

西北工业大学

2008 年博士研究生第二次招生考试试题

试题名称: 英语

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说明: 所有试题一律写在答题纸上

Test Paper A

Part I Vocabulary (20%)

Section A (0.5 point each)

Directions: There are twenty questions in this section. Each question is a sentence with a blank. Below each sentence are four words or phrases marked A, B, C, and D. Choose one word or phrase that best completes the sentence. Mark your choice on the Answer Sheet.

1. The new computer can be _____ to the needs of both home and business users.
A. adopted B. advocated C. adapted D. adjoined
2. Experiments carried out in Greenland recently have _____ the best evidence yet that Newton's 305-year-old-law of gravity may be wrong.
A. yielded B. executed C. submitted D. proved
3. People buy insurance in order to _____ a small, certain, tolerable loss for a large, uncertain, catastrophic one.
A. institute B. return C. substitute D. predict
4. Cigarette smoking is much more dangerous if you _____ the smoke than if you don't.
A. intake B. invade C. install D. inhale
5. The council passed a _____ to set aside a certain amount of money for the building fund.
A. decision B. communication C. resolution D. representation
6. A temperature, headache and backache are some of the _____ of flu.
A. notices B. symptoms C. significations D. monitors
7. The history of Britain reveals the extraordinary fondness of the British for tradition and the _____ with which the British cling to established customs.
A. tenacity B. rapacity C. capacity D. elasticity
8. Some people apparently have an almost incredible ability to _____ the right answer.
A. come up with B. look up to C. put up with D. bring up to

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9. If you insist on carrying out this mad experiment, you will have to _____ the consequences.
A. run into B. stand for C. bear out D. answer for
10. The armed forces are on the alert against any possible invasion _____ the minister of defence.
A. by order of B. by way of C. in sport of D. on account of
11. Today these superstitious practices are no more, but their influence _____ in the minds of many people.
A. carries on B. lingers on C. moves forward D. goes forward
12. In the United States there is no _____: the president must approve the bill if Congress passes it.
A. alternation B. alternative C. selection D. elective
13. The little drops of _____ which can be seen on plants on summer mornings are called dew.
A. humidity B. moisture C. wet D. damp
14. It is said that a cup of whole milk provides _____ one hundred sixty-six calories of energy.
A. separately B. approximately C. exactly D. effectively
15. He was _____ with indignation at the new outrage of the boss against the workers.
A. bursting B. breading C. erupting D. shattering
16. Niagara Falls is a great tourist attraction _____ millions of visitors each year.
A. serving B. entertaining C. enjoying D. luring
17. I am sure they are in favor of _____ the charter and making the necessary amendments.
A. restraining B. revealing C. reversing D. reviewing
18. Human facial expressions differ from those of animals in the degree to which they can be _____ controlled and modified.
A. noticeable B. certainly C. deliberately D. absolutely
19. On a photographic _____ the parts which will be black in the finished picture are transparent.

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- A. negation B. negative C. neglect D. negligence
20. I regret to say that I cannot tell you what I know, as the information was given me in _____.
- A. confusion B. common C. confidence D. contrast

Section B (0.5 point each)

Directions: There are twenty questions in this section. Each question is a sentence with a word or phrase underlined. Below each sentence are four words or phrases marked A, B, C, and D. Choose one word or phrase that is meaning to the underlined one. Mark your choice on the Answer Sheet.

21. Research indicates that children are quite capable of telling a deliberate lie to get out of trouble.
- A. noticeable B. intentional C. possible D. harmless
22. Graduate education and research are critical to us and to the nation.
- A. urgent B. pressing C. blamable D. crucial
23. Cars do "tell" their owners when something is wrong by making peculiar noises.
- A. eccentric B. strange C. awesome D. terrific
24. "A rational tax structure is a must if the country is to continue growing so fast," the bank rightly says.
- A. inductive B. fixed C. proportional D. sensible
25. Culture like nonverbal behavior tends to be elusive, and has a potent influence in intercultural communication.
- A. hidden B. visible C. consequential D. powerful
26. Daylight saving time was instituted to increase productivity.
- A. reorganized B. started C. encouraged D. taught
27. Nineteenth-century scholars tried to trace the origins of modern languages to ancient Hebrew.
- A. limit B. connect C. convert D. draw
28. After crude oil is extracted from a well, it is usually piped to a refinery.

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- A. exceeded B. transported C. processed in D. located in
29. Light from the Sun and distant star traverses a vacuum in space.
A. fills B. creates C. surrounds D. crosses
30. The seal can dive to a depth of about 1,600 feet and remain submerged for as long as an hour and ten minutes.
A. underwater B. fearless C. unconscious D. breathless
31. The moist air brings a temperate climate to the coast.
A. doctrine B. moderate C. wet D. soothing
32. Within the bounds of given data, the biographer seeks to illuminate factual information about a person and transforms it into insight.
A. constraints B. archives C. networks D. goals
33. Sometimes our intuitive notions about how society works turn out to be quite accurate.
A. interior B. intangible C. instinctive D. integral
34. Producers were encouraged to design enticing packages geared to "sell themselves".
A. adjusted B. manufactured C. general D. suitable
35. We, in turn, being aware of the responses we have triggered in others, may adjust our behavior accordingly.
A. fired B. tricked C. generated D. trimmed
36. The elderly are not excluded from rent raises that all tenants have to pay when the landlord makes a major improvement.
A. obliged B. included C. excited D. eliminated
37. The expression "out of the frying pan and into the fire" means to go from one dilemma to a worse one.
A. situation B. predicament C. embarrassment D. aura
38. The workers' promised wage increase is being held back while it is examined by the government to see if it is greater than the law allows.
A. dismissed B. delayed C. neglected D. rejected
39. Physical well-being presupposes that one should vary his diet and often have some wholesome food.

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A. healthful

B. delicate

C. staple

D. popular

40. Years ago this politician did a clever, but immoral thing, which laid the foundation of his fortune.

A. unethical

B. unexpurgated

C. unimpeachable

D. unpropitious

Part II Reading Comprehension (25%)

Directions: Read the following passages and answer the questions which accompany them by choosing A, B, C, or D. Mark your choice on the Answer Sheet.

Passage One

I wonder if you realize just how many others share your problem. It is so common for people to distort the truth about themselves. Sometimes it's just an invented excuse when you're late for something or a pretence that you like someone you don't. These white lies don't usually harm anyone and indeed often help smooth over difficult social situations. They certainly are embarrassing if exposed but, on the whole, they're easily forgiven.

What you describe is a habit of lying that is more serious than this. I suspect that the lies you tell are ways of defending an idea you have of your own worth. People who have doubts about their own self-esteem often worry that others will judge them as harshly as they feel they deserve because of a secret idea that they are pretty worthless. In other words, they create a false picture of themselves, a picture of someone who meets all the expectations they think others have of them. And as you say, that causes problems—since they have to keep living up to that image. At the same time, they have to tell further lies to cover the stories they have already told. According to some authorities, this is particularly among women especially those who have few opportunities to develop an adequate sense of self-worth.

I suggest you give yourself one day during which you stick solidly to the truth about yourself. Give yourself a small treat at the end of the day if you have managed to keep it up. Wait a week and then try it again. Once you have achieved three separate lie-free days, see if you can cope with three days running, then extend it to a whole week. Don't

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make a promise to yourself that you will never lie again because almost certainly you will—it's too much to take on at once. Try to change things little by little, by setting yourself manageable targets. After a while, u'll wonder why you ever had the problem at all.

41. This passage is a reply to someone who _____.
A. works hard to meet others' expectations
B. keeps a habit of lying for vain reasons
C. does not know how to make a realistic plan for himself.
D. does not know the truth about himself and is too sure of himself
42. Which of the following statements is true according to the passage?
A. White lies often cause embarrassment in social situations.
B. It takes a little time to get rid of your habit.
C. It is important for women to have an adequate sense of self-worth.
D. Take exercise like running if you are free and keep it up.
43. The expression "living up to" in Paragraph Two can best be replaced by _____.
A. sticking to B. seeking for C. living with D. growing up with
44. In the sentence "...they have to tell further lie to cover the stories they have already told" in Paragraph Two, "to cover the stories" means _____.
A. to make up the stories B. to retell the stories
C. to explain the stories D. to hide the stories
45. In the last paragraph the writer implies that _____.
A. you must be hard on yourself to accomplish something
B. you will solve the problem with patience and a strong will
C. you must set different targets at different stages of your life
D. your problem lies in the fact that you hasten to make promises

Passage Two

In recent years, railroads have been combining with each other, merging into super

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systems, causing heightened concerns about monopoly. As recently as 1995, the top four railroads accounted for under 70 percent of the total ton-miles moved by rails. Next year, after a series of mergers is completed, just four railroads will control well over 90 percent of all the freight moved by major rail carriers.

Supporters of the new super systems argue that these mergers will allow for substantial cost reductions and better coordinated service. Any threat of monopoly, they argue, is removed by fierce competition from trucks. But many shippers complain that for heavy bulk commodities traveling long distances, such as coal, chemicals, and grain, trucking is too costly and the railroads therefore have them by the throat.

The vast consolidation within the rail industry means that most shippers are served by only one rail company. Railroads typically charge such "captive" shippers 20 to 30 percent more than they do when another railroad is competing for the business. Shippers who feel they are being overcharged have the right to appeal to the federal government's Surface Transportation Board for rate relief, but the process is expensive, time consuming, and will work only in truly extreme cases.

Railroads justify rate discrimination against captive shippers on the grounds that in the long run it reduces everyone's cost. If railroads charged all customers the same average rate, they argue, shippers who have the option of switching to trucks or other forms of transportation would do so, leaving remaining customers to shoulder the cost of keeping up the line. It's theory to which many economists subscribe, but in practice it often leaves railroads in the position of determining which companies will flourish and which will fail. "Do we really want railroads to be the arbiters of who wins and who loses in the marketplace?" Asks Martin Bercovici, a Washington lawyer who frequently represents shipper.

Many captive shippers also worry they will soon be hit with a round of huge rate increases. The railroad industry as a whole, despite its brightening fortuning fortunes, still does not earn enough to cover the cost of the capital it must invest to keep up with its surging traffic. Yet railroads continue to borrow billions to acquire one another, with Wall Street cheering them on. Consider the 1.02 billion did by Norfolk Southern and CSX to acquire Conrail this year. Conrail's net railway operating income in 1996 was just 427

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million, less than half of the carrying costs of the transaction. Who's going to pay for the rest of the bill? Many captive shippers fear that they will, as Norfolk Southern and CSX increase their grip on the market.

46. According to those who support mergers railway monopoly is unlikely because _____.
A. cost reduction is based on competition
B. services call for cross-trade coordination
C. outside competitors will continue to exist
D. shippers will have the railway by the throat
47. What is many captive shippers' attitude towards the consolidation in the rail industry?
A. Indifferent B. Supportive C. Indignant D. Apprehensive
48. It can be inferred from Paragraph 3 that _____.
A. shippers will be charged less without a rival railroad
B. there will soon be only one railroad company nationwide
C. overcharged shippers are unlikely to appeal for rate relief
D. a government board ensures fair play in railway business
49. The word "arbiters"(Line 7, Para.4) most probably refers to those _____.
A. who work as coordinators B. who function as judges
C. who supervise transactions D. who determine the price
50. According to the text, the cost increase in the rail industry is mainly caused by _____.
A. the continuing acquisition B. the growing traffic
C. the cheering Wall Street D. the shrinking market

Passage Three

Opinion poll surveys show that the public see scientists in a rather unflattering light.

Commonly, the scientist is also seen as being male. It is true that most scientists are male, but the picture of science as a male activity may be a major reason why fewer girls than boys opt for science, except when it comes to biology, which is seen as "female".

The image most people have of science and scientists comes from their own

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experience of school science, and from the mass media. Science teachers themselves see it as a problem that so many school pupils find school science an unsatisfying experience, though over the last few years more and more pupils, including girls, have opted for science subjects.

In spite of excellent documentaries, and some good popular science magazines, scientific stories in the media still usually alternate between miracle and scientific threat. The popular stereotype of science is like the magic of fairy tales: it has potential for enormous good or awful harm. Popular fiction is full of "good" scientists saving the world, and "mad" scientists trying to destroy it.

From all the many scientific stories which might be given media treatment, those which are chosen are usually those which can be framed in terms of the usual news angles: novelty, threat, conflict or the bizarre. The routine and often tedious work of the scientist slips from view, to be replaced with a picture of scientists forever offending public moral sensibilities (as in embryo research), threatening public health (as in weapons research), or fighting it out with each other (in giving evidence at public enquiries such as those held on the issues connected with nuclear power).

The mass media also tend to over-personalize scientific work, depicting it as the product of individual genius, while neglecting the social organization which makes scientific work possible. A further effect of this is that science comes to be seen as a thing in itself: a kind of unpredictable force; a tide of scientific progress.

It is no such thing, of course. Science is what scientists do; what they do is what a particular kind of society facilitates, and what is done with their work depends very much on who has the power to turn their discoveries into technology, and what their interests are.

51. According to the passage, ordinary people have a poor opinion of science and scientists because ____.
- A. science is badly taught in schools.
 - B. opinion polls are unflattering.
 - C. scientists are shown negatively in the media.

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- D. science is considered to be dangerous.
52. Fewer girls than boys study science because _____.
A. they think that science is too difficult.
B. they are often unsuccessful in science at school.
C. science is seen as a man's job.
D. science is considered to be dangerous.
53. Media treatment of science tends to concentrate on _____.
A. the routine, everyday work of scientists.
B. discoveries that the public will understand.
C. the more sensational aspects of science.
D. the satisfactions of scientific work.
54. According to the author, over-personalization of scientific work will lead science into _____.
A. isolation from the rest of the world.
B. improvements on school system.
C. association with "femaleness".
D. trouble in recruiting young talent.
55. According to the author, scientific work is stimulated by _____.
A. ambition B. social demands C. technological problems D. internal pressures

Passage Four

No one can be a great thinker who does not realize that as a thinker it is her first duty to follow her intellect to whatever conclusions it may lead. There have been and may again be great individual thinkers in a general atmosphere of mental slavery. But there never has been, nor ever will be, in that atmosphere an intellectually active people. Where there is a tacit convention that principles are not to be disputed; where the discussion of the greatest questions which can occupy humanity is considered to be closed, we cannot hope to find that generally high scale of mental activity which has made some periods of history so remarkable. Never when controversy avoided

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the subjects which are large and important enough to kindle enthusiasm was the mind of a people stirred up from its foundations and the impulse given which raised even persons of the most ordinary intellect to something of the dignity of thinking beings.

She who knows only her own side of the case knows little of that. Her reasons may be good, and no one may have been able to refute them. But if she is equally unable to refute the reasons of the opposite side; if she does not so much as know what they are, she has no ground for preferring either opinion. The rational position for her would be suspension of judgment, and unless she contents herself with that, she is either led by authority, or adopts, like the generality of the world, the side to which she feels the most inclination. Nor is it enough that she should hear the arguments of adversaries from her own teachers, presented as they state them, and accompanied by what they offer as refutations. That is not the way to do justice to the arguments, or bring them into real contact with her own mind. She must be able to hear them from persons who actually believe them; who defend them in earnest, and do their very utmost for them. She must know them in their most plausible and persuasive form; she must feel the whole force of the difficulty which the true view of the subject has to encounter and dispose of; else she will never really possess herself of the portion of truth which meets and removes that difficulty. Ninety-nine in a hundred of what are called educated persons are in this condition; even of those who can argue fluently for their opinions. Their conclusion may be true, but it might be false for anything they know: they have never thrown themselves into the mental position of those who think differently from them and considered what such persons may have to say; and consequently they do not, in any proper sense of the word, know the doctrines which they themselves profess.

56. According to the author, it is always advisable to _____.

- A. have opinions which cannot be refuted.
- B. adopt the point of view to which one feels the most inclination.
- C. be acquainted with the arguments favoring the point of view with which one disagrees.
- D. suspend heterodox speculation in favor of doctrinaire approaches.

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57. According to the author, in a great period such as the Renaissance we may expect to find ____.
- A. acceptance of truth.
B. controversy over principles.
C. inordinate enthusiasm.
D. a dread of heterodox speculation.
58. According to the author, which of the following statements is true?
- A. Most educated people study both sides of a question.
B. Heterodox speculation will lead to many unnecessary errors of thinking.
C. In debatable issues, we should rely on the opinions of the experts for guidance.
D. The majority of those who argue eloquently truly knows only one side of an issue.
59. It can be inferred from the passage that a person who knows only her own side of an issue is regarded by the author as ____.
- A. shy. B. stubborn. C. heterodox. D. educated.
60. According to the author, the person who holds orthodox beliefs without examination may be described in all of the following ways EXCEPT as ____.
- A. enslaved by tradition. B. less than fully rational.
C. determined on controversy. D. having a closed mind.

Passage Five

Life comes only from other life. The offspring of a living thing is like its parents. A bird is hatched from an egg produced by parent birds. A flower grows from seeds created by a parent flower. One creature passes the flame of life to another in a continuing cycle, thus preserving life on the earth.

In the mid-nineteenth century, biologists began to explore the question of how so many different species of plants and animals had developed. A young English scientist named Charles Darwin traveled to an island off the coast of South America. There he observed many types of creatures that he had never seen. Darwin was struck by the fact that many of the animals that he saw lived nowhere else in the world. Then, on the

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neighboring islands, he studied many different species of birds.

As a result of his observations, Darwin brought about a theory of the evolution of human life. He knew that many creatures produce more offsprings than can actually survive. Since not every young creature can survive, there is competition among the individuals in a species for food, water, warmth, and space. In the struggle for existence, only the fittest, or the ones that are best able to change as their surroundings change, will succeed. Darwin called his theory "natural selection," or the "survival of the fittest." In his work *The Origin of Species*, he claimed that man has evolved from a lower form of life and that in fact all life on the earth has developed from a single, original cell. Over millions of years, through gradual change, development, and natural selection, all the different species of life that we know today have evolved.

Darwin's ideas were not accepted by most people of his time, partly because they were against many religious views about the origin of mankind. In addition, many people were shocked at the idea that human are animals and related to other forms of life, particularly that human beings were related to apes or monkeys millions of years ago. But all the evidence we have today shows that Darwin's theory is true.

61. According to the first paragraph, it can be concluded that the quality of a creature _____.
- A. is decide by its parents'. B. is different from its parents'.
- C. has nothing to do with its parents. D. can be changed by its parents.
62. When studying the creatures on the islands, Charles Darwin was deeply impressed by the fact that _____.
- A. there were many rare creatures on the islands.
- B. there were different kinds of birds on the islands.
- C. the animals on the islands were unique.
- D. the plants and animals had developed fast on the islands.
63. Darwin's theory of natural selection is based on his observations that _____.
- A. all creatures try to conquer the other species.
- B. competition takes place among the creatures.

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- C. food, water, and space are necessary to all the creatures.
D. many creatures struggle for existence throughout their lives.
64. What is mentioned about Darwin's original idea in the third paragraph?
- A. All the creatures on the earth are created by God.
B. All the creatures on the earth are lower forms of life.
C. All the creatures have their own life styles.
D. All the creatures have evolved from a single, original cell.
65. Why did many people in the 19th century refuse to accept Darwin's theory according to the passage?
- A. They doubted the evidence given by Darwin.
B. Darwin regarded human beings as apes and monkeys.
C. The theory was against their religious belief.
D. The theory was difficult to be tested by experiments.

Part III Cloze (15%)

Directions: Fill in each of the numbered spaces with one suitable word from below. Write your choice on the Answer sheet.

More people who travel long distances complain of jetlag. Jetlag makes business travelers less productive and more prone 66 making mistakes. It is actually caused by 67 of your "body clock"- a small cluster of brain cells that 68 the timing of biological 69. The body clock is designed for a 70 rhythm of daylight and darkness, so that it is 71 of balance when it 72 daylight and darkness at the "wrong" times in a new time zone. The symptoms of jetlag often persist for days 73 the internal body clock slowly 74 to the new time zone.

Now a new anti-jetlag system is 75 that is based on proven 76 pioneering scientific research. Dr. Martin Moore had 77 a practical strategy to adjust the body clock much sooner to the new time zone 78 controlled exposure to bright light. The time zone shift is 79 to accomplish and eliminates 80 of the discomfort of jetlag.

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|--------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 66. A. from | B. of | C. for | D. to |
| 67. A. eruption | B. disruption | C. rupture | D. corruption |
| 68. A. makes | B. controls | C. takes | D. limits |
| 69. A. actions | B. functions | C. behavior | D. reflection |
| 70. A. formal | B. continual | C. regular | D. circular |
| 71. A. made up | B. taken out | C. thrown out | D. given up |
| 72. A. experiences | B. possesses | C. encounters | D. retains |
| 73. A. if | B. whereas | C. while | D. although |
| 74. A. adjusts | B. changes | C. turns | D. runs |
| 75. A. possible | B. workable | C. suitable | D. available |
| 76. A. extensive | B. tentative | C. broad | D. inclusive |
| 77. A. devised | B. scrutinized | C. visualized | D. recognized |
| 78. A. in | B. as | C. at | D. through |
| 79. A. hard | B. easy | C. different | D. difficult |
| 80. A. more | B. little | C. most | D. least |

Part IV Translation (20%)**Section A****Directions:** Translate the following into English and write your version on the Answer Sheet.

互联网是一个巨大的计算机网络, 它把世界上许多公司、机构和个人连接起来。互联网, 即网络相互连接形成的网络, 连接了数以万计的更小的计算机网络。这些网络以文字、图像和声音的形式传输大量的信息。

Section B**Directions:** Translate the following into Chinese. Write your version on the Answer Sheet.

The Internet was information on virtually every topic. Network users can search through sources ranging from vast databases to small electronic "bulletin boards", where users form discussion groups around common interests. Much of the Internet's traffic

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consists of messages sent from one computer user to another. These messages are called electronic mail or e-mail. Internet users have electronic addresses that allow them to send and receive e-mail. Other uses of the network include obtaining news, joining electronic debates, and playing electronic games. One feature of the Internet, known as the World Wide Web, provides graphics, audio, and video to enhance the information in its documents. These documents cover a vast number of topics.

Part V Writing (20%)**Section A Summary Writing**

Directions: Read the following passage carefully and then write a summary of this passage, keeping the word limit to about one third of the original length.

Why do so many American distrust what they read in their newspapers? The American Society of Newspaper Editors is trying to answer this painful question. The organization is deep into a long self-analysis known as the journalism credibility project.

Sad to say, this project has turned out to be mostly low-level findings about factual errors and spelling and grammar mistakes, combined with lots of head-scratching puzzlement about what in the world those readers really want.

But the sources of distrust go way deeper. Most journalists learn to see the world through a set of standard templates (patterns) into which they plug each day's events. In other words, there is a conventional story line in the newsroom culture that provides a backbone and a ready-made narrative structure for otherwise confusing news.

There exists a social and cultural disconnect between journalists and their readers, which helps explain why the "standard templates" of the newsroom seem alien to many readers. In a recent survey, questionnaires were sent to reporters in five middle-size cities around the country, plus one large metropolitan area. Then residents in these communities were phoned at random and asked the same questions.

Replies show that compared with other Americans, journalists are more likely to live in upscale neighborhoods, have maids, own Mercedeses, and trade stocks, and they're less likely to go to church, do volunteer work, or put down roots in a community.

西北工业大学

2008 年博士研究生第二次招生考试试题

试题名称: 英语

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Reporters tend to be part of a broadly defined social and cultural elite, so their work tends to reflect the conventional values of this elite. The astonishing distrust of the news media isn't rooted in inaccuracy or poor reportorial skills but in the daily clash of world views between reporters and their readers.

This is an explosive situation for any industry, particularly a declining one. Here is a troubled business that keeps hiring employees whose attitudes vastly annoy the customers. Then it sponsors lots of symposiums and a credibility project dedicated to wondering why customers are annoyed and fleeing in large numbers. But it never seems to get around to noticing the cultural and class biases that so many former buyers are complaining about. If it did, it would open up its diversity program, now focused narrowly on race and gender, and look for reporters who differ broadly by outlook, values, education, and class.

Section B Essay Writing

Directions: Suppose your name is Zhang Ming and it is September 10, 2012, the National Teacher's Day today. You are asked to write a letter to your supervisor of Ph.D program (博士生导师), talking with him/her about your research or teaching after your graduation.

Your letter should be no less than 150 words. Be sure to write it formally and clearly on the Answer Sheet.