

本书2013版第75页Text 4

命中2013年考研英语(二)真题阅读理解Text 1

高教版  
2015

徐绽 主编

# 考研英语(二) 冲刺预测 密卷6套题



高等教育出版社  
HIGHER EDUCATION PRESS

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考研英语（二）

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 高等教育出版社·北京  
HIGHER EDUCATION PRESS BEIJING

### 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

2015 考研英语(二)冲刺预测密卷6 套题/ 徐绽主编

· -- 北京:高等教育出版社,2014.8

ISBN 978 - 7 - 04 - 040546 - 0

I. ①2… II. ①徐… III. ①英语 - 研究生 - 入学考试 - 习题集 IV. ①H319.6

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2014)第 185790 号

策划编辑 杨挺扬

责任编辑 杨挺扬

封面设计 王 洋

版式设计 余 杨

责任印制 张泽业

出版发行 高等教育出版社

社 址 北京市西城区德外大街4号

邮政编码 100120

印 刷 北京市四季青双青印刷厂

开 本 787mm × 1092mm 1/16

印 张 13.25

字 数 310千字

购书热线 010 - 58581118

咨询电话 400 - 810 - 0598

网 址 <http://www.hep.edu.cn>

<http://www.hep.com.cn>

网上订购 <http://www.landaco.com>

<http://www.landaco.com.cn>

版 次 2014年8月第1版

印 次 2014年8月第1次印刷

定 价 29.00元

本书如有缺页、倒页、脱页等质量问题,请到所购图书销售部门联系调换

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# 前 言

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面对 2015 年的考研, 积累十多年考研英语培训经验的我面临新的现实: 国家研究生教育的变动改革。新增的专业型硕士不断扩招, 考研英语(二)成为越来越多的考生备考的首选。如何准确把握考研英语(二)的试题难度? 如何帮助考生应试获得高分? 这些问题被考研学生不停地追问, 促使我下决心为考研学子做些有益的事情: 编写一本考研英语(二)的专项复习书, 而且是最简洁的、最实用的、最高效的参考书。

通过认真研读最新《考研英语(二)考试大纲》的具体要求, 剖析 2010—2014 年五套考研英语(二)真题的题型特点和命题者的出题思路, 归纳其中蕴含的基本规律, 我发现以下新特点:

第一个特点是新。文章大多为西方的报刊摘选, 命题人节选的文章都很新, 几乎全部选自一年内出版的杂志。

第二个特点是题源集中。虽然命题人选取文章时大多参考外刊, 但是总结近三年的真题来源, 真题绝大多数集中在几类杂志。命题人偏好的杂志包括: The Economist《经济学人》、The New York Times《纽约时报》、Los Angeles Times《洛杉矶时报》、The Guardian《卫报》、BusinessWeek《商业周刊》、Time《时代周刊》、Scientific American《科学美国人》、Newsweek《新闻周刊》、Science《科学杂志》。选自这类杂志的文章占考研英语客观试题总量的 90% 以上。

鉴于以上真题来源的特点, 为了更好地帮助广大考生从庞大的信息资源中解放出来, 我从命题人偏好的英文原版权威报刊中选取了最接近考研真题的新文章, 绝大部分文章节选自新近的时文。选材不但符合时代的潮流而且贴近考研命题趋势, 站在命题者的高度审视题目, 尽量保证试题难度与真题一致。为帮助考生验证学习效果, 每份试题均进行了精辟透彻的分析, 使考生在短期内全面提升解题技巧, 突破考研英语瓶颈。

本书的特点在于集模拟演练和技巧指导于一体。答案讲解层层深入, 答题技巧和答题策略梳理清晰, 词汇与长难句重点把握。书中的“段落导读”部分帮助考生迅速了解文章行文结构、“文章来源”部分详细说明文章节选的杂志名称、“全文精译”部分为考生理解文章提供借鉴。本书简约实用, 是不可多得的高质量考研复习指导书, 适合所有参加考研英语(二)的学生使用。

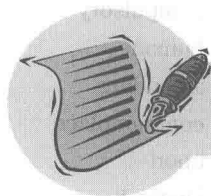
徐 纹

2014 年 8 月

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## 冲刺预测密卷(一)及解析

### 密卷(一)

### Section I 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 the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Devil, V8, Anal, Christ: these are among the baby names 1 by New Zealand's department of internal affairs, who recently 2 a 3 list of those disallowed by registrars in the past ten years.

Few decisions are more 4 than the naming of offspring. Yet laws 5 the choice of both first names and surnames are not 6 around the world. Denmark expects new parents to choose from a register of acceptable names; Portugal lists banned and approved ones. German registrars prohibit the use of most nouns and place-names, and also frown 7 any that do not clearly imply a gender: bad luck, Kim.

Governments argue that these rules prevent children being 8 with absurd names that may cause them problems in later life. They also aim to block names that might cause 9 to others. In 2009 a couple in New Jersey lost custody of a boy they had named Adolf Hitler.

10 concerns play a role, too. Government databases may struggle with long names; New Zealand allows 100 characters for all first names; the state of Massachusetts has a 11 of 40 for each. Chinese face a particular difficulty: their language has tens of thousands of characters, but a name that uses 12 or rare ones can mean computer problems.

Whether these decisions make any difference is another matter. A study in 2002 suggested that individuals may be influenced by their first names, without even being 13 of it. A disproportionate number of girls named Georgia live in the American state that 14 their name; boys named Dennis may be slightly 15 likely to become dentists than those called Walter (and Georges seem to have a 16 for geology). Academics with surnames in the 17 half of alphabet are more likely to get good university jobs (the authors of papers are listed alphabetically). Ballot papers that list politicians' names that way also show a 18 effect.

But reinvention beckons. Britain's chancellor was born Gideon Osborne; aged 13, he became George. The UK Deed Poll Service, a legal firm, in 2011 helped 60,000 Britons rename themselves (fees start at £33, around \$50); it was only 5,000 a decade before. American courts report similar trends. Some such applicants may wish to 19 their parents' expectations, while others may regret they were not given a more 20 name.

1. [A] registered [B] rejected [C] advocated [D] stressed  
2. [A] announced [B] released [C] claimed [D] emitted

- |                       |                     |                   |                    |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 3. [A] comprehensive  | [B] composite       | [C] compressive   | [D] compulsory     |
| 4. [A] individual     | [B] specific        | [C] personal      | [D] humane         |
| 5. [A] rectifying     | [B] adjusting       | [C] regulating    | [D] amending       |
| 6. [A] common         | [B] uncommon        | [C] universal     | [D] commonplace    |
| 7. [A] with           | [B] of              | [C] over          | [D] upon           |
| 8. [A] imitated       | [B] intimidated     | [C] burdened      | [D] laughed        |
| 9. [A] inconvenience  | [B] insult          | [C] panic         | [D] offence        |
| 10. [A] Ethical       | [B] Philosophical   | [C] Scientific    | [D] Technological  |
| 11. [A] restraint     | [B] constraint      | [C] limit         | [D] confinement    |
| 12. [A] alternative   | [B] acquainted      | [C] archaic       | [D] ambiguous      |
| 13. [A] conscientious | [B] reminded        | [C] conscious     | [D] noticed        |
| 14. [A] allows        | [B] shares          | [C] grants        | [D] identifies     |
| 15. [A] less          | [B] much            | [C] more          | [D] even           |
| 16. [A] indication    | [B] inclination     | [C] information   | [D] intelligence   |
| 17. [A] former        | [B] upper           | [C] latter        | [D] lower          |
| 18. [A] same          | [B] positive        | [C] negative      | [D] similar        |
| 19. [A] live up to    | [B] break away from | [C] fall short of | [D] go contrary to |
| 20. [A] memorial      | [B] monumental      | [C] memorable     | [D] mortal         |

## Section II Reading Comprehension

### Part A

#### Directions:

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

#### Text 1

Where do good ideas come from? For centuries, all credit for these mysterious gifts went to faith, fortune and some fair muses. But to assume creativity is some lofty trait enjoyed by the few is both foolish and unproductive, argues Jonah Lehrer in "Imagine", a smart new book about "how creativity works". Drawing from a wide array of scientific and sociological research—and everything from the poetry of W. H. Auden to the films of Pixar—he makes a convincing case that innovation cannot only be studied and measured, but also nurtured and encouraged.

Just outside St Paul, Minnesota, sits the corporate headquarters of 3M. The company sells more than 55,000 products, from streetlights to computer touch-screens, and is ranked as the third-most innovative in the world. But when Mr. Lehrer visits, he finds employees engaged in all sorts of frivolous activities, such as playing pinball and wandering about the campus. These workers are actually pushed to take regular breaks, as time away from a problem can help spark a moment of insight. This is because interrupting work with a relaxing activity lets the mind turn inward, where it can subconsciously puzzle over subtle meanings and connections. "That's why so many insights happen during warm showers," says Joydeep Bhattacharya, a psychologist at Goldsmiths, University of London.



But this is just one reason for 3M's creative output. The company also encourages its employees to take risks, not only by spending masses on research (nearly 8% of gross revenue), but also by expecting workers to spend around 15% of their time pursuing speculative ideas. Most of these efforts will fail, but some will generate real profit for the company. The reason why this approach works—and why it has been imitated by other crafty companies such as Google—is because many breakthroughs come when people venture beyond their area of expertise.

This is why young people tend to be the most innovative thinkers in nearly any field, from physics to music. The ignorance of youth “comes with creative advantages,” writes Mr. Lehrer, as the young are less jaded by custom and experience. Still, he reassures readers that anyone can stay creative as long as he works “to maintain the perspective of the outsider”. This can be done by considering new problems at work, travelling to new countries or simply spending more time staring “at things we don't fully understand.”

This is an inspiring and engaging book that reveals creativity as less a sign of rare genius than a natural human potential. Mr. Lehrer points to William Shakespeare, for example, as someone who was largely a man of his time; the culture of Elizabethan London nurtured quite a few poets—much like ancient Athens gave rise to a glut of thinkers and Renaissance Florence inspired many fine artists. Shakespeare knew his way with a pen, but he also lived in a culture that put a premium on ideas, spread education, introduced new patents for inventions and did not always rigorously enforce censorship laws.

Mr. Lehrer concludes with a call for better policy to “increase our collective creativity”. He suggests allowing more immigration, inviting more risk and enabling more cultural borrowing and adaptation. He also warns that the work demands a lot of time, sweat and gut. Or as Albert Einstein put it: “creativity is the residue of time wasted.”

21. It can be inferred from Paragraph 2 that \_\_\_\_\_ is necessary for sparking a moment of insight.
- [A] constant distraction
  - [B] long time of concentration
  - [C] subconscious meditation
  - [D] relaxing mood
22. According to Paragraphs 2 and 3, which of the following statements about the company 3M is true?
- [A] The company has been so successful in nurturing the collective creativity that other companies follow suit.
  - [B] The company has been subjected to great financial loss by encouraging employees to take risks irrationally.
  - [C] The company lays more emphasis on individuality and creativity than on collaboration.
  - [D] The company expected its employees to spend 15% of their time on speculating ways to increase productivity.
23. It can be inferred from Paragraph 4 that the old tend to be less creative because \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] they have outlived the days when their mind is sharpest and most lively
  - [B] the easy and comfortable life exhausts their passion to invent and create
  - [C] their perspective as an outsider has been accepted by the mainstream
  - [D] experience and convention restrains them from breaking the rule
24. We can conclude from Paragraph 5 that \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] innovation is always branded with the limitation of specific time



[B] creativity of human being has reached its summit in several historical periods

[C] creativity can be encouraged and nurtured in the right circumstance

[D] Shakespeare is merely an ordinary man with no superior creativity

25. By quoting Albert Einstein's saying that "creativity is the residue of time wasted", the author wants to make clear that \_\_\_\_\_.

[A] when you have wasted enough time, the creative ideas will come to you naturally

[B] the generation of a creative idea requires hard work and intense dedication

[C] all talk about creativity but no deeds is just a waste of time

[D] creativity is not something that everyone can capitalize on

## Text 2

As a giant of the stock market, Apple is unusual. For much of the past 20 years, three companies have alternated in the role of the largest on the American stock market: Exxon Mobil, General Electric and Microsoft. The first two are very big companies by Apple standards. But Apple offers the kind of growth prospects that the shareholders of Exxon Mobil and GE can only dream of. Its sales in the latest quarter were almost double those of the previous year, and forecasts for 2013 revenues are nearly treble those recorded in 2010. It is the epitome of the modern company: short on physical capital but long on brainpower.

So what does Apple's dominance reveal about the economy and the stock market? First, it is a powerful reminder that the free market can still be remarkably innovative. In the past 11 years Apple has launched three products—the iPod, iPhone and iPad—that have created brand new markets, fulfilling desires that consumers did not even know they had. It is impossible to imagine any of those designs being dreamed up by a bureaucrat.

Second, it shows that the internet industry has come of age. The dotcom bubble of the late 1990s featured companies that were heavy on ideas but light on revenues or profits. When the bubble burst a decade ago, it was feared that the internet would savage margins by "commoditizing" devices like phones and personal computers. Apple has so far proved that it is possible to earn high margins with brilliant design and by offering consumers ways to access the internet effortlessly wherever they go. It has made the mobile era its own.

Third, Apple's rise shows that, even in a period of austerity, consumers are willing to pay for the must-have gadget. The company is a huge beneficiary of globalization: able not only to source its products at low cost in Asia but to sell the finished goods there as well. A global elite is now willing to pay for the most desirable products, from luxury luggage to premium Scotch. And America's soft power is still so strong that it can create aspiring brands for that elite.

But does Apple's surge to preeminence indicate that the stock market is back to the insane days of the late 1990s? There are certainly warning signs. Brokers are competing to come up with the highest potential price target for Apple's shares, and the announcement of a share buy-back should remind investors that companies have a tendency to purchase their own equity at market peaks. But when Cisco, a technology giant, was briefly worth more than \$500 billion in 2000, its price-earnings ratio was above 100; Apple trades on only 22 times its 2011 profits. Its new dividend yield will be almost as generous as that of the overall market. Even if its shares turn out to be overvalued, this would be more like a pimple than a bubble.

26. Compared with Exxon Mobil and General Electronics, Apple \_\_\_\_\_.  
 [A] is larger in size and tangible assets  
 [B] is valued lower in stock market  
 [C] is growing at an unprecedented rate  
 [D] is more closely linked with finance market
27. The point that the author wants to illustrate in Paragraph 2 is that \_\_\_\_\_.  
 [A] in most cases, customers' demands are created rather than ready-made  
 [B] the superiority of American market system is still distinct  
 [C] only American companies are capable of producing innovative products like iPhone  
 [D] American's panic over the rise of other countries is unnecessary
28. What does the author mean by saying that "the internet industry has come of age" (Para. 3)?  
 [A] The internet industry has declined from its hey day.  
 [B] The internet industry has become out of date.  
 [C] The internet industry has come into maturity.  
 [D] The bubble in internet industry has burst.
29. Which of the following statements can be inferred from the passage?  
 [A] Economic recession has no effect on the purchasing power of consumers.  
 [B] Most of Apple's clients are Asian elites who are equipped with huge consuming power and obsessed with luxury goods.  
 [C] Apple is substantially the same with those dotcom bubble companies as they are both heavy on ideas but light on revenues.  
 [D] Internet industry is still a booming industry despite the burst of dotcom bubble in the 1990s.
30. In the author's opinion, the prospects of Apple in stock market is \_\_\_\_\_.  
 [A] bleak [B] uncertain [C] optimistic [D] pessimistic

### Text 3

During the recession, job losses were not equitably shared; employment rates fell more for some groups than others. It is also well-known that job losses were greater among men than among women—the so-called mancession—largely because men had been more likely to work in the residential construction and manufacturing industries that were hit hardest.

What I'm going to reveal is the employment rates separately for married women and unmarried women who were heads of households. Not surprisingly, the latter are somewhat more likely to work. More surprising is that employment rates fell so much more for these unmarried women who were heads of household. Employment per capita fell 4.7 percentage points among the latter, compared with 1.6 percentage points among the former. The job-loss gap associated with marital status turns out to be as large as the more widely recognized job loss gap associated with gender.

Neither group of women had many members working in construction, so the decline of construction cannot explain these differences. An "added-worker effect" has been observed during a number of recessions; more married women worked during a recession than during an expansion because wives sometimes begin work to help replace the income lost by their unemployed husbands.

The employment rate among nonelderly married men fell 4 percentage points, to 83 percent from 87 percent. While that is a large decline by historical standards, it still means that roughly 95 percent of

wives whose husbands were employed in 2007 had husbands who continued their employment during the recession. Among the 5 percent of wives who were not so fortunate, roughly two-thirds of them had already been working before the recession and therefore could not react to their husband's unemployment by starting work. Therefore the added-worker effect is much too small to explain the sharply different job-loss rates by marital status.

What seems to be especially different between married and unmarried women is their propensity to be unemployed for long periods. The point is that married and unmarried women enter unemployment at about the same rate, but unmarried women leave it more slowly. Part of the difference in labor-market experiences has to do with the safety net. Many safety-net programs, like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which provides food stamps, and Medicaid, base eligibility on family income. A married woman is usually ineligible for a number of safety-net programs because her family's income is above the poverty line regardless of her employment status.

Unmarried household heads, on the other hand, are usually the sole breadwinner for the family, and when their income falls to zero, the household income essentially does, too. For this reason, more unmarried women who are heads of households can expect anti-poverty programs to help them when they are out of work than married women can. An unintended but unavoidable consequence of providing someone a cushion when they are without work is that they are provided with less incentive to get back to work.

31. The job-loss gap between male and female is closely associated with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - [A] gender differences in the selection of industries
  - [B] gender differences in the requirement for salary
  - [C] gender differences in the working performance
  - [D] gender differences in the loyalty to jobs
32. The most surprising gap between unmarried woman and married is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - [A] the differentiated employment rate before recession
  - [B] the differentiated laid-off rate in recession
  - [C] the differentiated liability to remain unemployed after recession
  - [D] the differentiated tendency in career selection
33. An "added-worker-effect" refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - [A] a safety net for a family offered by a working wife
  - [B] the extra income earned by an otherwise-stay-at-home wife
  - [C] an economic parachute enjoyed by a double-income family
  - [D] the extra social wealth created by working women
34. Which of the following statements is true according to Paragraph 4?
  - [A] The fall in male unemployment rate is not as severe as it has been imagined.
  - [B] The added-worker-effect can bring as many as 5 percent of women back to work.
  - [C] The percentage of housewives going back to work is lower than estimated.
  - [D] A laid-off husband is not the most reason that prompts women to go back working.
35. It can be inferred from the last two paragraphs that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - [A] the policies made by the government always fail to take most people's interests into account
  - [B] some generous social welfare programs may exert an unwanted negative effect on the efforts to boost employment rate
  - [C] married people are usually subject to subtle forms of social inequality

- [D] the government should stop granting unemployment insurance to those unemployed after a certain period of time

#### Text 4

According to a recent Gallup World Poll, 1.1 billion people, or one-quarter of the earth's adults, want to move temporarily to another country in the hope of finding more profitable work. An additional 630 million people would like to move abroad permanently.

The global desire to leave home arises from poverty and necessity, but it also grows out of a conviction that such mobility is possible. People who embrace this cosmopolitan outlook assume that individuals can and should be at home anywhere in the world, that they need not be tied to any particular place. This outlook was once a strange and threatening product of the Enlightenment but is now accepted as central to a globalized economy.

It leads to opportunity and profits, but it also has high psychological costs. In nearly a decade's research into the emotions and experiences of immigrants and migrants, I've discovered that many people who leave home in search of better prospects end up feeling displaced and depressed. But today, explicit discussions of homesickness are rare, for the emotion is typically regarded as an embarrassing impediment to individual progress and prosperity. This silence makes mobility appear deceptively easy.

Technology also seduces us into thinking that migration is painless. Ads from Skype suggest that "free video calling makes it easy to be together, even when you're not." The comforting illusion of connection offered by technology makes moving seem less consequential, since one is always just a mouse click or a phone call away.

Today's technologies have failed to defeat homesickness even though studies by the Carnegie Corporation of New York show that immigrants are in closer touch with their families than before. A wealth of studies have documented that other newcomers to America also suffer from high rates of depression, despite constant contact with family.

It is possible that these new technologies actually heighten feelings of displacement. María Elena Rivera, a psychologist in Tepic, Mexico, believes technology may magnify homesickness. Her sister, Carmen, had been living in San Diego for 25 years. With the rise of inexpensive long-distance calling, Carmen was able to phone home with greater frequency. Every Sunday she called Mexico and talked with her family, who routinely gathered for a large meal. Carmen always asked what the family was eating, who was there. Technology increased her contact with her family but also brought a regular reminder that she was not there with them.

The persistence of homesickness points to the limitations of the cosmopolitan philosophy that undergirds so much of our market and society. The idea that we can and should feel at home anyplace on the globe is based on a worldview that celebrates the solitary, mobile individual and envisions men and women as easily separated from family, from home and from the past. But this vision doesn't square with our emotions, for our ties to home, although often underestimated, are strong and enduring.

36. Homesickness is a feeling \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] caused by an alienation from different culture
- [B] widely felt but rarely discussed
- [C] destructive for individual progress and prosperity
- [D] to which people hold cosmopolitan outlooks are immune

37. The cosmopolitan outlook \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] emphasizes the right to pursue freedom  
[B] is a product of globalized economy  
[C] is a modern version of Enlightenment outlook  
[D] denies the effect of environment on human being
38. The word "impediment" (Para. 3) is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] impetus [B] confession [C] obstruction [D] momentum
39. One illusion about technology mentioned in this text is that \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] it can encourage social exchanges  
[B] it can replace face-to-face communication  
[C] it can help to break communication barrier  
[D] it can help to eliminate culture shock
40. The point the author tried to make in the last paragraph is that \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] human being can live self-reliant and independent of families and friends  
[B] human being are social animals that can not live in stark isolation  
[C] human being are usually so nostalgic that they are stuck with the past  
[D] human being are so deeply attached to home that it's hard for them to stay away from family

## Part B

### Directions:

Read the following text and answer the questions by finding information from the right column that corresponds to each of the marked details given in the left column. There are two extra choices in the right column. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Every year Les Wexner, the owner of Victoria's Secret, a lingerie(女士内衣)retailer, takes a month off to travel the world looking for other companies' ideas to adopt. Mr. Wexner's philosophy is that business should celebrate imitation.

That is almost a heresy. Businesses are told to innovate or die. Imitators are cast as the bad guys. But in the real world, companies copy and succeed. The iPod was not the first digital-music player; nor was the iPhone the first smartphone or the iPad the first tablet. Apple imitated others' products but made them far more appealing.

The pace and intensity of legal imitation has quickened in recent years, argues Oded Shenkar, a management professor at Ohio State University, in a provocative book, "Copycats: How Smart Companies Use Imitation to Gain a Strategic Edge".

History shows that imitators often end up winners. Who now remembers Chux, the first disposable nappies, whose thunder was stolen by Pampers? Ray Kroc, who built McDonald's, copied White Castle, inventor of the fast-food burger joint. Even Playboy magazine was just an imitator, noted Ted Levitt, one of the earliest management gurus to acknowledge the role of imitation. Copying is not only far commoner than innovation in business, wrote Levitt in the 1960s, but a surer route to growth and profits. According to "Copycats", studies show that imitators do at least as well and often better from any new product than innovators do. Followers have lower research-and-development costs, and less risk of failure because the product has already been market-tested. A study by Peter Golder and Gerard Tellis, "Pioneer Advantage: Marketing Logic or Marketing Legend", found that innovators captured only 7% of

the market for their product over time.

Firms seldom admit to being copycats. But some businesspeople are willing to talk about the limitations of innovation. Kevin Rollins, a former chief executive of Dell, a computer-maker, asked, "If innovation is such a competitive weapon, why doesn't it translate into profitability?" But most remain obsessed with their own inventions. Copying is taboo. Praise and promotion do not go to employees who borrow from other firms.

As a result, firms pay insufficient attention to the art of copying. Levitt examined a group of companies whose sales depended on regularly launching new products. None of them, he found, had either a formal or informal policy on how to respond to other firms' innovations. So they were often far too slow to imitate rivals' successes, and missed out on profits. Not much has changed since Levitt's day. Though copying is fairly common, lots of companies fail to do it effectively. American firms in particular are too obsessed with innovation, argues Mr. Shenkar. By contrast, Asian companies—such as Panasonic, whose former parent, Matsushita, was nicknamed *maneshita denki*, "electronics that have been copied"—have excelled at legal imitation.

Excessive copying, of course, could be bad for society as a whole. Joseph Schumpeter worried that if innovators could not get enough reward from new products because imitators were taking so much of the profit, they would spend less on developing them. But that is not the immediate concern of corporations. Copying is here to stay; businesses may as well get good at it.

	[A] are too obsessed with innovation.
41. According to Ted Levitt, companies depend on innovation often miss profits because they	[B] are actively involved in legal imitation.
42. Oded Shenkar found that Asian companies differ from American companies in that they	[C] discourage innovators' enthusiasm for innovation.
43. Joseph Schumpeter's biggest concern about imitation is that it will	[D] laugh last in market competition.
44. Kevin Rollin is one of few firm executive who	[E] pay little attention to imitate rival's success.
45. Peter Golder and Gerard Tellis found that imitators often	[F] are slow to react to rival's imitation.
	[G] explicitly discuss their suspicion about innovation.

### Section III Translation

#### 46. Directions:

Translate the following text from English into Chinese. Write your translation on the ANSWER SHEET. (15 points)

Knowing that you are paid less than your peers has two effects on happiness. The well-known one is negative; a thinner pay packet harms self-esteem. <sup>①</sup> The lesser-known one is called the "tunnel effect":

high incomes for peers are seen as improving your own chances of similar riches, especially if growth, inequality and mobility are high. <sup>②</sup>

A paper authored by Tom Dorson of the University of St Andrews separates the two effects using data from household surveys in Germany. <sup>③</sup> Previous work showed that the income of others can have a small, or even positive, overall effect on people's satisfaction in individual firms. But Mr. Dorson's team hypothesized that older workers, who largely know their lifetime incomes already, will enjoy a much smaller tunnel effect.

The data confirm this hypothesis. The negative effect on reported levels of happiness of being paid less than your peers is not visible for people aged under 45. <sup>④</sup> It is only those people over 45, when careers have "reached a stable position", whose happiness is harmed by the success of others. <sup>⑤</sup>

## Section IV Writing

### Part A

#### 47. Directions:

Suppose you want to apply for the following post/position: Waiter/waitress required for evening work. Write a letter:

- 1) show your interest, and describe your previous experience,
- 2) explain why you would be suitable for the job.

You should write about 100 words on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use "Zhang Wei" instead.

Do not write your address. (10 points)

### Part B

#### 48. Directions:

Write an essay based on the following table. In which, you should

- 1) describe the table and
- 2) give your comments.

You should write at least 150 words.

Write your essay on the ANSWER SHEET. (15 points)

**Average distance in miles travelled per person per year, by mode of travel**

Mode of travel	2,000	2,010
Car	790	1,455
Bus	354	624
Bicycle	51	45
Train	1,143	1,255
Air	192	366
Ship	13	20
Other	420	525
All modes	2,963	4,600



## 解析

### Section I Use of English

#### 文章来源

来源: *The Economist*

节选自: *Thanks, mum*

#### 试题解析

##### 1. 【考点】上下文语义+动词词义辨析

【答案】B

【解析】根据下文的 **a list of those disallowed by registrars...**, 可以判断这里列举的几个名字 Devil, V8, Anal, Christ 都是被禁止的名字。register“注册”; reject“拒绝, 否认”; advocate“提倡”; stress“强调, 重视”。正确答案应该选[B]。

##### 2. 【考点】动词词义辨析

【答案】B

【解析】这里考查和 list 一词搭配的动词。announce 表示“宣布, 通告”, 后面常接的名词是 decision, plan, intention 等。release 可以表示“发布”, 与 list 搭配恰当。claim 做动词表示“宣称”, 往往强调某人自己宣称, 而事实情况不一定与他所说的相符。emit“放出”, 往往指放出“光、热、气体”等。因此, 本题的正确答案应该选[B]。

##### 3. 【考点】形容词词义辨析

【答案】A

【解析】这里考查几个形似的形容词意思的区别。[A] comprehensive 表示“完整的, 完全的”, 和 list 搭配, 意思是“完全的名单”; [B] composite 意思是“混合的, 合成的”; [C] compressive 意思是“压缩的”; [D] compulsory 意思是“义务的, 强制的”。符合句义的是[A]。

##### 4. 【考点】上下文语义+形容词词义辨析

【答案】C

【解析】横线处后面几句话都在讲法律对于名字的管制, 横线处的这句话和后面的语句之间用 yet 连接, 说明是转折关系。因此横线处这句话应该是在强调取名字不该由法律控制, 也就是强调取名字应该是个人的事情。[A] individual 和 [C] personal 都可以表示个人的, 但是 individual 做形容词一定要放在名词前面, 而 personal 作为形容词可以单独作为表语出现, 因此, 本题的正确答案是[C]。

##### 5. 【考点】动词词义辨析

【答案】C

【解析】横线处需要填一个动词的现在分词形式, 做后置定语。rectify 意思是“纠正, 修复”。adjust 意思是“调整”; regulate 意思是“管制, 控制”; amend 意思是“修订, 修改”。将四个词分别填到空格处, 不难发现意思最符合句义的应该是 regulate。laws regulating the choice of both first names and surnames 意思是“管理取名字的法律”。

## 6. 【考点】上下文语义+形容词词义辨析

【答案】B

【解析】横线处后面几句话分别列举了几个国家(Denmark, Portugal, Germany)对于名字的管制。可见横线处这句话所表达的含义应该是“管制名字的法律在全世界并不少见”,正确答案应该选[B],剩下的几个选项 common, universal 和 commonplace 都表示“常见的,普通的”,与句义不符。

## 7. 【考点】动词与介词的搭配

【答案】D

【解析】frown 这个动词表示“皱眉,蹙眉”,表示一种不满的情绪,后面往往和介词 upon/on 搭配,表示“对……不满”。例如,My parents always frown on late nights out. 我父母向来不赞成深夜外出。Even though divorce is legal, it is still frowned upon. 尽管法律上讲离婚是合法的,但是人们还是对它嗤之以鼻。

## 8. 【考点】动词词义辨析

【答案】C

【解析】横线处所在的这一段是在解释政府要干预取名字这件事的原因。第一个原因是要防止孩子们因为名字不好而遭受负面影响。imitate 表示“模仿”;intimidate 表示“恐吓,吓唬”,sb. be intimidated by sth. 表示“某人被……威胁、恐吓”;burden 表示“给……造成负担”,sb. be burdened with sth. 表示“某人承受……负担”;laugh 表示“笑”,后面需要加介词 at 才能表示“嘲笑”。因此最符合句义,语法上也符合要求的词是 burden, [C] 为正确答案。

## 9. 【考点】上下文语义+名词词义辨析

【答案】D

【解析】横线处这句话是政府限制取名字的自由第二条理由。他们想要阻止那些可能会给他人带来\_\_\_\_\_的名字。横线后面这句话举了一个例子,2009年,新泽西州的一对夫妻失去了对他们的孩子的监护权,因为他们给他们的孩子取名叫阿道夫·希特勒。像这样的名字会让他人觉得不适。[A] inconvenience 表示“不便”,cause inconvenience to others 表示“给他人造成不便”,不符合上下文语义;[B] insult 表示“侮辱”,cause insult to others 表示“对他人造成侮辱”,不符合句义;[C] panic 表示“恐慌”,cause panic 表示“造成恐慌”,后面不接 to sb.,如果要加介词往往用 cause panic in。[D] offence 表示“冒犯”,cause offense to sb. 表示“对他人造成冒犯,使他人感到不适”,为正确答案。

## 10. 【考点】根据上下文辨析词义

【答案】D

【解析】上文提到了政府限制名字的一些考虑。横线所在的一段继续讨论这个问题,不过是从另一个侧面来探讨。横线处后面几句话提到了政府的数据库在处理很长的名字的时候往往束手无策,因此必须对名字长度加以限制。由此可以判断,政府限制名字的另外一层考虑就是技术方面的考虑,正确答案应该选[D] Technological。ethical 表示“道德的,伦理的”;philosophical 表示“哲学的”;scientific 表示“科学的”。要注意 science 和 technology 的区分,一个注重理论,一个注重操作。

## 11. 【考点】同义词辨析

【答案】C

【解析】四个选项都有“限制”之意。[A] restraint 和[B] constraint 往往都表示对某种行为的限制,例如,There are no constraints on your choice of subject for the essay. 文章内容不拘,你可任选。The government has imposed restraints on corporate mergers. 政府已经对公司合并的行为加以限制。[C] limit 指“(时间、空间、程度、数量等方面能或允许达到的)最大限度”,文中强调父母给孩子起名字的长度的限制,可以使用 limit 一词。[D] confinement 的意思是“限制在某个空间内”。He has been put in solitary confinement for attacking another prisoner. 他因伤害另一囚犯而被隔离监禁。