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# 考研英语 冲刺预测试卷 (含考点精解)

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● 主编 韩 鹏 任治远  
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2013 NIAN KAOYAN YINGYU  
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# 出版前言

高教版 2013 年考研英语系列丛书由新东方考研英语辅导团队的精英教师编写,可满足考生全过程复习备考的需要,特别适合应届考生和社会考生自学的需要。

本系列丛书包括以下四册:

一、《2013 年考研英语历年真题解析与应试对策》全面解析 2003—2012 年考研英语真题及英语科试题的特点、应对方法,供考生在复习全过程的各阶段使用。本书根据最新考研大纲的要求,总结了历年考研英语的命题规律和复习思路,并深入讲解考生在答题时所应注意的常见错误和防范措施。考生通过学习本书,可以检测自己的水平,了解试题特点,掌握应试方法。

二、《2013 年考研英语专项突破(阅读理解 A、B 节)》适合基础复习阶段使用,使考生通过大量卓有成效的练习,巩固基础知识、弥补弱项、提升整体英语水平,获得良好的复习效果。此外,书中还详细介绍了阅读理解的命题规律和设问特点,并对知识点进行精讲,包含文章全文翻译、长难句分析、词义注释、常用搭配、解题方法等,最后精选 100 篇文章(其中新题型 40 篇文章)供考生演练,试题完全接近真题的难度和水平,让考生既能巩固基础知识,提高复习效果,又能逐步适应真正考试的难度,这样在考场止才能发挥自如。

三、《2013 年考研英语专项突破(英语知识运用、翻译和写作)》根据最新考研大纲的要求,总结了考研英语知识运用、翻译、写作部分的命题规律和复习思路,并让考生了解回答这几部分考题时所应注意的常见错误和防范措施。本书为考生提供大量针对这三项考试内容的与全真试卷难度一致的模拟练习题,让考生在短期内掌握这三项考试内容的解题技巧、提高翻译和写作水平,节省考生宝贵的复习时间。各部分试题的词汇量和文章选材、长度、难度都根据最新大纲进行了调整,对新题型也着重进行了讲解。

四、《2013 年考研英语冲刺预测试卷(含考点精解)》供考生在强化、冲刺阶段使用,其中包括新题型精讲精练、解题技巧及 10 套全真模拟试卷。各套试题为作者精心编制,具有典型性、针对性、综合性等特点,帮助考生进一步巩固基础阶段所学的基本理论、基本知识,掌握重点试题,熟悉答题方法,增强应试能力。

为了给考生提供更多的增值服务,凡购买正版高教版名师导学考研英语系列图书的考生都可以登录“中国教育考试网”[www.eduexam.com.cn](http://www.eduexam.com.cn) 享受增值服务。

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# 名师导读

不知不觉中,高教版名师导学考研英语系列丛书已经陪伴广大学子走过了10个年头。10年风风雨雨,经历了考研英语大纲10次修订,考研英语题型的3次改变。本系列丛书也与时俱进,历久弥新。2013年版名师导学考研英语系列丛书具有以下特色:

**第一,名师执笔。**本系列丛书编者均为长年奋斗在全国顶级培训机构考研英语培训第一线的教学专家。他们深谙考研英语题型内在规律和变化趋势,熟知考研学子的困惑和疑难所在,并针对这些困惑和疑难答疑解惑。

**第二,自成体系,经典备考范例。**本系列丛书为广大考生铺就了一条坚实的考研英语成功之路,并率先提出“考研成功五步走”的科学复习策略:

第一步,考生应先从《历年真题解析与应试对策》入手,严格按照考试时间答题,在备考之初就透彻了解考试题型和自己的真实水平以及和自己目标之间的差距。

第二步,根据自己不同项目的强弱,制定时间分配合理的复习计划,用两本《专项突破》分册对阅读、新题型、英语知识运用、翻译和写作实施各个击破。

第三步,在突破单项之后,重新做一遍历年真题,这一遍要尽量应用《专项突破》中讲到的解题思路和技巧,看看自己成绩提高的幅度,总结自己失分的原因。

第四步,在离考试还有3个月左右时,严格按照考试时间要求做一遍《冲刺预测试卷(含考点精解)》,这一过程要持续1个月左右,力求弄清每一道题的来龙去脉和自己答错题目的原因。

第五步,最后拿出《历年真题解析与应试对策》,再从认真研读,细细感悟真题所传达的考试信息,透彻领悟考研英语的真谛,信心百倍地走进考场,考出自己的满意成绩。

**第三,技巧实用,志在高分。**本系列丛书除了题目本身紧扣考研脉搏之外,还详细拆解应考技巧,练习题目后面均附有详细的解答,成为考生家中的辅导教师。考生在使用本系列丛书时,最好不要直接进入练习,应该花一周左右的时间把前面的应试策略了然于胸,然后做题,必然事半功倍。而且,要每过一段时间,就回来熟读一下策略,只有这样才能在真正考试时,把应试策略应用得得心应手。

全球畅销书《谁动了我的奶酪》的作者 Spencer Johnson 在其另一本书《现在》中指出,很多人都由于不停地悔恨过去和恐惧未来而浪费了现在的大好时光,最终也会失去新的成功机遇。不错,当你正在为没有早一点考研或以前考研的失败而感慨,抑或正在为对新题型没有把握而叹息,请提醒自己:我正在让成功的机遇从指缝中溜走。所以,现在就拿起书来,踏踏实实地战胜自己、突破考研。

编者

2012年7月

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## 模拟试卷一

### Section 1 Use of English

#### Directions:

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

The United States is usually given credit for creating and developing the musical comedy as it is known today. The first musical shows were based 1 everyday American life and the 2 development of the form took place in the United States for more than half a century. 3 the early 1970s, 4, the London theater has 5 the Broadway stage.

The Black Crook, which opened at Niblo's Garden in New York City on Sept. 12, 1866, is usually 6 as the inspiration for musical comedy. A troupe of French ballet dancers 7 to be stranded in New York without work 8 a fire damaged the theater 9 they had been booked. In order to keep a 10 to them, the theater producer put the dancers into a melodrama written by Charles M. Barres.

The first stage production that was 11 a musical comedy was a show that was 12 from the Prince of Wales Theater to the Gaiety Theater in London in 1892. Staged by George Edwards, the show called *In Town* featured a chorus line of Gaiety Girls. The 13 year *A Gaiety Girl* was equally successful, and a 14 of the show played in New York in the same year. When it was 15 in newspapers, it was designated a musical comedy and regarded as a new 16 of entertainment.

It did not take the form long to 17 in the United States. Almost 18 one of the most renowned talents of the American stage went to work on his own musicals. The singer-dancer George M. Cohan staged *Little Johnny Jones* in 1904. Cohan, 19 own life story was made into the musical *George M* (1968), also wrote the books, words, and 20 for *Forty-five Minutes from Broadway* (1906), *The Little Millionaire* (1911), *The Song and Dance Man* (1923), and *American Born* (1925).

- |                     |                |               |             |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. [A] upon         | [B] in         | [C] at        | [D] with    |
| 2. [A] big          | [B] large      | [C] little    | [D] chief   |
| 3. [A] Since        | [B] For        | [C] As        | [D] Thus    |
| 4. [A] for instance | [B] indeed     | [C] however   | [D] but     |
| 5. [A] dominated    | [B] ruled      | [C] performed | [D] acted   |
| 6. [A] thought      | [B] believed   | [C] credited  | [D] said    |
| 7. [A] happened     | [B] took place | [C] occurred  | [D] started |
| 8. [A] because      | [B] thus       | [C] but       | [D] hence   |
| 9. [A] when         | [B] who        | [C] that      | [D] where   |



10. [ A ] commitment            [ B ] sense            [ C ] communication [ D ] connection
11. [ A ] thought            [ B ] considered            [ C ] mentioned            [ D ] meant
12. [ A ] transferred            [ B ] transacted            [ C ] transported            [ D ] transmitted
13. [ A ] following            [ B ] ensuing            [ C ] latter            [ D ] behind
14. [ A ] produce            [ B ] product            [ C ] production            [ D ] result
15. [ A ] viewed            [ B ] criticized            [ C ] reviewed            [ D ] said
16. [ A ] shape            [ B ] figure            [ C ] form            [ D ] appearance
17. [ A ] catch on            [ B ] catch out            [ C ] catch to            [ D ] catch off
18. [ A ] immediately            [ B ] suddenly            [ C ] mainly            [ D ] only
19. [ A ] when            [ B ] which            [ C ] that            [ D ] whose
20. [ A ] content            [ B ] music            [ C ] opinion            [ D ] thought

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

Text 1

In most parts of the world, climate change is a worrying subject. Not so in California. At a recent gathering of green luminaries—in a film star’s house, naturally, for that is how seriousness is often established in Los Angeles—the dominant note was self-satisfaction at what the state has already achieved. And perhaps nobody is more complacent than Arnold Schwarzenegger. Unlike Al Gore, a presidential candidate turned prophet of environmental doom, California’s governor sounds cheerful when talking about climate change. As well he might: it has made his political career.

Although California has long been an environmentally-conscious state, until recently greens were concerned above all with smog and redwood trees. “Coast of Dreams”, Kevin Starr’s authoritative history of contemporary California, published in 2004, does not mention climate change. In that year, though, the newly-elected Mr. Schwarzenegger made his first tentative call for western states to seek alternatives to fossil fuels. Gradually he noticed that his efforts to tackle climate change met with less resistance, and more acclaim, than just about all his other policies. These days it can seem as though he works on nothing else.

Mr. Schwarzenegger’s transformation from screen warrior to eco-warrior was completed last year when he signed a bill imposing legally-enforceable limits on greenhouse—gas emissions—a first for America. Thanks mostly to its lack of coal and heavy industry, California is a relatively clean state. If it were a country it would be the world’s eighth-

biggest economy, but only its 16th-biggest polluter. Its big problem is transport—meaning, mostly, cars and trucks, which account for more than 40% of its greenhouse-gas emissions compared with 32% in America as a whole. The state wants to ratchet down emissions limits on new vehicles, beginning in 2009. Mr. Schwarzenegger has also ordered that, by 2020, vehicle fuel must produce 10% less carbon; in the production as well as the burning, so a simple switch to corn-based ethanol is probably out.

Thanks in part to California's example, most of the western states have adopted climate action plans. When it comes to setting emission targets, the scene can resemble a posedown at a Mr. Olympia contest. Arizona's climate-change scholars decided to set a target of cutting the state's emissions to 2000 levels by 2020. But Janet Napolitano, the governor, was determined not to be out-muscled by California. She has declared that Arizona will try to return to 2000 emission levels by 2012.

California has not just inspired other states; it has created a vanguard that ought to be able to prod the federal government into stronger national standards than it would otherwise consider. But California is finding it easier to export its policies than to put them into practice at home. In one way, California's self-confidence is fully justified. It has done more than any other state—let alone the federal government—to fix America's attention on climate change. It has also made it seem as though the problem can be solved. Which is why failure would be such bad news. At the moment California is a beacon to other states. If it fails, it will become an excuse for inaction.

21. According to the author, Mr. Arnold Schwarzenegger is cheerful chiefly because

- [ A ] climate change is not worrying California anymore.
- [ B ] even film stars become serious about environmental protection.
- [ C ] he has benefited personally from California's achievements.
- [ D ] his style of administration is always dominated by self-satisfaction.

22. Why did Mr. Schwarzenegger seem to be working on nothing else?

- [ A ] Because California has always been environmentally-conscious.
- [ B ] Because Kevin Starr failed to talk about climate change in his book.
- [ C ] Because his call for alternative fuels has been most strongly echoed.
- [ D ] Because all his other policies met with more acclaim than resistance.

23. Corn-based ethanol might not be chosen as an alternative because

- [ A ] carbon reduction in both fuel production and burning might be hard.
- [ B ] California also intends to cut down emissions from new vehicles.
- [ C ] it is almost impossible for vehicle fuel to produce 10% less carbon.
- [ D ] California's corns are chiefly transported by cars and trucks.

24. Janet Napolitano is mentioned in the passage to show that

- [ A ] Arizona is determined to out-muscle California.
- [ B ] female governors often set unrealistic goals.

[ C ] Arizona will start a Mr. Olympia contest with California.

[ D ] California's actions have produced some positive effects.

25. It can be inferred from the text that

[ A ] California needs further actions to inspire other states.

[ B ] California has set a perfect model for other states to follow.

[ C ] California will become an excuse for inaction for other states.

[ D ] California might find it difficult to execute its own policies.

## Text 2

Michael Porter, who has made his name throughout the business community by advocating his theories of competitive advantages, is now swimming into even more shark-infested waters, arguing that competition can save even America's troubled health-care system, the largest in the world. Mr. Porter argues in "Redefining Health Care" that competition, if properly applied, can also fix what ails this sector.

That is a bold claim, given the horrible state of America's health-care system. Just consider a few of its failings: America pays more per capita for health care than most countries, but it still has some 45m citizens with no health insurance at all. While a few receive outstanding treatment, he shows in heart-wrenching detail that most do not. The system, wastes huge resources on paperwork, ignores preventive care and, above all, has perverse incentives that encourage shifting costs rather than cutting them outright. He concludes that it is "on a dangerous path, with a toxic combination of high costs, uneven quality, frequent errors and limited access to care."

Many observers would agree with this diagnosis, but many would undoubtedly disagree with this advocacy of more market forces. Doctors have an intuitive distrust of competition, which they often equate with greed, while many public-policy thinkers argue that the only way to fix America's problem is to quash the private sector's role altogether and instead set up a government monopoly like Britain's National Health Service.

Mr. Porter strongly disagrees. He starts by acknowledging that competition, as it has been introduced to America's health system, has in fact done more harm than good. But he argues that competition has been introduced piecemeal, in incoherent and counter-productive ways that lead to perverse incentives and worse outcomes: "health-care competition is not focused on delivering value for patients," he says.

Mr. Porter offers a mix of solutions to fix this mess, and thereby to put the sector on a genuinely competitive footing. First comes the seemingly obvious (but as yet unrealized) goal of data transparency. Second is a redirection of competition from the level of health plans, doctors, clinics and hospitals, to competition "at the level of medical conditions, which is all but absent". The authors argue that the right measure of "value" for the health sector should be how well a patient with a given health condition fares over the entire cycle

of treatment, and what the cost is for that entire cycle. That rightly emphasizes the role of early detection and preventive care over techno-fixes, pricey pills and the other failings of today's system.

If there is a failing in this argument, it is that he sometimes strays toward naive optimism. Mr. Porter argues, for example, that his solutions are so commonsensical that private actors in the health system could forge ahead with them profitably without waiting for the government to fix its policy mistakes. That is a tempting notion, but it falls into a trap that economists call the fallacy of the \$ 20 bill on the street. If there really were easy money on the pavement, goes the argument, surely previous passers-by would have bent over and picked it up by now.

In the same vein, if Mr. Porter's prescriptions are so sensible that companies can make money even now in the absence of government policy changes, why in the world have they not done so already? One reason may be that they can make more money in the current sub-optimal equilibrium than in a perfectly competitive market—which is why government action is probably needed to sweep aside the many obstacles in the way of Mr. Porter's powerful vision.

26. What seems to be the biggest problem with America's health care system?

- [ A ] American spends more money on health care than on other services.
- [ B ] Most Americans couldn't get their health insurance till their old age.
- [ C ] Most American hospitals do not offer outstanding treatment to patients.
- [ D ] The costs of health care are not steered towards a health direction.

27. The word "perverse" (paragraph 2) is closest in meaning to

- [ A ] harmful.
- [ B ] economic.
- [ C ] strong.
- [ D ] reversed.

28. Mr. Porter's argument seems to be based on the assumption that

- [ A ] doctors do not have faith in the value of competition.
- [ B ] the present health care competition is not patient oriented.
- [ C ] Britain's National Health Service is a successful example.
- [ D ] health competition will do more good than harm in the long run.

29. Which of the following might Mr. Porter propose to solve the problem?

- [ A ] More statistics should be publicized.
- [ B ] Improve a given patient's health condition.
- [ C ] More advanced techno-fixes should be offered.
- [ D ] Improve the entire cycle of treatment.

30. We can infer from the last two paragraphs that

- [ A ] there is no easy money on the pavement for passers by to pick up.
- [ B ] Mr. Porter is very likely to fall in a trap set up by the economists.
- [ C ] competition alone is not enough to cure the health care system.
- [ D ] only government actions can sweep aside the obstacles along the way.

### Text 3

If you are a tourist interested in seeing a baseball game while in New York, you can find out which of its teams are in town simply by sending a message to *AskForCents.com*. In a few minutes, the answer comes back, apparently supplied by a machine, but actually composed by a human. Using humans to process information in a machine-like way is not new; it was pioneered by the Mechanical Turk, a famed 18th-century chess-playing machine that was operated by a hidden chessmaster. But while computers have since surpassed the human brain at chess, many tasks still baffle even the most powerful electronic brain.

For instance, computers can find you a baseball schedule, but they cannot tell you directly if the Yankees are in town. Nor can they tell you whether sitting in the bleachers is a good idea on a first date. AskForCents can, because its answers come from people. “Whatever question you can come up with, there’s a person that can provide the answer—you don’t have the inflexibility of an algorithm-driven system,” says Jesse Heitler, who developed AskForCents. Mr. Heitler was able to do this thanks to a new software tool developed by Amazon, the online retailer, that allows computing tasks to be farmed out to people over the internet. Aptly enough, Amazon’s system is called Mechanical Turk.

Amazon’s Turk is part toolkit for software developers, and part online bazaar; anyone with internet access can register as a Turk user and start performing the Human Intelligence Tasks (HITs) listed on the Turk website (*mturk.com*). Companies can become “requesters” by setting up a separate account, tied to a bank account that will pay out fees, and then posting their HITs. Most HITs pay between one cent and \$5. So far, people from more than 100 countries have performed HITs, though only those with American bank accounts can receive money for their work; others are paid in Amazon gift certificates.

Mr. Heitler says he had previously tried to build a similar tool, but concluded that the infrastructure would be difficult to operate profitably. Amazon already has an extensive software infrastructure designed for linking buyers with sellers, however, and the Turk simply extends that existing model. Last November Amazon unveiled a prototype of the system, which it calls “artificial artificial intelligence”. The premise is that humans are vastly superior to computers at tasks such as pattern recognition, says Peter Cohen, director of the project at Amazon, so why not let software take advantage of human strengths?

Mr. Cohen credits Amazon’s boss, Jeff Bezos, with the concept for the Turk. Other people have had similar ideas. Eric Bonabeau of Icosystem, an American firm that builds software tools modeled on natural systems, has built what he calls the “Hunch Engine” to combine human intelligence with computer analysis. The French postal service, for example, has used it to help its workers choose the best delivery routes, and pharmaceutical researchers are using it to determine molecular structures by combining their gut instincts with known results stored in a database. And a firm called Seriosity hopes to tap the

collective brainpower of the legions of obsessive players of multiplayer online games such as “World of Warcraft”, by getting them to perform small real-world tasks (such as sorting photographs) while playing, and paying them in the game’s own currency.

31. The last sentence of the first paragraph means
- [ A ] computers have never been superior to human intelligence.
  - [ B ] human intelligence can still outperform computers.
  - [ C ] computers will eventually baffle many tasks humans give them.
  - [ D ] human intelligence will fail in the face of electronic chessmasters.
32. AskForCents.com is operated on the basis of
- [ A ] computers that can tell people information about baseball schedules.
  - [ B ] a software that allows humans to provide answers through computers.
  - [ C ] the flexibility of an algorithm-driven system developed by Mr. Heitler.
  - [ D ] a software that allows people to solve problems through the network.
33. Which of the following is true about registered Turk users?
- [ A ] They get rewards by solving posted problems.
  - [ B ] They set up a separate account as companies do.
  - [ C ] They pay out fees to other users for their help.
  - [ D ] They receive cash after successfully performing HITs.
34. Amazon is successful with Turk is probably because
- [ A ] Turk has very strong software infrastructure developing potentials.
  - [ B ] its previous model has laid a solid foundation for an extension.
  - [ C ] its system is based on artificial artificial intelligence.
  - [ D ] Turk is profitably adaptive to almost any software infrastructure.
35. Seriosity is mentioned in the passage to
- [ A ] show the extensive influence of Turk on the commercial world.
  - [ B ] substantiate endeavors to apply human intelligence to computer analysis.
  - [ C ] show the strength of collective brainpower of computer game players.
  - [ D ] substantiate people’s abilities of sorting photographs while playing games.

#### Text 4

Mark Twain once observed that giving up smoking is easy. He knew, because he’d done it hundreds of times himself. Giving up for ever is a trifle more difficult, apparently, and it is well known that it is much more difficult for some people than for others. Why is this so?

Few doctors believe any longer that it is simply a question of will power. And for those people that continue to view addicts as merely “weak”, recent genetic research may force a rethink. A study conducted by Jacqueline Vink, of the Free University of Amsterdam, used a database called the Netherlands Twin Register to analyze the smoking habits of twins. Her results, published in the *Pharmacogenomics Journal*, suggest that an individual’s degree of



nicotine dependence, and even the number of cigarettes he smokes per day, are strongly genetically influenced.

The Netherlands Twin Register is a voluntary database that contains details of some 7,000 pairs of adult twins (aged between 15 and 70) and 28,000 pairs of childhood twins. Such databases are prized by geneticists because they allow the comparison of identical twins (who share all their genes) with fraternal twins (who share half). In this case, however, Dr. Vink did not make use of that fact. For her, the database was merely a convenient repository of information. Instead of comparing identical and fraternal twins, she concentrated on the adult fraternal twins, most of whom had completed questionnaires about their habits, including smoking, and 536 of whom had given DNA samples to the register.

The human genome is huge. It consists of billions of DNA “letters”, some of which can be strung together to make sense (the genes) but many of which have either no function, or an unknown function. To follow what is going on, geneticists rely on markers they have identified within the genome. These are places where the genetic letters may vary between individuals. If a particular variant is routinely associated with a particular physical feature or a behavior pattern, it suggests that a particular version of a nearby gene is influencing that feature or behavior.

Dr. Vink found four markers which seemed to be associated with smoking. They were on chromosomes 3, 6, 10 and 14, suggesting that at least four genes are involved. Dr. Vink hopes that finding genes responsible for nicotine dependence will make it possible to identify the causes of such dependence. That will help to classify smokers better (some are social smokers while others are physically addicted) and thus enable “quitting” programs to be customized.

Results such as Dr. Vink’s must be interpreted with care. Association studies, as such projects are known, have a disturbing habit of disappearing, as it were, in a puff of smoke when someone tries to replicate them. But if Dr. Vink really has exposed a genetic link with addiction, then Mark Twain’s problem may eventually become a thing of the past.

36. Mark Twain is mentioned in the passage in order to show that

- [ A ] he is a man with very strong will power.
- [ B ] it is easy to give up smoking temporarily.
- [ C ] famous writers are often heavy smokers.
- [ D ] only few people have his determination.

37. The major difference between Dr. Vink and other geneticists is that

- [ A ] her research is not based on the study of twins but on questionnaires.
- [ B ] her research does not emphasize the contrast between two kinds of twins.
- [ C ] her research is interested in the smoking habits of fraternal twins.
- [ D ] her research only focuses on the study of the DNA of adult twins.

38. The word “genome” (paragraph 4) most probably means

- [ A ] a particular human gene.                      [ B ] a DNA letter.  
 [ C ] a bank of genes.                                      [ D ] functional DNA letters.

39. The ultimate purpose of Dr. Vink's research is to  
 [ A ] identify all the genes that are responsible for smoking.  
 [ B ] determine the real cause of nicotine dependence.  
 [ C ] make a difference between social smokers and other smokers.  
 [ D ] help different smokers give up smoking more effectively.
40. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that  
 [ A ] Dr. Vink does not treat her research results with enough care.  
 [ B ] there are always people who try to copy other's researches.  
 [ C ] Mark Twain's problem will be other smokers' problem in the future.  
 [ D ] many such researches as Dr. Vink's have not been done thoroughly.

## Part B

### Directions:

In the following text, some sentences have been removed. For Questions 41-45, choose the most suitable one from the list A-G to fit into each of the numbered blanks. There are two extra choices, which do not fit in any of the blanks. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

"Every three months from the beginning of 2008," says Cliff Richard, who was once Britain's answer to Elvis Presley, "I will lose a song." The reason is that in most European countries copyright protection on sound recordings lasts for 50 years, and (now) Sir Cliff recorded his first hit single, "Move It", in 1958. (41) \_\_\_\_\_

One of the big four music firms estimates that about 100m "deep catalogue" (ie, old) albums now sold in Europe each year will have entered the public domain by the end of 2010. Assuming a current wholesale price of \$ 10, that could jeopardise \$ 1 billion of revenues, or about 3% of annual recorded music sales. (42) \_\_\_\_\_

Even once much of the back catalogue has entered the public domain, the big music firms can carry on selling it on CD. They will even benefit from not having to pay anything to the artist or to his estate. They will in many cases still own copyright on the original cover art. But they will face new competition from a host of providers of CDs who may undercut them. And on the internet, public domain music is likely to be free, as much of the copyrighted stuff already is on peer-to-peer networks.

(43) \_\_\_\_\_ Artists have rallied to the cause: U2, Status Quo and Charles Aznavour all want the 50-year limit increased. Many more acts will sign a petition this spring. Sir Cliff has spent hours complaining to the commission that composers of songs get copyright for 70 years after their death; more than performers.

(44) \_\_\_\_\_

Many people believe that America has gone too far in protecting copyright at the expense of the public good, including, it seems, the commission, which said last year that it saw no need to lift its own 50-year limit. Its deadline for proposals on copyright law has slipped from this year to 2006. But governments are likely to weigh in on the issue. France, Italy and Portugal have indicated that they support an extension of the term, and Britain is likely to stick up for its own music major, EMI.

Although artists and their estates want longer copyright, the big music firms would benefit from it the most, especially in the next couple of decades, says Stephen King, chairman of the Association of United Recording Artists and manager of the Libertines. (45)

Now they have wised up about making deals. The best guarantee of financial security—safer than clinging on to copyright—is hiring a good lawyer early on.

[A] He is unlikely to produce such a big hit in the near future, so more of his attention is directed to revising the old song and selling it to more people.

[B] Back in the 1950s, he says, performers got only one-tenth of the share of royalties that they do now. For years, artists have, with good reason, accused big record labels of ripping them off.

[C] This month, early recordings by Elvis himself started to enter Europe's public domain. Over the next few decades a torrent of the most popular tracks from the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and many other artists will become public property in Europe—to the pleasure of fans and the consternation of the music industry.

[D] The music industry also points out that America gives artists almost twice as much copyright protection as Europe. America has repeatedly lengthened copyright terms, with the latest reprieve, the Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act of 1998, giving performers protection for 95 years after publication.

[E] But when the attention is shifted from Europe to America, artists should feel much better because the length of copyright protection there is even shorter. It seems that the American government is more interested in serving the public than the already very rich artists.

[F] Music executives want the European Commission to protect them from such unwelcome competition by extending the copyright term.

[G] And that estimate accounts only for songs up to the end of the 1950s. Far more will be at risk as music from the 1960s and 1970s moves out of copyright.

**Part C**

**Directions:**

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on ANSWER SHEET 2. (10 points)

The first mention of slavery in the statutes of the English colonies of North America does