

# 中山大学

## 二〇〇七年攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试试题

科目代码: 738

科目名称: 基础英语

考试时间: 1月21日上午

### 考生须知

全部答案一律写在答题纸上，  
答在试题纸上的不得分！请用蓝、  
黑色墨水笔或圆珠笔作答，答题  
要写清题号，不必抄题。

### I. Reading (40%)

#### I. Reading comprehension:

##### Passage 1:

Scholars often fail to see that music played an important role in the preservation of African culture in the United States. They correctly note that slavery stripped some cultural elements from Black people—their political and economic systems—but they underestimate the significance of music in sustaining other African cultural values. African music, unlike the music of some other cultures, was based on a total vision of life in which music was not an isolated social domain. In African culture music was pervasive, serving not only religion, but all phases of life, including birth, death, work, and play. The methods that a community devises to perpetuate itself come into being to preserve aspects of the cultural legacy that that community perceives as essential. Music, like art in general, was so inextricably a part of African culture that it became a crucial means of preserving the culture during and after the dislocations of slavery.

#### 1) The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. analyze the impact that slavery had on African political and economic systems.
- B. review the attempt of recent scholarship to study the influence of African music on other music.
- C. correct the failure of some scholars to appreciate the significance of music in African culture.
- D. survey the ways by which people attempt to preserve their culture against the effects of oppression.

#### 2) In line 5, the phrase "isolated social domain" refers to

- A. African music in relation to contemporary culture as a whole.
- B. music as it may be perceived in non-African cultures.
- C. feature of African music that aided in transmitting African cultural values.
- D. an aspect of the African cultural legacy.

#### 3) Which of the following statements concerning the function of African music can be inferred from the passage?

- A. It preserved cultural values because it was thoroughly integrated into the lives of the people.
- B. It was more important in the development of African religious life than in other areas of culture.
- C. It was developed in response to the loss of political and economic systems.
- D. Its pervasiveness in African culture hindered its effectiveness in minimizing the impact of slavery.

#### 4) According to the author, scholars would err in drawing which of the following conclusions?

- I. Slavery stripped the slaves of their political and economic systems.
  - II. African music was similar to all other traditions of music in that it originated in a total vision of life.
  - III. Music was a crucial part of the African cultural legacy.
- A. I only
  - B. II only

- C. I and II only  
D. I, II, and III

Passage 2:

Our task will be simpler if we begin with some stories written long before anyone worried very much about cleaning out the rhetorical impurities from the house of fiction. The stories in Boccaccio's *Decameron*, for example, seem extremely simple—perhaps even simple-minded and inept—if we ask of them the questions which many modern stories invite us to ask. It is bad enough that the characters are what we call two-dimensional, with no revealed depths of any kind; what is much worse, the “point of view” of the narrator shifts among them with a total disregard for the kind of technical focus or consistency generally admired today. But if we read these stories in their own terms, we soon discover a splendid and complex skill underlying the simplicity of the effect.

- 5) The primary purpose of the passage is to  
A. refute a belief about modern stories generally held by people.  
B. show that the stories in *Decameron* are inferior to modern stories.  
C. suggest a way to reread pre-modern stories.  
D. re-interpret Boccaccio's *Decameron*.
- 6) In presenting the argument, the author does which of the following?  
A. Make an enumeration.  
B. Present a paradox.  
C. Make a comparison.  
D. Give an analogy.
- 7) Which of the following is **NOT TRUE** according to the passage?  
A. The stories in *Decameron* are full of two-dimensional characters.  
B. Pre-modern stories such as *Decameron* do not use any narrative techniques.  
C. Modern stories try to avoid more than one “point of view”.  
D. Stories in *Decameron* depict characters in a superficial way.
- 8) It can be inferred from the passage that  
A. modern stories are generally more interesting than earlier stories because they can reveal the characters in depths.  
B. telling a story from more than one perspective is considered a rhetorical impurity by modern story writers.  
C. unlike modern stories, earlier stories generally do not invite readers to ask questions of them.  
D. the stories in *Decameron* are simple-minded.

Passage 3:

We all accept that killing is in general wrong, but virtually all of us also recognize certain exceptions—that is, we concede that there can be instances in which killing is permissible. In addition to accepting the obvious permissibility of killing microbes and plants (except then this is objectionable for either instrumental or impersonal reasons) most people believe that it can be permissible in a variety of circumstances to kill animals, and also that it can be permissible to kill other human beings in self-defense and in appropriate conditions in war.

There are four distinct categories into which we may sort most or all instances of killing for which there may be a reasonable justification. Perhaps the most contentious category consists of cases in which killing would simply promote the greater good—for example, a case in which killing one person would prevent the killing, or the deaths, of a much greater number of people.

The second category consists of cases in which an individual has done something that has lowered the moral barriers to harming him, or compromised his status as inviolable, or made him liable to action that might result in his death. Cases in which killing might be thought to be justified for this sort of reason include killing in self defense, killing in war, and killing as a mode of punishment.

The third category of possibly permissible killing consists of cases in which the metaphysical or moral status of the individual killed is uncertain or controversial. Among those beings whose nature arguably entails a moral status inferior to our own are animals, human embryos and fetuses, newborn infants, congenitally severely retarded human beings, human beings who have suffered severe brain damage or dementia, and human beings who have been in irreversible coma. These are beings that are in one way or another "at the margins."

The fourth and final category comprises cases in which death would not be a harm to an individual but instead a benefit. In many such cases, the individual for whom death would be a benefit also desires to die and may request to be killed or helped to die. The practical issues that arise under this heading are suicide, assisted suicide, and euthanasia.

9) The passage states that

- A. killing microbes and plants is generally not considered morally wrong.
- B. most people think it alright to assist other people to commit suicide.
- C. killing animals are morally more objectionable than killing plants.
- D. though killing human beings is immoral, sometimes it is necessary.

10) The phrase "at the margins" in the fourth paragraph means:

- A. in danger.
- B. morally insignificant.
- C. with an obscure moral status.
- D. in a helpless condition.

11) According to the passage,

- A. it is permissible to kill one person if it can prevent the deaths of a much greater number of people.
- B. killing in war is not morally wrong.
- C. killing newborn babies might be morally justifiable.
- D. euthanasia is morally right because it benefits the individual involved.

12) Which of the following is NOT TRUE according to the passage?

- A. Fetuses and newborn babies are considered to be morally inferior to ordinary human beings.
- B. Killing in self-defense might be permissible because the life of the person who attacks is no longer inviolable.
- C. Capital punishment is justifiable as a means of punishment.
- D. It is morally wrong to kill human beings who have been in irreversible coma.

13) Which of the following serves as the best title for the passage?

- A. Why is Killing Immoral
- B. The Morality of Killing
- C. Justifiable Killings
- D. Problems of Killing

Passage 4:

Picture-taking is a technique both for annexing the objective world and for expressing the singular self. Photographs depict objective realities that already exist, though only the camera can disclose them. And they depict an individual photographer's temperament discovering itself through the camera's cropping of reality. That is, photography has two antithetical ideals: in the first, photography is about the world and the photographer is a mere observer who counts for little; but in the second, photography is the instrument of intrepid, questing subjectivity and the photographer is all.

These conflicting ideals arise from a fundamental uneasiness on the part of both photographers and viewers of photographs toward the aggressive component in "taking" a picture.

Accordingly, the ideal of a photographer as observer is attractive because it implicitly denies that picture-taking is an aggressive act. The issue, of course, is not so clear-cut. What photographers do cannot be characterized as simply predatory or as simply, and essentially, benevolent. As a consequence,

one ideal of picture-taking or the other is always being rediscovered and championed.

An important result of the coexistence of these two ideals is a recurrent ambivalence toward photography's means. Whatever the claims that photography might make to be a form of personal expression on a par with painting, its originality is inextricably linked to the powers of a machine. The steady growth of these powers has made possible the extraordinary informativeness and imaginative formal beauty of many photographs, like Harold Edgerton's high-speed photographs of a bullet hitting its target or of the swirls and eddies of a tennis stroke. But as cameras become more sophisticated, more automated, some photographers are tempted to disarm themselves or to suggest that they are not really armed, preferring to submit themselves to the limits imposed by premodern camera technology because a cruder, less high powered machine is thought to give more interesting or emotive results, to leave more room for creative accident. For example, it has been virtually a point of honor for many photographers, including Walker Evans and Cartier-Bresson, to refuse to use modern equipment. These photographers have come to doubt the value of the camera as an instrument of "fast seeing." Cartier-Bresson, in fact, claims that the modern camera may see too fast.

This ambivalence toward photographic means determines trends in taste. The cult of the future (of faster and faster seeing) alternates over time with the wish to return to a purer past—when images had a handmade quality. This nostalgia for some pristine state of the photographic enterprise is currently wide-spread and underlies the present-day enthusiasm for daguerreotypes and the work of forgotten nineteenth-century provincial photographers. Photographers and viewers of photographs, it seems, need periodically to resist their own knowingsness.

14) According to the passage, interest among photographers in each of photography's two ideals can be described as

- A. rapidly changing.
- B. cyclically recurring.
- C. steadily growing.
- D. unrelated to changes in technology.

15) The author is primarily concerned with

- A. establishing new technical standards for contemporary photography.
- B. analyzing the influence of photographic ideals on picture-taking.
- C. tracing the development of camera technology in the twentieth century.
- D. describing how photographers' individual temperaments are reflected in their work.

16) The passage states all of the following about photographs EXCEPT:

- A. They can convey information.
- B. They can depict the photographer's temperament.
- C. They can possess great formal beauty.
- D. They can change the viewer's sensibilities.

17) The author mentions the work of Harold Edgerton in order to provide an example of

- A. how a controlled ambivalence toward photography's means can produce outstanding pictures.
- B. how the content of photographs has changed from the nineteenth century to the twentieth.
- C. the popularity of high-speed photography in the twentieth century.
- D. the relationship between photographic originality and technology.

18) The passage suggests that photographers such as Walker Evans prefer old-fashioned techniques and equipment because these photographers

- A. dislike the dependence of photographic effectiveness on the powers of a machine.
- B. strive for intense formal beauty in their photographs.
- C. like the discipline that comes from self-imposed limitations.
- D. need to feel armed by technology.

- 19) According to the passage, the two antithetical ideals of photography differ primarily in the
- value that each places on the beauty of the finished product.
  - degree of technical knowledge that each requires of the photographer.
  - extent of the power that each requires of the photographer's equipment.
  - way in which each defines the role of the photographer.

20) Which of the following statements would be most likely to begin the paragraph immediately following the passage?

- Photographers, as a result of their heightened awareness of time, are constantly trying to capture events and actions that are fleeting.
- Thus the cult of the future, the worship of machines and speed, is firmly established in spite of efforts to the contrary by some photographers.
- The rejection of technical knowledge, however, can never be complete and photography cannot for any length of time pretend that it has no weapons.
- The point of honor involved in rejecting complex equipment is, however, of no significance to the viewer of a photograph.

**II. Correct the mistakes in the following sentences: underline the wrong parts and put the correct ones in the brackets.(10%)**

- Virginia Hamilton who has won consistent praise for her novels about Black children. ( )
- When overall exports exceed imports, a country said to have a trade surplus. ( )
- Not woman held a presidential cabinet position in the United States until 1933, when Frances Perkins became secretary of labor. ( )
- Different species of octopuses may measure anywhere from two inches over thirty feet in length. ( )
- Luminescence refers to the emission of light by means another than heat. ( )
- Industrial buyers are responsible for supplying the goods and services that an organization required for its operations. ( )
- Instructors at the school of American Ballet first examine a young applicant's instep to see whether it is pliant and shows promising of a good arch. ( )
- Historians have never reached some general agreement about the precise causes of the Civil War in the United States. ( )
- A leading Canadian feminist and author, Nellie McClung, struggled relentlessly in the early twentieth century to win politically and legal rights for Canadian women. ( )
- Although they are in different countries, Windsor, Ontario and Detroit, Michigan are close neighbors and cooperate on numerous matters of mutually interest. ( )

**III. English Composition (40%)**

Thomas Alva Edison once said, "Opportunity is missed by most because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work." On the basis of this statement, you are required to write an essay of about 400 words on the relationship between opportunity and success.

In the first part of your writing you should introduce your argument, and in the second part you should support your argument with appropriate details. In the final part, you should bring what you have written to a natural conclusion or summary.

Marks will be awarded for **Content, Organization, Grammar, and Appropriateness.** Failure to follow the instruction will result in a loss of marks.

#### IV. Translation

##### A. Translate the following passage into Chinese. Write your translation on the ANSWER SHEET (20%).

*Discipline and Punish* (1975) is a genealogical study of the development of the "gentler" modern way of imprisoning criminals rather than torturing or killing them. While recognizing the element of genuinely enlightened reform, Foucault particularly emphasizes how such reform also becomes a vehicle of more effective control: "to punish less, perhaps; but certainly to punish better". He further argues that the new mode of punishment becomes the model for control of an entire society, with factories, hospitals, and schools modeled on the modern prison. We should not, however, think that the deployment of this model was due to the explicit decisions of some central controlling agency. In typically genealogical fashion, Foucault's analysis shows how techniques and institutions, developed for different and often quite innocuous purposes, converged to create the modern system of disciplinary power.

##### B. Translate the following passages into English. Write your translation on the ANSWER SHEET (20%).

宗教和巫术不只是解释事物并帮助人们实现种种目标。它们还涉足人类的情感领域。换言之，它们既满足认知（即解释性）的需要，又满足情感的需要。如超自然信仰和习俗有助于缓解焦虑情绪。巫法可祛除人们对结局无计可施时所出现的种种疑虑。同样，宗教还有助于人们面对死亡并忍受种种人生危机。

尽管所有的社会均具应对日常事务之法，但有些方面终归世事难料。据一位著名学人的观点，人们面临无常和危险之际，往往求助于巫术。

#### V.

##### 1. Choose the correct answer from each of the following. (10%)

- Which of the following religions has an 'elective affinity' with Capitalism?
 

A. Buddhism	B. Judaism
C. The Dreaming	D. Protestantism
- The relationship between the Dreaming and Protestantism in terms of human-nature relation is \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A. compatible	B. contrasting
C. similar	D. complementary
- The first Muslims to come to Australia were \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A. camel drivers	B. gold diggers
C. hawkers and travelers	D. cotton plantation laborers
- A free press is considered very important to the functioning of parliamentary democracy because \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A. it plays a watchdog function, keeping an eye on the government.
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- B. it informs people of current affairs in the world.
  - C. it provides people with subjective reports.
  - D. it publishes short pamphlets for Parliament.
- 5) Which of the following newspapers is printed internationally?
- A. The Guardian
  - B. The News of the World
  - C. The Financial Times
  - D. The Observer

2. Tell what you know about the following in your own words. (10%)

- 1) The Cold War
- 2) The era of realism in Canadian literature