

第四章　阅读理解 230 题

Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage:

〔1〕 A *breakthrough* (**突破**) in the provision of energy from the sun for the European Economic Community (EEC) could be brought forward by up to two decades, if a modest increase could be provided in the EEC's research effort in this field, according to the senior EEC scientists engaged in experiments in solar energy at EEC's scientific laboratories at Ispra, near Milan.

〔2〕 The senior West German scientist in charge of the community's solar energy program, Mr. Joachim Gretz, told journalists that at present levels of research spending it was most unlikely that solar energy would provide as much as three percent of the Community's energy requirements even after the year 2000. But he said that with a modest increase in the present sums, devoted by the EEC to this work it was possible that the breakthrough could be achieved by the end of the next decade.

〔3〕 Mr. Gretz calculates that if solar energy only provided three per cent of the EEC's needs, this could still produce a saving of about a billion pounds in the present bill for imported energy each year. And he believes that with the possibility of utilizing more advanced technology in this field it might be possible to satisfy a much bigger share of the Community's future energy needs.

〔4〕 At present the EEC spends about $2.6 millions a year on solar research at Ispra, one of the EEC's official joint research centers, and another $3 millions a year in indirect research with universities and other independent bodies.

1. The underlined phrase "be brought forward" (Para. 1) most probably means _____.
   [A] be advanced　　[B] be completed
   [C] be expected　　[D] be introduced

2. Scientists believe that a breakthrough in the use of solar energy depends on _____.
   [A] advanced technology　　[B] further experiments
   [C] sufficient funding　　[D] well-equipped laboratories

3. According to Mr. Gretz, the present sum of money will enable the scientists to provide _____.
   [A] less than 3% of the EEC's needs before the year 2000
   [B] 3% of the EEC's needs before the year 2000
   [C] a little more than 3% of the EEC's needs after the year 2000
   [D] only 3% of the EEC's needs even after the year 2000

4. Which of the following is NOT true according to the passage?

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[A] the desired breakthrough could be obtained by the end of the next decade if investment were increased.

[B] At the present level of research spending, it is difficult to make any significant progress in the provision of energy from the sun.

[C] The EEC spends one billion pounds on imported energy each year.

[D] The total yearly spending of the EEC on solar energy research amounted to almost 6 million dollars.

5. The application of advanced technology to research in solar energy _____.

[A] would lead to a big increase in research funding

[B] would make it unnecessary to import oil

[C] would make it possible to meet the future energy needs of the EEC

[D] would provide a much greater proportion of the Community's future energy needs

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage:

〔1〕 A rapid means of long-distance transportation became a necessity for the United States as *settlement* (**新拓居地**) spread ever farther westward. The early trains were impractical curiosities, and for a long time the railroad companies met with troublesome mechanical problems. The most serious ones were the construction of rails able to bear the load, and the development of a safe, effective stopping system. Once these were solved, the railroad was established as the best means of land transportation. By 1860 there were thousands of miles of railroads crossing the eastern mountain ranges and reaching westward to the Mississippi. There were also regional southern and western lines.

〔2〕 The high point in railroad building came with the construction of the first transcontinental system. In 1862 Congress authorized two western railroad companies to build lines from Nebraska westward and from California eastward to a meeting point, so as to complete a transcontinental crossing linking the Atlantic seaboard with the Pacific. The Government helped the railroads generously with money and land. Actual work on this project began four years later. The Central Pacific Company, starting from California, used Chinese labor, while the Union Pacific employed crews of Irish laborers. The two groups worked at remarkable speed, each trying to cover a greater distance than the other. In 1869 they met at a place called Promontory in what is now the state of Utah. Many visitors came there for the great occasion. There were joyous celebrations all over the country, with parades and the ringing of church bells to honor the great achievement.

〔3〕 The railroad was very important in encouraging westward movement. It also helped build up industry and farming by moving raw materials and by distributing products rapidly to distant markets. In linking towns and people to one another it helped unify the United States.

6. The major problems with America's railroad system in the mid 19th century lay in _____.

[A] lack of financial support for development

[B] poor quality rails and unreliable stopping systems

[C] limited railroad lines

[D] lack of a transcontinental railroad

7. The building of the first transcontinental system _____.

[A] brought about a rapid growth of industry and farming in the west

[B] attracted many visitors to the construction sites

[C] attracted laborers from Europe

[D] encouraged people to travel all over the country

8. The best title for this passage would be _____.

[A] Settlements Spread Westward

[B] The Importance of Railroads in the American Economy

[C] American Railroad History

[D] The Coast-to-Coast Railroad: A Vital Link

9. The construction of the transcontinental railroad took _____.

[A] 3 years　　[B] 4 years

[C] 7 years　　[D] 9 years

10. What most likely made people think about a transcontinental railroad?

[A] The possibility of government support for such a task.

[B] The need to explore Utah.

[C] The need to develop the railroad industry in the west.

[D] The need to connect the east coast with the west.

Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage:

〈1〉 Americans are proud of their variety and individuality, yet they love and respect few things more than a uniform, whether it is the uniform of an elevator operator or the uniform of a five-star general. Why are uniforms so popular in the United States?

〈2〉 Among the arguments for uniforms, one of the first is that in the eyes of most people they look more professional than *civilian* (**百姓的**) clothes. People have become conditioned to expect superior quality from a man who wears a uniform. The television repairman who wears a uniform tends to inspire more trust than one who appears in civilian clothes. Faith in the skill of a garage mechanic is increased by a uniform. What easier way is there for a nurse, a policeman, a barber, or a waiter to lose professional *identity* (**身份**) than to step out of uniform?

〈3〉 Uniforms also have many practical benefits. They save on other clothes. They save on laundry bills. They are *tax-deductible* (**可减税的**). They are often more comfortable and more durable than civilian clothes.

〈4〉 Primary among the arguments against uniforms is their lack of variety and the consequent loss of individuality experienced by people who must wear them. Though there are many types of u-

niforms, the wearer of any particular type is generally stuck with it, without change, until retirement. When people look alike, they tend to think, speak, and act similarly, on the job at least.

〔5〕 Uniforms also give rise to some practical problems. Though they are long-lasting, often their initial expense is greater than the cost of civilian clothes. Some uniforms are also expensive to maintain, requiring professional dry cleaning rather than the home laundering possible with many types of civilian clothes.

11. It is surprising that Americans who worship variety and individuality _____.
[A] still judge a man by his clothes
[B] hold the uniform in such high regard
[C] enjoy having a professional identity
[D] will respect an elevator operator as much as a general in uniform

12. People are accustomed to think that a man in uniform _____.
[A] suggests quality work　　[B] discards his social identity
[C] appears to be more practical　　[D] looks superior to a person in civilian clothes

13. The chief function of a uniform is to _____.
[A] provide practical benefits to the wearer　　[B] make the wearer catch the public eye
[C] inspire the wearer's confidence in himself　　[D] provide the wearer with a professional identity

14. According to the passage, people wearing uniforms _____.
[A] are usually helpful　　[B] have little or no individual freedom
[C] tend to lose their individuality　　[D] enjoy greater popularity

15. The best title for this passage would be _____.
[A] Uniforms and Society　　[B] The Importance of Wearing a Uniform
[C] Practical Benefits of Wearing a Uniform　　[D] Advantages and Disadvantages of Uniforms

Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following passage:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

17. On roads painted with chevrons, drivers tend to feel that _____.
[A] they should avoid speed-related hazards　[B] they are driving in the wrong lane
[C] they should slow down their speed　[D] they are approaching the speed limit

18. The advantage of chevrons over straight, horizontal bars is that the former _____.
[A] can keep drivers awake　[B] can cut road accidents in half
[C] will have a longer effect on drivers　[D] will look more attractive

19. The American Automobile Association Foundation for Traffic Safety plans to _____.
[A] try out the Japanese method in certain areas　[B] change the road signs across the country
[C] replace straight, horizontal bars with chevrons　[D] repeat the Japanese road patterns

20. What does the author say about straight, horizontal bars painted across roads?
[A] They are falling out of use in the United States.
[B] They tend to be ignored by drivers in a short period of time.
[C] They are applicable only on broad roads.
[D] They cannot be applied successfully to traffic circles.

Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following passage:

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

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

〔3〕 Two portions of the total market were targeted: 1) anxious fliers—those concerned with

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

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

21. What's the author's purpose in writing this passage?
    [A] To show the inability of trains to compete with planes with respect to speed and convenience.
    [B] To stress the influence of the automobile on America's standard of convenience.
    [C] To emphasize the function of travel agencies in market promotion.
    [D] To illustrate the important role of persuasive communication in changing consumer's attitudes.

22. It can be inferred from the passage that the drop in Amtrak ridership was due to the fact that _____.
    [A] trains were not suitable for short distance passenger transportation
    [B] trains were not the fastest and most convenient form of transportation
    [C] trains were not as fast and convenient as they used to be
    [D] trains could not compete with planes in terms of luxury and convenience

23. To encourage consumers to travel by train, DDB Needham emphasized _____.
    [A] the freedom and convenience provided on trains
    [B] the practical aspects of train travel
    [C] the adventurous aspects of train trips
    [D] the safety and cleanliness of train trips

24. The train ads were placed among family-oriented TV programs involving nature and America because _____.
    [A] they could focus on meaningful travel experiences
    [B] they could increase the effectiveness of the TV programs
    [C] their profits could be increased by some 15 percent
    [D] most travel-lovers and nervous fliers were believed to be among the audiences

25. According to the passage, the Empire Builder enjoyed an increase in ridership and profits because _____.



[A] the attractiveness of its name and route was effectively advertised

[B] it provided an exciting travel experience

[C] its passengers could enjoy the great western outdoors

[D] it was widely advertised in newspapers and magazines in Chicago and Seattle

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage:

〔1〕 Engineering students are supposed to be examples of practicality and rationality, but when it comes to my college education I am an idealist and a fool. In high school I wanted to be an electrical engineer and, of course, any sensible student with my aims would have chosen a college with a large engineering department, famous reputation and lots of good labs and research equipment. But that's not what I did.

〔2〕 I chose to study engineering at a small *liberal-arts*(**文科**) university that doesn't even offer a major in electrical engineering. Obviously, this was not a practical choice; I came here for more noble reasons. I wanted a broad education that would provide me with flexibility and a value system to guide me in my career. I wanted to open my eyes and expand my vision by interacting with people who weren't studying science or engineering. My parents, teachers and other adults praised me for such a sensible choice. They told me I was wise and mature beyond my 18 years, and I believed them.

〔3〕 I headed off to college sure I was going to have an advantage over those students who went to big engineering "factories" where they didn't care if you had values or were flexible. I was going to be a complete engineer: technical genius and sensitive *humanist*(**人文学者**) all in one.

〔4〕 Now I'm not so sure. Somewhere along the way my noble ideals crashed into reality, as all noble ideals eventually do. After three years of struggling to balance math, physics and engineering courses with liberal arts courses, I have learned there are reasons why few engineering students try to *reconcile*(**协调**) engineering with liberal-arts courses in college.

〔5〕 The reality that has blocked my path to become the typical successful student is that engineering and the liberal arts simply don't mix as easily as I assumed in high school. Individually they shape a person in very different ways; together they threaten to confuse. The struggle to reconcile the two fields of study is difficult.

26. The author chose to study engineering at a small liberal-arts university because he _____.

[A] intended to be a sensible student with noble ideals

[B] wanted to be an example of practicality and rationality

[C] intended to be a combination of engineer and humanist

[D] wanted to coordinate engineering with liberal-arts courses in college

27. According to the author, by interacting with people who study liberal arts, engineering students can _____.

[A] broaden their horizons　　[B] become noble idealists



[C] receive guidance in their careers　　[D] balance engineering and the liberal arts

28. In the eyes of the author, a successful engineering student is expected _____.

[A] to be imaginative with a value system to guide him

[B] to be a technical genius with a wide vision

[C] to have an excellent academic record

[D] to be wise and mature

29. The author's experience shows that he was _____.

[A] creative　　[B] irrational

[C] ambitious　　[D] unrealistic

30. The underlined word "they" in "… together they threaten to confuse." (Para. 5) refers to _____.

[A] practicality and rationality　　[B] engineering and the liberal arts

[C] reality and noble ideals　　[D] flexibility and a value system

Questions 31 to are 35 are based on the following passage:

〔1〕 Brazil has become one of the developing world's great successes at reducing population growth—but more by accident than design. While countries such as India have made joint efforts to reduce birth rates, Brazil has had better result without really trying, says George Martine at Harvard.

〔2〕 Brazil's population growth rate has dropped from 2.99% a year between 1951 and 1960 to 1.93% a year between 1981 and 1990, and Brazilian women now have only 2.7 children on average. Martine says this figure may have fallen still further since 1990, an achievement that makes it the envy of many other Third World countries.

〔3〕 Martine puts it down to, among other things, *soap operas* (**通俗电视连续剧**) and *installment* (**分期付款**) plans introduced in the 1970s. Both played an important, although indirect, role in lowering the birth rate. Brazil is one of the world's biggest producers of soap operas. Globo, Brazil's most popular television network, shows three hours of soaps six nights a week, while three others show at least one hour a night. Most soaps are based on wealthy characters living the high life in big cities.

〔4〕 "Although they have never really tried to work in a message towards the problems of reproduction, they describe middle and upper class values—not many children, different attitudes towards sex, women working," says Martine. "They sent this image to all parts of Brazil and made people conscious of other patterns of behavior and other values, which were put into a very attractive package."

〔5〕 Meanwhile, the installment plans tried to encourage the poor to become consumers. "This led to an enormous change in consumption patterns and consumption was *incompatible* (**不相容的**) with unlimited reproduction," says Martine.

31. According to the passage, Brazil has cut back its population growth _____.
[A] by educating its citizens　　[B] by developing TV programmes
[C] by careful family planning　　[D] by chance

32. According to the passage, many Third World countries _____.
[A] haven't attached much importance to birth control
[B] would soon join Brazil in controlling their birth rate
[C] haven't yet found an effective measure to control their population
[D] neglected the role of TV plays in family planning

33. The underlined phrase "puts it down to" (Para. 3) is closest in meaning to "_____".
[A] attributes it to　　[B] finds it a reason for
[C] sums it up as　　[D] compares it to

34. Soap operas have helped in lowering Brazil's birth rate because _____.
[A] they keep people sitting long hours watching TV
[B] they have gradually changed people's way of life
[C] people are drawn to their attractive package
[D] they popularize birth control measures

35. What is Martine's conclusion about Brazil's population growth?
[A] The increase in birth rate will promote consumption.
[B] The desire for consumption helps to reduce birth rate.
[C] Consumption patterns and reproduction patterns are contradictory.
[D] A country's production is limited by its population growth.

Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following passage:

〔1〕 Dogs are social animals and without proper training, they will behave like wild animals. They will soil your house, destroy your belongings, bark excessively, fight other dogs and even bite you. Nearly all behavior problems are perfectly normal dog activities that occur at the wrong time or place or are directed at the wrong thing. The key to preventing or treating behavior problems is learning to teach the dog to redirect its normal behavior to outlets that are acceptable in the domestic setting.

〔2〕 One of the best things you can do for your dog and yourself is to *obedience train* (**驯服**) it. Obedience training doesn't solve all behavior problems, but it is the foundation for solving just about any problem. Training opens up a line of communication between you and your dog. Effective communication is necessary to instruct your dog about what you want it to do.

〔3〕 Training is also an easy way to establish the social rank order. When your dog obeys a simple request of "come here, sit," it is showing obedience and respect for you. It is not necessary to establish yourself as top dog or leader of the dog *pack*(**群**) by using extreme measures. You can teach your dog its *subordinate*(**从属的**) role by teaching it to show submission to you. Most dogs

love performing tricks for you to pleasantly accept that you are in charge.

〔4〉 Training should be fun and rewarding for you and your dog. It can enrich your relationship and make living together more enjoyable. A well-trained dog is more confident and can more safely be allowed a greater amount of freedom than an untrained animal.

36. Behavior problems of dogs are believed to _____.

[A] worsen in modern society　　[B] occur when they go wild

[C] be just part of their nature　　[D] present a threat to the community

37. The primary purpose of obedience training is to _____.

[A] teach the dog to perform clever tricks

[B] enable the dog to regain its normal behavior

[C] make the dog aware of its owner's authority

[D] provide the dog with outlets for its wild behavior

38. Effective communication between a dog and its owner is _____.

[A] an extreme measure in obedience training　　[B] a good way to teach the dog new tricks

[C] the foundation for dogs to perform tasks　　[D] essential to solving the dog's behavior problems

39. Why do pet dogs love performing tricks for their masters?

[A] To show their willingness to obey.　　[B] To show their affection for their masters.

[C] To avoid being punished.　　[D] To win leadership of the dog pack.

40. When a dog has received effective obedience training, its owner _____.

[A] will enjoy a better family life　　[B] can give the dog more freedom

[C] can give the dog more rewards　　[D] will have more confidence in himself

Questions 41 to are 45 based on the following passage:

〔1〉 For an increasing number of students at American universities, Old is suddenly in. The reason is obvious: the graying of America means jobs. Coupled with the aging of the *baby-boom* (**生育高峰**) generation, a longer life span means that the nation's elderly population is bound to expand significantly over the next 50 years. By 2050, 25 percent of all Americans will be older than 65, up from 14 percent in 1995. The change poses profound questions for government and society, of course. But it also creates career opportunities in medicine and health professions, and in law and business as well. "In addition to the doctors, we're going to need more sociologists, biologists, urban planners and specialized lawyers," says Professor Edward Schneider of the University of Southern California's (USC) School of *Gerontology* (**老年学**).

〔2〉 Lawyers can specialize in "elder law," which covers everything from trusts and estates to nursing-home abuse and age *discrimination* (**歧视**). Businessmen see huge opportunities in the elder market because the baby boomers, 74 million strong, are likely to be the wealthiest group of retirees in human history. "Any student who combines an expert knowledge in gerontology with, say, an

MBA or law degree will have a license to print money," one professor says.

〔3〕 Margarite Santos is a 21-year-old senior at USC. She began college as a biology major but found she was "really bored with bacteria." So she took a class in gerontology and discovered that she liked it. She says, "I did volunteer work in retirement homes and it was very satisfying."

41. "…Old is suddenly in" (Line 1, Para. 1) most probably means "_____".
[A] America has suddenly become a nation of old people
[B] gerontology has suddenly become popular
[C] more elderly professors are found on American campuses
[D] American colleges have realized the need of enrolling older students

42. With the aging of America, lawyers can benefit _____.
[A] from the adoption of the "elder law"
[B] from rendering special services to the elderly
[C] by enriching their professional knowledge
[D] by winning the trust of the elderly to promote their own interests

43. Why can businessmen make money in the emerging elder market?
[A] Retirees are more generous in spending money.
[B] They can employ more gerontologists.
[C] The elderly possess an enormous purchasing power.
[D] There are more elderly people working than before.

44. Who can make big money in the new century according to the passage?
[A] Retirees who are business-minded.
[B] The volunteer workers in retirement homes.
[C] College graduates with an MBA or law degree.
[D] Professionals with a good knowledge of gerontology.

45. It can be seen from the passage that the expansion of America's elderly population _____.
[A] will provide good job opportunities in many areas
[B] will impose an unbearable burden on society
[C] may lead to nursing home abuse and age discrimination
[D] will create new fields of study in universities

Questions 46 to 50 are based on the following passage:

〔1〕 Foxes and farmers have never got on well. These small dog-like animals have long been accused of killing farm animals. They are officially classified as harmful and farmers try to keep their numbers down by shooting or poisoning them.

〔2〕 Farmers can also call on the services of their local hunt to control the fox population. Hunting consists of pursuing a fox across the countryside, with a group of specially trained dogs, fol-

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lowed by men and women riding horses. When the dogs eventually catch the fox they kill it or a hunter shoots it.

3 People who take part in hunting think of it as a sport; they wear a special uniform of red coats and white trousers, and follow strict codes of behavior. But owning a horse and hunting regularly is expensive, so most hunters are wealthy.

4 It is estimated that up to 100,000 people watch or take part in fox hunting. But over the last couple of decades the number of people opposed to fox hunting, because they think it is *brutal* (**残酷的**), has risen sharply. Nowadays it is rare for a hunt to pass off without some kind of *confrontation* (**冲突**) between hunters and hunt *saboteurs* (**阻拦者**). Sometimes these incidents lead to violence, but mostly saboteurs interfere with the hunt by misleading riders and disturbing the trail of the fox's smell, which the dogs follow.

5 Noisy confrontations between hunters and saboteurs have become so common that they are almost as much a part of hunting as the pursuit of foxes itself. But this year supporters of fox hunting face a much bigger threat to their sport. A Labour Party Member of the Parliament, Mike Poster, is trying to get Parliament to approve a new law which will make the hunting of wild animals with dogs illegal. If the law is passed, wild animals like foxes will be protected under the ban in Britain.

46. Rich people in Britain have been hunting foxes _____.

[A] for recreation　　[B] in the interests of the farmers

[C] to limit the fox population　　[D] to show off their wealth

47. What is special about fox hunting in Britain?

[A] It involves the use of a deadly poison.　　[B] It is a costly event which rarely occurs.

[C] The hunters have set rules to follow.　　[D] The hunters have to go through strict training.

48. Fox hunting opponents often interfere in the game _____.

[A] by resorting to violence　　[B] by confusing the fox hunters

[C] by taking legal action　　[D] by demonstrating on the scene

49. A new law may be passed by the British Parliament to _____.

[A] prohibit farmers from hunting foxes　　[B] forbid hunting foxes with dogs

[C] stop hunting wild animals in the countryside　　[D] prevent large-scale fox hunting

50. It can be inferred from the passage that _____.

[A] killing foxes with poison is illegal

[B] limiting the fox population is unnecessary

[C] hunting foxes with dogs is considered cruel and violent

[D] fox-hunting often leads to confrontation between the poor and the rich



Questions 51 to 55 are based on the following passage:

〔1〕 Humanity uses a little less than half the water available worldwide. Yet occurrences of shortages and *droughts* (**干旱**) are causing famine and distress in some areas, and industrial and agricultural by-products are polluting water supplies. Since the world's population is expected to double in the next 50 years, many experts think we are on the edge of a widespread water crisis.

〔2〕 But that doesn't have to be the outcome. Water shortages do not have to trouble the world—if we start valuing water more than we have in the past. Just as we began to appreciate petroleum more after the 1970s oil crises, today we must start looking at water from a fresh economic perspective. We can no longer afford to consider water a virtually free resource of which we can use as much as we like in any way we want.

〔3〕 Instead, for all uses except the domestic demand of the poor, governments should price water to reflect its actual value. This means charging a fee for the water itself as well as for the supply costs.

〔4〕 Governments should also protect this resource by providing water in more economically and environmentally sound ways. For example, often the cheapest way to provide *irrigation* (**灌溉**) water in the dry tropics is through small-scale projects, such as gathering rainfall in *depressions* (**凹地**) and pumping it to nearby cropland.

〔5〕 No matter what steps governments take to provide water more efficiently, they must change their institutional and legal approaches to water use. Rather than spread control among hundreds or even thousands of local, regional, and national agencies that watch various aspects of water use, countries should set up central authorities to coordinate water policy.

51. What is the real cause of the potential water crisis?

[A] Only half of the world's water can be used.

[B] The world population is increasing faster and faster.

[C] Half of the world's water resources have been seriously polluted.

[D] Humanity has not placed sufficient value on water resources.

52. As indicated in the passage, the water problem _____.

[A] is already serious in certain parts of the world

[B] has been exaggerated by some experts in the field

[C] poses a challenge to the technology of building reservoirs

[D] is underestimated by government organizations at different levels

53. According to the author, the water price should _____.

[A] be reduced to the minimum　　[B] stimulate domestic demand

[C] correspond to its real value　　[D] take into account the occurrences of droughts

54. The author says that in some hot and dry areas it is advisable to _____.

[A] build big lakes to store water　　[B] construct big pumping stations



[C] build small and cheap irrigation systems　　[D] channel water from nearby rivers to cropland

55. In order to raise the efficiency of the water supply, measures should be taken to _____.

[A] guarantee full protection of the environment

[B] centralize the management of water resources

[C] increase the sense of responsibility of agencies at all levels

[D] encourage local and regional of control water resources

Questions 56 to 60 are based on the following passage:

〔1〕 In 1993, New York State ordered stores to charge a deposit on *beverage*(**饮料**) containers. Within a year, consumers had returned millions of aluminum cans and glass and plastic bottles. Plenty of companies were eager to accept the aluminum and glass as raw materials for new products. But because few could figure out what to do with the plastic, much of it wound up buried in *landfills*(**垃圾填埋场**). The problem was not limited to New York. Unfortunately, there were too few uses for second-hand plastic.

〔2〕 Today, one out of five plastic soda bottles is *recycled*(**回收利用**) in the United States. The reason for the change is that now there are dozens of companies across the country buying discarded plastic soda bottles and turning them into fence posts, paint brushes, etc.

〔3〕 As the New York experience shows, recycling involves more than simply separating valuable materials from the rest of the rubbish. A discard remains a discard until somebody figures out how to give it a second life—and until economic arrangements exist to give that second life value. Without adequate markets to absorb materials collected for recycling, throwaways actually depress prices for used materials.

〔4〕 Shrinking landfill space, and rising costs for burying and burning rubbish are forcing local governments to look more closely at recycling. In many areas, the East Coast especially, recycling is already the least expensive waste-management option. For every ton of wastes recycled, a city avoids paying for its disposal, which, in parts of New York, amounts to savings of more than $100 per ton. Recycling also stimulates the local economy by creating jobs and trims the pollution control and energy costs of industries that make recycled products by giving them a more refined raw material.

56. What regulation was issued by New York State concerning beverage containers?

[A] A fee should be charged on used containers for recycling.

[B] Throwaways should be collected by the state for recycling.

[C] Consumers had to pay for beverage containers and could get their money back on returning them.

[D] Beverage companies should be responsible for collecting and reusing discarded plastic soda bottles.

57. The returned plastic bottles in New York used to _____.

[A] be turned into raw materials　　[B] be separated from other rubbish
[C] have a second-life value　　[D] end up somewhere underground

58. The key problem in dealing with returned plastic beverage containers is _____.
[A] how to reduce their recycling costs　　[B] to sell them at a profitable price
[C] how to turn them into useful things　　[D] to lower the prices for used materials

59. Recycling has become the first choice for the disposal of rubbish because _____.
[A] recycling causes little pollution　　[B] other methods are more expensive
[C] recycling has great appeal for the jobless　　[D] local governments find it easy to manage

60. It can be concluded from the passage that _____.
[A] recycling is to be recommended both economically and environmentally
[B] local governments in the U. S. can expect big profits from recycling
[C] rubbish is a potential remedy for the shortage of raw materials
[D] landfills will still be widely used for waste disposal

Questions 61 to 65 are based on the following passage:

〔1〕 In the 1960s, medical researchers Thomas Holmes and Richard Rahe developed a checklist of stressful events. They appreciated the tricky point that any major change can be stressful. Negative events like "serious illness of a family member" were high on the list, but so were some positive life-changing events, like marriage. When you take the Holmes-Rahe test you must remember that the score does not reflect how you deal with stress—it only shows how much you have to deal with. And we now know that the way you handle these events dramatically affects your chances of staying healthy.

〔2〕 By the early 1970s, hundreds of similar studies had followed Holmes and Rahe. And millions of Americans who work and live under stress worried over the reports. Somehow, the research got boiled down to a memorable message. Women's magazines ran headlines like "Stress causes illness!" If you want to stay physically and mentally healthy, the articles said, avoid stressful events.

〔3〕 such simplistic advice is impossible to follow. Even if stressful events are dangerous many—like the death of a loved one—are impossible to avoid. Moreover, any warning to avoid all stressful events is a *prescription* (**处方**) for staying away from opportunities as well as trouble. Since any change can be stressful, a person who wanted to be completely free of stress would never marry, have a child, take a new job or move.

〔4〕 The notion that all stress makes you sick also ignores a lot of what we know about people. It assumes we're all *vulnerable* (**脆弱的**) and passive in the face of *adversity* (**逆境**). But what about human initiative and creativity? Many come through periods of stress with more physical and mental vigor than they had before. We also know that a long time without change or challenge can lead to boredom, and physical and mental strain.

61. The result of Holmes-Rahe's medical research tells us _____.

[A] the way you handle major events may cause stress

[B] what should be done to avoid stress

[C] what kind of event would cause stress

[D] how to cope with sudden changes in life

62. The studies on stress in the early 1970's led to _____.

[A] widespread concern over its harmful effects

[B] great panic over the mental disorder it could cause

[C] an intensive research into stress-related illnesses

[D] popular avoidance of stressful jobs

63. The score of the Holmes-Rahe test shows _____.

[A] how much pressure you are under　　[B] how positive events can change your life

[C] how stressful a major event can be　　[D] how you can deal with life-changing events

64. Why is "such simplistic advice" (Para. 3) impossible to follow?

[A] No one can stay on the same job for long.　　[B] No prescription is effective in relieving stress.

[C] People have to get married someday.　　[D] You could be missing opportunities as well.

65. According to the passage people who have experienced ups and downs may become _____.

[A] nervous when faced with difficulties　　[B] physically and mentally strained

[C] more capable of coping with adversity　　[D] indifferent toward what happens to them

Questions 66 to 70 are based on the following passage:

〔1〕 It is hard to track the blue whale, the ocean's largest creature, which has almost been killed off by commercial whaling and is now listed as an endangered species. Attaching radio devices to it is difficult, and visual sightings are too unreliable to give real insight into its behavior.

〔2〕 So biologists were delighted early this year when, with the help of the Navy, they were able to track a particular blue whale for 43 days, monitoring its sounds. This was possible because of the Navy's formerly top-secret system of underwater listening devices spanning the oceans.

〔3〕 Tracking whales is but one example of an exciting new world just opening to civilian scientists after the cold war as the Navy starts to share and partly uncover its global network of underwater listening system built over the decades to track the ships of potential enemies.

〔4〕 Earth scientists announced at a news conference recently that they had used the system for closely monitoring a deep-sea volcanic *eruption* (**爆发**) for the first time and that they plan similar studies.

〔5〕 Other scientists have proposed to use the network for tracking ocean currents and measuring changes in ocean and global temperatures.

〔6〕 The speed of sound in water is roughly one mile a second—slower than through land but fas-

ter than through air. What is most important, different layers of ocean water can act as channels for sounds, focusing them in the same way a *stethoscope* (**听诊器**) does when it carries faint noise from a patient's chest to a doctor's ear. This focusing is the main reason that even relatively weak sounds in the ocean, especially low-frequency ones, can often travel thousands of miles.

66. The passage is chiefly about _____.
[A] an effort to protect an endangered marine species
[B] the civilian use of a military detection system
[C] the exposure of a U. S. Navy top-secret weapon
[D] a new way to look into the behavior of blue whales

67. The underwater listening system was originally designed _____.
[A] to trace and locate enemy vessels
[B] to monitor deep-sea volcanic eruptions
[C] to study the movement of ocean currents
[D] to replace the global radio communications network

68. The deep-sea listening system makes use of _____.
[A] the sophisticated technology of focusing sounds under water
[B] the capability of sound to travel at high speed
[C] the unique property of layers of ocean water in transmitting sound
[D] low-frequency sounds travelling across different layers of water

69. It can be inferred from the passage that _____.
[A] new radio devices should be developed for tracking the endangered blue whales
[B] blue whales are no longer endangered with the use of the new listening system
[C] opinions differ as to whether civilian scientists should be allowed to use military technology
[D] military technology has great potential in civilian use

70. Which of the following is true about the U. S. Navy underwater listening network?
[A] It is now partly accessible to civilian scientists.
[B] It has been replaced by a more advanced system.
[C] It became useless to the military after the cold war.
[D] It is indispensable in protecting endangered species.

Questions 71 to 75 are based on the following passage:

〔1〕 Just seven years ago, the Jarvik-7 artificial heart was being cheered as the model of human creativeness. The sight of Barney Clark—alive and conscious after trading his diseased heart for a metal-and-plastic pump—convinced the press, the public and many doctors that the future had arrived. It hadn't. After monitoring production of the Jarvik-7, and reviewing its effects on the 150 or so patients (most of whom got the device as a temporary measure) the U. S. Food and Drug Administration concluded that the machine was doing more to endanger lives than to save them. Last week

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