美英报刊阅读教程
(高级本)
教学参考手册

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Lesson 1

Answers to the Questions

Ⅴ. C A B A A

Ⅵ.

1. One reason listed by critics is that immigration has imposed a financial burden on the state. The other one is that it will overcrowd and Balkanize America with, eventually, most of its people of non-European origin.
2. According to immigration advocates, new comers have injected energy, ambition and fresh ideas. Immigration has helped to bring about economic revival. Small, flexible firms and the self-employed—areas in which immigrants excel—have led the way.
3. It found no evidence that increased immigration leads to higher unemployment. The study showed that in the ten American states with the lowest concentration of immigrants, the typical unemployment rate was nearly a third higher than in the ten states with the most immigration.
4. Between 1810 and 1960, more than 80% of immigrants came from Europe.
5. The author thinks that immigration itself is not wrong. The de-

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sire of today's immigrants is the same as that of past generations —to realize the American Dream. Welfare policy is to blame for the rising cost. The U. S. should adjust its immigration policy and follow Canada in placing greater emphasis on skills as a criterion for entry.

Outline

I. Issue of immigration

(1—3)

a. The most divisive issue

b. An issue cutting across party lines

c. The most popular destination for illegal immigrants

II. Two sides' views

(4—6)

a. Critics' view

b. Advocates' view

III. Americans' attitude towards immigration

(7—9)

a. Majority's wish for a decrease of immigrants

b. Historical hostility towards new immigrants

IV. Focuses of controversy concerning present immigrants

(10—13)

a. On the number

b. On the origin

c. On the issues of optimum population size, new comers' commitment to America and its values

d. On the job skills

Ⅴ. Author's view

(14)

a. Adjusting immigration policy by laying greater emphasis on job skill

b. Immigrants' sole desire—to be part of the American Dream

Lesson 2

Answers to the Questions

Ⅴ. B A A A D

Ⅵ.

1. Because they are pragmatic and resourceful in money matters. They not only work hard to earn more money, but also save for retirement, make investment and hedge against the unexpected.
2. The first grim reality is that in about 30 years, just as the first of this age group step into retirement, the traditional Society Security System won't be able to support them. The second one is the decreased job security today. The third one is that they carry more debt at their age than any other generation had. All these factors force them to pay more attention to money matters.
3. Matures are "savers" whereas Xers are "hedgers". Matures saved what they could so that their children might have more comfortable lives. But Xers do not have such an expectation. Their different attitudes toward money were shaped by the circumstances surrounding the youth. Aftereffects of the Depression and World War Ⅱ forced the Matures to be self-sacrifi-

cing and frugal. Xers experienced many uncertainties and crises: the savings-and-loan debacle of the '80s, recession of the early '90s and parents' divorce. All these experiences have helped them to develop pragmatism and the habit of protecting against the expected.

4. Because this generation is more interested and better versed in investment. A study by Amex shows that they take more risks on technology stocks.
5. They are more eager to earn money through hard work and more interested in starting up their own businesses for profits.
6. No. they are spending money to make the time before retirement a pleasure. They spend more money than Boomers did in the same span on stereos, cellphones, beepers, all new VW Jettas and GMC Sunfires.

Outline

Ⅰ. News Lead: general description of Gen-X

(1—2)

Definition: age span; total number; focus on money; buying power

Ⅱ. Reasons for Xers' focus on money

(3—7)

a. Survival instinct
b. Early awareness of the unsafe cover of the social security system
c. Faced with decreased job security

d. Burdened with heavy debt

III. Measures taken to prepare for the future (8—24)

a. Saving for retirement

b. Hedging against the unexpected

c. Investing in stocks

Taking more risks on technology stocks

Drawing more attention from investment firms

Showing more interest in forming clubs

d. Money-first work ethic

More willing to work hard, take more job offers

More interested in starting up their own businesses

More preoccupied with money-making

IV. Greater purchasing power (25—26)

a. Buying more stereos, cellphones and beepers

b. Buying almost half of all new VW Jettas and GMC Sunfires

Lesson 3

Answers to the Questions

Ⅴ. D B A D A

Ⅵ.

1. No, she did not get the care promised by the nursing home. She was deprived of sunlight. The staff ignored her calls for help or pain-killers. She had a serious bedsore on the left hip, which turned into a gaping wound.
2. No. It is an extensive problem. Many lawsuits have been filed against nursing homes across the United States.
3. He found the percentage by studying the death certificates of all Californians who died in nursing homes from 1986 through 1993.
4. They regularly get government funds, taxpayers' money. However they fail to provide the service as they are paid to.
5. The main reasons run as follows: They are understaffed and underregulated. The Federal Government doesn't dictate staffing levels, and state efforts at regulating quality are meager. With 2 of every 3 dollars spent by nursing homes going to payrolls, the most tempting way to increase profits is to cut personnel.

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6. The nursing home argued that maggots are good for eating away dead tissue inside a wound. The state hearing officer agreed with the nursing home and threw out the fine.

Outline

I. Specific case of Bessie Seday
(1—2)

II. Pervasive neglect in nursing homes
(3—5)

Nursing homes' neglect in Chicago, Detroit, Texas and California

III. Serious Extent of Neglect
(6—8)

a. Deaths resulting from neglect
b. Common problems: malnutrition and festering wounds

IV. Death certificates serving as proof of neglect
(9—11)

a. Swan's finding through reviewing death certificates
b. More findings about premature deaths through applying Swan's idea

V. Reasons for the neglect
(12)

Understaffing; underregulation

VI. Creekside's problems
(13—22)

a. Lawsuits against the nursing home

b. The nursing home's good appearance and nice promises

c. Real problems: neglect in feeding, and hygiene; physical restraints

Ⅶ. Federal Government's responses

(23—28)

a. Laws concerning nursing home care

b. Ways to punish nursing homes for frauds

c. Government's leniency in enforcing the laws and punishing nursing homes

Ⅷ. Author's view

(29—30)

a. State inspector's effort to justify the maggot problem

b. More to fear

Lesson 4

Answers to the Questions

IV. B A C B D

V.

1. They found those Korean-Americans isolated and helpless, and recognized the attacks as a threat to Asians as a whole. For many Asian-Americans, the riots represented as an assault on their faith in America.
2. The total population of Asian-Americans is about 7.3 million. Nearly 2.5 million arrived during the 1980s. The fastest increasing groups are Koreans and Vietnamese. About half of Asian immigrants settle on the Pacific coast while hundreds of thousands move on to New York and dozens of cities in between.
3. They were brought to the United States in the 1860s to work on continental railroads as coolies. They were ill-treated and vilified as a "population befouled with all the social vices". In 1887, there occurred the Snake River Massacre in Oregon, in which 31 Chinese were robbed and murdered.
4. Asian families earn an average of $35,900 per year, more than the average for white families. However, as the Asian

family is larger, their per capita income is actually less than that of white people.

5. They are called the“ model minority ”because of their superiority to other races in habits of study and work. They are said to embody the American Dream of hard work, thrift and success. Asians, however, rebel against the model-minority label as another insidious stereotype. They think that it is a subtly racist excuse not to help underprivileged Asians and to hold back even average Asians on the ground that they already have“ natural ”advantages.
6. Because they believe that Asian-Americans have accepted the white mainstream culture and white people love them for everything the blacks are not.
7. They are making great efforts to preserve and acquire the Asian culture by improving their original language proficiency, attacking the model minority image and Asians who forget their original culture.
8. The main obstacles are skin color and lack of English proficiency.
9. The Indo-Chinese group is most noted for street gang activities. The main cause is unemployment.
10. The ties within each small Asian group are close and family connections are strong. A key link in the system is rotating credit association. However, many Asians lack a larger sense of unity and bring ancient rivalries from native countries. Most Asian support groups are based on nationality or

even smaller units.

Outline

Ⅰ. Impact of the Los Angeles riots
(1—2)

a. Korean sufferings and helpless state
b. Assault on Asian-Americans' faith in America

Ⅱ. Racial bias against Asian-Americans
(3—7)

a. Asian immigrants' uglified image in the past
b. Present model-minority label and its harmful effects
c. Resentment against Asians for their success and behavior
d. Asians' isolation from the rest of the society
e. Boycotts and assaults on Asian businesses

Ⅲ. American culture's influence
(8—12)

a. Fast increase of Asian immigrants wishing to realize the A-merican Dream
b. Second generation's tendency to abandon Asian values
c. Identity crisis resulting from two cultures' pull
d. Young people's efforts to preserve the original culture
e. The least assimilated group: Chinatown residents

Ⅳ. Discrimination against Asians
(13—16)

a. Hurdles for assimilation
b. Glass ceiling

c. Unemployment

Ⅴ. Similarities and differences between Asians and Blacks (18—21)

a. Similar sufferings

b. Similar spiritualities

c. Asian-Americans' less difficulty in shrugging off the legacy of discrimination

d. First-generation Asian immigrants' incredibly hardworking and thrifty character

Ⅵ. Asians' ties and political status (19—24)

a. Close community ties

b. Lack of a larger sense of unity

c. Underrepresentation at all government levels

Ⅶ. Author's view concerning the development of Asians' sentiment (25)

Unlikely to become a wider political movement

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