

深圳大学 2012 年硕士研究生入学考试初试试题

(答题必须写在答题纸上, 写在本试题纸上无效)

考试科目代码: 901 考试科目名称: 综合英语

专业: 外国语言学及应用语言学、英语语言文学

Part 1 Vocabulary (30 points)

There are 30 multiple-choice questions in this section. For each question there are four choices marked A, B, C, and D. Choose the ONE that best matches the underlined word or phrase.

- The regulators claimed the company had shown a reckless disregard for its employees safety.
A. careful B. prudent C. thoughtless D. cautious
- As for the pink form of the plant, the original mutation was found in England and its cuttings have spread across the world.
A. adherence B. alteration C. devotion D. growth
- Little John has understandably ambivalent feelings towards his father, who abused him throughout his childhood.
A. conclusive B. decisive C. uncertain D. definite
- You shouldn't denigrate people just because they have different beliefs from you.
A. applause B. extol C. generalize D. belittle
- Mundane matters such as eating and drinking do not interest her boss.
A. imaginative B. ordinary C. anomalous D. unexpected
- When both versions of the story were collated, major discrepancies were found.
A. dispersed B. interrogated C. aggravated D. gathered
- People often try to emulate their favourite pop singers or movie stars.
A. copy B. empathize C. sympathize D. refute
- In the car the police found guns, knives and other lethal weapons.
A. fatal B. faked C. toy D. artificial
- Jobbs approached every task with a boundless zest.
A. apathy B. passion C. indifferent D. lukewarm
- They received a lot of adverse publicity about the changes.
A. obvious B. spectacular C. eye-catching D. unfavorable
- Mother Teresa was found to be a benevolent person.
A. controversial B. publicizing C. altruistic D. public
- Quinn charmed credulous investors out of millions of dollars.
A. excellent B. gullible C. distinct D. stubborn
- This placed Jobbs in a dilemma.
A. agony B. carol C. predicament D. eulogized situation
- Aunt Nussy was always a bit eccentric.
A. hasty B. graceful C. elegant D. weird
- He is famous for his ferocious style.
A. favorite B. unruly C. refined D. dull

“Google develops its own in-house properties and it preferences those, so it’s leveraging its dominance in Web search,” he said.

Mr. Stoppelman, who is scheduled to testify at the Senate hearing on Wednesday, added, “When it comes to Web search, Google says you have great content, you rise to the top and that’s historically been true for us. But we do feel like that world is changing because Google has decided it’s not enough to own and dominate Web search.”

This month, Google acquired Zagat, the restaurant listing and review service, to strengthen its local commerce offering. Yelp is Zagat’s leading online rival.

Google, legal experts say, presents some challenges for the traditional doctrine of antitrust. The Microsoft case, too, required adapting antitrust principles to modern technology, and the complaint filed against the company was filled with technical computing terms like “cross-platform middleware” and “application programming interfaces.”

Yet Microsoft’s dominant product — the Windows personal computer operating system — was something consumers and companies paid for, as with any conventional good.

Google’s search service, by contrast, is “free and anyone who wants to use it can use it,” said Herbert Hovenkamp, an antitrust expert at the University of Iowa College of Law, so higher prices for consumers — a hallmark of competitive harm — is not an issue.

But in other ways, the accusations against Google fit comfortably into antitrust.

“If it is proven that Google discriminates in favor of its own online properties, you certainly have an antitrust issue,” Mr. Hovenkamp said.

While the technical ingredients may be different, the Google recipe is the same one used by Microsoft years ago, said Gary L. Reback, a lawyer at Carr & Ferrell who represents some of Google’s rivals.

The Microsoft case revolved around Netscape, maker of the first commercially successful Web browser, and the bullying tactics Microsoft used to thwart the threat it represented.

The browser was a new layer of software, running on top of a personal computer operating system, and developers wrote software to run on the browser. Thus the browser took on some functions similar to an operating system, potentially undermining the role and value of Windows.

“Web sites like Yelp and others in travel and shopping that help people find things are partial substitutes for Google in the same way that Netscape was a partial substitute for Windows,” said Mr. Reback, who also played a key part in the 1990s case against Microsoft.

Google’s expansion strategy beyond search is an effort to grab more online advertising dollars. Google pockets more than three-fourths of all search advertising dollars in the United States, and a higher share in many European markets.

Its share of total online ad revenue in America, including spending on larger graphic and video ads, is 41 percent, followed by Yahoo with 11 percent, Facebook with 7 percent and Microsoft with 6 percent, according to eMarketer, a research firm.

Advertising revenue, analysts say, is the prize on the Internet — the fuel that sustains services, competition and innovation.

Much of the economy may be languishing, but not in Silicon Valley, where start-ups are being created at a torrid rate, flourishing, it seems, in Google’s shadow. Facebook and Twitter, for example, are becoming powers in their own right.

“The similarity between Google and Microsoft years ago is the potential for harm, the risk that a dominant company uses its power to disadvantage others,” said Mitchell Kapor, a longtime Silicon Valley technologist and investor. “But Google was born on the open Internet, and things are just

generally far more open to innovators and start-ups than in the Microsoft era.”

And, as proof of the rapid turn of fortunes in technology, Microsoft is now the underdog, trailing well behind Google in search and search advertising, urging government officials to take action. Microsoft has met regularly with antitrust investigators in America and filed a complaint against Google in Europe this year.

66. What do the regulators in the US, Europe and Asia want to find out _____ when they investigate Google?
- A. whether it uses dishonest means when it acquired Zagat
 - B. whether it gives its own businesses preferred placement in the internet search results
 - C. whether it really offers free internet search engines
 - D. why people admire it and fear it
67. Microsoft was investigated 13 years ago by Europe and America regarding its use of _____ .
- A. Internet advertisement
 - B. Window vista function
 - C. internet search technique
 - D. window operating system
68. Complaints against Google’s controlling power in internet search did not increase until _____ .
- A. regulators from almost all over the world worried about its size and power
 - B. Google tried to acquire Yelp
 - C. Google offered online commerce searches
 - D. Google acquired Zagat
69. What was the fuel to support internet-related companies offer the online search services?
- A. Social responsibility
 - B. Netscape search technology
 - C. Competition within the IT companies
 - D. High business returns
70. According the text, Microsoft is not gaining as much as Google in search advertising because _____ .
- A. Google is now the underdog
 - B. Microsoft is now the underdog
 - C. Google is using secret techniques
 - D. Microsoft is obeying the rules of antitrust laws

Part 5 Writing (60 points)

Please write a composition with a word requirement of 500 words based on your knowledge and understanding of the Chinese idiom given below.

开卷有益

In the first part of your composition you should state clearly your main argument. And in the second part you should support your argument with appropriate details. In the last part you should bring what you have written to a natural conclusion or make your summary.

The criterion for marking the writing includes content, organization, grammar and appropriateness.

16. Jane dismissed these gloomy thoughts from her mind.
A. inquisitive B. indifferent C. cheerful D. depressing
17. It is a very hierarchical organization in which everyone's status is very clearly defined.
A. a system in which people are put at various levels or ranks according to their importance
B. a system in which people are put at various levels or ranks according to their innocence
C. a system in which people are put at various levels or ranks according to their sincerity
D. a system in which people are put at various levels or ranks according to their perseverance
18. The new administration has some impending changes.
A. fundamental B. prioritizing C. imminent D. uncontrollable
19. We should try and make judicious use of the resources available to us.
A. illegal B. lawful C. careful D. careless
20. Jessie spoke with a hint of menace.
A. gesture B. volunteering C. challenge D. threat
21. In the raid police found several boxes of obscene videotapes.
A. proper B. moral C. indecent D. immortal
22. Alice stories are full of mystery and paradox.
A. harmony B. contradiction C. philharmonic D. righteous
23. Shelia had a queer expression on her face.
A. calm B. common C. curious D. diluting
24. How can you reconcile your fur coat and your love of animals?
A. foster B. wear C. make D. settle
25. It was the sheerest coincidence that we met.
A. incomplete B. complete C. strange D. predicting
26. Lucy is a rather timid child.
A. lenient B. naughty C. bold D. shy
27. The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty after a short deliberation.
A. undisputed B. individual C. inconsistent D. satisfying
28. He's a very versatile young actor who's as happy in horror films as he is in TV comedies.
A. limited B. nonflexible C. multitalented D. stiff
29. They lived on a wretched diet of bread, potatoes and cabbage.
A. fortunate B. miserable C. happy D. healthy
30. This will be another glorious victory for the students who come here for the exam.
A. obscure B. bright C. flexible D. celebrated

Part 2 General Knowledge (10 points)

There are ten multiple-choice questions in this section. Choose the best answer to each question.

31. The form of British pronunciation that many educated people in Britain use, and that is thought of as the standard form is called _____.
A. GA B. IPA C. RP D. DJ
32. The American Civil War (1861-5), between the northern states and the southern _____, which wished to secede over the issues of slavery and states' rights, ended in defeat for the South and the abolition of slavery in the US.
A. Union B. Confederacy C. Alliance D. Coalition

33. Martin Luther, American civil-rights leader, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in _____.
A. 1968 B. 1966 C. 1964 D. 1962
34. The Industrial Revolution began in England in the _____ century.
A. 16 B. 17 C. 18 D. 19
35. The supreme executive legislature of the United Kingdom consists of the House of _____, and the House of _____.
A. Parliament ... Assembly B. Parliament ... Lords
C. Legislature ... Council D. Commons ... Lords
36. Which of the following is an unacceptable way to address a teacher in English?
A. Sir Francis Bacon B. Dr Bacon C. Mr Bacon D. Teacher Bacon
37. Suppose a British friend comes to your home to visit you and comments that one of your wall paintings is very beautiful. Which of the following responses would be unacceptable in English?
A. Oh, it's quite ordinary really.
B. Thank you. It's quite unusual, isn't it?
C. A friend of mine painted it, actually.
D. A friend of mine painted it. I can ask him to paint one for you, if you'd like.
38. Which word is defined as "a speech sound produced by human beings when the breath flows out through the mouth without being blocked by the teeth, tongue or lips"?
A. allophone B. assimilation C. vowel D. consonant
39. Which word is defined as "the crime of being married to two people at the same time"?
A. remarriage B. bigamy C. polygamy D. monogamy
40. _____ refers to "the grammatical and/ or lexical relationships between the different elements of a text".
A. Fluency B. Accuracy C. Coherence D. Cohesion

Part 3 Proofreading and Error Correction (10 points)

The passage contains TEN errors. Each indicated line contains a maximum of ONE error. In each case, only ONE word is involved. You should proofread the passage and correct it.

For a <u>wrong</u> word,	Underline <u>it</u> and write the correct one in the blank provided at the end of the line.
For a <u>missing</u> word, V	Mark the position of it with a "V" sign and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank provided at the end of the line.
For an <u>unnecessary</u> word,	Cross it with a slash "/" and put the "slash-word" in the blank provided at the end of the line.
Example:	
When V art museum wants a new exhibit, it <u>never</u> buys things in finished form and hangs them on the wall. When a natural history museum wants an <u>exhibition</u> , it must often build it.	1. <u>an</u> 2. <u>never</u> 3. <u>exhibit</u>

Like other investors, banks clung for a long time to the seemingly inviolable belief that all the countries using the euro would make good on debts. For years, Greek and Italian bonds did not pay much more than German one, but banks were always hungry to chase even a fraction of additional profit. For more of the last decade, they sold the higher-yield bonds, ignoring the growing political and fiscal problems of those countries as well as other peripheral euros zone nations like Ireland, Spain and Portugal.

Regulators bear much of the responsibility. Before 1999, while Europe forged its monetary union, regulators permitted banks to treat as risk-free the debt of any country that belonged to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a club of developing nations that includes the United States and most of Europe.

Some regulators realized that allow banks to set aside no capital for sovereign defaults could be a problem and moved to address it in a 2006 accord known as Basel 2. They mandated that big, complex bank use their own models to determine if individual countries were at risk and hold some capital against them. But the European Union never enforced the stiffer regime. And amid the subprime mortgage crisis, Europe's regulators added the problem by demanding that banks hold more safe assets, much of it sovereign debt.

41. _____

42. _____

43. _____

44. _____

45. _____

46. _____

47. _____

48. _____

49. _____

50. _____

Part 4 Reading Compression (40 points)

In this section there three passages followed by multiple-choice questions for comprehension. Please read the passages and choose the best choice to each question.

Passage 1

1 The phrase live theater evokes different images for different individuals, images that are influenced by memorable performances attended or by the absence of any theatrical participation at all. Of course, the phrase live theater is slightly redundant, because theater almost always involves a live performance. Like other dramatic arts, theater requires the participation of many people – as well as that certain mysterious quality that transforms art into an unforgettable emotional experience. Theater may not be the most popular dramatic art in the United States, but since its beginnings in Greece in the fifth century B.C., theater has had a significant place in Western culture. It is an artistic medium that has evolved over the centuries. Like other arts, it has conformed to the desires and demands of audiences for drama, comedy, musical extravaganza, or other varieties of play.

2 The word theater comes from a Greek word meaning “to view” or “to see.” However, one can also

see a performance on television or on film, so what characteristics distinguish a theater performance and make it a unique experience for the audience? Members of an audience do more than simply view a live theatrical performance. The sense of hearing naturally plays a role in the person's enjoyment of a play, but a person's sense of sight and hearing are employed in watching television and movies too.

3 Viewing a theater performance engages senses that respond to a three-dimensional experience, whereas those on television and film are two-dimensional. Thus, theatrical performances more closely mimic the real world. Nuances of costume and interactions among actors may be observed and studied more directly. Most importantly, in theater an interaction occurs between the audience and the actors onstage that is not present during a television program or a movie. Viewing a screen is essentially a passive experience: it is not requisite that a viewer be completely engaged in the action unfolding on the small screen. Even in a movie theater, an audience member might be excited by the actors and events that appear larger than life, but his or her reaction or participation is not essential to the actors on the big screen. In contrast, the audience plays a vital role in live theater. The more completely engaged the audience is with the live performance onstage, the more fully enjoyable the play is for the actors and audience alike.

4 Experts offer different theories concerning the origins of theater. Some scholars hold that drama developed out of primitive religious rites. Others think that drama is rooted in the ancient art of storytelling with the storyteller "acting out" certain elements of the story. Another interpretation attributes the basis of modern drama to mimesis. Mimesis is the creative imitation of an event, such as Native American dance ceremonies held before a harvest or a hunt. The Greek philosopher Plato believed that all artistic endeavors were forms of imitation representing reality. The roots of Western theater, however, lie in the Great Dionysia, a dramatic celebration held in Greece in the fifth century B.C. Writers competed to compose the best drama, and actors vied for a best-acting honor. The festivities also included singing and dancing.

5 Greek theaters were semicircular structures with tiered seats built into hillsides. The main action took place on stage known as the proscenium, and minor actors – usually dancers and singers – enacted their roles in the circular space in front of the stage known as the orchestra. For everyone in the audience to recognize the characters portrayed in the play. Greek actors wore masks. Roman theaters were open-air theaters modeled after the Greek were enclosed on three sides. Actors onstage were sheltered by a wooden roof. Theater design in Elizabethan England originated in the layout of courtyards outside inns, where platforms were built and used as stages. The audience could watch from around the platform or from their windows in the inn. Theater performances in England during the reign of Elizabeth I thus took place right in the middle of the audience. This concept was revived in the early twentieth century, and some open stages were built with audiences seated on three sides of a stage without curtains. Today there are also theaters built "in the round," in which the audience surrounds the stage. Theater aficionados assert that certain stages are better suited for certain plays, but the proscenium, or horseshoe, style has been customary structure of theaters since the seventeenth century. In the modern age, the proscenium now refers to the arch that supports the curtain and serves to separate the tiered seats of the auditorium from the stage.

6 From the apron to the wings, theater has its own special vocabulary. Everyone involved becomes familiar with the terminology. In the auditorium, members of the audience can view a play from the orchestra section, the front section of seats, from the loge or box seats on both sides of the stage in the upper section, from mezzanine seats in the lower balcony, or from upper balcony seats. All these vantage points allow audience members to view the stage clearly and immerse themselves in the action taking place. Some audience members might be able to see the orchestra pit below the front of the stage,

occupied by the orchestra leader and the musicians. Every spectator can view the apron, or forestage, the part of the stage that lies in front of the proscenium arch. Footlights are placed at the edge of the apron, and the curtain hangs from the proscenium arch. At the far back of the stage is the cyclorama, which is the painted backdrop scenery creating the illusion of sky or skyscraper, city or country-whatever the play's settling demands.

7 In addition to the forestage, which extends beyond the curtains and serves as the place for much of the action, offstage refers to any area of the stage that the audience cannot see. Backstage refers to the area behind the stage and also to the dressing rooms where the actors prepare for the play, while the term upstage indicates that area of the stage farthest from the audience. Located high above the stage and invisible to the audience, the fly space is a storage area for scenery and equipment. Pulleys can quickly lower scenery from the flies to the stage; other scenery and props can be positioned in the wings to be moved onstage and also to the space between the side scenes. Tormentors, or fixed curtains, prevent the audience from seeing any of the scenery or people in the wings.

8 To produce a realistic play on a stage and to create illusions of the time and place requires the participation of a host of talented people. The play begins, of course, with the playwright, who writes the play's script. The most brilliant actor needs intelligent, clever words to speak on stage. Like film, every play requires the expertise of a director, producer, and designer. The producer is usually the top-ranking person connected with the production of a play. Producers procure the financing of a play. They work with additional businesspeople who advertise the play and with those who are responsible for payroll and other business matters. The producer also consults with the director and the designer to make casting and design decisions. The director chooses the actors for the play, decides how the play will be interpreted, and selects the appropriate scenery and lighting. The designer then designs and supervises the construction of the stage sets. The actors assemble for the first rehearsal, and carpenters and other technicians begin working on costumes and scenery for the production. A stage manager oversees rehearsals, as well as the lighting, props, sound effects, and other technical aspects of the production.

9 A play is a cooperative effort that depends on a multitude of talented people. In addition to these individuals, the role of the audience in theater is significant. Audiences have a unique responsibility. An imaginative, intelligent drama, comedy, or musical deserves applause and support, but an inferior play only warrants an early closing. A certain crowd psychology operates in a theater audience. Theater audiences are unlikely to react individually in a theater setting. Applause, laughter, and other reactions to a play are often contagious, so the entire audience reacts as one. The live performance becomes a communal experience. This shared experience has made theater an essential form of the human cultural activity for thousands of years.

51. The word theater comes from a _____.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A. Latin word meaning "to hear" | B. Greek word meaning "to see" |
| C. Greek word meaning "to play" | D. None of the above |

52. The proscenium is _____.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| A. the main stage of a theater | B. an arch that supports the stage curtain |
| C. Both A and B | D. neither A nor B |

53. Most theories about the origins of theater share what in common?

- A. The claim that religion plays
- B. They maintain that the Greeks developed drama
- C. Most agree that theater developed out of interpretative dance
- D. They point to the importance of imitation

54. Theater differs from television and movies in that
- A. a Theater experience is the three-dimensional
 - B. a theater experience mimics real life
 - C. the actors and audience interact closely
 - D. All of the above
55. A play is a collaborative effort because it _____.
- A. requires the cooperation of many artists and other people
 - B. requires accountants to take care of the payroll
 - C. requires actors to know their lines perfectly
 - D. All of the above
56. Western theater had its beginnings in _____.
- A. first-century Rome
 - B. fifth century Greece
 - C. Elizabethan England
 - D. third-century Greece
57. A unique quality of theater is the _____.
- A. cooperation of actors and directors
 - B. cyclorama and other scenery
 - C. collective role of the audience
 - D. stage and the auditorium
58. Elizabethan theater space differed from ancient Greek and Roman styles in which way?
- A. Elizabethan theater space featured a courtyard layout
 - B. Elizabethan theater space was the first to feature a proscenium
 - C. Both A and B
 - D. Elizabethan theater actors wore masks
59. A theater audience has a _____.
- A. responsibility to support productions
 - B. passive role in theater
 - C. knowledge of drama and comedy
 - D. sophistication that movie audiences lack
60. The author probably wrote his article to _____.
- A. show the complexities of the theater
 - B. enrich the play person's appreciation of theater
 - C. show the techniques used by directors of plays
 - D. clarify types of theater productions

Passage 2

In February 1848 the people of Paris rose in revolt against the constitutional monarchy of Louis Philippe. Despite the existence of excellent narrative accounts, the February Days, as this revolt is called, have been largely ignored by social historians of the past two decades. For each of the three other major insurrections in nineteenth-century Paris – July 1830, June, 1848, and May 1871 – there exists at least a sketch of participants' backgrounds and an analysis, more or less rigorous, of the reasons for the occurrence of the uprisings. Only in the case of the February Revolution, do we lack a useful description of participants that might characterize it in the light of what social history has taught us about the process of revolutionary mobilization.

Two reasons for this relative neglect seem obvious. First, the insurrection of February has been

overshadowed by that of June. The February Revolution overthrew a regime, to be sure, but met with so little resistance that it failed, to generate any real sense of historical drama. Its successor, on the other hand, appeared to pit key socioeconomic groups in a life-or-death struggle and was widely seen by contemporary observers as marking a historical departure. Through their interpretations, which exert a continuing influence on our understanding of the revolutionary process, the impact of the events of June has been magnified, while, as an unintended consequence, the significance of the February insurrection has been diminished. Second, like other "successful" insurrections, the events of February failed to generate the most desirable kinds of historical records. Although the June insurrection of 1848 and the Paris Commune of 1871 would be considered watersheds of the nineteenth century French history by any standard, they also present the social historian with a signal advantage: these failed insurrections created a mass of invaluable documentation as a by-product of the authorities' efforts to search out and punish the rebels.

Quite different is the outcome of successful insurrections like those of July 1830 and February 1848. Experiences are retold, but participants typically resume their daily routines without ever recording their activities. Those who played salient roles may become the objects of highly embellished verbal accounts or, in rare cases, of celebratory articles in contemporary periodicals. And it is true that the publicly acknowledged leaders of an uprising frequently write memoirs. However, such documents are likely to be highly unreliable, unrepresentative, and unsystematically preserved, especially when compared to the detailed judicial dossiers prepared for everyone arrested following a failed insurrection. As a consequence, it may prove difficult or impossible to establish for a successful revolution a comprehensive and trustworthy picture of those who participated or to answer even the most basic questions one might pose concerning the social origins of the insurgents.

61. It can be inferred from the passage that support for the objectives of the February Revolution was _____.
- A. negligible B. spontaneous C. fanatical D. misguided
62. Which of the following best describes the organization of the second paragraph?
- A. The thesis presented in the first paragraph is systematically supported.
 B. The thesis of the passage is stated and supporting evidence systematically presented.
 C. Evidence refuting the thesis presented in the first paragraph is systematically presented.
 D. Two views regarding the thesis presented in the first paragraph are compared and contrasted.
63. It can be inferred from the passage that the author considers which of the following essential for understanding a revolutionary mobilization?
- A. A comprehensive theory of the revolution that can be applied to the major insurrections of the nineteenth century.
 B. Awareness of the events necessary for a revolution to be successful.
 C. Knowledge of the socioeconomic backgrounds of a revolution's participants
 D. The historical perspective provided by the passage of a considerable amount of time.
64. Which of the following can be inferred about the "detailed judicial dossiers" referred to line 49?
- A. The dossiers closely resemble the narratives written by the revolution's leaders in their personal memoirs.
 B. Information contained in the dossiers sheds light on the social origins of a revolution's participants.
 C. The information that such dossiers contain is untrustworthy and unrepresentative of a revolution's participants.

D. Social historians prefer to avoid such dossiers whenever possible because they are excessively detailed.

65. Which of the following statements regarding revolution would the author most likely agree?

- A. revolutionary mobilization requires a great deal of planning by people representing disaffected groups
- B. The objectives of the February Revolution were more radical than those of the June insurrection
- C. The process of revolutionary mobilization varies greatly from one revolution to the next
- D. Revolutions vary greatly in the usefulness of the historical records that they produce

Passage 3

This week, those concerns — especially whether Google gives its own businesses preferred placement in search results, thwarting competition and harming consumers — will have their most public airing to date, when Google's chairman, Eric E. Schmidt, testifies before a Senate antitrust panel. Some of Google's competitors will also testify.

The Senate proceeding is just one of an array of inquiries into Google's behavior by various federal and state authorities in this country, as well as by regulators in Europe and Asia. And though the company and the times are different, there are echoes of a hearing before the same ittee, 13 years ago and the last sweeping antitrust investigation of an American technology powerhouse, Microsoft. Later, the federal government, joined by 20 states, filed suit against Microsoft.

"Google is a great American success story, but its size, position and power in the marketplace have raised concerns about its business practices, and raised the question of what responsibilities come with that power," said Senator Richard Blumenthal, Democrat of Connecticut, who is a member of the antitrust subcommittee and who as the attorney general of Connecticut played a leading role among the states that sued Microsoft.

Today Google, like Microsoft then, is both admired and feared. Google has used the riches from its dominance in search and search advertising to expand into video distribution with YouTube, smartphone software with Android and Web browsers with Chrome. It has added online commerce offerings in local retail and restaurants, comparison shopping and travel, and folded them into its search engine, prompting complaints that Google is giving its businesses preferred placement in search results.

Google executives have consistently replied that its search results are the product of extensive user testing, and do not favor its own offerings. If users become dissatisfied with Google search results, the company argues, they will go elsewhere, to rival search engines like Microsoft's Bing, sites that focus on specific products or services like Yelp, or social networks like Facebook.

"Using Google is a choice," Amit Singhal, a senior engineering manager at Google, wrote on the company's blog in June, after the Federal Trade Commission began its investigation. "And there are lots of other choices available to you for getting information."

Competitors disagree. Yelp, the popular Web site for user reviews and recommendations for restaurants and other businesses, has noticed a difference in search rankings since Google established its own online businesses, said Jeremy Stoppelman, co-founder and chief executive of Yelp, which gets half its traffic from Google searches.

Two years ago, Google offered to buy Yelp, but the talks broke down. Last year, Google introduced Places, a Yelp-like service for listing businesses and collecting consumer reviews. A Google search for a restaurant often displays the Places entry — linked to a map, user reviews and other services — ahead of Yelp.