

全国职称英语等级考试指定用书 配套系列



全国职称英语等级考试 试题汇编

世界图书出版公司



全国职称英语等级考试指定用书配套教材系列

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COWIN 英语教育丛书编写组 编

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编者的话

为加强专业技术人员的外语学习,提高专业技术人员队伍的整体素质,增强专业技术人员在国际经济技术合作中的能力,以促进经济、社会发展和科技进步,国家人事部职称考试中心在总结 1996 年到 1998 年全国专业技术人员职称外语等级考试试点工作的经验后,决定从 1999 年开始实行全国职称外语等级统一考试。该考试在全国实行统一大纲、统一命题、统一组织的办法。考试成绩作为一项衡量专业技术人员业务水平和晋升专业技术职称的重要条件。

该考试分 A、B、C 三级。A 级的适用范围为高教、科研、卫生、工程系列中申报高级专业技术职称者,或其他系列中申报高级专业技术职称者,以及申报高级国际商务师者。B 级适用范围为卫生、工程系列中在县及县以下所属单位工作的人员申报高级专业技术职称者;高教、科研、卫生、工程系列中申报中级专业技术职称者;翻译系列中申报高级专业技术职称者(限第二外语);高级专业技术职称未分正副的系列(工程系列除外)中申报高级专业技术职称或其他系列中申报副高级专业技术职称者。C 级适用范围为翻译系列中申报中级专业技术职称(第二外语)或其他系列申报高专业技术职务(第二外语)者;卫生、工程系列中在县及县以下所属单位工作的人员申报中级专业技术职称或其他系列申报中级专业技术职称者。

英语考试划分为综合与人文、理工、卫生、财经 4 个专业。试题主要测试阅读理解英语专业基础文献的能力。当前,该考试定于每年 4 月第二个星期六的上午举行。

为帮助广大应试者尽快熟悉和了解该考试的特点和规律,并顺利通过考试,特地编了这本《全国职称英语等级考试试题汇编》(1996~1999 年),并附评分标准与参考答案。

COWIN 英语教育丛书编写组

1999 年 11 月

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1999 年全国职称英语等级统一考试试题 (全真)

综合与人文类 (A 级)

第一部分

一、词汇 (共 20 小题, 每小题 1 分, 共 20 分)

下面共有 20 个句子, 每个句子下面有 4 个选项。其中 1—10 句的每个句子中均有一处空白, 请从 4 个选项中选择 1 个最佳答案; 11—20 句的每个句子中均有 1 个词或词组划有底横线, 请从 4 个选项中选择 1 个与划线部分意义最相近的词或词组代替句中的划线部分。答案一律涂在答题卡相应的位置上。

1. I didn't help him. I would have _____ I didn't have the money.
(A) or (B) but
(C) otherwise (D) still
2. What did he say in the letter? I really can't _____ it out.
(A) make (B) put
(C) run (D) give
3. They called _____ the match because of rain.
(A) out (B) off
(C) back (D) upon
4. The result of the experiment was not _____ to publish.
(A) interesting enough (B) too interesting
(C) enough interesting (D) so interesting
5. I could hear nothing except the roar of aircraft engines which _____ all other sounds.

- (A) overcame (B) overtook
(C) suppressed (D) drowned

6. I am sure the soup tastes _____.

- (A) well (B) deliciously
(C) goodly (D) good

7. Teenagers who discover they were _____ often search for their biological parents when they are old enough.

- (A) adapted (B) adopted
(C) brought up (D) looked after.

8. The French Revolution was a period of _____, but produced some great literature.

- (A) chaos (B) interest
(C) imagination (D) success

9. There is a tendency to _____ childless women as being hard and career-orientated.

- (A) use (B) make
(C) believe (D) regard

10. _____ you become famous your private life comes under public scrutiny.

- (A) However (B) Once
(C) Whatever (D) Until

11. I wonder what your aim in life is.

- (A) symbol (B) goal
(C) action (D) attitude

12. It is useless to argue with him once he has made up his mind.

- (A) settled (B) solved
(C) said (D) decided

13. The father was unwilling to give his son the keys to his car.

- (A) reluctant (B) eager
(C) pleased (D) angry
14. As a writer, he turned out three novels that year.
(A) refused (B) read
(C) produced (D) accepted
15. Winston Churchill gave a moving speech.
(A) nervous (B) foolish
(C) stirring (D) fast
16. We tried to restrict our conversation to arguments relevant to the topic.
(A) put (B) suit
(C) confine (D) resort
17. It doesn't stand to reason that he would lie.
(A) seem logical (B) look pleasant
(C) appear obvious (D) sound important
18. Fields neighbouring the nuclear plant are higher than regular levels of radioactivity.
(A) significant (B) usual
(C) important (D) harmful
19. The investigation covers an extremely broad spectrum of topics.
(A) number (B) gap
(C) range (D) selection
20. When we visited the country, our principal impression was one of poverty and hardship.
(A) main (B) central
(C) unforgettable (D) strong

二、阅读理解（共 25 小题，每小题 2 分，共 50 分）

下面有 5 篇短文，每篇短文后有 5 个问题，每个问题后面都有 4 个备选答案。请仔

细阅读短文并根据短文回答其后面的问题，从4个备选答案中选择1个最佳答案涂在答题卡相应的位置上。

第一篇

Let Them Watch It

One hot night last July, when our new baby wouldn't or couldn't sleep, I tried everything I could think of: a warm bottle, songs, gentle rocking. Nothing would settle him. Guessing that I had a long night ahead of me, I brought a portable TV into his room, figuring that watching the late movie was as good a way as any to kill off the hours until dawn. To my surprise, as soon as the TV lit up, the baby quieted right down, his little eyes focused brightly on the tube. Not to waste an opportunity for sleep, I then tip-toed out of the room, leaving him to watch the actors celebrate John Bellushi's forty-fifth birthday. My wife and I heard no more of the baby that night, and the next morning when I went into his room, I found him still watching TV himself.

I found in my baby's behaviour a metaphor (暗喻) for the new generation. My wife and I had given him some books to examine, but he merely spit upon them. When we read to him, he did not feel comfortable. And so it is in the schools. We find that our students don't read, that they look down upon reading and scold those of us who teach it. All they want to do is watch TV. After this experience with the baby, however, I have reached a conclusion: let them watch it. If television is that much more attractive to children than books, why should we fight it? Let them watch it all they want!

21. The author brought a TV set into his son's room to

- (A) make his son stop crying.
- (B) spend the night watching TV.
- (C) leave it to his son.
- (D) make his son fall asleep as soon as possible.

22. The baby's reaction to the TV was

- (A) unexpected.
- (B) exciting.
- (C) awful.
- (D) calm.

23. From the passage we know that the author is
(A) a doctor.
(B) an editor.
(C) a writer.
(D) a teacher.
24. According to the passage, which is true of the school children?
(A) They prefer reading to watching TV.
(B) They like watching TV only after school.
(C) They would rather watch TV than read books.
(D) They like their teachers who teach them reading.
25. What do you think is the author's attitude toward TV expressed in the last two sentences?
(A) Angry.
(B) Serious.
(C) Ironical.
(D) Joking.

第二篇

Prolonging Human Life

Prolonging human life has increased the size of the human population. Many people alive today would have died of childhood diseases if they had been born 100 years ago. Because more people live longer, there are more people around at any given time. In fact, it is a decrease in death rates, not an increase in birth rates, that has led to the population explosion.

Prolonging human life has also increased the dependency (依赖) load. In all societies, people who are disabled or too young or too old to work are dependent on the rest of society to provide for them. In hunting and gathering cultures, old people who could not keep up might be left behind to die. In times of famine (饥荒), infants might be allowed to die because they could not survive if their parents starved, whereas if the parents survived they could have another child. In most contemporary societies, people feel a moral obligation to keep people alive whether they can work or not. We have a great many people today who live past the age at which they want to work or are able to work; we also have rules which require people to

retire at a certain age. Unless these people were able to save money for their retirement, somebody else must support them. In the United States many retired people live on social security checks which are so little that they must live in near poverty. Older people have more illness than young or middle-aged people; unless they have wealth or private or government insurance, they must often 'go on welfare' if they have a serious illness.

When older people become senile (年老的) or too weak and ill to care for themselves, they create grave problems for their families. In the past and in some traditional cultures, they would be cared for at home until they died. Today, with most members of a household working or in school, there is often no one at home who can care for a sick or weak person. To meet *this need*, a great many nursing homes and convalescent hospitals (康复医院) have been built. These are often profit-making organizations, although some are sponsored by religious and other nonprofit groups. While a few of these institutions are good, most of them are simply 'dumping grounds' for the dying in which 'care' is given by poorly paid, overworked and underskilled personnel.

26. The author believes that the population explosion has resulted from
- (A) an increase in birth rates.
 - (B) the industrial development.
 - (C) a decrease in death rates.
 - (D) human beings' cultural advances.
27. It can be inferred from the passage that in hunting and gathering cultures
- (A) it was a moral responsibility to keep old-aged people alive.
 - (B) the survival of infants was less important than that of their parents in times of starvation.
 - (C) old people lived on social security checks.
 - (D) the survival of infants was more important than that of their parents in times of starvation.
28. According to the passage, which of the following statements about the old people in the United States is TRUE?
- (A) Many of them have a hard life.
 - (B) They can live a decent life even without enough bank savings.

- (C) They rely mainly on their children for financial support.
- (D) Most of them live with their children and therefore are well looked after.
29. In paragraph three, the phrase 'this need' refers to the need
- (A) to prolong the dying old people's lives.
- (B) to enrich the life of the retired people.
- (C) to build profit-making nursing homes.
- (D) to take care of sick or weak people.
30. Which of the following best describes the author's attitude toward most of the nursing homes and convalescent hospitals?
- (A) Sympathetic.
- (B) Unfriendly.
- (C) Optimistic.
- (D) Critical.

第三篇

Television: First Digital Broadcasts Are Transmitted

The age of digital television kicked off on November 1, 1998, as about 40 TV stations around the United States aired the first digital broadcasts. Few people were able to experience the new technology, however, as high equipment costs and other drawbacks (缺点) have deterred (阻止) most consumers from purchasing the type of TV sets needed to receive the broadcasts.

The date was a target set by industry and government officials to begin moving television from the current analog (模拟) standard to a digital one. Digital television (also known as high-definition television, or HDTV) allows stations to broadcast high-resolution pictures and digital-quality sound, or alternatively to transmit as many as six different programs in the same amount of broadcast spectrum currently used by one analog broadcast. Sports events, feature films, and hit prime-time shows were some of the digital broadcasts planned by major networks in November.

But because few television stations have installed the expensive technology, some observers estimate that as few as 100 of the newly introduced digital television sets had been sold across the country at the November 1 milestone. Prices for the first HDTV systems on the

market start at about \$ 7000 each, and the sets are not compatible with cable television systems. Cable-ready digital sets are not expected to be available until November 1999, according to an agreement between television manufacturers and the cable industry that was announced in early November.

A number of stations actually got a jump on the November 1 kickoff when they aired a live digital broadcast of the launch of the space shuttle Discovery, which carried 77-year-old astronaut John Glenn, on October 29.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has mandated (要求) that the broadcasting industry reach certain milestones as part of the implementation of digital television. For example, all network affiliates (分支机构) in the top 10 U.S. markets must introduce digital broadcasting by May 1, 1999; all affiliates in the top 30 markets must do so by November 1, 1999; and all commercial stations, by May 1, 2002. The FCC has required that the transition to digital television be completed by the end of 2006, at which time stations will surrender their analog spectrum. But this date could be extended if digital television has not penetrated at least 85 percent of the market.

31. Few people were able to enjoy digital broadcasts on November 1, 1998 because
- (A) manufacturers of TV equipment had not yet produced enough HDTVs.
 - (B) many TV viewers had gone out to play football.
 - (C) equipment needed to receive the digital signals had been too expensive.
 - (D) TV stations hadn't installed the digital technology to make programs.
32. One of the advantages of digital television is that
- (A) it will surely attract more television viewers.
 - (B) it can make full use of the current channels.
 - (C) costs of making television programs will be reduced.
 - (D) HDTV systems are completely compatible with cable TV systems.
33. From an agreement between TV manufacturers and the cable industry, we can infer that
- (A) cable systems will be separated from HDTV systems.
 - (B) digital television sets will be made compatible with cable television systems.
 - (C) HDTV stations will help cable TV companies technologically.
 - (D) HDTV stations will support cable TV companies financially.

34. According to the passage, which of the following statements is true?
- (A) Digital television technology was actually used in launching the space shuttle Columbia.
 - (B) 77-year-old astronaut John Glenn got his first HDTV on October 29.
 - (C) The number of digital TV stations increased dramatically on November 1.
 - (D) Several digital television stations aired a broadcast of the launch of Discovery.
35. According to FCC's schedule,
- (A) all TV stations must introduce digital broadcasting by May 1, 2002.
 - (B) digital systems must penetrate at least 85 percent of the market by May 1, 1999.
 - (C) the best 10 TV networks must begin digital broadcasting by November 1, 1999.
 - (D) all TV stations will stop broadcasting analog programs by the end of 2006.

第四篇

Great Escape

The Man of Many Secrets—Harry Houdini—was one of the greatest American entertainers in the theater this century. He was a man famous for his escapes—from prison cells, from wooden boxes floating in rivers, from locked tanks full of water. He appeared in theaters all over Europe and America. Crowds came to see the great Houdini and his “magic” tricks.

Of course, his secret was not magic, or supernatural powers. It was simply strength. He had the ability to move his toes as well as he moved his fingers. He could move his body into almost any position he wanted.

Houdini started working in the entertainment world when he was 17, in 1891. He and his brother Theo performed card tricks in a club in New York. They called themselves the Houdini Brothers. When Harry married in 1894, he and his wife Bess worked together as magician and assistant. But for a long time they were not very successful. Then Harry performed his first prison escape, in Chicago in 1898. Harry persuaded a detective to let him try to escape from the prison, and he invited the local newspapermen to watch.

It was the publicity that came from *this* that started Harry Houdini's success. Harry had fingers trained to escape from handcuffs and toes trained to escape from ankle chains. But his biggest secret was how he unlocked the prison doors. Every time he went into the prison cell,

Bess gave him a kiss for good luck—and a small skeleton key, which is a key that fits many locks, passed quickly from her mouth to his.

Harry used these prison escapes to build his fame. He arranged to escape from the local jail of every town he visited. In the afternoon, the people of the town would read about it in their local newspapers, and in the evening every seat in the local theater would be full. What was the result? World-wide fame, and a name remembered today.

36. According to the passage, Houdini's success in prison escapes depends on

- (A) his magic tricks and unhuman powers.
- (B) his special tricks and supernatural powers.
- (C) his unusual ability and a skeleton key.
- (D) his unhuman talents and magic tricks.

37. In the fourth paragraph, the word "this" refers to

- (A) his first prison escape.
- (B) the publicity.
- (C) Harry Houdini's success.
- (D) the year 1898.

38. Where did Houdini perform his first prison escape?

- (A) In the local theatre.
- (B) In Europe.
- (C) In New York.
- (D) In Chicago.

39. It can be inferred from the passage that Houdini became famous

- (A) when he was about 24.
- (B) when he was about 17.
- (C) in 1894.
- (D) before he married.

40. According to the passage, which of the following statements is true?

- (A) Houdini was a famous American magician.

- (B) Theo helped Houdini build his fame.
- (C) Houdini entered the entertainment world together with his wife.
- (D) Bess was as famous as Houdini.

第五篇

Automobile

An automobile is a self-propelled (自动驱动的) vehicle used primarily on public roads but adaptable to other surfaces. Automobiles changed the world during the 20th century, particularly in the United States and other industrialized nations. From the growth of suburbs to the development of complicated (复杂的) road and highway systems, the so-called horseless carriage has forever altered the modern landscape. The manufacture, sales, and servicing of automobiles have become key elements of industrial economies; indeed, the health of a country's automobile industry in large measure determines the health of the entire economy. But along with greater mobility (流动性) and job creation, the automobile has brought air and noise pollution, and automobile accidents rank among the leading causes of death and injury throughout the world. But for better or worse, the 1900s can be called the Age of the Automobile, and cars will no doubt continue to shape our culture and economy as we enter the 21st century.

Automobiles are classified by size, style, number of doors, and intended use. The typical automobile, also called a car, auto, motorcar, and passenger car, has four wheels and can carry up to six people, including a driver. Larger vehicles designed to carry more passengers are called vans, omnibuses, or buses. Those used to carry cargo are called pickups or trucks, depending on their size and design. Minivans are van-style vehicles built on a passenger car frame that can usually carry up to eight passengers.

In 1995 manufacturing plants in 25 countries produced more than 36 million passenger cars. Japan built more passenger cars than any other country; 7.6 million compared to 6.3 million cars manufactured in the United States. About 8.6 million cars were sold in America in 1995, and nearly half of them were bought by businesses.

The automobile is built around an engine. Various systems supply the engine with fuel, cool it during operation, lubricate (润滑) its moving parts, and remove waste gases it creates. The engine produces mechanical power that is transmitted to the automobile's wheels through transmission systems. Suspension systems, which include springs and shock absorbers, cushion the ride and help protect the vehicle from being damaged by bumps, heavy loads, and other