



2000年1月大学英语四级考试全真试题

Part I

Listening Comprehension

(20 minutes)

Section A

1. A) The woman is a close friend of the man.
C) The woman is seeing a doctor.
 2. A) This apple pie tastes very good.
C) This pie can't match his mother's.
 3. A) Take a walk.
C) Listen to the music.
 4. A) Read an article on political science.
C) Read more than one article.
 5. A) The woman would understand if she did Mary's job.
B) The woman should do the typing for Mary.
C) The woman should work as hard as Mary.
D) The woman isn't a skillful typist.
 6. A) He wants to make an appointment with Mr. Smith.
B) He wants to make sure that Mr. Smith will see him.
C) He wants to change the time of the appointment.
D) He wants the woman to meet him at three o'clock.
 7. A) He gets nervous very easily.
C) He is an awful speaker.
 8. A) She didn't like the books the man bought.
B) There wasn't a large selection at the bookstore.
C) The man bought a lot of books.
D) She wanted to see what the man bought.
 9. A) Buy a ticket for the ten o'clock flight.
B) Ask the man to change the ticket for her.
C) Go to the airport immediately.
D) Switch to a different flight.
 10. A) Dr. Lemon is waiting for a patient.
B) Dr. Lemon is busy at the moment.
C) Dr. Lemon has lost his patience.
D) Dr. Lemon has gone out to visit a patient.
- B) The woman has been working too hard.
D) The woman is tired of her work.
B) His mother likes the pie very much.
D) His mother can't make apple pies.
B) Give a performance.
D) Dance to the music.
B) Present a different theory to the class.
D) Choose a better article to read.
B) He is an inexperienced speaker.
D) He hasn't prepared his speech well.

Section B

Passage One

Questions 11 to 14 are based on the passage you have just heard.

11. A) A car outside the supermarket.
C) Paul's car.
 12. A) Inside the car.
C) In the garage.
- B) A car at the bottom of the hill.
D) The sports car.
B) At the foot of the hill.
D) In the supermarket.

13. A) The driver of the sports car.
 C) The man standing nearby.
14. A) Nobody.
 C) The bus driver.
- B) The two girls inside the car.
 D) The salesman from London.
- B) The two girls.
 D) Paul.

Passage Two

Questions 15 to 17 are based on the passage you have just heard.

15. A) His friend gave him the wrong key.
 C) He couldn't find the key to his mailbox.
16. A) It was getting dark.
 C) The birds might have flown away.
17. A) He looked silly with only one leg inside the window.
 B) He knew the policeman wouldn't believe him.
 C) The torch light made him look very foolish.
 D) He realised that he had made a mistake.
- B) He didn't know where the back door was.
 D) It was too dark to put the key in the lock.
- B) He was afraid of being blamed by his friend.
 D) His friend would arrive any time.

Passage Three

Questions 18 to 20 are based on the passage you have just heard.

18. A) The threat of poisonous desert animals and plants.
 B) The exhaustion of energy resources.
 C) The destruction of oil wells.
 D) The spread of the black powder from the fires.
19. A) The underground oil resources have not been affected.
 B) Most of the desert animals and plants have managed to survive.
 C) The oil lakes soon dried up and stopped evaporating.
 D) The underground water resources have not been polluted.
20. A) To restore the normal production of the oil wells.
 B) To estimate the losses caused by the fires.
 C) To remove the oil left in the desert.
 D) To use the oil left in the oil lakes.

Part II

Reading Comprehension

(35 minutes)

Passage One

Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following passage:

Unless we spend money to spot and prevent *asteroids* (小行星) now, one might crash into Earth and destroy life as we know it, say some scientists.

Asteroids are bigger versions of the *meteoroids* (流星) that race across the night sky. Most orbit the sun far from Earth and don't threaten us. But there are also thousands of asteroids whose orbits put them on a collision course with Earth.

Buy \$50 million worth of new telescopes right now. Then spend \$10 million a year for the next 25 years to locate most of the space rocks. By the time we spot a fatal one, the scientists say, we'll have a way to change its course.

Some scientists favor pushing asteroids off course with nuclear weapons. But the cost wouldn't be cheap.

Is it worth it? Two things experts consider when judging any risk are: 1) How likely the event is; and 2) How bad the consequences if the event occurs. Experts think an asteroid big enough to destroy lots of life might strike Earth once every 500,000 years. Sounds pretty rare — but if one did fall, it would be the end of the world. "If we don't take care of these big asteroids, they'll take care of us," says one scientist. "It's that simple."

The cure, though, might be worse than the disease. Do we really want fleets of nuclear weapons sitting around on Earth? "The world has less to fear from *doomsday*(毁灭性的) rocks than from a great nuclear fleet set against them," said a New York Times article.

21. What does the passage say about asteroids and meteoroids?
- A) They are heavenly bodies different in composition.
 - B) They are heavenly bodies similar in nature.
 - C) There are more asteroids than meteoroids.
 - D) Asteroids are more mysterious than meteoroids.
22. What do scientists say about the collision of an asteroid with Earth?
- A) It is very unlikely but the danger exists.
 - B) Such a collision might occur once every 25 years.
 - C) Collisions of smaller asteroids with Earth occur more often than expected.
 - D) It's still too early to say whether such a collision might occur.
23. What do people think of the suggestion of using nuclear weapons to alter the course of asteroids?
- A) It sounds practical but it may not solve the problem.
 - B) It may create more problems than it might solve.
 - C) It is a waste of money because a collision of asteroids with Earth is very unlikely.
 - D) Further research should be done before it is proved applicable.
24. We can conclude from the passage that _____.
- A) while pushing asteroids off course nuclear weapons would destroy the world
 - B) asteroids racing across the night sky are likely to hit Earth in the near future
 - C) the worry about asteroids can be left to future generations since it is unlikely to happen in our lifetime
 - D) workable solutions still have to be found to prevent a collision of asteroids with Earth
25. Which of the following best describes the author's tone in this passage?
- A) Optimistic.
 - B) Critical.
 - C) Objective.
 - D) Arbitrary.

Passage Two

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage:

Believe it or not, optical *illusion*(错觉) can cut highway crashes.

Japan is a case in point. It has reduced automobile crashes on some roads by nearly 75 percent using a simple optical illusion. Bent stripes, called *chevrons*(人字形), painted on the roads make drivers think that they are driving faster than they really are, and thus drivers slow down.

Now the American Automobile Association Foundation for Traffic Safety in Washington D. C. is planning to repeat Japan's success. Starting next year, the foundation will paint chevrons and other patterns of stripes on selected roads around the country to test how well the patterns reduce highway crashes.

Excessive speed plays a major role in as much as one fifth of all fatal traffic accidents, according to the foundation. To help reduce those accidents, the foundation will conduct its tests in areas where speed-related hazards are the greatest — curves, exit slopes, traffic circles, and bridges.

Some studies suggest that straight, horizontal bars painted across roads can initially cut the average speed of drivers in half. However, traffic often returns to full speed within months as drivers become used to seeing the painted bars.

Chevrons, scientists say, not only give drivers the impression that they are driving faster than they really are but also make a lane appear to be narrower. The result is a longer lasting reduction in highway speed and the number of traffic accidents.

26. The passage mainly discusses _____.
- A) a new way of highway speed control
 - B) a new pattern for painting highways
 - C) a new approach to training drivers
 - D) a new type of optical illusion

27. On roads painted with chevrons, drivers tend to feel that _____.
- A) they should avoid speed-related hazards B) they are driving in the wrong lane
C) they should slow down their speed D) they are approaching the speed limit
28. The advantage of chevrons over straight, horizontal bars is that the former _____.
- A) can keep drivers awake B) can cut road accidents in half
C) will have a longer effect on drivers D) will look more attractive
29. The American Automobile Association Foundation for Traffic Safety plans to _____.
- A) try out the Japanese method in certain areas B) change the road signs across the country
C) replace straight, horizontal bars with chevrons D) repeat the Japanese road patterns
30. What does the author say about straight, horizontal bars painted across roads?
- A) They are falling out of use in the United States.
B) They tend to be ignored by drivers in a short period of time.
C) They are applicable only on broad roads.
D) They cannot be applied successfully to traffic circles.

Passage Three

Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following passage:

Amtrak(美国铁路客运公司) was experiencing a downswing in *ridership* (客运量) along the lines comprising its rail system. Of major concern to Amtrak and its advertising agency DDB Needham, were the long-distance western routes where ridership had been declining significantly.

At one time, trains were the only practical way to cross the vast areas of the west. Trains were fast, very luxurious, and quite convenient compared to other forms of transportation existing at the time. However, times change and the automobile became America's standard of convenience. Also, air travel had easily established itself as the fastest method of traveling great distances. Therefore, the task for DDB Needham was to encourage consumers to consider other aspects of train travel in order to change their attitudes and increase the likelihood that trains would be considered for travel in the west.

Two portions of the total market were targeted: 1) anxious fliers — those concerned with safety, relaxation, and cleanliness and 2) travel-lovers — those viewing themselves as relaxed, casual, and interested in the travel experience as part of their vacation. The agency then developed a campaign that focused on travel experiences such as freedom, escape, relaxation, and enjoyment of the great western outdoors. It stressed experiences gained by using the trains and portrayed western train trips as wonderful adventures.

Advertisements showed pictures of the beautiful scenery that could be enjoyed along some of the more famous western routes and emphasized the romantic names of some of these trains (*Empire Builder*, etc.). These ads were strategically placed among family-oriented TV shows and programs involving nature and America in order to most effectively reach target audiences. Results were impressive. The *Empire Builder*, which was focused on in one ad, enjoyed a 15 percent increase in profits on its Chicago to Seattle route.

31. What's the author's purpose in writing this passage?
- A) To show the inability of trains to compete with planes with respect to speed and convenience.
B) To stress the influence of the automobile on America's standard of convenience.
C) To emphasize the function of travel agencies in market promotion.
D) To illustrate the important role of persuasive communication in changing consumer attitudes.
32. It can be inferred from the passage that the drop in Amtrak ridership was due to the fact that _____.
- A) trains were not suitable for short distance passenger transportation
B) trains were not the fastest and most convenient form of transportation
C) trains were not as fast and convenient as they used to be
D) trains could not compete with planes in terms of luxury and convenience
33. To encourage consumers to travel by train, DDB Needham emphasized _____.

- A) the freedom and convenience provided on trains
 - B) the practical aspects of train travel
 - C) the adventurous aspects of train trips
 - D) the safety and cleanliness of train trips
34. The train ads were placed among family-oriented TV programs involving nature and America because _____.
- A) they could focus on meaningful travel experiences
 - B) they could increase the effectiveness of the TV programs
 - C) their profits could be increased by some 15 percent
 - D) most travel-lovers and nervous fliers were believed to be among the audiences
35. According to the passage, the Empire Builder enjoyed an increase in ridership and profits because _____.
- A) the attractiveness of its name and route was effectively advertised
 - B) it provided an exciting travel experience
 - C) its passengers could enjoy the great western outdoors
 - D) it was widely advertised in newspapers and magazines in Chicago and Seattle

Passage Four

Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following passage:

Why does cream go bad faster than butter? Some researchers think they have the answer, and it comes down to the structure of the food, not its chemical composition — a finding that could help rid some processed foods of chemical preservatives.

Cream and butter contain pretty much the same substances, so why cream should sour much faster has been a mystery. Both are emulsions — tiny *globules* (小球体) of one liquid evenly distributed throughout another. The difference lies in what's in the globules and what's in the surrounding liquid, says Brocklehurst, who led the investigation.

In cream, fatty globules drift about in a sea of water. In butter, globules of a watery solution are locked away in a sea of fat. The bacteria which make the food go bad prefer to live in the watery regions of the mixture. "This means that in cream, the bacteria are free to grow throughout the mixture," he says.

When the situation is reversed, the bacteria are locked away in *compartments* (隔仓室) buried deep in the sea of fat. Trapped in this way, individual colonies cannot spread and rapidly run out of *nutrients* (养料). They also slowly poison themselves with their waste products. "In butter, you get a self-limiting system which stops the bacteria growing," says Brocklehurst.

The researchers are already working with food companies keen to see if their products can be made resistant to bacterial attack through alterations to the food's structure. Brocklehurst believes it will be possible to make the emulsions used in salad cream, for instance, more like that in butter. The key will be to do this while keeping the salad cream liquid and not turning it into a solid lump.

36. The significance of Brocklehurst's research is that _____.
- A) it suggested a way to keep some foods fresh without preservatives
 - B) it discovered tiny globules in both cream and butter
 - C) it revealed the secret of how bacteria multiply in cream and butter
 - D) it found that cream and butter share the same chemical composition
37. According to the researchers, cream sours faster than butter because bacteria _____.
- A) are more evenly distributed in cream
 - B) multiply more easily in cream than in butter
 - C) live on less fat in cream than in butter
 - D) produce less waste in cream than in butter
38. According to Brocklehurst, we can keep cream fresh by _____.
- A) removing its fat
 - B) killing the bacteria

- C) reducing its water content
D) altering its structure
39. The word "colonies" (Line 2, Para. 4) refers to _____.
- A) tiny globules
B) watery regions
C) bacteria communities
D) little compartments
40. Commercial application of the research finding will be possible if salad cream can be made resistant to bacterial attack _____.
- A) by varying its chemical composition
B) by turning it into a solid lump
C) while keeping its structure unchanged
D) while retaining its liquid form

Part III Vocabulary and Structure (20 minutes)

41. She ought to stop work; she has a headache because she _____ too long.
- A) has been reading
B) had read
C) is reading
D) read
42. Niagara Falls is a great tourist _____, drawing millions of visitors every year.
- A) attention
B) attraction
C) appointment
D) arrangement
43. I don't mind _____ the decision as long as it is not too late.
- A) you to delay making
B) your delaying making
C) your delaying to make
D) you delay to make
44. The hopes, goals, fears and desires _____ widely between men and women, between the rich and the poor.
- A) alter
B) shift
C) transfer
D) vary
45. Corn originated in the New World and thus was not known in Europe until Columbus found it _____ in Cuba.
- A) being cultivated
B) been cultivated
C) having cultivated
D) cultivating
46. The sale usually takes place outside the house, with the audience _____ on benches, chairs or boxes.
- A) having seated
B) seating
C) seated
D) having been seated
47. This kind of glasses manufactured by experienced craftsmen _____ comfortably.
- A) is worn
B) wears
C) wearing
D) are worn
48. Some diseases are _____ by certain water animals.
- A) transplanted
B) transformed
C) transported
D) transmitted
49. Wouldn't you rather your child _____ to bed early?
- A) go
B) went
C) would go
D) goes
50. Although Anne is happy with her success, she wonders _____ will happen to her private life.
- A) that
B) what
C) it
D) this
51. The words of his old teacher left a _____ impression on his mind. He is still influenced by them.
- A) long
B) lively
C) lasting
D) liberal
52. Mike's uncle insists _____ in this hotel.
- A) staying not
B) not to stay
C) that he would not stay
D) that he not stay
53. We agreed to accept _____ they thought was the best tourist guide.
- A) whatever
B) whomever
C) whichever
D) whoever
54. It is our _____ policy that we will achieve unity through peaceful means.
- A) consistent
B) continuous
C) considerate
D) continual
55. Between 1974 and 1997, the number of overseas visitors expanded _____ 27%.
- A) by
B) for
C) to
D) in
56. Although many people view conflict as bad, conflict is sometimes useful _____ it forces people to test

the relative merits of their attitudes and behaviors.

- A) by which B) to which C) in that D) so that
57. He is _____ about his chances of winning a gold medal in the Olympics next year.
A) optimistic B) optional C) outstanding D) obvious
58. Sometimes I wish I _____ in a different time and a different place.
A) be living B) were living
C) would live D) would have lived
59. The director was critical _____ the way we were doing the work.
A) at B) in C) of D) with
60. In a sudden _____ of anger, the man tore up everything within reach.
A) attack B) burst C) split D) blast
61. _____ she realized it was too late to go home.
A) No sooner it grew dark than B) Hardly did it grow dark that
C) Scarcely had it grown dark than D) It was not until dark that
62. In Britain people _____ four million tons of potatoes every year.
A) swallow B) dispose C) consume D) exhaust
63. I'd _____ his reputation with other farmers and business people in the community, and then make a decision about whether or not to approve a loan.
A) take into account B) account for C) make up for D) make out
64. It is essential that these application forms _____ back as early as possible.
A) must be sent B) will be sent C) are sent D) be sent
65. She cooked the meat for a long time so as to make it _____ enough to eat.
A) mild B) slight C) light D) tender
66. We take our skin for granted until it is burned _____ repair.
A) beyond B) for C) without D) under
67. The computer revolution may well change society as _____ as did the Industrial Revolution.
A) certainly B) insignificantly C) fundamentally D) comparatively
68. _____ in this way, the situation doesn't seem so disappointing.
A) To look at B) Looking at C) Looked at D) To be looked at
69. A lot of ants are always invading my kitchen. They are a thorough _____.
A) nuisance B) trouble C) worry D) anxiety
70. Some women _____ a good salary in a job instead of staying home, but they decided not to work for the sake of the family.
A) must make B) should have made
C) would make D) could have made

Part IV

Cloze

(15 minutes)

In a telephone survey of more than 2,000 adults, 21% said they believed the sun *revolved*(旋转) around the earth. An 71 7% did not know which revolved around 72. I have no doubt that 73 all of these people were 74 in school that the earth revolves around the sun; 75 may even have written it 76 a test. But they never 77 their incorrect mental models of *planetary*(行星的) 78 because their everyday observations didn't support 79 their teachers told them; People see the sun "moving" 80 the sky as morning turns to night, and the earth seems *stationary*(静止的) 81 that is happening.

Students can learn the right answers 82 heart in class, and yet never combined them 83 their working models of the world. The objectively correct answer the professor accepts and the 84 personal understanding of the world can 85 side by side, each unaffected by the other.

Outside of class, the student continues to use the 86 model because it has always worked well 87 that circumstance. Unless professors address 88 errors in students' personal models of the world, students are not 89 to replace them with the 90 one.

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|------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 71. A) excessive | B) extra | C) additional | D) added |
| 72. A) what | B) which | C) that | D) other |
| 73. A) virtually | B) remarkably | C) ideally | D) preferably |
| 74. A) learned | B) suggested | C) taught | D) advised |
| 75. A) those | B) these | C) who | D) they |
| 76. A) on | B) with | C) under | D) for |
| 77. A) formed | B) altered | C) believed | D) thought |
| 78. A) operation | B) position | C) motion | D) location |
| 79. A) how | B) which | C) that | D) what |
| 80. A) around | B) across | C) on | D) above |
| 81. A) since | B) so | C) while | D) for |
| 82. A) to | B) by | C) in | D) with |
| 83. A) with | B) into | C) to | D) along |
| 84. A) adult's | B) teacher's | C) scientist's | D) student's |
| 85. A) exist | B) occur | C) survive | D) maintain |
| 86. A) private | B) individual | C) personal | D) own |
| 87. A) in | B) with | C) on | D) for |
| 88. A) general | B) natural | C) similar | D) specific |
| 89. A) obliged | B) likely | C) probable | D) partial |
| 90. A) perfect | B) better | C) reasonable | D) correct |

Part V

Writing

(30 minutes)

Directions: For this part, you are allowed thirty minutes to write a composition on the topic **How I Finance My College Education**. You should write at least 100 words, and base your composition on the outline given in Chinese below:

1. 上大学的费用(tuition and fees)可以通过多种途径解决;
2. 哪种途径适合于我(说明理由)。

How I Finance My College Education
