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历年真题试卷

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笔记在手, 考研无忧!

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2010 年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语 (二) 试题

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 ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

①The outbreak of swine flu that was first detected in Mexico was declared a global epidemic on June 11, 2009. ②It was the first worldwide epidemic 1 by the World Health Organization in 41 years.

①The heightened alert 2 an emergency meeting with flu experts in Geneva that assembled after a sharp rise in cases in Australia, and rising 3 in Britain, Japan, Chile and elsewhere.

① But the epidemic is "4" in severity, according to Margaret Chan, the organization's director general, 5 the overwhelming majority of patients experiencing only mild symptoms and a full recovery, often in the 6 of any medical treatment.

①The outbreak came to global 7 in late April 2009, when Mexican authorities noticed an unusually large number of hospitalizations and deaths 8 healthy adults. ②As much of Mexico City shut down at the height of a panic, cases began to 9 in New York City, the southwestern United States and around the world.

①In the United States, new cases seemed to fade 10 warmer weather arrived. ②But in late September 2009, officials reported there was 11 flu activity in almost every state and that virtually all the 12 tested are the new swine flu, also known as (A) H1N1, not seasonal flu. ③In the U. S., it has 13 more than one million people, and caused more than 600 deaths and more than 6,000 hospitalizations.

①Federal health officials 14 Tamiflu for children from the national stockpile and began 15 orders from the states for the new swine flu vaccine. ②The new vaccine, which is different from the annual flu vaccine, is 16 ahead of expectation. ③More than three million doses were to be made available in early October 2009, though most of those 17 doses were of the FluMist nasal spray type, which is not 18 for pregnant women, people of 50 or those with breathing difficulties or other 19. ④But it was still possible to vaccinate people, including health-care workers, people 20 infants and healthy young

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. [A] criticized | [B] appointed | [C] commented | [D] designated |
| 2. [A] proceeded | [B] activated | [C] followed | [D] prompted |
| 3. [A] digits | [B] numbers | [C] amounts | [D] sums |

- | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 4. [A] moderate | [B] normal | [C] unusual | [D] extreme |
| 5. [A] with | [B] in | [C] from | [D] by |
| 6. [A] progress | [B] absence | [C] presence | [D] favor |
| 7. [A] reality | [B] phenomenon | [C] concept | [D] notice |
| 8. [A] over | [B] for | [C] among | [D] to |
| 9. [A] stay up | [B] crop up | [C] fill up | [D] cover up |
| 10. [A] as | [B] if | [C] unless | [D] until |
| 11. [A] excessive | [B] enormous | [C] significant | [D] magnificent |
| 12. [A] categories | [B] examples | [C] patterns | [D] samples |
| 13. [A] imparted | [B] immersed | [C] injected | [D] infected |
| 14. [A] released | [B] relayed | [C] relieved | [D] remained |
| 15. [A] placing | [B] delivering | [C] taking | [D] giving |
| 16. [A] feasible | [B] available | [C] reliable | [D] applicable |
| 17. [A] prevalent | [B] principal | [C] innovative | [D] initial |
| 18. [A] presented | [B] restricted | [C] recommended | [D] introduced |
| 19. [A] problems | [B] issues | [C] agonies | [D] sufferings |
| 20. [A] involved in | [B] caring for | [C] concerned with | [D] warding off |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

①The longest bull run in a century of art-market history ended on a dramatic note with a sale of 56 works by Damien Hirst, “*Beautiful Inside My Head Forever*”, at Sotheby’s in London on September 15th 2008. ②All but two pieces sold, fetching more than £70m, a record for a sale by a single artist. ③It was a last victory. ④As the auctioneer called out bids, in New York one of the oldest banks on Wall Street, Lehman Brothers, filed for bankruptcy.

①The world art market had already been losing momentum for a while after rising bewilderingly since 2003. ②At its peak in 2007 it was worth some \$65 billion, reckons Clare McAndrew, founder of Arts Economics, a research firm—double the figure five years earlier. ③Since then it may have come down to \$50 billion. ④But the market generates interest far beyond its size because it brings together great wealth, enormous egos, greed, passion and controversy in a way matched by few other industries.

①In the weeks and months that followed Mr. Hirst’s sale, spending of any sort became deeply unfashionable. ②In the art world that meant collectors stayed away from galleries and salerooms. ③Sales of contemporary art fell by two-thirds, and in the most overheated

sector—for Chinese contemporary art—they were down by nearly 90% in the year to November 2008. ④ Within weeks the world's two biggest auction houses, Sotheby's and Christie's, had to pay out nearly \$200m in guarantees to clients who had placed works for sale with them.

① The current downturn in the art market is the worst since the Japanese stopped buying Impressionists at the end of 1989. ② This time experts reckon that prices are about 40% down on their peak on average, though some have been far more fluctuant. ③ But Edward Dolman, Christie's chief executive, says: "I'm pretty confident we're at the bottom."

① What makes this slump different from the last, he says, is that there are still buyers in the market. ② Almost everyone who was interviewed for this special report said that the biggest problem at the moment is not a lack of demand but a lack of good work to sell. ③ The three Ds—death, debt and divorce—still deliver works of art to the market. ④ But anyone who does not have to sell is keeping away, waiting for confidence to return.

21. In the first paragraph, Damien Hirst's sale was referred to as "a last victory" because _____.
 [A] the art market had witnessed a succession of victories
 [B] the auctioneer finally got the two pieces at the highest bids
 [C] *Beautiful Inside My Head Forever* won over all masterpieces
 [D] it was successfully made just before the world financial crisis
22. By saying "spending of any sort became deeply unfashionable" (Para. 3), the author suggests that _____.
 [A] collectors were no longer actively involved in art-market auctions
 [B] people stopped every kind of spending and stayed away from galleries
 [C] art collection as a fashion had lost its appeal to a great extent
 [D] works of art in general had gone out of fashion so they were not worth buying
23. Which of the following statements is NOT true?
 [A] Sales of contemporary art fell dramatically from 2007 to 2008.
 [B] The art market surpassed many other industries in momentum.
 [C] The art market generally went downward in various ways.
 [D] Some art dealers were awaiting better chances to come.
24. The three Ds mentioned in the last paragraph are _____.
 [A] auction houses' favorites
 [B] contemporary trends
 [C] factors promoting artwork circulation
 [D] styles representing Impressionists
25. The most appropriate title for this text could be _____.
 [A] Fluctuation of Art Prices
 [B] Up-to-date Art Auctions
 [C] Art Market in Decline
 [D] Shifted Interest in Arts

Text 2

①I was addressing a small gathering in a suburban Virginia living room—a women's group that had invited men to join them. ②Throughout the evening, one man had been particularly talkative, frequently offering ideas and anecdotes, while his wife sat silently beside him on the couch. ③Toward the end of the evening, I commented that women frequently complain that their husbands don't talk to them. ④This man quickly nodded in agreement. ⑤He gestured toward his wife and said, "She's the talker in our family." ⑥The room burst into laughter; the man looked puzzled and hurt. ⑦ "It's true," he explained. ⑧ "When I come home from work I have nothing to say. ⑨If she didn't keep the conversation going, we'd spend the whole evening in silence."

①This episode crystallizes the irony that although American men tend to talk more than women in public situations, they often talk less at home. ②And this pattern is wreaking havoc with marriage.

①The pattern was observed by political scientist Andrew Hacker in the late 1970s. ②Sociologist Catherine Kohler Riessman reports in her new book *Divorce Talk* that most of the women she interviewed—but only a few of the men—gave lack of communication as the reason for their divorces. ③Given the current divorce rate of nearly 50 percent, that amounts to millions of cases in the United States every year—a virtual epidemic of failed conversation.

①In my own research, complaints from women about their husbands most often focused not on tangible inequities such as having given up the chance for a career to accompany a husband to his, or doing far more than their share of daily life-support work like cleaning, cooking, social arrangements. ②Instead, they focused on communication: "He doesn't listen to me," "He doesn't talk to me." ③I found, as Hacker observed years before, that most wives want their husbands to be, first and foremost, conversational partners, but few husbands share this expectation of their wives.

①In short, the image that best represents the current crisis is the stereotypical cartoon scene of a man sitting at the breakfast table with a newspaper held up in front of his face, while a woman glares at the back of it, wanting to talk.

26. What is most wives' main expectation of their husbands?

[A] Talking to them.

[B] Trusting them.

[C] Supporting their careers.

[D] Sharing housework.

27. Judging from the context, the phrase "wreaking havoc" (Para. 2) most probably means _____.

[A] generating motivation

[B] exerting influence

[C] causing damage

[D] creating pressure

28. All of the following are true EXCEPT _____.

[A] men tend to talk more in public than women

[B] nearly 50 percent of recent divorces are caused by failed conversation

- [C] women attach much importance to communication between couples
 [D] a female tends to be more talkative at home than her spouse
29. Which of the following can best summarize the main idea of this text?
 [A] The moral decaying deserves more research by sociologists.
 [B] Marriage break-up stems from sex inequalities.
 [C] Husband and wife have different expectations from their marriage.
 [D] Conversational patterns between man and wife are different.
30. In the following part immediately after this text, the author will most probably focus on _____.
 [A] a vivid account of the new book *Divorce Talk*
 [B] a detailed description of the stereotypical cartoon
 [C] other possible reasons for a high divorce rate in the U. S.
 [D] a brief introduction to the political scientist Andrew Hacker

Text 3

①Over the past decade, many companies had perfected the art of creating automatic behaviors—habits—among consumers. ②These habits have helped companies earn billions of dollars when customers eat snacks or wipe counters almost without thinking, often in response to a carefully designed set of daily cues.

① “There are fundamental public health problems, like dirty hands instead of a soap habit, that remain killers only because we can’t figure out how to change people’s habits,” said Dr. Curtis, the director of the Hygiene Center at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. ② “We wanted to learn from private industry how to create new behaviors that happen automatically.”

①The companies that Dr. Curtis turned to—Procter & Gamble, Colgate-Palmolive and Unilever—had invested hundreds of millions of dollars finding the subtle cues in consumers’ lives that corporations could use to introduce new routines.

①If you look hard enough, you’ll find that many of the products we use every day—chewing gums, skin moisturizers, disinfecting wipes, air fresheners, water purifiers, health snacks, teeth whiteners, fabric softeners, vitamins—are results of manufactured habits. ②A century ago, few people regularly brushed their teeth multiple times a day. ③Today, because of shrewd advertising and public health campaigns, many Americans habitually give their pearly whites a cavity-preventing scrub twice a day, often with Colgate, Crest or one of the other brands.

①A few decades ago, many people didn’t drink water outside of a meal. ②Then beverage companies started bottling the production of far-off springs, and now office workers unthinkingly sip bottled water all day long. ③Chewing gum, once bought primarily by adolescent boys, is now featured in commercials as a breath freshener and teeth cleanser for use after a meal. ④Skin moisturizers are advertised as part of morning beauty rituals, slipped

in between hair brushing and putting on makeup.

① “Our products succeed when they become part of daily or weekly patterns,” said Carol Berning, a consumer psychologist who recently retired from Procter & Gamble, the company that sold \$ 76 billion of Tide, Crest and other products last year. ② “Creating positive habits is a huge part of improving our consumers’ lives, and it’s essential to making new products commercially viable.”

① Through experiments and observation, social scientists like Dr. Berning have learned that there is power in tying certain behaviors to habitual cues through ruthless advertising. ② As this new science of habit has emerged, controversies have erupted when the tactics have been used to sell questionable beauty creams or unhealthy foods.

31. According to Dr. Curtis, habits like handwashing with soap _____.
 [A] should be further cultivated [B] should be changed gradually
 [C] are deeply rooted in history [D] are basically private concerns
32. Bottled water, chewing gum and skin moisturizers are mentioned in Paragraph 5 so as to _____.
 [A] reveal their impact on people’s habits
 [B] show the urgent need of daily necessities
 [C] indicate their effect on people’s buying power
 [D] manifest the significant role of good habits
33. Which of the following does NOT belong to products that help create people’s habits?
 [A] Tide. [B] Crest. [C] Colgate. [D] Unilever.
34. From the text we know that some of consumer’s habits are developed due to _____.
 [A] perfected art of products [B] automatic behavior creation
 [C] commercial promotions [D] scientific experiments
35. The author’s attitude toward the influence of advertisement on people’s habits is _____.
 [A] indifferent [B] negative [C] positive [D] biased

Text 4

① Many Americans regard the jury system as a concrete expression of crucial democratic values, including the principles that all citizens who meet minimal qualifications of age and literacy are equally competent to serve on juries; that jurors should be selected randomly from a representative cross section of the community; that no citizen should be denied the right to serve on a jury on account of race, religion, sex, or national origin; that defendants are entitled to trial by their peers; and that verdicts should represent the conscience of the community and not just the letter of the law. ② The jury is also said to be the best surviving example of direct rather than representative democracy. ③ In a direct democracy, citizens take turns governing themselves, rather than electing representatives to govern for them.

① But as recently as in 1968, jury selection procedures conflicted with these democratic ideals. ② In some states, for example, jury duty was limited to persons of supposedly superior

intelligence, education, and moral character. ③ Although the Supreme Court of the United States had prohibited intentional racial discrimination in jury selection as early as the 1880 case of *Strauder v. West Virginia*, the practice of selecting so-called elite or blue-ribbon juries provided a convenient way around this and other anti-discrimination laws.

① The system also failed to regularly include women on juries until the mid-20th century. ② Although women first served on state juries in Utah in 1898, it was not until the 1940s that a majority of states made women eligible for jury duty. ③ Even then several states automatically exempted women from jury duty unless they personally asked to have their names included on the jury list. ④ This practice was justified by the claim that women were needed at home, and it kept juries unrepresentative of women through the 1960s.

① In 1968, the Congress of the United States passed the *Jury Selection and Service Act*, ushering in a new era of democratic reforms for the jury. ② This law abolished special educational requirements for federal jurors and required them to be selected at random from a cross section of the entire community. ③ In the landmark 1975 decision *Taylor v. Louisiana*, the Supreme Court extended the requirement that juries be representative of all parts of the community to the state level. ④ The Taylor decision also declared sex discrimination in jury selection to be unconstitutional and ordered states to use the same procedures for selecting male and female jurors.

36. From the principles of the U. S. jury system, we learn that _____.

- [A] both literate and illiterate people can serve on juries
- [B] defendants are immune from trial by their peers
- [C] no age limit should be imposed for jury service
- [D] judgment should consider the opinion of the public

37. The practice of selecting so-called elite jurors prior to 1968 showed _____.

- [A] the inadequacy of anti-discrimination laws
- [B] the prevalent discrimination against certain races
- [C] the conflicting ideals in jury selection procedures
- [D] the arrogance common among the Supreme Court judges

38. Even in the 1960s, women were seldom on the jury list in some states because _____.

- [A] they were automatically banned by state laws
- [B] they fell far short of the required qualifications
- [C] they were supposed to perform domestic duties
- [D] they tended to evade public engagement

39. After the *Jury Selection and Service Act* was passed, _____.

- [A] sex discrimination in jury selection was unconstitutional and had to be abolished
- [B] educational requirements became less rigid in the selection of federal jurors
- [C] jurors at the state level ought to be representative of the entire community
- [D] states ought to conform to the federal court in reforming the jury system

40. In discussing the U. S. jury system, the text centers on _____.

[A] its nature and problems

[B] its characteristics and tradition

[C] its problems and their solutions

[D] its tradition and development

Part B

Directions:

Read the following text and decide whether each of the statements is true or false. Choose T if the statement is true or F if the statement is not true. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

Copying Birds May Save Aircraft Fuel

①Both Boeing and Airbus have trumpeted the efficiency of their newest aircraft, the 787 and A350 respectively. ②Their clever designs and lightweight composites certainly make a difference. ③But a group of researchers at Stanford University, led by Ilan Kroo, has suggested that airlines could take a more naturalistic approach to cutting jet-fuel use, and it would not require them to buy new aircraft.

①The answer, says Dr Kroo, lies with birds. ②Since 1914, scientists have known that birds flying in formation—a V-shape, echelon or otherwise—expend less energy. ③The air flowing over a bird's wings curls upwards behind the wingtips, a phenomenon known as upwash. ④Other birds flying in the upwash experience reduced drag, and spend less energy propelling themselves. ⑤Peter Lissaman, an aeronautics expert who was formerly at Caltech and the University of Southern California, has suggested that a formation of 25 birds might enjoy a range increase of 71%.

①When applied to aircraft, the principles are not substantially different. ②Dr Kroo and his team modeled what would happen if three passenger jets departing from Los Angeles, San Francisco and Las Vegas were to assemble over Utah, assume an inverted V-formation, occasionally change places so all could have a turn in the most favourable positions, and proceed to London. ③They found that the aircraft consumed as much as 15% less fuel (coupled with a reduction in carbon-dioxide output). ④Nitrogen-oxide emissions during the cruising portions of the flight fell by around a quarter.

①There are, of course, knots to be worked out. ②One consideration is safety, or at least the perception of it. ③Would passengers feel comfortable travelling in companion? ④Dr Kroo points out that the aircraft could be separated by several nautical miles, and would not be in the intimate groupings favoured by display teams like the Red Arrows. ⑤A passenger peering out of the window might not even see the other planes. ⑥Whether the separation distances involved would satisfy air-traffic-control regulations is another matter, although a working group at the International Civil Aviation Organisation has included the possibility of formation flying in a blueprint for new operational guidelines.

①It remains to be seen how weather conditions affect the air flows that make formation flight more efficient. ②In zones of increased turbulence, the planes' wakes will decay more quickly and the effect will diminish. ③Dr Kroo says this is one of the areas his team will investigate further. ④

It might also be hard for airlines to co-ordinate the departure times and destinations of passenger aircraft in a way that would allow them to gain from formation flight. ⑤Cargo aircraft, in contrast, might be easier to reschedule, as might routine military flights.

①As it happens, America's armed forces are on the case already. ②Earlier this year the country's Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency announced plans to pay Boeing to investigate formation flight, though the programme has yet to begin. ③There are reports that some military aircraft flew in formation when they were low on fuel during the second world war, but Dr Lissaman says they are unsubstantiated. ④ "My father was an RAF pilot and my cousin the skipper of a Lancaster lost over Berlin," he adds. ⑤So he should know.

41. Findings of the Stanford University researchers will promote the sales of new Boeing and Airbus aircraft.
42. The upwash experience may save propelling energy as well as reducing resistance.
43. Formation flight is more comfortable because passengers cannot see the other planes.
44. The role that weather plays in formation flight has not yet been clearly defined.
45. It has been documented that during World War II, America's armed forces once tried formation flight to save fuel.

Section III Translation

46. Directions:

Translate the following text from English into Chinese. Write your translation on ANSWER SHEET 2. (15 points)

"Sustainability" has become a popular word these days, but to Ted Ning, the concept will always have personal meaning. Having endured a painful period of unsustainability in his own life made it clear to him that sustainability-oriented values must be expressed through everyday action and choice.

Ning recalls spending a confusing year in the late 1990s selling insurance. He'd been through the dot-com boom and burst and, desperate for a job, signed on with a Boulder agency.

It didn't go well. "It was a really bad move because that's not my passion," says Ning, whose dilemma about the job translated, predictably, into a lack of sales. "I was miserable, I had so much anxiety that I would wake up in the middle of the night and stare at the ceiling. I had no money and needed the job. Everyone said, 'Just wait, you'll turn the corner, give it some time.' "

Section IV Writing

Part A

47. Directions:

You have just come back from the U. S. as a member of a Sino-American cultural exchange

program. Write a letter to your American colleague to

- 1) express your thanks for his/her warm reception;
- 2) welcome him/her to visit China in due course.

You should write about 100 words on ANSWER SHEET 2.

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:

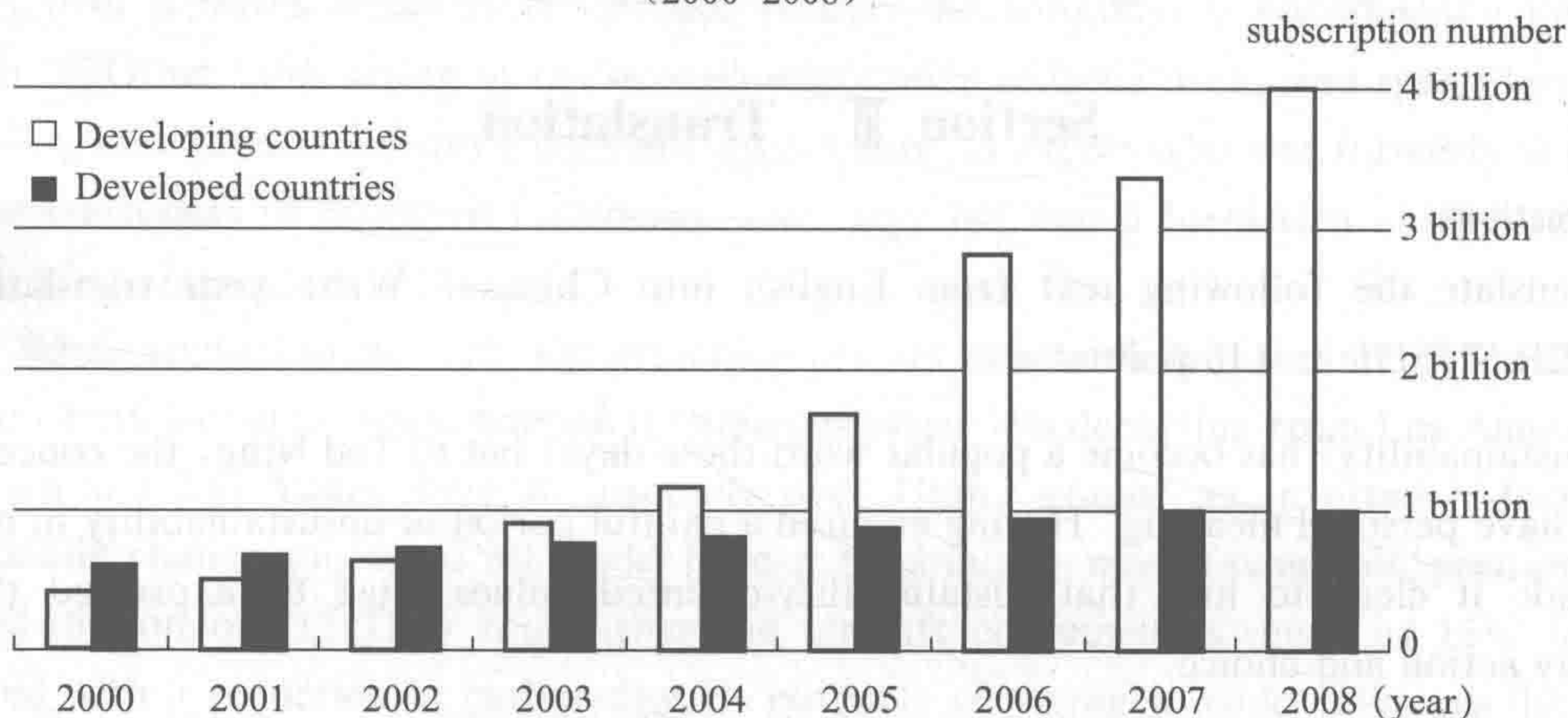
In this section, you are asked to write an essay based on the following chart. In your writing, you should

- 1) interpret the chart, and
- 2) give your comments.

You should write at least 150 words.

Write your essay on ANSWER SHEET 2. (15 points)

Mobile-phone Subscriptions
(2000–2008)



2011 年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语 (二) 试题

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 ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

①The Internet affords anonymity to its users, a blessing to privacy and freedom of speech. ②But that very anonymity is also behind the explosion of cyber-crime that has 1 across the Web.

①Can privacy be preserved 2 bringing safety and security to a world that seems increasingly 3?

①Last month, Howard Schmidt, the nation's cyber-czar, offered the federal government a 4 to make the Web a safer place—a “voluntary trusted identity” system that would be the high-tech 5 of a physical key, a fingerprint and a photo ID card, all rolled 6 one.

②The system might use a smart identity card, or a digital credential 7 to a specific computer, and would authenticate users at a range of online services.

①The idea is to 8 a federation of private online identity systems. ②Users could 9 which system to join, and only registered users whose identities have been authenticated could navigate those systems. ③The approach contrasts with one that would require an Internet driver's license 10 by the government.

①Google and Microsoft are among companies that already have these “single sign-on” systems that make it possible for users to 11 just once but use many different services.

①12, the approach would create a “walled garden” in cyberspace, with safe “neighborhoods” and bright “streetlights” to establish a sense of a 13 community.

①Mr. Schmidt described it as a “voluntary ecosystem” in which “individuals and organizations can complete online transactions with 14, trusting the identities of each other and the identities of the infrastructure 15 which the transaction runs”.

①Still, the administration's plan has 16 privacy rights activists. ②Some applaud the approach; others are concerned. ③It seems clear that such a scheme is an initiative push toward what would 17 be a compulsory Internet “driver's license” mentality.

①The plan has also been greeted with 18 by some computer security experts, who worry that the “voluntary ecosystem” envisioned by Mr. Schmidt would still leave much of the Internet 19. ②They argue that all Internet users should be 20 to register and identify themselves, in the same way that drivers must be licensed to drive on public roads.

1. [A] swept [B] skipped [C] walked [D] ridden

- | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 2. [A] for | [B] within | [C] while | [D] though |
| 3. [A] careless | [B] lawless | [C] pointless | [D] helpless |
| 4. [A] reason | [B] reminder | [C] compromise | [D] proposal |
| 5. [A] information | [B] interference | [C] entertainment | [D] equivalent |
| 6. [A] by | [B] into | [C] from | [D] over |
| 7. [A] linked | [B] directed | [C] chained | [D] compared |
| 8. [A] dismiss | [B] discover | [C] create | [D] improve |
| 9. [A] recall | [B] suggest | [C] select | [D] realize |
| 10. [A] released | [B] issued | [C] distributed | [D] delivered |
| 11. [A] carry on | [B] linger on | [C] set in | [D] log in |
| 12. [A] In vain | [B] In effect | [C] In return | [D] In contrast |
| 13. [A] trusted | [B] modernized | [C] thriving | [D] competing |
| 14. [A] caution | [B] delight | [C] confidence | [D] patience |
| 15. [A] on | [B] after | [C] beyond | [D] across |
| 16. [A] divided | [B] disappointed | [C] protected | [D] united |
| 17. [A] frequently | [B] incidentally | [C] occasionally | [D] eventually |
| 18. [A] skepticism | [B] tolerance | [C] indifference | [D] enthusiasm |
| 19. [A] manageable | [B] defensible | [C] vulnerable | [D] invisible |
| 20. [A] invited | [B] appointed | [C] allowed | [D] forced |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

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

Text 1

①Ruth Simmons joined Goldman Sachs' board as an outside director in January 2000; a year later she became president of Brown University. ②For the rest of the decade she apparently managed both roles without attracting much criticism. ③But by the end of 2009 Ms. Simmons was under fire for having sat on Goldman's compensation committee; how could she have let those enormous bonus payouts pass unremarked? ④By February the next year Ms. Simmons had left the board. ⑤The position was just taking up too much time, she said.

①Outside directors are supposed to serve as helpful, yet less biased, advisers on a firm's board. ②Having made their wealth and their reputations elsewhere, they presumably have enough independence to disagree with the chief executive's proposals. ③If the sky, and the share price, is falling, outside directors should be able to give advice based on having weathered their own crises.

①The researchers from Ohio University used a database that covered more than 10,000

firms and more than 64,000 different directors between 1989 and 2004. ②Then they simply checked which directors stayed from one proxy statement to the next. ③The most likely reason for departing a board was age, so the researchers concentrated on those “surprise” disappearances by directors under the age of 70. ④They found that after a surprise departure, the probability that the company will subsequently have to restate earnings increased by nearly 20%. ⑤The likelihood of being named in a federal class-action lawsuit also increases, and the stock is likely to perform worse. ⑥The effect tended to be larger for larger firms. ⑦Although a correlation between them leaving and subsequent bad performance at the firm is suggestive, it does not mean that such directors are always jumping off a sinking ship. ⑧Often they “trade up”, leaving riskier, smaller firms for larger and more stable firms.

①But the researches believe that outside directors have an easier time of avoiding a blow to their reputations if they leave a firm before bad news break, even if a review of history shows that they were on the board at the time any wrongdoing occurred. ②Firms who want to keep their outside directors through tough times may have to create incentives. ③Otherwise outside directors will follow the example of Ms. Simmons, once again very popular on campus.

21. According to Paragraph 1, Ms. Simmons was criticized for _____.
 [A] gaining excessive profits [B] failing to fulfill her duty
 [C] refusing to make compromises [D] leaving the board in tough times
22. We learn from Paragraph 2 that outside directors are supposed to be _____.
 [A] generous investors [B] unbiased executives
 [C] share price forecasters [D] independent advisers
23. According to the researchers from Ohio University, after an outside director's surprise departure, the firm is likely to _____.
 [A] become more stable [B] report increased earnings
 [C] do less well in the stock market [D] perform worse in lawsuits
24. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that outside directors _____.
 [A] may stay for the attractive offers from the firm
 [B] have often had records of wrongdoings in the firm
 [C] are accustomed to stress-free work in the firm
 [D] will decline incentives from the firm
25. The author's attitude toward the role of outside directors is _____.
 [A] permissive [B] positive [C] scornful [D] critical

Text 2

①Whatever happened to the death of newspapers? ②A year ago the end seemed near. ③The recession threatened to remove the advertising and readers that had not already fled to the Internet. ④Newspapers like the *San Francisco Chronicle* were chronicling their own doom. ⑤America's Federal Trade commission launched a round of talks about how to save

newspapers. ⑥ Should they become charitable corporations? ⑦ Should the state subsidize them? ⑧ It will hold another meeting soon. ⑨ But the discussions now seem out of date.

① In much of the world there is little sign of crisis. ② German and Brazilian papers have shrugged off the recession. ③ Even American newspapers, which inhabit the most troubled corner of the global industry, have not only survived but often returned to profit. ④ Not the 20% profit margins that were routine a few years ago, but profit all the same.

① It has not been much fun. ② Many papers stayed afloat by pushing journalists overboard. ③ The American Society of News Editors reckons that 13,500 newsroom jobs have gone since 2007. ④ Readers are paying more for slimmer products. ⑤ Some papers even had the nerve to refuse delivery to distant suburbs. ⑥ Yet these desperate measures have proved the right ones and, sadly for many journalists, they can be pushed further.

① Newspapers are becoming more balanced businesses, with a healthier mix of revenues from readers and advertisers. ② American papers have long been highly unusual in their reliance on ads. ③ Fully 87% of their revenues came from advertising in 2008, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD). ④ In Japan the proportion is 35%. ⑤ Not surprisingly, Japanese newspapers are much more stable.

① The whirlwind that swept through newsrooms harmed everybody, but much of the damage has been concentrated in areas where newspapers are least distinctive. ② Car and film reviewers have gone. ③ So have science and general business reporters. ④ Foreign bureaus have been savagely cut off. ⑤ Newspapers are less complete as a result. ⑥ But completeness is no longer a virtue in the newspaper business.

26. By saying "Newspapers like... their own doom" (Para. 1), the author indicates that newspapers _____.

- [A] neglected the sign of crisis [B] failed to get state subsidies
[C] were not charitable corporations [D] were in a desperate situation

27. Some newspapers refused delivery to distant suburbs probably because _____.

- [A] readers threatened to pay less
[B] newspapers wanted to reduce costs
[C] journalists reported little about these areas
[D] subscribers complained about slimmer products

28. Compared with their American counterparts, Japanese newspapers are much more stable because they _____.

- [A] have more sources of revenue [B] have more balanced newsrooms
[C] are less dependent on advertising [D] are less affected by readership

29. What can be inferred from the last paragraph about the current newspaper business?

- [A] Distinctiveness is an essential feature of newspapers.
[B] Completeness is to blame for the failure of newspaper.
[C] Foreign bureaus play a crucial role in the newspaper business.
[D] Readers have lost their interest in car and film reviews.

30. The most appropriate title for this text would be _____.

- [A] American Newspapers: Struggling for Survival
- [B] American Newspapers: Gone with the Wind
- [C] American Newspapers: A Thriving Business
- [D] American Newspapers: A Hopeless Story

Text 3

①We tend to think of the decades immediately following World War II as a time of prosperity and growth, with soldiers returning home by the millions, going off to college on the *G. I. Bill* and lining up at the marriage bureaus.

①But when it came to their houses, it was a time of common sense and a belief that less could truly be more. ②During the Depression and the war, Americans had learned to live with less, and that restraint, in combination with the postwar confidence in the future, made small, efficient housing positively stylish.

①Economic condition was only a stimulus for the trend toward efficient living. ②The phrase “less is more” was actually first popularized by a German, the architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, who like other people associated with the Bauhaus, a school of design, emigrated to the United States before World War II and took up posts at American architecture schools. ③These designers came to exert enormous influence on the course of American architecture, but none more so than Mies.

①Mies’s signature phrase means that less decoration, properly organized, has more impact than a lot. ②Elegance, he believed, did not derive from abundance. ③Like other modern architects, he employed metal, glass and laminated wood—materials that we take for granted today but that in the 1940s symbolized the future. ④Mies’s sophisticated presentation masked the fact that the spaces he designed were small and efficient, rather than big and often empty.

①The apartments in the elegant towers Mies built on Chicago’s Lake Shore Drive, for example, were smaller—two-bedroom units under 1,000 square feet—than those in their older neighbors along the city’s Gold Coast. ②But they were popular because of their airy glass walls, the views they afforded and the elegance of the buildings’ details and proportions, the architectural equivalent of the abstract art so popular at the time.

①The trend toward “less” was not entirely foreign. ②In the 1930s Frank Lloyd Wright started building more modest and efficient houses—usually around 1,200 square feet—than the spreading two-storey ones he had designed in the 1890s and the early 20th century.

①The “Case Study Houses” commissioned from talented modern architects by *California Arts & Architecture* magazine between 1945 and 1962 were yet another homegrown influence on the “less is more” trend. ②Aesthetic effect came from the landscape, new materials and forthright detailing. ③In his Case Study House, Ralph Rapson may have mispredicted just how the mechanical revolution would impact everyday life—few American families acquired