

华南理工大学
2009 年攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试试卷

(试卷上做答无效, 请在答题纸上做答, 试后本卷必须与答题纸一同交回)

科目名称: 英语综合水平测试

适用专业: 英语语言文学 外国语言学及应用语言学

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Part I. Vocabulary (20 marks)

Section One

Directions: In each of the following sentences, there is one word underlined, followed by three possible choices. Choose the one that is closest in meaning to this word. (10 marks)

1. The appointment of the new director aroused controversy.
a. concern b. urgency c. dispute
2. The world economy has proven to be elastic from various kinds of great disasters, such as the two world wars.
a. capricious b. resilient c. destructive
3. The Foundation is one of the world's wealthiest philanthropic organizations intended to help the needy people.
a. prolific b. humanitarian c. multinational
4. Anyone over the age of eighteen is eligible to vote.
a. reinforced b. expected c. entitled
5. Diplomatic misunderstanding can often be traced back to blunders in oral interpretation or written translation.
a. insults b. arguments c. mistakes
6. The draught, which lasted several months, caused famine, diseases and deaths.
a. starvation b. malaria c. poverty
7. Trying to figure out the working of the human mind is like groping in the dark.
a. fumbling b. staggering c. discerning
8. Hostilities have broken out between the two countries.
a. contacts b. disturbances c. antagonism
9. It is true that during their explorations they often faced incidents of the most perilous nature.
a. exciting b. offensive c. dangerous
10. A mixture of milk and water is an insipid drink.
a. flavorful b. vapid c. healthy

11. Heaven's vengeance is slow but sure.
a. abhorrence b. surrender c. revenge
12. The world recession might curb the demand for and consumption for oil.
a. increase b. restrict c. rebuke
13. In ancient civilizations, thunder was believed to be a manifestation of the wrath of the gods.
a. message b. sound c. anger
14. Abraham Lincoln was a staunch protector of the sovereign rights of citizens..
a. devoted b. celebrated c. successful
15. The company is trying to repel an unfriendly takeover.
a. replicate b. repulse c. restore
16. It has been pointed out that walking briskly, daily jogging, or staircase climbing strengthens the heart and the lung.
a. energetically b. regularly c. languidly
17. Despite the fame he gained from his early novels, his later plays were given a lukewarm reception by both critics and the public.
a. suspicious b. enthusiastic c. indifferent
18. The bombardment obliterated the town.
a. leveled b. obligated c. conquered
19. This medicine will dilate the blood vessels and prevent clotting.
a. compress b. repair c. expand
20. The committee temporized instead of reaching a decision.
a. delayed b. executed c. ended

Section Two

Directions: Write down the Chinese equivalent for the underlined word or words in the answer sheet. (10 marks)

1. A person's ability to cope with frustration is also an important factor in one's life career.
2. The President reviewed a guard of honour.
3. I feel that this youthful experience contributed to a certain growing introspection and curiosity about the relationship of science to the world about it.
4. The men who founded modern science had two merits which are not necessarily found together: immense patience in observation, and great boldness in framing hypothesis.
5. It is useless for the sheep to pass resolutions in favor of vegetarianism while the wolf remains of a different opinion.
6. The toll from strong winds lashing the south coast yesterday includes two men

missing in heavy seas.

7. But public outrage over abuse of official privilege continued to mount, fueled by allegations of unpaid bills at luxurious restaurants and extravagant junketeering at taxpayer expense.
8. From a wider range, the Peking summit is merely the capstone of a dramatic bridge-building process that has sprung up to embrace all of Asia.
9. Such a long rough journey would be very taxing for an old man.
10. Despite this backwardness in the communications, China hopes to leapfrog into the digital era by bypassing many of the costly transitional technologies.
11. When the first Boeing 777 rolled off production line, it immediately raised fears that its enormous size would overwhelm airports, overload passenger terminals and overstress taxiways and runways.
12. The cooperative principle alone cannot fully explain how people talk. It explains how conversational implicature is given rise to but it does not tell us why people are often so indirect in conveying what they want to say.
13. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights.
14. Increasingly nations are waking up to the fact that they are unwisely holding a rapidly declining US currency which has been the Achilles' heel of global economy.
15. I wish peace could be saved at the eleventh hour.
16. The report attempts to whitewash recent events.
17. The Environmental Law provides for the implementation and enforcement of the national air quality standards.
18. It is not a difficult task. It should be child's play for an experienced mountaineer.
19. John had called Harry a coward, but the boys made him eat his words after Harry bravely fought a big bully.
20. You don't suppose, do you, that our friends here are in earnest. They have just been pulling our legs very wittily.

Part II. Reading Comprehension (50 marks)

Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow.

The alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*), whose great size is legendary, is one of the two members of the order *Crocodylia* found in the U.S. The anatomy of the alligator has been studied from the middle of the last century up to the present, and hundreds of papers have been written on the subject. A fairly comprehensive treatise published by Reese in 1915 has been a guide for much of the more recent work, and is still helpful to those using the alligator for research. Neither the physiology nor the biochemistry of the

alligator had been studied in much detail prior to the work described here. In the early years of the century when metabolism was being investigated in many different types of animals, several experiments were conducted on reptiles. Benedict, Krehl, and Soetbeer, and others used the alligator, and comparisons were made of the caloric requirements of cold- and warm-blooded animals.

1. Krehl and Soetbeer studied _____.
 - a. the size of the alligator
 - b. the anatomy of the alligator
 - c. the metabolism of the alligator
 - d. the natural history of the alligator
2. The aspect of the alligator that has been studied the longest is _____.
 - a. its anatomy
 - b. its great size
 - c. its metabolism
 - d. its caloric requirements
3. The word “legendary” means _____.
 - a. famous
 - b. enormous
 - c. incredible
 - d. interesting

Since the original sections of New Orleans had been built upon a natural levee or embankment, which had been further heightened as the years passed, the natural drainage of all streets was away from the river in the direction of the swamp leading ultimately to Lade Pontchartrain. Whatever may have been the disadvantages of this drainage system, it was possible to flush the gutters by means of hydrants located at the heads of those streets running diagonally from the river. In its aim to keep the streets as clean as possible, the Board of Health ordered that public hydrants on the main streets be opened for one hour each morning and evening. The sixty-inch annual rainfall in New Orleans originally had been sufficient to clean out the gutters, but as the population grew and the dirt and refuse accumulated, the rainwater soon proved inadequate. Whatever impact flushing the gutters may have had on health – and this is a debatable point – the aesthetic results must have justified the practice.

4. The city of New Orleans seems _____.
 - a. to have been located in a valley
 - b. to have been located between a river and a lake
 - c. to have had no natural levee to help in its drainage
 - d. to have been built on land so high that it needed no further heightening
5. New Orleans usually had _____.
 - a. little rainfall
 - b. sixty inches of rainfall a month
 - c. sixty inches of rainfall a year
 - d. enough rainfall to eliminate completely the need for extra drainage systems
6. The flushing of the gutters _____.
 - a. definitely improved the health of the New Orleanians
 - b. had no real effect on the health of the New Orleanians
 - c. may have made an improvement in the health of the New Orleanians
 - d. had some effect on the health of the citizens of New Orleans, but no other noticeable effect

Petroleum products, such as gasoline, kerosene, home heating oil, residual fuel oil, and lubricating oils, come from one source – crude oil found below the earth’s surface, as well as under large bodies of water, from a few hundred feet below the surface to as deep as 25,000 feet into the earth’s interior. Some times crude oil is secured by drilling a hole through the earth, but more dry holes are drilled than those producing oil. Pressure at the source or pumping forces crude oil to the surface.

Crude oil wells flow at varying rates, from ten to thousands of barrels per hour. Petroleum products are always measured in 42-gallon barrels.

Petroleum products vary greatly in physical appearance” thin, thick, transparent or opaque, but regardless, their chemical composition is made up of only two elements: carbon and hydrogen, which form compounds called hydrocarbons. Other chemical elements found in union with the hydrocarbons are few and are classified as impurities. Trace elements are also found, but these are of such minute quantities that they are disregarded. The combination of carbon and hydrogen forms many thousands of compounds which are possible because of the various positions and joinings of these two atoms in the hydrocarbon molecule.

The various petroleum products are refined from the crude oil by heating and condensing the vapors. These products are the so-called light oils, such as gasoline, kerosene, and distillate oil. The residue remaining after the light oils are distilled is known as heavy or residual fuel and is used mostly for burning under boilers. Additional complicated refining processes rearrange the chemical structure of the hydrocarbons to produce other produces, some of which are used to upgrade and increase the octane rating of various types of gasolines.

7. Which of the following is not true?
 - a. Crude oil is found below land and water.
 - b. Crude oil is always found a few hundred feet below the surface.
 - c. Pumping and pressure force crude oil to the surface.
 - d. A variety of petroleum products is obtained from crude oil.
8. Many thousands of hydrocarbon compounds are possible because _____.
 - a. the petroleum products vary greatly in physical appearance
 - b. complicated refining processes rearrange the chemical structure
 - c. the two atoms in the molecule assume many positions
 - d. the pressure needed to force it to the surface causes molecular transformation
9. Which of the following is true?
 - a. The various petroleum products are produced by filtration.
 - b. Heating and condensation produce the various products.
 - c. Chemical separation is used to produce the various products.

d. Mechanical means such as the centrifuge are used to produce the various products.

10. How is crude oil brought to the surface?

- a. Expansion of the hydrocarbons.
- b. Pressure and pumping.
- c. Vacuum created in the drilling pipe.
- d. Expansion and contraction of the earth's surface.

11. Which of the following is not listed as a light oil?

- a. Distillate oil.
- b. Lubricating oil.
- c. Gasoline.
- d. Keroine.

Glands manufacture and secrete necessary substances. Exocrine glands secrete their products through ducts, but endocrine glands, or ductless glands, release their products directly into the bloodstream.

One important endocrine gland is the thyroid gland. It is in the neck and has two lobes, one on each side of the windpipe. The thyroid gland collects iodine from the blood and produces thyroxine, an important hormone, which it stores in an inactive form. When thyroxine is needed by the body, the thyroid gland excretes it directly into the bloodstream. Thyroxine is combined in the body cells with other chemicals and affects many functions of the body.

The thyroid gland may be underactive or overactive, resulting in problems. An underactive thyroid causes hypothyroidism, while an overactive one causes hyperthyroidism. The former problem, called myxedema in adults and cretinism in children, causes the growth process to slow down. A cretin's body and mind do not grow to their full potential. Hyperthyroidism, on the other hand, results in extreme nervousness, an increase in heart action, and other problems.

Either hypothyroidism or hyperthyroidism may result in goiter, or an enlarged thyroid gland. A goiter will appear when the body is not getting enough iodine. Goiter is less common today, since most people use iodized salt.

12. The thyroid gland is called an endocrine gland because _____.

- a. it has ducts
- b. it has lobes
- c. it exercises directly into the bloodstream
- d. it is located in the neck

13. A cretin is _____.

- a. a child with hyperthyroidism
- b. an adult with an underperforming thyroid gland
- c. a young person with hypothyroidism
- d. an extremely irritable child

14. Which of the following is a probable result of myxedema?

- a. Sluggishness.
- b. Hyperactivity.
- c. Overproduction of thyroxine.
- d. Perspiration.

15. A goiter is _____.

- a. a person with myxedema
- b. a swollen thyroid gland
- c. an underactive thyroid gland
- d. a chemical

As far as 700 B.C., man has talked about children being cared for by wolves. Romulus and Remus, the well-known twin founders of Rome, were purported to have been cared for by wolves. It is believed that when a she-wolf loses her litter, she seeks a human child to take its place.

This seemingly preposterous idea did not become credible until the late nineteenth century when a French doctor actually found a naked ten-year-old boy wandering in the woods. He did not walk erect, could not speak intelligibly, nor could he relate to people. He only growled and stared at them. Finally the doctor won the boy's confidence and began to work with him. After many long years of devoted and patient instruction, the doctor was able to get the boy to clothe and feed himself, recognize and utter a number of words, as well as write letters and form words.

16. The French doctor found the boy _____.
- a. wandering in the woods b. at his doorstep
c. growling at him d. speaking intelligibly
17. In this passage, the word *litter* most nearly means _____.
- a. garbage b. master c. offspring d. hair
18. The doctor was able to work with the boy because _____.
- a. the boy was highly intelligent b. the boy trusted him
c. the boy liked to dress up d. the boy was dedicated and patient
19. Which of the following statements is *not true*?
- a. She-wolves have been said to substitute human children for their lost litters.
b. Examples of wolves' caring for human children can be found only in the nineteenth century.
c. The French doctor succeeded in domesticating the boy somewhat.
d. The young boy never was able to speak perfectly.
20. In this passage, the word *preposterous* most nearly means _____.
- a. dedicated b. scientific c. wonderful d. absurd

Almost every day the average teenage girl is judged and criticized by other teenage girls, on clothes, complexion, hair, makeup, and figure. But where does the teenage girl's idea of beauty come from? One of the answers is magazines. Magazines such as Teen, Seventeen, YM (Young and Modern), and Teen People have models on every page, pictures of the perfect body, smoothest hair, and flawless features. When we teenage girls see these flawless faces and gorgeous bodies, an idea of the perfect woman gets placed in our heads, and this idea sticks.

The ideal of the 110-pound, size-three, C-cup, five-foot nine-inch blond woman is one that many of us will go to extremes to achieve. We will deprive ourselves of food in pursuit of this image. When we can't reach this unrealistic goal, too many of us end up

binge eating because we're depressed. Then, in order not to gain weight, we are likely to purge ourselves of the food we consumed. So the destructive cycle of eating disorders begins. As if disrupting our eating habits is not bad enough, we will wear uncomfortable clothes to look "better," high-heeled shoes to look taller, too-tight jeans to look smaller, dyed hair to be blond, and uncomfortably revealing outfits to look more like the young women in the magazines. But why exactly do we teenage girls torture ourselves so to change our looks and try to take on the supposed perfection of the models in magazines? What is in these magazines that appeals so much to girls who are becoming young women?

Horoscopes, advice, beauty and body tips, questions and answers on all topics, and interesting and informative articles are some of the things you will find in the many magazines targeted at teenage girls. In some of the many articles they have about anorexia, bulimia, and other eating disorders, the magazines tell about the devastating effects—medical and psychological—of those disorders along with firsthand accounts of people who have suffered from them. Yet, on just about every page, there are young women who are so thin they look as if they have those very disorders. Other interesting stories that these magazines sometimes have are firsthand accounts of "shopaholics," or compulsive buyers, while on just about every page there are advertisements practically screaming, "Buy, buy, buy." Ads for clothes, bathing suits, makeup, hair care, nail care, and "feminine needs" are everywhere. These ads lead teenage girls to believe that if we manage to obtain all of these products, we will somehow be transformed into the glamorous women in the magazines who, because they are "beautiful," must also be happy. The advertisements thrust on young women the idea that we need—in fact, that we must have—all of these beautifying products to be socially accepted.

Although magazines create impossible desires for young women, there are also many features that will help us through this awkward stage of life. In traditional cultures, there are coming-of-age ceremonies that provide very clear guidelines and rituals for how we are supposed to act as we experience our adolescence; however, American girls in our times are left to fend for ourselves during the stage between childhood and womanhood. Magazines such as Seventeen have articles about some of the life-altering decisions that must be made during this time, decisions such as whether or not to have sex, do drugs, concentrate in school and go to college. These articles are supplemented with advice columns with names like "Beauty," "Boys," and "Saying Goodbye," which go over teenagers' problems and their solutions.

Sometimes teenagers, like all other people, want to forget our problems, even if it means laughing at other people's misfortunes. Columns that poke fun at other people are "Trauma-rama," "Most Mortifying Moments," and "Why Me?" It's hard for teenage girls

to find our way in life, so we sometimes want to read about someone else who has had bad or embarrassing experiences. More importantly, however, magazines publish articles on hard-to-deal-with, widespread experiences—divorce, domestic violence, difficult breakups, peer pressure, and even rape. These articles show young women that we are not alone in dealing with these problems and refer us to people who can help. Family members are the hardest people to talk to about these problems, and sometimes these articles can explain to teen girls some possible ways to inform our families about what we’re going through.

With parents, friends, teachers, and peers telling the young women of today who to be and how to act, it is easy for girls to get lost trying to find who we truly are. In the adolescent girl’s search for her identity, the teen magazines can be both bad and good. On the one hand, they instill in our minds an unrealistic and unachievable goal of beauty. On the other hand, they help us find ourselves and understand better how to accomplish our goals in life. If we can find a way to tune out the messages from the models and ads, or if the magazines themselves would rule them out, I think these magazines would be mostly beneficial in allowing young women to take advantage of learning from others’ mistakes. After all, we would all like to learn from mistakes without making them ourselves.

21. The author believes that teenage girls’ emphasis on appearance is largely caused by _____.
- other teenage girls’ criticism and judgment
 - their desire to look better than other teenage girls
 - their belief that clothes and makeup can create beauty
 - influence of magazines with pictures of “perfect” women
22. Which of the following sequence describes how eating disorder is caused?
- depression – eating more – gaining weight – eating disorder
 - eating more – gaining weight – depression – eating disorder
 - depression – eating more – throwing up food we eat – eating disorder
 - eating more – depression – throwing up food we eat – eating disorder
23. Which of the following statements is true according to the text?
- Wearing uncomfortable clothes is even worse than having eating disorder.
 - Some teenagers went through much physical discomfort trying to look good.
 - Wearing uncomfortable clothes will worsen the problem of eating disorder.
 - The magazine models look perfect since they use many beautifying products.
24. By reading stories of other people’s misfortunes, teenagers can _____.
- learn how to seek help and solve some of their own problems
 - forget their own problems since others encounter worse problems
 - understand why it is hard to talk to family members about their problems

- d. develop sympathy towards those who have had bad experiences in their lives
25. According to the author, teenage magazines can be beneficial to teenagers if they _____.
- a. have a clear goal of life and are determined to achieve it
 - b. learn from others' mistakes and achieve their own goals in life
 - c. get the main messages from the models and ads in the magazines
 - d. read them with their parents, who tell them what to do and who to be

Part III. Critical Reading (30 marks)

Read the following paragraphs or passages and answer the questions that follow.

(1)

I make a difference between good manners and good breeding; although, in order to vary my expression, I am sometimes forced to confound them. By the first, I only understand the art of remembering and applying certain settled forms of general behaviour. But good breeding is of a much larger extent; for besides an uncommon degree of literature sufficient to qualify a gentleman for reading a play, or a political pamphlet, it takes in a great compass of knowledge; no less than that of dancing, fighting, gaming, making the circle of Italy, riding the great horse, and speaking French; not to mention some other secondary, or subaltern accomplishments, which are more easily acquired. So that the difference between good breeding and good manners lies in this, that the former cannot be attained to by the best understandings, without study and labour; whereas a tolerable degree of reason will instruct us in every part of good manners, without other assistance.

——Jonathan Swift, “A Treatise on Good Manners and Good Breeding”

1. Write a short complete sentence in your own words stating the main idea.
2. Why does the writer use the word ‘subaltern’?

(2)

I was yesterday invited by a gentleman to dinner, who promised that our entertainment should consist of a haunch of venison, a turtle, and a great man. I came, according to appointment. The venison was fine, the turtle good, but the great man insupportable. The moment I ventured to speak, I was at once contradicted with a snap. I attempted, by a second and a third assault, to retrieve my lost reputation, but was still beat back with confusion. I was resolved to attack him once more from entrenchment, and turned the conversation upon the government of China: but even here he asserted, snapped, and contradicted as before. Heavens, thought I, this man pretends to know China even better than myself! I looked round to see who was on my side, but every eye was fixed in admiration on the great man; I therefore, at last thought proper to sit silent, and act the pretty gentleman during the ensuing conversation.

——Oliver Goldsmith, “A Little Great Man”

3. Write a complete sentence in your own words that expresses the main idea.
4. Why does the writer use the word ‘entrenchment’?

(3)

For those who want to develop or use semantical methods, the decisive question is not the alleged ontological question of the existence of abstract entities but rather the question whether the rise of abstract linguistic forms or, in technical terms, the use of variables beyond those for things (or phenomenal data), is expedient and fruitful for the purposes for which semantical analyses are made, viz. the analysis, interpretation, clarification, or construction of languages of communication, especially languages of science. This question is here neither decided nor even discussed. It is not a question simply of yes or no, but a matter of degree. Among those philosophers who have carried out semantical analyses and thought about suitable tools for this work, beginning with Plato and Aristotle and, in a more technical way on the basis of modern logic, with C. S. Peirce and Frege, a great majority accepted abstract entities. This does, of course, not prove the case. After all, semantics in the technical sense is still in the initial phases of its development, and we must be prepared for possible fundamental changes in methods. Let us therefore admit that the nominalistic critics may possibly be right. But if so, they will have to offer better arguments than they have so far. Appeal to ontological insight will not carry much weight. The critics will have to show that it is possible to construct a semantical method which avoids all references to abstract entities and achieves by simpler means essentially the same results as the other methods.

——Rudolf Carnap, “Empiricism, Semantics, and Ontology”

5. What is the main idea of the above paragraph?
6. What can you infer from the last sentence?
7. Why does the author use the word ‘ontological’?

(4)

There is some impertinence as well as some foolhardiness in the way in which we buy animals for so much gold and silver and call them ours. One cannot help wondering what the silent critic on the hearthrug thinks of our strange conventions — the mystic Persian, whose ancestors were worshipped as gods whilst we, their masters and mistresses, groveled in caves and painted our bodies blue. She has a vast heritage of experience, which seems to brood in her eyes, too solemn and too subtle for expression; she smiles, I often think, at our late-born civilization, and remembers the rise and fall of dynasties. There is something, too, profane in the familiarity, half contemptuous, with which we treat our animals. We deliberately transplant a little bit of simple wild life, and make it grow beside ours, which is neither simple nor wild. You may often see in a dog’s

eyes a sudden look of the primitive animal, as though he were once more a wild dog hunting in the solitary places of this youth. How have we the impertinence to make these wild creatures forgo their nature for ours, which at best they can but imitate? It is one of the refined sins of civilization, for we know not what wild spirit we are taking from its purer atmosphere, or who it is — Pan, or Nymph, or Dryad — that we have trained to beg for a lump of sugar at tea.

—— Virginia Woolf, “On a Faithful Friend”

8. Write a complete sentence in your own words that expresses the main idea.
9. By what means does the author develop the above paragraph and reveal her opinion?
10. What does the writer intend to express when he writes the last sentence?

Part IV Composition (50 marks)

Topic: Constant Dripping Wears Away a Stone