

西南大学

2008 年攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试试题

学科专业：英语语言文学、外国语言学及应用语言学

研究方向：英语语言学、翻译理论与实践、辞书研究、英语课程论、语言学理论与应用、心理语言学、英美文学、美国学

试题名称：英语综合考试

试题编号：602

(答题一律做在答题纸上，并注明题号，否则答题无效。)

I. Explain the following terms briefly (15 points)

1. the metaphysical poets
2. the Great Vowel Shift
3. transferred epithet
4. Doris Lessing
5. Ferdinand de Saussure
6. Drama
7. semantic triangle
8. Puritanism
9. imagery
10. Thomas Jefferson

II. Cloze (20 points)

"England is a paradise for women, and 1 for horses" was a commonplace often uttered by travelers from the continent after they had visited the English court. Compared with their 2 in France, Germany, Spain, and Italy, aristocratic English women appeared 3 outspoken, learned, and influential. In point of fact, they did not always have the freedom they seemed to 4, but in England some of the advantages of the Renaissance were enjoyed by a few 5 who were all exemplary 6 of Renaissance learning. During the reign of Elizabeth I, the status of women in English society was heightened by Elizabeth's achievements and by her 7 of other women. Her diplomacy turned England into a major European power; her support of mercantile interests 8 expanded English trade; and her defeat of the Spanish Armada gave England a 9 of territorial security it had not enjoyed for some time.

Such advancements notwithstanding, the 10 of James I changed matters radically. 11 in conservative Scotland, James Stuart disliked the 12 respect and responsibility English women had begun to 13. A well-known anecdote about James indicates the extent of his antagonism toward the "learned lady." When a young woman was about to be presented to James, his counselors praised her, saying that she was 14 in Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. James's response was only to ask, "But can she spin?"

The court of Charles I, on the other hand, did not condone misogyny. Henrietta Maria enhanced the 15 of women by demanding that her courtiers 16 the Platonizing attitudes popular at the time in France. The Queen wanted women to be seen in heightened terms

and in an 17 environment. The masques and pastorals of the period 18 to her influence, for in both genres women are 19 praised for their ability to refine the grosser sensibilities of men. Henrietta Maria made fashionable the idea of 20 power of feminine virtue.

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|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. A. hell | B. heaven | C. earth | D. sky |
| 2. A. brothers | B. sisters | C. cousin | D. nephew |
| 3. A. normally | B. respectively | C. equally | D. especially |
| 4. A. propose | B. provide | C. possess | D. portray |
| 5. A. men | B. women | C. kings | D. queens |
| 6. A. models | B. roles | C. expressions | D. necessities |
| 7. A. encouragement | B. commencement | C. comment | D. engagement |
| 8. A. scantily | B. greatly | C. kindly | D. precisely |
| 9. A. sense | B. sensibility | C. sentiment | D. sensitivity |
| 10. A. separation | B. initiation | C. expectation | D. accession |
| 11. A. Deprived | B. Abdicated | C. Eliminated | D. Raised |
| 12. A. induced | B. deceased | C. increased | D. decreased |
| 13. A. modulate | B. enjoy | C. counsel | D. operate |
| 14. A. accomplished | B. asserted | C. aspired | D. associated |
| 15. A. percentage | B. imitation | C. status | D. production |
| 16. A. adapt | B. adopt | C. adore | D. admire |
| 17. A. realistic | B. idealized | C. sympathetic | D. crucial |
| 18. A. invigorate | B. investigate | C. testify | D. unify |
| 19. A. adversely | B. bilaterally | C. dubiously | D. elaborately |
| 20. A. assumptive | B. impulsive | C. affective | D. effective |

III Proof-reading: (15 point)

April 18, 1994, was a picture-perfect Pennsylvania day, the sun chasing clouds across the sky as a warm breeze stirred the air—ideal weather and watching my 12-year-old son's baseball game. After the game, I stopped to pick up a pizza for the family. When I arrived home, the phone was ringing. It was my parent's longtime housekeeper, Heide Retter, with sobering news. She had been in the kitchen preparing dinner for my 81-year-old father while he relaxed in the nearby deck, enjoying his special concoction of Perrier, lime juice, and Sweet and Low, and soaked in the spring air. Suddenly, she heard a glass shatter. When she reached the porch, she discovered my father had fallen to the ground, felled a massive stroke. This was the beginning of the last battle of my father's tumultuous life.

On the two-hour drive at the hospital in New York, my husband, David, and I talked about the doctors' bleak prognosis. The stroke had left my father speechless and paralyzed on the right side. But I still had a spark of hope. I knew that the doctors did not, that my father was still fighting. Heide had told me how he had dug his heels in and resisted to be lifted onto the paramedics' stretcher, his mind perhaps still operating on the deeply held belief that one got well faster when caring for at home. I knew, too, that through all the ups and downs of his public career, those spanned

1. stirring

2. at

3. when

4. After

5. fell

6. to

7. paralyzing

8. in to

9. cared

10. ✓

the upheavals of the 40-year Cold War, he had never given up.

Although I arrived at the hospital too late that night for more than the briefest glimpse with my father, in the morning I found him alert, even bright-eyed, despite ~~of~~ his slack body. He eagerly clasped my hand with his good left hand. He seemed so cognizant that I asked him if he wanted a pen and pad so we could communicate. He ~~had~~ impatiently waved away the suggestion, then tightly clasped my hand again, smiling with his eyes. When the orderlies arrived to take him for more test, he squeezed my hand one last time, let go, and gave me a jaunty thumbs-up salute. He made it possibly for me to say good-bye with a smile. Within an hour, he had slipped into a deep coma. He passed away peacefully three days later.

11. at
12. of
13. and
14. a
15. possible

IV. Reading Comprehension (20 pints):

The Miss America Pageant, an event that displays the social standards of beauty and femininity, represents an affirmation of public values as expressed by Sarah Banet-Weiser in her article "A Certain Class of Girl". As a program representing the social construction of femininity, the Miss America pageant challenges the ideologies that undermine a woman's sense of esteem and respect which are often damaged by self-criticism in comparison to extreme ideals. Banet-Weiser uses the pageant's historical background from festivals to modernity and its current status as a symbol of typicality and respectability in American women, despite negative media images in order to establish evidence for an evolved ideal of respect. This status of the Miss America pageant as a national icon has set a realistic ideal for the remainder of young American women to accept and emulate as a method of reinforcing American standards as a whole.

Banet-Weiser's argument contends that the Miss America pageant represents hegemonic standards of "typicality and respectability," meaning femininity, non-sexualization, and intelligence, in the pageant contestants since they are role models for young American women, as opposed to the excessively sexualized image portrayed in mass media. Banet-Weiser provides contrasts between the Miss America pageant and other pageant circuits in order to construct the standard of morality necessary to exemplify an ideal woman. This concept of morality, with respect to America's social norms, is reiterated throughout the article in order to emphasize the assumption that women need well-portrayed role models who represent America.

Banet-Weiser implies that the Miss America pageant, an agent of defining morality, struggles to challenge the sexualization portrayed by mass media. Although the pageant was once popular only with those women and men who frequented the "questionable" sights, the pageant has shed the image of unchastity in order to become an event celebrating femininity as a complement to charity and talent. The Miss America pageant thus suffers from an inaccurate portrayal by the media which in turn detracts from the pageant's objective of showcasing feminine morality. Banet-Weiser's inclusion of the word "feminine" suggests that there is a difference between types of "respectability and morality." That difference is the set of ideologies established by the public; the definition of femininity as respectable is embedded in the acceptance of the Miss America pageant itself by the public. The media fails to express this as a positive construction of femininity, and Banet-Weiser implicitly accuses the media that it does not celebrate the correct virtues of Miss America contestants and women in general.

1. What is the basic argument of this passage?

2. The passage implies that Miss America pageant is easily mistaken. What is it mistaken for?
3. What is the one word the author states that is central to Banet-Weiser's article?
4. Why does the author regard the Miss America pageant as a national icon?
5. The author suggests that the ideology against the pageant is a battle against beauty. Do you agree? Why/Why not?

B

The promise of finding long-term technological solutions to the problem of world food shortages seems difficult to fulfill. Many innovations that were once heavily supported and publicized have since fallen by the wayside. The proposals themselves were technically feasible, but they proved to be economically unviable and to yield food products culturally unacceptable to their consumers.

One characteristic common to unsuccessful food innovations has been that, even with extensive government support, they often have not been technologically adapted or culturally acceptable to the people for whom they had been developed. A successful new technology, therefore, must fit the entire social cultural system in which it is to find a place. Security of crop yield, practicality of storage, and costs are much more significant than previously been realized by the advocates of new technologies.

The adoption of new food technologies depends on more than these technical and cultural considerations; economic factors and governmental policies also strongly influence the ultimate success of any innovation. Economists in the Anglo-American tradition have taken the lead in investigating the economics of technological innovation. Although they exaggerate in claiming that profitability is the key factor guiding technical change—they completely disregard the substantial effects of culture—they are correct in stressing the importance of profits. Most technological innovations in agriculture can be fully used only by large landowners and are only adopted if these profit-oriented business people believe that the innovation will increase their incomes. Thus, innovations that carry high rewards for big agribusiness groups will be adopted even if they harm segments of the population and reduce the availability of food in a country. Further, should a new technology promise to alter substantially the profits and losses associated with any production system, those with economic power will strive to maintain and improve their own positions. Therefore, although technical advances in food production and processing will perhaps be needed to ensure food availability, meeting food needs will depend much more on equalizing economic power among the various segments of the populations within the developing countries themselves.

1. The passage mentions all of the following as factors important to the success of a new food crop except the _____.
 - A. practicality of storage of the crop
 - B. security of the crop yield
 - C. ~~quality of the crop's protein~~

- D. cultural acceptability of the crop
2. The author suggests that, in most emerging countries, extensive government intervention accompanying the introduction of a food innovation will _____.
 A. usually be sufficient to guarantee the financial success of the innovation
 B. be necessary to ensure that the benefits of the innovation will be spread throughout the society.
 C. normally occur only when the innovation favors large landowners
 D. generally cost the country more than will be earned by the innovation
3. The first paragraph of the passage best supports which of the following statements?
 A. Too much publicity can harm the chances for the success of a new food innovation.
 B. Innovations that produce culturally acceptable crops will generally be successful.
 C. A food-product innovation can be technically feasible and still not be economically viable.
 D. It is difficult to decide whether a food-product innovation has actually been a success.
4. The author provides a sustained argument to uphold which of the following assertions?
 A. Profitability is neither necessary nor sufficient for a new technology to be adopted.
 B. Profitability is the key factor guiding technological change.
 C. Economic factors and governmental policies strongly influence the ultimate success of any innovation.
 D. Innovations carrying high rewards for big agribusiness groups harm the poor.
5. The primary purpose of the passage is to discuss the _____.
 A. means of assessing the extent of the world food shortage
 B. difficulties of applying technological solutions to the problem of food shortages
 C. costs of introducing a new food technology into a developing country
 D. nature of the new technological innovations in the area of food production

V. Translation (40 points)

1. Chinese-English Translation (20 points)

Translate the *underlined parts* of the following text into English.

……项王即日因留沛公与饮。项王、项伯东向坐。亚父南向坐，亚父者，范增也。沛公北向坐。张良西向侍。范增数目项王，举所佩玉块以示之者三。项王默然不应。范增起，出召项庄，谓曰：“君王为人不忍，若入前为寿，寿毕，请以剑舞，因击沛公于坐杀之。不者，若属皆且为所虏。”庄则入为寿。寿毕，曰：“君王与沛公饮，军中无以为乐，请以剑舞。”项王曰：“诺。”项庄拔剑起舞，项伯亦拔剑起舞，常以身翼蔽沛公，庄不得击。于是张良至军门见樊哙。樊哙曰：“今日之事何如？”良曰：“甚急！今者项庄拔剑舞，其意常在沛公也。”哙曰：“此迫矣！臣请入，与之同命！”哙即带剑拥盾入军门。交戟之卫士欲止不内，樊哙侧其盾以撞，卫士仆地，哙遂入。披帷西向立，瞋目视项王，头发上指，目眦尽

裂。项王按剑而跽曰：“客何为者？”张良曰：“沛公之参乘樊哙者也。”项王曰：“壮士！赐之卮酒！”则与斗卮酒。哙拜谢，起，立而饮之。项王曰：“赐之彘肩！”则与一生彘肩。樊哙覆其盾于地，加彘肩上，拔剑切而啖之。项王曰：“壮士！能复饮乎？”樊哙曰：“臣死且不避，卮酒安足辞！夫秦王有虎狼之心，杀人如不能举，刑人如恐不胜，天下皆叛之。怀王与诸将约曰，‘先破秦入咸阳者王之。’今沛公先破秦入咸阳，毫毛不敢有所近，封闭宫室，还军霸上，以待大王来。故遣将守关者，备他盗出入与非常也。劳苦而功高如此，未有封侯之赏，而听细说，

欲诛有功之人。此亡秦之续耳，窃为大王不取也。”项王未有以应，曰：“坐！”樊哙从良坐。坐须臾，沛公起如厕，因招樊哙出。（选自《史记·项羽本纪》）

注释：①亚父：敬称，表示仅次于父。②若：你。③为寿：祝酒。④戟：兵器之一，halberd。⑤眦：眼眶。⑥跽：长跪。⑦卮：古代酒器，大杯。⑧彘：猪。

2. English-Chinese Translation (20 points)

Translate the *underlined parts* of the following essay into Chinese.

The Two Roads

John Ruskin

It was New Year's Night. An aged man was standing at a window. He raised his mournful eyes towards the deep blue sky, where the stars were floating like white lilies on the surface of a clear calm lake. Then he cast them on the earth, where few more hopeless people than him now moved towards their certain goal – the tomb. He had already passed sixty of the stages leading to it, and he had brought from his journey nothing but errors and remorse. Now his health was poor, his mind vacant, his heart sorrowful, and his old age short of comforts.

The days of his youth appeared like dreams before him, and he recalled the serious moment when his father placed him at the entrance of the two roads - one leading to a peaceful, sunny place, covered with flowers, fruits and resounding with soft, sweet songs; the other leading to a deep, dark cave, which was endless, where poison flowed instead of water and where devils and poisonous snakes hissed and crawled.

He looked towards the sky and cried painfully, "O youth, return! O my father, place me once more at the entrance to life, and I'll choose the better way!" But both his father and the days of his youth had passed away.

He saw the lights flowing away in the darkness, and these were the days of his wasted life; he saw a star fall from the sky and disappear, and this was the symbol of himself. His remorse, which was like a sharp arrow, struck deeply into his heart. Then he remembered his friends in his childhood, who entered on life together with him. But they had made their way to success and were now honored and happy on this New Year's Night.

The clock in the high church tower struck and the sound made him remember his parents' early love for him. They had taught him and prayed to God for his good. But he chose the wrong way. With shame and grief he dared no longer look towards that heaven where his father lived. His darkened eyes were full of tears, and with a despairing effort, he burst out a cry. "Come back, my early days! Come back, my lost youth!"

And his youth did return, for all this was only a dream, which he had on New Year's Night. He was still young though his faults were real; he had not yet entered the deep, dark cave, and he was still free to walk on the road which leads to the peaceful and sunny land.

Those who still linger on the entrance of life, hesitating to choose the right road,

remember that when years are passed and your feet stumble on the dark mountains, you will cry bitterly, but in vain: "O youth, return! Oh give me back my early days!"

VI. Writing (40 points)

Read the following paragraphs and write a composition of 400 words by extending the last sentence. Marks will be awarded to viewpoints, organization, grammar and appropriateness.

Rethinking Natural Selection

Most of the current discussion of evolutionary theory focuses on individual selection or, as it is sometimes phrased, *survival of the fittest*. Only the most successful individuals will pass on their genes to further generations, thus weeding out over time genetic traits that do not enhance an individual's chances of survival. This sociobiological view explains "selfish" altruism, which generates reciprocal acts or otherwise facilitates survival within a group.

But sociobiology and individual selection do not explain "unselfish" altruist behavior, i.e. the behavior that benefits others but potentially leaves the individual no opportunity to pass on his own genetic legacy. To explain that, we must give more consideration to group selection and the benefits of sociality.

Charles Darwin himself believed that morality plays a role in human evolution by natural selection. A high standard of morality may give the individual and his children no advantage over other group members, Darwin wrote, yet it works to give his tribe an advantage over other tribes. Thus, over time, groups whose members value morality or practice unselfish altruism are more likely to survive and thrive, passing on the genetic traits that encourage ethical behavior such as empathy, fairness and generosity...

Notes:

1. **altruism:** the unselfish concern for or the belief in the welfare of others.
2. Your essay should be consistent in content with the beginning parts, which briefly define individual selection and group selection, and touch upon the role of morality in human evolution. Originality and rationality are greatly encouraged.