

中 山 大 学

二 00 九 年 攻 读 硕 士 学 位 研 究 生 入 学 考 试 试 题

科目代码: 628

科目名称: 基础英语

考试时间: 1 月 11 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 comprehension (40 points)

Passage 1:

Driving Miss Daisy, starring Morgan Freeman, Jessica Tandy, and Dan Aykroyd (in his best movie role to date), directed by Bruce Beresford, and adapted by Alfred Uhry from his own Pulitzer Prize-winning play, is a small miracle of a picture, beautifully done and sure to have both an emotional and nostalgic advantage in the Academy Award competition. Even if the film were not as splendid as it is, there would be the temptation to reward Jessica Tandy with recognition for a career that spans 64 years. She has won three Tony Awards for her stage work. She made her motion picture debut in 1932 with *The Indiscretion of Eve*. She has won the Obie and the Emmy Award for Best Actress. Now here is an excellent chance to give her an Oscar. She is, after all, one of the first ladies of the theatre. . . .

Her performance shows Miss Daisy aging over three decades. The film starts in 1948, when this Southern Jewish matron backs her new Chrysler into her neighbor's garden. Concluding that she is no longer competent to drive, her son Boolie (Dan Aykroyd), who runs the family mill in Atlanta and is obviously well off, hires Hoke Colburn (Morgan Freeman) to be her chauffeur. At first her feelings are hurt, but eventually she comes to accept Hoke's services. She is at first haughty and proud, but over the years she comes to like and respect Hoke. She has worked as a teacher and she teaches him to read. After the temple was bombed by racists she begins to show interest in civil rights and Martin Luther King's message to the New South. . . . Finally, as her mind begins to fail at the end, she comes to realize that her black chauffeur is probably her best friend.

The film, of course, opens up the play, fleshing out of some of the characters who were not central to the play. . . . But at the heart of this film is Morgan Freeman, who created the role of Hoke on stage. The playwright credits Freeman with creating "things that I couldn't write and barely explain," bringing to the role "a combination of irony, dignity and humility that is quite undefinable."

Not only is the acting peerless, but the art direction is also extraordinary. The action stretches from 1948 to 1973, and the shifts in time are entirely suggested by subtle shifts in visual details - a 1953 Chevrolet glimpsed down the street, for example, a billboard advertising a 1955 Plymouth, the changing technology at Boolie's factory, the vintage of heard Christmas music. An Academy Award for art direction also seems possible, and best adapted screenplay, and direction. The play is intelligently expanded to fill cinema space. The performances are simply wondrous.

1. Which of the following is NOT a fact about *Driving Miss Daisy*?
 - A. It is based on a play by Alfred Uhry.
 - B. Jessica Tandy has been working in film and theatre for many years.
 - C. It stars Morgan Freeman.
 - D. The acting is peerless.

考试完毕，试题和草稿纸随答题纸一起交回。

第 1 页 共 7 页

Passage 2:

Several analogies have been used to explain human memory, the construct used to account for the way experiences at one point in time influence behavior at a later point in time. Plato (425-348 BC), for example, suggested memory was analogous to the impression of messages on wax writing tablets. For Plato, writing on the tablet represented learning something new, the tablet itself was the memory store, and reading the tablets later was analogous to trying to recall the stored information. Like the writing on a wax surface, with the passing of time, memories became less clear. Unfortunately, Plato's analogy misses an important characteristic of memory, namely that it is selective. By way of contrast, one always has access to the information on the tablet, unless all or part of it is destroyed.

Another analogy is of memory and a hologram. A hologram is a device which stores a three dimensional record of a scene using photography with a laser light. Even if part of the holographic plate is missing, it is possible to reconstruct the image with the parts of the plate that remain. Experiences or knowledge can also be recalled using incomplete memories. Other analogies involve artificial methods of storing information, too. The comparison of the mind to a computer is attractive because it emphasizes the ability of human memory to recall information quickly, but the same objections stated above with regard to Plato's hypothesis apply here.

Gregg (1975) has compared memory to the functioning of a tape recorder. The latter records sound waves, coded as magnetic patterns on tape, and stores them over time. The information recorded can be decoded, without destroying the tape, for later use. Gregg points out, however, that the analogy is too simple. Human memory is far more sophisticated than the workings of a tape recorder. It does not simply record passing events passively, for instance; unlike the machine, it is dynamic, capable of selecting which information it will store, and of arranging the storage system in more than just a simple linear fashion.

Blakemore (1977) has noted that the discovery of DNA has provided scientists with another source of analogy to describe memory. This analogy proposes that experience results in the synthesis of specific chemical molecules in the brain and the formation of new molecules. These synthesized molecules represent memories. This description of memory would provide both the physical substrata (the synthesized molecule) and the nature of the code (the specific shape of the molecule).

However attractive a given analogy may appear, it is important to recognize the limited function of analogies in science in general. As used in science, they are generally substitutes for understanding, models that guide research, not genuine explanations of phenomena. They are useful if they provide investigations designed to establish differences between the things compared but dangerous if they promote complacent acceptance as the same two things which are really different.

9. One definition of human memory given by the author is that _____.
- experiences may influence behavior at one time but not at others
 - experiences account for later behavior
 - mental construct may account for the way experiences influence later behaviors
 - memory is constructed in the way that accounts for experiences
10. Plato's analogy _____.
- neglected the selective characteristic of human memory
 - captured all the essential characteristics of human memory
 - illustrated that all or part of human memory could be destroyed
 - is applicable to memorizing information in written form
11. The hologram analogy is better than Plato's since _____.
- it is a three dimensional record
 - it uses the modern technology of photography
 - it includes the known capacity of memory for recovering missing information
 - it has a larger capacity of storing information than Plato's wax writing tablets

12. The author thinks the analogy with a computer is _____.
- an improvement for the wax tablet and hologram examples
 - as objectionable as Plato's, though attractive
 - inappropriate, if applied to Plato's hypothesis
 - an exact illustration of the characteristics of human memory
13. Gregg believes memories are _____.
- stored as magnetic patterns in the brain
 - coded and decoded in magnetic patterns
 - indestructible but tapes are
 - in a way comparable to the tape recorder
14. One limitation of the tape recorder analogy is that _____.
- the machine is only capable of storing information linearly
 - memories are too numerable to be recorded
 - the machine is only good for recording sounds but not for recording graphs
 - the tape recorder records passing events only but the brain predicts the future as well.
15. The DNA analogy proposes _____.
- both the chemical synthesis and the physical substrata
 - biochemical correlates of memory in the brain
 - that molecules help store information
 - that molecules are good at synthesizing memory
16. The author sees analogies as _____.
- the end product of scientific research
 - substitutes for investigation and understanding
 - inspirations guiding further research into unknown areas
 - models provoking investigation into differences between the compared things

Passage 3:

It is 30 years since Frank Lloyd Wright died at 91, and it is no exaggeration to say that the United States has no architect even roughly comparable to him since. His extraordinary 72-year career spanned the shingled Hillside Home School in Wisconsin in 1887 to the Guggenheim Museum built in New York in 1959.

His great early work, the prairie houses of the Midwest in which he developed his style of open, flowing space, great horizontal panes, and integrated structure of wood, stone, glass, and stucco were mostly built before 1910. Philip Johnson once insulted Wright by calling him "America's greatest nineteenth-century architect." But Mr. Johnson was then a partisan of the sleek, austere International Style which Wright disliked. Now, the International Style is in disarray, and what is significant here is that Wright's reputation has not suffered much at all in the current antimodernist upheaval.

One of the reasons that Wright's reputation has not suffered too severely in the current turmoil in architectural thinking is that he spoke a tremendous amount of common sense. He was full of ideas that seemed daring, almost absurd, but which now in retrospect were clearly right. Back in the 1920s, for example, he alone among architects and planners perceived the great effect the automobile would have on the American landscape. He foresaw "the great highway becoming, and rapidly, the horizontal line of a new freedom extending from ocean to ocean," as he wrote in his autobiography of 1932. Wright wrote approvingly of the trend toward decentralization, which hardly endears him to today's center-city-minded planners — but if his calls toward suburban planning had been realized, the chaotic sprawl of the American landscape might today have some rational order to it.

Wright was obsessed with the problem of the affordable house for the middle-class American. It may be that no other prominent architect has ever designed as many prototypes of inexpensive houses that

could be mass-produced; unlike most current high stylists, who ignore the boredom of suburban tract houses and design expensive custom residences in the hope of establishing a distance between themselves and mass culture, Wright tried hard to close the gap between the architectural profession and the general public.

In his modest houses or his grand ones, Wright emphasized appropriate materials, which might well be considered to prefigure both the growing preoccupation today with energy-saving design and the surge of interest in regional architecture. Wright, unlike the architects of the International Style, would not build the same house in Massachusetts that he would build in California; he was concerned about local traditions, regional climates, and so forth. It is perhaps no accident that at Wright's Scottsdale, Arizona home and studio that continues to function, many of the younger architects have begun doing solar designs as a logical step from Wright's work.

17. According to the passage, Wright's typical style included all of the following EXCEPT _____.
- A. the integrated use of different types of building materials
 - B. open flowing spaces
 - C. large horizontal panes
 - D. solar-powered heating systems
18. In the third paragraph, the author mentions Wright's thoughts about the importance of the automobile primarily to illustrate _____.
- A. the general mood of the times
 - B. Wright's ability to correctly predicts the future
 - C. the absurdity of Wright's ideas
 - D. the need for centralization in America
19. Wright foresaw that "the great effect" of the automobile (3rd paragraph) would be to _____.
- A. increase the number of highways in America
 - B. enhance the need for solar-powered designs
 - C. create decentralized suburban communities
 - D. weaken the International Style, an architectural movement of which Wright disapproved
20. Wright's refusal to build an identical house in both Massachusetts and Californian (5th paragraph) came out of his conviction that _____.
- A. each house should be a unique design, never to be duplicated
 - B. although he designed homes for mass production, he felt others should do the actual duplication
 - C. only International Style homes could be duplicated anywhere
 - D. each design should reflect features of regional architecture and climate concerns

II. Correct the mistakes in the following sentences: underline the wrong parts and put the correct ones in the brackets. If there is no error, use a ✓ or write "No error" on the ANSWER SHEET (10 points)

1. Restrictions on one of committees that monitor corporate waste disposal was revoked, allowing the committee to levy fines on violations of the disposal laws.
2. While many cooking experts hold that the only proper way to bake a potato is in a conventional oven, others contend that cooking them in a microwave is a perfectly acceptable alternative.
3. The teacher noted that the inspired writing Jim displayed on his homework was incompatible to the prosaic prose he produced in class.
4. In 1976, to celebrate the bicentennial of the United States, classes from each local school attended a grand fireworks display and, never saw such a display before, were surprised by the colors and the noise caused by the controlled explosions.
5. Visitors to the zoo have often looked into exhibits designed for lions and seen ducks or crows eating treats or enjoying water intend for the large cats.
6. Either the United States or the Philippines is the top choice of the State Department to receive the mining contract.
7. Against the advice of their coach, who has led more teams to victory than any other coach in the town's history, this year's baseball team attended more parties than practices and had an especially disappointing season.
8. Neither the ongoing costs associated with feeding so many tigers nor the difficulties caused by meddling neighbors has been considered prior to purchasing the land and building the sanctuary.
9. Each member of the audience told the director that the thriller was the scariest movie that they had ever seen.
10. Notwithstanding having spent several hours in meetings with each other and with an arbitrator, the parties were unable to reach an agreement.

III. English composition (40 points)

Read the following quote and write an argumentation of about 400 words on praising.

"Praise out of season, or tactlessly bestowed, can freeze the heart as much as blame." by Pearl S. Buck, American Writer

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**1. Translate the following passage into Chinese. Write your translation on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)**

The true artist lets himself go. He is natural. He swims easily in the stream of his own temperament. He listens to himself. He respects himself.

The function of the artist is to disturb. His duty is to arouse the sleepers, to shake the complacent pillars of the world. He reminds the world of its dark ancestry, shows the world its present, and points the way to its new birth... He makes uneasy the static, the set and the still. In a world terrified of change, he preaches revolution – the principle of life. He is an agitator, a disturber of the peace – quick, impatient, positive, restless and disquieting. He is the creative spirit working in the soul of man.

2. Translate the following passage into English. Write your translation on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)

.....
二十岁的时候，一听到名人就激动不已，就欢呼雀跃，就奋不顾身往前冲。三十岁之后，一听到名人就若有所失，就心烦意乱，就怒火中烧，就 不知道什么滋味，特别是年轻的，漂亮的，女的名人。

二十岁的时候，晚上和某个人一起去看了场电影，不经意中拉了一次手，结果幸福了整整一个夏天。三十岁以后，坐在香格里拉 (Shangri-La Hotel) 的旋转餐厅陪客户吃自助餐，在缓缓的转动中，莫名其妙地一阵空虚，突然间对一切感到索然无味

V.**1. Give short answers to the following questions. Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)**

- 1) What do James Joyce and Samuel Beckett have in common as Irish writers?
- 2) Name three things that are special about Canada.
- 3) What makes New Zealand's physical geography different from most other English-speaking countries?
- 4) What are the two aspects of racism and ethnicity in Australia that have underpinned the development of Australian society and culture in the 20th century?

2. Answer the following question. Write your answer on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

What are the similarities and differences in higher education between Britain and the United States in terms of funding, enrollment and degrees offered?