

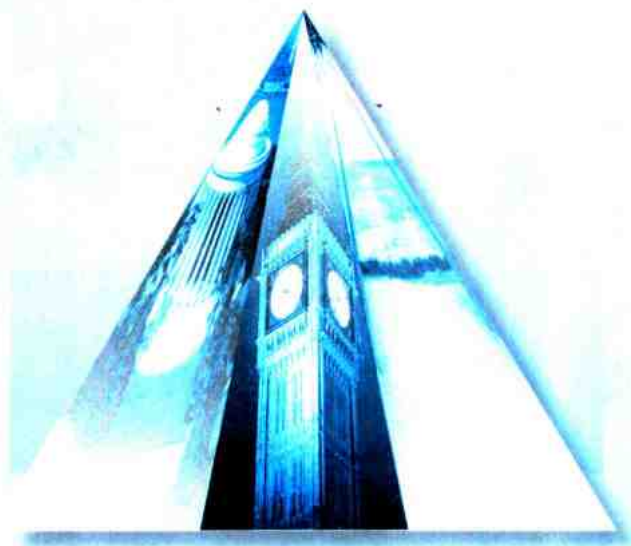
全国公共英语等级考试

第5级

(PETS5)

模拟实战

杨丽娟 王改燕 张萍 许群航



西安交通大学出版社

全国公共英语等级考试第五级(PETS5)

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内容简介

本书是由参加过 PETS5 笔试及口试的一线教师,在总结了多年英语测试课教学经验的基础上,严格按照《全国公共英语等级考试大纲》编写而成的。

本书共有 18 套模拟练习题,每套题由语言知识(Use of English)应用及阅读理解(包括 Part A, Part B 及 Part C)组成,其中每一题的难易程度及题型均与真题相同。

本书为 PETS5 考生提供了充足的练习,可以帮助考生巩固和提高做题技巧,全面了解 PETS5 语言知识应用及阅读理解各部分的考试规律,是 PETS5 考生的必备书。

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编者的话

全国公共英语等级考试(即 Public English Test System 简称 PETS)是教育部考试中心设计开发的面向“社会的、开放的、非学历性英语等级考试”,它能全面、客观地检测出应试者的英语水平,并将逐步取代现有的自学英语考试等公共英语考试。

PETS 第 5 级是 PETS 系列中最高的一级。它已于 1999 年 9 月正式取代 WSK(EPT)考试。通过 PETS5 者其英语水平基本上可满足在英语国家生活、学习和研究的需要。我们可以预计将来会有越来越多的人参加包括 PETS5 在内的 PETS 系列考试。如公派出国留学人员、高级访问学者、自学英语考试者以及其他想要检测自己英语水平的人。现在已有许多公司,尤其是外资企业把 PETS 的成绩作为员工录用的一个标准。

PETS5 完全不同于原来的 WSK(EPT),在题型、记分方法、考试时间等方面都有很大的变化,其测试重点是英语交际能力。原来的 WSK 由五个部分组成:

- (1) 听力理解 (Listening Comprehension) (25 分钟)
- (2) 语法结构和词汇 (Grammatical Structure and Vocabulary)(30 分钟)
- (3) 阅读理解 (Reading Comprehension)(35 分钟)
- (4) 完形填空 (Cloze)(20 分钟)
- (5) 写作 (Writing)(30 分钟)

WSK 没有口试,除写作部分外,全部用机器阅卷。满分 160 分。

PETS5 也由五个部分组成:

- (1) 听力理解 (listening Comprehension)(35 分钟)
- (2) 英语知识运用 (Use of Language)(15 分钟)
- (3) 阅读理解 (Reading Comprehension):Part A, Part B, Part C (50 分钟)
- (4) 写作 (Writing)(40 分钟)
- (5) 口试 (Oral Test)(15 分钟)

PETS5 有部分题需要人工评阅,满分 100 分。

由此可以看出 PETS5 与 WSK 有很大的差异。具体地说在 PETS5 的听力中增加了 true or false 问题,还有些题要求考生简答;没有一个单独的部分对语法结构和词汇进行测试;完形填空不给提供选项;阅读理解部分进一步分为三个小部分,阅读量加大。最后还增加了写作的分量,由原来的 30 分钟内写 150 字的短文,改变为 40 分钟完成 250 字的短文。

总的来说,WSK 基本上都是客观题,要求考生在 4 个选项中找出一个正确答案,考生只需要在答案纸上将答案涂黑,整个考试过程中除了写作部分不需要另外写一个字。而 PETS5 中增加了主观题的分量,如在听力部分,有的题要求考生用 1~3 个字写出答案来;在完形填空部分,不给提供选项,要求考生根据对文章的理解,推断出一个答案来,而且正确答案往往不止一个。

为了帮助 PETSS 考生尽快熟悉 PETSS,掌握必要的应试技巧,提高应试能力,取得好的成绩,我们编写了“PETSS 应试系列教材”。本套教材共有四本书组成:

《全国公共英语等级考试第 5 级(PETSS)——听力技巧与训练》

《全国公共英语等级考试第 5 级(PETSS)——语言应用·阅读·写作技巧与训练》

《全国公共英语等级考试第 5 级(PETSS)——模拟实战》

《全国公共英语等级考试第 5 级(PETSS)——应试词汇》

这一套书涉及到了 PETSS 的方方面面。前两本对 PETSS 各部分的题型、出题思路及应试技巧进行了全面而详细的分析总结,然后提供了与每一种题型相应的应试训练题,并在书的最后附有答案供考生参考。这两本书将有助于考生全面了解 PETSS 的考试规律,迅速掌握必要的应试技巧,顺利通过考试。第三本书是 18 套模拟题,其中每套题的每部分的题型及难度完全同真题一样,可以帮助考生通过大量的模拟练习,巩固提高做题能力,进一步提高正确率。为了考生做题方便,听力部分的模拟实战题以及口语部分集中在《PETSS 听力技巧与训练》一书。《应试词汇》一书是为考生集中有效地掌握词汇而准备的。

本套书是作者通过对教育部考试中心所提供的样题及真题的仔细研究,结合多年的英语测试课教学经验编写而成的。大部分作者都参加了 1999 年 9 月的第一次 PETSS 笔试和口试的考试工作,因而有可能对 PETSS 的真题及样题进行细致分析,对其难度进行比较把握,使我们的书中所介绍的做题技巧具有很高的指导性,模拟题极其逼真。

本套书由王改燕总体设计。其中听力技巧及听力模拟题由许群航负责编写;阅读技巧部分 Part A 及 Part C 由王改燕负责编写,Part B 由张萍负责编写;阅读模拟题中 Part A 由王改燕编写,Part B 由张萍负责编写,Part C 由杨丽娟编写;完形填空及写作部分由杨丽娟负责编写,词汇部分由侯新民负责编写。另外,口试部分由王改燕负责编写。

本套书严格按照教育部考试中心的《全国公共英语等级考试大纲》编写,具有内容逼真、实用性强的特点。

编者

1999.10

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Practice Test 1

SECTION II Use of English (15 minutes)

Read the following text and fill each of the numbered spaces with **ONE** suitable word. Write your answers on **ANSWER SHEET 1**.

As we find ourselves in a new work terrain and confronting new rules of the road, building our personal career capacities — our ATV options package — will help us (31) _____ and thrive. Perhaps the most important lesson we can learn — paradoxically — (32) _____ that it's not just about "knowing more" anymore. You can get (33) _____ and better at a particular thing, but you also need (34) _____ keep your head up to see (35) _____ thing is still going to be needed (36) _____ the future. Being good at several things will be (37) _____ advantageous in the long run than being excellent (38) _____ one narrow specialty.

A complex world will not (39) _____ demand specialized knowledge, but also general and (40) _____ skills. Particle physics, for instance, is a specialized area (41) _____ knowledge, but research, communication, and technology (42) _____ general and flexible skills. With specialized knowledge and general skills, a worker will (43) _____ equipped for the challenges ahead.

We need to (44) _____ from our minds right now the idea (45) _____ "up" is the only direction to go to (46) _____ recognition and greater pay. Lateral movement is just fine (47) _____ sometimes more advantageous.

Developing our multiple (48) _____ and flexibility are the keys (49) _____ need to navigate all the tremendous changes in (50) _____ uneven terrain ahead.

SECTION III Reading Comprehension (50 minutes)

Part A

Read the following texts and answer the questions which accompany them by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on **ANSWER SHEET 1**.

Text 1

A vast health checkup is now being conducted in the western Swedish province of Varmland with the use of an automated apparatus for high-speed multiple-blood analyses. Developed by two brothers, the apparatus can process more than 4,000 blood samples a day, subjecting each to 10 or more tests. Automation has cut the cost of the analyses by about 90 per cent.

The results so far have been astonishing, for hundreds of Swedes have learned that they have silent symptoms of disorders that neither they nor their physicians were aware of. Among them were iron-deficiency anemia, hyper-cholesterolemia hypertension and even diabetes.

The automated blood analysis apparatus was developed by Dr. Gunnar Jungner, 49-year-old associate professor of clinical chemistry at Goteborg University, and his brother, Ingmar, 39, the physician in charge of the Chemical Central Laboratory of Stockholm's Hospital for Infectious Diseases.

The idea was conceived 15 years ago when Dr. Gunnar Jungner was working as clinical chemist in northern Sweden and was asked by local physicians to devise a way of performing multiple analyses on a single blood sample. The design was ready in 1961.

Consisting of calorimeters, pumps and other components, many of them American-made, the Jungner apparatus was set up in Stockholm. Samples from Varmland province are drawn into the automated system at 90-second intervals.

The findings clatter forth in the form of numbers printed by an automated typewriter.

The Jungners predict that advance knowledge about a person's potential ailments made possible by the chemical screening process will result in considerable savings in hospital and other medical costs. Thus, they point out, the blood analyses will actually turn out to cost nothing.

In the beginning, the automated blood analyses ran into considerable opposition from some physicians who had no faith in machines and saw no need for so many tests. Some laboratory technicians who saw their jobs threatened also protested. But the opposition is said to be waning.

51. Automation is viewed by the author with

- [A] indecision.
- [B] remorse.
- [C] indifference.
- [D] favor.

52. According to the article, the results of the use of the Jungner apparatus indicate that

- [A] a person may become aware of an ailment not previously detected.
- [B] blood disease can be cured very easily.
- [C] practically all Swedish physicians have welcomed the invention.
- [D] only one analysis may be made at a time.

53. All of the following statements about automated blood analysis are true EXCEPT that
- [A] the analysis is recorded in a permanent form.
 - [B] the idea for the apparatus involved an international effort.
 - [C] the system has met opposition from physicians and technicians.
 - [D] the machine is more efficient than other types of analysis.
54. The main purpose of the article is to
- [A] predict the future of medical care.
 - [B] describe a health check-up system.
 - [C] show how superior health care Sweden has.
 - [D] warn about the dangers of undetected disease.
55. The prediction process that the Jungners use is essentially
- [A] biological.
 - [B] physiological.
 - [C] chemical.
 - [D] anatomical.

Text 2

However important we may regard school life to be, there is no gainsaying the fact that children spend more time at home than in the classroom. Therefore the great influence of parents cannot be ignored or discounted by the teacher. They can become strong allies of the school personnel or they can consciously or unconsciously hinder and thwart curricular objectives.

Administrators have been aware of the need to keep parents apprised of the newer methods used in schools. Many principals have conducted workshops explaining such matters as the reading readiness program, manuscript writing and developmental mathematics.

Moreover, the classroom teacher, with the permission of the supervisors, can also play an important role in enlightening parents. The informal tea and the many interviews carried on during the year, as well as new ways of reporting pupils' progress, can significantly aid in achieving a harmonious interplay between school and home.

To illustrate, suppose that a father has been drilling Junior in arithmetic processes night after night. In a friendly interview, the teacher can help the parent sublimate his natural paternal interest into productive channels. He might be persuaded to let Junior participate in discussing the family budget, buying the food, using a yardstick or measuring cup at home, setting the clock, calculating mileage on a trip and engaging in scores of other activities that have a mathematical basis.

If the father follows the advice, it is reasonable to assume that he will soon realize his son is making satisfactory progress in mathematics, and at the same time, enjoying the work.

Too often, however, teachers' conferences with parents are devoted to petty accounts of children's misdemeanors, complaints about laziness and poor work habits, and suggestions for penalties and rewards at home.

What is needed is a more creative approach in which the teacher, as a professional advisor, plants ideas in parents' minds for the best utilization of the many hours that the child spends out of the classroom.

In this way, the school and the home join forces in fostering the fullest development of youngsters' capacities.

56. What's the main idea of the article?

- [A] Home training is more important than school training because a child spends too many hours with his parents.
- [B] Teachers can and should help parents to understand further the objectives of the school.
- [C] There are many ways in which the mathematics program can be implemented at home.
- [D] Parents have a responsibility to help students in doing homework.

57. It can be inferred from the article that the author

- [A] is satisfied with present relationships between home and school.
- [B] feels that the traditional program in mathematics is slightly superior to the developmental program.
- [C] believes that schools are lacking in guidance personnel.
- [D] feels that parent-teacher interviews can be made much more constructive than they are at present.

58. Which of the following is **NOT** mentioned as a method of communication between parents and teachers?

- [A] Classes for parents.
- [B] New type of report card.
- [C] Parent-teacher interview.
- [D] Informal tea.

59. In the article, the author implies that

- [A] participation in interesting activities relating to a subject improves one's achievement in that area.
- [B] too many children are lazy and have poor work habits.
- [C] school principals do more than their share in interpreting the curriculum to the parents.
- [D] teachers should occasionally make home visits to parents.

60. We may infer that the writer of the article does not favor

- [A] father's helping with his son's studies.
- [B] written communications to the parent from the teacher.
- [C] having the parent observe lessons which the children are being taught.
- [D] principal-parent conferences rather than teacher-parent conferences.

Text 3

It was a year of paradoxes and contradictions: in 1998, global financial markets started to melt down, but the U. S. economy kept humming. Profits weakened, but the stock market staged an impressive recovery. Personal savings dwindled to nothing, yet consumers felt flush and kept spending. President Clinton was impeached by the House of Representatives, and the markets shrugged. Yet there is an underlying logic to economic events in 1998, and to how they are likely to play out in 1999.

Last year's recessions across Asia, followed by the summer's parade of financial crisis from Russia to Brazil, were worrisome. Experts feared the U. S. wouldn't emerge unscathed and would surely begin to feel the pain of plunging foreign sales and jittery markets. Instead, the U.S. was terra firma, bulwarked against the stormy seas. Well-timed easing by the Federal Reserve helped, but more important was the economy's inherent strength. Unemployment was low, inflation was tame, and productivity growth was strong. Output grew about 3.5%, following two equally stellar years.

There is no guarantee that growth rate can be sustained, of course. A Business Week poll of executives for this year's Industry Outlook suggests that a greater percentage are pessimistic than were pessimistic a year ago. Growth in capital spending is slowing down. But with pricing power constrained and companies embarking on cost-cutting programs, productivity gains should be respectable in 1999. The U.S. economy could yet beat the consensus projection of 2% growth this year. The profits picture is similarly understandable on closer inspection. Last year, profits were dented by one-time write-offs and other potholes in the road. Yet the stock market managed to rally in the year's final months. Again the Fed played a role. Then, too, the longer term prospects for some companies — especially some Internet companies — drove those stocks all the way to the stratosphere. Given a sufficiently long view, who knows? Maybe these companies will prove out.

As 1999 progresses, year-over-year profit comparisons for all companies should look better. At the same time, though, the earnings estimates that analysts put out — they've figured out a rise of 17% this year — may be reduced. Don't be worried. In the world of earnings reports and analysts' estimates, it's common for analysts to play an expectation game.

61. According to the author, in 1998

- [A] the Americans tried their best to save money.
- [B] personal savings of the Americans grew.
- [C] world economy continue to grow.

[D] there are many contradictions and paradoxes concerning the world economy.

62. From the article, we can infer that

[A] the U.S. economy was affected by the financial crises that took place in many other countries last year.

[B] inflation was very high in the United States.

[C] the U. S. was strong against the world-wide economic crises last year.

[D] the U. S. economy has begun to feel the pain of the economic crises.

63. According to the Business Week poll, concerning the growth of U.S. economy in 1999,

[A] most executives are optimistic.

[B] most executive are not sure.

[C] most executives are more pessimistic.

[D] most executives are less pessimistic.

64. From the article we can infer that

[A] there was no growth of profits.

[B] there was a very low growth of profits.

[C] the stock market affected the growth of profits.

[D] the stock market helped the growth of profits.

65. According to the author, the analysts' estimates are

[A] absolute.

[B] not realistic.

[C] only expectations.

[D] wrong.

Part B

In the following article some paragraphs have been removed. For Questions 66~70, choose the most suitable paragraph from the list A~F to fit into each of the numbered gaps. There is one paragraph which does not fit in any of the gaps.

Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1.

Some say the tradition began 14 years ago when the brother of a dead Navy flier tossed a Purple Heart into the wet concrete foundation of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D. C. A few days after the monument's dedication in November 1982, the maintenance crew for the National Park Service found objects that stood out from the usual park litter: a teddy bear, a framed photograph of a 1955 Chevy, poetry scrawled in Park Service pamphlets.

66.

For two years the crew stashed the items in a tool room. Then the Park Service decided to preserve the objects more professionally. Today everything left behind at the wall is saved except for live plants and foreign or altered American flags. The collection contains more than 48, 000 items — and is as emotionally charged as the war itself was.

67.

More than one million people travel to the wall each year, making it one of the two most visited monuments in the capital. (The other is the Lincoln Memorial.) Items are left by every kind of visitor — friends, family, battle comrades, Girl Scouts — and for every reason: sorrow, longing, outrage at a government, some feel betrayed them. “During the day the tourists come,” Felton says. “At night we get the veterans. Some do it for a catharsis; others to make an offering or keep a promise.”

68.

One recent acquisition is a leather jacket festooned with medals, its pockets stuffed with motel receipts and restaurant checks that the owner evidently accumulated on his cross-country pilgrimage to the wall.

The curator’s staff goes to great lengths to determine the significance of such items, calling the editor of a military newsletter to identify an unusual insignia and encouraging donors to explain what they’ve left and why. “Each item stubbornly insists on telling you that it stems from an individual tragedy,” says Kim Robinson, a former assistant curator for The Park service.

69.

Felton has observed subtle changes in the collection over the years. Early donations were spontaneous notes written on paper bags from a nearby bookstore.

70.

Felton retrieved a letter that accompanied a dollar bill left two years ago during the Veterans’ Day Holiday: “My dad and I walked down the brick path past the rows of names on the wall of the Veterans Memorial. He stopped at a panel, pointed to a white-lettered name and said: ‘He had just cut my hair. Larry charged \$ 2 on me. I told him I would pay him later. He was killed that evening. I try to come down at least once a year and pay the dollar I owe him for my haircut.’ We stood there silently, my dad remembering.”

“On that day I learned about only one of the infinite memories that live within the Vietnam Wall. Each tribute left behind has a story. Whether it’s a dollar for a haircut or a single wildflower, they all say, ‘I will not forget.’ Dad, I will not forget.”

- A. The range of emotions the items represent is apparent in the letters found at the monument. Medical corpsmen apologize that they didn’t do enough. Some notes say, “you saved my life.” Still others express regret for not having gone to Vietnam.

- B. "Mementos have always been left at memorials, but not with the intensity and volume we have seen," says Duery Felton, curator of the collection. "It's unique because the items are not selected by a museum curator. History is being written from the bottom up instead of from the top down."
- C. "I was touched by it all," says Tony Migliaccio, a Park Service maintenance foreman. "Obviously something was going on here that was bigger than any of us realized."
- D. As word spread that the items were being preserved, visitors began leaving larger objects and longer letters, some sealed in plastic bags.
- E. On this holiday Sunday afternoon, the Newark controllers are in full swing, coordinating traffic like short-order cooks and screaming over one another's heads to point out stray planes.
- F. The collection includes Purple Hearts, Bronze stars, and National Service and Vietnam campaign models. Among the more sentimental objects discovered at the wall are a golf club, a woman's shoe and a varsity letter left by a former high-school athlete to his opponent.

Part C

Answer questions 71~80 by referring to the comments on 3 different cameras in the following magazine article.

Note: Answer each question by choosing A, B or C and mark it on **ANSWER SHEET 1**. Some choices may be required more than once.

A = Canon Elan IIE B = Casio Digital Camera C = Sharp Digital Viewcam

Which camera...

• enables the users to add pictures to documents?	71. _____
• has a flash system that can balance subject and background?	72. _____
• can satisfy photo fans requirements?	73. _____
• has the ability to rewind film in near silence?	74. _____
• has a different way of showing picture?	75. _____
• has the technology to an off-center subject?	76. _____
• can work as a still camera?	77. _____
• has an eye catching design function?	78. _____
• offers a software to group pictures easily?	79. _____
• can send picture back to the camera?	80. _____

Canon Elan IIE Canon Elan IIE fuses the high-performance of the EOS system with eye-

catching design.

An Eye On Composition: using Eye-Controlled Focus, you can choose to focus on and shoot an off-center subject — there's no need to center and recompose. And as your eye follows the action, the camera follows you. So when an unexpected moment occurs while you're shooting, even if it's off-center, you have the technology to capture it accurately and easily. What you see, and where you see it, is now exactly what you'll get.

The Freedom of Choice: for vertical compositions, the Elan IIE is equally proficient. Bi-directional Eye-Controlled Focus allows for more versatility by putting three-point auto-focus between you and your subject no matter which way you orient the camera.

Let There Be Light: The Elan IIE is equipped with an advanced, built-in flash. And Canon's exclusive E-TTL flash system, available with the optional Speedlite 380EX, helps to provide a natural balance between subject and background.

Sshhh, The Zebras Are Feeding: Elan IIE's improved Whisper Drive allows you to rewind film in near silence. Whether you're shooting on the Serengeti or on the sly in your own backyard, there are a number of situations which demand quiet performance — and Canon delivers!

Hey, Cool Looking Camera! Thanks. And, with an improved control layout, it's even easier to use. Form and function are truly united in the Elan IIE.

Casio Digital Camera The new Casio QV-10A plus Digital Camera might just change the way you take and display your picture. Because until now, digital cameras were bulky and expensive, the QV-10A plus is anything but.

Using it is simple. With its LCD screen you see your pictures instantly. With the touch of a button you can delete images you don't want or display one, four or nine shots at a time in the camera or on a TV. It can even send images from the computer back to the camera, so it's perfect for presentations.

And with the QV software, you can easily add photos to documents and e-mail. Plus with the Adobe Photo Deluxe software that's included, you can even customize your photos. All it takes is the Casio QV-10A plus.

Sharp digital Viewcam One device that's a sure thing on almost any photo bug's dream list is a combination camcorder and still camera. Now, Sharp's new digital Viewcam is among the first of a group of imaging devices offering such dynamic duality. For movies, the compact VL-DX10 uses a small digital cassette tape, a format that's superior to VHS or 8mm.

What cranks this device's value up a notch is its ability to take photos like a digital still camera. As many as 12 high-resolution pictures can be stored in the 2 MB flash memory and in economy mode. The still-picture quality is similar to that of other digital cameras—well short of 35mm prints but useful nonetheless if you're transferring images to computer.

With this many images at your beck and call, organizing them becomes important, Sharp supplies a software program that lets you group picture "galleries" that can be stored by subject for easy retrieval.

Practice Test 2

SECTION II Use of English (15 minutes)

Read the following text and fill each of the numbered spaces with **ONE** suitable word. Write your answers on **ANSWER SHEET 1**.

The National Cancer Institute has begun human testing of CD4, the first drug designed specifically (31) _____ neutralize the AIDS virus. "This is one of (32) _____ most important steps we've taken," (33) _____ Dr. Samuel Broder, head of the clinical oncology program (34) _____ the NCI in Bethesda, MD. Similar tests are (35) _____ done at New England Deaconess Hospital in Boston and at San Francisco General Hospital.

CD4 also (36) _____ the beginning of a promising new era in drug development. Unlike most other drugs, (37) _____ are derived from existing substances, the CD4 molecule was engineered from scratch, using knowledge of the (38) _____ minute workings of the cell.

(39) _____ by Gannett, Inc., in South San Francisco, the new drug in (40) _____ trials is a shortened form of the natural protein (41) _____ on the surface of the body's T-4 cells. The AIDS virus (42) _____ these cells by first attaching itself to the protein and then (43) _____ the cells. But the synthetic CD4 acts (44) _____ a decoy, latching onto the virus before (45) _____ can bind to the cells. One NCI spokesperson described the process (46) _____ "putting putty all over a porcupine."

Tests (47) _____ animals have revealed no toxic effects, (48) _____ complications could arise in humans. No one expects the treatment to cure AIDS, (49) _____ it's potentially an important weapon in (50) _____ growing arsenal of treatments.

SECTION III Reading Comprehension (50 minutes)

Part A

Read the following texts and answer the questions which accompany them by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on **ANSWER SHEET 1**.

Text 1

In 1961, scientists set up gigantic, sensitive apparatus to collect radio waves from the far

reaches of space, hoping to discover in them some mathematical pattern indicating that the waves were sent out by other intelligent beings. The first attempt failed; but someday the experiment may succeed.

What reason is there to think that we may detect intelligent life in outer space? To begin with, modern theories of the development of stars suggest that almost every star has some sort of family of planets. So any star like our own sun (and there are billions upon billions of such stars in the universe) is likely to have a planet situated at such a distance that it would receive about the same amount of radiation as the earth.

Furthermore, such a planet would probably have the same general composition as our own; so, allowing a billion years or two — or three — there would be a very good chance for life to develop, if current theories of the origin of life are correct.

But intelligent life? Life that has reached the stage of being able to send radio waves out into space in a deliberate pattern? Our own planet may have been in existence for five billion years and may have had life on it for two billion, but it is only in the last fifty years that intelligent life capable of sending radio waves into space has lived on earth. From this it might seem that even if there were no technical problems involved, the chance of receiving signals from particular earth-type planet would be extremely small.

This does not mean that intelligent life at our level does not exist somewhere. There is such an unimaginable number of stars that, even at such miserable odds, it seems certain that there are millions of intelligent life forms scattered through space. The only trouble is, none may be within hailing distance of us. Perhaps none ever will be; perhaps the appalling distances that separate us from our denizens of this universe will forever remain too great to be conquered. And yet it is conceivable that someday we may come across one of them or, frighteningly, one of them may come across us. What would they be like, these extraterrestrial creatures?

Surely, it would seem, there is no way of telling. Here on earth alone, life has developed in many directions, taking on forms that could scarcely be invented by the wildest imagination if they were not already known to exist.

Who would dream that a mouse could fly if he had never seen a bat? Who would predict blind lizards living in caves, or worms living in the intestines of other creatures? Consider the giraffe, the hummingbird, the redwood tree, the Venus's-flytrap, and see whether you can imagine any limit to the fantasia of life. Then how can anyone predict anything at all about extraterrestrial beings?

51. The apparatus set up in 1961 was to

- [A] search for new stars.
- [B] receive radio-waves from outer space.
- [C] observe some astronomic phenomenon.
- [D] sent out signals to other intelligent beings.