



西安外国语学院
2003 年硕士研究生入学考试试题
英语专业：基础英语试题

Part One Basic English

I. Vocabulary and Sentence Structure

Section A *Directions: This section consists of 30 incomplete sentences. Each sentence is followed by four words or phrases. Select the best one to complete the sentence by blackening the corresponding letter on your answer sheet. (15 points)*

1. To our delight, she quickly ___ herself ___ the situation.
A. adapted / with C. adopted / of
B. adapted / to D. adopted / into
2. The Portuguese give a great deal of credit to one man for having promoted sea travel, that man ___ Prince Henry the navigator, who lived in the 15th century.
A. is B. was C. being D. had
3. "I don't think Professor Jones meant to be funny this morning, do you?"
"No, although I couldn't help ___ at some of his remarks."
A. from laughing C. but laugh
B. to have laughed D. to laugh
4. "What did the police chief do after the report?"
"He ordered that parking ___ on Main Street during the rush hour."
A. be prohibiting C. is prohibited
B. be prohibited D. was prohibited
5. Some insects pass through their entire life cycles, from egg to adult ___ days or weeks.
A. in a matter of C. based on
B. in case of D. in time for
6. Duncairn, a castle built in the twelfth century on the western coast of Scotland, is ___ a few feet high.
A. nearly more than C. just as much as
B. almost more than D. hardly more than
7. Although the main characters in the novel are so true to life, they are certainly _____.
A. imaginary C. imaginative
B. imaginable D. imagining
8. Just as too much harmony is tiresome in music, _____.
A. the life of too many benefits annoys us

- B. so, in life, too many benefits annoy us
C. we are annoyed with lives also of too many benefits
D. a lot of benefits annoy us in life
9. Ann said, "English men ____ good husbands because they are nearly always willing to help in a house."
A. be C. make
B. do D. get
10. Neither Jone nor her brothers ____ a consent form for tomorrow's field trip.
A. need C. needing
B. needs D. has need
11. If Mr. Wang ____ to learn more English, he would not have bought this book yesterday.
A. shouldn't need C. hadn't needed
B. hasn't needed D. didn't need
12. "How about John?"
"My uncle ____ a good student."
A. thinks of him C. considers him
B. knows of him D. believes him
13. Never again ____ political office after his 1928 defeat for the presidency.
A. Alfred E. Smith seriously sought
B. seriously Alfred E. Smith sought
C. when did Alfred E. Smith seriously seek
D. did Alfred E. Smith seriously seek
14. They noticed a crowd of people in front of the Madeleine ____.
A. shouting and cheering C. to be shouting and cheering
B. to shout and cheer D. being shouted and cheered
15. "Why is the university doing so much building?"
"The number of students ____."
A. have increased so rapidly C. has increased so rapid
B. have increased so rapid D. has increased so rapidly
16. My car is none ____ for the accident.
A. the bad B. the worse C. enough worse D. much worse
17. "Why should I try Larry and Kevin's pickles?"
"Because ____ the best."
A. his are B. theirs are C. theirs is D. his is
18. It was ____ he arrived at the station ____ he realized he had forgotten his ticket.
A. not until / then C. not until / that
B. until / that D. not until / when
19. George entered the box and picked up one of the directories inside, ____ that someone unknown had torn out the very page he needed.
A. only to discover C. to discover
B. discovered D. only discovering
20. The prison riot was ____.

- A. brought about by the guards, whose severity was an extreme
 B. originated from the extreme guard severity
 C. blamed on the guards, whose harshness caused it to originate
 D. attributed to the unnecessary roughness of the guards
21. Whom ____ Mr. Smith saw in the college yesterday?
 A. it was that C. was it that
 B. is it that D. is it whom
22. The Hawaiian coastline is bordered by many coral reefs, some living, but ____ dead.
 A. most of them C. most of their
 B. others are D. the rest are being
23. You must obtain ____ from the government to fish in this river.
 A. permit B. right C. freedom D. permission
24. "Did your club dance turn out well?"
 "Yes, we made a ____ profit."
 A. five-hundred-dollar C. five-hundreds-dollar
 B. five-hundred-dollars D. five-hundreds-dollars
25. The project requires more labor than ____ because it is extremely difficult.
 A. has been put in C. being put in
 B. have been put in D. to be put in
26. "What does Canada export?"
 "Large quantities of wheat ____ sent abroad."
 A. is C. are
 B. have D. is being
27. We are taught that a business letter should be written in a formal style ____ in a personal one.
 A. other than C. less than
 B. better than D. rather than
28. "It was ____ that we had gone for a walk."
 A. so beautiful day C. such a beautiful weather
 B. such beautiful a night D. so beautiful a night
29. The wealth of a country should be measured ____ the health and happiness of its people as well as the material goods it can produce.
 A. in line with C. in terms of
 B. in regard with D. by means of
30. Why ____? It's not very important.
 A. to worry C. you are worried
 B. worry D. you worry

Section B Directions: Supply the correct form of the word in *italics* for the blank space in each sentence. Write your answer after the corresponding question number on your answer sheet. (10 points)

31. continue
32. argument
33. respect
34. miserable
35. advantage
36. aggravation
37. entangle
38. visible
39. deform
40. inhabit

The successful ____ of this project depends upon hard work.
 ____ people are seldom desirable as companions.
 They always respond to the teacher ____.
 Doctors work hard to relieve human ____.
 Having so much experience, you are in a very ____ position.
 New York's hot weather is often ____ by its humidity.
 The fly became ____ in the spider's web.
 The plane could not land because the ____ was poor.
 Better food has reduced the number of children born with ____.
 The ____ of that country speak English.

II. Reading Skills and Comprehension

Section A Reading Skills (10 points)

Skill 1: Identifying the main idea

Directions: Read the following passage and pick out the statement that best summarizes what the author has said by blackening the corresponding letter after the question number on your answer sheet.

UPC. These letters do not stand for a new government agency, a new chemical, or a new football league. They are shorthand for "Universal Product Code." Supermarket shoppers across the Nation are seeing the UPC symbol on the packages of all kinds of products, from food to paper towels to detergents to over-the-counter (nonprescription) drugs. The symbol consists of many closely spaced lines, bars, and numbers and will be popping up on more and more items as time goes by. The lines and bars in the code symbol are unique to that product and can be read by a computer.

41. The best summary statement is:
- A. UPC is a new way to mark prices on products across the Nation
 - B. As time goes by, more supermarkets will use UPC for their items.
 - C. Supermarket shoppers across the Nation can see UPC on the packages of all kinds of products
 - D. UPC is a product code that consists of lines and bars that can be read by a computer.

Skill 2: Judging the importance of details

Directions: To be an effective reader, you must be able to tell important from unimportant details. Read the following passages in which details are marked by A), B), C) and D). Decide which of the marked details is the most important by blackening the corresponding letter after the question number on your answer

sheet.

42. A) In 1978 a federal law was passed to prohibit abusive, deceptive, or unfair practices by debt collectors. B) This law was designed to help consumers. C) It provides new rights under the law for consumers who owe money. D) Some people never have to deal with debt collectors; this law was designed to help those who do.
43. A) French psychologist Alfred Binet was asked by the French government to develop a test that would help find out which school children were not intelligent enough to profit from regular schooling. B) Binet thought that intelligence should be measured by tests that required problems solving and reasoning. C) Binet did a great deal of research with children of various ages. D) As a result of his work, Binet developed the concept of the IQ, or intelligence quotient, which is the basis for much modern intelligence testing.

Skill 3: Guessing the meaning of a new word in context

Directions: To be an effective reader, you must also be able to hypothesize about the meaning of a new word or expression according to its context. Read the following passage and write out the meaning of the underlined word in the space after the question number on your answer sheet.

"Give one tiny measure of this magic love potion to the young lady—its flavor is imperceptible in orange juice, soup, or cocktails—and however gay and giddy she is, she will change altogether. She will want nothing but solitude, and you," said the old man, reaching for the bottle.

"I can hardly imagine Diana like that!" cried Alan, overwhelmed with joy.

"You will not have to use your imagination," said the old man. "And, by the way, since there are always sirens, if by any chance you should, later on, slip a little, you need not worry. She will forgive you, in the end. She will be terribly hurt, of course, but she will forgive you—in the end."

44. In this context, potion most probably means _____.
45. In this context, siren most probably means _____.

Section B Reading Comprehension (15 points)

Directions: Read the following passage first and then do the cloze test based on it. Fill in each space an appropriate word beginning with the given letter. Write the word after the question number on your answer sheet.

Two events this week, one in Britain and one in the United States, highlight the way developments in biotechnology are an increasing force in the financial world. One is the formation of a new British company, Cambridge Life Sciences.

With \$1m backing from Technical Development Capital, it joins the list of

highly specialized firms whose future depends on the ingenuity of a still-small band of scientists who have learnt how to rearrange the genetic code of micro-organisms and of plant and animal cells. These may then become living factories that manufacture substances ranging from antibiotics and vitamins to synthetic petrol and substitute foodstuffs.

Cloze Test

The (46) w in which the financial world is being increasingly (47) i by developments in biotechnology is illuminated by two recent events on (48) e side of the Atlantic.

The (49) c of Cambridge Life Sciences in Britain is one of them.

Financial (50) s from Technical Development Capital has (51) e it to become one of a (52) l number of highly-specialized companies which relies on (53) s scientific research into the genetic (54) e of organisms and cells.

This research may lead to these companies being able to (55) p antibiotics, vitamins, synthetic petrol and substitute foodstuffs.

Part Two Linguistics

I. Short-answer questions. (10 points)

1. What is meant by duality of structure as one of the defining properties of human language?
2. In what ways are the English consonants usually classified?
3. What is your understanding of "inflectional morphemes"?
4. Explain and exemplify "discontinuous components" in the structuralist approach to language.
5. Define the linguistic term "register."

II. Select from the lettered choices the one which best completes the statement. (10 points)

1. _____ deals with language as an instrument of social interaction rather than as a system in isolation.
A. Universal grammar C. Functional grammar
B. Case grammar D. Relational grammar
2. _____ refers to the system of a language, i.e., the arrangement of sounds and words which speakers of a language have a shared knowledge of.
A. Langue C. Competence
B. Communicative competence D. Linguistic potential

3. According to C. Ogden and I. Richards, _____ is regarded as the crucial intermediary between _____ and _____.
 A. symbol ... referent ... thought C. referent ... thought ... symbol
 B. thought ... symbol ... referent
4. _____ deals with the way in which speech sounds are produced.
 A. Acoustic phonetics C. Articulatory phonetics
 B. Segmental phonology D. Suprasegmental phonology
5. Intonation can help recognize the syntactic structure of what is being said. This is known as its _____ function.
 A. attitudinal B. accentual C. discourse D. grammatical
6. For structuralists, _____ refers to a group of syntactically related words where none of the words is functionally equivalent to the group as a whole.
 A. coordinate construction C. subordinate construction
 B. endocentric construction D. exocentric construction
7. In the languages of the world, the linguistic elements which are more basic, natural and frequent than others are referred to as _____.
 A. unmarked B. marked C. topic D. content
8. Given the sentences "The girl he married was an heiress" and "He married a girl," we can say from a semantic point of view that the first sentence _____ the second.
 A. entails B. presupposes C. implicates
9. According to the conversational maxim of _____ suggested by Grice, one should say things clearly and briefly.
 A. quantity B. quality C. relevance D. manner
10. Language has been changing, but such changes are not so obvious at all linguistic levels except that of _____.
 A. phonology B. lexis C. syntax D. semantics

以下题目，报考外国语言学及应用语言学（代码 050211）的考生必答，英语语言文学考生不答。

III. Essay questions. (10 points)

1. Comment on the nativist view of language acquisition.

2. Comment on the possible cross-linguistic influence one's first language knowledge may exert on his study of a foreign language.

Part Three English and American Literatures

I. Select the one that best answers the question or completes the statement. (15 points)

1. The best known works of English literature of the Middle Ages are all the following except _____.

A. <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>	C. <i>Beowulf</i>
B. <i>Piers Plowman</i>	D. <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>

 2. Which of the following is not a major feature of Renaissance humanism?
 - A. Exaltation of human nature.
 - B. Importance of the present life.
 - C. Belief in man's ability to perfect himself.
 - D. Primary concern for personal salvation.

 3. "The play celebrates the human passion for knowledge, power and happiness; it also reveals man's frustration in realizing the high aspirations in a hostile moral order." What is the play discussed in the quotation?
 - A. George Bernard Shaw's *Mrs. Warren's Profession*.
 - B. Richard Brinsley Sheridan's *The School for Scandal*.
 - C. William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*.
 - D. Christopher Marlowe's *The Tragic History of the Life and Death of Doctor Faustus*.

 4. "Fallen cherub, to be weak is miserable,
Doing or suffering: but of this be sure,
To do aught good never will be our task.
But ever do ill our sole delight.
As being the contrary to his high will,
Whom we resist. . ."
- Who is the speaker of the lines quoted above?
- A. Iago in William Shakespeare's *Othello*.
 - B. Don Juan in George Gordon Byron's *Don Juan*.
 - C. The devil in Edmund Spenser's *The Faerie Queene*.
 - D. Satan in John Milton's *Paradise Lost*.

5. "Kubla Khan" is a poem by _____.
 A. William Wordsworth C. William Blake
 B. John Keats D. Samuel Taylor Coleridge
6. "Heathcliff groaned a curse, and strained Catherine closer—she never moved." The above quote is most probably taken from _____.
 A. Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*
 B. Jane Austin's *Pride and Prejudice*
 C. Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*
 D. George Eliot's *Middlemarch*
7. "Do I dare/Disturb the universe?" (T. S. Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock") What is the speaker hesitant to do?
 A. To court the lady he loves.
 B. To overthrow a government.
 C. To publicize his discovery of a stunning secret.
 D. To tell the family that he would divorce his wife.
8. "Our age is retrospective. It builds the sepulchres of the fathers. It writes biographies, histories, and criticism. The foregoing generations beheld God and nature face to face; we, through their eyes" (Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Nature*). What is the possible message the writer intends to get across?
 A. We should write biographies, histories, and criticism.
 B. People build tombs for their ancestors and he would do the same.
 C. It is interesting to look at things through other people's eyes.
 D. Later generations should make their own discoveries.
9. What does the white whale in Melville's *Moby-Dick* symbolize?
 A. Nature. B. God. C. Evil. D. Society.
10. "Innocence, the keynote of her character, turns out to be an admiring but a dangerous quality and her defiance of social taboos in the Old World brings her to a disaster in the clash between two different cultures." Which of the following works is the comment true of?
 A. Hemingway's *For Whom the Bell Tolls*.
 B. Dreiser's *Sister Carrie*.

- C. James's *Daisy Miller*.
D. Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*.
11. Which of the following can be taken as the statement of a possible theme of Eugene O'Neill's play *The Hairy Ape*?
A. Men's kinship to animals. C. Survival of the fittest.
B. Danger of playing with fire. D. Modern man's alienation.
12. What does "two roads diverge" in Robert Frost's poem "The Road Not Taken" symbolize?
A. Moment of decision making in man's life.
B. Importance of road signs to give travelers directions.
C. Moment to ponder the meaning of human life.
D. Necessity of returning to one's native place.
13. Which of the following is not related to Ernest Hemingway's works?
A. The "stream of consciousness" technique.
B. The "ice berg" theory.
C. Minimal use of adjectives and adverbs.
D. The "grace under pressure" theme.
14. The Latin term *carpe diem* is a term frequently employed in literary analysis. What does the term mean?
A. Return to nature.
B. Quest for truth.
C. Reconciliation between art and reality.
D. Seize the day.
15. What does the term *aside* mean in drama?
A. Background information provided by a voice representing a character not present on the stage.
B. Physical setting of the production of a play that provides a given scene in which characters act.
C. Series of events that develop till the two forces meet at the moment known as climax.
D. Speech by a character in a play not to be heard by the characters on stage with him but to be understood by the audience.

II. List some major historical figures, events and discoveries that may have influenced the 20th century English and American literature. (5 points)

以下题目，报考英语语言文学（代码 050201）的考生必答，外国语言学及应用语言学考生不答。

III. Discuss in no more than eighty words John Keats's two well-known lines quoted below. (10 points)

"Heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard
Are Sweeter . . ."

John Keats. "Ode on a Grecian Urn"

Part Four British and American Studies

I. Complete the following statements. (20 points)

1. The Anglo-Saxons belonged to an early Norse culture before their conversion to _____.
2. Built by the Romans in Britain in the 2nd century, the _____ Wall runs from Carlisle to Newcastle.
3. The English Reformation took place during the reign of _____.
4. King _____ was executed during the English Civil War.
5. After the Mutiny of 1857, the control of India passed from _____ to the British Crown.
6. The First Continental Congress was held in the city of _____.
7. Members of the House of Representatives of the U.S. are elected to serve _____ years.
8. The _____ Canal was built in 1825 to connect New York State with the Midwest.
9. During the Civil War, the southern states formed the _____ States of America.
10. In American presidential elections, voters cast their ballots not for the presidential candidate but for electors. There are 538 electors and they

Answer the following questions. (20 points)

Describe the _____, which comprise what is known as the _____ of the United States and the meaning of the _____.

II. Briefly define each of the following terms. (20 points)

1. The Domesday Book

2. The Enclosure

3. The Glorious Revolution

4. The First Amendment

5. The Gilded Age

1. Describe the process of territorial expansion of the United States and the meaning of the frontier in American history.
2. Discuss the relationship between government policy and capitalist economy in American history. Give examples to support your arguments.