

宁波大学 2014 年攻读硕士学位研究生

入学考试试题(A 卷) (答案必须写在答题纸上)

考试科目:翻译硕士英语

科目代码: 211

适用专业: 英语笔译

Part I Vocabulary and Grammar (30 points: 20pts. for Section A, and 10pts. for Section B)

Section A: *There are 20 incomplete sentences in this part. For each sentence there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the ONE answer that best completes the sentence.*

1. The plane _____ down to the airfield.
A. gilded B. glided C. glistened D. glazed
2. The company's prospects look pretty _____, since the products cannot be easily sold and the costs are exceptionally high.
A. bald B. bold C. blank D. bleak
3. Many years had _____ before they returned to their original urban areas.
A. elapsed B. floated C. skipped D. slipped
4. The members of Parliament were _____ that the government had not consulted them.
A. crude B. impatient C. indignant D. tolerant
5. An energy tax would curb ordinary air pollution, limit oil imports and cut the budget _____.
A. defect B. deficit C. discrepancy D. disposition
6. Doctors are often caught in a _____ because they have to decide whether they should tell their patients the truth or not.
A. bewilderment B. dilemma C. perplexity D. paradox
7. A 2009 World Bank report concluded that _____ girls in school was probably the single most effective anti-poverty policy in the developing world today.
A. admitting B. assigning C. enrolling D. involving
8. The medicine _____ his pain but did not cure his illness.
A. activated B. alleviated C. deteriorated D. aggravated
9. No one can function properly if they are _____ of adequate sleep.
A. contrived B. deprived C. ripped D. strived
10. Whether you live to eat or eat to live, food is a major _____ in every family's budget.
A. expenditure B. nutrition C. provision D. routine
11. The commission would find itself _____ at every turn if its members couldn't reach an agreement.
A. collided B. crumbled C. hampered D. savaged
12. Although architecture has artistic qualities, it must also satisfy a number of important practical _____.
A. obligations B. regulations C. observations D. considerations
13. Life insurance is financial protection against loss _____ the bread-winner's death.
A. at the cost of B. on the verge of C. as a result of D. for the sake of
14. In education there should be a good _____ among the branches of knowledge that contribute to effective thinking and wise judgment.
A. distribution B. balance C. combination D. mixture
15. They didn't break the bad news to his mother _____ that she might break down.
A. unless B. for C. because D. for fear

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16. Poverty is not _____ in most cities although, perhaps because of the crowded conditions in certain areas, it is more visible there.

- A. rare B. temporary C. prevalent D. segmental

17. People who live in small towns often seem more friendly than those living in _____ populated areas.

- A. densely B. intensely C. abundantly D. highly

18. I intended _____ you last Sunday, but I had no time.

- A. to have called on B. calling on C. to be calling on D. to be called on

19. He's decided to have a look at the house because it is well worth _____.

- A. buying B. to buy C. to be bought D. bought

20. An increasing proportion of our population, unable to live without advanced medical _____, will become progressively more reliant on expensive technology.

- A. interference B. interruption C. intervention D. interaction

Section B: *There are ten errors in the given passage. You are expected to find them and write down the correct answer as well as the detected errors on the Answer Sheet.*

Example:

A computer consists thousands of components. *consists→consists of*

John is used to go to bed very early. *go→going*

John is used to going to the bed very early. *the→/*

We are all naturally attracted to people with ideas, beliefs and interests like our own. Similarly, we feel comfortable with people with physical qualities similar as ours.

(21) _____

You may have noticed about how people who live or work closely together come to behave in a similar way. Unconsciously we copy these we are close to or love or admire. So a sportsman's individual way of walking with raised shoulders is imitated by an admired fan; a pair of lovers both shake their heads in the same way; an employer finds himself duplicating his boss's habit of wagging a pen between his fingers while thinking.

(22) _____

(23) _____

(24) _____

(25) _____

In every case, the influential person may consciously notice the imitation but he will feel comfortably in its presence. And if he does notice the matching of his gestures or movements, he finds it pleasing he is influencing people; they are drawn to them.

(26) _____

(27) _____

(28) _____

Sensitive people have been mirroring their friend and acquaintances all their lives, and winning affection and respect in this way without aware of their methods. Now, for people who want to win agreement or trust, affection or sympathy, some psychologists recommend the deliberate use of physical imitation.

(29) _____

(30) _____

Part II Reading Comprehension (40 points: 2pts.×20)

Direction: *There are four passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. You are expected to make the best choice.*

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Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following passage:

A new era is upon us. Call it what you will: the service economy, the information age, the knowledge society. It all translates to a fundamental change in the way we work. Already we're partly there. The percentage of people who earn their living by making things has fallen dramatically in the Western World. Today the majority of jobs in America, Europe and Japan (two thirds or more in many of these countries) are in the service industry, and the number is on the rise. More women are in the work force than ever before. There are more part-time jobs. More people are self-employed. But the breadth of the economic transformation can't be measured by numbers alone, because it also is giving rise to a radical new way of thinking about the nature of work itself. Long-held notions about jobs and careers, the skills needed to succeed, even the relation between individuals and employers—all these are being challenged.

We have only to look behind us to get some sense of what may lie ahead. No one looking ahead 20 years possibly could have foreseen the ways in which a single invention, the chip, would transform our world thanks to its applications in personal computers, digital communications and factory robots. Tomorrow's achievements in biotechnology, artificial intelligence or even some still unimagined technology could produce a similar wave of dramatic changes. But one thing is certain: information and knowledge will become even more vital, and the people who possess it, whether they work in manufacturing or services, will have the advantage and produce the wealth. Computer knowledge will become as basic a requirement as the ability to read and write. The ability to solve problems by applying information instead of performing routine tasks will be valued above all else. If you cast your mind ahead 10 years, information services will be predominant. It will be the way you do your job.

31. A characteristic of the information age is that _____.
A. the service industry is relying more and more on the female work force
B. manufacturing industries are steadily increasing
C. people find it harder and harder to earn a living by working in factories
D. most of the job opportunities can now be found in the service industry
32. One of the great changes brought about by the knowledge society is that _____.
A. the difference between the employee and the employer has become insignificant
B. people's traditional concepts about work no longer hold true
C. most people have to take part-time jobs
D. people have to change their jobs from time to time
33. By referring to computers and other inventions, the author means to say that _____.
A. people should be able to respond quickly to the advancement of technology
B. future achievements in technology will bring about inconceivable dramatic changes
C. the importance of high technology has been overlooked
D. computer science will play a leading role in the future information services
34. The future will probably belong to those who _____.
A. possess and know how to make use of information
B. give full play to their brain potential
C. involve themselves in service industries

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D. cast their minds ahead instead of looking back

35. Which of the following would be the best title for the passage?

A. Computers and the Knowledge Society

B. Service Industries in Modern Society

C. Features and Implications of the New Era

D. Rapid Advancement of Information Technology

Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following passage:

No woman can be too rich or too thin. This saying often attributed to the late Duchess of Windsor embodies much of the odd spirit of our times. Being thin is deemed as such a virtue.

The problem with such a view is that some people actually attempt to live by it. I myself have fantasies of slipping into narrow designer clothes. Consequently, I have been on a diet for the better—or worse—part of my life. Being rich wouldn't be bad either, but that won't happen unless an unknown relative dies suddenly in some distant land, leaving me millions of dollars.

Where did we go off the track? When did eating butter become a sin, and a little bit of extra flesh unappealing, if not repellent? All religions have certain days when people refrain from eating, and excessive eating is one of Christianity's seven deadly sins. However, until quite recently, most people had a problem getting enough to eat. In some religious groups, wealth was a symbol of probable salvation and high morals, and fatness a sign of wealth and well-being.

Today the opposite is true. We have shifted to thinness as our new mark of virtue. The result is that being fat—or even only somewhat overweight—is bad because it implies a lack of moral strength.

Our obsession with thinness is also fueled by health concerns. It is true that in this country we have more overweight people than ever before, and that, in many cases, being overweight correlates with an increased risk of heart and blood vessel disease. These diseases, however, may have as much to do with our way of life and our high-fat diets as with excess weight. And the associated risk of cancer in the digestive system may be more of a dietary problem—too much fat and a lack of fiber—than a weight problem.

The real concern, then, is not that we weigh too much, but that we neither exercise enough nor eat well. Exercise is necessary for strong bones and both heart and lung health. A balanced diet without a lot of fat can also help the body avoid many diseases. We should surely stop paying so much attention to weight. Simply being thin is not enough. It is actually hazardous if those who get (or already are) thin think they are automatically healthy and thus free from paying attention to their overall life-style. Thinness can be pure vainglory.

36. In the eyes of the author, an odd phenomenon nowadays is that _____.

A. the Duchess of Windsor is regarded as a woman of virtue

B. looking slim is a symbol of having a large fortune

C. being thin is viewed as a much desired quality

D. religious people are not necessarily virtuous

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37. Swept by the prevailing trend, the author _____.
A. had to go on a diet for the greater part of her life
B. could still prevent herself from going off the track
C. had to seek help from rich distant relatives
D. had to wear highly fashionable clothes
38. In human history, people's views on body weight _____.
A. were closely related to their religious beliefs B. changed from time to time
C. varied between the poor and the rich D. led to different moral standards
39. The author criticizes women's obsession with thinness _____.
A. from an economic and educational perspective
B. from sociological and medical points of view
C. from a historical and religious standpoint
D. in the light of moral principles
40. What's the author's advice to women who are absorbed in the idea of thinness?
A. They should be more concerned with their overall lifestyle.
B. They should be more watchful for fatal diseases.
C. They should gain weight to look healthy.
D. They should rid themselves of fantasies about designer clothes.

Questions 41 to 45 are based on the following passage:

Somehow California is always at the cutting edge, be it in the flower-power days of the 1960s or the dotcom boom of the 1990s. As Kevin Starr points out in his History of the State, California has long been "one of the prisms through which the American people, for better and for worse, could glimpse their future".

Mr. Starr is too good a historian to offer any pat explanation; instead, he concentrates on the extraordinary array of people and events that have led from the mythical land of Queen Calafia, through the rule of Spain and Mexico, and on to the governorship of Arnold Schwarzenegger, an iron-pumping film star with an Austrian accent. Moreover, he does so with such elegance and humor that his book is a joy to read.

What emerges is not all Californian sunshine and light. Think back to the savage violence that accompanied the 1849 Gold Rush; or to the exclusion orders against the Chinese; or to the riots that regularly marked industrial and social relations in San Francisco. California, it should be remembered, was very much the Wild West, having to wait until 1850 before it could force its way to statehood.

So what tamed it? Mr. Starr's answer is a combination of great men, great ideas and great projects. He emphasizes the development of California's infrastructure: the extraordinary system of aqueducts and canals that transferred water from the north of the state to the arid south; the development of agriculture; the spread of the railroads and freeways; and, perhaps the most important factor for today's hi-tech California, the creation of a superb set of public universities.

All this, he writes, "began with water, the sine qua non of any civilization." He goes on cheerfully to note the "monumental damage to the environment" caused by irrigation projects that were "plagued by claims of deception, double-dealing and conflict of interest".

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One virtue of this book is its structure. Mr. Starr is never trapped by his chronological framework. Instead, when the subject demands it, he manages deftly to flit back and forth among the decades (throughout the book, he is particularly good on the regular outbreaks of labor unrest, be it in the San Francisco dockyards or the fields of the Central Valley). Less satisfying is his account of California's cultural progress in the 19th and 20th centuries: does he really need to invoke so many long-forgotten writers to accompany such names as Jack London, Frank Norris, Mark Twain or Raymond Chandler?

But that is a minor criticism for a book that will become a California classic. The regret is that Mr. Starr, doubtless pressed for space, leaves so little room—just a brief final chapter—for the implications of the past for California's future. He poses the question that most Americans prefer to gloss over: is California governable? “For all its impressive growth, there remains a volatility in the politics and governance of California, which became perfectly clear to the rest of the nation in the fall of 2003 when the voters of California recalled one governor and elected another.”

Indeed so, and Mr. Starr wisely avoids making any premature judgment on their choice. Ills such as soaring house prices, gridlocked freeways and “embattled” public schools, combined with the budgetary problems that stem from the tax revolt of 1978 would test to the limit any governor, even the Terminator. As Mr. Starr notes, no one should cite California as an unambiguous triumph: “There has always been something slightly bipolar about California. It was either utopia or dystopia, a dream or a nightmare, a hope or a broken promise—and too infrequently anything in between.”

41. The phrase “sine qua non” in Line 1, Para.5 possibly means _____.

- A. the essential elements
- B. the premise
- C. the contribution
- D. the advantage

42. Which one of the following is NOT the characteristic of the book?

- A. The distributional imbalance of each of the part
- B. The chaotic arrangement and design of the structure
- C. The improper selection of some materials.
- D. The cautious view and attitude of the writer

43. What is the most adverse potential problem for the development of California?

- A. The residents are hypocritical, reluctant to face the reality.
- B. There exist some elements of political instability.
- C. The merits and demerits co-exist.
- D. Economic crisis and the harsh condition in front.

44. From the text we can learn that Mr. Starr is very _____ as a historian.

- A. conservative
- B. cunning and shrewd
- C. objective and canny
- D. critical and aggressive

45. The purpose of the writer is mainly to _____.

- A. give a brief account of California and its problems
- B. inform us why California is so attractive and enduring
- C. promote and popularize a would-be classical book
- D. make a comment on Mr. Starr and a review of his masterpiece

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Questions 46 to 50 are based on the following passage:

In the atmosphere, carbon dioxide acts rather like a one-way mirror -- the glass in the roof of a greenhouse which allows the sun's rays to enter but prevents the heat from escaping.

According to a weather expert's prediction, the atmosphere will be 3 °C warmer in the year 2050 than it is today, if man continues to burn fuels at the present rate. If this warming up took place, the ice caps in the poles would begin to melt, thus raising sea level several meters and severely flooding coastal cities. Also, the increase in atmospheric temperature would lead to great changes in the climate of the northern hemisphere, possibly resulting in an alteration of earth's chief food-growing zones.

In the past, concern about a man-made warming of the earth has concentrated on the Arctic because the Antarctic is much colder and has a much thicker ice sheet. But the weather experts are now paying more attention to West Antarctic, which may be affected by only a few degrees of warming: in other words, by a warming on the scale that will possibly take place in the next fifty years from the burning of fuels.

Satellite pictures show that large areas of Antarctic ice are already disappearing. The evidence available suggests that a warming has taken place. This fits the theory that carbon dioxide warms the earth.

However, most of the fuel is burnt in the northern hemisphere, where temperatures seem to be falling. Scientists conclude, therefore, that up to now natural influences on the weather have exceeded those caused by man. The question is: Which natural cause has most effect on the weather?

One possibility is the variable behavior of the sun. Astronomers at one research station have studied the hot spots and "cold" spots (that is, the relatively less hot spots) on the sun. As the sun rotates, every 27.5 days, it presents hotter or "colder" faces to the earth, and different aspects to different parts of the earth. This seems to have a considerable effect on the distribution of the earth's atmospheric pressure, and consequently on wind circulation. The sun is also variable over a long term: its heat output goes up and down in cycles, the latest trend being downward.

Scientists are now finding mutual relations between models of solar-weather interactions and the actual climate over many thousands of years, including the last Ice Age. The problem is that the models are predicting that the world should be entering a new Ice Age and it is not. One way of solving this theoretical difficulty is to assume a delay of thousands of years while the solar effects overcome the inertia of the earth's climate. If this is right, the warming effect of carbon dioxide might thus be serving as a useful counter-balance to the sun's diminishing heat.

46. It can be concluded that a concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere would _____.

- A. prevent the sun's rays from reaching the earth's surface
- B. mean a warming up in the Arctic
- C. account for great changes in the climate in the northern hemisphere
- D. raise the temperature of the earth's surface

47. The article was written to explain _____.

- A. the greenhouse effect
- B. the solar effects on the earth
- C. the models of solar-weather interactions
- D. the causes affecting weather

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48. Although the fuel consumption is greater in the northern hemisphere, temperatures there seem to be falling. This is _____.

- A. mainly because the levels of carbon dioxide are rising
- B. possible because the ice caps in the poles are melting
- C. exclusively due to the effect of the inertia of the earth's climate
- D. partly due to variations in the output of solar energy

49. On the basis of their models, scientists are of the opinion that _____.

- A. the climate of the world should be becoming cooler
- B. it will take thousands of years for the inertia of the earth's climate to take effect
- C. the man-made warming effect helps to increase the solar effects
- D. the new Ice Age will be delayed by the greenhouse effect

50. If the assumption about the delay of a new Ice Age is correct, _____.

- A. the best way to overcome the cooling effect would be to burn more fuels
- B. ice would soon cover the northern hemisphere
- C. the increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere could warm up the earth even more quickly
- D. the greenhouse effect could work to the advantage of the earth

Part III Writing (30 points)

Directions: Based on the information given below, please write an essay of about 600 words on the Answer Sheet. You have 60 minutes to plan, write, and revise your essay.

Urbanization in China increased in speed following the initiation of the reform and opening policy. By the end of 2012, the mainland of China had a total urban population of 712 million. In the long term, China faces increasing urbanization; according to predictions, nearly 70% of the population will live in urban areas by 2035.

Suggested title for the essay is:

Urbanization in China: Challenges and Opportunities

You may use your own title if you like.