

东 华 大 学

2005 年硕士研究生招生考试试题

科目：综合英语

(考生注意：答案须写在答题纸上。写在本试题上，一律不给分)

Part I. Vocabulary (40 分) 共 40 题

Directions: *There are 40 incomplete sentences in this part. For each sentence there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the ONE that best completes the sentence.*

1. By _____ computation, he estimated that the repairs on the house would cost him a thousand dollars.
A) coarse B) rude C) crude D) rough
2. Your story about the frog turning into a prince is _____ nonsense.
A) sheer B) shear C) shield D) sheet
3. I could see that my wife was _____ having that fur coat, whether I approved of it or not.
A) adequate for B) intent on C) short of D) deficient in
4. The _____ runner can run 2 miles in fifteen minutes.
A) common B) usual C) average D) general
5. One of his eyes was injured in an accident, but after a _____ operation, he quickly recovered his sight.
A) delicate B) considerate C) precise D) sensitive
6. As an excellent shooter, Peter practiced aiming at both _____ targets and moving targets.
A) standing B) stationary C) still D) stable
7. In American universities, classes are often arranged in more flexible _____ and many jobs on campus are reserved for students.
A) scales B) patterns C) grades D) ranks
8. The insurance company paid him \$10, 000 in _____ after his accident.

A) compensation B) installment C) substitution D) commission

9. The political future of the president is now hanging by a _____.

A) thread B) cord C) string D) rope

10. The statue would be perfect but for a few small _____ in its base.

A) mistakes B) weaknesses C) flaws D) errors

11. Why should anyone want to read _____ of books by great authors when the real pleasure comes from reading the originals?

A) themes B) insights C) digests D) leaflets

12. Parents have a legal _____ to ensure that their children are provided with efficient education suitable to their age.

A) impulse B) influence C) obligation D) sympathy

13. Most nurses are women, but in the higher ranks of the medical profession women are in a _____.

A) scarcity B) minority C) minimum D) shortage

14. David likes country life and has decided to _____ farming.

A) go in for B) go back on C) go through with D) go along with .

15. Jack was about to announce our plan but I _____ .

A) put him through B) turned him out C) gave him up D) cut him short

16. I am sure I can _____ him into letting us stay in the hotel for the night.

A) speak B) say C) talk D) tell

17. Last year, the crime rate in Chicago has sharply _____.

A) declined B) lessened C) descended D) slipped

18. The republication of his most recent works will certainly _____ his national reputation.

A) magnify B) strengthen C) enlarge D) enhance

19. Recently a number of cases have been reported of young children _____ a violent act previously seen on television.

A) modifying B) duplicating C) accelerating D) stimulating

20. This kind of material can _____ heat and moisture.

A) delete B) compel C) constrain D) repel

21. Reading _____ the mind only with materials of knowledge; it is thinking that makes what we read ours.

A) rectifies B) prolongs C) minimizes D) furnishes

22. If the fire alarm is sounded, all residents are requested to _____ in the courtyard.

A) assemble B) converge C) crowd D) accumulate

23. The work in the office was _____ by a constant stream of visitors.

A) confused B) hampered C) reverend D) perplexed

24. The joys of travel, having long _____ the disabled, are opening up to virtually anyone who has the means.

A) omitted B) missed C) neglected D) discarded

25. Fewer and fewer of today's workers expect to spend their working lives in the same field, _____ the same company.

A) all else B) much worse C) less likely D) let alone

26. When he finally emerged from the cave after thirty days, John was _____ pale.

A) enormously B) startlingly C) uniquely D) dramatically

27. Thank you for applying for a position with our firm. We do not have any openings at this time, but we shall keep your application on _____ for two months.

A) pile B) segment C) sequence D) file

28. It will be safer to walk the streets because people will not need to carry large amounts of cash; virtually all financial _____ will be conducted by computer.

A) transactions B) transmissions C) transitions D) transformations

29. The _____ of a cultural phenomenon is usually a logical consequence of some physical aspect in the life style of the people.

A) implementation B) manifestation C) demonstration D) expedition

30. The new technological revolution in American newspapers has brought increase in a wider _____ of publications and an expansion of newspaper jobs.

A) manipulation B) reproduction C) circulation D) penetration

31. For many patients, institutional care is the most _____ and beneficial form of care.

A) pertinent B) appropriate C) acute D) persistent

32. Among all the changes resulting from the _____ entry of women into the work force, the transformation that has occurred in the women themselves is not the least important.

A) massive B) quantitative C) surplus D) formidable

33. Mr. Smith became very _____ when it was suggested that he had made a mistake.

A) ingenious B) empirical C) objective D) indignant

34. Rumors are everywhere, spreading fear, damaging reputations, and turning calm situations into _____ ones.

A) turbulent B) tragic C) vulnerable D) suspicious

35. The _____ cycle of life and death is a subject of interest to scientists and philosophers alike.

A) incompatible B) exceeding C) instantaneous D) eternal

36. She remains confident and _____ untroubled by our present problems.

A) indefinitely B) infinitely C) optimistically D) seemingly

37. Fiber-optic cables can carry hundreds of telephone conversations _____.

A) simultaneously B) spontaneously C) homogeneously D) contemporarily

38. The police were alerted that the escaped criminal might be in the _____.

A) vain B) vicinity C) court D) jail

39. Whether you live to eat or eat to live, food is a major _____ in every family's budget.

A) nutrition B) expenditure C) routine D) provision

40. Now a paper in Science argues that organic chemicals in the rock come mostly from _____ on earth rather than bacteria on Mars.

A) configuration B) constitution C) condemnation D) contamination

Part II. Reading Comprehension(40 分)

Directions: *There are four passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions of unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C, and D. You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter.*

Passage One

Whether the eyes are the windows of the soul is debatable, that they are intensely important in interpersonal communication is a fact. During the first two months of a baby's life, the stimulus that produces a smile is a pair of eyes. The eyes need not be real a mask with two dots will produce a smile. Significantly, a real human face with eyes then the face will not motivate a smile, nor will the sight of only one eye then the face is presented in profile. This attraction to eyes as

opposed to the nose or mouth continues as the baby matures. In one study, when American four-year-olds were asked to draw people, 75 percent of them drew people with mouths, but 99 percent of them drew people with eyes. In Japan, however, where babies are carried on their mother's back, infants do not acquire as much attachment to eyes as they do in other cultures. As a result, Japanese adults make little use of the face either to encode or decode meaning. In fact, Argyle reveals that the proper place to focus one's gaze during a conversation in Japan is on the neck of one's conversation partner.

The role of eye contact in a conversational exchange between two Americans is well defined. Speakers make contact with the eyes of their listener for about one second, then glance away as they talk; in a few moments they re-establish eye contact with the listener or reassure themselves that their audience is still attentive, then shift their gaze away once more. Listeners, meanwhile, keep their eyes on the face of the speaker, allowing themselves to glance away only briefly. It is important that they be looking at the speaker at the precise moment when the speaker reestablishes eye contact. If they are not looking, the speaker assumes that they are disinterested and either will pause until eye contact is resumed or will terminate the conversation. Just how critical this eye maneuvering is to the maintenance of conversational flow becomes evident when two speakers are wearing dark glasses: there may be a sort of traffic jam of words caused by interruption, false starts, and unpredictable pauses.

41. The author is convinced that the eyes are _____.

- A) of extreme importance in expressing feelings and exchanging ideas
- B) something through which one can see a person's inner world
- C) of considerable significance in making conversations interesting
- D) something the value of which is largely a matter of long debate

42. Babies will not be stimulated to smile by a person _____.

- A) whose front view is fully perceived
- B) whose face is covered with a mask
- C) whose face is seen from the side
- D) whose face is free of any covering

43. According to the passage, the Japanese fix their gaze on their conversation partner's neck because _____.

- A) they don't like to keep their eyes on the face of the speaker
- B) they need not communicate through eye contact

C) they don't think it polite to have eye contact

D) they didn't have much opportunity to communicate through eye contact in babyhood

44 . According to the passage, a conversation between two Americans may break down due to _____.

A) one temporarily glancing away from the other

B) eye contact of more than one second

C) improperly-timed ceasing of eye contact

D) constant adjustment of eye contact

45. To keep a conversation flowing smoothly, it is better for the participants _____.

A) not to wear dark spectacles

B) B) not to make any interruptions

C) not to glance away from each other

D) D) not to make unpredictable pauses

Passage Two

Despite Denmark's manifest virtues, Danes never talk about how proud they are to be Danes. This would sound weird in Danish. When Danes talk to foreigners about Denmark, they always begin by commenting on its tininess, its unimportance, the difficulty of its language, the general small-mindedness and self-indulgence of their countrymen and the high taxes. No Dane would look you in the eye and say, "Denmark is a great country." You're supposed to figure this out for yourself.

It is the land of the silk safety net, where almost half the national budget goes toward smoothing out life's inequalities, and there is plenty of money for schools, day care, retraining programmes, job seminars—Danes love seminars: three days at a study centre hearing about waste management is almost as good as a ski trip. It is a culture bombarded by English, in advertising, pop music, the Internet, and despite all the English that Danish absorbs—there is no Danish Academy to defend against it—old dialects persist in Jutland that can barely be understood by Copenhageners. It is the land where, as the saying goes, "Few have too much and fewer have too little," and a foreigner is struck by the sweet egalitarianism that prevails, where the lowliest clerk gives you a level gaze, where Sir and Madame have disappeared from common usage, even Mr. and Mrs. It's a nation of recyclers—about 55 % of Danish garbage gets made into something new—and no nuclear power plants. It's a nation of tireless planner. Trains run on time. Things operate well in general.

Such a nation of overachievers — a brochure from the Ministry of Business and Industry says, "Denmark is one of the world's cleanest and most organized countries, with virtually no pollution, crime, or poverty. Denmark is the most corruption-free society in the Northern Hemisphere." So,

of course, one's heart lifts at any sighting of Danish sleaze: skinhead graffiti on buildings("Foreigner's Out of Denmark! "), broken beer bottles in the gutters, drunken teenagers slumped in the park.

Nonetheless, it is an orderly land. You drive through a Danish town, it comes to an end at a stone wall, and on the other side is a field of barley, a nice clean line: town here, country there. It is not a nation of jay-walkers. People stand on the curb and wait for the red light to change, even if it's 2 a.m. and there's not a car in sight. However, Danes don't think of themselves as a waiting-at-2-a.m.-for-the-green-light people—that's how they see Swedes and Germans. Danes see themselves as jazzy people, improvisers, more free spirited than Swedes, but the truth is (though one should not say it) that Danes are very much like Germans and Swedes. Orderliness is a main selling point. Denmark has few natural resources, limited manufacturing capability; its future in Europe will be as a broker, banker, and distributor of goods. You send your goods by container ship to Copenhagen, and these bright, young, English-speaking, utterly honest, highly disciplined people will get your goods around to Scandinavia, the Baltic States, and Russia. Airports, seaports, highways, and rail lines are ultramodern and well-maintained.

The orderliness of the society doesn't mean that Danish lives are less messy or lonely than yours or mine, and no Dane would tell you so. You can hear plenty about bitter family feuds and the sorrows of alcoholism and about perfectly sensible people who went off one day and killed themselves. An orderly society can not exempt its members from the hazards of life.

But there is a sense of entitlement and security that Danes grow up with. Certain things are yours by virtue of citizenship, and you shouldn't feel bad for taking what you're entitled to, you're as good as anyone else. The rules of the welfare system are clear to everyone, the benefits you get if you lose your job, the steps you take to get a new one; and the orderliness of the system makes it possible for the country to weather high unemployment and social unrest without a sense of crisis.

46. The author thinks that Danes adopt a ___ attitude towards their country.
A. boastful B. modest C. deprecating D. mysterious
47. Which of the following is NOT a Danish characteristic cited in the passage?
A. Fondness of foreign culture. B. Equality in society. C. Linguistic tolerance. D. Persistent planning.
48. The author's reaction to the statement by the Ministry of Business and Industry is _____.
A. disapproving B. approving C. noncommittal D. doubtful
49. According to the passage, Danish orderliness _____.
A. sets the people apart from Germans and Swedes
B. spares Danes social troubles besetting other people
C. is considered economically essential to the country
D. prevents Danes from acknowledging existing troubles
50. At the end of the passage the author states all the following EXCEPT that _____.
A. Danes are clearly informed of their social benefits
B. Danes take for granted what is given to them
C. the open system helps to tide the country over
D. orderliness has alleviated unemployment

Passage Three

How is communication actually achieved? It depends, of course, either on a common language or on known conventions, or at least on the beginnings of these. If the common language and the conventions exist, the contributor, for example, the creative artist, the performer, or the reporter, tries to use them as well as he can. But often, especially with original artists and thinkers, the problem is in one way that of creating a language, or creating a convention, or at least of developing the language and conventions to the point where they are capable of bearing his precise meaning. In literature, in music, in the visual arts, in the sciences, in social thinking, in philosophy, this kind of development has occurred again and again. It often takes a long time to get through, and for many people it will remain difficult. But we need never think that it is impossible; creative energy is much more powerful than we sometimes suppose. While a man is engaged in this struggle to say new things in new ways, he is usually more than ever concentrated on the actual work, and not on its possible audience. Many artists and scientists share this fundamental unconcern about the ways in which their work will be received. They may be glad if it is understood and appreciated, hurt if it is not, but while the work is being done there can be no argument. The thing has to come out as the man himself sees it.

In this sense it is true that it is the duty of society to create conditions in which such men can live. For whatever the value of any individual contribution, the general body of work is of immense value to everyone. But of course things are not so formal, in reality. There is not society on the one hand and these individuals on the other. In ordinary living, and in his work, the contributor shares in the life of his society, which often affects him both in minor ways and in ways sometimes so deep that he is not even aware of them. His ability to make his work public depends on the actual communication system: the language itself, or certain visual or musical or scientific conventions, and the institutions through which the communication will be passed. The effect of these on his actual work can be almost infinitely variable. For it is not only a communication system outside him; it is also, however original he may be, a communication system which is in fact part of himself. Many contributors make active use of this kind of internal communication system. It is to themselves, in a way, that they first show their conceptions, play their music, present their arguments. Not only as a way of getting these clear, in the process of almost endless testing that active composition involves. But also, whether consciously or not, as a way of putting the experience into a communicable form. If one mind has grasped it, then it may be open to other minds.

In this deep sense, the society is in some ways already present in the act of composition. This is always very difficult to understand, but often, when we have the advantage of looking back at a period, we can see, even if we cannot explain, how this was so. We can see how much even highly original individuals had in common, in their actual work, and in what is called their "structure of feeling", with other individual workers of the time, and with the society of that time to which they belonged. The historian is also continually struck by the fact that men of this kind felt isolated at the very time when in reality they were beginning to get through. This can also be noticed in our own time, when some of the most deeply influential men feel isolated and even rejected. The society and the communication are there, but it is difficult to recognize them, difficult to be sure.

51. Creative artists and thinkers achieve communication by ____.

- A. depending on shared conventions
 - B. fashioning their own conventions
 - C. adjusting their personal feelings
 - D. elaborating a common language
52. A common characteristic of artists and scientists involved in creative work is that ____.
- A. they care about the possible reaction to their work
 - B. public response is one of the primary concerns
 - C. they are keenly aware of public interest in their work
 - D. they are indifferent toward response to their work
53. According to the passage, which of the following statements is INCORRECT?
- A. Individual contributions combined possess great significance to the public.
 - B. Good contributors don't neglect the use of internal communication system.
 - C. Everyone except those original people comes under the influence of society.
 - D. Knowing how to communicate is universal among human beings.
54. It is implied at the end of the passage that highly original individuals feel isolated because they ____.
- A. fail to acknowledge and use an acceptable form of communication
 - B. actually differ from other individuals in the same period
 - C. have little in common with the society of the time
 - D. refuse to admit parallels between themselves and the society

Passage Four

This month Singapore passed a bill that would give legal teeth to the moral obligation to support one's parents. Called the Maintenance of Parents Bill, it received the backing of the Singapore Government.

That does not mean it hasn't generated discussion. Several members of the Parliament opposed the measure as un-Asian. Others who acknowledged the problem of the elderly poor believed it a disproportionate response. Still others believe it will subvert relations within the family: cynics dubbed it the "Sue Your Son" law.

Those who say that the bill does not promote filial responsibility, of course, are right. It has nothing to do with filial responsibility. It kicks in where filial responsibility fails. The law cannot legislate filial responsibility any more than it can legislate love. All the law can do is to provide a safety net where this morality proves insufficient. Singapore needs this bill not to replace morality, but to provide incentives to shore it up.

Like many other developed nations, Singapore faces the problems of an increasing proportion of people over 60 years of age. Demography is inexorable. In 1980, 7.2% of the population was in this bracket. By the end of the century that figure will grow to 11%. By 2030, the proportion is projected to be 26%. The problem is not old age per se. It is that the ratio of economically active people to economically inactive people will decline.

But no amount of government exhortation or paternalism will completely eliminate the problem of old people who have insufficient means to make ends meet. Some people will fall through the holes in any safety net.

Traditionally, a person's insurance against poverty in his old age was his family, lifts is not a revolutionary concept. Nor is it uniquely Asian. Care and support for one's parents is a universal value shared by all civilized societies.

The problem in Singapore is that the moral obligation to look after one's parents is unenforceable. A father can be compelled by law to maintain his children. A husband can be forced to support his wife. But, until now, a son or daughter had no legal obligation to support his or her parents.

In 1989, an Advisory Council was set up to look into the problems of the aged. Its report stated with a tinge of complacency that 95% of those who did not have their own income were receiving cash contributions from relations. But what about the 5% who aren't getting relatives' support? They have several options: (a) get a job and work until they die; (b) apply for public assistance (you have to be destitute to apply); or(c) starve quietly. None of these options is socially acceptable. And what if this 5% figure grows, as it is likely to do, as society ages?

The Maintenance of Parents Bill was put forth to encourage the traditional virtues that have so far kept Asian nations from some of the breakdowns encountered in other affluent societies. This legislation will allow a person to apply t o the court for maintenance from any or all of his children. The court would have the discretion to refuse to make an order if it is unjust.

Those who deride the proposal for opening up the courts to family lawsuits miss the point. Only in extreme cases would any parent take his child to court. If it does indeed become law, the bill's effect would be far more subtle.

First, it will reaffirm the notion that it is each individual's—not society's—responsibility to look after his parents. Singapore is still conservative enough that most people will not object to this idea. It reinforces the traditional values and it doesn't hurt a society now and then to remind itself of its core values.

Second, and more important, it will make those who are inclined to shirk their responsibilities think twice. Until now, if a person asked family elders, clergymen or the Ministry of Community Development to help get financial support from his children, the most they could do was to mediate. But mediators have no teeth, and a child could simply ignore their pleas.

But to be sued by one's parents would be a massive loss of face. It would be a public disgrace. Few people would be so thick-skinned as to say, "Sue and be damned". The hand of the conciliator would be immeasurably strengthened. It is far more likely that some sort of amicable settlement would be reached if the recalcitrant son or daughter knows that the alternative is a public trial.

It would be nice to think Singapore doesn't need this kind of law. But that belief ignores the clear demographic trends and the effect of affluence itself on traditional bends. Those of us who pushed for the bill will consider ourselves most successful if it acts as an incentive not to have it invoked in the first place.

55. The Maintenance of Parents Bill ____.

- A. received unanimous support in the Singapore Parliament
- B. was believed to solve all the problems of the elderly poor
- C. was intended to substitute for traditional values in Singapore

D. was passed to make the young more responsible to the old

56. By quoting the growing percentage points of the aged in the population, the author seems to imply that ____.

- A. the country will face mounting problems of the old in future
- B. the social welfare system would be under great pressure
- C. young people should be given more moral education
- D. the old should be provided with means of livelihood

57. Which of the following statements is CORRECT?

- A. Filial responsibility in Singapore is enforced by law.
- B. Fathers have legal obligations to look after their children.
- C. It is an acceptable practice for the old to continue working.
- D. The Advisory Council was dissatisfied with the problems of the old.

58. The author seems to suggest that traditional values ____.

- A. play an insignificant role in solving social problems
- B. are helpful to the elderly when they sue their children
- C. are very important in preserving Asian uniqueness
- D. are significant in helping the Bill get approved

59. The author thinks that if the Bill becomes law, its effect would be ____.

- A. indirect
- B. unnoticed
- C. apparent
- D. straightforward

60. At the end of the passage, the author seems to imply that success of the Bill depends upon ____.

- A. strict enforcement
- B. public support
- C. government assurance
- D. filial awareness

Part III Cloze (20 分)

Direction: Fill in each of the following blanks with ONE proper word.

The fact that blind people can “see” things using other parts of their bodies ____61 their eyes may help us to understand our feeling about color. If they can ____62 color differences then perhaps we, too, are affected by color unconsciously.

Manufacturers have discovered by trial and ____63 that sugar ____64 badly in green wrappings, that blue foods, are considered ____65 and that cosmetics should never be packaged ____66 brown. These discoveries have grown into a whole ____67 of color psychology that now finds application in ____68 from fashion to interior decoration. Some of our ____69 are clearly psychological. ____70 blue is the color of the night sky and therefore associated ____71 passivity and calm, while yellow is a day color with associations of energy and incentive. For primitive man, activity during the day meant hunting and attacking, while he soon saw as red, the color of blood and rage and the heat that came with ____72. And green is associated with passive defense and self-preservation. ____73 have shown that colors, partly because of their physiological associations, also have a direct psychological effect. People ____74 to bright red

show ____ 75 in heartbeat, and blood pressure; red is exciting. Similar exposure to pure blue has exactly the opposite effect; it is a ____ 76 color. Because of its exciting connotations, red was chosen as the ____ 77 for danger, but closer ____ 78 shows that a vivid yellow can produce a more basic state of alertness and alarm, so fire engines and ambulances in some advanced communities are now ____ 79 around in bright yellow colors that ____ 80 the traffic dead.

- 61.A)besides B)apart from C)in turn D)including
- 62.A)separate B)taste C)sense D)feel
- 63.A)mistake B)wrong C)test D)error
- 64.A)sold B)is sold C)sells D)sells to be
- 65.A)displeased B)unpleasant C)unhappy D)joyless
- 66.A)in B)by C)with D)under
- 67.A)course B)fiction C)discipline D)range
- 68.A)anything B)every thing C)nothing D)everything
- 69.A)tendency B)choices C)favorites D)preferences
- 70.A)Heavy B)Black C)Dark D)Deep
- 71.A)with B)to C)for D)by
- 72.A)energy B)spirit C)effort D)contributions
- 73.A)Tests B)Examinations C)Practice D)Experiments
- 74.A)sacrificed B)revealed C)exposed D)discovered
- 75.A)a promotion B)an increase C)a development D)an improvement
- 76.A)easy B)quiet C)dangerous D)calming
- 77.A)signal B)sign C)symbol D)label
- 78.A)analyses B)analysis C)analyse D)analytics
- 79.A)rushing B)pushing C)dashing D)crashing
- 80.A)cause B)stop C)lead D)make

Part IV Proofreading and Error Correction: (10 分)

Directions: *The following passage contains 10 errors. Each indicated line contains a maximum of one error. In each case, only one word is involved. You should proofread the passage and correct it. You may have to change a word, add a word or delete a word. First point out the word you think is wrong, and then give the correct one.*

During the early years of this century, wheat was seen as the very lifeblood of Western Canada. People on city streets watched the yields and the price of wheat in almost as much feeling as if 81. ____ they were growers. The marketing of wheat became an increasing 82. ____ favorite topic of conversation.

War set the stage for the most dramatic events in marketing the western crop. For years, farmers mistrusted speculative grain selling as carried on through the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. Wheat prices were generally low in the autumn, so farmers could 83. ____ not wait for markets to improve. It had happened too often that they sold their wheat soon shortly after harvest when farm debts 84. ____

were coming due, just to see prices rising and speculators getting rich. 85. ___

On various occasions, producer groups, asked firmer control, 86. ___

but the government had no wish to become involving, at 87. ___

least not until wartime when wheat prices threatened to run wild.

Anxious to check inflation and rising life costs, the federal 88. ___

government appointed a board of grain supervisors to deal with

deliveries from the crops of 1917 and 1918. Grain Exchange

trading was suspended, and farmers sold at prices fixed by the

board. To handle with the crop of 1919, the government 89. ___

appointed the first Canadian Wheat Board, with total authority to 90. ___

buy, sell, and set prices.

Part VI: Writing (40 分)

Direction: *READ the following passage on the defaulted payments of migrant workers and write an essay to establish your own argument. The length of your essay should be around 300 words.*

Protecting migrant workers' rights

With the year drawing to a close, whether migrant workers can get due payment on time has once again attracted wide attention.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Security launched on December 1 a two-month national inspection campaign on the defaulting of migrant workers' wages. According to the campaign, employers who intentionally embezzle migrant workers' wages will be punished.

The campaign is designed to raise migrant workers' law awareness so they know how to protect their rights from being infringed upon. Most importantly, it aims to help more migrant workers get their deserved payments before they head home for the Lunar New Year that falls on February 9.

According to statistics from the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, up to 100 billion yuan (US\$12.1 billion) in unpaid wages was owed to migrant laborers in China by the end of November. This has caused severe conflict between migrant workers and their bosses.