

Part I Reading Comprehension (40 points)

Passage 1

In 1942 Allan R. Holmberg, a doctoral student in anthropology from Yale University, USA, ventured deep into the jungle of Bolivian Amazonia and searched out an isolated land of Siriono Indians. The Siriono, Holmberg later wrote, led a “strikingly backward” existence. Their villages were little more than clusters of thatched huts. Life itself was a perpetual and punishing search for food: some families grew *manioc* and other starchy crops in small garden plots cleared from the forest, while other members of the tribe scoured the country for small game and promising fish holes. When local resources became depleted, the tribe moved on. As for technology, Holmberg noted, the Siriono “may be classified among the most handicapped peoples of the world”. Other than bows, arrows and crude digging sticks, the only tools the Siriono seemed to possess were “two machetes worn to the size of pocket-knives”.

Although the lives of the Siriono have changed in the intervening decades, the image of them as Stone Age relics has endured. Indeed, in many respects the Siriono epitomize the popular conception of life in Amazonia. To casual observers, as well as to influential natural scientists and regional planners, the luxuriant forests of Amazonia seem ageless, unconquerable, a habitat totally hostile to human civilization. The apparent simplicity of Indian ways of life has been judged as an evolutionary adaptation to forest ecology, living proof that Amazonia could not — and cannot — sustain a more complex society. Archaeological traces of far more elaborate cultures have been dismissed as the ruins of invaders from outside the region, abandoned to decay in the uncompromising tropical environment.

The popular conception of Amazonia and its native residents would be enormously consequential if it were true. But the human history of Amazonia in the past 11,000 years betrays that view as myth. Evidence gathered in recent years from anthropology and archaeology indicates that the region has supported a series of indigenous cultures for eleven thousand years; an extensive network of complex societies — some with populations perhaps as large as 100,000 - thrived there for more than 1,000 years before the arrival of

Europeans. (Indeed, some contemporary tribes, including the Siriono, still live among the earthworks of earlier cultures.) Far from being evolutionarily retarded, prehistoric Amazonian people developed technologies and cultures that were advanced for their time. If the lives of Indians today seem “primitive”, the appearance is not the result of some environmental adaptation or ecological barrier; rather it is a comparatively recent adaptation to centuries of economic and political pressure. Investigators who argue otherwise have unwittingly projected the present onto the past.

The evidence for a revised view of Amazonia will take many people by surprise. Ecologists have assumed that tropical ecosystems were shaped entirely by natural forces and they have focused their research on habitats they believe have escaped human influence. But as the University of Florida ecologist, Peter Feinsinger, has noted, an approach that leaves people out of the equation is no longer tenable. The archaeological evidence shows that the natural history of Amazonia is to a surprising extent tied to the activities of its prehistoric inhabitants.

The realization comes none too soon. In June 1992 political and environmental leaders from across the world met in Rio de Janeiro to discuss how developing countries can advance their economies without destroying their natural resources. The challenge is especially difficult in Amazonia. Because the tropical forest has been depicted as ecologically unfit for large-scale human occupation, some environmentalists have opposed development of any kind. Ironically, one major casualty of that extreme position has been the environment itself. While policy makers struggle to define and implement appropriate legislation, development of the most destructive kind has continued apace over vast areas.

The other major casualty of the “naturalism” of environmental scientists has been the indigenous Amazonians, whose habits of hunting, fishing, and slash-and-burn cultivation often have been represented as harmful to the habitat. In the clash between environmentalists and developers, the Indians, whose presence is in fact crucial to the survival of the forest, have suffered the most. The new understanding of the pre-history of Amazonia, however, points toward a middle ground. Archaeology makes clear that with judicious management selected parts of the region could support more people than anyone thought

before. The long-buried past, it seems, offers hope for the future.

Question: Do the following statements agree with the views of the writer in

Reading Passage 1? *On your answer sheet write*

YES *if the statement agrees with the views of the writer*

NO *if the statement contradicts the views of the writer*

NOT GIVEN *if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this*

1. The reason for the simplicity of the Indian way of life is that Amazonia has always been unable to support a more complex society. ()
2. There is a crucial popular misconception about the human history of Amazonia. ()
3. There are lessons to be learned from similar ecosystems in other parts of the world. ()
4. Most ecologists were aware that the areas of Amazonia they were working in had been shaped by human settlement. ()
5. The indigenous Amazonian Indians are necessary to the well-being of the forest. ()
6. It would be possible for certain parts of Amazonia to support a higher population. ()

Multiple Choices: Choose the appropriate letters A-D.

7. In 1942 the US anthropology student concluded that the Siriono
 - A. were unusually aggressive and cruel.
 - B. had had their way of life destroyed by invaders.
 - C. were an extremely primitive society.
 - D. had only recently made permanent settlements.
8. The author believes recent discoveries of the remains of complex societies in Amazonia
 - A. are evidence of early indigenous communities.
 - B. are the remains of settlements by invaders.
 - C. are the ruins of communities established since the European invasions.
 - D. show the region has only relatively recently been covered by forest.

9. The assumption that the tropical ecosystem of Amazonia has been created solely by natural forces
 - A. has often been questioned by ecologists in the past.
 - B. has been shown to be incorrect by recent research.
 - C. was made by Peter Feinsinger and other ecologists.
 - D. has led to some fruitful discoveries.
10. The application of our new insights into the Amazonian past would
 - A. warn us against allowing any development at all.
 - B. cause further suffering to the Indian communities.
 - C. change present policies on development in the region.
 - D. reduce the amount of hunting, fishing, and 'slash-and-burn'.

Passage 2

Research in Britain has shown that "green consumers" continue to flourish as a significant group amongst shoppers. This suggests that politicians who claim environmentalism is yesterday's issue may be seriously misjudging the public mood.

A report from Mintel, the market research organization, says that despite recession and financial pressures, more people than ever want to buy environmentally friendly products and a "green wave" has swept through consumerism, taking in people previously untouched by environmental concerns. The recently published report also predicts that the process will repeat itself with "ethical" concerns, involving issues such as fair trade with the Third World and the social record of businesses. Companies will have to be more honest and open in response to this mood.

Mintel's survey, based on nearly 1,000 consumers, found that the proportion who look for green products and are prepared to pay more for them has climbed from 53 per cent in 1990 to around 60 per cent in 1994. On average, they will pay 13 per cent more for such products, although this percentage is higher among women, managerial and professional groups and those aged 35 to 44.

Between 1990 and 1994 the proportion of consumers claiming to be unaware of or unconcerned about green issues fell from 18 to 10 per cent but the number of green spenders among older people and manual workers has risen substantially. Regions such as Scotland have also caught up with the south of England in their environmental concerns. According to Mintel, the image of green

consumerism as associated in the past with the more eccentric members of society has virtually disappeared. The consumer research manager for Mintel, Angela Hughes, said it had become firmly established as a mainstream market. She explained that as far as the average person is concerned environmentalism has not “gone off the boil” . In fact, it has spread across a much wider range of consumer groups, ages and occupations.

Mintel’s 1994 survey found that 13 per cent of consumers are “very dark green”, nearly always buying environmentally friendly products, 28 per cent are “dark green”, trying “as far as possible” to buy such products, and 21 per cent are “pale green” — tending to buy green products if they see them. Another 26 per cent are “armchair greens”; they said they care about environmental issues but their concern does not affect their spending habits. Only 10 per cent say they do not care about green issues.

Four in ten people are “ethical spenders”, buying goods which do not, for example, involve dealings with oppressive regimes. This figure is the same as in 1990, although the number of “armchair ethicals” has risen from 28 to 35 per cent and only 22 per cent say they are unconcerned now, against 30 per cent in 1990. Hughes claims that in the twenty-first century, consumers will be encouraged to think more about the entire history of the products and services they buy, including the policies of the companies that provide them and that this will require a greater degree of honesty with consumers.

Among green consumers, animal testing is the top issue — 48 per cent said they would be deterred from buying a product if it had been tested on animals — followed by concerns regarding irresponsible selling, the ozone layer, river and sea pollution, forest destruction, recycling and factory farming. However, concern for specific issues is lower than in 1990, suggesting that many consumers feel that Government and business have taken on the environmental agenda.

Question: Do the following statements agree with the views of the writer in

Reading Passage 2? *On your answer sheet write*

YES *if the statement agrees with the views of the writer*

NO *if the statement contradicts the views of the writer*

NOT GIVEN *if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this*

11. The research findings report commercial rather than political trends. ()
12. Being financially better off has made shoppers more sensitive to buying “green”. ()
13. The majority of shoppers are prepared to pay more for the benefit of the environment according to the research findings. ()
14. Consumers’ green shopping habits are influenced by Mintel’s findings. ()
15. Mintel has limited their investigation to professional and managerial groups. ()
16. Mintel undertakes market surveys on an annual basis. ()
17. Nearly half of the green consumers expressed that they would not buy a product if it had been tested on animals. ()

Multiple Choices: Choose the appropriate letters A-D.

18. Politicians may have “misjudged the public mood” because
- A. they are pre-occupied with the recession and financial problems.
 - B. there is more widespread interest in the environment agenda than they anticipated.
 - C. consumer spending has increased significantly as a result of “green” pressure.
 - D. shoppers are displeased with government policies on a range of issues.
19. What is Mintel?
- A. an environmentalist group
 - B. a business survey organization
 - C. an academic research team
 - D. a political organization
20. A consumer who expresses concern for environmental issues, but that concern does not influence his or her buying behaviors, can be called
- A. an “ethical spender”.
 - B. a “very dark green” spender.
 - C. an “armchair green”.
 - D. a “pale green” spender.

Part II Cloze (30 points)

Choose an appropriate word form from the following list to fill in each of the following blanks. Each word can be used only ONCE. Change the word form where necessary.

raise in born rationale divorce do with
present even than proportion average way teen
significant live while discouragingly compare resulting

Encouraging and supporting healthy marriages is a cornerstone of the US government's proposal policies for addressing the poverty-related woes of single-parent households and, importantly, for improving the well-being of low-income children. The 21 is reasonably straightforward: About a third of all children 22 in the United States each year are born out of wedlock. Similarly, about half of all first marriages end in 23, and when children are involved, many of the 24 single-parent households are poor. For example, less 25 10 percent of married couples with children are poor as 26 with about 35 to 50 percent of single-mother families. The combination of an alarmingly high 27 of all new births occurring out of wedlock and 28 high divorce rate among families 29 children ensures that the majority of America's children will spend a 30 amount of their childhood in single-parent households.

Moreover, research shows that 31 after one controls family background differences, children who grow up 32 in an intact household with both biological parents 33 seem to do better, on 34, on a wide range of social indicators than 35 children who grow up in a single-parent household. For example, they are less likely to drop out of school, become a 36 parent, be arrested, and be unemployed. 37 single parenthood is not the main nor the sole cause of children's increased likelihood of engaging 38 one of these detrimental behaviors, it is one contributing factor. Put another 39, equalizing income and opportunity do improve the life outcomes of children growing up in single-parent households, but children 40 in two-parent families still have an advantage.

Part III Translation (40 points)

A. Chinese – English Translation (20 points)

要了解中国，可以有许多视角。现实中国是历史中国的发展。中国是一个有 5000 年文明历史的国家，从历史文化来了解和认识中国，是一个重

要的视角。记得我在高中读书时，老师给我们讲微积分(calculus)，第一课就是讲《庄子》中的“一尺之棰，日取其半，万世不竭”，很形象地使我建立起极限的概念。这表明中国古人就已认识到事物的发展变化是无限的，也说明我们的先人对自然界的认识已达到相当的水平。早在公元前 2500 年，中国人就开始了仰观天文、俯察地理的活动，逐渐形成了“天人合一”的宇宙观。中国历史上产生了许多杰出的哲学家、思想家、政治家、军事家、科学家和文学艺术家，留下了浩如烟海的文化典籍。

B. English – Chinese Translation (20 points)

He was a funny-looking man with a cheerful face, good-natured and a great talker. He was described by his student, the great philosopher Plato, as “the best and most just and wisest man.” Yet, this same man was condemned to death for his beliefs. The man was the Greek philosopher, Socrates, and he was condemned for not believing in the recognized gods. The second charge stemmed from his close association with numerous young men who came to Athens from all over the civilized world to study under him.

Socrates’ method of teaching was to ask questions and, by pretending not to know the answers, to press his students into thinking for themselves. His teaching had profound influence on all the great Greek and Roman schools of philosophy. Yet, for all his fame and influence, Socrates himself never wrote a word. Socrates encouraged new ideas and free thinking in the young, and this was frightening to the conservative people. They wanted him silenced. Yet, many were probably surprised that he accepted death so readily.

Socrates had the right to ask for a lesser penalty, and he probably could have won over enough sympathy of the people who had previously condemned him. But Socrates, as a firm believer in law, reasoned that it was proper to submit to the death sentence. So, he calmly accepted his fate and drank a cup of poison in the presence of his grief-stricken friends and students.

Part IV Writing (40 points)

Children from many countries are taking part in some paid laboring. Some people think it’s wrong, while others think this kind of laboring enables children to learn some knowledge and raise their sense of responsibilities. Please write a composition with no less than 500 English words to express your opinion.