

中国地质大学研究生院

2006 年 硕博 研究生入学考试试题

考试科目: 英语综合考试 332

适用专业: 外国语言学及应用语言学

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I. Reading Comprehension (30 points)

In this section there are four passages followed by a total of 15 questions, 11 of which are multiple choice questions and 4 of which are short answering questions.

Passage A

There has arisen during this twentieth century (as it arose before, in ages which we like to call dark) a pronounced anti-intellectualism, a feeling that both studies and literature are not merely vain, but also somehow untrustworthy. With people swayed by this feeling there is little use in arguing, either for history or literature, or for poetry or music, or for the arts in general.

With others, there is still faith that any civilization worthy of the name must be grounded in a ceaseless pursuit of truth. Whether truth is sought through study or through the arts makes no difference. Any pursuit of truth is not only worthwhile; it is the foundation stone of civilization.

The study and reading of history is one of those approaches to truth. It is only one; all the arts and sciences are such approaches. All have their place; all are good; and each touches the other. They are not airtight compartments. It is only in a few institutions, afflicted by mental arteriosclerosis, that events like the Industrial Revolution are preempted entirely by the historians, the social scientists, or the physical scientists. Is Pepy's Diary history or sociology or literature? Only within the past hundred years have historians found that what people have done in literature and art is a part of their history. Books like *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, *Ten Nights in a Bar Room* and *The Crisis* have themselves helped to make history.

Event at the moment, when scientific investigation becomes more and more specialized and the historian concentrates more and more fiercely on periods and episodes, it is becoming clearer to the layman that all this is part of one whole. Even at a time when textbooks are being written to introduce to the theoretical physicist his brethren who are working as chemists or engineers on perhaps the same problem, the

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laymen is far enough removed from all this specialization to see the whole, possibly even more clearly than do the specialists. Between history, biography, the arts and sciences, and even journalism, who shall draw airtight distinctions? Not laymen. Is not yesterday's newspaper history, and may it not be literature?

1. Anti-intellectualism, as an attitude, is characterized by the feeling that
- A. learning is not only futile but also misleading.
 - B. truth is hidden, but accessible.
 - C. truth can be found in science rather than in arts.
 - D. only certain facets of learning are worthy of study.
2. The author implies that anti-intellectuals
- A. can be convinced that poetry is worthwhile.
 - B. can be persuaded to study literature.
 - C. are easily swayed.
 - D. have closed minds.
3. According to the author, *Pepy's Diary* clearly belongs to which discipline? history
4. Only within the recent past have historians
- A. idealized art and literature.
 - B. concentrated solely upon literature and art.
 - C. considered the relationship of art to science.
 - D. considered the creative work of people as important in their history.

Passage B

As more and more people become redundant, now it is perhaps the time to consider the experience of unemployment. What are the first feelings? Well, a losing job, or not being able to find one, almost always brings unwelcome changes. If you've lost a job, the first feeling is often one of shock. As well as the loss of income, many people find the whole routine of their life is shattered, their contact with other people reduced and their ambitions halted.

At first there may be good feelings too----a new and a better job is just around the corner----it's nice to be able to lie in bed in the morning or spend more time with the children. But unless a better job does turn up, the chances are the days start getting longer and time becomes harder to fill. Many people pass through periods of difficulty in sleeping and eating, they feel irritable and depressed, often isolated and lonely.

Despite all these problems though, unemployment can be a chance for a fresh start. You can discover that it provides an opportunity to sort out or to rethink what you want from life and how best you can get it. You can use the time to plan how to find a new job, learn a new skill, develop your hobbies, see if you can run your own business, do some

Passage D

Prolonging human life has increased the size of the human population. Many people alive today would have died of childhood diseases if they had been born 100 years ago. Because more people live longer, there are more people around at any given time. In fact, it is a decrease in death rates, not an increase in birthrates that has led to the population explosion.

Prolonging human life has also increased the dependency load. In all societies, people who are disabled or too young or too old to work are dependent on the rest of society to provide for them. In hunting and gathering cultures, old people who could not keep up might be left behind to die. In times of famine, infants might be allowed to die because they could not survive if their parents starved, whereas if the parents survived they could have another child. In most contemporary societies, people feel a moral obligation to keep people alive whether they can work or not. We have a great many people today who live past the age at which they want to work or are able to work; we also have rules which require people to retire at a certain age. Unless these people were able to save money for their retirement, somebody else must support them. In the United States many retired people live on social security checks which are so little that they must live in near poverty. Older people have more illness than young or middle-aged people; unless they have wealth or private or government insurance, they must often "go on welfare" if they have a serious illness.

When older people become senile or too weak and ill to care for themselves, they create grave problems for their families. In the past and in some traditional cultures, they would be cared for at home until they died. Today, with most members of a household working or in school, there is often no one at home who can care for a sick or weak person. To meet this need, a great many nursing homes and convalescent hospitals have been built. These are often profit-making organizations, although some are sponsored by religious and other nonprofit groups. While a few of these institutions are good, most of them are simply "dumping grounds" for the dying in which "care" is given by poorly paid, overworked, and under-skilled personnel.

11. The author believes that the population explosion results from decrease in death rate.
12. It can be inferred from the passage that in hunting and gathering cultures,
- A. it was a moral responsibility.
- B. the survival of infants was less important than that of their parents in times of starvation.
- C. parents had to impart the cultural wisdom of the tribe to their children.
- D. death was considered to impart the cultural wisdom of the tribe to their children.
13. According to the passage, which of the following statements about retired people in the United States is true?
- A

- A. Many of them have a very hard life.
- B. They cannot live a decent life without enough bank savings.
- C. They rely mainly on their children for financial support.
- D. Most of them live with their children and therefore are well looked after.

14. In paragraph three, the phrase "this need" refers to _____.
15. Which of the following best describes the author's attitude toward most of the nursing homes, and convalescent hospitals?
- A. Sympathetic.
 - B. Unfriendly.
 - C. Optimistic.
 - D. Critical.

II. Proofreading and error correction (20 points)

The following passage contains ten errors. Each line contains a maximum of one error. In each case, only one word is involved. You should proofread the passage and correct it in the following way.

For a wrong word, underline the wrong word and write the correct one in the blank provided at the end of the line.

For a missing word, mark the position of the missing word with a "∧" sign and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank provided at the end of the line.

For an unnecessary word, cross out the unnecessary word with a slash "/" and put the word in the blank provided at the end of the line

Scientists claim that air pollution causes a decline in the world's average air temperature. In order to prove that theory, ecologists have turned to historic data in relation to especially huge volcanic eruptions. They suspect that volcanoes affect weather changes ~~that~~ are similar with air pollution.

[1] ~~to~~ historical

[2] _____

One source of information is the effect of the eruption of Tambora, a volcano in Sumbawa, the Dutch East Indies, in April 1815. The largest recorded volcanic eruption, Tambora threw 150 million tons of fine ash into the stratosphere. The ash from a volcano spreads worldwide in a few days and remains in the air for years. Its effect is ~~to~~ turn incoming solar radiation into space and ~~so~~ cool the earth. For example, records of weather in England show between April and November 1815, the average temperature has fallen 4.5 F. During the next 24 months, England suffered one of the cold periods of its history. Farmer's records

[3] _____

[4] _____

[5] _____

[6] _____

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voluntary work in your community or meet new people. It's up to you.

5. What is the author's aim in this passage?

~~Author's aim is to claim that~~
explaining that unemployment is not a problem

Passage C ~~thing~~ is a good one
Clay Sculptures Inspired By Man and Nature

Avra Leodas of Santa Fe, N.M., makes objects in clay—weighty, solid, mysterious, elegant sculptures. Her simple forms may at first glance appear to spring from nature, but many have been inspired by man-made objects. The surface textures sometimes resemble stone and sometimes steel, echoing the balance she achieves between nature-made and human-made inspiration. But the surfaces of these archetypal shapes also suggest ancient civilizations—an evocation of the history of human life on earth.

In fact, the artist herself says that they remind her of artifacts found in an archaeological dig. The analogy becomes clear when looking at her current installation at the Robischon Gallery in Denver. As single items, the shapes are marvelous small sculptures. But placed in relationship to each other, the metaphors they evoke are endless—depending only on the imagination of the viewer. The fact that the objects remind us of tools as much as they do of organic and aesthetic objects reinforces the archaeological metaphor.

“This work is a tremendous departure from what I've been doing for the last 17 years,” Leodas says. “There are a lot of connections, but the transitions are really important to me. I was doing these large vessels up to three feet in diameter. There are some similarities between the old and the new work in what the forms are about—classic, simple, elegant, unadorned work. The vessels, though, are intensely glazed in jewel-like tones.

“People like to make reference to my Aegean heritage—the deep underwater blue and green. For me, it was a process of refinement, trying to make the perfect one. I worked with only six or seven forms, and I dealt with balance and proportion. For example, if I was working with an oval shape, I would do it tall and narrow or wide and short—playing with proportion that way.”

There came a point, however, when she reached the end of her experiments with vessels, when she had done everything she needed to do with that application of her medium.

“I knew I had to change what I was doing, but I had no idea how. After the buildup of my reputation, it was just like being a baby.”

“These new forms are all closed—as opposed to a vessel, where I am thinking about inside-outside, containing space. This body of work was a tremendous outpouring I did not plan at all. I did not plan or think about how one was leading to the next one. I

just made them..."

Leodas says these objects have been influenced by her love of tools. "When I was thinking about the new work, I went to a blacksmith friend's shop, pulled out his tools, and photographed them. There is just something about the well-made tool that really does its joy..." There is a piece that ended up looking like a tire rib, another that resembles a blacksmith's hammerhead, and another whose form derives from the disc between the vertebrae of a whale.

In the end, she believes that the forms are both very personal and at the same time universal. The artist's passion for clay is as plain as her exquisite formal achievements, her sense of fun as apparent as her expertise in the medium.

6. The term "archaeological metaphor" in the second paragraph suggests that the sculptures
- A. appear both antiquated and modern.
 - B. are refined and unornamented.
 - C. resemble prehistoric implements.
 - D. are incomparable and artless.
7. The artist's new work resembles the _____ of her previous work
- A. size and shape.
 - B. austerity and refinement.
 - C. polished, vibrantly-colored exteriors.
 - D. symmetry and magnitude.
8. Leodas states in the fifth paragraph that "it was just like being a baby...", indicating that she
- A. once again felt like a neophyte.
 - B. was brashly confident about her work.
 - C. thought her fame was undeserved.
 - D. was helpless and in need.
9. From the details in the passage we can infer that the artist
- A. was born somewhere in the Mediterranean.
 - B. lacks inspiration and humor.
 - C. approaches her work mechanically.
 - D. is disciplined and reflective.
10. Apparently the author of the passage
- A. is unfamiliar with sculptural terms.
 - B. relies too heavily on other art critics.
 - C. researches her subject matter before writing.
 - D. finds Leodas' work mundane and lifeless.

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from April 1815 to December 1818 indicate frost throughout the spring and summer and sharp decreases in crop and livestock markets. Since there was a time lag of several years between reason and effect, by the time the world agricultural commodity has deteriorated, no one realized the cause.

[7] _____

Ecologists today warn that we face with a twofold menace. The ever-present possibility of volcanic eruptions, such as those of Mt. St. Helens in Washington, added to man's pollution of the atmosphere with oil, gas, coal and other polluting substances, may bring us increasing colder weather.

[8] _____

[9] _____

[10] _____

III. Filling in each blank with one suitable word. (30 points)

There is probably no sphere of human activity in which our values and lifestyles are reflected more vividly (1) than they are in the clothes that we choose to wear. The dress of an individual is a kind of "sign language" (2) that communicates a complex set of information (3) which is usually the basis on (4) occasion immediate impressions are formed. Traditionally, a concern for (5) clothes was considered to be a feminine preoccupation, (6) and men took pride in the fact that they were completely lacking in clothes consciousness.

This type of American culture is gradually changing as masculine dress takes on greater variety and color. Even as early as 1955, a research in Michigan revealed (7) that men attached rather high (8) consciousness to the value of clothing in daily life. White-collar workers (9) in particular viewed dress (10) as a symbol capable of manipulation (11) which could be used to impress or influence others, especially in the work situation. The white-collar worker was described as extremely concerned about the (12) effect his clothing made on his superiors. Although blue collar workers were (13) not aware that they might be judged on the (14) value of their clothing, they recognized that any (15) deviation from the accepted pattern of dress would draw ridicule from fellow worker.

(16) After that time, of course, the patterns have changed: the typical office worker may now be wearing the (17) blue shirt, and the laborer a white shirt; (18) although the importance of dress has not diminished. Other investigators in recent years have helped to establish its (19) characteristics in the lives of individuals at various age levels and in (20) different social and economic status groups.

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different

characters.
character

IV. Vocabulary and Structure (20 points)

1. The lion had _____ the jungle for a long time before it caught sight of a hare.
A. marched B. patrolled C. prowled D. tramp
2. I don't really know Henry very well. He is just a(n) _____ acquaintance of mine.
A. accidental B. casual C. random D. hazardous
3. Jack found that the evening was beginning to _____ after his mother made efforts to forbid him to watch television.
A. extend B. drag C. prolong D. delay
4. A man's life is _____ so we must make hay while the sun shines.
A. transitory B. passing C. transient D. temporary
5. The early chill of approaching winter mingles with the _____ warmth of summer so that on dry days the air becomes alive.
A. remaining B. delaying C. loitering D. lingering
6. I remember seeing the film but the name of the protagonist just _____ me.
A. fails B. misses C. escapes D. deludes
7. Jim had a small cake and a cup of tea before dinner, as is his usual _____.
A. custom B. habit C. tradition D. practice
8. The lure of something for nothing as ideal in gambling has _____ criticism from the upright people of the society.
A. evoked B. stirred C. spread D. enhanced
9. _____, there were no grounds to justify your complaints.
A. Such was the case
B. Such would be the case
C. Such being the case
D. Such is the case
10. The townspeople were always so well-behaved and _____ that the police had an idle life.
A. meticulous B. orderly C. methodical D. scrupulous
11. The jury _____ him of having committed the robbery and he was then sentenced to five years' imprisonment.
12. As the sky darkened it soon became obvious that a thunderstorm was _____.
A. immediate B. evident C. imminent D. menacing
13. _____ ghost exists in the world. That's your illusion.
A. No such thing as a B. No such a thing as a
C. No such a thing as D. No such thing as
14. _____ my careful adjustment, I could not see anything through the microscope.
A. Above all B. After all C. In all D. For all
15. I won't see you off at the airport tomorrow, so I will wish you _____.

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- A. have a good journey now B. a good journey now
C. would have a good journey now D. to have a good journey now

16. The little boy always dreams of seeing the _____ vegetation of the tropics.

- A. luxury B. luxuriant C. luxurious D. fateful

17. She was a tough-minded executive, but at the same time, she was gentle and _____.

- A. feminine B. masculine C. female D. fantastic

18. But for the traffic jam, we _____ earlier.

- A. should arrive B. should have arrived
C. shall arrive D. shall have arrived

19. According to the director, these new actors, expressionless and indifferent, are simply _____ the lines.

- A. killing B. slaughtering C. murdering D. butchering

20. As Norman was hungry, he _____ some ginger biscuits and chocolate.

- A. bit B. munched C. chewed D. nibbled

V. Identifying the figures of speech (20 points)

1. ----What do lawyers do after they die? *反问*

----They lie still.

2. I came. I saw. I conquered. *Climax*

3. The storm was raging and an angry sea was continuously tossing their boat. *拟人*

4. When the news of the failure came, all his friends said that it was a victorious defeat. *反讽*

5. My grandmother passed away two years ago. *委婉语*

*euph
Euphemism
euphemism
euphemism*

VI. Short-answering questions (30 points)

euphemism

1. What does Shakespeare mean by saying "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet."?

2. Give a brief explanation of American Dream and your own understanding of it.

3. List three great Presidents in American history and describe briefly their achievements in their official career.

4. Illustrate *analogy* with one or two examples.

5. Narrate the story of Shakespeare's play *Hamlet* and analyze Hamlet's characteristic.

*put off things
prone
heart
here*