

对外经济贸易大学

2008 年硕士学位研究生入学考试初试试题

考试科目: 861 综合英语

Part One Topic Sentences (20 points, 5 points each)

Complete the following passages by writing in each of the blanks a topic sentence. Write your answers on your Answer Sheet.

Passage 1

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Modern life changes so quickly. Today, jet airplanes fly across the oceans very fast; for example, it is possible to fly from London to New York in three and a half hours on the Concord jet. Fantastic! Also, we watch the Olympic Games and other international events on television via satellites and industrial operations. Computers also make communications between people easier and faster.

Other changes make the world smaller too. For instance, more people travel abroad today. Businessmen, tourists, students, scientists, religious leaders, political leaders, and movie stars visit many countries each year. Students and scientists go to foreign universities and research institutes; businessmen from multinational companies work in their branch offices abroad. Nowadays, foreign tourists visit the Great Wall of China, take a trip to Africa, and walk through the great cathedrals and museums of Europe. Others travel to the Hawaiian Islands in the Pacific Ocean, cruise down the Amazon River, or take long train trips across the Australian continent.

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ Australian stores sell shoes made in Spain and Italy; Dutch shops sell shirts from China, Korea, and Poland. Young people in many countries all over the world buy American blue jeans. Today, there are also American hotels such as Hiltons, Sheratons, and Holiday Inns in many countries, as well as McDonald's and Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurants. And millions of people watch international news on Sony television sets made in Japan.

Many people pay for their jet airplane trips, hotel rooms, imported clothing, and television sets with a credit card, a kind of universal currency. The most popular credit cards are Visa, Master Card, American Express, Diners Club, and Cart Blanche. In some places, to pay in cash is unusual. All these modern changes make our world a smaller place -- a kind of "global village."

Passage 2

Inside Chicago's top-ranked Whitney Young High School, the posters started

appearing last December. "Let's Be No 1!" "Give it 110%!" Usually this sort of propaganda supports the basketball team, but this campaign by the principal had a different aim: urging kids to score high on the Illinois Goal Assessment Program, a standardized test that students would take in February. Tests are nothing new to the kids at Whitney Young—they already take three other batteries of standardized exams each year. But for a group of high-achieving 11<sup>th</sup> graders the pressure was just too much. These kids say real learning is being shoved aside as teachers focus on boosting test scores. Creative writing? Forget it. Instead, they say, teachers emphasize a boilerplate essay format that exam scorers prefer. So on Feb. 2, eight juniors purposely failed the social-studies portion of the test. The next day, 10 failed the science test. Then they sent a letter to the principal: "We refuse to feed into this test-taking frenzy."

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ . Fill-in-the-bubble exams have been part of classroom life for decades, but for most of their history they were no big deal. Scores were tucked in students' folders; at most, they were used to segregate kids into higher- and lower-level classes. That's changed dramatically in the last decade as reformers try to improve school quality by holding educators accountable for learning. Every state has a different testing scheme, but many state legislatures are writing new standards for what kids should learn in each grade and mandating tough new "high stakes" tests to gauge progress. Unlike such old-style standardized tests as the Iowas or Metropolitans, many of the new exams are linked to the curriculum and feature essays and short answers, not just multiple choices. The biggest difference: low scores can bring real pain. Kids can be held back, forced into summer school or, under rules in 26 states, denied a diploma. Educators can lose pay or be fired; schools can face state takeover. In polls, the tests win wide public support, and more states are jumping on the bandwagon.

Yet there is no easy answer to the most basic question: do these tests help kids learn? As the testing movement has grown, opposing experts have churned out a mountain of conflicting research. Fans of the tests say they're as necessary to schooling as a scale is to dieting. Ideally, they're diagnostic tools, letting teachers know Jack doesn't understand two-digit multiplication and Jill needs help with subject-verb agreement. Yes, it's sad that a single exam might keep a child from graduating, but most European countries already use exit exams, and some U.S. students are kept from graduating for lesser offenses, like flunking gym or cutting too many classes. And as schools ask for money to hire teachers and cut class size, taxpayers have every right to expect a measurable payback. Supporters of the new exams point to encouraging results in Texas, one of the first states to implement this type of reform plan.

(4) \_\_\_\_\_ . "Every hour that teachers feel compelled to try to raise test scores is an hour not spent helping kids become critical, creative, curious thinkers," says Alfie Kohn, author of "The Schools Our Children Deserve." It's those skills, after all, that put the United States ahead of world competitors in areas like entrepreneurship. Last fall the National Research Council warned Congress that schools should refrain from basing important decisions like who gets promoted or graduates solely on test scores, and called for more exploration of the unintended consequences of high-stakes exams. Teachers in the inner cities, where many children are being held back for failing the tests, worry that these exams are over-whelming their already overcrowded and understaffed classrooms. Suburban homeowners have more bottom-line concerns; they fear that dismal test scores will lower home values. For now, those worries will persist. Testing opponents have scored small victories in places like Wisconsin, but momentum is on the side of reformers. As kids return to classrooms this fall, the new exams will be part of the curriculum.

### Part Two Paraphrasing (20 points)

Paraphrase the underlined part in English. Write your answers on the Answer Sheet. (5 points each)

1. Soon they found their imitators among the non-intellectuals. As it became more and more fashionable throughout the country for young persons to defy the law and conventions and to add their own little matchsticks to the conflagration of "flaming youth", it was Greenwich Village that fanned the flames.
2. And this is the situation that many of the English, decent at heart, find themselves in today. Bewildered, they grope and mess around because they have fallen between two stools, the old harsh discipline having vanished and the essential new self-discipline either not understood or thought to be out of reach.
3. Social science tends steadily to mark a preference for the troubled, the abnormal, the problem case. Whether it is poverty, mental disorder, delinquency or crime, the "patient material" monopolizes the interest of increasing groups of people among the most generous and learned. Psychiatry and moral liberalism go together; the application of law as we have known it is thus coming to be regarded as an historic prelude to social work, which may replace it entirely.
4. The story of what can happen to an American Negro writer in Europe simply illustrates, in some relief, what can happen to any American writer there. It is not meant, of course, to imply that it happens to them all, for Europe can be very crippling too; and anyway, a writer, when he has made his first breakthrough, has simply won a crucial skirmish in a dangerous, unending and unpredictable battle.

### Part Three E-C Translation (30 points)

Translate the following two passages into Chinese. Write your translation on the Answer Sheet.

- 1 We are conditioned to look for justice in life and when it doesn't appear, we tend to feel anger, anxiety and frustration. Actually, it would be equally productive to search for the fountain of youth, or some such myth. The world is simply not put together that way. Robins eat worms. That's not fair to the worms. Spiders eat flies. That's not fair to the flies. Cougars kill coyotes. Coyotes kill badgers. Badgers kill mice. Mice kill bugs. Bugs... You have only to look at nature to realize there is no justice in the world. Tornadoes, floods, tidal waves, droughts are all unfair. It is a mythological concept, this justice business. The world and the people in it go on being unfair every day. You can choose to be happy or unhappy, but it has nothing to do with the lack of justice you see around you.
- 2 While Jane was congratulating herself on having achieved most of her objectives on time and within budget, her boss, Anthony Smith, rushed in with a very worried look. "Jane, I have had a group of sales staff, about 30, in my office threatening to resign unless the new grade and reward scheme is abandoned. What should we do? I don't think I can afford to lose all 30 at the same time," he said. "Anthony, I don't think we should be weak as management. The new scheme is the result of a scientific and objective job-evaluation exercise and salary survey. I have a lot of experience in the United States in implementing new salary schemes based on job-evaluation studies. Let me talk to the staff and explain the system to them. In fact, their present position and salary will not be affected as most of them are either at the top of grade 2 or grade 3.

### Part Four C-E Translation (30 points)

Translate the six short paragraphs into English. Write your translation on the Answer Sheet.

- 1 我们要致力于普及文化遗产保护知识，增强全社会的文化遗产保护意识，营造全民参与保护文化遗产的良好氛围，把有形的物质和无形的精神代代相传，绵绵不息。
- 2 这种新列车车厢的座椅全部为软座，可以随意调节倾斜度，旅客可以选择与列车运行方向保持一致或者面对坐在后面的人。这种安排深受一同旅行的家庭成员、亲戚朋友、同事、同学的欢迎。

- 3 陵园很静，我听得出自己抚摸碑文的沙沙声。触及最后四个字，似有雷电涌动。过分冗长使人厌倦，过分简洁使人震惊。
- 4 中央政府将安排 30 亿元建设资金，支持国有煤矿的安全技术改造。当前要把煤矿安全作为突出任务，完善煤矿安全监管体制和机制，加大对煤矿安全设施的投入，提高安全生产技术水平。
- 5 今年中央财政安排 109 亿元资金支持再就业，比上年增加 26 亿元。地方财政也要增加投入。加强就业指导、培训和服务。统筹做好新增劳动力、高校毕业生、复员退伍军人和农村富余劳动力的就业工作。
- 6 在聪颖、精明的犹太人眼里，任何东西都是有价的，都能失而复得，只有智慧才是人生无价的财富。而智慧，很大程度上是书本上得来的。

### Part Five Summary Writing (20 points)

Write a summary of the following passage in Chinese. Write it in no less than 200 Chinese characters.

If any country was the model of success in the new world economic order, Mexico was it. The country's US-trained technocrats seemed to be doing everything right. They flung open Mexico's markets for free trade, rolled out the red carpet for foreign investors, privatized lumbering state companies, and beat down inflation. But since the peso's devaluation, this virtuous cycle has turned vicious. Mexico's currency and stock markets have crashed, and unemployment has soared. The North American Free Trade Agreement, the engine of hemispheric growth, has produced a dangerously weak partner for the US. The implication is that far from triumphing around the world, the free-market model has hit a wall.

Now, the Mexican crisis is giving rise to second thoughts about the course of the global economy. Overall, the consensus opinion among executives, portfolio managers, academics, and government officials is still encouraging. The structural foundations for free markets, such as open borders and privatization, seem to be as solid as they were before the rupture in Mexico.

**New Deals.** But the realization is sinking in that as these markets develop, bouts of volatility will cause periodic panics. For the short term, that's bad news for the mutual funds and investment houses that have piled into the immature financial markets of the developing world. More conflicts will erupt between the Finance Ministers in these countries and the investors of this so-called hot money, which seeks out the best returns and shuns the biggest risks. Countries such as Mexico, which despite its progress grew dangerously addicted to short-term borrowings, will be eventually punished by the markets for their profligacy. Governments in Asia are moving to protect themselves by erecting hurdles to curb the flow of hot money. Even in Western Europe, some opponents of the new order may try to blunt the power of bond investors who are assailing the welfare state's costs.

In this turbulent atmosphere, the initiative could pass to the other source of foreign capital in emerging markets----the multinational corporations, which control hundreds of billions in assets and have growing operational expertise in far-flung markets. For now, executives at these companies seem optimistic about global opportunities, peso devaluation or no. To these giants, says Robert E. Donovan, executive vice-president of ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd., the giant engineering concern: "(Mexico) is just a bump in the road."

Well, maybe. Some of these companies may have invested so heavily in emerging markets that they are locked into a long term view. Yet as mutual-fund money flees homeward, it's likely multinationals' patient capital will look even more valuable to governments intent on development. China's recent concessions on intellectual-property rights, which favor such companies as Microsoft Corp. and Time Warner Inc., also enhances corporate clout.

So even while the Mexican crisis smolders, chief executives are searching out more deals. In recent days, Anheuser-Busch Cos. signed a pact to buy 80% of a big brewery in China, while Motorola Inc. announced new deals in China, including a \$28 million joint venture to make semiconductors in the country.

To the Germans, who have invested billions in central Europe since the early 1990s, Mexican crisis seems very far away. "We invest in real factories there, not in bonds," says Gerhard Seufert, head of the Central European division of the Economics Ministry. Companies from Daimler Benz to Siemens to the big utilities are operating in Poland and Hungary.

In Latin America, the region most shaken by Mexico's devaluation, Volkswagen has revealed plans to invest over \$2.5 billion in Brazil. And GM Hughes Electronics Corp. decided to expand its satellite-TV service throughout the region.

Even in Mexico, many companies still see the country's value as an exporter now and later, as a consumer market again. A Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. division is building a battery plant in Tijuana. Chrysler Corp., which manufactures both for export and domestic consumption in Mexico, wants to convince more of its suppliers that now is exactly the right time to invest there, according to President Robert A. Lutz.

But Lutz is taking the long view, since conditions in Mexico are getting tougher. Sales of Chrysler vehicles are down 40% in the first two months of the year. Recession is stalking Argentina, too, in the wake of the Mexican crisis. To convince foreign bondholders that a Mexican style devaluation is not imminent, the Argentine government is searching for major cuts in spending.

In this tense atmosphere, portfolio managers wonder where trouble will strike next. Pakistan and the Philippines, for example, have accumulated large current-account deficits. Thailand, which has issued a lot of short-term debt, had to stop a run on its currency as foreign investors beat a temporary retreat. Declares Alan J. Stoga, managing director of consultants Kissinger Associates Inc: "We know that there will be other Mexicos."

On Western Europe's doorstep, Hungary's festering budget problems illustrate the strain of passing from a welfare state to something resembling capitalism. Hungary's

current-account deficit of \$3.7 billion are danger signs in such a small economy. A ministerial crisis over privatization has also caused jitters. Yet here the pressures of outside investors have seemed to prevail: The government has recommitted itself to rapid privatization and more austerity.

**No Rush.** The greatest beneficiaries of the new investment mood for now may be Asia's proponents of the Japanese model of slow, controlled development. Japanese financiers already say that Mexican events have repudiated the go-fast approach of the "Berkeley mafia," the free-market purists who have been advertising many Asian governments. "We think a gradual approach is better than rushing," says Shinichiro Kobayashi, a senior manager at Bank of Tokyo who spent 19 years in Latin America. "You have to consider each country's strengths and economic maturity."

More countries may well adopt versions of the Asian model to avoid Mexico's fate. William Ebsworth of Fidelity Investment in Hong Kong recently visited India to check out equity investments there. But he was surprised to find the Indians now frowning on portfolio investment. Direct foreign investment is fine, but there is talk of India reducing the shares foreigners may hold in a domestic company to 10% from 24%. In China, government officials are concerned that hot money is adding to the country's inflationary woes. So regulators in Beijing have brought to a near halt foreigners' purchase of stock issues.

By exposing the weak underpinnings of global development, the Mexican crisis has given everyone its first look at how risky the new world really is. The next job for the architects of the global financial order is to build in restraints and early-warning systems that will encourage growth without letting it get out of control. It's an urgent mission that nations will ignore at their peril.

### Part Six Writing (30 points)

Write an essay of over 300 words on the following topic to state your own opinion. Give examples, either your personal observations and experiences or simply things you have read that would back up your view.

*Some people think that traditions and modernization are not in conflict in the process of globalization.*