

2010 年湖南农业大学硕士招生自命题科目试题

科目名称及代码：基础英语 611

适用专业：外国语言学及应用语言学

考生注意事项：①所有答案必须做在答题纸上，做在试题纸上一律无效；
②按试题顺序答题，在答题纸上标明题目序号。

I. Paraphrase (20 points, 2 points each)

Write your answer on the answer sheet

1. As you approach it, a tinkling and banding and clashing begins to impinge on your ear.
2. The rather arresting spectacle of little old Japan adrift amid beige concrete skyscraper is the very symbol of the incessant struggle between the kimono and miniskirt.
3. I see the German bombers and fighters in the sky, still smarting from many a whipping, delighted to find what they believe is an safer prey.
4. Well now, there's no call for being hasty.
5. Railroads began drying up the demand for steamboat pilots.
6. The streets sprouted with rickety stands selling hot dogs.
7. For nine-tenths of the people the reality of life is an endless, backbreaking struggle to wring a little food out of an eroded soil.
8. United, there is little we cannot do in a host of cooperative ventures.
9. This loomed as a task of no small dimension.
10. If you can't lick them, join them. If it hurts, repeat it.

II. Vocabulary and Grammar (20 points, 1 point each)

Decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

1. Tom and Harry take care of the old man on _____ days.
A. many B. same C. different D. alternate
2. The student was not sure of the answer to the question and give the teacher a(n) _____ reply.
A. ambiguous B. ambitious C. clear D. ambidextrous

3. The dying rose will _____ if you water it.
A. revise B. revive C. relive D. relieve
4. The students are _____ with the thoughts of the coming examination.
A. Preponderated B. centered C. preoccupied D. concentrated
5. The bird was _____ its wings in the sky.
A. flapping B. waving C. moving D. flying
6. The noise in the street _____ me from my reading.
A. detained B. distracted C. dissolved D. concentrated
7. The lovers _____ across the fields in complete forgetfulness of the time.
A. raced B. roared C. roamed D. marched
8. I was _____ to the skin because I had no coat on when the rain started.
A. drenched B. dredged C. sunk D. cold
9. She attempted to demonstrate her _____ of such a solution to their problems.
A. disapproval B. asperson C. blame D. reprehension
10. A smile _____ her face as she went to the gate to meet her husband.
A. appeared B. rushed C. animated D. showed
11. In the morning he used to dispose of _____ business.
A. puny B. picayune C. paltry D. trivial
12. If you want to know the major reference books you may find them in the _____ of the textbook.
A. addition B. accessory C. appendix D. attachment
13. I noticed him pass us at a _____ walk.
A. lively B. buoyant C. sprightly D. brisk
14. His campaign speech was a _____ reiteration of respect for god, country and motherland.
A. trite B. hoax C. dupe D. stale
15. The countryside was engulfed _____ a sea of mud left by the receding floodwater.
A. at B. on C. in D. to
16. He shook hands with his _____ before the match.
A. opposition B. opponent C. contestant D. competitor
17. He wrote the text book in _____ with his brother.
A. harmony B. collaboration C. union D. connection
18. A man working in the noisy city would long for the off-season _____ of a seaside resort.
A. isolation B. solitude C. seclusion D. privacy

19. He braced himself for the _____ of an evening spent with his mother-in-law.

A. dangers B. threats C. hazards D. menaces

20. The parents are satisfied to find that their child has an early aptitude _____ mathematics.

A. for B. on C. with D. at

III. Fill in each blank with one suitable word (30 points, 2 points each) ; write your answer on the answer sheet

When there is a vacancy 1 a company, it is the job of the Personnel Manager and his department 2 manage the recruitment of a new employee. One way an organization can find staff 3 job vacancies is to recruit 4 company. Management can inform people 5 new appointment 6 means of the firm's notice board or news bulletin. Another possibility is to ask 7 recommendations 8 departmental managers and supervisors. If it is necessary to recruit 9 the company, the personnel department may use commercial and government employment offices or consultants. It may prefer 10 put its own advertisement in a newspaper 11 magazine. It is usual 12 an advertisement to give a short description of the job, conditions of work and salary, and to invite introductory letters 13 applicants. 14 studying these, management decides who receives an application form. In order to assess the applications, managers can work from a personnel specification such as Rodgers Seven-Point Plan. They do not choose applicants who do not have a good profile. For this reason, it is important that the application form requests clear information about 15 things as the applicants age, education, qualifications and work experience.

IV. Reading (40 points, 2 points each)

Read the following passages and answer the multiple-choice questions; decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Passage 1

Conjuring is as popular today as it was in ancient times. Records show that over 2,000 years ago magic performances were being given in ancient Egypt, India, Rome, China and Greece. These early magicians only performed for small groups of people on a street corner or for a king and his friends. The

magicians in those days used only small objects that they could carry with them or borrow, such as cups, pebbles, knives, and string.

Early conjurers frequently wore a large apron with many pockets in which they could carry their props. The bag-like apron served as identification and as a place to hide things while performing. Conjurers also served as identification and as a place to hide things while performing. Conjurers also carried a small folding table on which to perform their tricks.

About 1400, more elaborate tricks were invented which used larger equipment, such as boxes and barrels with false bottoms. Under these false bottoms the magician could hide a bird, rabbit, plant, or whatever he wanted to make appear suddenly. From one barrel he could make several different liquids pour forth while he told the audience that he was changing the entire contents of the barrel by magic. People of that time knew very little about mechanical devices, so it was easier for the magician to deceive them.

Some conjurers made enough money to buy a donkey, a horse, or even a horse and wagon so that they could carry bigger equipment. Conjurers also began to rent halls or empty stores so that they could give their shows indoors. Some conjurers used a large room in a local inn to give their performances. Others had a large van that could be opened in the rear to make a stage.

The most successful magicians would move only three or four times a year. They decorated their stages with lots of equipment, but used only a small part of it in each show. In this way they could entice the same people back over and over again. Some of their equipment was of no use at all. It was only used to decorate the stage and impress the audience.

Modern magic did not really start until the 1800s. Its father is considered to be Jean Houdin, a Frenchman, who developed rules for conjuring. Houdin was also a highly skilled mechanic and watchmaker. Today modern magicians can perform feats of magic that would have been impossible years ago because they now have better mechanical equipment and greater knowledge of audience psychology.

1. The earliest magicians used such equipment as
 - A. a bird or a plant.
 - B. knives and string.
 - C. barrels with false bottoms.
 - D. a bag-like apron.
2. A magician was considered successful if he
 - A. used lots of equipment.
 - B. decorated the stage well.
 - C. did not move often in a year.
 - D. performed before a large audience.
3. The magicians usually decorated the stage with lots of equipment

- A. because they had to use them over and over again.
 - B. to show that they were highly skilled mechanics.
 - C. to show that they had made a lot of money.
 - D. because they wanted to impress the audience.
4. The word “entice” in line 3, paragraph 5 most probably means
- A. “cheat”
 - B. “attract”
 - C. “invite”
 - D. “impress”

Passage 2

When British voters go to the polls during General Elections to decide who will govern them they usually have a choice of at least three candidates who will each represent one of the three main political parties in Britain today.

The Labour Party is the party of the left, the Tory or Conservative Party represents the right and between the two, with politics and opinions of its own, is the smaller Liberal Party.

Britain is divided into over 600 political units known as “constituencies”, each with its own candidates who stand for Parliament hoping to be elected (or re-elected) with large majorities. The cities and large towns are themselves divided into constituencies and they also choose the Members of Parliament (MPs) who will represent their views in the Houses of Parliament at Westminster. Here, in the “House”, the government of the day led by its Prime Minister and his Cabinet--a team of specially selected ministers--carries out its duties of governing the country. Various proposals are put forward for debate and discussion and these may, eventually, become part of the law of the land. The government in office has to face the criticism of the other parties which are in opposition. This is the sort of democratic process that the majority of British people seem to favour. Her Majesty’s Government is watched over by Her Majesty’s Opposition, and thus a certain balance of power is maintained. Decisions are made by a majority vote and this, of course, is where the other parties, the Liberals, the National and Regional parties (such as the Scottish or Welsh National Party) and other independent parties can exercise their influence. Some issues may be decided on a mere handful of votes.

5. According to the passage, the Liberal Party could be described as
- A. the only party with policies of its own.
 - B. the only small party with independent views.
 - C. a very influential party.
 - D. a small party with no central policy.
6. A constituency is

what perception is not. Beyond this it is superficial and misleading. Four simple experiments should make the matter plain.

In the first a person is asked to match a pair of black and white discs, which are rotating at such a speed as to make them appear uniformly grey. One disc is standing in shadow, the other in bright illumination. By adjusting the ratio of black to white in one of the discs the subject tries to make it look the same as the other. The results show him to be remarkably accurate, for it seems he has made the proportion of black to bright in the brightly illuminated disc almost identical with that in the disc which stood in shadow. But there is nothing photographic about his perception, for when the matched disc, still spinning, are photographed, the resulting print shows them to be quite dissimilar in appearance. The disc in shadow is obviously very much darker than the other one. What has happened? Both the camera and the person were accurate, but their criteria differed. One might say that the camera recorded things as they look, and the person things as they are. But the situation is manifestly more complex than this, for the person also recorded things as they look. He did better than the camera because he made them look as they really are. He was not misled by the differences in illumination. He showed perceptual constancy. By reason of an extremely rapid, wholly unconscious piece of computation he received a more accurate record of the external world than could the camera.

In these second experiment a person is asked to match with a colour card the colours of two pictures in dim illumination. One is of a leaf, the other of a donkey. Both are coloured an equal shade of green. In making his match he chooses a much stronger green for the leaf than for the donkey. The leaf evidently looks greener than the donkey. The percipient makes a perceptual world compatible with his own experience. It hardly needs saying that cameras lack this versatility.

In the third experiment hungry, thirsty and satiated people are asked to equalize the brightness of pictures depicting food, water and other objects unrelated to hunger or thirst. When the intensities at which they set the pictures are measured it is found that hungry people see pictures relating to food as brighter than the rest (i.e. to equalize the pictures they make the food ones less intense), and thirsty people do likewise with "drink" pictures. For the satiated group no differences are obtained between the different objects. In other words, perception serves to satisfy needs, not to enrich subjective experience. Unlike a photograph the percept is determined by more than just

the stimulus.

The fourth experiment is of a rather different kind. With ears plugged, their eyes beneath translucent goggles and their bodies either encased in cotton or wool, or floating naked in water at body temperature, people are deprived of considerable periods of external stimulation. Contrary to what one might expect, however, such circumstances result not in a lack of perceptual experience but rather a surprising change in what is perceived. The subjects in such an experiment begin to see, feel and hear things which bear no more relationship to the immediate external world than does a dream in someone who is asleep. These people are not asleep yet their hallucinations, or so-called “autistic” perceptions, may be as vivid, if not more so, than any normal percept.

11. The underlined “it” in line 9, paragraph 1 refers to

- A. perception.
- B. one of the experiments.
- C. the answer.
- D. the photographic analogy.

12. The first experiment shows that

- A. a person could record the external world more accurately than a camera
- B. a camera could record the external world as it really was.
- C. a person could record the external world as it really was.
- D. a person could record the external world in more or less the same way as a camera could.

13. In the third experiment,

- A. all people have to go hungry because they will be asked to look at food pictures.
- B. people are asked to change the lighting so that the pictures look equally bright.
- C. people are asked to describe the lightness of the pictures.
- D. satiated people see less clearly than hungry or thirsty people.

14. People deprived of sense in the fourth experiment

- A. usually go mad.
- B. dream very easily.
- C. lack perceptual experience.
- D. experience unreal things.

Passage 4

Genghis Khan, the great Mongol conqueror, was born in about 1162. His father, a petty Mongol chieftain, named the boy Temujin, after a defeated rival chieftain, When Temujin was nine, his father was killed by members of a rival

tribe, and for some years the surviving members of the family lived in constant danger and privation. This was an inauspicious beginning, but Temujin's situation was to become a lot worse before it got better. When he was a young man, he was captured in a raid by a rival tribe. To prevent his escaping, a wooden collar was placed around his neck. From this extremity of helplessness as an illiterate in a primitive, barren country, Temujin rose to become the most powerful man in the world.

His rise started when he managed to escape from his captors. He then allied himself with Toghriq, a friend of his father's, and chieftain of one of the related tribes living in the area. There followed many years of internecine warfare among these various Mongol tribes, in the course of which Temujin gradually fought his way to the top.

The tribesmen of Mongolia had long been known as skilled horsemen and fierce warriors. Throughout history, they had made sporadic raids into northern China. However, before the rise of Temujin, the various tribes had always spent most of their energy in fighting each other. By a combination of military prowess, diplomacy, ruthlessness and organizational ability, Temujin managed to weld all of these tribes together under his leadership, and in 1206 an assembly of the Mongol chieftains proclaimed him Genghis Khan, or "the universal emperor".

The formidable military machine that Genghis Khan had assembled was then turned outward upon neighboring nations. He first attacked the Western Xia state in northwestern China and the Jin Empire in northern China. While these battles were going on, a dispute arose between Genghis Khan and the Khwarezm Shah Muhammad, who ruled a considerable empire in Persia and central Asia. In 1219, Genghis led his armies against the Khwarezm Shah. Central Asia and Persia were overrun, and the Khwarezm Shah's empire was completely destroyed. While other Mongol armies were attacking Russia, Genghis Khan himself led a raid into Afghanistan and northern India. He returned to Mongolia in 1225, and died there in 1227.

15. From the passage, we know that Mongolians were very good at
- A. fighting and hunting.
 - B. fighting and horse-riding.
 - C. horse-riding and farming.
 - D. farming and hunting.
16. The name "Genghis Khan"
- A. was a name given by his father.
 - B. was a name after a defeated fellow chieftain.
 - C. meant "the universal emperor".

D. did not mean anything.

17. Which of the following is false?

A. When Temujin was only a child, his father was killed.

B. There were many fightings in Genghis Khan's time.

C. Temujin was proclaimed Genghis Khan in the year of 1206.

D. Genghis Khan has conquered many places in Asia and Europe before his death.

Passage 5

Basic to any understanding of Canada in the 20 years after the Second World War is the country's impressive population growth. For every three Canadians in 1945, there were over five in 1966. In September 1966 Canada's population passed the 20 million mark. Most of this surging growth came from natural increase. The depression of the 1930's and the war had held back marriages, and the catching-up process began after 1945. The baby boom continued through the decade of the 1950's, producing a population increase of nearly fifteen percent in the five years from 1951 to 1956. This rate of increase had been exceeded only once before in Canada's history, in the decade before 1911, when the prairies were being settled. Undoubtedly, the good economic conditions of the 1950's supported a growth in the population, but the expansion also derived from a trend toward earlier marriages and an increase in the average size of families. In 1957 the Canadian birth rate stood at 28 per thousand, one of the highest in the world.

After the peak year of 1957, the birth rate in Canada began to decline. It continued falling until in 1966 it stood at the lowest level in 25 years. Partly this decline reflected the low level of births during the depression and the war, but it was also caused by changes in Canadian society. Young people were staying at school longer; more women were working; young married couples were buying automobiles or houses before starting families; rising living standards were cutting down the size of families. It appeared that Canada was once more falling into step with the trend toward smaller families that had occurred all through the Western world since the time to the Industrial Revolution.

Although the growth in Canada's population had slowed down by 1966 (the increase in the first half of the 1960's was only nine percent) another large population wave was coming over the horizon. It would be compared to the children of the children who were born during the period of the high birth rate

prior to 1957.

18. What does the passage mainly discuss?

- A. Educational changes in Canadian society.
- B. Canada during the Second World War.
- C. Population trends in postwar Canada.
- D. Standards of living in Canada.

19. According to the passage, when did Canada's baby boom begin?

- A. In the decade after 1911.
- B. After 1945.
- C. During the depression of the 1930's
- D. In 1966.

20. Which of the following is not a cause of the decline in population growth after 1957?

- A. Young people received more education.
- B. Numerous marriages ended in divorce.
- C. Living standards kept rising.
- D. Young married couples spent most of their money on cars and houses.

V. Writing (40 points)

The Best Way to Solve Traffic Congestion

Write an essay of about 500 words presenting your viewpoint.

In the first part of your writing 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 a summary. Marks will be awarded for content, organization, grammar and appropriacy. Failure to follow the instructions may result in a loss of marks.

