的年代，对音乐怀有极大热情的人们不论肤色，仍然聚在一起聆听爵士乐。

从计划实施的那一年到 2008 年 9 月 30 日，美国国务院在文化外交项目上共投资了 1000 万美元，但是大多数人仍期望巴拉克·奥巴马政府能够增加这方面的投资，奥巴马本人也在竞选时承诺将支持文化外交。目前，旋律之路又增派了嘻哈乐团和乡村音乐乐团进行文化交流。

然而，也有一些人提出异议。南加州大学公共外交计划的负责人尼克·卡尔认为，如果将音乐外交计划的负责机构能与监督国家的外交政策日程的机构区分开来的话，则音乐外交将会更富成效。(20)另外，对于奥巴马要在内阁任命一位文化部长的举措，已经存在着反对声。他们质疑，美国国内都未给予文化足够的重视，对外弘扬美国文化又有什么意义呢？"

Part B

选◆项◆预◆览

[A] 详细描述了充电粒子成功传输信息的试验及其原理，段落的结尾部分指出"这一试验演示了信息被瞬间成功传输的事实"。这一段是典型的分总结构。

[B] 指出越来越多的物理学家尝试打破物理与魔术的界限，最后一句点明了最新研究对象：把魔术中的物体瞬间移动传输变为现实。

[C] 介绍了著名的"摩尔定律"为计算机世界带来的福音及量子计算机技术这一未来发展趋势。

[D] 表明物体瞬间移动传输对于科学家来说是一件非常复杂的事情，并指出目前实验能做到的是对物体所包含信息的瞬间传递。

[E] 具体介绍了量子计算机技术对计算机容量所带来的突破性前景。

[F] 指出量子戏法虽然无法使得魔术表演效果成为真正意义上的现实，但是却对未来计算机的实际运用作出了贡献。

[G] 介绍了在目前来看几乎没有把人进行瞬间传输的可能性。

解◆题◆思◆路

21. [D] 首段末点出本文话题：teleportation，即物体的瞬间移动传输。根据科普文的特点，下文应该对此概念作介绍或者解释，纵观各选项，只有 D 首句即出现 teleportation，其后强调其在物理现实意义上的复杂性，是对该概念整体宏观性的解释，故选 D 项。

22. [A] 上段末提到了目前实验(current experiment)尝试在"孤立的原子之间实现信息传递"这一点，故可推测其后的内容可能与该实验有关，而 A 正是对实验的具体描述，此项为"分-总"结构，段末的中心 that information has been teleported 与 D 末节 the information has traveled...对应，故选 A。

23. **[F]** 前一段科学家已成功进行信息转移,可推测下文可能指该技术的应用,而 F 段首句中转折信号词 but 后的重点内容指出量子戏法给未来的计算机产业带来好处 (practical applications for future computers),句中的 quantum trick 即指上文的 teleportation,此句与上文衔接得当,同时引出下文有关此技术在该领域的应用,承上启下,故应选 F。

24. **[C]** 上段简要说明量子戏法在计算机这一现实领域的应用,并且在段尾提到了 Gordon Moore 的预测,而 C 段首的 Gordon Moore 正好与 F 段尾呼应,同时 prescience"预知"与 F 段尾的 predict"预测"为同义复现,故应选 C。

25. **[E]** 上段末提到发展量子计算机技术的趋势(quantum computing),而 E 段首即出现 Quantum-computing technology,与上文形成呼应,故应选 E。

全◆文◆翻◆译

[B]物理学和魔法通常互不相干,但是,物理学家们似乎逐渐试图改变这一事实。去年,加利福尼亚大学的一个团队宣布他们已经研制出可以用作隐身衣的材料;上个月,联合量子学院的一支科研团队也加入了这一有意思的研究当中。然而,他们现在的研究对象是什么呢?那就是瞬间移动传输。

[D]对我们来说,瞬间移动传输这一想法究竟是好还是坏取决于我们喜欢怎样的科幻小说。而对科学家来说,瞬间移动传输却是一个十分复杂的问题,以至于此时它还只是一个研究信息传递的问题,而尚未到达研究物质转移的层面。如今,物理学家已经能够做到在相邻的轻粒子或原子之间进行信息交换,而他们正在进行的实验则标志着科学家们首次尝试在两个孤立的原子之间(相距有 1 米远)进行信息传递。

[A]该研究小组负责人克里斯托夫·门罗和他的组员将一对充电粒子分别放到两个真空容器中,然后将其置于电场中。与此同时,他们让一束极快的激光脉冲触发原子,使其释放出光子。如果光子之间相互碰撞得当,他们的母原子就能进入一种量子态,被称为"纠缠"状态。在这一状态下,即使原子 B 与原子 A 被置于不同的容器中,且距离1 米远,原子 B 同样能够接受原子 A 的属性。科学家们之后检测原子 A 时,发现之前编码在原子 A 上的信息消失了,正如量子规则所规定的那样。然而,并非所有信息都遗失了:因为原子 B 和原子 A 纠缠在一起,因此,原子 B 现在正包含着原子 A 之前所带的信息。在现实意义来说,信息被成功运输了。

[F]非常好!当然,家长们可能不会邀请联合量子学院的科研团队来他们孩子的生日宴会上做表演。然而,量子戏法虽缺乏表演能力,但它为未来计算机的实际应用做出了补偿。早在 1965 年,英特尔的创始人之一戈登·摩尔就曾预测,计算机芯片能容纳的晶体管数量每两年就会增加一倍——而事实证明确实如此。

[C]著名的"摩尔定律"是计算机产业最受推崇的真理之一,戈登·摩尔也因他不朽的预见性而受到褒奖。而我们普通人却有幸因此得到速度越来越快、外形越来越小的计算机。然而,不久的将来,微型化的发展可能会导致计算机设计过小以至于缺乏实用性。而到了那个时候,很多人则希望所谓的量子计算机(基于信息分享的粒子)能够执掌新一代的计算机产品。

[E]然而,量子计算技术的潜力不仅仅在其庞大的信息存储能力。一种叫做"重合"的状态就是量子世界中种种不可思议的小创新之一,在这一状态下,粒子可以同时拥有两种状态。这样,计算机在应用了这一新技术之后,容量便可以增加一倍。

[G]联合量子学院科研团队的下一步目标是提高光子的精密度和粒子之间的交流频率。据门罗说,我们今后看不到的,或是永远看不到的,是能够将人从一个点移动到另一个点的运输装置。他说:"原子数量实在是太多了,在运输机的另一边,需要有一堆原子代表正在被传输的物体,但现在这不可能实现。我的意思是,如果实现了,那将会是什么样子呢?"

Part C

26. **We attribute** the Beatles' fabulous **success to** their amazing musical **talents, whereas** Gladwell **has a different explanation**—as a determinant of success, talent is overrated, compared with, among other things, luck.

【理解难点】 此句为复合句。whereas 引导并列句,表示意思的转折。破折号后面是一个单句,其主干是 talent is overrated。

词与词组	可接受译法	不可接受译法
fabulous	巨大的;非凡的	极好的;绝妙的
overrate	评价过高,高估	夸张
compared with	与……相比	把……比作

【表达难点】 破折号后面的句子是插入语,对 explanation 进行补充说明,其主语 talent 的修饰成分有两个:as a determinant of success 和 compared with, among other things, luck。要糅合成一个句子比较困难。我们可以使用分译法,将 as a determinant of success 译成一个句子,即"天赋是取得成功的一个决定性因素";然后话锋一转引出 "天赋的作用被过分夸大"。为了使表达更符合中文习惯,我们在 success 前增译了动词"取得",在 talent 后面增译了名词"作用"。

【高分译文】 我们常把甲壳虫乐队的骄人成就归因于他们惊人的音乐天赋,然而,格拉德威尔却有着他独特的见解——天赋确实是取得成功的一个决定性因素,但是跟其他因素如运气相比,天赋的作用被过分夸大了。

27. **It turns out that** Canadian Youth Leagues group players by age, based on a calendar year, so a player born in January will be the oldest on his team, enjoying a big difference in size and maturity.

【理解难点】 It 为形式主语,that 引导的主语从句作真正的主语。而该主句从句本身是一个复合句,由"主句部分+结果状语从句"两部分构成。其主句部分的意思是"加拿大青少年曲棍球联队按照年龄对球员进行分组"。

【表达难点】 Canadian Youth Leagues 指加拿大青少年曲棍球联队;a calendar year 意为"日历年",即根据日历,从 1 月 1 日到 12 月 31 日为一年。based on a calendar year 是指根据年龄对队员进行分组,而年龄的计算方法是以日历年为基础的。enjoying a big difference 直译为"享受很大的不同",不符合汉语习惯,可译为"有很大的优势"。

【高分译文】 原来,在加拿大青少年曲棍球联队,球员的年龄以日历年来算,球队根据他们的年龄对其进行分组。因此 1 月份出生的球员在球队中年龄是最大的,他们在体格和成熟程度方面有很大的优势。

28. Similarly, **Gladwell calculates that** the best year for a software genius to be born was 1955—just old enough for the start of the personal-computer revolution in the mid-1970s.

【理解难点】 that 引导宾语从句。破折号后面其实是一个省略句,补充完整应该是he was just old enough for the start of the personal-computer revolution in the mid-1970s.

【表达难点】 a software genius 意为"一个软件才子";破折号后面的句子,翻译时可在 for 这个地方断开,后半部分译成一个句子表示时代大背景,放在(he) was just old enough 的前面。名词 start 可转译为动词"起步,到来"。

【高分译文】 同样,格拉德威尔推测软件才子出生的最佳年份应该是 1955 年——因为 20 世纪 70 年代中期,个人计算机革命才刚刚起步,而这些 1955 年出生的人此时正是风华正茂。

29. As evidence **Gladwell brings to bear** his own **history**, as the son of a Jamaican woman of limited **means** who won a scholarship to study at the University of London.

【理解难点】 根据《牛津高阶英汉双解词典》,bear 词条中 bring sth. to bear (on sb./sth.)的意思是"对……施加压力(或影响等)",此处该动词短语应理解为"引用证据来论证观点"。主干部分按照正常语序应调整为:Gladwell brings his own history as evidence to bear (on his argument),即格拉德威尔把自己的生平用作证据来强化自己的观点。who 引导的定语从句修饰 a Jamaican woman。

词与词组	可接受译法	不可接受译法
bring... to bear...	引用……来论证……	对……施加压力
history	家史,过去	历史
means	财力	手段

【表达难点】翻译 the son of a Jamaican woman 时,可以转换表达方式,"一个牙买加女人的儿子"也就是"他的母亲是一个牙买加人",以"他的母亲"为主语,就能跟后面的定语从句顺利衔接。

【高分译文】为了更好地证明上述论点,格拉德威尔还摆出了自己的家史,他的母亲出生在一个财力有限的牙买加人家,她获取了奖学金有了到伦敦大学学习的机会。

30. He always **builds an argument** out of absorbing anecdotes and eye-opening statistics, **then** happily **moves on to his next point**, leaving the reader with a faint hint of buyer's remorse about the almost too-perfect package of ideas.

【理解难点】本句主干部分是"He always builds..., then happily moves..."结构,out of...指出提出理论的依据;leaving sb. with sth.作结果状语;with a faint hint of buyer's remorse 将读者的反应与买家买东西之后的心情进行比对。

词与词组	可接受译法	不可接受译法
build	提出;论证	建立;建设
absorbing	有趣的,吸引人的	吸收的
a faint of	一点点,一丝	昏厥

【表达难点】考生若将 absorbing 和 eye-opening 两个单词译成汉语中的四字成语"引人入胜"和"令人瞠目",可使译文更加出彩。

【高分译文】他经常利用引人入胜的趣闻以及令人瞠目的数据来论证他的观点,然后欢快地论述下一个观点,而读者就像一个买了东西的人那样,在读完他那套几近完美的理论之后不免产生一丝懊悔。

全◆文◆翻◆译

生活是不公平的,这一点甚至连《圣经》也不加否认。不是每个人都能把棒球打得像迪马乔那样出神入化或是把歌唱得像甲壳虫乐队那样震撼人心。但是我们对那些能做得如此完美的人究竟了解多少?马尔科姆·格拉德威尔在他的新书《异类:不一样的成功启示录》中指出我们对这方面的了解其实还只是皮毛而已。(26)我们常把甲壳虫乐队的骄人成就归因于他们惊人的音乐天赋,然而,格拉德威尔却有着他独特的见解——天赋确实是取得成功的一个决定性因素,但是跟其他因素如运气相比,天赋的作用被过分夸大了。

《异类》一开始就提出了一个典型的格拉德威尔之谜:为什么会有如此多的职业曲棍球运动员出生在一年中的前几个月份?(27)原来,在加拿大青少年曲棍球联队,球员的年龄以日历年来算,球队根据他们的年龄对其进行分组。因此1月份出生的球员在球队中年龄是最大的,他们在体格和成熟程度方面有很大的优势。这些"早出生的鸟儿"有更多的比赛时间和训练活动,并且这种优势不断得到强化,这意味着他们很可能成为全国曲棍球联盟的一名职业选手而不是一名高中教练。生活确实不公平。

(28)同样,格拉德威尔推测软件才子出生的最佳年份是1955年——因为20世纪70年代中期,个人计算机革命才刚刚起步,而这些1955年出生的人此时正是风华正茂。比尔·盖茨和史蒂夫·贾伯斯就是在那一年出生的,不过,显然也不是每个在1955年出生的人都可以成为亿万富翁;盖茨和贾伯斯有卓尔不群的才能,除此之外,他们的成长过程还充满了罕见的机遇。格拉德威尔说,几乎可以肯定,天才并非是天生的,而是培养出来的,是他们的家庭环境、学校教育以及社会生活造就了他们。

(29)为了更好地证明上述论点,格拉德威尔还摆出了自己的家史,他的母亲出生在一个财力有限的牙买加人家,她获取了奖学金有了到伦敦大学学习的机会。她和当地一个英国人结婚,这使得他们一家有机会跻身于知识精英行列。他一直认为他的母亲能有现在这般成就完全得益于他外祖母的努力进取以及那时良好的外部环境。而我们同样也是如此。

读者可以信手拈来,随意举出一些反例——比如,莎士比亚的父亲不过是个乡下交易兽皮和谷物的小商贩;而爱因斯坦不过成天在一个昏暗的专利办公室里虚度时光罢了——但是这些都难不倒格拉德威尔。(30)他经常利用引人入胜的趣闻以及令人瞠目的数据来论证他的观点,然后欢快地论述下一个观点,而读者就像一个买了东西的人那样,在读完他那套几近完美的理论之后不免产生一丝懊悔。如今,没有哪一个作家可以做到格拉德威尔这样,要不是我刚刚读了格拉德威尔的这本书,我羡慕的肯定是他的天赋而不是运气。