

温州大學

2009 年硕士研究生招生入学考试试题 A

科目代码及名称: 815 英语写作

适用专业: 英语语言文学

(请考生在答题纸上答题, 在此试题纸上答题无效)

I. Read the passage and answer the questions (20/150 points).

Passage 1. Knowledge often results only after persistent investigation. Albert Einstein, after a lengthy examination of the characteristics of matter and energy, formulated his famous Theory of Relativity, which now acts as a basis for further research in nuclear physics. Using plaster casts of footprints, and stray strands of hair, a detective pertinaciously pursues the criminal. After years of work Annie Jump Cannon perfected the classification of the spectra of some 350,000 stars. Investigations into the causes of polio have provided us with the means for prevention and cure of this dreaded disease only after many years of research. As students, we too are determined in our investigation to find, retain, and contribute to the store of human knowledge.

(1). How is this paragraph developed?

(2). How are the supporting details organized?

Passage 2. The middle Eastern bazaar takes you back hundreds----even thousands----of years. The one I am thinking of particularly is entered by a Gothic-arched gateway of aged brick and stone. You pass from the heat and glare of a big, open square into a cool, dark cavern which extends as far as the eye can see, losing itself in the shadowy distance. Little donkeys with harmoniously tinkling bells thread their way among the throngs of people entering and leaving the bazaar. The roadway is about twelve feet wide, but it is narrowed every few yards by little stalls where goods of every conceivable kind are sold. The din of the stall-holders crying their wares, of donkey-boys and porters clearing a way for themselves by shouting vigorously, and of would-be purchasers arguing and bargaining is continuous and makes you dizzy.

(3). What type of writing is the paragraph?

(4). What sensory details are focused in the writing?

II. Read the passage and write a précis of approximately 100 words (25/150 points).

It is very easy to acquire bad habits, such as eating too many sweets or too much food, or drinking too much fluid of any kind, or smoking. The more we do a thing, the more we tend to like doing it; and, if we do not continue to do it, we feel unhappy. This is called the force of habit, and the force of habit should be fought against.

Things which may be very good when only done from time to time, tend to become very harmful when done too often and too much. This applies even to such good things as work or rest. Some people form a bad habit of working too much, and others idling too much. The wise man always remembers that this is true about him, and checks any bad habit. He says to himself, “ I’m now becoming idle.” or “ I like too many sweets,” or “ I smoke too much,” and then adds, “ I will get myself out of this bad habit at once.”

One of the most widely spread bad habits is the use of tobacco. Tobacco is now smoked or chewed by men, often by women, and even by children, almost all over the world. It was brought into Europe from America by Sir Walter Raleigh, four centuries ago, and has hence spread everywhere. I very much doubt whether there is any good in the habit, even when tobacco is not used to excess, and it is extremely difficult to get rid of the habit once it has been formed.

Alcohol is taken in almost all cool and cold climates, and to a very much less extent in hot ones. Thus it is taken by people who live in the Himalaya Mountains, but not nearly so much by those who live in the plains of India. Alcohol is not necessary in any way to anybody. Millions of people are beginning to do without it entirely; and once the United States of America has passed laws which forbid its manufacture or sale throughout the length and the breadth of their vast country. In hot countries it is not required by the people at all, and should be avoided by them altogether. The regular use of alcohol, even in small quantities, tends to cause mischief in many ways to various organs of the body. It affects the liver; it wakens the mental powers, and lessens the general energy of the body. **(Précis on the answer sheet)**

III. Read the passage carefully and complete the related statements below (35/150 points).

Intimacy and Independence

Intimacy is key in a world of connection where individuals negotiate complex net works of friendship, minimize differences, try to reach consensus, and avoid the appearance of superiority, which would highlight differences. In a world of status, independence is key, because a primary means of establishing status is to tell others what to do, and taking orders is a marker of low

status. Though all humans need both intimacy and independence, women tend to focus on the first and men on the second. It is as if their lifeblood ran in different directions.

These differences can give women and men differing views of the same situation, as they did in the case of a couple I will call Linda and Josh. When Josh's old high-school chum called him at work and announced he'd be in town on business the following month, Josh invited him to stay for the weekend. That evening he informed Linda that they were going to have a houseguest, and that he and his chum would go out together the first night to shoot the breeze like old times. Linda was upset. She was going to be away on business the week before, and the Friday night when Josh would be out with his chum would be her first night home. But when Josh had those ideas he simply informed her of them, rather than discussing them with her before extending the invitation.

Linda would never make plans, for a weekend or an evening, without first checking with Josh. She can't understand why he doesn't show her the same courtesy and consideration that she shows him. But when she protests, Josh says, "I can't say to my friend, 'I have to ask my wife for permission!'"

To Josh, checking with his wife means seeking permission, which implies that he is not independent, not free to act on his own. It would make him feel like a child or an underling. To Linda, checking with her husband has nothing to do with permission. She assumes that spouses discuss their plans with each other because their lives are intertwined, so the actions of one have consequences for the other. Not only does Linda not mind telling someone, "I have to check with

Josh”; quite the contrary—she likes it. It makes her feel good to know and show that she is involved with someone, that her like is bound up with someone else’s.

Linda and Josh both felt more upset by this incident and others like it, than seemed warranted, because it cut to the core of their primary concerns. Linda was hurt because she sensed a failure of closeness in their relationship: He didn’t care about her as much as she cared about him. And he was hurt because he felt she was trying to control him and limit his freedom.

A similar conflict exists between Louise and Howie, another couple, about spending money. Louise would never buy anything costing more than a hundred dollars without discussing it with Howie, but he goes out and buys whatever he wants and feels they can afford, like a table saw or a new power mower. Louise is disturbed, not because she disapproves of the purchase, but because she feels he is acting as if she were not in the picture.

Many women feel it is natural to consult with their partners at every turn, while many men automatically make more decisions without consulting their partners. This may reflect a broad difference in conceptions of decision making. Women expect decisions to be discussed first and made by consensus. They appreciate the discussion itself as evidence of involvement and communication. But many men feel oppressed by lengthy discussions about what they see as minor decisions, and they feel hemmed in if they can’t just act without talking first. When women try to initiate a freewheeling discussion by asking, “What do you think?” men often think they are being asked to decide.

Communication is a continual balancing act, juggling the conflicting needs for intimacy and independence. To survive in the world, we have to act in concert with others, but to survive as ourselves, rather than simply as cogs in a wheel, we have to act alone. In some ways, all people are the same: we all eat and sleep and drink and laugh and cough, and often we eat, and laugh at, the same things. But in some ways, each person is different, and individuals’ differing wants and preferences may conflict with each other. Offered the same menu, people make different choices. And if there is cake for dessert, there is a chance one person may get a larger piece than another

—and an even greater chance that one will think the other’s piece is larger, whether it is or not.

1. The thesis of the passage is _____.

2. The passage is obviously developed by _____ and _____.

3. The writer’s suggested solution to the conflict is _____.

4. “Intimacy is key in a world of connection where individuals negotiate complex net works of friendship, minimize differences, try to reach consensus, and avoid the appearance of superiority, which would highlight differences” can be paraphrased as follows _____.

5. Can the statement “ It is as if their lifeblood ran in different directions.” provide a defense for the male Chauvinism in the family? Why?

IV. Essay writing (70/150 points).

It was reported in October of 2007 in most of Chinese media that a hunter farmer had shot over 50 photos of a South China tiger, which had been claimed to be extinguished 20 years earlier. Although the pictures were true ones, the tiger in them was proved in court to be a fake later in 2008. Please write **an essay in over 300 words** to voice your opinion under the title given below. Grading will be based on the **idea, language and logic** of the writing.

Credibility and Society